

## Review of the THESIS

### CZECH IMMIGRATION POLICY AND ITS POTENTIAL BY KIERAN MULHALL

Due to lack of time to read the thesis in detail, I could submit just a few comments; hopefully it helps at least a little bit.

I highly appreciated particularly the choice of the topic (and especially the use of economic approach towards migration, which is not very common in Czech Republic). And also the fluent and creative style of writing that is not only simple description or enumeration of facts, but the true critical analysis. I found very inspiring the non-Czech point of view (although it could be both, advantage and disadvantage).

#### Comments and suggestions:

- **bibliography**
  - better-arranged (it could be divided into the categories – books, periodical, Internet and so on)
  - **Czech information resources are very limited** (although there are almost all in Czech language only, in that case I would recommend to make a few interviews (in English) with the representatives of the key players, such as Ministry of Interior and other state authorities, but also NGOs and IOs, probably also some scholars, economists etc., working in the field of migration in Czech Republic, to create better picture of Czech immigration policy)
- Have you ever heard about the latest proposal (still in the preparatory process) announced by Ministry of Trade to establish new immigration channel (different from the Pilot Project realized by Ministry of Social Affairs, which is very criticized by many), called “**green cards**”?
- What does the “**net migration**” mean exactly? Net migration is either inflow or outflow of immigrants. We are talking about positive net migration (more immigrants than emigrants to particular country) and negative net migration (emigration predominates). On page 9 (and elsewhere), the meaning of this term is not clear: „*The history of the Czech Republic, specifically the Czech lands incorporated within the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Czechoslovakia, has been mainly characterised by net migration.*“
- The **latest statistical data** could be found (also in English version) in regular annual migration reports on the website of the Ministry of Interior. Czech Statistical Office releases the latest numbers even more frequently (every 3 months).
- As far as I know the **migration still is not the key (or prior) political topic in Czech Republic**, although its importance is definitely increasing.



- The **concept of South – North migration** (as well as East – West migration) is limited, it is not possible to generalize it in global (neither time) perspective and that's why I would not recommend mentioning it.
  
- „...for this reason, economic theory raises a presumption in favour of the free movement of labour.“ (page 14). **Not all economic migration theories support** this argument; some of them oppose to migration or at least refer also to its negative effects.
  
- The **numbers of irregular/illegal immigrants** in any country are always very rough estimates.
  
- Figure 1: **index of globalization** - what is it exactly? how is it calculated? what factors are significant?
  
- It is doubtful that the **multiculturalism** is the only or the best approach towards the integration of immigrants. According some authors many countries (including e.g. Netherlands or even Great Britain) reassessed or already abandoned this concept.
  
- Concerning all figures in general: the particular sources have to be mentioned.
  
- „In 1990, the 75 per cent of immigrants were re-immigrants (return émigrés) of Czech nationality.“ (page 26) I would really like to know the source of this data.

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