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Item 3 of the provisional agenda

THE CHALLENGES OF MEASURING EMIGRATION AND REMITTANCES

Report of the Data Exchange exercise to measure emigration through immigration data of
receiving countries.

Data Analysis Report. Group 1*

(Albania, Italy, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

Submitted by UNECE/Eurostat Task Force on Measuring Emigration Using Data

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Migration flows pose particular challenges to the production and measurement of reliable and widely comparable statistics. In most countries there are more difficulties to cover emigration than immigration. This is primarily due to the fact that international migrants are difficult to count in their country of origin because of their absence, while they should be more easily counted in the receiving country. As immigration statistics are considered more reliable it seems reasonable to conclude that for most countries other countries' inflow statistics are a promising potential source of statistics on their outflows – either to estimate missing or to complete partial emigration data.

* This paper has been prepared by Marcel Heiniger, Swiss Federal Statistical Office at the invitation of the secretariat.

2. Based on the above observations and reflections the Joint ECE-Eurostat Seminar on International Migration (March 21-23, 2005) proposed the creation of a Task Force to measure emigration through immigration data from receiving countries. A pilot project was carried out with the aim of assessing the feasibility of using a receiving country's immigration data for assessing the level of emigration in a sending country. The project was based on a data exchange on the basis of common templates, i.e. a set of tables that were prepared taking into account the existence of very diverse data sources across countries.
3. The goal of this data collection exercise was to examine whether the different data sources currently available and concepts applied could be exploited to provide sending countries useful information on the population that is leaving their country. It was also aimed at making recommendations for the further harmonization or better comparability of migration data.
4. 19 individual countries - grouped into four clusters – participated in the project. Group 1 consists of four European countries with different levels and experiences of migration. Albania and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia can be characterized as sending countries with higher levels of emigration than immigration. Italy is now an immigrant receiving country after having been one of the major sending countries of emigrants to Northern Europe, North America and Australia. Switzerland has been a major immigrant receiving country since the end of World War II. Some pairs of countries have significant migratory flows between each other, e.g. Italy and Switzerland, Albania and Italy, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Switzerland. Moreover, the countries are characterized by different national systems to define and capture international migration.

II. DATA REQUESTS

5. For the first data collection round, eight tables were requested for three different types of migration flow statistics. Two tables were based on the residence one year ago concept. Three tables were based on annual immigration flows and three tables were based on annual emigration estimates. All sets of tables were – whenever applicable - differentiated by different concepts of 'country of origin' identification such as country of previous or next residence, country of birth and country of citizenship. In addition, data were broken down by sex and age groups. Each of the participating countries was asked to report data on migration flows with the other countries of the same group. Detailed metadata for each utilized data source were requested as well.

6. Exchange of migration flow data (templates)

a) Tables 1 and 2

These tables refer to data collected through the question on the previous place of residence included in household surveys, population censuses and/or population registers.

Italy, Switzerland and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia provided data from their last population censuses. Albania did not provide any data.

b) Tables 3, 4 and 5

These tables refer to data collected through other sources, generally of administrative nature, for which annual data on inflows are available.

c) Tables 6, 7 and 8

These tables refer to data collected through other sources, generally of administrative nature, for which annual data on outflows are available.

7. Italy, Switzerland and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia provided annual flow data from their national data sources. Italy was the only country which supplied data from more than one potential source (for Table 5 only). Albania did not provide any data.

8. For the second data collection round, two tables on stocks of migrants and their descendants were requested. Both sets of tables were differentiated by different concepts of 'country of origin' identification of migrants, descendants of migrants and their parents such as country of birth and country of citizenship. Each of the participating countries was asked to provide data on stocks pertaining to all the other countries of the same group. Detailed metadata for each utilized data source were requested as well.

9. Exchange of migration stock data (templates)

a) Table 1

This table refers to stock data collected in household surveys, population censuses and/or population registers. Data are cross-referenced by country of birth and country of citizenship.

Switzerland provided data from its alien register and its last population census. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia provided data from its last population census. Albania and Italy did not provide any data.

b) Table 2

This table refers to stock data collected in household surveys, population censuses and/or population registers. Data are cross-referenced by country of birth, country of citizenship and country of birth of parents.

No country in the group provided any data for this table.

III. DATA AVAILABILITY

10. The following synoptic table lists the different data sources used by the four countries of the group. It should be noted that additional potential data sources might exist in each country. However, the countries have generally not provided data from other than the well established sources for compiling national migration statistics. An exception to this is Italy which supplied data from two separate administrative registers for annual inflows by citizenship.

Group 1: Type of data available by country, showing data sources**FLOW DATA**

	Table 1. Residence one year ago by place of birth	Table 2. Residence one year ago by citizenship	Table 3. Immigrants by country of last permanent residence (arrived last 10 years)	Table 4. Immigrants by country of birth (arrived last 10 years)	Table 5. Immigrants by country of citizenship (arrived last 10 years)	Table 6. Emigrants by country of next residence	Table 7. Emigrants by country of birth	Table 8. Emigrants by country of citizenship
Member countries in Group 1	Data sources							
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	Census	Census	Local Population Registers	Local Population Registers	(1) Local Population Registers (2) Permit of Stay Data Base	Local Population Registers	Local Population Registers	Local Population Registers
Switzerland	Census ¹⁾	Census ¹⁾	Not available	Not available	Alien Register	Not available	Not available	Alien Register
TFYR of Macedonia	Census	Census	Administrative records (residence permit system)	Administrative records (residence permit system)	Administrative records (residence permit system)	Administrative records (residence permit system)	Administrative records (residence permit system)	Administrative records (residence permit system)

1) residence five years ago

STOCK DATA

	Table 1. Population by country of birth and citizenship	Table 2. Population by country of birth, country of birth of parents and citizenship
Member countries in Group 1	Data sources	
Albania	:	:
Italy	:	:
Switzerland	Alien Register, Census	:
TFYR of Macedonia	Census	:

11. The (decennial) census in Italy, FYR of Macedonia and Switzerland is an important source for stock figures but it also provides information on migration flows derived from mobility questions about the place of residence at a certain time prior to the date of the census.

12. Annual migration flow data in Italy, FYR of Macedonia and Switzerland is derived from administrative data sources, i.e. population registers, alien registers and residence permits data bases.

IV. DATA SOURCES, UNIVERSES AND CONCEPTS

13. In this section, data sources used to provide statistics for this pilot project, the universes and concepts are summarized and compared. The following information is based on the metadata as supplied by the countries and pertains to the target population captured in the data tables that were requested. It can be seen that there are varying conceptions of immigrants and emigrants and that the data sources which measure the phenomenon are also varied¹.

¹ It should be noted that the provided metadata were not always sufficiently detailed to fully understand the national concepts, universes and definitions in the field of migration statistics. This section should ideally be reviewed and modified by the national statistical institutes of the member countries of Group 1.

IV.1 Italy

a) Tables 1 and 2 (flow data)

The data source is the population census of October 21, 2001, specifically its question regarding the place of residence one year ago. Information from this question refers to people who lived abroad on October 21, 2000 and therefore provides immigration flow data for the period one year prior to the census.

The population universe of the census is the resident and present population. Nationals who are absent for a period of less than 12 months are included in the usually resident population as are undocumented migrants.

b) Tables 3 to 8

The data source is the municipal administrative data base (*Anagrafe della popolazione residente*). This register is hosted locally, i.e. at the municipal level and includes nationals and non-nationals.

The population universe is the resident population, i.e. people usually resident in a given municipality and – in the case of non-EEA citizens – in possession of a valid permit of stay of at least six months. For nationals and EEA citizens the intended or actual duration of stay in the country is not taken into account. For emigration a duration of absence criterion of one year is used for all national groups. Foreigners in Italy who do not have a permit of stay are not included in the data. However, there are some problems with regular and sufficient updates of the register in certain municipalities which primarily affect non-nationals. It should also be noted that even foreigners with a long-term permit are not forced by law to register their residence in the *Anagrafe*.

c) Table 5

The second data source for this table is another national administrative data base (*Archivio dei permessi di soggiorno*). This register of granted residence permits is maintained by the Immigration Service of the Ministry of the Interior.

The population universe is the legal non-national population, i.e. people who possess a valid permit of stay. These persons are not necessarily "resident" in the country (i.e. registered in the *Anagrafe*), however. The register does not include minors under the age of 14 who are recorded on the permit of one parent and therefore not counted separately.

d) Table 1 (stock data)

Based on the available meta information data for one year (2001) should be available from the population census. However, Italy did not provide such data. Annual stock data at the requested level of detail are not available.

IV.2 Switzerland

a) Tables 1 and 2 (flow data)

The data source is the population census of December 5, 2000, specifically its question regarding the place of residence five years ago. Information from this question refers to people who lived abroad on December 5, 1995 and therefore provides immigration flow data for the period five years prior to the census. The Swiss population census does not use a question about the place of residence one year ago.

The population universe is the resident population, i.e. persons usually resident and present as well as persons usually resident but temporarily absent. The duration of presence before the census day and the intention of further stay are not taken into account. Based on the type of permit it is possible to distinguish between long-term and short-term non-national immigrants (the distinction criteria being the general validity of the type of permit a non-national holds).

b) Tables 3 to 8

The data source is a national administrative data base (Central Alien Register).

The population universe is the legal non-national population (i.e. people in possession of an official permit of stay) with the notable exception of asylum seekers. The duration of validity of permit of stay allows the distinction between long-term (at least one calendar year) and short-term (less than one calendar year) immigrants and emigrants – neither actual nor intended duration of stay in the country or abroad are taken into account. For this data exchange exercise only long-term immigrants and emigrants (according to the above definitions) were taken into account.

Immigration and emigration data by country of next/previous residence and country of birth are not available as 'country of citizenship' is the only classifying variable in the register.

There is no harmonized national data base for Swiss citizens. Migration movements of nationals are recorded in municipal population registers, the contents of which vary widely from one municipality to the other. International migration of Swiss nationals is estimated by the NSI on the basis of the municipal registers and is provided at a highly aggregated level only.

c) Table 1 (stock data)

The data sources are the population census of December 5, 2000 and the Central Alien Register (see above).

The census does not allow identifying the citizenship of a person at the time of his/her birth. For this data exercise the citizenship of a foreign country a person may hold in addition to his/her Swiss citizenship at the time of the census was used as proxy for 'citizenship at birth'.

The Central Alien Register provides annual data which are, however, not as detailed as the data from the decennial census. Individual countries of birth cannot be identified, only the distinction between 'born in Switzerland' and 'born abroad' is possible.

The population universes of the census and the Central Alien Register are different (see above). Neither source allows a link to the parents of a given individual. Therefore stock data for Table 2 could not be provided.

IV.3 The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Statistics on international migration comprise nationals and non-nationals arriving in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia from other countries and establishing an official place of residence there, as well as nationals and non-nationals with an official place of residence in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia emigrating to other countries. Foreigners who have a residence permit in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and are temporarily present in the country for up to 12 months are also included.

a) Tables 1 and 2 (flow data)

The data source is the population census of November 1, 2002, specifically its question regarding the place of residence one year ago. Information from this question refers to people who lived abroad on November 1, 2001 and therefore provides immigration flow data for the period one year prior to the census.

The population universe is the resident population, i.e. persons whose place of usual residence is in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, regardless of whether at the time of the Census they are present in the country or living abroad. Non-nationals who have a residence permit in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and are temporarily present in the country for at least 12 months are also counted even if their place of usual residence is outside of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

b) Tables 3 to 8

The data source is a regional administrative data base. Records of arrival/departure are maintained by the regional offices of the Ministry of the Interior.

The population universe is the resident and legal population, i.e. nationals whose place of usual residence is/will be the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and non-nationals with an official permit of stay (with a validity of at least 12 months).

c) Table 1 (stock data)

The data source is the population census of November 1, 2002 (see above). Annual stock data at the requested level of detail are not available.

IV.4 Discussion of the metadata

14. The above general overview clearly shows that the countries in Group 1 basically rely on the same type of data sources for migration flows and migrant stocks: the population census and administrative registers and databases. The type of information collected or derived from these sources is different from one country to another, however. Switzerland e.g. can provide only one concept of 'country of origin' identification in its flow data (country of citizenship); origin-destination specific data and data by country of birth are not available. The Swiss data sources do

not yield citizenship at birth or a link between an individual and his/her parents. Identification of various groups of migrants (e.g. "second generation migrants") is therefore difficult or impossible. The same problem applies to stock data from Italy and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

15. The population universes covered by the main data sources in the three countries are different: resident population, present population, legal population. Each concept covers a different set of people and includes or excludes specific sub-groups of migrants. The fact that two countries both use the concept of 'resident population' for instance does not mean that their definitions are identical. Nationals and non-nationals are treated differently depending on the data source. These differences also apply to the national data sources within a given country. Comparisons between flow data derived from the census and from administrative registers are hardly ever straightforward nor is the consistency between flow and stock data always guaranteed. Changes in the population universe, the data collection process or legal regulations might affect the way migrants and their movements across borders are defined and counted may lead to abrupt changes in trends and patterns.

16. Those discrepancies in the criteria used to define migration and migrants are among the main forces that make flow statistics between the countries incomparable. In addition different definitions of the time criterion used to measure the presence or the absence from the place of usual residence (duration threshold) as well as the nature of the duration measure (intended stay, actual stay, validity of the permit) do not facilitate the direct comparability of flows between countries.

17. Another important aspect which is difficult to assess based on the available metadata is the issue of data validity, reliability and timeliness. Do the existing statistical systems adequately capture the migration phenomenon?

18. All three countries in Group 1 which participated in the pilot project produce annual data on immigration, emigration and migrant stock albeit at different levels of detail. However, a closer analysis of the national data and the comparison – whenever possible – with corresponding data from the other countries reveal various gaps and problems as to the reliability of the collected data (see following chapters).

19. It is often said that national statistical offices tend to rely too heavily on individual data sources for the statistics on immigration and emigration. Nevertheless it is safe to assume that each NSI certainly knows best which potential data sources are best for compiling international inflows and outflows from the national point of view. However, special emphasis should also be given to additional, so far unused, national data sources which might provide supplementary or more relevant information for other countries to either estimate their missing or to complete their partial emigration data.

20. As mentioned above, the countries in this group did not provide a wide variety of different data sources. It is interesting to note that one particular source of potentially valuable information which exists in each country except Albania was not considered: the Labor Force Survey (LFS). Despite the well known limitations of the LFS methodology with respect to its coverage of migration (e.g. only persons aged 15 and over are included, restriction to persons

living in private households, difficulty to interview non-nationals due to language problems, sampling size and sampling error etc.) the LFS usually includes core variables that provide migration flow and stock data (e.g. 'nationality', 'years of residence in this country', 'country of birth', 'country of residence one year before survey')².

V. DATA COMPARABILITY

V.1 Flow data

V.1.1 Comparison of immigration flows (from the other countries in the group) from different national data sources

Census vs. annual flow data

21. Italy, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia provided flow data from at least two different sources: the decennial population census (based on the question about the place of residence at a certain time prior to the date of the census) and corresponding annual flow data from administrative registers. 'Year of migration' data can thus be compared with 'residence one year ago' data.

22. Both Italy and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – in accordance with the "Recommendations for the 2000 censuses of population and housing in the ECE region" – asked for the place of (usual) residence one year prior to the census. Switzerland in its census, on the other hand, asked for the place of residence five years ago.

Italy

23. For Italy flow data derived from the census (October 21, 2001) covering the period 21/10/2000-21/10/2001 was compared with annual flow data of the calendar year 2001.

² This applies at least to the Labor Force Surveys of EU member states which are carried out on the basis of common definitions, classifications and a uniform list of variables. The degree of comparability of the EU LFS results is therefore generally very high. The Swiss LFS does not meet the EU standards yet and is in its current form hardly a suitable source for migration data. The small sample size e.g. does not allow a breakdown by individual nationalities.

Italy

census date: October 21, 2001

these data are compared with annual flow data from 2001

Persons residing in Italy who resided in Switzerland one year before	15641
Persons who migrated from Switzerland to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	5883
Citizens of Switzerland residing in Italy and who resided in Switzerland one year before	501
Citizens of Switzerland residing in Italy and who resided elsewhere one year before	48
Citizens of Switzerland who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	502
Persons born in Switzerland and residing in Italy who resided in Switzerland one year before	4667
Persons born in Switzerland and residing in Italy who resided elsewhere one year before	784
Persons born in Switzerland who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	1512
Persons residing in Italy who resided in TFYR of Macedonia one year before	2713
Persons who migrated from TFYR of Macedonia to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	3549
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia residing in Italy and who resided in TFYR of Macedonia one year before	2601
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia residing in Italy and who resided elsewhere one year before	24
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	3572
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia and residing in Italy who resided in TFYR of Macedonia one year before	2536
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia and residing in Italy who resided elsewhere one year before	31
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	2858
Persons residing in Italy who resided in Albania one year before	15910
Persons who migrated from Albania to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	27926
Citizens of Albania residing in Italy and who resided in Albania one year before	15204
Citizens of Albania residing in Italy and who resided elsewhere one year before	133
Citizens of Albania who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	27727
Persons born in Albania and residing in Italy who resided in Albania one year before	15139
Persons born in Albania and residing in Italy who resided elsewhere one year before	131
Persons born in Albania who migrated to Italy (as recorded in Italy)	23920

24. 34,300 people resided in one of the three partner countries one year before the last Italian census.

25. According to the census the number of migrants from Switzerland to Italy (2000/2001) was about 60 percent higher than the one derived from annual population register data (15,600 vs. 5,900 people). As the number of Swiss citizens involved in this migration flow was nearly identical in both sources (about 500 people) this considerable difference is exclusively due to Italian and third-country citizens.

26. The dissimilar reference period in the two sources might explain some of the difference of 9,800 people (on the broad assumption that migration flows in November/December 2000 were markedly different from those in November/December 2001), but it certainly does not account completely for the gap. The differences could also be related to the fact that people may not have registered with the municipal authorities and are thus not included in the flow data when they returned to Italy, but they were in the population universe when the census was conducted. Flow data from Switzerland (recording the emigration of 7,000 Italian citizens in 2001) comes somewhat closer to the Italian census-derived figure but still accounts for only half the number shown in Italian flow statistics.

27. The differences between the two data sources are somewhat smaller for the migration flows between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Italy and Albania and Italy, respectively. In each case (and in contrast to the flows with Switzerland) the annual population register data are higher than the census derived figures: about 30 percent for inflows from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and – more significantly – 75 percent for inflows from Albania. In both cases the migrants involved are primarily non-nationals, i.e. citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania.

28. The different population universes covered by the two sources might provide a possible explanation for those results: The resident population used in annual flow statistics and the resident and present population used in the census should theoretically result in higher numbers in the census data. This would support the case of the immigration from Switzerland. But again it does not explain the significantly higher numbers from the census. On the other hand immigration numbers from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania seem to contradict this explanation with the census registering considerably fewer people.

Switzerland

29. For Switzerland flow data derived from the census (December 5, 2000) covering the period 5/12/1995-5/12/2000 was compared with cumulative annual flow data of the calendar years 1996 to 2000.

Switzerland

census date: December 5, 2000

uses question regarding place of residence **five years ago**

these data are compared with cumulative annual flow data 1996-2000

Persons residing in Switzerland who resided in Italy five years before	16875
Persons who migrated from Italy to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.
Citizens of Italy residing in Switzerland who resided in Italy five years before	13034
Citizens of Italy residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	11105
Citizens of Italy who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	22883
Persons born in Italy and residing in Switzerland who resided in Italy five years before	11501
Persons born in Italy residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	4184
Persons born in Italy who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.
Persons residing in Switzerland who resided in TFYR of Macedonia five years before	7799
Persons who migrated from TFYR of Macedonia to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia residing in Switzerland who resided in TFYR of Macedonia five years before	7613
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	1809
Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	10825
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia and residing in Switzerland who resided in TFYR of Macedonia five years before	6766
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	675
Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.
Persons residing in Switzerland who resided in Albania five years before	724
Persons who migrated from Albania to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.
Citizens of Albania residing in Switzerland who resided in Albania five years before	640
Citizens of Albania residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	185
Citizens of Albania who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	725
Persons born in Albania and residing in Switzerland who resided in Albania five years before	369
Persons born in Albania residing in Switzerland who resided elsewhere five years before	128
Persons born in Albania who migrated to Switzerland (as recorded in Switzerland)	N.A.

30. 25,400 people resided in one of the three partner countries five years before the last Swiss census.

31. Comparisons between census data and annual flow data are more difficult in the case of Switzerland for the following reasons:

- Annual migration statistics in Switzerland can be classified according to citizenship only. Statistics on immigration by country of previous residence and country of birth are not compiled at all as this variable is not entered in Central Alien Register. The use of such citizenship data does not take naturalizations into account which might have occurred between the date of the migration and the census date.
- Respondents in the Swiss population census were asked for the place of residence five years ago. Information derived from this question is therefore not able to capture all immigration events that occurred in the five years previous to the census date as migrants might not have been present at the time of the census anymore.

32. Migration flow data by citizenship from both the census and the Central Alien Register seem to coincide quite remarkably. In the case of Macedonian citizens the cumulative annual

flows are slightly higher (+15 percent) than the census derived data (which is to be expected due to possible return migration in those five years which cannot be captured by the census). In the case of Italian and Albanian citizens, however, the cumulative annual flows are slightly smaller than the census derived data (-5 percent and -12 percent respectively). The impact of naturalization (especially in the case of former Italian citizens) and the different population universes (annual flow data captures long-term immigrants only) might explain those differences to a certain degree.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

33. For the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia flow data derived from the census (November 1, 2002) covering the period 1/11/2001-1/11/2002 was compared with annual flow data of the calendar year 2002.

TFYR of Macedonia

census date: November 1, 2002

these data are compared with annual flow data from 2002

Persons residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Switzerland one year before	66
Persons who migrated from Switzerland to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	1
Citizens of Switzerland residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided in Switzerland one year before	0
Citizens of Switzerland residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided elsewhere one year before	0
Citizens of Switzerland who migrated to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	0
Persons born in Switzerland and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Switzerland one year before	30
Persons born in Switzerland and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided elsewhere one year before	0
Persons born in Switzerland who migrated to Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	0
Persons residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Italy one year before	16
Persons who migrated from Italy to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	5
Citizens of Italy residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided in Italy one year before	0
Citizens of Italy residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided elsewhere one year before	0
Citizens of Italy who migrated to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	2
Persons born in Italy and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Italy one year before	3
Persons born in Italy and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided elsewhere one year before	1
Persons born in Italy who migrated to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	3
Persons residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Albania one year before	33
Persons who migrated from Albania to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	21
Citizens of Albania residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided in Albania one year before	3
Citizens of Albania residing in TFYR of Macedonia and who resided elsewhere one year before	0
Citizens of Albania who migrated to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	43
Persons born in Albania and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided in Albania one year before	32
Persons born in Albania and residing in TFYR of Macedonia who resided elsewhere one year before	0
Persons born in Albania who migrated to TFYR of Macedonia (as recorded in Macedonia)	191

34. Data for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are sketchy and seem partially incomplete as the figures are very low. This makes a proper analysis very inconclusive.

35. Only 115 people resided in one of the three partner countries one year before the last Macedonian census. The corresponding origin-destination specific flow data are significantly lower (-98 percent for immigrants from Switzerland, -69 percent for immigrants from Italy and -36 percent for immigrants from Albania). It seems that annual flow data from administrative registers do not capture all immigration from the three partner countries. On the other hand annual flow data show a much greater influx of Albanian-born migrants or Albanian citizens than data derived from the census.

36. In every country data from these two sources are difficult to compare due to different population universes and reference periods which cannot be perfectly matched. Swiss figures show a fairly good correspondence between the two data sets. This is not necessarily the case in Italy (e.g. migration flows from Switzerland and Albania) and definitely not in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Annual flow data from different national sources

37. Italy provided two national sources of data on the inflow to Italy from other countries based on country of citizenship: the local population registers (used for official national migration statistics) and the permits of stay data base (currently not used for migration statistics).

Swiss citizens who immigrated to Italy or were issued a permit of stay in Italy

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Local Population Register	556	634	586	600	538
Permits of Stay Database	16270	15877	16131	16404	15769
Difference abs.	15714	15243	15545	15804	15231
Difference %	2826.3	2404.3	2652.7	2634.0	2831.0

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Local Population Register	501	502	556	453	2914
Permits of Stay Database	15085	15456	15852	15738	80451
Difference abs.	14584	14954	15296	15285	77537
Difference %	2911.0	2978.9	2751.1	3374.2	2660.8

Macedonian citizens who immigrated to Italy or were issued a permit of stay in Italy

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Local Population Register	1256	1478	1434	2144	2863
Permits of Stay Database	13528	13764	14199	16995	19844
Difference abs.	12272	12286	12765	14851	16981
Difference %	977.1	831.3	890.2	692.7	593.1

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Local Population Register	3712	3572	3545	5462	9175
Permits of Stay Database	22504	24685	26210	34291	78330
Difference abs.	18792	21113	22665	28829	69155
Difference %	506.3	591.1	639.4	527.8	753.7

Albanian citizens who immigrated to Italy or were issued a permit of stay in Italy

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Local Population Register	3411	20508	15009	19813	28668
Permits of Stay Database	30183	66608	72551	87595	133018
Difference abs.	26772	46100	57542	67782	104350
Difference %	784.9	224.8	383.4	342.1	364.0

	Year of entry/issue of permit				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Local Population Register	31992	27727	25885	46587	87409
Permits of Stay Database	146321	157646	171567	240421	389955
Difference abs.	114329	129919	145682	193834	302546
Difference %	357.4	468.6	562.8	416.1	346.1

38. Despite the known differences in the underlying population universes (resident vs. legal population) the discrepancies between the two data sets are baffling and for outsiders barely explainable

39. As the issue of a permit does not stipulate entry in the population register (i.e. individuals who receive a permit of stay are not necessarily resident in the country and have therefore not physically moved to Italy) it is understandable that the figures in the permits database are higher than the ones in the population register. As such, these data are generally an over-estimation of the number of people who migrate to Italy. Nonetheless, it is almost beyond belief that for the entire period 1995-2003 the number of Swiss nationals is about 28 times higher in the permits

data base than in the population register. For the other two countries in the group the differences are smaller but still 7 times higher in the case of Macedonian nationals and 5 times higher for Albanian citizens.

40. In addition it has to be considered that the permits of stay data underestimate the population under the age of 15 since minors are usually recorded on the permit of one parent and therefore not counted separately. Moreover, the data refer to newly issued permits only and do not include permit renewals. Taken this into account the permit figures would be even higher and the discrepancy with the population register data even greater.

V.1.2 Comparison of migration flows between two countries based on immigration data of the receiving country and emigration data of the sending country

(immigration vs. emigration for pairs of countries)

41. Migration flows between countries can be examined by comparing emigration and immigration data between pairs of countries. In this section, the focus will be on the data analysis of flow data based on year of arrival/departure of specific pairs of sending or receiving countries. Such a comparison is strictly possible only if origin-destination-specific data are used. In Group 1 only Italy and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia can provide annual flow data by country of previous/next residence. Tables 3 and 6 allow a direct comparison of immigration figures of the country of arrival and emigration figures of the country of departure. Ideally the number of immigrants in the receiving country should be identical to the number of emigrants in the sending country.

Migration flows between Italy and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
From TFYR of Macedonia to Italy									
<i>Immigration data (Italy)</i>	1253	1521	1435	2138	2852	3698	3549	3655	5420
<i>Emigration data (Macedonia)</i>	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	1253	1521	1435	2136	2851	3698	3549	3654	5420
<i>Difference %</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
From Italy to TFYR of Macedonia									
<i>Immigration data (Macedonia)</i>	9	3	1	1	2	4	2	5	6
<i>Emigration data (Italy)</i>	69	123	128	128	96	108	153	201	116
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	-60	-120	-127	-127	-94	-104	-151	-196	-110
<i>Difference %</i>	(666.7)	(4'000.0)	(12'700.0)	(12'700.0)	(4'700.0)	(2'600.0)	(7'550.0)	(3'920.0)	(1'833.3)
Net flows TFYR of Macedonia-Italy									
<i>Macedonian data</i>	9	3	1	-1	1	4	2	4	6
<i>Italian data</i>	1184	1398	1307	2010	2756	3590	3396	3454	5304
<i>Absolute Difference (abs. value)</i>	1193	1401	1308	2009	2757	3594	3398	3458	5310

42. It is obvious from the above table that the data from the two countries do not match at all. From 1995 to 2003 the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia registered hardly any migratory movements to and from Italy (only in 2004 there is a significant number of emigrants for the first time). Italy on the other hand counted between 1,200 and 5,400 immigrants from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and 70 to 200 emigrants to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia annually during this period. Despite the known differences in national concepts and definitions it seems safe to assume that until 2004 the statistical system of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia could not properly capture the inflows and outflows of migrants from/to Italy. The same observation can be made with respect to migration flows to and from

Switzerland. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia registered some fairly low level migratory activity only with Albania between 1995 and 2003.

Migration flows between other pairs of countries

43. For other pairs of countries flow data derived from the census of one country can be compared with annual origin-destination specific flow data of the other country. However, this is only possible for specific calendar years (see Section 5.1.1). The interpretation of such results is therefore very limited and far from conclusive.

Persons residing in Switzerland who resided in Italy five years before	16875
Persons who migrated from Italy to Switzerland (as recorded in Italy)	33657
Persons residing in Switzerland who resided in Macedonia five years before	7799
Persons who migrated from Macedonia to Switzerland (as recorded in Macedonia)	9

44. The number of emigrants from Italy to Switzerland between 1996 and 2000 is almost double in the Italian flow statistics when compared to the census-derived figure from Switzerland. Different population universes, return migration (i.e. emigration from Switzerland before the census date after a short-term stay) and the acquisition of Swiss citizenship by former Italian nationals might account for some of that discrepancy.

45. Swiss and Macedonian data are completely incompatible as the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia registered hardly any emigration flows to Switzerland in the analyzed 5-year period. Switzerland on the other hand counted 7,800 arrivals from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia during the five years before its last population census.

46. Through the examination of pairs of countries' immigration and emigration flows, it is possible to assess whether a receiving country's immigration data is comparable to the data from a sending country's emigration numbers. Based on the available data from Group 1 it is obvious that one country's immigration data does not necessarily reflect a sending country's emigration data for various reasons. Registration in a country as an immigrant does not always necessarily equate with de-registration from a country as an emigrant. Another issue in data comparability is that emigration data tends to measure "intended" and not "actual" country of next residence whereas immigration data tend to measure actual arrivals.

47. The lack of comparability of data is clear when immigration figures in the country of arrival are compared directly with emigration figures from the country of departure. There are many inconsistencies concerning the same migration flows. The aforementioned definition problem may play a part here. However, incoherencies also often exist between countries which use comparable definitions of migrants. The often made assumption that migration figures of the receiving country (inflows) are higher than migration figures of the sending country (outflows) cannot be endorsed or rejected by the data from Group 1. The available data base is too small and too incomplete.

V.1.3 Comparison of country of previous/next residence, country of birth and country of citizenship as classifying variable in international migration flows

(migration flows by different identification of country of origin)

48. Information on where migrants come from may be obtained in different ways. Various concepts – or core variables - can be used to define and capture international migration flows. Each one of these related concepts is useful to define the country of origin (and destination) of migrants and their movements:

- (current) citizenship,
- country of birth,
- country of previous/next (permanent) residence.

49. There are multiple relationships between these concepts. Persons from a sending country are not always born in that country nor are they citizens of that country. Migration is not always direct and secondary migration often takes place. Additionally, people do not always return to their country of birth or country of citizenship. Country of citizenship or country of birth are therefore not necessarily identical to country of next residence. Migration data by country of birth tends to underestimate the total number of migrants for countries with large numbers of foreign-born populations. Country of birth data should normally be less than country of citizenship data in places where naturalizations occur frequently. This is because people who were not born in one country could become citizens of that country.

50. The most relevant concept for the measurement of migration flows is the country of previous residence as this is the crucial variable sending countries need to monitor outflows from their territory. However, such origin-destination-specific data are not widely available. In many countries the focus is often on country of birth or – especially in European countries – citizenship of migrants. Knowledge drawn from assessing the differences or any generally applicable assumptions derived from the relationship between these three concepts can be used when deciding whether one concept can feasibly act as a substitute for another one.

51. The following tables show migration inflows derived from the population census and classified according to the above three definitions of 'origin' (for Italy and Switzerland only, the figures for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are generally very low and inconclusive).

Place of residence one-year before data collection

Italy

census date: October 21, 2001

these data refer to people living abroad on 21/10/2000

Persons currently residing in Italy who resided in Switzerland one year before

1a) Citizens of Switzerland	501
1b) Citizens of Italy	14997
1c) Citizens of other countries	143
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Switzerland)	15641

2a) Persons born in Switzerland	4667
2b) Persons born in Italy	10444
2c) Persons born in other countries	530
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Switzerland)	15641

Persons currently residing in Italy who resided in TFYR of Macedonia one year before

1a) Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia	2607
1b) Citizens of Italy	84
1c) Citizens of other countries	22
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was TFYR of Macedonia)	2713

2a) Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia	2536
2b) Persons born in Italy	105
2c) Persons born in other countries	72
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was TFYR of Macedonia)	2713

Persons currently residing in Italy who resided in Albania one year before

1a) Citizens of Albania	15204
1b) Citizens of Italy	666
1c) Citizens of other countries	40
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Albania)	15910

2a) Persons born in Albania	15139
2b) Persons born in Italy	683
2c) Persons born in other countries	88
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Albania)	15910

Place of residence one-year before data collection**Switzerland**

census date: December 5, 2000

uses question regarding place of residence **five years ago**.

these data refer people living abroad on 5/12/1995

Persons currently residing in Switzerland who resided in Italy five years before

1a) Citizens of Italy	13034
1b) Citizens of Switzerland	2870
1c) Citizens of other countries	971
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Italy)	16875

2a) Persons born in Italy	11501
2b) Persons born in Switzerland	2814
2c) Persons born in other countries	2560
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Italy)	16875

Persons currently residing in Switzerland who resided in TFYR of Macedonia five years before

1a) Citizens of TFYR of Macedonia	7613
1b) Citizens of Switzerland	37
1c) Citizens of other countries	149
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was TFYR of Macedonia)	7799

2a) Persons born in TFYR of Macedonia	6766
2b) Persons born in Switzerland	242
2c) Persons born in other countries	791
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was TFYR of Macedonia)	7799

Persons currently residing in Switzerland who resided in Albania five years before

1a) Citizens of Albania	640
1b) Citizens of Switzerland	25
1c) Citizens of other countries	59
1) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Albania)	724

2a) Persons born in Albania	639
2b) Persons born in Switzerland	24
2c) Persons born in other countries	61
2) TOTAL (Persons whose country of previous residence was Albania)	724

52. Generally a large majority of migrants moving between two given countries in Group 1 are either citizens of or born in one of those two countries. 99 percent of all individuals having moved from Italy to Switzerland in 2001 for instance were Italian or Swiss citizens and 97 percent of them were either born in Italy or Switzerland. The percentages are in the same range (95 percent and above) for all other migration flows with only migration flows into Switzerland falling off slightly when classified by country of birth: 'only' 85 percent of all migrants from Italy to Switzerland between 1995 and 2000 were born in one of those countries.

53. Historical migration patterns and geographic proximity determine which nationality/country of birth dominates any given migration flow. Immigrants to Switzerland for instance are mostly non-nationals. The same applies to inflows into Italy with one notable exception. Immigrants to Italy from Switzerland are almost exclusively nationals, i.e. Italian citizens.

54. Some additional general conclusions can be drawn when analyzing annual flow data from Italy:

Migration flows Italy-TFYR of Macedonia

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Immigrants to Italy (as registered in Italy)									
1) whose country of previous residence is TFYR of Macedonia	1253	1521	1435	2138	2852	3698	3549	3655	5420
2) who were citizens of TFYR of Macedonia	1256	1478	1434	2144	2863	3712	3572	3545	5462
3) who were born in TFYR of Macedonia	852	1099	1050	1606	1998	2670	2858	2887	4347
(1) - (2)	-3	43	1	-6	-11	-14	-23	110	-42
(1) - (3)	401	422	385	532	854	1028	691	768	1073
(2) - (3)	404	379	384	538	865	1042	714	658	1115

Emigrants from Italy (as registered in Italy)

1) whose country of next residence is TFYR of Macedonia	69	123	128	128	96	108	153	201	116
2) who were citizens of TFYR of Macedonia	60	129	129	128	97	108	153	106	116
3) who were born in TFYR of Macedonia	42	106	102	87	66	96	104	73	88
(1) - (2)	9	-6	-1	0	-1	0	0	95	0
(1) - (3)	27	17	26	41	30	12	49	128	28
(2) - (3)	18	23	27	41	31	12	49	33	28

Migration flows Italy-Albania

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Immigrants to Italy (as registered in Italy)									
1) whose country of previous residence is Albania	3577	21005	15223	19973	28838	32181	27926	26490	46825
2) who were citizens of Albania	3411	20508	15009	19813	28668	31992	27727	25885	46587
3) who were born in Albania	2317	16514	11368	16551	21977	24755	23920	24044	38676
(1) - (2)	166	497	214	160	170	189	199	605	238
(1) - (3)	1260	4491	3855	3422	6861	7426	4006	2446	8149
(2) - (3)	1094	3994	3641	3262	6691	7237	3807	1841	7911

Emigrants from Italy (as registered in Italy)

1) whose country of next residence is Albania	175	272	412	530	634	696	737	892	701
2) who were citizens of Albania	147	206	197	305	327	443	496	414	503
3) who were born in Albania	118	174	172	232	222	335	367	360	420
(1) - (2)	28	66	215	225	307	253	241	478	198
(1) - (3)	57	98	240	298	412	361	370	532	281
(2) - (3)	29	32	25	73	105	108	129	54	83

Migration flows Italy-Switzerland

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Immigrants to Italy (as registered in Italy)									
1) whose country of previous residence is Switzerland	5014	5917	5093	5027	5507	5687	5883	6536	7945
2) who were citizens of Switzerland	556	634	586	600	538	501	502	556	453
3) who were born in Switzerland	1415	1667	1648	1697	1511	1539	1512	1604	1463
(1) - (2)	4458	5283	4507	4427	4969	5186	5381	5980	7492
(1) - (3)	3599	4250	3445	3330	3996	4148	4371	4932	6482
(2) - (3)	-859	-1033	-1062	-1097	-973	-1038	-1010	-1048	-1010

Emigrants from Italy (as registered in Italy)

1) whose country of next residence is Switzerland	4560	5149	6115	6127	8850	7416	7430	4828	6322
2) who were citizens of Switzerland	198	211	193	199	186	189	188	137	131
3) who were born in Switzerland	1238	1577	1972	1807	1611	1648	2835	1390	1824
(1) - (2)	4362	4938	5922	5928	8664	7227	7242	4691	6191
(1) - (3)	3322	3572	4143	4320	7239	5768	4595	3438	4498
(2) - (3)	-1040	-1366	-1779	-1608	-1425	-1459	-2647	-1253	-1693

55. The populations covered in these statistics are not mutually exclusive. A person may be included in all three populations (e.g. born in Albania, hold Albanian citizenship and having resided in Albania just before arriving in Italy) or in only two or one of them.

56. For migration flows between Italy and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia country of previous/next residence data are more or less identical with country of citizenship data (with emigration from Italy in 2002 being one notable exception). Almost all migrants are Macedonian citizens. Country of birth data are between 20 and 35 percent lower when compared to country of previous/next residence data. Finally, country of citizenship data are 20 to 30 percent higher than country of birth data. About one out of four migrants held Macedonian citizenship but was not born in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

57. For migration flows between Italy and Albania country of previous residence data are more or less identical with country of citizenship data. Almost all immigrants into Italy are Albanian citizens. However, only about 50 to 70 percent of people leaving Italy for Albania held Albanian citizenship. Country of birth data are consistently lower than country of previous/last residence and country of citizenship data.

58. Approximately 90 percent of immigrants to Italy from Switzerland are Italian citizens as are more than 95 percent of emigrants from Italy. About three times as many immigrants into Italy were born in Switzerland than were citizens of Switzerland. Switzerland registers a considerable return flow from Italy of native-born non-nationals every year. In certain calendar years more than ten times as many emigrants from Italy were born in Switzerland but not citizens of that country.

59. The above comparative tables, however, do not unequivocally answer the question of the eventual use of a particular classification concept as a suitable proxy for another one as in all of those comparisons the country of previous/next residence is known. But what if precisely this piece of crucial information is missing? Even if a large majority of migrants moving between two given countries are either citizens of or born in one of those two countries, is the country of citizenship (or birth) predominantly the last or future place of residence for citizens of (or people born in) a given country migrating to another country?

60. A detailed look at Swiss census data from 2000 might give some indications³: While 81 percent of all Macedonians moved to Switzerland from their own country between 1996 and 2000, this share was 78 percent for Albanian and merely 54 percent for Italian citizens. The classification by country of birth shows the same overall pattern even if the individual shares are somewhat higher - between 73 percent (Italy) and 91 percent (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia).

61. Based on 2000 Swiss census data it would appear problematic to consider country of citizenship synonymous with country of last residence as a universal rule. Many immigrants come to Switzerland from countries other than their countries of citizenship. In any case the relationship between these two concepts seems to be country-specific. While there is a high degree of correlation for some nationalities (e.g. the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) it is far less obvious in other cases. The greater and unrestricted international mobility for EU citizens within the European Economic Area (EEA) for instance seems to lead to an ever

³ Selecting Switzerland as a case study makes sense in so far as Switzerland is one of the countries that can provide annual migration data by one concept (country of citizenship) only.

widening gap between these two concepts as is clearly shown by Italian immigrants, almost half of whom (46 percent) arrived in Switzerland from a country other than Italy.

62. This divergence between country of citizenship and that of last/next residence has to be kept in mind when comparing annual flow data between Switzerland and Italy. Whereas the country of previous/next residence was used in the Italian dataset, the country of citizenship was used as a proxy in the Swiss dataset.

Migration flows between Italy and Switzerland

based on: Italy = country of previous/next residence, Switzerland = Italian citizenship

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
From Switzerland to Italy					
<i>Immigration data (Italy)</i>	5014	5917	5093	5027	5507
<i>Emigration data (Switzerland)</i>	10399	11363	10405	9092	9182
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	-5385	-5446	-5312	-4065	-3675
<i>Difference %</i>	(107.4)	(92.0)	(104.3)	(80.9)	(66.7)

From Italy to Switzerland

<i>Immigration data (Switzerland)</i>	6259	4465	4314	4366	5197
<i>Emigration data (Italy)</i>	4560	5149	6115	6127	8850
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	1699	-684	-1801	-1761	-3653
<i>Difference %</i>	27.1	(15.3)	(41.7)	(40.3)	(70.3)

Net flows Switzerland-Italy

<i>Swiss data</i>	-4140	-6898	-6091	-4726	-3985
<i>Italian data</i>	454	768	-1022	-1100	-3343
<i>Absolute Difference (abs. value)</i>	3686	6130	7113	5826	7328

	2000	2001	2002	2003
From Switzerland to Italy				
<i>Immigration data (Italy)</i>	5687	5883	6536	7945
<i>Emigration data (Switzerland)</i>	8163	7008	6258	6024
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	-2476	-1125	278	1921
<i>Difference %</i>	(43.5)	(19.1)	4.3	24.2

From Italy to Switzerland

<i>Immigration data (Switzerland)</i>	4541	4625	5961	5820
<i>Emigration data (Italy)</i>	7416	7430	4828	6322
<i>Difference (abs. value)</i>	-2875	-2805	1133	-502
<i>Difference %</i>	(63.3)	(60.6)	19.0	(8.6)

Net flows Switzerland-Italy

<i>Swiss data</i>	-3622	-2383	-297	-204
<i>Italian data</i>	-1729	-1547	1708	1623
<i>Absolute Difference (abs. value)</i>	5351	3930	1411	1419

63. The analysis of annual migration flows does not convincingly support the conclusions drawn from Swiss census data.

Migration flows from Italy to Switzerland

64. In the period 1995-2003 Italian emigration data (based on country of next residence and comprising all nationalities) are consistently higher by 9 to 70 percent than Swiss immigration

numbers (based on Italian citizenship) with two exceptions (1995 and 2002). Assuming that a sizeable number of Italian citizens arrived in Switzerland from other countries than Italy (as seemingly confirmed by Swiss census data) and that very few Swiss citizens were involved (as confirmed by Italian census data) the higher Italian figures lead to the conclusion that migration flows from Italy to Switzerland encompass a considerable number of third-country (i.e. non-Italian and non-Swiss) nationals.

Migration flows from Switzerland to Italy

65. With the exception of the last two years Swiss emigration data (based on Italian citizenship) are higher than Italian immigration numbers (based on country of previous residence and comprising all nationalities). This is especially true for initial years of the period under consideration (1995-1999). However, the annual gap between the two national figures progressively shrinks (from 107 percent in 1995 to 19 percent in 2001) and switches to an opposite pattern starting in 2002 with Italy registering higher inflows than the corresponding Swiss outflows. This could be due to an initially significant flow of Italian emigrants from Switzerland to third countries which began to ebb over time. It could also point to an increasing share of third-country nationals in the migration flows from Switzerland to Italy even though Italian data from the 2001 census do not support this (only about 1 percent of persons who resided in Switzerland one year before the census were third-country nationals).

66. However, the above conclusions remain essentially unsubstantiated as the data are not sufficiently detailed to fully support them.

V.1.4 Comparison of age and sex characteristics of international migration flows

67. The breakdown by age groups and sex in the collected data of Group 1 did not yield any valuable insights as there were no distinct age- and sex-specific inconsistencies when comparing flow data derived from the censuses and the population registers. One notable finding: The group of 0-18 year old immigrants from Switzerland to Italy was underrepresented in the Italian flow data of 2001 when compared with flow data from the 2001 census. And again, the same group was significantly overrepresented in Italian emigration data of 1996-2000 when compared with inflows in Switzerland based on the 2000 Swiss census.

V.2 Stock data

68. International guidelines recommend the identification of at least two population groups relevant for international migration in stock data: foreign-born and foreigners. In many countries, however, these two groups are not sufficient to monitor and analyze the impact of international migration. Therefore, it is further recommended that at least one additional group should be identified: descendants of foreign-born (often referred to as the “second generation”). These three groups are not mutually exclusive and they can overlap to a great extent but each one of them is relevant for different aspects of the migration process.

69. The identification of the above groups is based on the classification of the population stock according to country of birth, country of citizenship and country of birth of parents and/or a combination of those three variables.

V.2.1 Comparison of migrant stock by country of birth and citizenship from different national data sources

70. Switzerland is the only country in Group 1 which provided stock data by country of birth and citizenship from two different sources: the latest population census of December 5, 2000 and annual stock data from the Central Alien Register.

Country of birth	Citizenship	2000 as of: Dec-05	2000 as of: Dec-31	2004 as of: Dec-31
PERSONS BORN IN ITALY	Citizens of Italy	172120	:	:
	Citizens of Switzerland (nationals) thereof:	60832	:	:
	- citizens of Switzerland since birth	8660	:	:
	- citizens of Italy at birth who became citizens of Switzerland following naturalization	30945	:	:
	Persons with other citizenship	1682	:	:
	TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN ITALY	234634		
PERSONS BORN IN SWITZERLAND (native-born)	Citizens of Italy	119524	122168	115428
	Citizens of Switzerland (nationals) thereof:	5109295	:	:
	- citizens of Switzerland since birth	4948349	:	:
	- citizens of Italy at birth who became citizens of Switzerland following naturalization	37175	:	:
	Persons with other citizenship	218583	205371	235276
	TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN Switzerland	5447402		
PERSONS BORN IN OTHER COUNTRIES*	Citizens of Italy	28178	197473	184786
	Citizens of Switzerland (nationals) thereof:	398737	:	:
	- citizens of Switzerland since birth	93478	:	:
	- citizens of Italy at birth who became citizens of Switzerland following naturalization	1756	:	:
	Persons with other citizenship	909207	859370	959518
	TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN OTHER COUNTRIES	1336122		
TOTAL POPULATION**	Citizens of Italy	322203	321795	301736
	Citizens of Switzerland (nationals) thereof:	5792461	5779685	5890439
	- citizens of Switzerland since birth	5152559	:	:
	- citizens of Italy at birth who became citizens of Switzerland following naturalization	69929	:	:
	Persons with other citizenship	1173346	1102575	1222927
	TOTAL POPULATION	7288010	7204055	7415102
Source:		Census	Alien Register**	Alien Register**

71. Based on the above table the following observations can be made (even though the data refer only to Italy the same findings apply with respect to Albania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia):

(1) The decennial census is the only data source in Switzerland which can identify all requested population groups. However, even the census does not provide data on citizenship at birth. The native-born and foreign-born nationals had to be identified based on the question on the acquisition of Swiss citizenship and the question on dual citizenship (i.e. having another nationality beside the Swiss one). The group of Italian citizens at birth who became citizens of Switzerland following naturalization (69,900 people in total) is grossly underrepresented, however, as many respondents did not declare a second citizenship in the census (annual flow data show that between 1981 and 2000 alone 36,000 Italians were naturalized). This problem is less severe for nationalities which have lower naturalization rates (e.g. Albanians).

(2) Annual stock data from the Central Alien Register provide fewer details. Naturalized citizens cannot be identified. As far as country of birth is concerned only a distinction between 'born in Switzerland' and 'born abroad' can be made. Many groups that are relevant for international migration cannot be identified on an annual basis.

(3) For 2000 a direct comparison between census and register stock data is possible. The difference of 84,000 in the total population according to the two sources is primarily due to different population universes (see Section 4.2) and the different declaration day. For Italian citizens the difference is insignificant, however (400 individuals).

72. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia can provide stock data cross-referenced by country of birth and country of citizenship from its population census only (see table below). A distinction between citizens by birth and naturalized citizens is not possible. On November 1, 2002 **the former Yugoslav Republic** of Macedonia counted 605 Albanian, 14 Italian and 13 Swiss citizens. 99 percent of its population were nationals and 95 percent were native-born.

Population of TFYR of Macedonia by country of birth and citizenship, on November 1, 2002 (census date)

Country of birth	Citizenship	country X =		
		Albania	Italy	Switzerland
PERSONS BORN IN COUNTRY X	Citizens of country X	585	8	6
	Citizens of your country (<i>nationals</i>)	1526	129	545
	<i>thereof:</i>			
	- citizens of your country since birth	...	...	...
	- citizens of country X at birth who became citizens of your country following naturalization	...	...	...
	Persons with other citizenship	4	2	2
	Persons with unknown citizenship	24	3	5
TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN COUNTRY X		2139	142	558
PERSONS BORN IN YOUR COUNTRY (native-born)	Citizens of country X	19	6	6
	Citizens of your country (<i>nationals</i>)	1924539	1924539	1924539
	<i>thereof:</i>			
	- citizens of your country since birth	...	...	...
	- citizens of country X at birth who became citizens of your country following naturalization	...	...	...
	Persons with other citizenship	614	627	627
	Persons with unknown citizenship	15985	15985	15985
TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN YOUR COUNTRY		1941157	1941157	1941157
PERSONS BORN IN OTHER COUNTRIES	Citizens of country X	1	0	1
	Citizens of your country (<i>nationals</i>)	72362	73759	73343
	<i>thereof:</i>			
	- citizens of your country since birth	...	...	...
	- citizens of country X at birth who became citizens of your country following naturalization	...	...	...
	Persons with other citizenship	5245	5825	5826
	Persons with unknown citizenship	1643	1664	1662
TOTAL PERSONS BORN IN OTHER COUNTRIES		79251	81248	80832
TOTAL POPULATION	Citizens of country X	605	14	13
	Citizens of your country (<i>nationals</i>)	1998427	1998427	1998427
	<i>thereof:</i>			
	- citizens of your country since birth	...	...	...
	- citizens of country X at birth who became citizens of your country following naturalization	...	...	...
	Persons with other citizenship	5863	6454	6455
	Persons with unknown citizenship	17652	17652	17652
TOTAL POPULATION		2022547	2022547	2022547

V.2.2 Comparison of migrant stock by country of birth, country of birth of parents and citizenship from different national data sources

73. No country in Group 1 was able to provide the requested data for this table. The necessary link between an individual and his/her parents seems to have been the major stumbling block in all available national data sources.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

74. The analysis of migration data collected in Group 1 is complicated by various facts:

- (1) the small number of countries originally assigned to this group;
- (2) the non-participation of one country (Albania) in the two rounds of the data collection;
- (3) the scarcity of actual data available for the analysis;
- (4) the lack of detail in the provided national meta data which impedes full understanding of observed anomalies, discrepancies and gaps.

75. All three actively participating countries rely on two main types of migration data sources: They each conduct a regular population census and they exploit various administrative registers and databases.

76. Each country has problems with its migration statistics that become obvious either when looking at its national data only or when comparing immigration and emigration data with that of other countries. Moreover, no single country was able to provide all the requested data.

77. Conceptual issues related to the definition of international migration and migrants account for the majority of the observed discrepancies in the available data. Different concepts or definitions of who is considered an immigrant or an emigrant are used. The data sources cover different reference periods as well as different population universes. National flow and stock data yield different numbers as do different national data sources. Origin-destination specific flows between two given countries are hardly ever consistent when the respective national data are compared.

78. Regularities are not easy to observe; the resulting picture from Group 1 is very complex and mostly defies any generalizations. However, the available data and metadata add to the understanding of the myriad of problems faced by international migration statistics. They illuminate the differences between the various country of origin identifications and the issues to be confronted when using flow and stock data on international migrants. Many questions will remain unanswered, however and some hypotheses will remain just that because of the limited data that are available.

79. Nevertheless the findings of the Group 1 data analysis will be able to contribute to the formulation of the general guidelines and recommendations for measuring emigration through data on stock and flows in host countries. Some findings will be supported by the data collected

in the other three groups; some findings will turn out to be case-specific and maybe even contradictory to what was observed elsewhere.

VII. APPENDIX TABLES

Appendix 1

Migration flows between pairs of countries with immigration and emigration data

Source: Flow Tables 3 and 6

- Table 3. Persons who immigrated to your country from country X (where X is country of previous residence) by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 6. Persons who emigrated from your country to country X (where X is the country of next residence) by age group, sex, and single year of departure (the 10 most recent years available)

Appendix 2

Place of residence one year before vs. migration flows

Source: Flow Tables 1 to 5

- Table 1. Population of your country by age group, sex, place of birth, and place of residence one year before data collection
- Table 2. Population of your country by age group, sex, citizenship, and place of residence one year before data collection
- Table 3. Persons who immigrated to your country from country X (where X is country of previous residence) by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 4. Persons who immigrated to your country who were born in country X by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 5. Persons who immigrated to your country who were citizens of country X by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)

Appendix 3

Migration flows by different definitions of country origin

Source: Flow Tables 3 to 8

- Table 3. Persons who immigrated to your country from country X (where X is country of previous residence) by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 4. Persons who immigrated to your country who were born in country X by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 5. Persons who immigrated to your country who were citizens of country X by age group, sex, and single year of entry (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 6. Persons who emigrated from your country to country X (where X is the country of next residence) by age group, sex, and single year of departure (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 7. Persons who emigrated from your country who were born in country X by age group, sex, and single year of departure (the 10 most recent years available)
- Table 8. Persons who emigrated from your country who were citizens of country X by age group, sex, and single year of departure (the 10 most recent years available)

Appendix 4

Population (stock) by country of birth and country of citizenship

Source: Stock Table 1

- Table 1. Population by country of birth and citizenship.
