

Toward a study-migration pathway in Switzerland?

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Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies

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September 9th ,2013

International Metropolis Workshop, Tampere

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- Skills in the labour force and skilled migration to Switzerland
 - Research question
 - International students in Swiss tertiary educational institutions
 - Institutional features governing the study-migration pathway for IS
 - Conclusions

Employed persons 2000-2010, by HRST and migratory status

	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010		
	Total Population		Swiss		Total Migrants		Recent mig	Older migra
HRST educated and employed in S-T	19	26.7	19.1	26.6	19.6	28.5	49	17.5
HRST not educated but employed in S-T	24.5	23.4	26.5	25.8	12.9	13.1	11.2	14.1
HRST educated but not employed in S-T	6.2	5	6.2	4.8	6.7	5.9	7.8	4.8
Total HRST	49.7	55.1	51.9	57.2	39.2	47.5	68	36.4
Not educated, nor employed	50.3	44.9	48.1	42.8	60.8	52.5	32	63.6

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- How did Switzerland meet the surge in in HS labour force ?
 - How internationalised is the Swiss university system?
 - Was the study-migration path used to meet those needs?
 - Which is the relative importance of external vs. Internal supply of qualification?

Internationalisation = International students in CH

- 15% IS in tertiary education (AU, UK, A, CH, NZ) 2009
- 35% IS in advanced research programs 2004
- 34 800 IS = CH among the top 15 countries in absolute numbers
- 1.4% share of IS worldwide

CH- Foreign students 2000 : a consolidated presence

- A steady proportion since 1980
- 75% hold European passports
- 70% came for study purposes
- Mainly in the French and Italian speaking regions

Reasons for internationalisation

- Cooperative approach
 - Strong in Continental Europe (Erasmus)
- Revenue-generating approach
 - Education as a market / export service (AU, NZ, UK)
- Skilled migration approach
 - Competition for skills (DE, **CH**, US)
- Capacity building approach
 - Improving capacity in tertiary education (CN, SG)

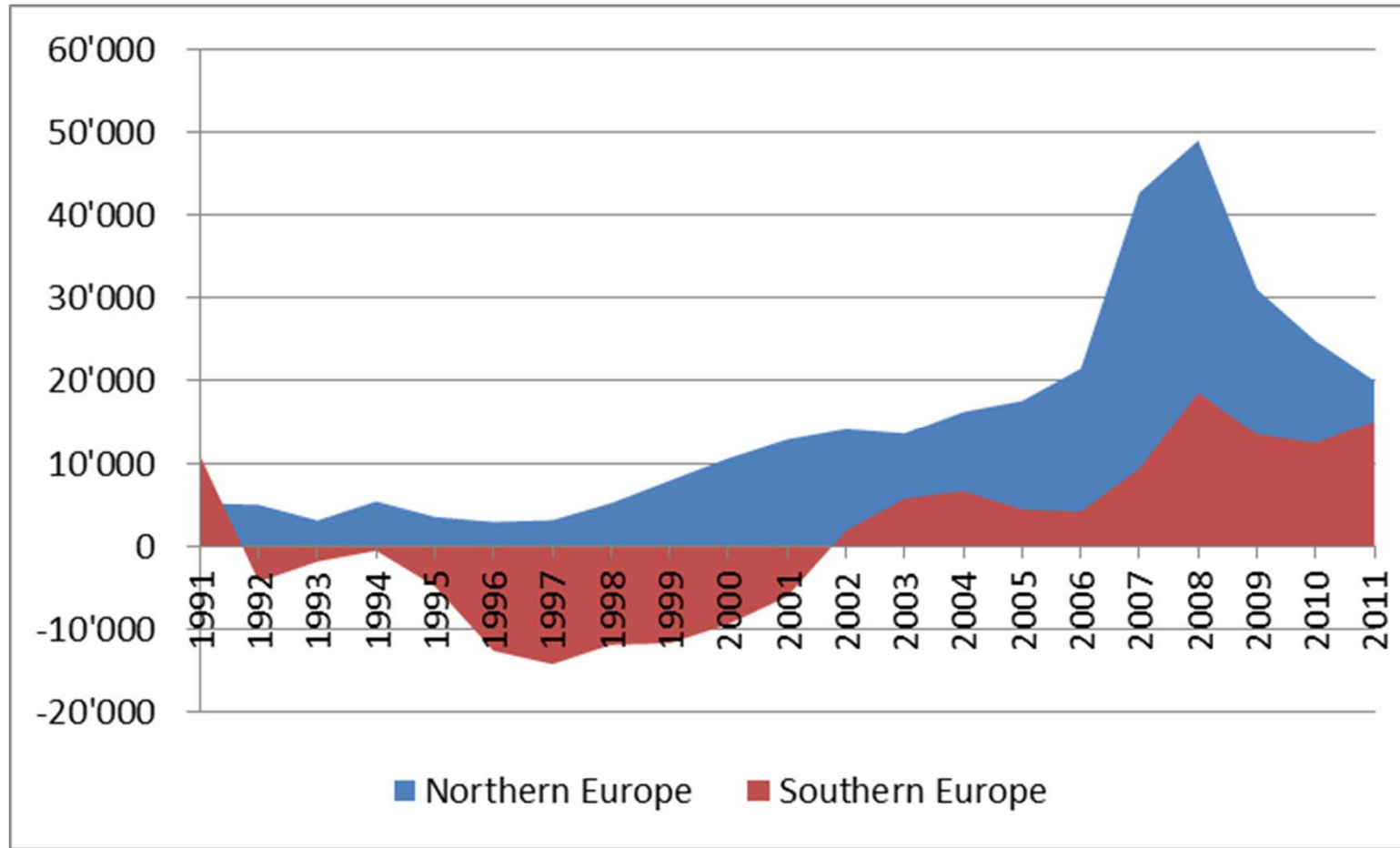
- Only 26 % of the age cohort in TEI
- Low proportion of upper secondary school leavers qualified to enter higher education (2008: 31% CH, 40% DE, 60% OECD)
- Full developed tertiary educational system: Imbalance between study places in tertiary and Swiss graduates

Study- migration : a blocked way

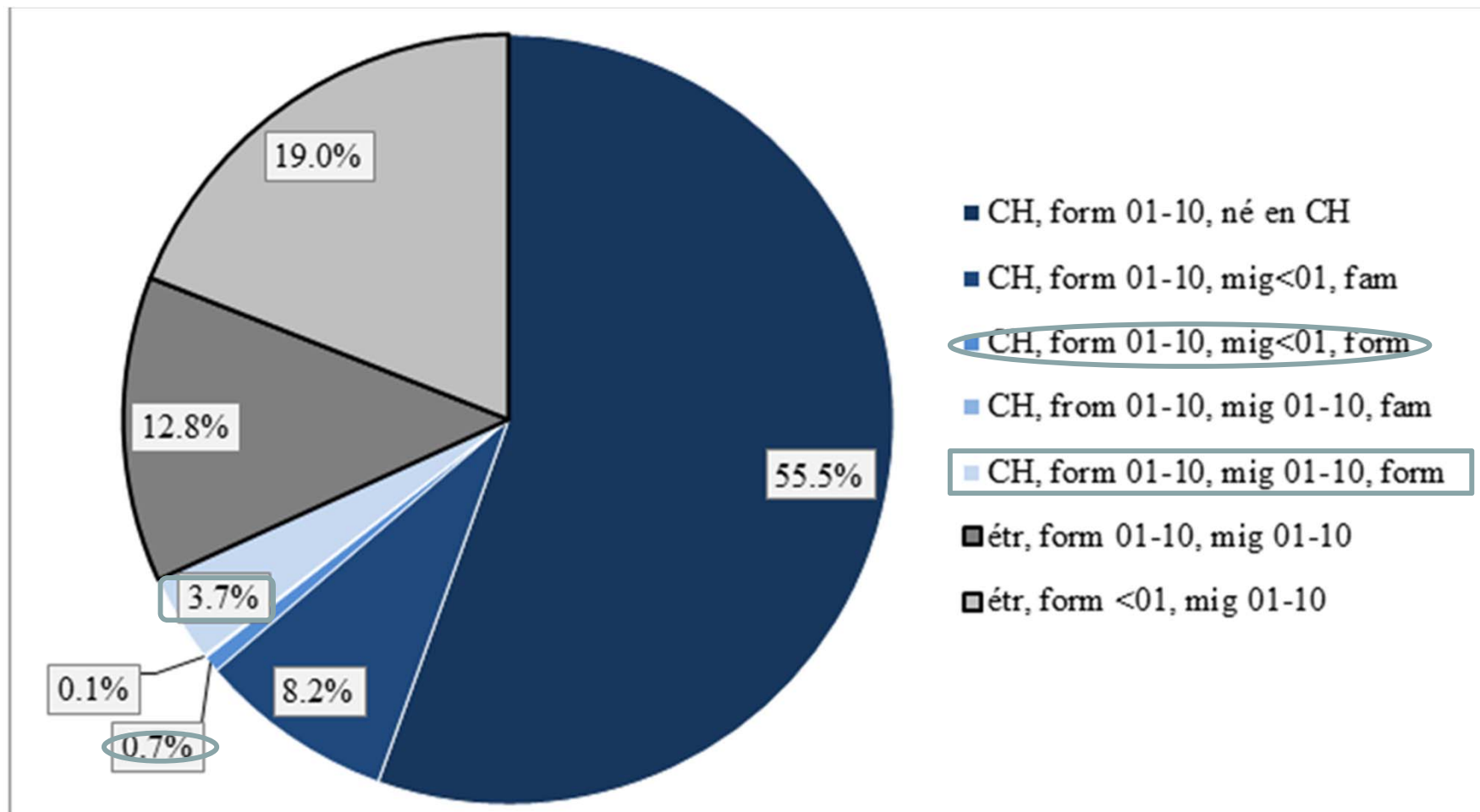
- CH relies on international students for skills and research
- Yet, no set path from higher education to the labour market for international students is envisaged

- The 2005 Alien Law establishes a selective admission policy for third-country-nationals (TCN), aiming at supplying the local labour market with highly qualified labour force.
- It required newly admitted international students (IS) to leave Switzerland upon graduation blocking their way to the CH labour market.

Net migration to CH from EU-countries 1991-2011



- 2010: modification of the Alien Law, allowing TCN to look for employment during a six month period upon graduation from a Swiss higher education institution.
- 2010: official report on present and future shortage of highly qualified labor force in the MINT sectors
- So far, no evaluation of the effectiveness of this measure which came into effect in January 2011.



Source : Office fédéral de la statistique (OFS) – Relevé structurel (RS)

HS population by migratory status and age, 2000-20, en %

	2000	2010			2000	2010
	Total	Total	Older	Recent	Swiss	
	Migrants	Migrants	Migrants	Migrants		
15-24	4.9	4	4.6	3.4	7.1	8.2
25-34	30.7	33.3	22.7	43.8	25.8	22
35-44	33.1	33.6	32.8	34.4	29.6	25.7
45-54	19.7	21.1	27.5	14.8	24.6	27.3
55-64	11.5	8	12.3	3.6	13	16.8

Professions (CITP)	Place of education		
	Total	Swiss	Abroad
Primary teachers	11785	93%	-7%
Secondary teachers	13134	93%	-7%
Nurses	10950	90%	-10%
Technicians and associate professionals	6367	85%	15%
Swiss average	360347	84%	16%
Numerical clerks	5475	83%	17%
Administrative associate professionals	6837	83%	17%
General managers	15802	82%	18%
Production and operations department managers	6530	80%	20%
Directors and chief executives	8228	79%	21%
Office clerks	10876	78%	22%
Computer associate professionals	9215	77%	23%
Physical, mathematical and engineering science professionals	7165	76%	24%
Architects, engineers and related professionals	5321	72%	28%
University and higher education teaching professionals	5021	71%	29%
Other professionals	10244	70%	30%
Computer specialists	2630	63%	37%
Health professionals (except nursing)	7228	62%	38%
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- Switzerland met the surge in HS labour force through massive immigration, in spite of the fact that the Swiss university system is highly internationalised.
- The study migration path has been politically impracticable for a long time.
- The high average of labour force educated abroad may indicate that direct import of well educated professionals was preferred as it is less costly than the study-migration path.

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