

## Reflection on Labour Migration: ethical approaches

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### Abstract

*Migration is a complex social phenomenon which affects societies at all levels - social, cultural, economical, educational, etc. To address the problems generated by this phenomenon in all these domains, several public policies need to be defined to soften migration's impact related to integration and acceptance of immigrants. In this sense, states need to regulate a series of measures legitimated either from the desire to preserve common goods for future generations, either from the fear of cultural division or due to the fear of deviance from the accepted social norms. All these fears are reflected in national fierce full debates about social inclusion and observance of the minimal social and political rights of the immigrants. Taking into consideration all that, this paper refers to ethical principles of human rights and ecological perspectives in conceiving and implementing public policies related to labour migration phenomenon. Concepts like human rights ethics, „carrying capacity”<sup>2</sup> and living standards are linked to what make an immigration policy being ethic and to whom this policy should be ethic. Furthermore, the article suggests some directions for analyzing labour immigration's impact in the ethical perspective in order to properly define public policies related to this phenomenon, with the final goal of strengthening the states/social actors' cooperation relationships for limiting/stimulating the phenomenon.*

**Keywords:** migration, citizenship, ethical principles, public policies

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<sup>2</sup> Garrett Hardin, “Carrying Capacity and Quality of Life”, in *Environmental Science: Sustaining the Earth* (Wadsworth, 1991), [http://www.garretthardinsociety.org/articles\\_pdf/cc\\_quality\\_of\\_life.pdf](http://www.garretthardinsociety.org/articles_pdf/cc_quality_of_life.pdf) (accessed May 12, 2009).

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