



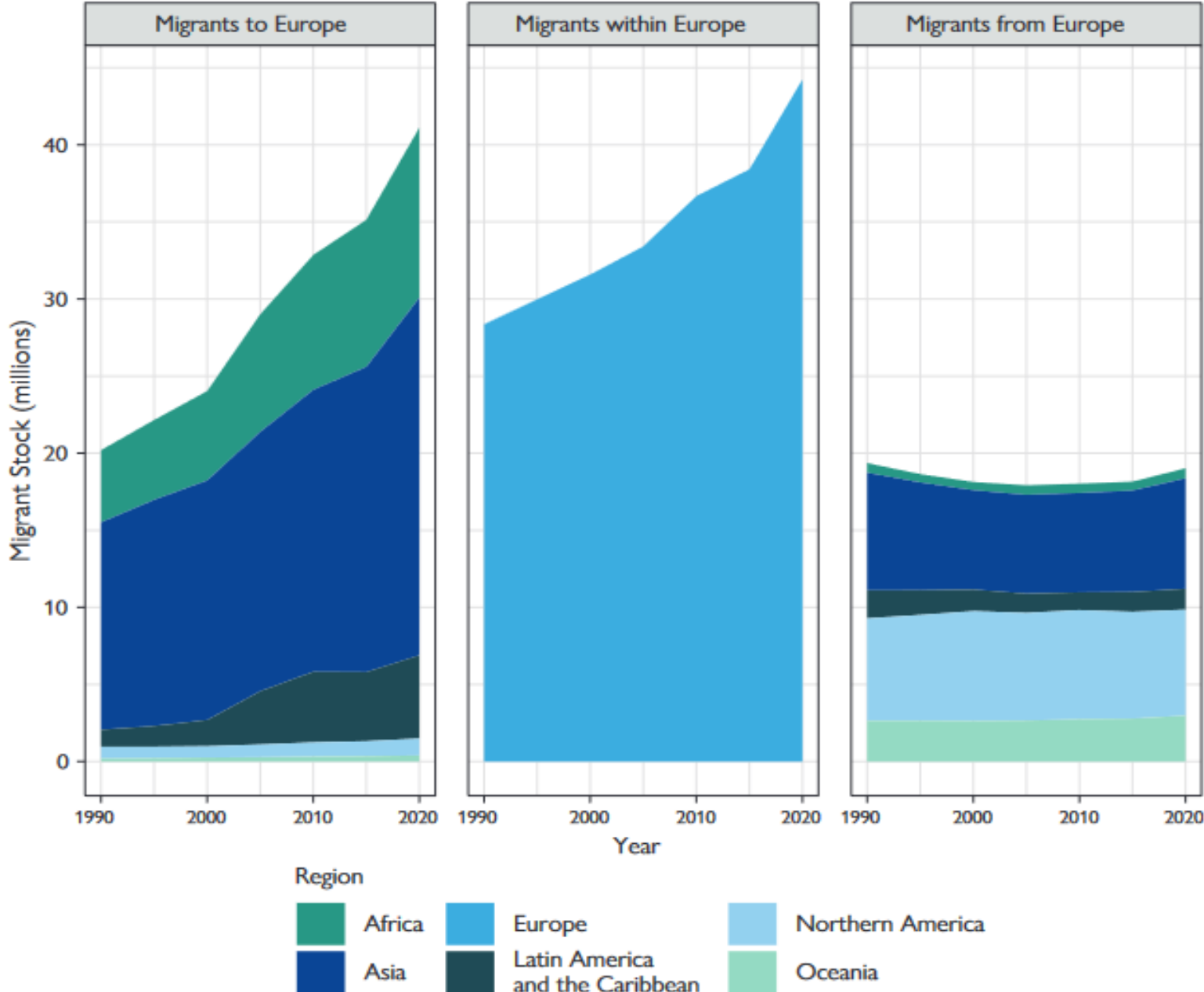
# MIGRATION AND IDENTITY: EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Session 1

POLI3820/EURO3100/  
CANA3000

# Migrants to, within and from Europe, 1990–2020

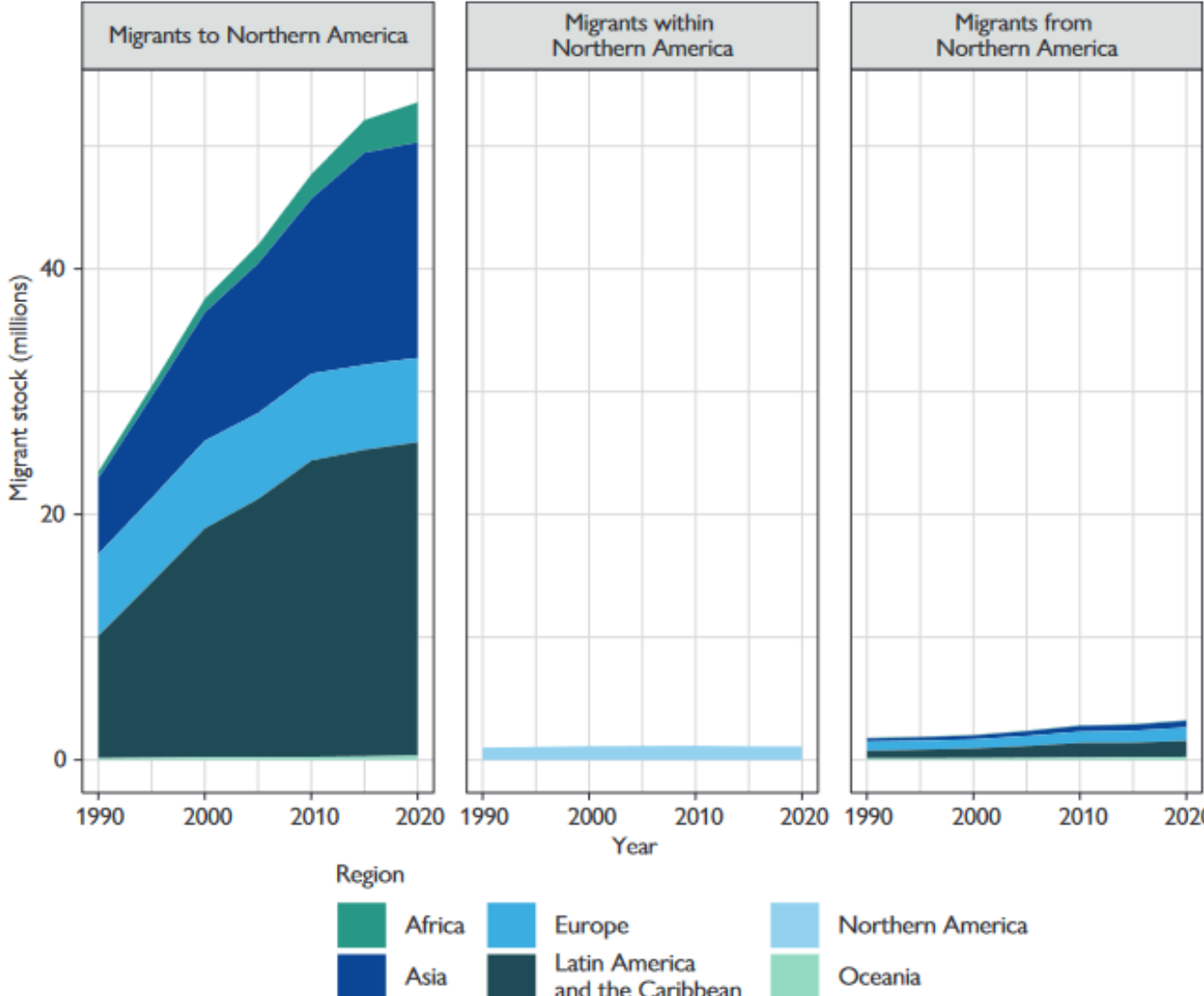
## TRENDS



Source: UN DESA, 2021.

# TRENDS

Migrants to, within and from Northern America, 1990–2020



Source: UN DESA, 2021.



## RECENT & LONG-TERM TRENDS

- Unprecedented levels of diversity and demographic change
- Global transformations and technological advances- altering migration dynamics
- Europe - 87 m., 44 m. from the region
- N.A. 59 m. LAC region (26 m.), Europe 3<sup>rd</sup> highest (7 m.). (IOM, 2024)
- NA & EU emigrants- Latin America (1.4 m.) Caribbean region (1.3 m.) stable

# RECENT & LONG-TERM TRENDS

- Forced migration-Ukraine (2022) largest European displacement since WWII
- Asylum restrictions- including Northern/Western/Southern Europe.
- Asylum processing- Third country outsourcing (i.e. Rwanda- U.K & Denmark)
- Diverse age groups- youths from sub-regions (Albania, Moldova, Bulgaria & Serbia)
- Political and economic crises, demographics, climate-related disasters, free movement agreements
- Irregular migration - most significant challenge



# MIGRATION & IDENTITY- EARLY APPROACHES

North American immigration- shaped by settler colonialism

N.A. assimilation era- new national identity, "melting pot"

Europe- assimilation era- structural incorporation into society (i.e. labour market, educational attainment)

Post-war- state efforts to expand safety nets and social protections

Integration era- preserve cultural identities.



# MIGRATION & IDENTITY- EARLY APPROACHES

- Multiculturalism- development of immigrant populations into ethnic communities that remain distinguishable from the majority population regarding language, culture, social behavior, etc. (Hugo, 2005, p. 17)
- Willingness of the majority to embrace cultural diversity and adapt institutions accordingly (Castles, 1998) (i.e. Canada)
- Integration policies (i.e. Ireland)
- Equality & access to labour market, education,
- Regularization of legal status
- Promote social inclusion





## **MIGRATION & IDENTITY: -WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACHES**

Migrant integration - a multi-level and multi-stakeholder process (OECD, 2020; 2023)

Combat discrimination- an intersectional approach.

- Ireland- National Action Plan vs Racism (2023)
- Germany- Federal Anti-Discrimination Officer (2023)

Local and regional government agreements (regional blocks & trading partners)

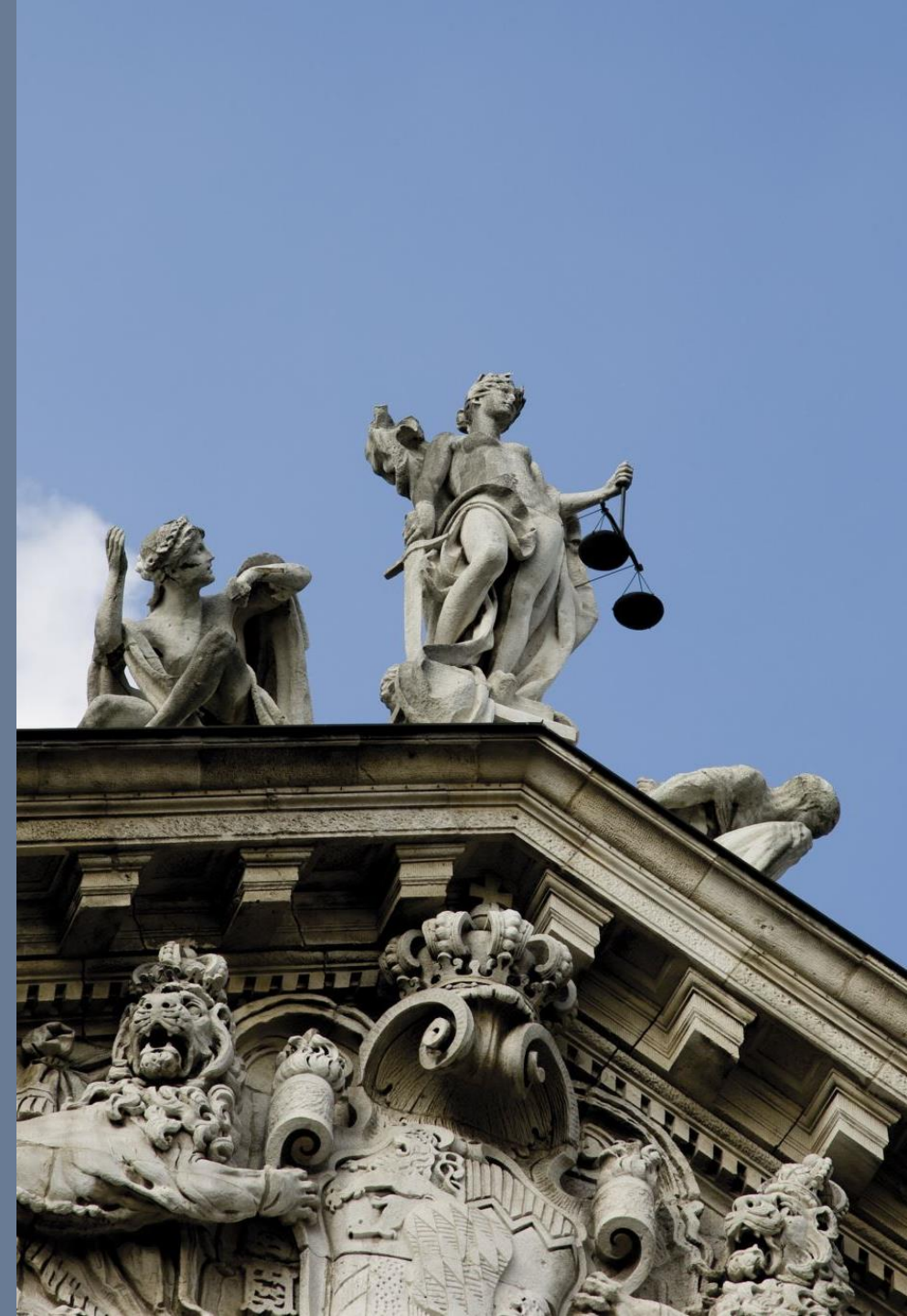
- Canada, U.S. & Mexico (2023) Declaration on the N.A. Partnership for Equity and Racial Justice & Trilateral Racial Equity and Inclusion Expert Network

EU- National Action Plans Against Racism (i.e. Belgium, France)



# MIGRATION & IDENTITY: WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACHES

- Citizenship reforms
  - Relaxing (i.e. Germany, U.S., Ireland)
  - Tightening (i.e. Denmark, Norway, Sweden)
- Bilateral agreements, credential recognition (i.e. Greece 2022, Germany)
- Human rights frameworks - SDG's & Global Compacts



# MIGRATION & IDENTITY: WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACHES

## Improved measurements

- Household & community surveys, censuses, etc.
- Migrant Integration Policy Index (2020)
  - 52 countries
  - Top 4- Sweden (86/100), Finland, Portugal, Canada.
- Migrant Acceptance Index-King's College, London.
- Ontario's Welcome-Ability Index- Western University, Canada



# MIGRATION & IDENTITY: WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACHES



- Civic integration - Accessible or mandatory

=> ensure immigrants know, understand, and respect the host country's history, institutions, and shared values (OECD, 2023).

take part in the functioning of the host society.

- Tailoring responses (i.e. Austria)

- Integration and Civic Integration Act (i.e. Belgium, 2022, Netherlands, 2022)

- Language & vocational training (i.e. France, Norway)

# MIGRATION & IDENTITY: WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACHES

- Naturalization laws
- Political mobilization
  - Elevating voices of ethnic minorities
  - Consultative roles (i.e. Berlin's Advisory Board on Migration and Integration; Athens-Migrant Integration Council)
  - Generates momentum for cultural diversity and anti-discrimination policies
  - Sheds light on fundamental tensions and constraints of neoliberal policies.
- Political community inclusion- (i.e. Luxembourg)



# MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE & CONTEXTUALIZED RESPONSES

Decentralization of policy implementation

“Sanctuary cities”

Local responses to undocumented migrants (i.e. Zürich City Card (ZCC))

Challenges

- Coordination
- Access to services
- Weight in pathways systems



# MARGINALIZATION & SUBALTERNITY

- Global south
- Refugees and asylum seekers
- Muslim-majority countries
- Muslims- i.e. Islam's compatibility with
- German *Leitkultur* ("leading culture"), prevention of radicalization



# NEW/RENEWED FOCUS

- Post-covid
  - Immigrants role in EU & N.A. society
  - deep-seated barriers that often limit their integration (McLeod, 2015)
- Transnationalism (Glick-Schiller et al., 1995)
- Diaspora
- Emerging technologies- remote work, visibility/invisibility

