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# International mobility of young Spaniards, eight years down the economic crisis. Food for thought

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## Abstract

One of the most interesting consequences of the global financial crisis has been the migratory flows. The mobility of young Europeans, especially of those from Southern Europe, has been analyzed by several academics, including but not limited to: Sussane Bygnes, Anne Triandafyllidou, Birgit Glorius, Russell King, Ana López-Sala, Ramón Díaz-Hernández, Josefina Domínguez-Mujica, Dirk Godenau, Juan Parreño-Castellano, Armando Montanari, Barbara Staniscia, Manolis Pratsinakis, Panos Hatziprokopiou, Dimitris Grammatiks, Lois Labrianidis, Pablo Pumares, Maria Wassermann, Philip Meinardus, Carmen González-Henríquez, Lorenzo Navarrete-Moreno, Martin Baumeister, Jennifer Cavounidis, Maria Lucinda Fonseca, Daniela DeBono, Martin Rhodes and Ruby Gropas.

In the case of Spain, eight years since the crisis started, it is necessary to study the most significant characteristics of this phenomena, as well as the data from 2015 and 2016, when the economic situation begins showing positive signs of recovery. We need to ask ourselves if there is a change in the mobility pattern of young Spaniards in this context, and how migratory processes get intertwined with returns and re-emigrations.

In order to approach this new reality, besides quantitative data, we need to analyze the opinion of the qualified youngsters who emigrated due to high unemployment and lack of opportunities. Interviews show their desire to establish themselves permanently in their chosen country, to keep moving to new destinations, to return home, or to retain their links everywhere. Factors influencing these decisions are also analyzed, in order to shed a light on a new and much more dynamic migratory pattern, which corresponds to the paradigm of human mobility in the context of globalization and European integration.

**Keywords:** Spain, economic crisis, mobility patterns, return, re, emigration

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