

Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2:

Arbeitskräftewanderung

I. Abhandlungen und Studien

Werner Sesselmeier und Bert Rürup, Langfristige Wirkungen der Arbeiterimmigration auf Arbeitsmarkt, Faktorausstattung und Wachstumspfad seit der Reichsgründung, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 11-38.

Gerold Ambrosius, Der Beitrag der Vertriebenen und Flüchtlinge zum Wachstum der westdeutschen Wirtschaft nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 39-71.

Thomas Bauer und Klaus F. Zimmermann, Gastarbeiter und Wirtschaftsentwicklung im Nachkriegsdeutschland, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 73-108.

Christoph M. Schmidt, German Economic Growth After the Demise of Socialism: The Potential Contribution of East-West Migration, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 109-126.

Hermann von Laer, Umfang, Struktur und absehbare ökonomische Folgen der gegenwärtigen Zuwanderung in die Bundesrepublik, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 127-144.

II. Diskussion

Richard Tilly, "Perestroika à la Prusse": Preußens liberale Reformen zu Anfang des 19. Jahrhunderts im Lichte des Transformationsparadigmas, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 147-160.

Herman A. Diederiks, Amsterdamer Kaufleute und Unternehmer zwischen 1750 und 1850, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 161-173.

Takashi Iida, Konflikte um "Egalisierung" in der dörflichen Gesellschaft Ostelbiens im 18. Jahrhundert: Am Fallbeispiel des preußischen Domänenamtes Alt-Ruppin in Brandenburg, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 175-197.

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III. Forschungs- und Literaturberichte

Sidney Rollard, Eine grundlegende Geschichte der Arbeiter und Arbeiterbewegung in Deutschland, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 225-234.

Toni Pierenkemper, Josef Neckermann (1912-1992) – Anmerkungen zur Autobiographie, in: Jahrbuch für Wirtschaftsgeschichte (JWG) 1996/2, S. 235-245.

Abstracts

I. Abhandlungen und Studien

Werner Sesselmeier und Bert Rürup, Langfristige Wirkungen der Arbeiterimmigration auf Arbeitsmarkt, Faktorausstattung und Wachstumspfad seit der Reichsgründung

Abstract

The consequences of immigration for the labour market, the capital-labour ratio, and the economic growth are crucially dependent on the relationship between the native and the foreign workers. If this relationship can be described by complementarity immigrants will have a positive effect, whereas substitutability leads to the opposite effect. Therefore a right estimation needs in addition to the theoretical models a very careful look on the empirical situation. The labour market situation in Germany in the late nineteenth century could generally be described as a situation where the immigrants were complements to the native workers and because of this they supported the economic development in Germany. Only in a few sectors, especially in the construction industry was some kind of substitutability between these two groups. In addition it is to remark, that these positive results depend on the massive emigration from Germany in the years before, too.

Gerold Ambrosius, Der Beitrag der Vertriebenen und Flüchtlinge zum Wachstum der westdeutschen Wirtschaft nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg

Abstract

During and immediately after the Second World War about eight million expellees (Vertriebene) had to emigrate from their traditional areas of settlement in Eastern Europe to West Germany. Between 1949 and 1961 almost three million refugees (Flüchtlinge) migrated from East Germany. This enormous immigrant influx was regarded as a burden for the social and economic reconstruction with regard to the destroyed cities, the high unemployment, the regional disparities etc. in the first years after the war. But soon, at the latest at the end of the 1950s interpretation changed. Since then expellees and refugees were considered as an important element of the "economic miracle" by which the German economy recovered from its dismal post-war situation and of its competitive advantage. The paper focuses in three aspects: on the influence of immigrants on the quantity, quality and structure of labour (1) and capital (2) and on the sectoral and spatial patterns of production (3) during the 1950s. Fact is that refugees and expellees exercised indeed a positive influence on the economic performance of that time because an affluent supply of labour correlated with a scarce supply of capital excellently in that decade and in this special way only in that years.

Thomas Bauer und Klaus F. Zimmermann, Gastarbeiter und Wirtschaftsentwicklung im Nachkriegsdeutschland

Abstract

Caused by the large economic and demographic challenges, the need of an active German immigration policy is currently debated. Therefore, it seems useful to learn the lessons of the guestworker regime after World War II, the first and substantial economically motivated immigration policy in Germany. This paper provides an overview of the German guestworker policy regime. First, the institutional and legal framework is studied. Second, the structure and distribution of migration is documented. Third, the paper investigates the effects of the employment of guestworkers on the labor market and the development of the German economy. It is shown that the guestworker regime of the 1960s and early 1970s has provided small income gains for native workers. However, the distributional effects associated with such general gains are shown to be remarkable. There were large income losses of unskilled labor and substantial income gains of skilled labor and capital. Hence, the effects of active recruitment of foreign labor on economic growth tended to be small. However, there is also evidence that the employment of guestworkers has provided a cyclical buffer for native employment. All in all it can be concluded that the guestworker regime was economically successful.

Christoph M. Schmidt, German Economic Growth After the Demise of Socialism: The Potential Contribution of East-West Migration

Abstract

Even by the generous standards of the Golden Age of European growth between 1950 and 1973, West Germany post-war growth rates were exceptional. Germany had experienced a substantial influx of ethnic German immigrants from Eastern Europe after World War II and, until 1961, West Germany received a constant influx of East Germans. Much of Germany's Golden-Age growth performance has been attributed to this large source of human capital. The last two and a half decades witnessed a return of European growth rates to lower long-run values, and Germany has reverted to the European average as well. Although the substantial immigration of foreign guest-workers in the 1960s and early 1970s apparently contributed to wage moderation, it did not substitute for the steady influx of human capital and the growth impact of ethnic German immigrants. After four decades of cessation, however, following the collapse of the Socialist regimes East-West migration of ethnic Germans has picked up again. Several millions individuals are projected to immigrate in years to come. This paper discusses the potential contribution of the new immigrants to the growth process, with particular emphasis on the skill composition of the current immigrant stream.

Hermann von Laer, Umfang, Struktur und absehbare ökonomische Folgen der gegenwärtigen Zuwanderung in die Bundesrepublik

Abstract

Until quite recently migration has almost always been job migration, i.e. people migrated to places where they could find a job. For some years now a different development can be observed in the Federal Republic of Germany. Although there has been no recruitment of foreign workers since 1973 and the unemployment rate has increased from 1 per cent to 10 per cent, migration is continuing to an even larger extent. Mass migration to a country experiencing a period of mass unemployment is something new. Consequently the employment rate is very low among foreign-born residents and constantly decreasing; today the number of unemployed foreigners is twice as large as the number of unemployed Germans and among welfare recipients their number is even three times as large. In the near future the recent unemployment rate is not likely to decrease significantly and, therefore, from an economic point of view there is no need for migrants in the next two decades. However, migration will continue as there are various legal claims: About 2 million Germans still live in Eastern Europe and will most probably migrate to Germany. Moreover, Germany admits more persons seeking asylum than any other country. Many of them stay in Germany, even if they are not acknowledged as political refugees. And finally, foreign-born residents bring other people from their native country to Germany by marriage or otherwise. In addition to the economic aspects, this migration may cause problems, because the majority of the migrants come from geographically and culturally far-away regions to a country where the annual birth rate is only half as high as the mortality rate per year.