ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

John WILLOUGHBY
“Ambivalent Anxieties of the South Asian-Gulf Arab Labor Exchange”
Revista de Economía Mundial, 14, 2006, pp. 31-56

This essay explores the contradictions unleashed by the heavy reliance of Gulf Arab countries on South Asian expatriate labor. While worker remittances significantly boost the living standards of home country households, the presence of surplus labor both stimulates the emergence of a labor permits market that facilitates the annual extraction of billions of dollars and allows a modern form of indentured servitude. Despite this reality, unfavorable economic conditions cause South Asian workers to seek employment in the Gulf.

Arthur MACEWAN
“Liberalization, Migration, and Development: The Mexico-U.S. Relationship”
Revista de Economía Mundial, 14, 2006, pp. 57-85

Migration from Mexico to the United States has been increased by liberalization of the Mexican economy. Proponents of liberalization had maintained that it would reduce migration; indeed, they used this argument along with anti-immigrant sentiment as one basis on which to sell the North American Free Trade Agreement to the U.S. public. The anti-immigration demagogy was not only offensive in sentiment but also wrong in substance. Various impacts of liberalization have been causal factors moving people northward and maintaining the high rate of migration. This reality should force a reassessment of policy in the United States. A policy that accepted the reality of continuing migration and integrated the immigrants into the labor force with full rights could have widespread benefits.
Esra ERDEM
“Migrations from the ‘Global South’ and the Informal Economy in Turkey: Laissez passer, laissez faire?”
Revista de Economía Mundial, 14, 2006, pp. 87-120

In terms of migratory movements from the “Global South”, Turkey is a receiving, transit and sending country all at the same time. The paper analyzes these self-organized flows through the concept of the “autonomy of migration”. The paper starts off by outlining the defining impact of Turkish nationalism on migratory movements. Next, the economy of transit migration that sustains contemporary flows is analyzed, given ever stricter border controls implemented as part of Turkey’s process of EU acquis. Next, labour emigration to European and the Middle Eastern countries is reviewed. Lastly, the differential access of migrants to informal employment in Turkey is examined in light of recent research findings. Gender, ethnicity and social networks are identified as factors that frame migrant agency.

Bob SUTCLIFFE
“The Path of the Sea: Human Migration across the Western Mediterranean”
Revista de Economía Mundial, 14, 2006, pp. 121-169

This article looks at some of the characteristics, causes and consequences of the present day migrations from the southern Mediterranean countries to Western Europe, concentrating on the three Maghrebi countries, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco, especially the latter. The most detailed sections will zoom in further to look at the vortex of this migration – the Strait which bears the name of Gibril Tarik, who crossed it with an army of 7,000 in 712 A.D. to conquer the southern Iberian peninsular and to found the civilization of Andalus, and which today forms both a passage and a barrier between the world wealth and the world of poverty.

Albert RECIO, Joseph BANYULS, Ernest CANO y Fausto MÍGUELES
“Migrations and the Labor Market”
Revista de Economía Mundial, 14, 2006, pp. 171-193

In this paper we review the analyses of migration from the point of view of labor markets. We discuss different analytical perspectives and we consider the relevance of the labor segmentation approach for understanding the labor dynamics that influence the majority of migration processes. We argue that migration processes are influenced both by the transformation of capitalist economies and by the specific institutions of each country (migration laws, welfare policies, etc.).
Along the last quarter of the century, pension reforms which introduced private and mandatory capitalization schemes were implemented in Latin America. In this paper, the author states some criticisms against the theory and the practise of the new systems. From the point of view of intergenerational equity, it is argued that the new systems not only do not solve some of the problems attributed to public systems but also introduce new distortions in the rates of return which each generation receives. From the optic of intragenerational equity, the paper justifies that reforms are susceptible to worsen the poor redistributive capacity of the present systems. Finally, the author offers several policy implications for dealing with these problems.

Migratory flows that arrive in Spain show a phenomenon that is going to mark of our future, regarding different spheres of our country’s life but especially regarding their autonomic responsibility and the establishment of the immigrants in every region, that is, the different forms [the nets] that are adopted by the stable settlement of the diverse immigrant populations who come to Spain. The new pluricultural situation will bring about considerable social, cultural, and coexistence-related changes and adaptations. In this paper we analyze how nets are formed and their implications, given that labor insertion – which appears to be a prerequisite for socio-cultural integration, is not enough to guarantee that relations between immigrants and locals tend towards an intercultural society. Therefore, it is necessary to go deeper in the knowledge on how migratory nets work, in order to ensure a stable settlement and to implement the necessary measures for those processes not to become a trauma for civil life. That is, it is necessary – through knowing how new populations become enrooted and how locals perceive them – to build integrating and democratic frameworks for coexistence between old and new settlers (Benattig, 1987).

In this paper we discuss the interactions between development and migration, taking into account the most recent theoretical and empirical studies. First, we
review migration causes following several theoretical approaches. Second, we address the consequences of migration for sending economies, emphasizing the effects of remittances and the brain drain phenomena. Finally we conclude discussing several policy issues.