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KING

Knowledge for INtegration Governance

Laboratories of integration at local level

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KING - Knowledge for INtegration Governance

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The KING project's objective is to elaborate a report on the **state of play** of migrant integration in Europe through an interdisciplinary approach and to provide decision- and policy-makers with **evidence-based recommendations** on the design of migrant integration-related policies and on the way they should be articulated between different policy-making levels of governance.

Migrant integration is a truly multi-faceted process. The contribution of the insights offered by different disciplines is thus essential in order better to grasp the various aspects of the presence of migrants in European societies. This is why **multidisciplinarity** is at the core of the KING research project, whose Advisory Board comprises experts of seven different disciplines:

EU Policy – Yves Pascouau

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Economics – Martin Kahanec & Alessandra Venturini

Demography – Gian Carlo Blangiardo

The project consists in the conduct of preliminary **Desk Research** to be followed by an empirical in-depth analysis of specific key topics identified within the desk research. To carry out these two tasks, each Advisory Board member chose and coordinated a team of two to five researchers, who have been assigned a range of topics to cover.

The present paper belongs to the series of contributions produced by the researchers of the “Demography” team directed by Professor Gian Carlo Blangiardo:

EU Policy	ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER	DESK RESEARCH PAPERS
Political Science	GIAN CARLO BLANGIARDO Overview Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The contribution of migration to the demography of Europe between 1991 and 2011: an overview” by Maria Rita Testa • “The expected contribution of migrations to the future European economic and socio-demographic system” by Pawel Kaczmarczyk • “Laboratories of integration at local level” by Mariachiara Di Cesare
Public Administration		
Social Science		
Applied Social Studies		
Economics		
Demography		

The project is coordinated by the **ISMU Foundation**, based in Milan (Italy).

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Laboratories of integration at local level

1. INTRODUCTION

Several recent studies described the role of migration in the EU member states providing important insights on the role of migration flows in shaping past, present, and future demographic dynamics in Europe.

However the role of migration, in terms of its effects and potentialities, is not independent from the level of integration of the foreign-born population within the host society. The integration process implies a series of adjustments between and within both the native and the newcomers and requires time and effort from every member of the civil society. Though, it is essential to reduce the existing gaps and differences between local and foreign population to create integrated societies.

Since the 1950s the concept of integration associated with migration flows has become quickly an essential element in the international debate on migration. Integration is worldwide considered necessary for enhance the economic, social, and cultural benefits for both the native and the foreign born population, as well as for the security and stability of the society (IOM, 2013). However to move from the conceptual definition and identification of the dynamics behind a successful process of integration to the development of associated effective national, subnational, and local policies it is essential to identify the mechanisms for monitoring and accounting such phenomena. In fact, it is only through the quantification of the concept of integration that governments can identify the dimensions where effective actions are needed, develop and implement policies, and later evaluate the efficacy of such actions.

It is with the Zaragoza Declaration (15-16 April 2010, Zaragoza) that a big step ahead has been done in relation to the identification of the Communitarian lines for monitoring integration. A series of indicators related to the key policy areas associated with the process of integration have been consensually identified. It is through the four dimensions of employment, education, social inclusion, and active citizenship (and their associated indicators) that the level, pace, and process of integration can be measured and monitored. The indicators identified within each dimension are characterized by coherence in the definition across countries allowing for temporal and spatial consistency and comparability. The Zaragoza indicators can be considered as the common language of the different actors involved in the process of understanding, improving and facilitating migrants' integration.

If the identification of well-defined indicators is the first step needed for the process of accountability, it is only the beginning of the monitoring process. In fact the implementation of such indicators depends mainly on the available data and the approaches used by different actors interested in the phenomena.

2. DATA SOURCES AVAILABILITY FOR THE ANALYSIS OF INTEGRATION

The main issue to proceed to quantify integration is evidently the need for data, which is rather complex. There has been a clear global effort to identify sources of data able to satisfy the need of producing relevant indicators. Mainly three sources of data are available for this purpose:

- 1 Administrative data (including censuses, micro-censuses, national statistical offices, vital statistics).
- 2 General surveys (these can include surveys such as the European EU-SILC, specific national surveys).
- 3 Ad-hoc surveys specifically aimed to the foreign population.

The first source of data has the advantages to be regularly updated and to apply to the entire population. It is essential for estimating the presence of migrants on the territory and to describe the demographic and sometimes socio-economic characteristics of such population. However this source has important limits such as the restrict number of variables included and the complexity in constructing a set of indicators comparable in time and space, with the exception of some outstanding cases, as the one of Denmark or Norway (Bijl and Verweij, 2012), where the record linkage between the administrative data permit to have a constantly update information of the population. Also the administrative data source is characterized by a total absence of variables associated with dimensions such as social inclusion or active citizenship.

The second source of data has the advantage to have a more comprehensive set of variables. However being aimed to the general population means that the sample size of the immigrant population is limited and most of the time not representative of the immigrant population. Despite this, general surveys are an important tool and are increasingly used to produce measures and monitoring integration.

The third source is generally characterized by very limited sample sizes but has the advantage of collecting detailed information on the topic of interest. Ad hoc surveys are specifically aimed to the immigrant population with the objective to measure what cannot be gathered through the use of administrative data or generic surveys.

3. MACRO AND MICRO APPROACH TO INTEGRATION MEASURE

Accordingly to the source of data, two different approaches can be used to measure integration: one based on macro-data and one on micro-data.

The first approach, mainly based on the administrative data sources, permits to look at migration and integration in respect to a series of variables of interest such as age, sex, household composition, level of education, occupation, income among others. Following this approach the subpopulation is defined accordingly to a profile based on the average/frequency of the variables associated with the concept of integration.

However this approach allows the comparison between different populations only based on one of the dimension each time. In fact, a specific group can be the most integrated accordingly to one dimension (i.e. employment) but lag behind in relation to another dimension (i.e. social inclusion). Instead with the micro-approach it is possible to construct more complex measurements of integration based on the individual profiles associated to a set of characteristics (see Box 1). It is important to underline that, while the macro-approach can rely on aggregate data (i.e. tabulation), the micro-approach requires access to individual level data.

BOX 1

Micro-approach: how to construct the individual score of integration

The construction of an overall score of integration at individual level allows to analyze spatial and sub-population differences in the process of integration and to control the efficacy of local or specifically oriented policies

Basic tools needed

- I) Census data or a representative sample of the target population.
- II) A methodology able to assign an overall integration score, according to an a priori definition of integration, to each unit.

Steps required in order to assign an integration score to every statistical unit
STEP1: Selection of a set of indicators according to the definition of integration;

STEP2: Identification of the associated variables within the dataset which modalities can be ranked according to a scale of integration (from low to high);

STEP3: Estimation for each variable (reflecting one of the multiple dimensions of integration) of the integration scores (ranging from -1 to +1). These can be implemented calculating the relative frequency of the variable and assigning to each modality a score calculated, as the difference between the sum of the frequencies of the previous modalities and the sum of the frequencies of the following;

STEP4: Assign to each unit a vector of scores according to the observed variables; STEP5: Calculation of the overall integration score averaging the the vector of scores for each unit;

STEP6: Summarize the overall integration score within subgroups of the population defined accordingly to specific variables (i.e. gender, nationality, education and so on).

4. MONITORING INTEGRATION AT LOCAL LEVEL: SOME EXPERIENCES

The macro and micro level approaches provide valuable information however which approach to use, more than being a choice clearly depends on the availability of the data to the entities in charge of the monitoring system.

The aim of this chapter is to learn the strategies for monitoring integration implemented in different European countries. If on one side, some of the entities designated to support such process, can rely only on macro data some others may be able to access individual level data and more specifically individual level data coming from *ad-hoc* surveys aimed to account for the integration process.

Four observatories on migration have been identified as emblematic examples. For three cases - The Migration Observatory (United Kingdom), The Immigration Observatory (Portugal), and The Permanent Migration Observatory of Andalusia (Spain) – we provide a short description and a case study selected among the available publications, limiting the summary to the evidence provided. For the Regional Observatory for the Integration and the Multiethnicity of Lombardy ORIM (Italy) along with providing a full description of the observatory we elaborate and analyze the data of the *ad-hoc* study developed by ORIM

with a specific example of how the process of integration in the region can be monitored and how results can be used for policy actions.

4.1. The Migration Observatory (United Kingdom)

The *Migration Observatory* (<http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk>) contributes to the public debate on migration providing systematic and neutral information on the presence of migrants in the UK territory.

Through the census information the observatory provides detailed profiles of immigrant population on the UK territory in terms of socio-demographic characteristics (The Migration Observatory, 2013a), its contribution to the population growth (The Migration Observatory, 2012) as well as its economic participation and observed outcomes (Rienzo, 2013).

Not limited to the previous the *Migration Observatory* actively contributes to understand the public opinion relatively to the immigration process. In "Thinking behind the numbers: understanding public opinion on immigration in Britain" (The Migration Observatory, 2011) the *Migration Observatory* concentrated effort to better understand the public opinion, in particular the British population's opinion, on migration. The study highlights inconsistency between public perception of immigrants and objective figures. So for example, if accordingly to this study 69% of the respondents agreed in reducing immigration, almost the same proportion identified as immigrants the asylum seekers population while only 29% thought about students. This is in contrast with the real distribution of immigrant population where students represent the largest group of arrivals (37% in 2009) and asylum seekers the smallest (4% in 2009). Similarly a recent study looked at the coverage and the language used for migration topics in Britain's Media (The Migration Observatory, 2013b) under the assumption that newspapers play a critical role in framing the public debate on migration. Accordingly to this study the most common descriptor across all newspaper types associated with the word immigrants is *illegal* (used between 10% and 5%), and *EU* and *Eastern Europe*. Also frequently associated with immigrants are the words *million* and *thousands*, and words referring to movements such as *into*, *stay*, *stop* as well as words associated with security and legality such as *terrorist*, *suspected*, and *sham*.

4.2. The Immigration Observatory (Portugal)

The *Immigration Observatory* (set up within the remit of *The high commission for immigration and intercultural dialogue - ACIDI*) is aimed to gather, process, and make available information on immigration in Portugal with the purpose to encourage the collection of supplementary data in addition to the directly accessible information from primary sources. Its role is also to promote the national debate on migration as well as to connect national and international organisms characterized by the same objective of monitoring migration.

4.2.1. Case study: Trajectories and projections of youngsters of foreign origin at the end of primary school (Seabra et al. 2011)

The aim of this study was to analyze students in transition toward secondary school based on their social and cultural background with special attention to the trajectory of immigrant descendents (including their relation to the school, and the patterns of heterogeneity-homogeneity in comparison with the broader universe of students). Two-hundreds and twenty youngsters from two schools with high proportion of

foreign students had been selected and divided in two groups - those with both parents born in Portugal (147 students) and those with at least one foreign-born parent (73 students). The study results show how in general the immigrants experience regarding school trajectory is less positive in terms of performance but on the other hand the relation established with the school is slightly more positive for those foreign-origin students (including a better relationship with teachers). Also, children of immigrants tend to privilege having friendship with others with similar migratory experience. Overall they seem to be very well integrated within the cultural consumption patterns (i.e. music and food) and more than due to culturally specific constraints, potential differences were mainly related to the individual socio-economic constraints to access those goods. In synthesis, the study shows how children of immigrants are characterized by school trajectories often less successful than their non-immigrants peers and they feel more discriminated, however they tend to be less critical towards the institution they attend. On the difficulties encountered for better performances, one was related to proficiency in the Portuguese language and the other on the low expectations from teachers, in particular for students of African origin.

Based on the results of this study the authors' suggestions in terms of specific actions were:

1. to invest more in school orientation, increasing the number of people within the school institution able to provide a more effective support for decision making this critical age;
2. to provide a better support on Portuguese language for non-mother tongue students;
3. to improve the process of monitoring for a better use of information.

4.3. Permanent Migration Observatory of Andalusia OPAM (Spain)

The OPAM mission is to gather and disseminate information on international migration in terms of its impact on the host society as well as its evolution in time. The OPAM main focus is the Spanish region of Andalusia, however a lot of effort is made to compare the local reality with other regions of Spain and as well as other European countries.

4.3.1. Case study: Demographic changes and employment situation of immigrants in the Province of Malaga (OPAM, 2010)

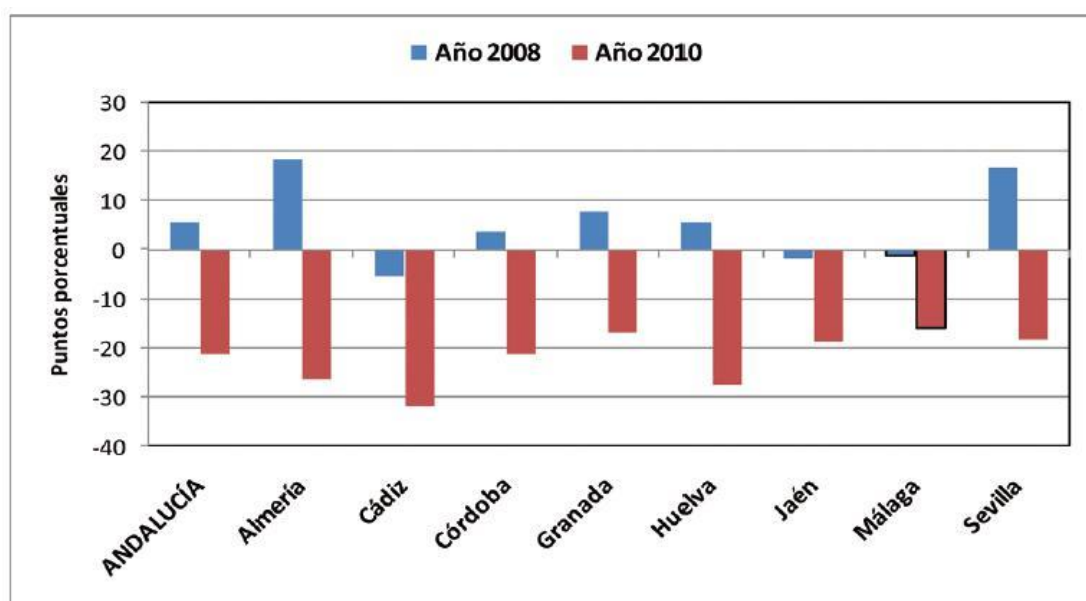
Malaga is one of the five Provinces with the highest proportion of immigrants, 39% of the overall Andalusian immigrant population and the highest absolute number of immigrants. Migration flows origin mainly from EU countries however Malaga is the Andalusian Province with the highest number of non-EU immigrants. After a period of economic growth, the financial crisis badly affected the Province of Malaga. By 2010 Malaga registered one of the highest unemployment rates in Andalusia.

The aim of this study was to analyze the impact of the financial crisis among immigrants. For the analysis of the labour market the data used were from the Economically Active Population Survey (EPA - Encuesta de Poblacion activa), while for the analysis of the public opinion on migration its study OPIA 2008 and 2010 (Opinions and attitudes on migration).

Accordingly to the EPA the employment rate among immigrants in the second trimester 2007 was over 60% while in the same 2010 period it declined at 42%. Non-EU immigrants had been the ones most affected by the financial crisis. This was particularly evident among the Latin American community which had the highest increase in the unemployment rate. In terms of public opinion, during the economic crisis, the proportion of the local population considering the positive impact of immigrants on the labour market

declined from 43% (2008) to 29% in 2010. An increased proportion (from 35% to 47%) of population considered the immigrant community as a competitor in the labour market. However in 2010 still 53% considered immigrants labour force important within specific sectors. Finally the Andalusian Autonomous Community registered a worsening in the general public opinion of immigration, but among the eight provinces, Malaga was the one with the less negative scenario.

Figure 1 – Difference between positive and negative evaluation of immigration in the Andalusian Autonomous Community by Province (2008 and 2010)



Source: OPAM (2010). Evolucion demografica y situacion laboral de la poblacion inmigrante en la provincia de malaga. Tema OPAM n.3

4.4. Regional observatory for the integration and the multi-ethnicity of Lombardy ORIM (Italy)

In 2000, the Regional Council of Lombardy commissioned the Observatory for the Integration and the Multi-ethnicity of Lombardy Region (ORIM - Osservatorio Regionale per l'Integrazione e la multietnicità della Regione Lombardia), stemming out from understanding that immigration is a structural phenomenon that significantly affects Italy for its geographical location and Lombardy for its economic and productive relevance.

ORIM follows the Regional Statute and law relative to social intervention which endorses the Council the duty to promote the development of research centres aimed to collect and analyse information for the governmental and administrative activities. In addition, ORIM reflects the national regulation which invites the Regional Governments to monitor the process of migration as well as the related public opinion. ORIM's final aim is to gather information on the migration phenomenon within the Lombardy Region to prevent and fight discrimination as well as provide consultancy for those subjects involved in the migration process, being an active subject in the development of territorial policies and the promotion of integration.

During the last 12 years of activity the Observatory collected a comprehensive amount of information which has been made available on their website (www.orimregionelombardia.it)

In relation to the specific theme of integration, ORIM provides a good example of the relevance of monitoring the process of migration using both quantitative and qualitative tools, with the aim to identify the characteristics of social exclusion among immigrants on the regional territory.

4.4.1. Data

The Observatory uses two different sources of data. The first source of information is provided by the official statistics, mainly those provided by the Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) and the local official statistics. The former, despite to deliver important information on the structure of the immigration phenomena only refers to the legal migrant population. The latter is mainly based on population balances and do not discriminate the nature of the immigration (legal-illegal). The second source of information used by the Observatory is a specific *ad-hoc* study which has been run every year since 2001. This study provides information on the immigrant population currently present in the Region with special attention to immigrants originating from countries with high migratory pressure independently from their legal status.

The study is regional and provincially representative (Baio et al. 2011). Since the first round (2001) it sampled 7,000-8,000 each year (4,000 in the 2013). The study provides a comprehensive set of variables which cover different dimensions of migration allowing to monitor integration at both macro and micro level. The micro level approach enables to assign to each individual sampled in the study a score of integration based on his/her characteristics, and through the aggregation of the individual scores among specific subgroups of the population, provides an overall score of integration.

4.4.2. The micro-approach for monitoring integration: an example

Using ORIM's last available (2012) *ad-hoc* study (Blangiardo, 2012) and the 2007-2011 rounds as comparison, it is possible to analyse the occupation and economic integration of the immigrants living in the region to evaluate if the global financial crisis had any impact on the process of integration.

To proceed with the analysis a definition of occupation and economic integration (in terms of optimal and counter-optimal) is needed. The level of optimal integration in relation to the economic and occupational dimensions can be defined as those subject aged 20-64 years old, active in the labour market, with a permanent position (or self-employed with a stable activity), a living wage, and a position in the labour market in accordance with their educational level. The worst level of integration can be defined as those subjects aged 20-64 years old out of the labour market or unemployed, unable to make a living wage, and under-employed given their educational level.

Results

As shown in Table 1, in 2012 almost 85% of the immigrants aged 20-64 years old in the region were active. Of these, 66% had a regular contract and 20% had an income over 1300 euros and almost half had a job in accordance with his/her educational level.

In 2007, well before the financial crisis, the level of occupation among immigrant was 5 percentage points higher than the 2012 figure. In relation to the level of unemployment among immigrants the 2012 figure (17.1%) is three times the one observed in 2007 (6.5%), while the proportion of irregular employees decreased by 7 percent points. No variation has been registered for the proportion of immigrants with a permanent position (regular/stable 61%).

Table 1 – Occupational and economic characteristics of immigrants aged 20-64 years old in Lombardy. 2007-2012

<i>Variables</i>	2012	2011	2010	2007
<i>Economic activity</i> %				
Active	84.6	85.6	83.3	89.5
Inactive	15.4	14.4	16.7	10.5
Total	100	100	100	100
<i>Job characteristics – regularity and stability</i> %				
Unemployed	17.1	13.9	15.9	6.5
Irregular/unstable	6.4	6.9	6	7.8
Irregular/stable	5.4	5.6	6.2	10.9
At risk of unemployment (*)	2.5	1.5	9.7	14.1
Regular/unstable (*)	7.5	8.7		
Regular/ stable	61.1	63.4	62.2	60.7
Total	100	100	100	100.0
<i>Monthly wage</i> %				
Up to 800 €	31.2	27	26.7	26.8
800-1000 €	23.3	21	24.4	25.2
1000-1300 €	23.6	22.2	25.4	26.6
over 1300 €	21.9	29.8	23.5	21.4
Total	100	100	100	100.0
<i>Occupation compared to level of education</i> %				
Highly inadequate	10.4	9.6	9.3	11.4
Barely inadequate	40.5	40	38.8	38.6
Adequate	49.1	50.4	51.9	50
Total	100	100	100,0	100

(*) no distinction in 2007 and 2010.

In relation to monthly wage, an increase of around 3% points in the proportion of employees with a monthly wage below 1000 € has been recorded.

Finally, in terms of coherence between level of education and occupation, almost 50% of employees are over-qualified for their position (with no difference between 2007 and 2012). This last evidence suggests how the process of brain-waste for the higher-educated immigrants, does not depend on the economic context but it is mainly due to the low-skilled job market offer for immigrants.

The macro analysis provides important insights for understanding the characteristics of the occupational and economic integration of the immigrants living in the Region. However, a more refined analysis can be done observing the same dimensions listed in Table 1 at individual level (using the variables relative to occupational status, type of occupation, education, and wage). This approach allows assigning a score between -1 (worst) to 1 (optimal)¹ to each dimension. Averaging the individual grades an overall score of occupational and economic integration is produced². The analysis of the overall score (as well as the single dimension scores) provides important insights on the level of integration of the immigrant population present in the Region. Results in Table 2 suggest that in 2012 immigrant men were more integrated (0.055) than their female counterpart (-0.059). From the analysis of each dimension this was mainly due to a lower level of female labour force participation and to a lower female monthly wage. The level of integration strongly differs accordingly to the place of origin of the foreign born population. The Asian community has the highest level of integration (0.025) while North-Africans the lowest (-0.024). The time spent living in the country plays an important role in the process of integration, with immigrants with less than 2 years of

¹ For each category of the variables of interest the correspondent score is calculated, as stated above, as the difference between the sum of the frequencies of the previous categories and the sum of the frequencies of the following categories.

² This score is by definition equal to 0 when the overall average is calculated.

residence in the Region showing an overall integration score of -0.169 versus a 0.058 scored by those with more than 10 years of residence.

Similarly those with a long residence permit have a higher level of integration (0.044) than those without (-0.174). Finally, looking at the highest level of education achieved, those immigrants with a secondary school degree and above show a lower level of integration (-0.029 for secondary school and -0.080 for bachelor degree and over) this is mainly due to the lack of consistency between education and job type.

Table 2 – Scores for the occupational and economic integration metric. Immigrants aged 20-64 years old - selected characteristics.

Variables	Job				Average
	Economic activity	characteristics regularity stability	- Net monthly wage and	Over-qualification status	
<i>Gender</i>					
Men	0.11	-0.01	0.13	-0.01	0.06
Women	-0.12	0.01	-0.13	0.01	-0.059
<i>Total</i>	0	0	0	0	0.000
<i>Place of origin</i>					
Eastern Europe	0.02	0.03	0	-0.07	-0.01
Asia	-0.03	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.03
North Africa	-0.07	-0.08	0.02	0.03	-0.02
Africa (North excluded)	0.06	-0.12	-0.01	0.05	0
Latin America	0.06	0.07	-0.06	-0.02	0.013
<i>Total</i>	0	0	0	0	0.000
<i>Length of stay</i>					
Less than 2 years	-0.05	-0.38	-0.17	-0.08	-0.17
2-4 years	-0.13	-0.18	-0.13	-0.01	-0.11
5-10 years	-0.01	0	-0.05	-0.01	-0.02
More than 10 years	0.05	0.07	0.09	0.02	0.058
<i>Total</i>	0	0	0	0	0.000
<i>Type of residence permit</i>					
Italian citizenship acquired	-0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.024
EU	0.07	-0.02	0.02	-0.06	0.002
Long residence permit	0	0.09	0.09	0	0.044
Short residence permit	-0.02	-0.03	-0.08	0	-0.033
Without residence permit	0.12	-0.6	-0.27	0.05	-0.174
<i>Total</i>	0	0	0	0	0.000
<i>Education</i>					
No education	-0.09	-0.14	-0.06	0.26	-0.009
Compulsory school	0	-0.03	0	0.33	0.074
Secondary school	0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.16	-0.029
University	0.01	0.04	-0.02	-0.35	-0.080
<i>Total</i>	0	0	0	0	0

For the analysis of the trends (2007-2012), it is possible to use the 2007 scores as baseline and apply them to those in 2012³. Compared to the 2007, the 2012 (Table 3 and Table 4) show a worsening in the overall metric of integration and in each single component with the exception of the overall score for women (0.008) and for the Latin American community (0.029).

³ To correctly compare two different periods it is necessary to fix a common series of scores. In this case the 2007 scores have been applied to the 2012 with same characteristics.

Table 3 – Scores for the occupational and economic integration metrics 2007 and 2012. Immigrants aged 20-64 years old. Men and women (2007 baseline score)

Dimensions	Year	Men	Women
Economic Activity	2007	0.09	-0.1
	2012	0.06	-0.17
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.02	-0.06
Job characteristics – regularity and stability	2007	0.03	-0.04
	2012	-0.05	-0.02
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.09	0.02
Net monthly wage	2007	0.16	-0.2
	2012	0.11	-0.16
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.06	0.04
Over-qualification status	2007	0.03	-0.03
	2012	-0.01	0
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.03	0.04
Average	2007	0.08	-0.09
	2012	0.03	-0.09
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.05	0.01

For what concerns the length of presence in Italy (Table 5) the worst situation is observed among those with 5-10 and 10+ years of stay (average score difference respectively -0.064 and -0.068). While relatively to education (Table 6) those immigrants without any formal education are the ones scoring the lowest integration score.

Table 4 – Scores for the occupational and economic integration metrics 2007 and 2012. Immigrants aged 20-64 years old – by place of origin (2007 baseline score)

Dimensions	Year	Eastern Europe	Asia	North Africa	Africa (excluded North)	Latin America
Economic Activity	2007	0.03	-0.02	-0.05	0.03	0.03
	2012	-0.03	-0.07	-0.12	0.01	0.01
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.06	-0.05	-0.07	-0.02	-0.02
Job characteristics – regularity and stability	2007	-0.02	0.08	0	0	-0.07
	2012	-0.01	0.03	-0.12	-0.17	0.04
	2012-2007 (difference)	0.02	-0.05	-0.12	-0.17	0.11
Net monthly wage	2007	0.01	0	0.08	-0.03	-0.12
	2012	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	-0.08
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.04	-0.01	-0.07	0	0.04
Over-qualification status	2007	-0.08	0.03	0.04	0.11	-0.02
	2012	-0.07	0.05	0.02	0.05	-0.02
	2012-2007 (difference)	0.01	0.03	-0.01	-0.06	0
Average	2007	-0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	-0.04
	2012	-0.03	0	-0.05	-0.04	-0.01
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.02	-0.02	-0.07	-0.06	0.03

Table 5 – Scores for the occupational and economic integration metrics 2007 and 2012. Immigrants aged 20-64 years old – by length of presence in Italy (2007 baseline score)

Dimensions	Year	Less than 2 years	2-4 years	5-10 years	>10 years
Economic Activity	2007	-0.07	-0.04	0	0.04
	2012	-0.1	-0.17	-0.06	0
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.03	-0.14	-0.06	-0.05
Job characteristics – regularity and stability	2007	-0.48	-0.23	0.06	0.18
	2012	-0.45	-0.23	-0.04	0.05
	2012-2007 (difference)	0.02	-0.01	-0.1	-0.13
Net monthly wage	2007	-0.18	-0.16	0	0.16
	2012	-0.18	-0.15	-0.07	0.07
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.01	0.01	-0.08	-0.08
Over-qualification status	2007	-0.07	-0.03	0.01	0.03
	2012	-0.08	-0.01	-0.01	0.02
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	-0.01
Average	2007	-0.2	-0.11	0.02	0.1
	2012	-0.2	-0.14	-0.05	0.03
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0.01	-0.03	-0.06	-0.07

Table 6 – Scores for the occupational and economic integration metrics 2007 and 2012. Immigrants aged 20-64 years old – by education (2007 baseline score)

Dimensions	Year	No education	Compulsory school	Secondary school	University
Economic Activity	2007	-0.04	0	0.01	-0.01
	2012	-0,137	-0.05	-0.04	-0.04
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0,094	-0.05	-0.05	-0.04
Job characteristics – regularity and stability	2007	-0,068	-0.01	0	0.04
	2012	-0,193	-0.07	-0.01	0.01
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0,125	-0.06	-0.01	-0.03
Net monthly wage	2007	-0,015	0.01	0	0
	2012	-0,078	-0.02	-0.01	-0.04
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0,063	-0.03	-0.01	-0.04
Over-qualification status	2007	0,366	0.41	-0.21	-0.44
	2012	0,251	0.33	-0.16	-0.35
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0,115	-0.08	0.05	0.09
Average	2007	0,060	0.1	-0.05	-0.1
	2012	-0,039	0.05	-0.06	-0.11
	2012-2007 (difference)	-0,099	-0.06	-0.01	0

4.4.3. Implication of the process of monitoring implemented by ORIM

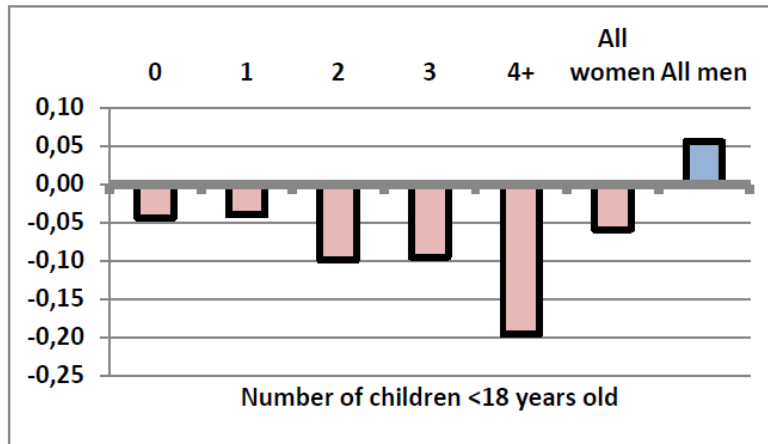
The effort made by ORIM in measuring and accounting for the level of integration of the immigrants in the Region (using a micro-level approach), allows to identify those subpopulations for which specific actions are needed.

Through four simple scenarios it is possible to appreciate how ORIM provides essential and vital information to all the actors involved in the management and improvement of immigrant integration within the Region.

a) Does the presence of children affect the process of integration of immigrant women?

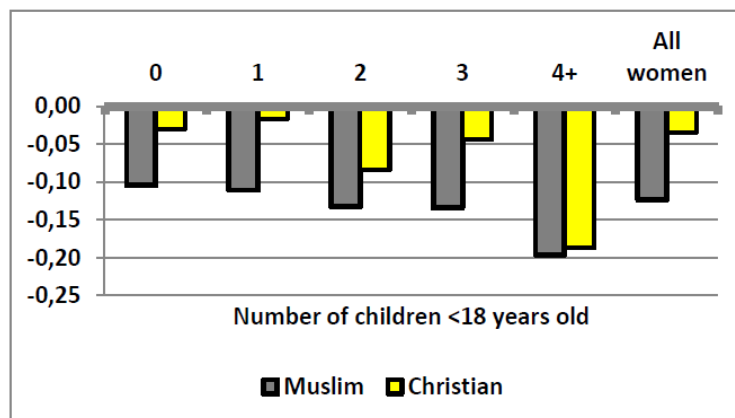
As previously seen (Table 2) women are characterized by a lower level of integration than men. The already negative female integration score is doubled when the woman has two or more children and it is four times worst with 4 or more children.

Figure 2 – Average score of economic and occupational integration by number of children – Women



The burden of childbearing on the process of integration interacts with the religious creed. Figure 3 shows how Muslim women with children have a worst score of integration than Christian women with children. This is particularly evident for low parities while the effect attenuates for higher orders parity (4+ children).

Figure 3 – Average score of economic and occupational integration by number of children – Women by religion

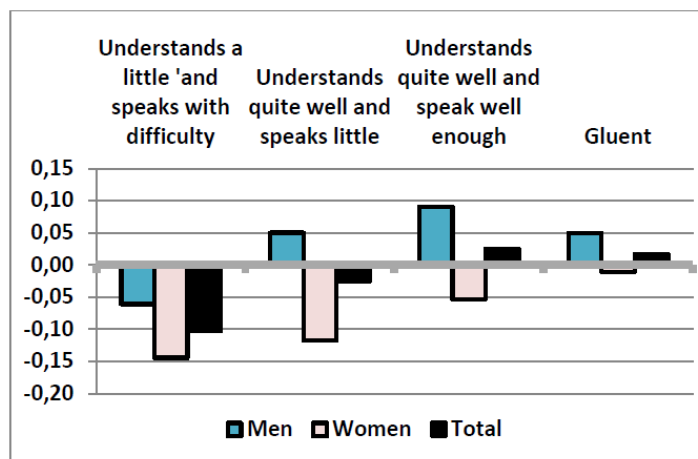


b) Does the knowledge of Italian affect the process of integration of immigrants?

The ability to speak Italian represents an important element in the process of integration. As can be seen in Figure 4, the female immigrant population is the one more affected by the knowledge of the language. Only women who speak Italian fluently have an integration score of almost 0 (in line with the average score of the whole immigrant population), while those who understand little and speak with difficulty show the

worst score (-0.15). It is worth to underline that the female score for the subgroups with very basic Italian knowledge is three times the level scored by men with the same level of knowledge of the language.

Figure 4 – Average score of economic and occupational integration by level of knowledge of Italian



c) Integration and poverty

Applying the definition provided by the Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) for the relative poverty threshold, almost 61% of immigrants belong to families living under that threshold (Istat, 2013), with similar level among men and women (60% and 63% respectively). Of these, 39% are poor and 22% are just poor. On the other hand 39% of immigrants live over the relative poverty threshold, with 16% almost poor and 23% not poor⁴.

As we would have expected the level of integration is strongly associated with the level of poverty (Figure 5). As from previous analysis female immigrants disadvantage is bigger than the one observed among men, with *just poor* and *close to being poor* categories affecting negatively the level of integration for women but not for men.

⁴ A household of two is defined as *just poor* if its level of living and spending patterns is no more than 20% lower than the relative poverty threshold (€990.88 in 2012), while any household with the same characteristics living under this threshold is considered poor, while it is almost poor any household of two living over the poverty threshold of no more than 20%. Any other household living over the poverty threshold by 20% or more is considered not poor.

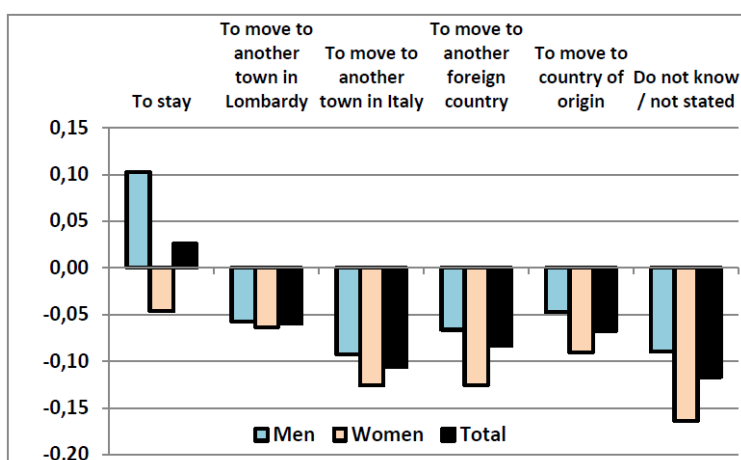
Figure 5 – Average score of economic and occupational integration by level of poverty (2012)



d) Does the level of integration impact the willingness to emigrate?

Among the 2012 ORIM sample 78% of the interviewed do not want to emigrate and as shown in to Figure 6 this group of immigrants is also the most integrated compared with those subjects who declare the willingness to emigrate (1.5% in a different region, 4.7% in a different country).

Figure 6 – Average score of economic and occupational integration by willingness to emigrate in the next 12 months



5. ASSESSMENT AND SUGGESTIONS

The aim of this document was to identify existing national experiences aimed to monitor the process of integration of the migrant population. The identification of mechanisms of accountability aimed to monitor the integration of migrants within national and sub-national realities is a key element for implementing successful policies.

Despite the fact that measuring the characteristics of the foreign-born population in any specific country is *per se* challenging the examples described here suggest different strategies implemented across Europe for

using existing or generating new data sources to measure integration. Together with observatories aimed to systematically collect available information on immigrants, some observatories run *ad-hoc* surveys with the aim to gather additional information on the immigrant's characteristics (information in most of the cases not available from the official statistics).

Two of the identified Observatories (ORIM and OPAM) are implemented at local level in line with the idea that *"local authorities play an essential role in building the local community ties that make better involvement of migrants in local life possible"* (European Ministerial Conference on Integration, Vichy, 3-4 November 2008).

Nevertheless, if the finer geographical level seems to be the best target for implementing policies aimed to migrant integration and consequently the best unit for identifying accountability mechanisms, it is important to underline that responsibilities should be shared across the multiple hierarchical governmental and administrative levels (from the local level to regional, national and Communitarian governments). The ORIM case follows exactly this idea, being in line with the Communitarian, National and Regional request of monitoring the process of immigration.

As shown in paragraph 4.4 the ORIM observatory presents an interesting way to measure integration accounting for the multiple dimensions included in its definition. With its straightforward methodology and its replicability within different contexts the ORIM implementation of the concept of integration may represent a good starting point for the development of a standard procedure of measuring integration as a whole. The information on migrants' integration provided by other observatories is clearly limited by the data available,

We acknowledge that the examples of observatories provided in this document are not comprehensive of all the European activities in terms of integration monitoring and that other valuable experiences may exist. Our main goal was to show few examples to stimulate the debate on the relevance of the national and local observatories as support to national and local governments.

In view of the information and evidence collected the specific key actions suggested to improve the activity of accountability and monitoring are:

- 1) Develop permanent Observatories in targeted areas (i.e. with high presence of immigrant population, low levels of integration, and high level of inequalities). This approach would reduce the costs associated with the implementation of observatories homogeneously across the country. The local option should be combined with a national entity that oversees the national trends (using official statistics), possibly fostering the possibility of opening new observatories in regions with increasingly significant immigration flows.
- 2) Catalyze the transfer of knowledge supporting a strong connection between observatories within and between countries. The idea would be the implementation of a network of local observatories on the EU territory sharing experience and information, promoting data quality as well as implementing similar if not identical indicators and meta-data standards for facilitating the monitoring process and comparative studies.
- 3) As specific actions for implementing key action 2):
 - a. Carry out a census of the Observatories currently active on the EU territory with the purpose of creating a database of macro data related to the observatories (i.e. aim, type of entity, funding received, activities, etc.). The absence of such information represents at the moment a limitation so as to implement a network. The development of the census and

the creation of the database require an important amount of time and resources, being the priority of initial funding.

- b. To incentivise the connection: Planning a rotational meeting (biannual) within the network to strength connection and share methodologies and case studies with the final production of proceedings to be disseminated across the principal stakeholders. The frequency of the meeting is essential given the highly dynamic nature of the phenomenon, which requires continuous updates.
- 4) Strengthen the interaction between the observatories, the national statistics agencies, parliament, and national-regional governments in general to transform the effort of monitoring in real actions and policies.
- 5) Given the integration process implies a series of adjustments between and within both the native and the newcomers and requires time and effort form every member of the civil society the observatories should also understand and analyze the public opinion on immigration. This is essential for the implementation of more efficient policies.
- 6) Guarantee to both local observatories and national entities independence and to ensure unbiased, objective, and neutral evidence.

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