

Migration, HR and Theology

CEC/CCME Summer School on Human Rights

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Frank Ubachs

The background of the slide is a dark, blue-tinted photograph. It shows the silhouettes of several people, likely migrants, standing in a field of tall, dry grass or reeds. The figures are positioned in the middle ground, with their forms dark against a slightly lighter, hazy background. The overall mood is somber and evocative.

Migrants are faced with
3 dangerous options when
seeking refuge in Europe.



Photo by Rued Keffels



Myths of Migration

- 1: Migration is at an all time high and accelerating fast
- 2: Refugees are mainly hosted in developed (European) countries
- 3: Poverty is the main cause of South-North migration
- 4: Development will reduce migration
- 5: Most migration is from developing countries to developed ones
- 6: Migration policies have become more restrictive
- 7: Migration restrictions reduce migration

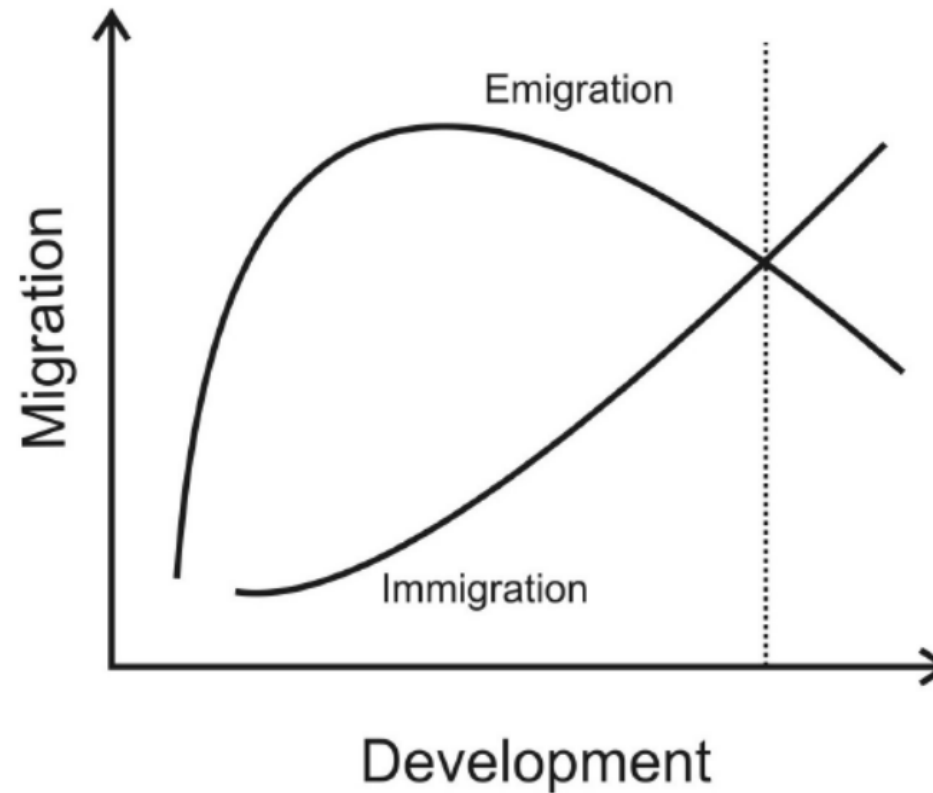
(Prof.Dr. Melissa Siegel, UNU-MERIT, Maastricht Graduate School of Governance)

Myth 1

Myth: Development will reduce migration

Myth 1

Migration transition theory



Source: de Haas, H. (2010). *Migration transitions: a theoretical and empirical inquiry into the developmental drivers of international migration*. Oxford, Working Paper No 24, International Migration Institute, University of Oxford.

Myth 2

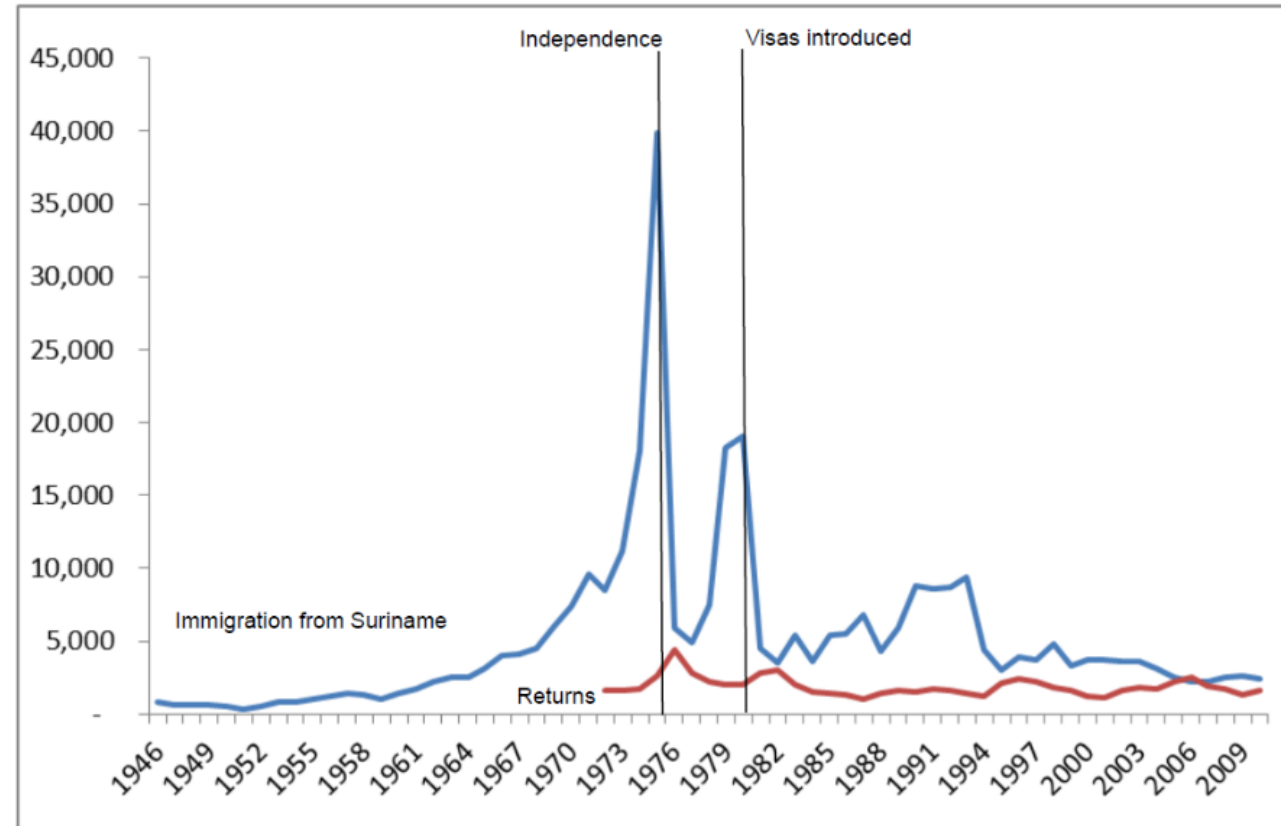
Myth: Migration restrictions reduce migration

Myth: Restrictions reduce migration

- Migration restrictions **do not** necessarily reduce migration
 - They change the nature of the movement
 - They mainly change the way in which people move
 - They affect who migrates (selection)
 - They **do not** change the process driving migration, like development, social transformation, labor markets

Myth 2

How the Dutch government stimulated unwanted migration from Suriname



Source: DEMIG C2C database - www.imi.ox.ac.uk
van Amersfoort, Hans. 2011. *How the Dutch Government stimulated the unwanted immigration from Suriname*. IMI/DEMIG Working Paper 47. Oxford: International Migration Institute.



For you were foreigners...

- ◊ When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God.
 - ◊ Lev. 19:33-34 (NIV)
- ◊ Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.
 - ◊ Heb. 13:2 (NIV)





Human Rights and Refugee Law

- ◆ Both: common purpose of **safeguarding human dignity**
 - ◆ But the integration between the 3 generations of human rights is little considered when it comes to the **concept of refugee**
- ◆ Refugees: entitled to all the rights and fundamental freedoms contained in **international human rights instruments**
 - ◆ Important (legal) **distinction** between refugees and migrants
 - ◆ From persecution to **conflict**
- ◆ Under **international law** the **right to asylum** is rather weak

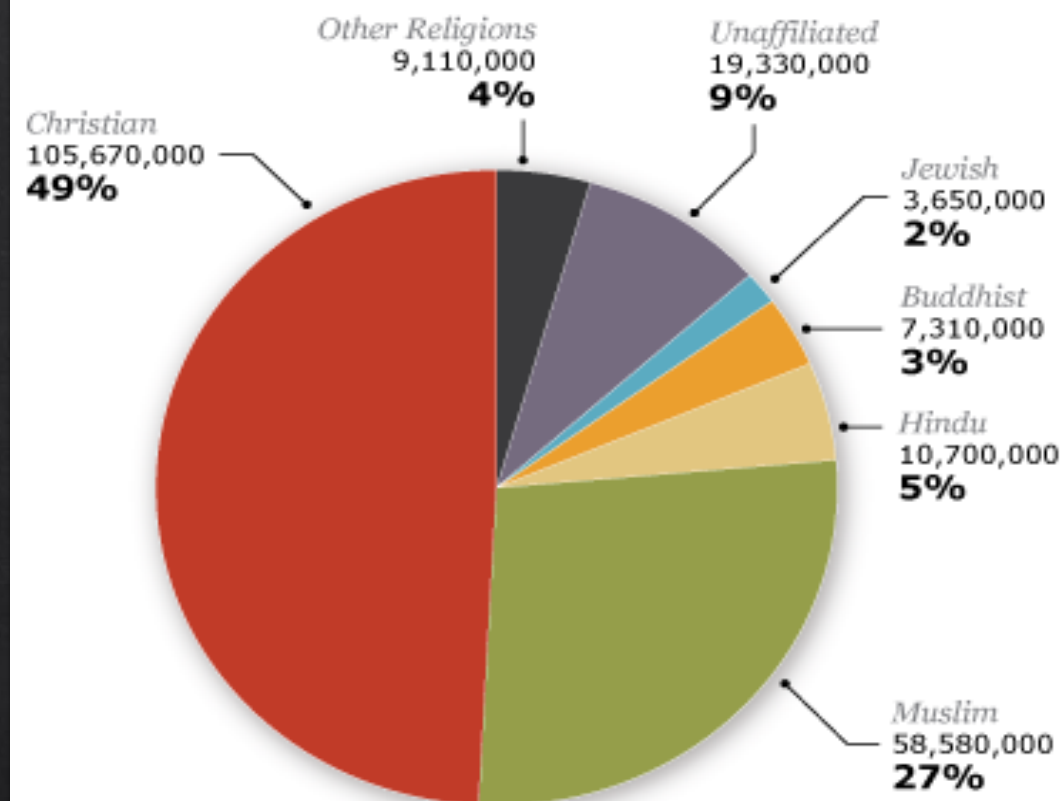
Human Rights and Citizenship

- ◆ Every person has a claim to human rights by birth
 - ◆ Protecting a **person's well-being**
- ◆ **Citizenship** is bestowed by the State
 - ◆ Sovereign but constrained by international laws and norms
 - ◆ Obligation to protect the well-being of **all** people on its territory
 - ◆ Legitimacy of certain privileges for **nationals**

Faith On The Move - I

Religious Composition of International Migrants

Percentage and estimated number of all migrants who belong to each religious group



Throughout the report, the "other religions" category includes Sikhs, Jains, Taoists, Chinese folk religions, African traditional religions and many smaller groups.

Population estimates are rounded to ten thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers and may not add to 100 due to rounding.

Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life
Global Religion and Migration Database 2010

Faith On The Move - II

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/221431/religious-composition-of-immigrants-in-the-eu/>

