

Migration Aspirations & Realities: The Experiences of Polish Migrants in the UK

PhD Research Project within Marie Curie Initial Training Network 'Changing Employment', Karima Aziz

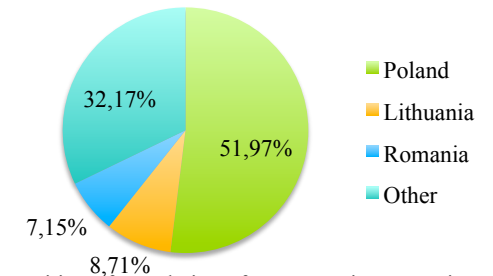
BACKGROUND

Polish migrants in the UK:

- Nr 1 country of foreign citizens
 - Nr 2 country of foreign-born
 - Nr 2 most spoken language
- Census 2011 for England and Wales, National Office for Statistics

East-West Migration & EU-Enlargement:

- context of the history of Polish migration to the UK
- EU-Enlargement – freedom of movement
- privatised migration regime shaped by market forces and migrants' agency (Ciupijus 2011)



THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Int. Migration and Work

- increased deregulation, sectoral change, informalisation and flexibilisation of work
- increased capabilities and aspirations to migrate

Varieties of Capitalism

- UK: Liberal Market Economy (Hall and Soskice 2011)
- Poland: Embedded Liberalism (Bohle and Greskovits 2007)

Migration Theories

- micro, meso and macro level theories – various approaches to agency and contextualisation
- Positivist/Quantitative vs Constructivist/Qualitative Approach

Gendered work and intersectionality

- Women as agents of change
- Feminisation of labour market
- Intersecting inequalities

Migration Experiences

- motivation typologies, labour migration, trade union activism
- aspirations: normalcy, 'bread with butter', educational and professional aspirations
- realities: employment, social mobility, transnational social space, mediation and perception of reality

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What economic, institutional, political and social structures shape the migration aspirations of *female* Polish migrants to the UK?

What economic, institutional, political and social structures shape the migration realities of *female* Polish migrants in the UK?

How do *female* Polish migrants to the UK mediate their migration experience?

METHODS

- Biographical Narrative Interviews
 - Expert Interviews
- } NVivo Analysis - Secondary Data Analysis

TIMELINE OF PHD PROJECT

