

Highly Skilled Migration A Multi-level Review By Mexican Experts



Jason Reed/Reuters

The old saying that a country's wealth emanates from its people has been proven over and over by policies on skilled migration. Human capital, understood as the professionals who may contribute to development in a broad sense, is linked to innovation, technology, and an effervescent cultural and social life—in a word, to wealth.

This issue's special section is an encounter with Mexican experts in skilled migration. We try to offer a varied panorama of the complexities of skilled Mexican migration, taking into account political, economic, and gender issues, among others. Skilled migration is not a problem to be solved in a globalized world, but an opportunity. However, related issues such as low skills transfer or political disadvantages that may lead to detrimental brain drain are legitimate sources of concern.

Our analysis is integrated into the North American context, due to the relevance of Mexican skilled migration to the U.S. and Canada. The Mexican case confirms that proximity is still important for professionals who choose to migrate, due to factors like regional labor agreements favoring free labor movement, among others. Most importantly, people tend to move where good job opportunities exist, but also to places that are geographically and culturally akin to their places of origin.

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