Which of Europe’s Migration-Receiving Countries Face Long Run Population Decline?

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Abstract

This paper examines the differing long run population growth prospects of countries with below (conventional) replacement level fertility and positive net migration. For individual years between 2009 and 2018 for nine European countries, it compares the TFR to a replacement level which is adjusted to consider current migration, developed by Parr (2021). Results show in all or almost all years for Sweden, Norway and Switzerland the TFR is above the migration-adjusted replacement level, whilst for Hungary and Italy the TFR is below it. Germany’s TFR rose from below migration-adjusted replacement to above it, whilst Finland’s TFR fell from above migration-adjusted replacement to below it. The results show the population growth implication growth implication of an NRR below 1.0, when considered in combination with concurrent net migration and mortality, varies between countries and over time.