



Regular pathways for migrants into employment and training

Some insights from the European Union and Germany

Dr Jan Schneider | 19–20 September 2019 | Quito/Ecuador

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility

GFMD Regional workshop „Providing regular pathways from crisis to safety“

German private foundations establish the Expert Council in 2008 to give research-based policy advice

FOUNDATIONS

- civil society initiative
- research institution, politically independent
- 9 experts from different disciplines and various academic affiliations
- separate research unit for policy-oriented projects

office in Berlin

10–20 publications per year

organisation of conferences

professional PR



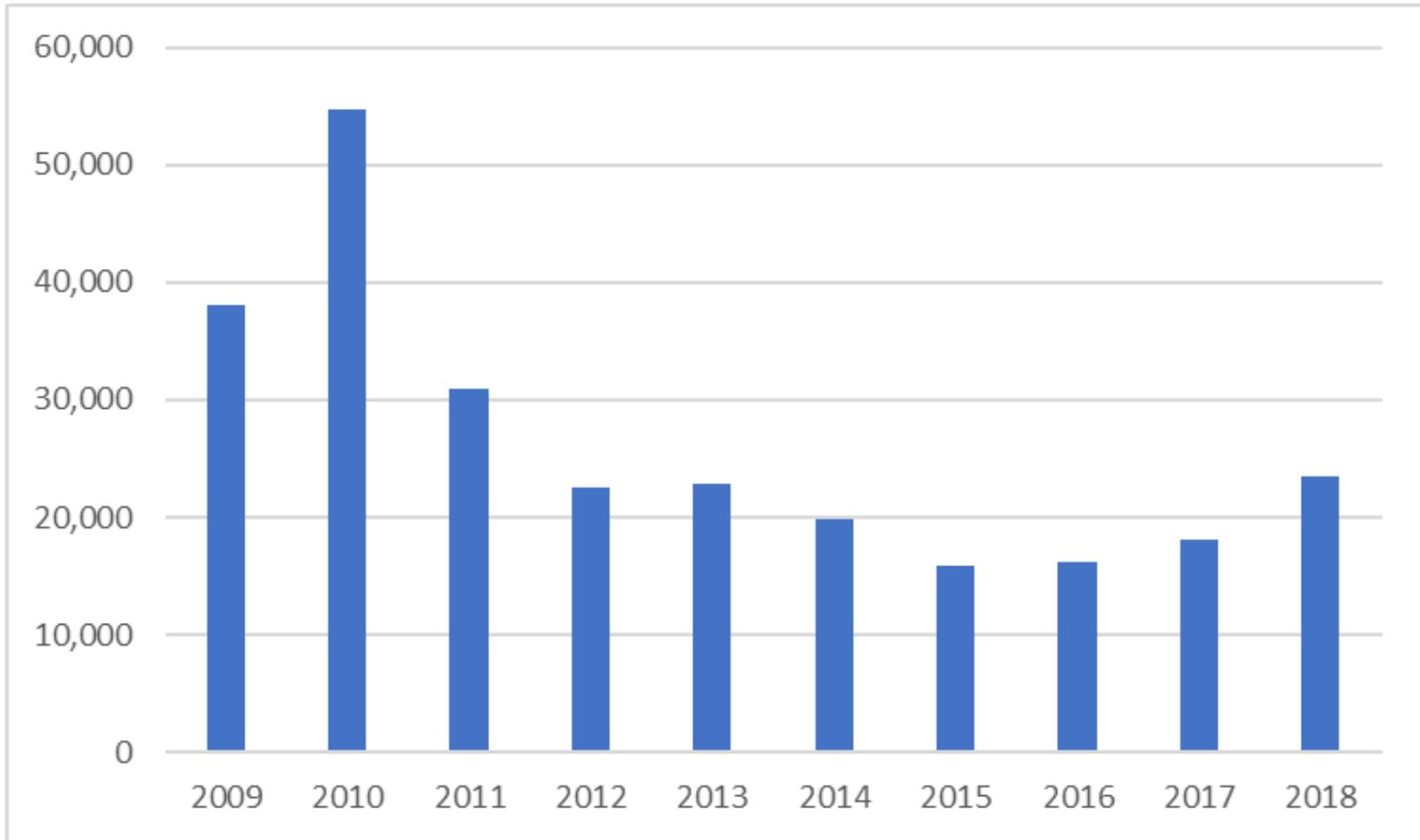
Legal Migration for Work and Training: Mobility Options to Europe for Those Not in Need of Protection

- Joint project with Migration Policy Institute Europe (MPI)
- Comparative study on France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Sweden + EU
- Point of departure:
 - legal migration policies increasingly framed as a way to tackle irregular migration
 - policies to expand pathways for work and training as a means to address mixed migration flows have not gained significant momentum in the EU

Creating new legal pathways into work and training – will it reduce irregular migration?

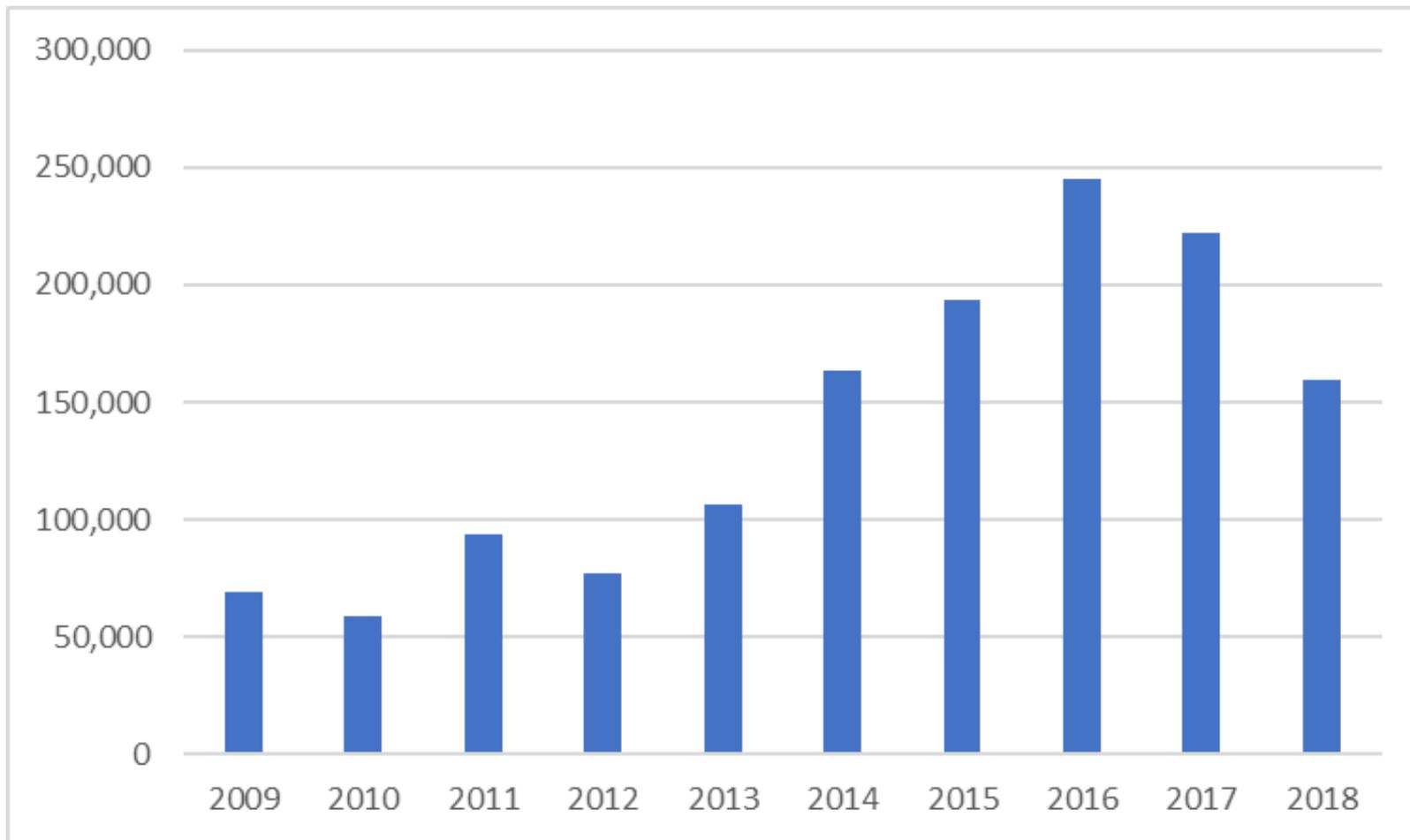
- Yes (in theory!)
- But limited evidence to support a causal relationship – mostly due to the multiplicity of factors determining migration
- Legal migration as a genuine part of a comprehensive policy to manage migration better, but not as a direct way to curb irregular migration
- Core dilemma: European Union wants to coordinate external migration policy, but Member States remain the central gatekeepers of labour migration into the EU – there is too few opportunities to offer in negotiations with Third Countries.

Residence permits issued by EU Member States to nationals of African countries for work, 2009–2018



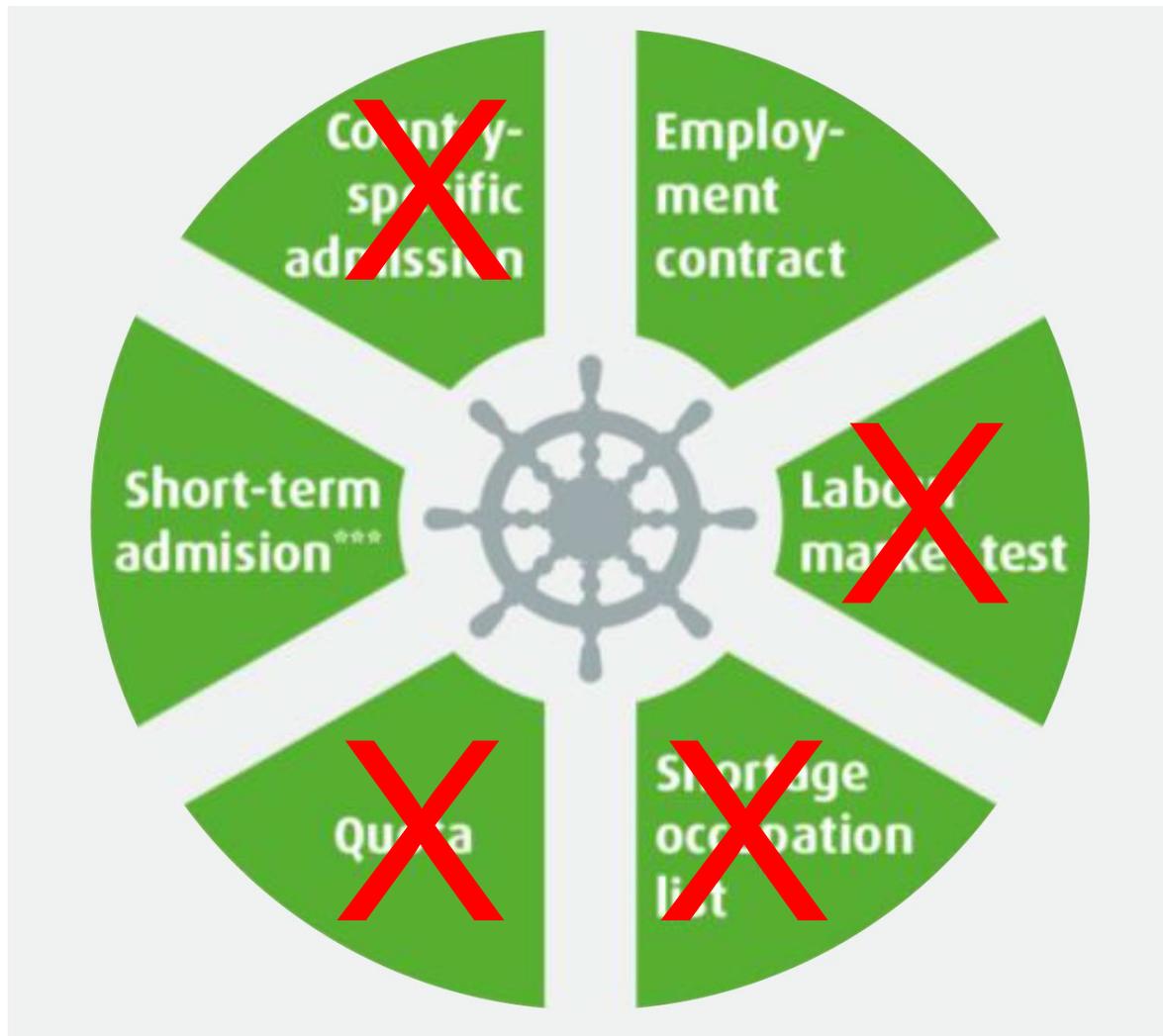
Source: Eurostat (First residence permits for remunerated activities [migr_resocc])

Asylum applications by nationals of African countries lodged in EU Member States, 2009–2018



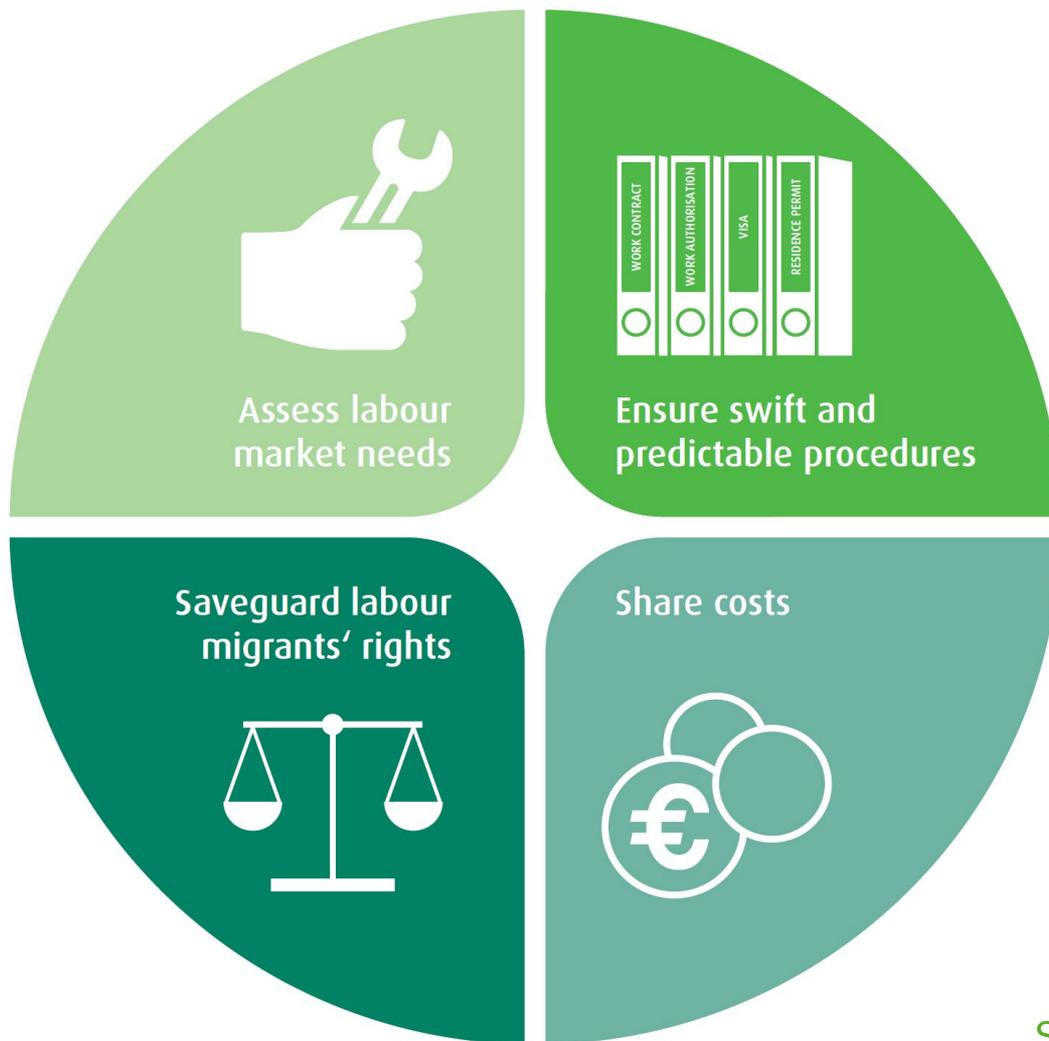
Source: Eurostat (First asylum applications [migr_asyappctza])

Steering mechanisms for labour migration of low- and middle-skilled third-country nationals



Source: SVR Research Unit / MPI Europe, Ellen Stockmar

Challenges and success factors in administering legal migration policy



Source: SVR Research Unit / MPI Europe,
KALUZA+SCHMID Studio

Recent experiments and approaches in Germany

- Western Balkans Regulation since 2015
- Reforms within the Skilled Worker Immigration Act (as of March 2020)
 - introduction of „search visas“ for work or vocational training
 - waiving shortage occupation lists and priority checks
- Pilot Projects for Triple-Win (within EU frameworks)
 - “Towards a Holistic Approach to Labour Migration Governance and Labour Mobility in North Africa” (THAMM, 2019–2023)

Legal Migration for Work and Training: Mobility Options to Europe for Those Not in Need of Protection

- 5 country case studies published separately
- Several other publications throughout 2018 and 2019
- Final study (synthesis report) to be launched at events in Brussels and Berlin in October and November 2019

“Legal Migration for Work and Training: Mobility Options to Europe for Those Not in Need of Protection” is a project conducted by the Research Unit of the Expert Council of German Foundations on Integration and Migration in cooperation with the Migration Policy Institute Europe, funded by Stiftung Mercator



The Expert Council of German Foundations
on Integration and Migration

RESEARCH UNIT



Thank you for your attention.



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