

GLOBAL IMMIGRATION & HUMAN SUSTAINABILITY

Examining Human and Business Needs
for Prosperity

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FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT: THE KEY TO HAPPINESS?

- Human sustainability requires freedom of movement.
- From the beginning of time, people and animals migrate for survival. When food becomes sparse or the environment becomes too harsh, people move to meet their needs.

Competing Interests

- Business Needs
- Individual & Family Needs
- Country & Political Needs

Business Needs

- Businesses need the ability to hire the most talented people to maximize their efficiency and profitability, no matter where they are located.
 - Most experienced & knowledgeable sales people
 - Most experienced & knowledgeable research and development people

Business Needs

- Need experienced leaders for their vision and strategic direction
 - Ex: if opening new office or business in a country, need ability to move existing leaders from other global offices of that company to help establish the new office
 - Need ability to open offices/companies in new marketplaces and introduce new products and services to better lives and grow local economies

Business Needs

- Need experienced scientists, engineers, designers, etc. to build better products
 - Need ability to recruit globally to hire the best talent – to improve scientific research and results, engineering feats, and product development

Business Needs

- Need sales people with existing relationships and field/industry knowledge to build new relationships
 - Sales bring the crucial revenue necessary to continue operations.

Individual & Family Needs

- Individuals and families need to survive & thrive
 - Move for a better education
 - Move for better medical care
 - Move to reunite with family
 - Move for a better job, offering a better economic future

Individual & Family Needs

- Move for safety from natural disasters, fear of persecution, other uninhabitable conditions

Country & Political Needs

- Countries design & implement immigration policies to control freedom of movement to meet country & political needs
- Protect local labor force
- Ensure migrants do not become a public charge

Country & Political Needs

- Screen for medical or criminal inadmissibility
- Tension between favoring asylees vs. protecting labor force

Global Policy Examples

- Canada – increased its immigration targets by 25% to allow for the need for increased labor given the retiring baby boomers
- Canada – equipped to handle large volumes of refugee resettlement

Global Policy Examples

- Finland – non-citizens can vote in county & municipal elections
- Portugal – Strategic Plan for Migration providing language support services for all & mentorship programs
- Denmark – prioritizes immigrants with jobs for admission, and requires employment to obtain some immigration benefits

Global Policy Examples

- US – few paths for unskilled labor
- US – restrictive green card paths –some categories take 10-20 years & prohibitive cost of process
- Japan – immigration integration policies largely decentralized – leave it to cities/municipalities to offer services, such as language & educational support

Global Policy Examples

- Australia –strict on asylum seekers. Navy turns away boats. If make it to shore, may be kept for years in detention centers.
- Middle Eastern countries – many not friendly to refugees
- Japan – recently passed a bill deporting those seeking refugee status more than twice

Global Policies – Key Criteria

- Anti-Discrimination Policies & Enforcement
- Health and social welfare access
- Ease of banking and home ownership/rental
- Fast, responsive & dynamic immigration department

Global Policies – Key Criteria

- Visa avenues that correspond with life & business needs (both skilled and unskilled labor)
 - And work authorization for family members
- Inclusive education policies –
 - ESL programs and/or classes in other languages

Global Policies – Key Criteria

- Online language learning tools for all
- Ease of paths for green cards
 - Less restrictive caps on issuance
 - Less costly & complex application process
- Inclusive labor laws
 - Wage laws applicable to all
 - Unemployment assistance
 - Parental leave for all

THANK YOU!

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