

Huber, Matthias; Nikolka, Till; Poutvaara, Panu; Sommerfeld, Ann-Marie;  
Uebelmesser, Silke

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## Migration Aspirations and Intentions

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## Migration Aspirations and Intentions

*Matthias Huber, Till Nikolka, Panu Poutvaara, Ann-Marie Sommerfeld,  
Silke Uebelmesser*

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Telephone +49 (0)89 2180-2740, Telefax +49 (0)89 2180-17845, email [office@cesifo.de](mailto:office@cesifo.de)

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# Migration Aspirations and Intentions

## Abstract

We carried out two multinational surveys to analyze aspirations and intentions to emigrate, and how these are linked to each other. One survey covered language course participants in 14 countries, and another students in 6 countries. We identify two groups that have been largely neglected in previous research on migration aspirations and intentions: those who intend to migrate permanently without aspirations to do so and those who intend to migrate temporarily. Analyzing main motivations to emigrate shows that discrepancy among women is driven mainly by family, and among men by work and studies.

JEL-Codes: F220, D910, J160.

Keywords: international migration, migration choice, temporary migration, permanent migration, aspirations, intentions, multinational survey.

*Matthias Huber*

*Federal Office for Migration and Refugees  
University of Jena / Germany  
matthias.huber@uni-jena.de*

*Till Nikolka*

*German Youth Institute (DJI)  
Munich / Germany  
nikolka@dji.de*

*Panu Poutvaara*

*ifo Institute – Leibniz Institute for Economic  
Research at the University of Munich / Germany  
poutvaara@ifo.de*

*Ann-Marie Sommerfeld*

*University of Goettingen / Germany  
ann-marie.sommerfeld@uni-goettingen.de*

*Silke Uebelmesser*

*University of Jena / Germany  
silke.uebelmesser@uni-jena.de*

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# 1 Introduction

The reasons why people leave their country of origin have been studied for many decades. A large body of migration literature evaluates immigrants in destination countries and offers important insights on migration choices (Borjas 1987; McKenzie and Rapoport 2010; Beine et al. 2011; Abramitzky et al. 2012; Adserà and Pytliková 2015). There is, however, an important drawback: only those individuals who actually migrated are observed. To overcome this shortcoming, a growing strand of migration literature relies on survey data to study individuals at their origin before actual migration takes place in order to identify potential future migrants. Some studies focus on migration aspirations, which express a desire to migrate under ideal circumstances (e.g. Bertoli and Ruysen 2018; Ruysen and Salomone 2018; Beine et al. 2020; Docquier et al. 2020). Other studies use questions about migration intentions, which refer to considerations and plans within the actual situation subject to migration constraints (e.g. De Jong 2000; Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; Uebelmesser 2006; Ivlevs and King 2012; van Dalen and Henkens 2012; Friebe et al. 2013; Chort 2014). There are also studies which combine both measures, e.g. Manchin and Orazbayev (2018) and Bertoli et al. (2022), where the latter does not specifically focus on international migration.<sup>1</sup>

Often studies make use of the Gallup World Poll (henceforth GWP) data, which is a repeated cross-sectional survey covering around 160 countries over 14 years and which allows for an analysis of representative populations. The GWP data comes, however, with two important limitations. First, the questions on aspirations and intentions are limited to permanent migration in most waves of the GWP, and hence most studies based on the GWP are limited to a permanent time-horizon.<sup>2</sup> Second, the question on migration aspirations under ideal circumstances serves as a filter for further questions regarding considerations and plans towards migration, such that the latter questions are only asked if the respondents indicate aspirations to migrate. This creates a conditionality in responses, which frames aspirations to migrate as a necessary condition for migration considerations and plans.

Asking only about permanent migration neglects potential migrants who only aspire or intend to migrate temporarily. Data on temporary migration is generally rare, despite evidence that repeat and return migrants make up a considerable share of overall migrants (Dustmann and Görlach 2016). While there are studies on return migration, e.g. Dustmann and Kirchkamp (2002) which analyzes the activity choices of returned migrants, and Dustmann (2003) which analyzes how a change in wage differentials between origin and host country affects the optimal duration of stay, those studies use data of individuals after their realized emigration or return to their origin country.<sup>3</sup> As a consequence, migration analyses of potential future migrants who intend to stay only temporarily in their destination country are missing, to the best of our knowledge.

While aspirations as well as considerations and plans emerge from a cost-benefit analysis of potential migration (Borjas 1987), the latter are subject to constraints and drivers towards

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<sup>1</sup>While this terminology is widely used, some studies refer to similar concepts, but use different terminology. We will subsume them under those two terms. For an extensive list of terms and questions employed in potential migration research, see Williams et al. (2018) and Aslany et al. (2021).

<sup>2</sup>For more discussion on this, see Section 2.3.

<sup>3</sup>For an extensive overview of this literature, see Dustmann and Görlach (2016).

migration within the current situation of the individual. Hence, aspirations to migrate on the one hand, and current considerations and plans of concrete steps towards migration on the other hand, are not necessarily formed in a consecutive order and intentions to migrate do not necessarily imply desire to do so. Cases where individuals consider or plan to migrate without having underlying aspirations to do so are therefore not captured by the GWP. To the extent that those who intend to migrate with their partner, as so-called tied movers, are predominantly women and reply that they would ideally not like to emigrate, the GWP risks underestimating women’s migration plans relative to men’s.

To address those two limitations, we conducted two multinational surveys in which we observe both migration aspirations (using the same question as the GWP) and migration intentions for all respondents, i.e. independent of their stated aspirations and separately for intentions to migrate temporarily and permanently. One survey we conduct among language course participants in 14 countries,<sup>4</sup> which captures a self-selected subset of the population, many of whom can be expected to be relatively far in the migration process, and one among university students in six countries.

On these novel data sets we use multinomial probit estimations to analyze individual-level determinants of migration aspirations and intentions. We find highly comparable patterns within the two data sets.

We contribute to the literature in two ways: First, by introducing a clear time horizon to our measure of intentions, we are able to differentiate between individuals who intend to migrate temporarily and permanently. With 24.6 % of the language course sample, and 34.1 % of the student sample, a substantial share of respondents intends to migrate only temporarily. Our results suggest that a temporary move abroad is considered or planned primarily for educational and career reasons, while family ties are of comparably larger importance regarding intentions to migrate permanently. Second, by avoiding the conditionality in responses, we identify instances where migration aspirations and intentions differ. We find aspirations and current intentions to migrate to match perfectly for only 60.7 % of the language course sample, and 48.7 % of the student sample. Analyzing the rest, for whom aspirations and intentions differ, sheds light on individual-level factors which explain intentions to move abroad despite the desire to stay under ideal circumstances and aspirations to migrate which are not realized. Our results suggest that individual-level determinants which explain such differences between aspirations and intentions vary between genders. For women in our data the main determinant of differences between aspirations and intentions are family ties. Compared to single women or women in a relationship with a native partner, women with a non-native partner have an increased likelihood of intentions to migrate permanently despite their desire to stay under ideal circumstances. Such findings are in line with former literature stating that women are predominantly influenced in their migration decisions by family ties (Mincer 1978; Nakosteen and Zimmer 1980; De Jong 2000; Uebelmesser 2006; Munk et al. 2022). Compared to the women, we find education and career prospects to be of larger importance regarding migration choices for men (cf. Uebelmesser 2006; Mckinnish 2008; Geist and McManus 2011). Among men, having a university degree can explain intentions to migrate temporarily also among those without aspirations to migrate permanently. A closer look

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<sup>4</sup>All language course participants were surveyed in Goethe Institutes which teach German, with relatively similar course offering in all countries.

at self-reported motivations for potential migration underlines those gender differences.

We also asked respondents their preferred destination country, in case they would like to migrate. In Goethe Institutes, Germany was by far the most popular destination in all countries, followed often by Austria or USA. In student surveys, USA was the most popular preferred destination, Great Britain the second and Germany the third in all six countries. Canada and France were the fourth and fifth popular destinations, respectively.

The remainder of the paper is structured as follows. In Section 2, we review the literature on potential migration and introduce our migration choice model. Section 3 describes our data sets and provides some descriptive statistics. Section 4 shows the estimation strategy. Section 5 presents the results and Section 6 concludes.

## 2 Measuring potential migration

The literature on potential migration relies heavily on survey data and should in the best-case scenario convey migration aspirations and intentions reliably. Potential future migrants are identified based on differently framed survey questions.

### 2.1 Migration aspirations

Several recent studies utilize GWP data to determine potential migration (see Bertoli and Ruysen 2018; Manchin and Orazbayev 2018; Ruysen and Salomone 2018; Beine et al. 2020; Bertoli et al. 2022; Docquier et al. 2020), making use of a measure we will subsequently call migration aspirations. The GWP asks respondents “*Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like to move permanently to another country, or would you prefer to continue living in [country in which the survey takes place]?*” and gives the response options “*Like to stay in [country in which the survey takes place]*” or “*Like to move to another country*”. This describes aspirations to migrate in a hypothetical, ideal-world scenario under the absence of any barriers and gives no statement about concrete considerations or plans.

### 2.2 Migration intentions

Some studies utilize migration intentions, which express considerations or plans to migrate in a real-world scenario, subject to constraints. Though there has been some debate on whether intentions can predict future behavior (Manski 1990; Bertrand and Mullainathan 2001; Bassett and Lumsdaine 2001), in the economic literature, intentions are frequently used to predict behavior (e.g. Chandon et al. 2005; Johnson et al. 2006; Baker et al. 2016; Falck et al. 2017) and migration research is no exemption here. Under the ‘best-case’ hypothesis, i.e. when respondents state their intentions based on rational expectations, intentions are indeed the best predictor of future behavior (Manski 1990). Burda et al. (1998) assume that intentions are a “monotonic function of the underlying driving variables which motivate migration”, and studies frequently find migration intentions to be a strong predictor of subsequent behavior (e.g. Chort 2014; Tjaden et al. 2019).

Several authors in economics (e.g. Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; Uebelmesser 2006; Ivlevs and King 2012; van Dalen and Henkens 2012; Friebel et al. 2013) and neighboring social sciences (e.g. De Jong 2000) define potential migration, based on different questions which aim at capturing respondents' migration intentions. Often, the questions directly include the word 'intend' (Friebel et al. 2013) or 'consider' (Uebelmesser 2006). Others refer to the likelihood or probability of migration (Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; Ivlevs and King 2012). While most of the survey questions refer very generally to international migration, some use more specific questions on destinations (Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; Friebel et al. 2013) or explicitly refer to internal migration (Chort 2014).

Similarly, questions asked about migration intentions also differ with respect to the time frame of their potential date of realization, ranging from no indicated time period (Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; Uebelmesser 2006) to specific time periods of between six months (Friebel et al. 2013) up to ten years (van Dalen and Henkens 2012). Furthermore, survey questions differ in whether they refer to general migration, like most of the previously mentioned studies do, or only to labor migration (Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001; van Dalen and Henkens 2012). In addition to heterogeneity in the survey questions used, the mentioned studies differ in their focus. While most of them are interested in emigration from a single country (Uebelmesser 2006; van Dalen and Henkens 2012), some additionally focus on specific destination countries (Papapanagos and Sanfey 2001) and others on a specific determinant, e.g. xenophobic attacks (Friebel et al. 2013) or whether children of former migrants are more likely to migrate themselves (Ivlevs and King 2012).

### 2.3 Combining migration aspirations and intentions

In our survey, we ask about respondents' aspirations to migrate permanently in the same way as in the GWP questionnaire (see Section 2.1). In direct succession, and independent of their answer to the former, all respondents are asked about their migration intentions: *"Tick the statement that applies to your current situation"*. Out of five options, response options *"I would not move to another country under any circumstances"* and *"In principle, I would move to another country, but I have not thought about it in the last 12 months"* are classified as the respondent having no intentions to migrate, and the remaining response options *"I have been thinking about moving to another country in the last 12 months, but have no specific plans"*, *"I am planning a move to another country"*, and *"I already have a date for my planned move to another country"* are classified as the respondent having migration intentions.<sup>5</sup> Those with migration intentions are further divided by whether their intentions relate to temporary or permanent migration.<sup>6</sup> Combining those questions, we categorize potential migrants in six mutually exclusive combinations of aspirations and intentions, as shown in Figure 1.

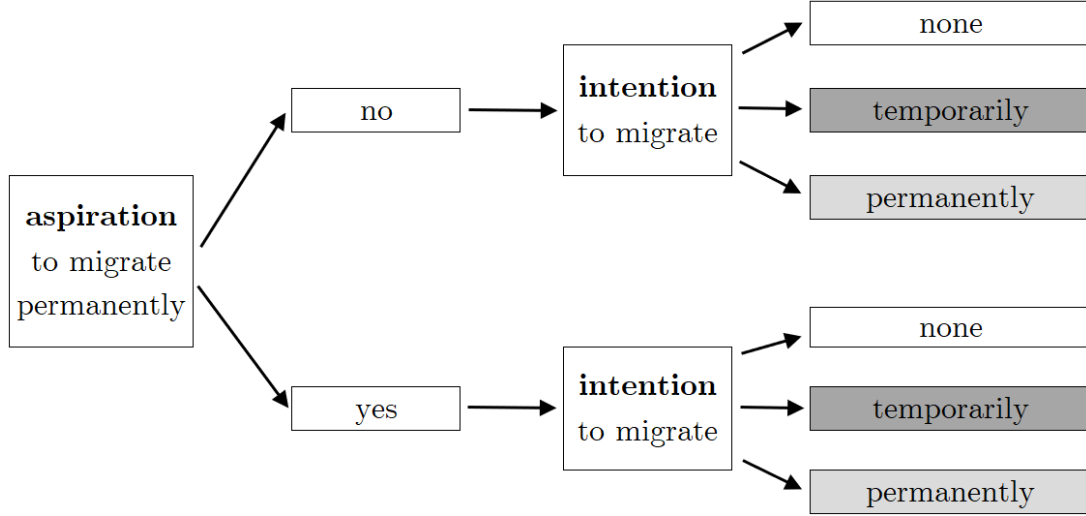
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<sup>5</sup>This builds on measures of migration choice in multiple phases (e.g. De Jong 2000), which in turn draw on Ajzen's (1991) *Theory of Planned Behavior* which differentiates between intentions, which do not include any concrete actions, and behavior including concrete actions.

<sup>6</sup>Those respondents with migration intentions who state that they would most likely stay in their preferred destination country for more than 5 years or state that their return to the country in which the survey took place after a temporary stay in their preferred destination country is unlikely are classified as having intentions to migrate permanently; the rest is classified as having intentions to migrate temporarily. Those who state no migration intentions are not asked those questions.



Figure 1: Combinations of aspirations and intentions.



According to a Roy-Borjas model of utility maximization in migration (Borjas 1987), individuals who are able to migrate intend to migrate if their expected utility from relocating abroad, net of migration costs, exceeds their expected utility from staying. Then, both migration aspirations and migration intentions emerge as the result of a cost-benefit analysis of potential migration (Borjas 1987). However, only migration intentions are subject to constraints and drivers according to the real-world situation of the individual, while migration aspirations are not. Such constraints, such as visa requirements, liquidity constraints, and social ties at home, may prevent migration intentions from being realized even when one would ideally like to migrate. At the same time, migration intentions can also be evoked by migration drivers even when one would ideally not like to migrate, like a partner wanting to emigrate and career reasons. Different from Docquier et al. (2015) and Delogu et al. (2018), which assume that all migration aspirations would realize if visa restrictions were abolished, we consider factors explaining differences between aspirations and intentions in a broader sense. Whether migration aspirations result in consideration and plans then depends not only on the costs, but also on the constraints the individuals face when converting this desire into reality.<sup>7</sup>

Consequently, migration aspirations and intentions are not necessarily equivalent. Even so, some studies use the question on migration aspirations as a measure for migration intentions (Bertoli and Ruyssen 2018; Beine et al. 2020). Others also include alternative questions on planning and preparation activities for robustness checks (Docquier et al. 2020). Ruyssen and Salomone (2018) use GWP data to combine the questions on migration aspirations and migration preparation in a Heckman selection model for those with aspirations. They find that perceived gender discrimination in the home country has a positive effect on migration aspirations but not on migration preparation.

Overall, migration aspirations and intentions can differ within individuals. These differences

<sup>7</sup>This is closely related to the migration aspiration/ability model, which distinguishes between the desire to migrate and the ability to realize this aspiration (Carling and Schewel 2018). We will not use that model, since we analyze individuals prior to actual migration and thus have no means to observe individuals' (revealed) ability to realize migration aspirations.

can have several reasons. First, the question on migration aspirations aims at a hypothetical scenario (*“Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like [...]”*), while migration intentions refer to the current situation under migration constraints and drivers.

Second, questions on aspirations and intentions may refer to different time horizons or may not make clear the time horizon. As mentioned, the GWP question on migration intentions refers to current intentions, i.e. it asks about considerations within the last 12 months or fixed plans which are likely to be executed within the near future.<sup>8</sup> Aspirations, on the other hand, are not restricted to any timescale. Ideally wanting to migrate permanently yet not having current intentions to do so does not need to be a conflict, but rather is potentially just a question of looking for the optimal timing. Some individuals, for example, who would first like to finish their education or wait for their kids to leave home before migrating permanently, would state having migration aspirations despite not actually intending to migrate for years to come. Also, the question on migration aspirations is restricted to permanent migration. Individuals who only aspire to migrate temporarily are inclined to answer negatively. At the same time, current intentions to migrate temporarily can still be consistent with long-term aspirations to migrate permanently. Individuals, for example, could want to migrate temporarily to one country to obtain an educational degree (for example to a country where tuition fees are comparably low or universities are especially prestigious) and only then migrate to a third country after graduation. Utilizing the 2009-2012 waves of GWP data, which in addition to the question on migration aspirations referring to ‘permanently’ include one referring to ‘temporarily’, Delogu et al. (2018) show that those intending to migrate temporarily are a considerable share of potential migrants.<sup>9</sup>

Third, choices regarding migration aspirations and intentions are not necessarily made in a consecutive order, and one may not be conditional on the other. Aspirations to migrate are not necessarily followed by intentions to migrate, and intentions to migrate are not necessarily based on aspirations. Individuals could not aspire to migrate but still consider or plan to do so, e.g. due to their partner being offered a job opportunity abroad. Similarly, individuals who answer affirmatively to the question regarding their aspirations might decide against migration due to the constraints they face, like legal barriers or social ties. In fact, many individuals, especially from developing countries, would like to migrate under ideal circumstances yet will never do so. Aggregated GWP data from the 2018 wave, for example, shows that 25.0 % of surveyed Mexicans would like to migrate under ideal circumstances, yet only 310,000 Mexicans emigrated in 2019, which is a mere 0.2 % of the 127.6 million residents Mexico had in 2019. Further, some individuals might form intentions and only afterwards decide whether they want to stay abroad temporarily or permanently. Alternatively, some could form intentions to migrate only if they have the option to migrate temporarily (e.g. students’ choice to do a semester or course abroad

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<sup>8</sup>Henceforth, whenever we refer to ‘intentions’, we refer to this measure of current intentions to migrate.

<sup>9</sup>Still, most works utilize the GWP question referring to ‘permanently’ (Manchin and Orazbayev 2018; Beine et al. 2020; Bertoli et al. 2022; Docquier et al. 2020) or combine the two questions without specifically differentiating between them (Bertoli and Ruysen 2018; Ruysen and Salomone 2018). The follow-up questions on considerations and preparations in the GWP do not specifically refer to a time horizon (*“To which country would you like to move?”* and *“Have you done any preparations for this move (For example applied for residency or visa, purchased a ticket, etc)?”*) or refer to the same time horizon as the initial question (*“Are you planning to move permanently to another country in the next 12 months or not?”*). Our measure of migration aspirations includes the word ‘permanently’. Henceforth, whenever we refer to ‘aspirations’, we implicitly mean aspirations to migrate permanently.

might be based on the option to stay temporarily, and they would not have formed those intentions if returning after their studies was not an option). As different orders of choice are possible, we do not model those choices as being consecutive, but rather as being simultaneous – resulting in our 6 combinations of aspirations and intentions shown in Figure 1. This is in stark contrast to the GWP data, which assumes a conditionality in choice. In the GWP, only those respondents who state positive migration aspirations are asked subsequent questions regarding their migration plans within the next 12 months (*“Are you planning to move permanently to another country in the next 12 months, or not?”*) and whether they have already prepared for this move (*“Have you done any preparation for this move (for example applied for residency or visa, purchased the ticket, etc.)?”*).<sup>10</sup> While those questions indeed indicate how far the respondents are in their respective migration decision-making process, they exclude all respondents who did not state aspirations to migrate permanently.

Allowing for differences between aspirations and intentions and extending the time horizon to temporary and permanent intentions, our survey design gives access to two groups of potential migrants which have not received much attention so far. By avoiding the conditionality in responses problem, we observe those who do not report aspirations to migrate permanently but nonetheless consider or plan to migrate permanently. By introducing a time horizon to the question on intentions, we further observe both those who do not report aspirations to migrate permanently but consider or plan to migrate temporarily; and those who do report aspirations to migrate permanently but again only consider or plan to migrate temporarily. We want to highlight those groups here because they can be large and thus are an important target of migration research and policy. At the same time, with most studies relying on GWP data, these groups have been largely neglected so far in migration research.

## 2.4 Determinants of aspirations and intentions

Sticking to Borjas’s (1987) and subsequent literature’s perspective of utility maximization in migration, we investigate determinants of potential migration, i.e. how they influence the cost-benefit analysis of migration on the individual level.

Based on the *Human Capital Theory of Migration*, the net gain of migration decreases with age as it lowers the time to recoup the investment made by migration (Sjaastad 1962). In addition, older individuals face higher migration costs in general as they lose specific human capital as well as their social and professional networks while having larger difficulties in adapting to a new language and a new environment (Belot and Ederveen 2012).

According to this human capital theory, the net gain of migration also depends on education and returns to human capital in different countries. Borjas (1987) showed that if skills are sufficiently transferable across countries, migrants from a country with narrower income differences who migrate to a country with wider income differences tend to come from the upper part of the skill distribution, while migrants from a country with wider income differences who migrate to a country with narrower income differences tend to come from

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<sup>10</sup>Independent of this set of questions, there is a further measure on migration intentions in the GWP, which also includes the possibility of internal migration: *“In the next 12 months, are you likely or unlikely to move away from the city or area where you live?”*. See e.g. Dustmann and Okatenko (2014).

the lower part of the skill distribution.<sup>11</sup> Empirically, highly educated individuals have generally been found to be more likely to migrate (see, e.g., Grogger and Hanson 2011; Docquier et al. 2014; Borjas et al. 2019). Thus, we control for whether respondents have a university degree and, additionally, whether they are still students.

Previous migration experience can reduce migration costs and constraints. It can be seen as a proxy for inherent mobility or indicate a learning effect. Individuals who have lived abroad before are generally more aware of their alternatives abroad, which lowers costs of information and eventually migration. While migration can be evaluated ex-post positively as well as negatively, migration-related soft-skills and experience do not depend on such subjective evaluation. Either way, repeat migration constitutes a considerably large share of overall migration flows (e.g. DaVanzo 1983). Having previously migrated has been shown to be a strong predictor of subsequent migration (Uebelmesser 2006). Therefore, we test how having previously lived abroad is linked to migration aspirations and intentions. Leaving one’s home country is a very different decision compared with leaving a host country, and for the foreign-born, emigration plans can constitute repeat migration as well as return migration to their home country. Since we cannot reasonably distinguish between the two, we exclude foreign-born respondents (i.e. those who have been born in a country different from the country in which the survey took place) from the analysis.

When it comes to the role of family ties, it is clear that migration is not an individual decision but happens in the context of a social environment (Stark and Bloom 1985). Family ties are bound to influence the migration decision, though the channels through which this happens can lead to different outcomes. Strong family ties at the source country – such as marriage, long-term relationship or children – could be a restricting factor regarding emigration. Family ties abroad, on the contrary, could work as an encouraging factor as they imply easier access to information about jobs and earning opportunities, as well as financial and emotional support. This all substantially lowers costs and risks related to migration (Manchin and Orazbayev 2018). Also, a partner who wants to emigrate can evoke migration considerations and plans among individuals even if they have no family ties abroad, e.g. if joint emigration is necessary to maintain the relationship. Hence, generally, migration decisions are coordinated within households or families (Chort 2014), yet that coordination seems to be more binding for women (Munk et al. 2022). Thus, we also control for gender in our estimations.

The uncertainty about potential returns and costs make migration a risky choice. Individuals who are more willing to take risks are expected to be more likely to consider migration and follow through with it. This has been shown in previous literature (Jaeger et al. 2010; Beine et al. 2021; Roca Paz and Uebelmesser 2021). Lastly, the respondent’s patience is included as a control, as it might be relevant for weighing costs and benefits of migration.

Table A1 in the Appendix presents the definitions of the explanatory variables we derive from our data. Before discussing how we utilize those determinants within our estimation strategy (see Section 4), we have a look at our data in the next Section.

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<sup>11</sup>Poutvaara (2004, 2008) concluded that those with internationally applicable education, like STEM degrees or economics, can be expected to be mobile and more so when the international applicability of their education increases. Those with country-specific degrees, like law, instead would tend to stay in their country of education.

### 3 Data and descriptive statistics

We conducted two multinational surveys: one among language course participants at the Goethe Institute (henceforth GI)<sup>12</sup> in 14 countries and one among university students in six countries. The survey at the GI captures a self-selected subset of the population, many of whom can be expected to be relatively far in the migration process. The survey at universities allows us to assess the generalizability of our GI results for a population of young and highly skilled individuals.

#### 3.1 Survey design

##### *Survey at the Goethe Institute*

We conducted a survey among language course participants at the GI. The survey consisted of a pen and paper questionnaire containing a wide range of questions on socio-demographic characteristics, education and labor market status, language skills as well as migration plans and previous migration experience. The survey took place between June and December 2018. In order to minimize potential language barriers, the questionnaires were translated into the main language of each country by professional translators and double-checked by at least one native speaker of each language. In India, the questionnaire was in English. As we aimed at a heterogeneous sample of countries, we identified groups of countries based on combinations of the following characteristics: geographic distance to Germany, linguistic distance to German, economic development and absence or presence of migration barriers vis-à-vis Germany. We conducted the survey in at least one large institute (in terms of course participants) for each group (see Table 1).

In order to maximize the response rates, we took two measures. First, a member of the project team was present during the survey in all institutes in all European countries. During one week of the course term, the pen and paper questionnaires were personally and directly distributed to all course participants present in the classroom. Participants then either filled in the questionnaire during the course break or after the course, or they took it home and returned it at a second course session within that week. For non-European countries, we sent the questionnaires by mail to the institutes, where the teachers distributed and collected the questionnaires, which were then sent back to Germany. In order to minimize errors in distributing the questionnaires, we prepared envelopes for each course containing the questionnaires, which were distributed to the respective teachers of the courses. Second, for each country, we raffled off one free language course at the survey institute in order to incentivize participation. Those measures resulted in response rates ranging from 67 to 99 % in European countries, and 59 to 72 % in non-European countries.<sup>13</sup> Table 1 gives an overview of the countries the survey was conducted in and

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<sup>12</sup>The Goethe Institute is a German cultural association which aims to promote German culture and language around the globe. For that purpose, the Goethe Institute is present in 98 countries, with a total of 157 institutes. It offers language services, i.e. language courses and standardized exams, and provides information about the German culture and society with events and libraries (Goethe Institute 2019). See also Uebelmesser et al. (2018) for further background information. In this paper, we stick to the following convention: when referring to the association of the Goethe Institute, we use the abbreviation “GI”. When talking about a specific branch of the GI in Germany or abroad, we refer to it as “institute”.

<sup>13</sup>In all European countries except the Netherlands, these numbers refer to actually distributed ques-

Table 1: Country characteristics and response rates. Panel A: GI survey.

Countries	Income (GNI/capita)	EU member	Participants	Response rate
Bosnia	Upper-middle	No	270	99 %
Czechia	High	Yes	481	82 %
Great Britain	High	Yes, but leaving	480	88 %
India	Lower-middle	No	830	72 %*
Indonesia	Lower-middle	No	883	55 %*
Italy	High	Yes	371	86 %
Japan	High	No	293	59 %*
Mexico	Upper-middle	No	491	61 %
Netherlands	High	Yes	139	67 %*
Poland	High	Yes	236	69 %
Romania	High	Yes	327	88 %
South Korea	High	No	470	63 %*
Spain	High	Yes	611	83 %
Ukraine	Lower-middle	No	782	93 %

*Note:* \* Response rates based on registered course participants, not actual attendance. High-income countries include countries which have a GNI per capita larger than \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Czechia, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, South Korea, and Spain); middle-income countries (upper-middle and lower-middle) are countries which have a GNI per capita of \$1,036 to \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Bosnia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Ukraine). EU membership as of 2018.

their respective characteristics, as well as the number of participants and the response rates.

In total, 6,664 language course participants at institutes in 14 countries took part in the GI survey. Of those, 1,554 individuals had to be excluded from the analysis due to missing values in relevant variables or because they were foreign-born. This leaves us with a sample of 5,110 individuals. Descriptive statistics can be found in Table A2 in the Appendix.

### ***Survey among university students***

Additionally, we conducted a survey among university students, which was designed similarly to the GI survey and contained the same questions on socio-demographic characteristics, education and labor market status, language skills as well as migration plans and previous migration experience. For the survey, three European and three non-European countries were chosen, which were also part of the GI sample. The survey was conducted between April 1, 2019 and April 7, 2020 in all universities that agreed to participate, either at the university level or in selected faculties. Table 2 gives an overview of the participating universities in the respective countries, as well as the number of participants (for country characteristics, see Table 1).

As the survey was conducted as an online survey, local university staff sent invitation

tionnaires. In the Netherlands and in non-European countries, the response rate is related to registered course participants, as we do not know the number of course participants who were present when the questionnaires were distributed. In the European institutes where a member of the project team was present, not all registered participants attended every lesson of their course, i.e. the number of registered participants is much larger than the number of present participants in many cases. Therefore, the response rate for non-European countries and the Netherlands, which is related to the number of registered course participants and not to the number of present course participants, gives a lower-bound. In Mexico, the response rate is related to the distributed questionnaires during the course inscription.

Table 2: Countries, universities and participants. Panel B: Student survey.

Countries	Participating universities	Participants	Response rate
Czechia	Masaryk University, University of Ostrava, University of Economics Prague	1,078	12.0 %
India	IIT Kanpur, Ashoka University	563	7.8 %
Indonesia	Institut Pertanian Bogor, Universitas Indonesia, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Politeknik Manufaktur Bandung, Universitas Padjadjaran	251	5.1 %*
Italy	Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	289	2.4 %
Mexico	El Colegio de Mexico, Centro de Investigacion y Docencia Economicas, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Instituto Tecnologico Autonomo de Mexico	1,244	14.2 %
Spain	Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, University of Barcelona, Carlos III University of Madrid	794	4.3 %

*Note:* Response rates based on number of students which received an invitation e-mail (target population).

\* For Indonesia response rate is calculated for Institut Teknologi Bandung only, since information on the size of the target population is not available for the rest of the universities.

e-mails including a link to the survey to students. Again, to minimize potential language barriers, the survey was offered in the local language and in English in all countries, apart from India, where the survey was only available in English. To incentivize participation, individuals could take part in a lottery, which was embedded in the questionnaire. The first prize in each survey was a cash payout of EUR 100, and there was also an opportunity to participate in two other lotteries with additional prizes, which depended on choices that respondents made. The largest single prize won among all participants was EUR 250.

Of the 4,219 students who participated in the survey, 977 individuals were excluded from the analysis due to missing values in relevant variables or because they were foreign-born. This leaves us with a sample of 3,242 students. Descriptive statistics can be found in Table A2 in the Appendix.

### 3.2 Descriptive statistics

Both resulting data sets have limitations, and are not representative of a general population. Our study focuses on specific self-selected groups, as the surveyed individuals are either participants of language courses or university students. Both groups are more likely to be better educated and more likely to aspire to migrate than the overall population, the latter especially applying to language course participants.

While individual characteristics in our GI and student samples are fairly comparable (see Table A2 in the Appendix), there are some differences. As can be expected, occupational status and age differ between samples: 32.7 % of the GI sample are students compared to 100.0 % in the student sample, and the share of respondents in the age group of 18 to 24 years is 38.7 % in the GI sample compared to 76.8 % in the student sample. The share of respondents with children is higher in the GI sample than in the student sample, and the distribution over nationalities differs.<sup>14</sup> Both samples are comparable when it comes to the

<sup>14</sup>Note that both the GI and the student samples have considerably high shares of respondents with

shares of migration aspirations and intentions among the younger age groups. Thus, in addition to running our main analysis on both samples separately, we will also restrict the GI sample to the younger age groups (under 35 years of age) in our subsequent analysis and compare the results.

### *Migration aspirations*

A comparison of migration aspirations for each country based on data from the GWP and data from our GI and student samples illustrates how individuals in both our samples are more likely to aspire to migrate than the overall population. In Figure 2, we see that in all countries the share of people that would ideally like to migrate permanently is much higher in the GI and student samples than in the representative GWP data: In the GI sample, we find the highest share of respondents who would ideally like to migrate permanently in Mexico with 90 % (compared to 25 % in the GWP data) and the lowest share in Czechia with 28 % (compared to 12 % in the GWP data). The largest discrepancy between the two groups can be observed for India (73 % in GI versus 6 % in GWP) and Indonesia (70 % in GI versus 2 % in GWP), while the smallest discrepancy can be observed for Italy (50 % in GI versus 36 % in GWP). In the student sample, the share of respondents with migration aspirations is higher than in the GWP in all countries as well. Yet, as expected, it is smaller than in the GI sample, with the exception of Czechia.

The over-representation of individuals with migration aspirations in our GI sample relative to the GWP data can also be seen in Figure A1 in the Appendix, where we plot the share of individuals with migration aspirations in the GWP data and in the GI sample by age groups. For all countries and age groups, the share of individuals with migration aspirations in the GI sample exceeds the corresponding share in the GWP data. At the same time, we find for most countries that the shares are most comparable for younger age groups and comparability deteriorates for middle-aged and older age groups. With respect to their stated migration aspirations, the younger individuals in the GI sample are thus closer to the general population of the same age group in the respective countries than the older individuals; among the older individuals in the GI sample, many more state migration aspirations than in the general population.

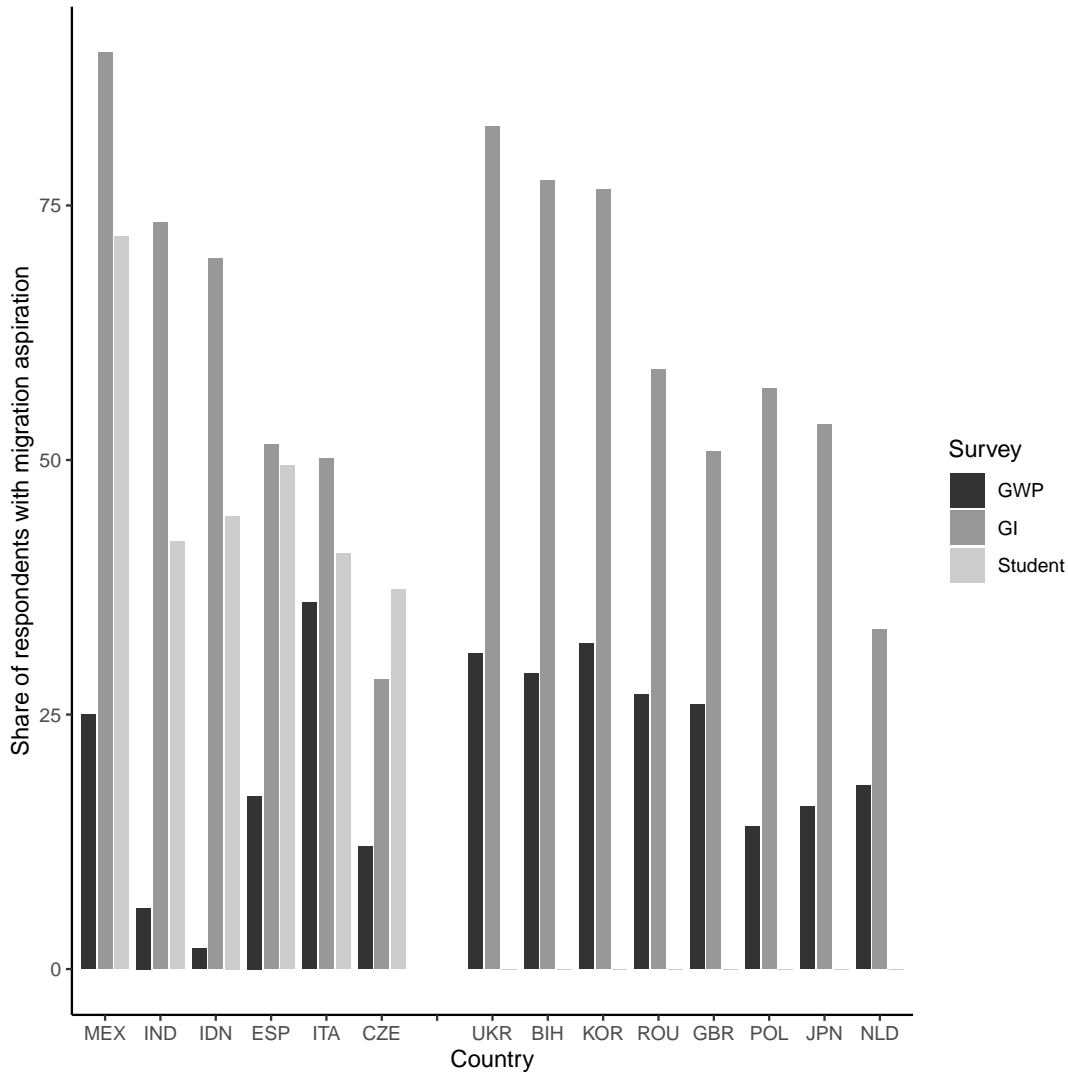
Due to the different age structure in the student sample and the GI sample, the comparison with the student sample is most appropriate when the GI sample and the GWP data are also restricted to the younger age group. Figure 3 shows that within the younger age groups, the share of respondents with migration aspirations in the student sample is most comparable to the share of respondents with migration aspirations in the GI sample. Still, it is smaller for all countries, with the exception of Czechia. Only in Italy, the share of student respondents with migration aspirations is lower than in the GWP data.

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migration experience (33.3 % and 34.6 %, respectively). This can be explained by how we defined migration experience – at least one prior stay abroad for at least three consecutive months.



Figure 2: Share of respondents with migration aspirations. GWP, GI and student sample.

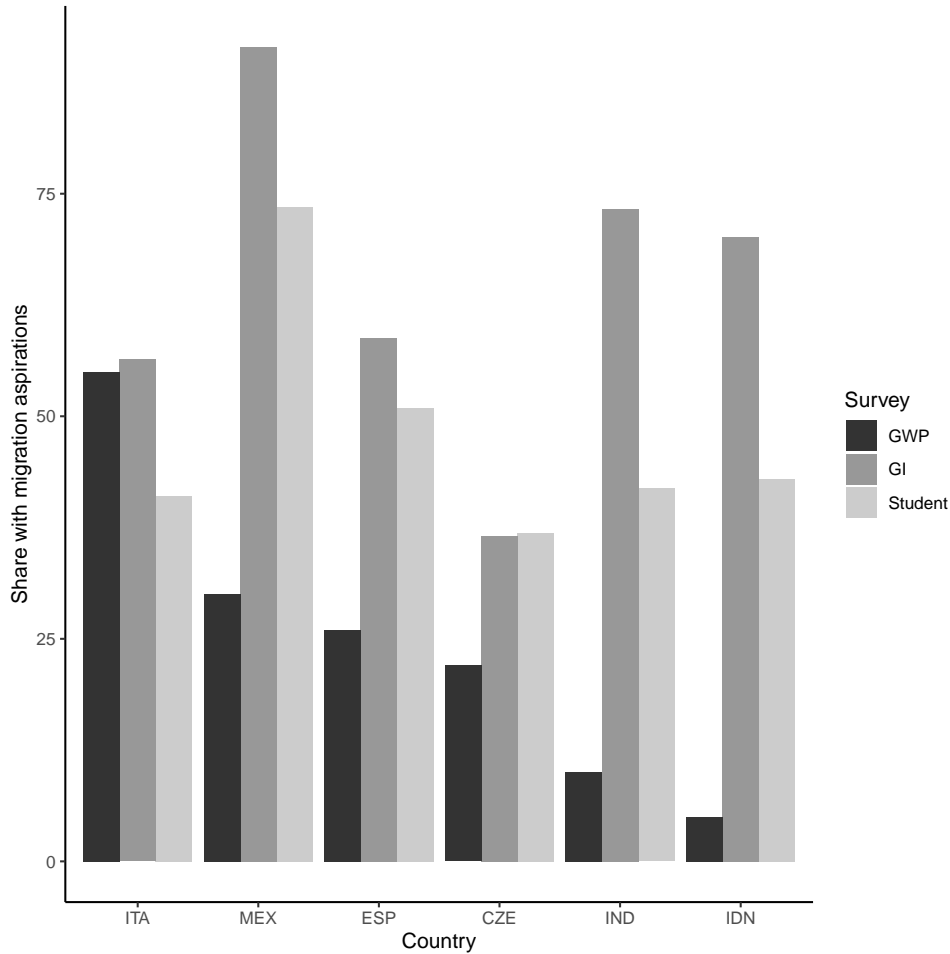


*Note:* This figure compares the shares of respondents with migration aspirations between the GWP data, and the GI and student samples. Data from the GWP refers to the 2018 wave, apart from data for Spain, Great Britain, Italy and the Netherlands that refers to the 2017 wave, as data for 2018 was not available.

### *Migration intentions*

A direct comparison of migration intentions within our two samples and the GWP data is not possible. Due to the problem of conditionality in responses (see Section 2.3) we would need to restrict the observations to only those with migration aspirations. For this reason, we focus on the GI and student samples only. Migration intentions are differently distributed in the GI and student sample. Figure 4 shows for the younger age groups that the share of those without migration intentions is larger in the student sample than in the GI sample, and the share of those who intend to migrate permanently is consistently larger in the GI sample than in the student sample. Shares of those who intend to migrate temporarily are more comparable over the two samples, and in Spain all shares are comparable.

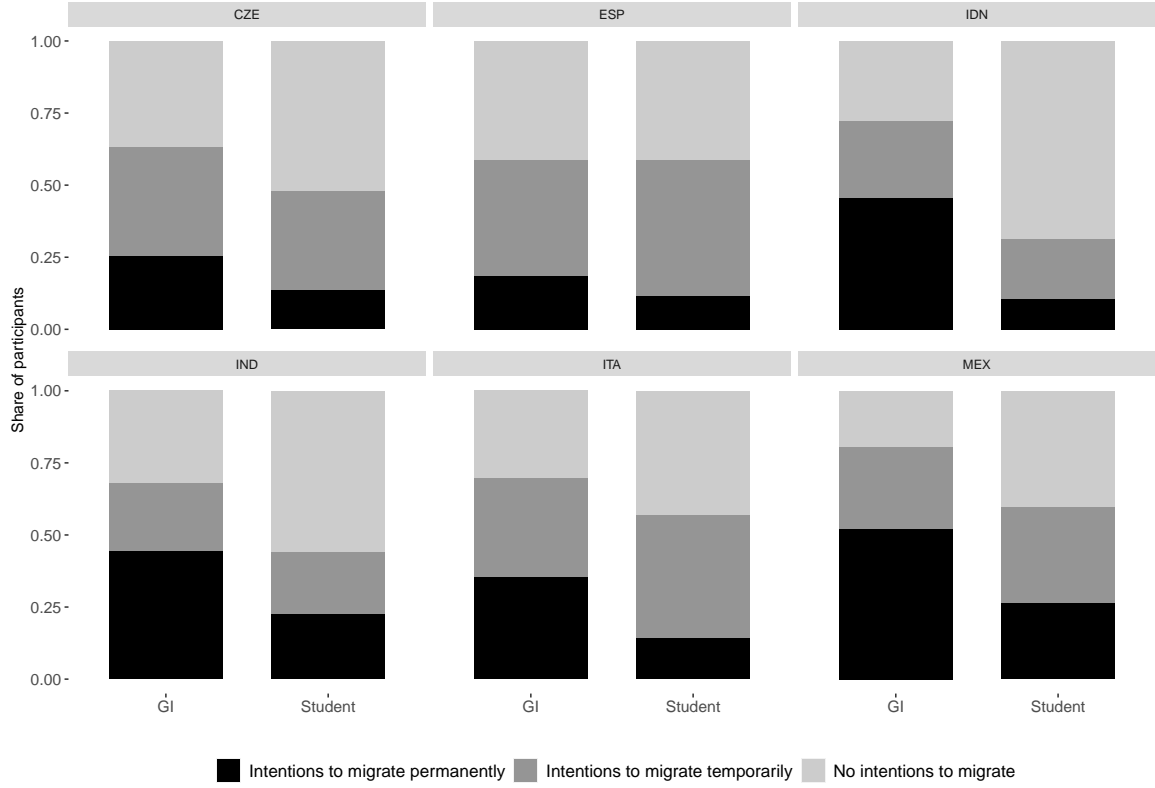
Figure 3: Share of respondents with migration aspirations. GI sample and student sample, younger age groups.



*Note:* This figure compares the shares of respondents with migration aspirations among the younger age groups in the GWP data with the GI and the student samples for the 6 countries which are observed in both samples. Age groups do not perfectly match across surveys due to discrepancies in the categories and are therefore defined as follows: Younger than 35 (GI and student sample) or younger than 30 (GWP Data). Data from the GWP refers to the 2018 wave, apart from data for Spain and Italy that refers to the 2017 wave, as data for 2018 was not available.

A concern is that we do not observe actual migration but survey potential migrants in their origin country. While it is true that we do not know their future migration behavior, this approach allows us to collect information about migration aspirations and intentions from those who end up migrating as well as from those who stay, while post migration data only covers a selective subsample of those who actually migrated. Also, previous studies have shown that migration intentions are indeed a strong predictor of subsequent migration behavior (Chort 2014; Tjaden et al. 2019). Since collecting data prior to potential migration can be cumbersome and cost-intensive, survey data on migration aspirations and intentions is scarce. To the best of our knowledge, the only globally representative data available on migration aspirations and intentions is supplied by the GWP. However, the GWP suffers from the conditionality in responses problem, as discussed in Section 2.3. Our data set allows overcoming the conditionality in responses problem and additionally

Figure 4: Share of respondents with migration intentions. GI and student sample, younger age groups.



*Note:* This figure compares the shares of migration intentions between the GI and the student samples, both restricted to the younger age groups (under 35 years of age), for the 6 countries which are observed in both samples. For the equivalent figure for the GI and the student samples including all age groups, see Figure A2 in the Appendix.

provides insights into intentions for different time horizons. Thus, we can identify certain migration patterns which the literature based on the GWP cannot, e.g. individuals who do not aspire to migrate permanently yet intend to migrate permanently or temporarily – groups of potential migrants which are of high interest for policy-makers and have not received much attention in the migration literature so far.

### ***Joint distribution of migration aspirations and intentions***

To observe in how far aspirations and intentions to migrate match in our data, we check their joint distribution in Table 3. Indeed, all six outcomes shown in Figure 1 occur in both samples.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup>Since we excluded foreign-born respondents (i.e. those who have been born in a country different from the country in which the survey took place) from our two samples, we check the joint distribution of migration aspirations and intentions for those separately (see Table A3 in the Appendix). We see that for foreign-born respondents, too, all outcomes occur in both samples. However, among foreign-born respondents a higher percentage have migration aspirations and a higher percentage have migration intentions compared to the native-born respondents; this holds for both the GI and student sample.

Table 3: Joint distribution of aspirations and intentions.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>							
	no intentions to migrate		intentions to migrate temporarily		intentions to migrate permanently		<i>Total</i>
no aspirations to migrate permanently	1127	(22.1)	466	(9.1)	150	(2.9)	1743 (34.1)
aspirations to migrate permanently	602	(11.8)	790	(15.5)	1975	(38.6)	3367 (65.9)
<i>Total</i>	1729	(33.9)	1256	(24.6)	2125	(41.5)	5510 (100.0)

<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>							
no aspirations to migrate permanently	1071	(33.0)	415	(12.8)	74	(2.3)	1560 (48.1)
aspirations to migrate permanently	483	(14.9)	609	(21.3)	509	(15.7)	1682 (51.9)
<i>Total</i>	1554	(47.9)	1105	(34.1)	583	(18.0)	3242 (100.0)

*Note:* This table shows numbers of observation with percentages in parentheses. Row and column *Total(s)* show row and column totals; percentages of total sample size in parentheses.

In the GI sample (Panel A), we can make several observations: First, 38.6 % of respondents both aspire and intend to migrate permanently, and 22.1 % neither aspire nor intend to migrate. This makes 60.7 % for whom aspirations and current intentions match perfectly, and leaves 39.3 % of respondents for whom they do not. Second, similar to Delogu et al. (2018), those intending to migrate temporarily are a substantial share of potential migrants that is overlooked in surveys asking only for intentions to migrate permanently. Indeed, we find that 24.6 % of respondents in the GI sample intend to migrate only temporarily. We will come back to this in Section 5.2. Third, we observe clear differences between aspirations and intentions to migrate permanently: 11.8 % of respondents aspire to migrate permanently yet have no current intentions to do so and 2.9 % of respondents intend to migrate permanently despite not desiring to do so.<sup>16</sup> We will come back to this in Section 5.3. While the distribution is somewhat different in the student sample (Panel B), all outcomes occur also in that sample. As expected, with 33.0 % a larger share of the student sample neither aspires nor intends to migrate permanently compared to the GI sample, and with 15.7 % a smaller share aspires and intends to migrate permanently. However, this still makes only 48.7 % of the student sample for whom aspirations and current intentions match perfectly. With 34.1 % we see a share of potential migrants who intend to migrate temporarily that is even larger than that in the GI sample. Lastly, 14.9 % aspire to migrate permanently yet have no current intentions to do so, and 2.3 % intend to migrate permanently without aspirations to do so.

Among those respondents with migration intentions, we take a closer look at their preferred destination country. Table A5 in the Appendix shows the top 5 preferred destination

<sup>16</sup>For comparison, Bertoli and Ruysen (2018) analyze a subset of their observed GWP waves of 2007 and 2011. They find that of those who stated migration aspirations only 14.3 % also answered affirmatively to the question "Are you planning to move to another country in the next 12 months, or not?", and only 42.7 % were taking concrete steps towards migration. Ruysen and Salomone (2018) show that while 16.0 % of their women subsample of the GWP stated migration aspirations, only 4.0 % of those stated that they had done any preparation for this move.

countries by origin country for the GI and student samples. As expected, in the GI sample Germany is by far the most common destination, followed by other German-speaking destinations (Austria and Switzerland) as well as USA and Great Britain. In the student sample, there is a remarkable similarity in preferred destinations across all surveyed countries. The United States is the most popular destination, Great Britain ranks second and Germany ranks third in all countries. In four of six countries, Canada is on the fourth place, with France and Spain having the fourth place in one country each. France is on the fifth place also in four countries, with Canada and Spain being on the fifth place in one country each.

When we compare country of origin and preferred destination within individuals, we observe certain patterns regarding barriers towards migration. We see that among respondents whose freedom of movement is limited, 13.7 % (GI sample) to 18.5 % (student sample) state no current considerations or plans to migrate despite their aspirations to do so.<sup>17</sup> At odds with Docquier et al. (2015) and Delogu et al. (2018) who assume that all migration aspirations would realize if visa restrictions were abolished, even among respondents who enjoy freedom of movement (i.e. who would migrate within the EU and EEA, including Switzerland), 9.6 % (GI sample) and 9.5 % (student sample) state no current considerations or plans to migrate despite their aspirations to do so. In the absence of visa restrictions, we must assume they still face other barriers which prevent them from realizing migration aspirations.<sup>18</sup>

Our framework allows us to identify two groups of potential migrants which have not been observed by studies relying on GWP data. By avoiding the conditionality in responses problem, we observe those who have no desire to migrate, i.e. those who do not state aspirations to migrate permanently under ideal circumstances but who nonetheless consider or plan to migrate permanently. By introducing a time horizon to the question on intentions, we observe those who do not aspire to migrate permanently yet intend to migrate temporarily (9.1 % of respondents in the GI sample, and 12.8 % in the student sample) and those who aspire to migrate permanently yet only intend to migrate temporarily (15.5 % of respondents in the GI sample, and 21.3 % in the student sample).

### ***Main motivations for intended migration***

Exploring motivations for potential migration can shed some light on the reasons why individuals intend to migrate permanently versus temporarily, or why they intend to migrate despite having no aspirations to do so. In our surveys, respondents who stated intentions to migrate were asked to name their preferred destination country for a potential move abroad and indicate the main reason for such a move (see Table A1 in the Appendix for a detailed definition).

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<sup>17</sup>We consider freedom of movement to be limited if a respondent would migrate from a country outside the EU and European Economic Area (EEA, including Switzerland) to within it, or vice versa, or between two countries outside the EU and EEA (including Switzerland).

<sup>18</sup>Numbers of observation differ from sample totals since respondents who stated “*I would not move to another country under any circumstances*” did not answer the question on their preferred destination and not all of those who intend to migrate indicated their preferred destination either. Hence, we observe the freedom of movement criterion for 4355 respondents (GI sample) and 2338 respondents (student sample).

Table 4: Main motivations for potential migration, by gender.

	women		men	
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 486)	( <i>n</i> = 762)	( <i>n</i> = 305)	( <i>n</i> = 522)
Educational reasons	43.2	37.9	39.0	34.9
Professional reasons	26.3	22.8	34.4	28.9
Family and partner	9.5	15.2	4.3	9.4
Other reasons	21.0	24.1	22.3	26.8
<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 629)	( <i>n</i> = 311)	( <i>n</i> = 469)	( <i>n</i> = 270)
Educational reasons	37.4	28.0	43.7	36.3
Professional reasons	29.6	27.0	27.5	28.1
Family and partner	5.4	10.3	4.1	4.5
Other reasons	27.6	34.7	24.7	31.1

*Note:* This table shows column percentages. *n* show column totals. Numbers of observation differ from sample totals since only respondents who stated intentions to migrate answered the question on main motivations for potential migration and not all of those who intend to migrate indicated such main reason. Hence, in the GI sample we observe main reasons for potential migration for 1248 of 1929 women with intentions to migrate, and for 827 of 1349 men with intentions to migrate. In the student sample we observe main reasons for potential migration for 940 of 940 women with intentions to migrate, and for 739 of 741 men with intentions to migrate.

Table 4 shows how the shares of main motivations differ between intentions to move temporarily and permanently and gender in both samples. Educational reasons, including studies for a university degree, are the most common main motivation for intentions to migrate both temporarily and permanently. Professional reasons, such as the prospect of higher income or a more interesting job or a transfer by the employer, are the second most common motivation among those who intend to migrate temporarily. Combined, educational and professional reasons are the main motivations to intend to migrate for a larger share of men than women, and play a more prominent role among those who intend to migrate temporarily. The share of respondents who state either educational or professional reasons is consistently larger for the men with intentions to migrate permanently despite having no aspirations to do so (see Table A6 in the Appendix, which shows how the shares of main motivations for intentions to move temporarily or permanently are distributed among those with and without aspirations to migrate permanently). Family and partner reasons – though least commonly stated as the main motivation across all groups – are more strongly linked to intentions to migrate permanently than temporarily. Shares of respondents who state family and partner (i.e. having a partner or family members who live in the destination country or other family or partner related reasons) are consistently larger among those with intentions to migrate permanently compared to temporarily, and women compared to men. For those without aspirations to migrate permanently, the share of respondents who state family and partner as the main motivation for intentions to migrate permanently is consistently larger among women (see Table A6 in the Appendix).

## 4 Estimation strategy

In Section 3 we showed how migration aspirations and intentions are related in our data and which main motivations respondents state for the latter. In this section, we present our estimation strategy to study individual-level determinants of aspirations and intentions, and how aspirations predict intentions.

### 4.1 Estimating aspirations and intentions to migrate

In Section 5.1, we explore individual-level determinants of aspirations and intentions and how they relate. For this, we estimate the probability of having aspirations to migrate in a binary probit model via maximum likelihood method:

$$Pr(aspirations_i | X_i, C_i) = \alpha_1 + \beta_1' X_i + \gamma_1' C_i + \varepsilon_{1,i} \quad (1)$$

where  $aspirations_i$  takes a value of 1 if respondent  $i$  states having aspirations to migrate and 0 otherwise.  $X_i$  represents a set of individual-specific explanatory variables of respondent  $i$ : gender, age, university degree, student, migration experience, partner and children, willingness to take risks and a measure of patience.  $C_i$  is a country dummy.  $\varepsilon_{1,i}$  is an idiosyncratic error term. Table A1 in the Appendix presents the definitions of all explanatory variables, and Table A2 shows descriptive statistics.

Also, we estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate. Since we differentiate between time-horizons of migration intentions, we adapt a multinomial probit model and estimate it with the maximum likelihood method:

$$Pr(intentions_i | X_i, C_i) = \alpha_2 + \beta_2' X_i + \gamma_2' C_i + \varepsilon_{2,i} \quad (2)$$

where  $intentions_i$  can take any of the following outcomes: no migration intentions, intentions to migrate temporarily or intentions to migrate permanently. To investigate in how far aspirations to migrate are linked to the probability of intentions to migrate, we estimate a variation of Equation (2) that includes respondent  $i$ 's aspirations to migrate as an explanatory variable:

$$Pr(intentions_i | X_i, C_i) = \alpha_3 + \zeta * aspirations_i + \beta_3' X_i + \gamma_3' C_i + \varepsilon_{3,i} \quad (3)$$

We hypothesize that  $\zeta$  should be positive, as we expect intentions to migrate, both temporarily and permanently, to correlate with migration aspirations. Again,  $X_i$  is a set of the above listed individual-specific explanatory variables,  $C_i$  are controls, and  $\varepsilon_{2,i}$  and  $\varepsilon_{3,i}$  are idiosyncratic error terms.

In Section 5.2, we take a closer look at Equations (2) and (3) and exploit the differentiation between intentions to migrate temporarily and permanently in the multinomial probit model. This allows us to focus on the differences in determinants for a different time horizon.

### 4.2 Conditionality and differences

In Section 5.3, we explore whether determinants of intentions to migrate, either temporarily or permanently, differ between those with and without aspirations to migrate. We estimate

Equation (2) conditional on the respondent’s  $aspirations_i$  in a multinomial probit model with the maximum likelihood method:

$$Pr(intentions_i \mid aspirations_i, X_i, C_i) = \alpha_4 + \beta_4' X_i + \gamma_4' C_i + \varepsilon_{4,i} \quad (4)$$

with a special focus on those who have no underlying migration aspirations – a group of potential migrants which has been largely neglected so far because of the conditionality problem mentioned above. Results in the following are shown for the GI and student samples separately.

## 5 Results

### 5.1 Aspirations and intentions to migrate

To analyze which individual-level factors determine the probability of migration aspirations we first adapt Equation (1). Column (1) in Table 5 shows the results. Second, we adapt Equations (2) and (3) to explore determinants of the probability of migration intentions. Columns (2) to (5) in Table 5 show the results.<sup>19</sup> We run all regressions separately for both samples to check how our findings apply to different populations, and we find largely similar results. As expected, both samples show a clear positive relation between aspirations and intentions. Those with aspirations to migrate permanently are 3.0 times (GI sample) to 3.8 times (student sample) as likely to intend to migrate temporarily, and 15.3 times (student sample) to 23.2 times (GI sample) as likely to intend to migrate permanently compared to those without aspirations. Still, the relation between aspirations and intentions is far from perfect and other determinants remain important in explaining intentions after controlling for aspirations.

Comparing the joint distribution of aspirations and intentions by gender (see Table A4 in the Appendix), we see that women are just as likely to aspire to migrate as men (GI sample) or even slightly more likely (student sample). Hence, being a women is positively associated with the likelihood of aspirations in the student sample only, and this relationship holds for women from middle-income (non-EU) countries only as we see when we compare results between middle- and high-income (EU) countries (see Table B1 and B2 in the Appendix). However, this does not translate into intentions among women. We do not find female gender to be positively associated with intentions to migrate in either sample. In the GI sample, women are even significantly less likely to intend a permanent move abroad after controlling for their aspirations. This finding is in line with what Ruysen and Salomone (2018) have shown with GWP data: women, especially in countries where gender discrimination is comparably high, are more likely to aspire to migrate, but they also face costs and obstacles in realizing these aspirations. Coulter et al. (2012), too, have shown that women are less likely to realize their migration aspirations.

When it comes to social ties, the influence of ties at home should be regarded as well as the importance of networks abroad. Manchin and Orazbayev (2018), for example, find that networks abroad account for about 18 % of variation in international migration intentions,

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<sup>19</sup>As discussed in Section 2.3 and shown in Figure 1 intentions to migrate temporarily and intentions to migrate permanently are understood as mutually exclusive outcomes.



and social networks in the country of residence account for only 2-4 %. While we do not focus on social networks in such a broad sense but only on family ties – i.e. partner and children – we too find that family ties abroad play a prominent role in explaining migration intentions. Having a non-native partner makes it 1.9 times (GI sample) to 3.6 times (student sample) as likely to intend to migrate permanently after controlling for underlying aspirations. Subsampling by gender sheds more light on the importance of such family ties (see Tables B3 and B4). The positive linkage between non-native partner and intentions to migrate permanently is large and robust for women in both samples – a finding in line with the theory that especially women are often so-called ‘tied movers’ who follow their partner (Mincer 1978; Geist and McManus 2011; Coulter et al. 2012). Our exploration of main motivations for potential migration in Table 4 underlines those results. For 10.3 % (student sample) to 15.2 % (GI sample) of the women who intend to migrate permanently the main motivation are family and partner, such as professional reasons or studies of a partner or having a partner or relatives who live in the destination country, compared to only 4.5 % (student sample) to 9.4 % (GI sample) of men.

Further, we find a positive linkage between migration experience and intentions. This linkage remains robust after controlling for aspirations only among women (see Table B3 in the Appendix) – a result in line with De Jong (2000), who also finds previous experience to be a determinant for future intentions only for women. This gender disparity could be rooted in the different roles family ties abroad play in migration decisions for men and women. Another possible explanation are differences in risk preferences between men and women. While an increase in willingness to take risks increases the likelihood of both aspirations and intentions for both genders, on average, in the GI sample, men have a higher willingness to take risks (with a mean of 0.656) than women (with a mean of 0.631). The same holds in the student sample, in which the average willingness to take risks is 0.537 for women and 0.568 for men.<sup>20</sup> Though those differences in means are not large, Welch two-sample t-tests reveal that both differences are strongly significant. 66.7 % of men in the GI sample intend to migrate either temporarily or permanently, and 65.5 % of women do. A simple OLS regression on this outcome shows that *ceteris paribus* the marginal effect of an increase of 0.025 in willingness to take risks (which is the difference between women’s and men’s average in the GI sample) can explain roughly 27 % of the gender difference in migration intentions. Based on a similar calculation, in the student sample the marginal effect of an increase of 0.031 in willingness to take risks accounts for roughly 18 % of the gender differences in intentions to migrate.

The wide age distribution of the GI sample allows for a closer look at how age is linked to aspirations and intentions. As expected, from age 35 on the likelihood of both aspirations and intentions to emigrate consistently decreases with age. In the student sample age does not show much variation (with 76.8 % of respondents being between 18 and 24 years old), hence the age variable has little impact.

Overall, the influence of individual characteristics on migration aspirations and intentions differs more strongly between genders than between our two samples. In an attempt to make the GI and student samples even more comparable, we next restrict the GI sample to

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<sup>20</sup>Since the scales on which willingness to take risks differ between both samples (the scale ranges between 0 and 10 in the GI sample, and between 1 and 10 in the student sample; for details see the variables description in Table A1), we utilize sample means normalized between 0 and 1.

Table 5: Aspirations and intentions.

**Panel A:** GI sample

	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1) aspirations to migrate permanently ( <i>n</i> = 3367)	(2) intentions to migrate temporarily ( <i>n</i> = 1256)	(3) intentions to migrate permanently ( <i>n</i> = 2125)	(4) intentions to migrate temporarily ( <i>n</i> = 1256)	(5) intentions to migrate permanently ( <i>n</i> = 2125)
Migration aspiration				3.019*** (0.086)	23.153*** (0.107)
Gender: woman	1.064 (0.040)	1.055 (0.081)	0.913 (0.073)	1.009 (0.084)	0.822** (0.084)
Age: under 18 years	1.257*** (0.082)	0.812 (0.164)	1.291* (0.144)	0.749* (0.170)	1.104 (0.163)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.049 (0.066)	1.032 (0.132)	1.408*** (0.122)	1.058 (0.137)	1.481*** (0.139)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.845** (0.084)	0.518*** (0.168)	0.750* (0.156)	0.551*** (0.173)	0.836 (0.179)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.567*** (0.114)	0.146*** (0.260)	0.331*** (0.220)	0.169*** (0.266)	0.430*** (0.259)
Age: 65 years or above	0.347*** (0.163)	0.065*** (0.416)	0.099*** (0.412)	0.084*** (0.419)	0.191*** (0.458)
University degree	0.849*** (0.055)	1.312** (0.109)	0.903 (0.100)	1.412*** (0.113)	1.047 (0.114)
Student	0.949 (0.061)	1.008 (0.119)	0.818* (0.109)	1.018 (0.124)	0.830 (0.124)
Migration experience	1.055 (0.046)	1.247** (0.092)	1.291*** (0.085)	1.268** (0.095)	1.316*** (0.097)
Partner: native	1.027 (0.054)	0.930 (0.107)	1.089 (0.101)	0.919 (0.111)	1.083 (0.115)
Partner: non-native	1.086 (0.082)	1.050 (0.173)	1.742*** (0.157)	1.089 (0.179)	1.919*** (0.182)
Children	0.914 (0.074)	0.807 (0.160)	0.950 (0.139)	0.827 (0.164)	1.041 (0.163)
Willingness to take risks	1.066*** (0.010)	1.093*** (0.020)	1.134*** (0.018)	1.075*** (0.020)	1.099*** (0.020)
Patience	0.992 (0.008)	0.981 (0.017)	0.979 (0.015)	0.983 (0.018)	0.982 (0.018)
Number of observations	5110	5110	5110	5110	5110
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	72.5	52.1	52.1	62.3	62.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.13	0.09	0.09	0.2	0.2

**Panel B:** Student sample

	( <i>n</i> = 1682)	( <i>n</i> = 1105)	( <i>n</i> = 583)	( <i>n</i> = 1105)	( <i>n</i> = 583)
Migration aspiration				3.836*** (0.091)	15.295*** (0.143)
Gender: woman	1.156*** (0.049)	1.055 (0.086)	1.123 (0.107)	0.982 (0.090)	0.998 (0.115)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.979 (0.070)	1.195 (0.122)	0.994 (0.151)	1.215 (0.127)	1.030 (0.164)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.869 (0.138)	0.754 (0.247)	0.720 (0.307)	0.775 (0.256)	0.792 (0.333)
University degree	0.934 (0.052)	1.331*** (0.092)	1.175 (0.114)	1.436*** (0.096)	1.337** (0.124)
Migration experience	1.254*** (0.051)	1.726*** (0.090)	1.803*** (0.112)	1.636*** (0.094)	1.632*** (0.121)
Partner: native	0.846*** (0.051)	0.877 (0.091)	1.005 (0.114)	0.956 (0.095)	1.147 (0.124)
Partner: non-native	1.235* (0.124)	1.420 (0.242)	3.500*** (0.252)	1.456 (0.254)	3.609*** (0.279)
Children	1.071 (0.134)	0.628* (0.242)	0.457** (0.325)	0.564** (0.251)	0.364*** (0.357)
Willingness to take risks	1.045*** (0.011)	1.126*** (0.021)	1.089*** (0.025)	1.112*** (0.022)	1.071** (0.027)
Patience	0.995 (0.010)	1.008 (0.017)	1.022 (0.021)	1.015 (0.018)	1.030 (0.023)
Number of observations	3242	3242	3242	3242	3242
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	65.5	52.1	52.1	57.2	57.2
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.14	0.14

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 1743 (GI sample), *n* = 1560 (student sample)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 1729 (GI sample), *n* = 1554 (student sample)).

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

the younger age groups (under 35 years of age) and to the 6 countries which are surveyed in the student sample. Results (see Table B5) are largely comparable between this GI sample that is restricted by age and countries, and the student sample.<sup>21</sup> The same holds for the GI sample restricted to the younger age groups but including all 14 countries (see Table B6).

## 5.2 Intentions to migrate temporarily and permanently

In line with Delogu et al. (2018), which shows with GWP data that individuals who intend to migrate temporarily are a considerable share of potential migrants, we show in Table 3 that 24.6 % (GI sample) to 34.1 % (student sample) of respondents intend to migrate temporarily. Hence, in Table 5 we compare how individual characteristics are linked to intentions to migrate temporarily versus permanently.

University graduates are 1.4 times as likely to intend a temporary move abroad as their less educated counterparts in both the GI and student sample (after controlling for aspirations), while no such positive linkage is found between degree and aspirations. This is in line with Docquier et al. (2014), who argue that college-educated individuals do not necessarily show higher shares of aspirations to migrate, even though their actual emigration rates are much larger compared to those of the less educated. Such findings might be driven by the pull of a more international labor market and better professional opportunities abroad, given that the human capital of highly educated people is more easily transferable. It might as well be due to individuals seeking further education abroad. Indeed, Table 4 shows that the share of respondents who state educational reasons, such as studies abroad, or professional reasons as the main motivation for potential migration is consistently larger among those who intend to migrate temporarily compared to those who intend to migrate permanently, except for men in the student sample where the shares are 27.5 % (intentions to migrate temporarily) compared to 28.1 % (intentions to migrate permanently). Here, too, gender differences occur. The positive association between degree and intentions to migrate temporarily is largely driven by men in both samples (see Table B4 in the Appendix).

Having a non-native partner significantly increases the likelihood of intentions to migrate permanently. The share of respondents with a non-native partner among those with intentions to migrate permanently (9.3 %) is larger than among those with intentions to migrate temporarily (7.5 %) in the GI sample, as well as in the student sample (4.2 % compared to 7.4 %). Welch two-sample t-tests reveal that those differences are significant at the 10 % level. This result is driven by women in both samples – underlining the notion that especially women are ‘tied movers’ – while for men the association is positive but not statistically significant (see Tables B3 and B4 in the Appendix).

In conclusion, temporary migration seems to be considered primarily for educational and professional reasons. Family ties, on the contrary, are more strongly linked to intentions to migrate permanently than temporarily. Though the share of respondents who state family and partner as the main motivation for potential migration is small among both those intending to migrate temporarily and permanently, it is consistently larger among the latter.

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<sup>21</sup>We do not restrict the student sample by age since only 5.1 % of the student sample are 35 years or older.

### 5.3 Conditionality and differences

To investigate which factors explain differences between aspirations and intentions (as shown in Table 3), we estimate the multinomial probit models in Equation (4), conditional on the respondents' aspirations to migrate. Results are shown in Table 6.<sup>22</sup>

Since they have been largely neglected by the literature so far due to the conditionality in responses, we take a close look at those respondents with no migration aspirations (see Columns (1) and (2) of Table 6). As discussed before, highly educated individuals are likely to form intentions to migrate temporarily for career reasons. Consistently, respondents with a university degree are 1.8 times (GI sample) as likely to intend to migrate temporarily despite having no aspirations to migrate permanently as those without a university degree. In the student sample, this association is only significant for men – again, educational and career reasons seem influential on the migration choice primarily for men. The linkage between university degree and intentions to migrate temporarily is strongest among the younger age groups (see Table B7, where the GI sample is split by age and respondents under the age of 35 years and aged 35 or older are analyzed separately in the six countries which are observed in both samples). This also holds for the GI sample when including all countries (see Table B8).

Having a non-native partner increases the likelihood of intentions to migrate permanently among those who do not aspire to migrate, though the result is significant only in the student sample. Subsampling by gender reveals that this result is driven by women in the sample. Generally, women are often found to support and follow their partner as 'tied movers' (Mincer 1978; Geist and McManus 2011), and our results suggest that they might do so even when they do not aspire to migrate permanently (Coulter et al. 2012). Indeed, family and partner (i.e. having a partner or relatives living in the destination country or professional reasons or studies of a partner) are the main motivation for 17.5 % (student sample) to 22.8 % (GI sample) of the women who intend to migrate permanently despite having no aspiration to do so, while they are only for 2.9 % (student sample) to 14.3 % (GI sample) of the men. As family ties are concerned, in the student sample respondents with children are only 0.3 times as likely to intend to migrate temporarily and are 0.2 times as likely to intend to migrate permanently as those without children, despite having migration aspirations. Again, this is driven by women in the sample (see Table B9 in the Appendix). Strong ties to their country of origin can therefore increase migration costs and be a factor which impedes aspirations to migrate from being fulfilled, especially for women.

For men, on the other hand, we find education and career to be the most influential in their migration-decision and to explain differences between aspirations and intentions. Among men in both samples, holding a university degree is positively associated with intentions to migrate temporarily even when they do not aspire to migrate (see Table B10 in the Appendix). In the GI sample, where we can differentiate between students and non-students, men who are studying are also less likely to intend a permanent move abroad, despite aspirations to do so. These findings, too, go hand in hand with existing

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<sup>22</sup>In addition, we estimated a multinomial probit model with all 6 outcomes separately. Overall, results are comparable, but since the reference category here is always those with neither aspirations nor intentions, the model fit is inferior to our sample split in Table 6 and interpretation of results is not straightforward. Results are available from the authors upon request.

Table 6: Intentions by aspirations.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 466)	( <i>n</i> = 150)	( <i>n</i> = 790)	( <i>n</i> = 1975)
Gender: woman	0.964 (0.122)	0.711* (0.186)	1.124 (0.118)	0.877 (0.103)
Age: under 18 years	1.165 (0.261)	1.303 (0.413)	0.557*** (0.223)	0.941 (0.189)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.922 (0.205)	1.323 (0.338)	1.285 (0.191)	1.721*** (0.171)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.442*** (0.254)	1.388 (0.391)	0.648* (0.254)	0.764 (0.228)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.163*** (0.372)	0.214** (0.653)	0.195*** (0.409)	0.461** (0.327)
Age: 65 years or above	0.090*** (0.537)	0.171** (0.856)	0.093*** (0.724)	0.157*** (0.575)
University degree	1.805*** (0.172)	1.161 (0.281)	1.165 (0.154)	0.935 (0.136)
Student	1.207 (0.192)	1.100 (0.324)	0.838 (0.165)	0.716** (0.145)
Migration experience	1.106 (0.139)	1.213 (0.214)	1.468*** (0.137)	1.449*** (0.123)
Partner: native	0.840 (0.160)	0.932 (0.251)	1.020 (0.165)	1.204 (0.149)
Partner: non-native	1.154 (0.247)	1.662 (0.368)	1.069 (0.282)	2.057*** (0.251)
Children	0.864 (0.225)	1.006 (0.304)	0.834 (0.263)	1.074 (0.225)
Willingness to take risks	1.045 (0.030)	1.092* (0.047)	1.094*** (0.028)	1.110*** (0.024)
Patience	0.985 (0.026)	0.954 (0.041)	0.983 (0.024)	0.985 (0.021)
Number of observations	1743	1743	3367	3367
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	64.9	64.9	61.3	61.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 415)	( <i>n</i> = 74)	( <i>n</i> = 690)	( <i>n</i> = 509)
Gender: woman	0.909 (0.129)	1.048 (0.268)	1.075 (0.129)	1.016 (0.138)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.093 (0.179)	0.909 (0.379)	1.430* (0.193)	1.173 (0.206)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.471* (0.421)	1.448 (0.626)	1.181 (0.362)	0.844 (0.413)
University degree	1.246 (0.135)	1.451 (0.276)	1.607*** (0.141)	1.368** (0.150)
Migration experience	1.945*** (0.134)	0.822 (0.310)	1.449*** (0.136)	1.733*** (0.146)
Partner: native	0.986 (0.134)	1.671* (0.284)	0.910 (0.139)	1.028 (0.149)
Partner: non-native	1.177 (0.354)	4.647*** (0.561)	1.892 (0.418)	4.256*** (0.411)
Children	0.882 (0.364)	0.724 (0.735)	0.335*** (0.357)	0.231*** (0.432)
Willingness to take risks	1.130*** (0.031)	0.931 (0.060)	1.098*** (0.031)	1.093*** (0.033)
Patience	1.002 (0.026)	0.907* (0.053)	1.037 (0.026)	1.068** (0.027)
Number of observations	1560	1560	1682	1682
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	69.2	69.2	46.2	46.2
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 1127 (GI sample), *n* = 1071 (student sample)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 602 (GI sample), *n* = 483 (student sample)).

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

literature describing professional reasons as the main driver of migration decisions for men (Nakosteen and Zimmer 1980; Geist and McManus 2011; Mckinnish 2008; Munk et al. 2022). Lastly, as discussed before, in the GI sample all older age groups (35 years and above) show a much lower likelihood of intentions to migrate, and this holds even for those with migration aspirations. As such, higher age can be a factor which impedes migration intentions. This is most robust among respondents from high-income (EU) countries (see Table B11 and Table B12 in the Appendix). In the student sample, interpretation of the results is not meaningful due to low variation in age among students.

## 6 Conclusion

We conducted two multinational surveys – one among language course participants in 14 countries and one among university students in six countries – and use multinomial probit estimations to analyze individual-level determinants of migration aspirations and intentions. Our analysis shows that migration considerations and plans often coincide with desires to migrate under ideal circumstances but there is a considerable share of respondents whose migration aspirations differ from their migration considerations and plans. While the desire to leave one’s country permanently might originate in pull factors abroad, push factors at the country of origin may result in considerations and plans to emigrate even if one would ideally like to stay. A better understanding of why aspirations and intentions sometimes differ could reveal such push and pull factors and thus be of great value for the design of targeted policy interventions. However, closer evaluation of these differences requires large-scale observations of migration aspirations and intentions prior to actual migration. To date, the GWP is the only globally representative survey available on migration aspirations and intentions, yet it suffers from the conditionality in responses and lacks a clear differentiation of potential future migration into temporary and permanent moves. Resolving those two limitations allows for observations of also migration patterns which have received little attention in the literature on potential future migrants so far, and which play an essential role for migration research. Hence, while our data might be limited in its representativeness, our analysis provides a first step in this direction.

By introducing a clear time horizon to our measure of intentions, we highlight differences between those individuals who intend to migrate temporarily and those who intend to migrate permanently. Our results suggest that a temporary move abroad is considered or planned primarily for educational and career reasons, while family ties are of comparably larger importance regarding intentions to migrate permanently. By avoiding the conditionality in responses, we identify individual-level determinants which explain differences between aspirations and intentions, and find them to vary between genders. In line with former literature on women being predominantly influenced in their migration decisions by family ties (Mincer 1978; Nakosteen and Zimmer 1980; De Jong 2000; Uebelmesser 2006; Munk et al. 2022), our results suggest that for women the main determinant of differences between aspirations and intentions are family ties. Having a non-native partner increases the likelihood of intentions to migrate permanently despite the absence of aspirations among women. On the other hand, we find education – and with it career prospects – to be of larger importance regarding migration choices for men than for women, a finding supported by migration literature as well, e.g. Uebelmesser (2006), Mckinnish (2008), and

Geist and McManus (2011). For men, having a university degree can explain intentions to migrate temporarily also among those without aspirations. A short exploration of motivations for potential migration underlines those gender differences. The share of respondents who state educational or professional reasons as their main motivation is consistently larger among men, and the share of those who state family and partner as their main motivation is consistently larger among women.

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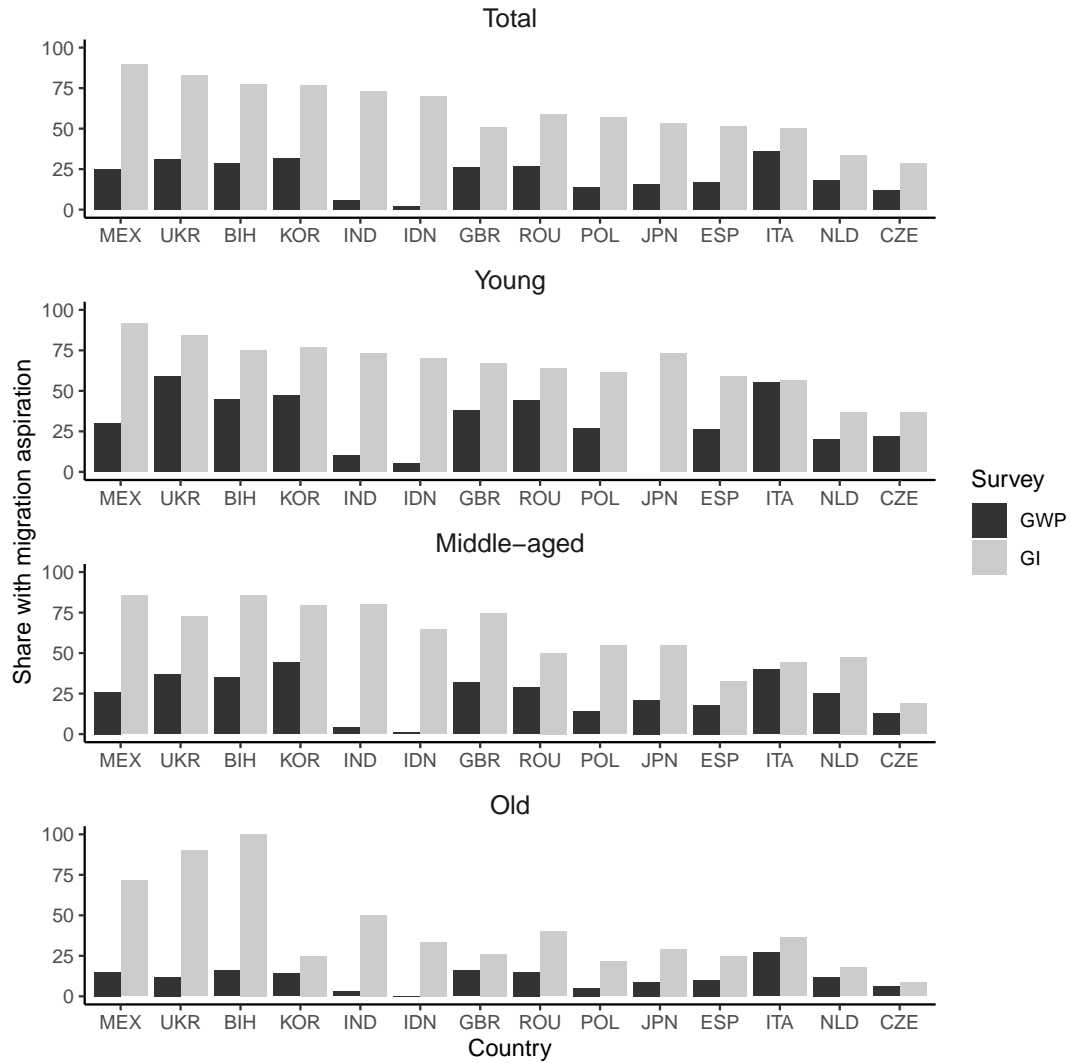


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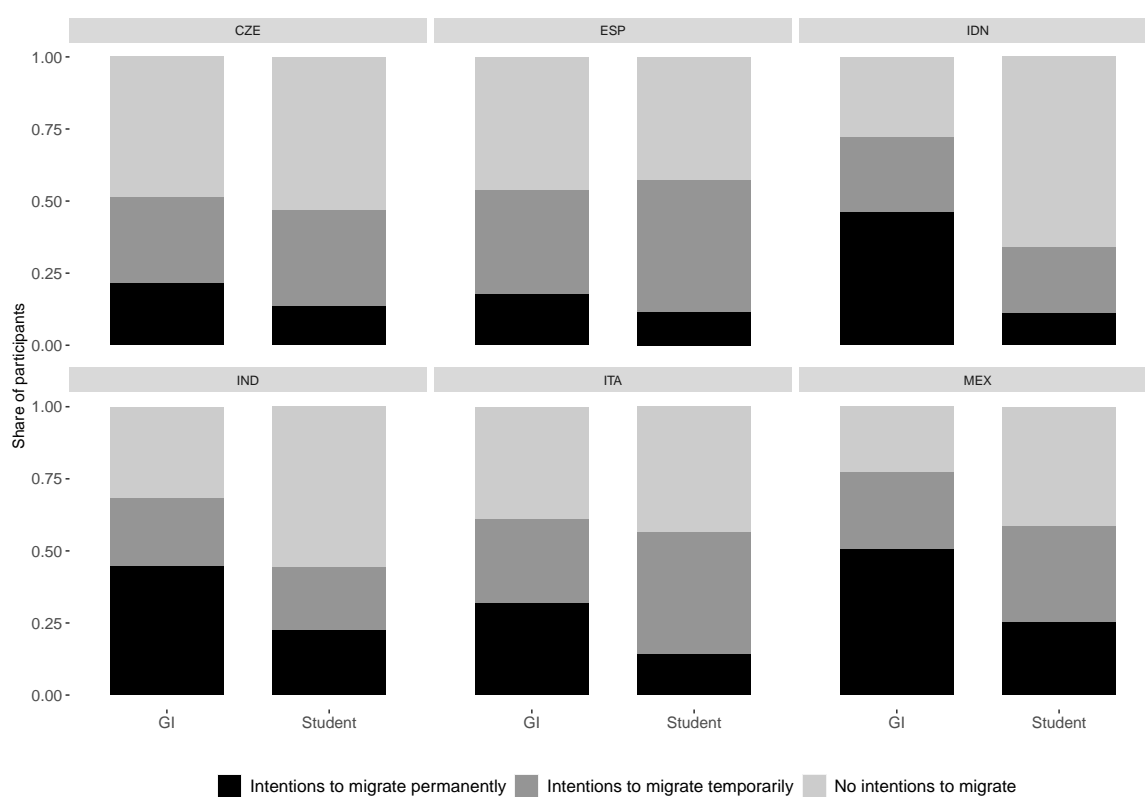
## Appendix A: Descriptive statistics and variable descriptions

Figure A1: Share of respondents with migration aspirations by age groups. GWP and GI sample.



*Note:* This figure compares the shares of respondents with migration aspirations in the GWP data and the GI sample by age group. Age groups do not perfectly match across surveys due to discrepancies in the categories and are therefore defined as follows: Younger (less than 35 (GI sample); less than 30 (GWP Data)), middle-aged (35-49 (GI sample); 30-49 (GWP)) and older (50 and up (GI sample, and GWP)). Data from the GWP refers to the 2018 wave, apart from data for Spain, Great Britain, Italy, and the Netherlands that refers to the 2017 wave, as data for 2018 was not available. Entry for Japanese of young age group (less than 30 years) is missing in the GWP data.

Figure A2: Share of respondents with migration intentions. GI and student sample.



*Note:* This figure compares the shares of migration intentions between the GI and the student samples (including all age groups), for the 6 countries which are observed in both samples.

Table A1: Variables description.

Variable	Type	Description
Migration aspirations	Binary	<p>Indicates respondent's aspirations to migrate permanently: <i>"Ideally, if you had the opportunity, would you like to move permanently to another country or would you prefer to continue living in [country in which the survey took place]?"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"Like to permanently move to another country"</i> (migration aspirations)</li> <li>- <i>"Like to stay in [country in which the survey took place]."</i> (no migration aspirations)</li> </ul> <p>Reference category is 'no migration aspirations'.</p>
Migration intentions	Categorical	<p>Indicates respondent's intentions to migrate: <i>"Tick the statement that applies to your current situation"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>"I would not move to another country under any circumstances"</i> (no intentions to migrate)</li> <li>- <i>"In principle, I would move to another country, but I have not thought about it in the last 12 months"</i> (no intentions to migrate)</li> <li>- <i>"I have been thinking about moving to another country in the last 12 months, but have no specific plans."</i> (intentions to migrate)</li> <li>- <i>"I am planning a move to another country."</i> (intentions to migrate)</li> <li>- <i>"I already have a date for my planned move to another country."</i> (intentions to migrate)</li> </ul> <p>Those respondents with migration intentions are further asked for their preferred destination country and their preferred length of stay (<i>"How long would you most likely stay in [preferred destination country]?"</i>) and likelihood of return (<i>"How likely is it that you will return to [country in which the survey took place] after a temporary stay in [preferred destination country]?"</i>). Those who state that they would most likely stay in their preferred destination country for more than 5 years or state that their return to [country in which the survey took place] after a temporary stay in their preferred destination country is unlikely are classified as having permanent migration intentions; the rest is classified as having temporary migration intentions. Those who state no migration intentions are not asked those questions. Reference category is 'no migration intentions'.</p>
Gender	Categorical	<p>Indicates respondent's gender. Takes a value of 0 if respondent indicated to be a man, a value of 1 if respondent indicated to be a woman, and a value of 2 if respondent indicated <i>"No answer/prefer not to say"</i> or if response is missing. The last category is not reported in the result tables.</p>
Age	Numerical (1-6)	<p>Indicates respondent's age group according to the ranges: <i>under 18, 18 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 49, 50 to 64, 65 and older</i>. Reference category is 18 to 24 years for whole samples and samples restricted to younger age groups and 35 to 49 years for samples restricted to older age groups.</p>
University degree	Binary	<p>Indicates whether respondent has a university degree. Reference category is 'no university degree'.</p>
Student	Binary	<p>Indicates whether respondent is a student. Reference category is 'no student'.</p>
Migration experience	Binary	<p>Indicates whether respondent has stayed abroad for at least three consecutive months in the past. Reference category is 'no migration experience'.</p>

Table A1: Variables description (continued).

Variable	Type	Description
Partner: native	Binary	Indicates whether respondent is in a long-term relationship with or married to a partner whose native language is an official or officially recognized (minority) language in the country in which the survey took place. Reference category is 'no native partner'.
Partner: non-native	Binary	Indicates whether respondent is in a long-term relationship with or married to a partner whose native language is different from the official or officially recognized (minority) language(s) in the country in which the survey took place. Reference category is 'no non-native partner'.
Children	Binary	Indicates whether respondent has any children. Reference category is 'no children'.
Willingness to take risks	Numerical (0-10 / 1-10)	Measures respondent's willingness to take risks ( " <i>Would you describe yourself as someone who tries to avoid risks (risk-averse) or as someone who is willing to take risks (risk-prone)?</i> " ) on a 11-point scale from 0 for " <i>risk-averse</i> " to 10 for " <i>risk-prone</i> " in the GI sample; and on a 10-point scale from 1 for " <i>risk-averse</i> " to 10 for " <i>risk-prone</i> " in the student sample.
Patience	Numerical (0-10 / 1-10)	Measures respondent's self-reported patience ( " <i>Would you describe yourself as an impatient or a patient person in general?</i> " ) on a 11-point scale from 0 for " <i>very impatient</i> " to 10 for " <i>very patient</i> " in the GI sample; and on a 10-point scale from 1 for " <i>very impatient</i> " to 10 for " <i>very patient</i> " in the student sample.
Main motivation for potential migration	Categorical	Indicates respondent's main reason for a potential move to their preferred destination country. Educational reasons include study/education/PhD. Professional reasons include work experience/(unpaid) traineeship, own higher income, more interesting job, poor job prospects in origin country, transfer by employer and other own professional reasons. Family and partner include professional reasons/studies of partner, partner lives in the destination country, other family/partner related reasons, friends/relatives live in destination country (South Korea only). Other reasons include interest in the country and culture, adventure, environmental reasons, higher quality of life, and all other reasons. Those who state no migration intentions are not asked this question.

Table A2: Descriptive statistics.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	no intentions to migrate	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	<i>Total</i>
Gender: woman	58.6	59.5	55.6	57.6
Gender: man	38.9	37.6	41.3	39.5
Age: under 18 years	11.0	11.2	17.4	13.7
Age: 18 to 24 years	36.1	43.9	37.8	38.7
Age: 25 to 34 years	19.6	29.7	29.0	26.0
Age: 35 to 49 years	17.2	12.3	12.8	14.2
Age: 50 to 64 years	10.2	2.3	2.6	5.1
Age: 65 years or over	6.0	0.6	0.4	2.4
University degree	62.5	63.5	56.4	60.2
Student	31.1	36.3	31.9	32.7
Migration experience	33.4	36.8	31.2	33.3
Partner: native	33.8	25.6	24.9	28.1
Partner: non-native	6.6	7.5	9.3	8.0
Children	19.9	8.1	11.2	13.4
Willingness to take risks (0=risk averse ... 10=risk prone)	6.0	6.5	6.7	6.4
Patience (0=very impatient ... 10=very patient)	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.2
Number of observations	1729	1256	2125	5110
<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
Gender: woman	52.8	56.9	53.3	54.3
Gender: man	46.9	42.6	46.3	45.3
Age: under 18 years	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Age: 18 to 24 years	77.4	75.9	76.7	76.8
Age: 25 to 34 years	16.0	20.0	19.0	17.9
Age: 35 to 49 years	5.0	3.5	3.6	4.3
Age: 50 to 64 years	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.8
Age: 65 years or over	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
University degree	45.6	54.1	50.4	49.4
Migration experience	26.2	43.5	40.1	34.6
Partner: native	39.0	35.3	32.8	36.6
Partner: non-native	2.2	4.2	7.4	3.8
Children	6.6	3.5	2.9	4.9
Willingness to take risks (1=risk averse ... 10=risk prone)	5.7	6.2	6.2	6.0
Patience (1=very impatient ... 10=very patient)	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.9
Number of observations	1554	1105	583	3242

*Note:* This table shows the shares of observations; except for willingness to take risks and patience which show means.



Table A3: Joint distribution of aspirations and intentions. Foreign-born respondents only.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>								
	no intentions to migrate		intentions to migrate temporarily		intentions to migrate permanently		<i>Total</i>	
no aspirations to migrate permanently	121	(19.5)	37	(6.0)	27	(4.4)	185	(29.8)
aspirations to migrate permanently	52	(8.4)	99	(15.9)	284	(45.8)	435	(70.2)
<i>Total</i>	173	(27.9)	136	(21.9)	311	(50.2)	620	(100.0)

<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>								
no aspirations to migrate permanently	104	(21.9)	34	(7.2)	16	(3.4)	154	(32.5)
aspirations to migrate permanently	95	(20.0)	92	(19.4)	133	(28.1)	320	(67.5)
<i>Total</i>	199	(41.9)	126	(26.6)	149	(31.5)	474	(100.0)

*Note:* This table shows the numbers of observation with percentages in parentheses. Row and column *Total(s)* show row and column totals; percentages of total sample size in parentheses.

Table A4: Joint distribution of aspirations and intentions, by gender.

**Panel A: GI sample, women**

	no intentions to migrate		intentions to migrate temporarily		intentions to migrate permanently		<i>Total</i>	
no aspirations to migrate permanently	651	(22.1)	254	(9.0)	75	(2.6)	990	(33.7)
aspirations to migrate permanently	363	(12.3)	483	(16.4)	1107	(37.6)	1953	(66.3)
<i>Total</i>	1014	(34.4)	747	(25.4)	1182	(40.2)	2943	(100.0)

**Panel B: GI sample, men**

no aspirations to migrate permanently	447	(22.1)	187	(9.3)	71	(3.5)	705	(34.9)
aspirations to migrate permanently	225	(11.1)	285	(14.1)	806	(39.9)	1316	(65.1)
<i>Total</i>	672	(33.2)	472	(23.4)	877	(43.4)	2021	(100.0)

**Panel C: Student sample, women**

no aspirations to migrate permanently	559	(31.7)	217	(12.3)	40	(2.3)	816	(46.3)
aspirations to migrate permanently	262	(14.9)	412	(23.4)	271	(15.4)	945	(53.7)
<i>Total</i>	821	(46.6)	629	(35.7)	311	(17.7)	1761	(100.0)

**Panel D: Student sample, men**

no aspirations to migrate permanently	509	(34.6)	197	(13.4)	34	(2.3)	740	(50.3)
aspirations to migrate permanently	220	(15.0)	274	(18.6)	236	(16.1)	730	(49.7)
<i>Total</i>	729	(49.6)	471	(32.0)	270	(18.4)	1470	(100.0)

*Note:* This table shows the numbers of observation with percentages in parentheses. Row and column *Total(s)* show row and column totals; percentages of total sample size in parentheses.

Table A5: Preferred destination countries for potential migration, by origin country.

**Panel A:** GI sample

Origin country	Destination country				
	Country 1	Country 2	Country 3	Country 4	Country 5
Bosnia	Germany (79.6)	Austria (12.0)	Great Britain (2.1)	Switzerland (1.6)	Italy (1.0)
Czechia	Germany (60.2)	Austria (10.5)	Great Britain (7.4)	Switzerland (5.9)	USA (3.5)
Great Britain	Germany (65.1)	France (8.9)	Switzerland (6.8)	USA (5.5)	Austria (4.1)
India	Germany (84.1)	USA (4.6)	Canada (4.1)	Great Britain (2.0)	Switzerland (1.9)
Indonesia	Germany (83.5)	USA (3.3)	Great Britain (3.0)	Singapore (2.0)	Austria (1.4)
Italy	Germany (46.1)	Switzerland (13.7)	Great Britain (12.9)	USA (8.3)	France (5.4)
Japan	Germany (80.0)	Austria (9.0)	Switzerland (3.4)	USA (2.1)	Great Britain (1.4)
Mexico	Germany (68.5)	USA (11.4)	Canada (6.1)	Switzerland (2.5)	France (2.3)
Netherlands	Germany (58.1)	Austria (8.1)	Great Britain (6.5)	Switzerland (4.8)	USA (4.8)
Poland	Germany (58.9)	Great Britain (11.7)	Switzerland (8.0)	USA (4.3)	Austria (3.1)
Romania	Germany (52.1)	Austria (17.5)	Switzerland (7.8)	Great Britain (6.0)	Netherlands (3.7)
South Korea	Germany (85.7)	USA (6.0)	Great Britain (2.2)	Canada (1.9)	Austria (0.8)
Spain	Germany (58.7)	Great Britain (14.2)	USA (9.2)	Switzerland (4.5)	France (4.2)
Ukraine	Germany (73.7)	Austria (11.6)	USA (4.9)	Switzerland (2.1)	Great Britain (1.2)
<i>EU/EEA countries</i>	Germany (56.5)	Great Britain (9.6)	Switzerland (7.4)	Austria (6.7)	USA (5.9)
<i>non-EU/EEA countries</i>	Germany (79.5)	USA (5.1)	Austria (4.0)	Canada (2.4)	Great Britain (2.1)

**Panel B:** Student sample

Czechia	USA (19.3)	Great Britain (15.9)	Germany (14.8)	France (6.4)	Canada (6.0)
India	USA (21.8)	Great Britain (13.7)	Germany (12.6)	Canada (7.2)	France (7.2)
Indonesia	USA (25.2)	Great Britain (16.5)	Germany (13.0)	Spain (8.7)	France (6.1)
Italy	USA (30.8)	Great Britain (15.7)	Germany (15.1)	Canada (6.4)	France (4.7)
Mexico	USA (23.0)	Great Britain (15.8)	Germany (10.6)	Canada (5.5)	Spain (4.8)
Spain	USA (24.4)	Great Britain (12.8)	Germany (11.9)	Canada (6.2)	France (4.6)
<i>EU/EEA countries</i>	USA (23.0)	Great Britain (14.7)	Germany (13.7)	Canada (6.1)	France (5.4)
<i>non-EU/EEA countries</i>	USA (22.9)	Great Britain (15.3)	Germany (11.3)	Canada (5.9)	France (5.4)

*Note:* This table shows the top 5 preferred destination countries for potential migration by origin country. Percentages of respondents per origin country in parentheses. Numbers of observation differ from sample totals since respondents who stated “I would not move to another country under any circumstances” did not answer the question on their preferred destination and not all of those who intend to migrate indicated their preferred destination either. We observe the preferred destination country for 4355 respondents (GI sample) and 2338 respondents (student sample).

Table A6: Main motivations for potential migration, by aspirations and intentions.

	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
<b>Panel A: GI sample, women</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 167)	( <i>n</i> = 57)	( <i>n</i> = 319)	( <i>n</i> = 705)
Educational reasons	32.3	19.3	48.9	39.4
Professional reasons	29.3	31.6	24.8	22.2
Family and partner	12.6	22.8	7.8	14.6
Other reasons	25.8	26.3	18.5	23.8
<b>Panel B: GI sample, men</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 116)	( <i>n</i> = 49)	( <i>n</i> = 189)	( <i>n</i> = 473)
Educational reasons	44.0	20.4	36.0	36.4
Professional reasons	37.9	38.8	32.2	27.9
Family and partner	2.6	14.3	5.3	8.9
Other reasons	15.5	26.5	26.5	26.8
<b>Panel C: Student sample, women</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 217)	( <i>n</i> = 40)	( <i>n</i> = 412)	( <i>n</i> = 271)
Educational reasons	37.3	25.0	37.4	28.4
Professional reasons	29.5	37.5	29.6	25.5
Family and partner	6.0	17.5	5.1	9.2
Other reasons	27.2	20.0	27.9	36.9
<b>Panel D: Student sample, men</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 195)	( <i>n</i> = 34)	( <i>n</i> = 274)	( <i>n</i> = 236)
Educational reasons	44.6	44.1	43.1	35.2
Professional reasons	30.3	41.2	25.6	26.3
Family and partner	4.6	2.9	3.6	4.7
Other reasons	20.5	11.8	27.7	33.9

*Note:* This table shows column percentages, *n* show column totals. Numbers of observation differ from sample totals since only respondents who stated intentions to migrate answered the question on main motivations for potential migration and not all of those who intend to migrate indicated such main reason. Hence, in the GI sample we observe main reasons for potential migration for 1248 of 1929 women with intentions to migrate, and for 827 of 1349 men with intentions to migrate. In the student sample we observe main reasons for potential migration for 940 of 940 women with intentions to migrate, and for 739 of 741 men with intentions to migrate.

## Appendix B: Further estimations and robustness checks

Table B1: Aspirations and intentions. High-income countries.

Panel A: GI sample					
	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	aspirations to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 1296)	( <i>n</i> = 648)	( <i>n</i> = 730)	( <i>n</i> = 648)	( <i>n</i> = 730)
Migration aspiration				3.538*** (0.121)	20.390*** (0.148)
Gender: woman	1.001 (0.056)	0.989 (0.113)	0.692*** (0.110)	0.935 (0.117)	0.616*** (0.126)
Age: under 18 years	1.231 (0.149)	0.497** (0.295)	0.878 (0.270)	0.419*** (0.307)	0.651 (0.304)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.959 (0.095)	0.931 (0.185)	1.323 (0.183)	0.980 (0.192)	1.520** (0.208)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.746*** (0.111)	0.422*** (0.216)	0.638** (0.219)	0.467*** (0.224)	0.805 (0.250)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.472*** (0.140)	0.115*** (0.300)	0.205*** (0.295)	0.141*** (0.308)	0.312*** (0.339)
University degree	0.905 (0.081)	1.186 (0.156)	0.906 (0.159)	1.251 (0.162)	0.962 (0.179)
Student	0.979 (0.090)	0.745* (0.175)	0.841 (0.171)	0.740* (0.183)	0.817 (0.194)
Migration experience	1.011 (0.058)	1.139 (0.114)	1.150 (0.113)	1.162 (0.118)	1.187 (0.129)
Partner: native	1.002 (0.069)	0.908 (0.135)	0.991 (0.138)	0.899 (0.139)	0.989 (0.159)
Partner: non-native	0.998 (0.108)	1.237 (0.214)	1.806*** (0.215)	1.341 (0.223)	2.248*** (0.246)
Children	0.958 (0.091)	0.865 (0.190)	1.020 (0.182)	0.860 (0.195)	1.023 (0.211)
Willingness to take risks	1.107*** (0.013)	1.149*** (0.027)	1.200*** (0.026)	1.116*** (0.028)	1.131*** (0.029)
Patience	0.991 (0.012)	0.956** (0.023)	0.977 (0.023)	0.956* (0.024)	0.978 (0.026)
Number of observations	2433	2433	2433	2433	2433
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	67.4	53	53	61.7	61.7
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.22	0.22

Panel B: Student sample					
	( <i>n</i> = 674)	( <i>n</i> = 626)	( <i>n</i> = 204)	( <i>n</i> = 626)	( <i>n</i> = 204)
Migration aspiration				4.151*** (0.127)	15.348*** (0.206)
Gender: woman	1.126* (0.069)	1.081 (0.120)	1.112 (0.174)	1.018 (0.126)	1.012 (0.188)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.940 (0.105)	1.009 (0.180)	0.842 (0.259)	1.030 (0.187)	0.883 (0.282)
Age: 35 to 49 years	1.024 (0.243)	0.194*** (0.550)	0.719 (0.616)	0.172*** (0.570)	0.662 (0.683)
University degree	0.838** (0.071)	1.220 (0.123)	1.013 (0.179)	1.386** (0.130)	1.251 (0.194)
Migration experience	1.378*** (0.070)	2.019*** (0.121)	2.386*** (0.174)	1.856*** (0.127)	2.027*** (0.189)
Partner: native	0.751*** (0.070)	0.998 (0.121)	0.935 (0.178)	1.165 (0.128)	1.247 (0.193)
Partner: non-native	1.309* (0.152)	1.624 (0.298)	3.704*** (0.329)	1.602 (0.316)	3.594*** (0.367)
Children	0.949 (0.229)	0.755 (0.419)	0.323* (0.669)	0.734 (0.436)	0.237* (0.755)
Willingness to take risks	1.091*** (0.017)	1.175*** (0.029)	1.111** (0.042)	1.136*** (0.031)	1.043 (0.045)
Patience	1.007 (0.014)	1.008 (0.025)	1.053 (0.036)	1.011 (0.026)	1.048 (0.038)
Number of observations	1594	1594	1594	1594	1594
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	63.9	54.5	54.5	60.5	60.5
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.14	0.14

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 1137 (GI sample), *n* = 920 (student sample)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 1055 (GI sample), *n* = 764 (student sample)). High-income countries include countries which have a GNI per capita larger than \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Czechia, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, South Korea, and Spain). All EU member states in the sample are high-income countries.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

Table B2: Aspirations and intentions. Middle-income countries.

**Panel A: GI sample**

	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	aspirations to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 2071)	( <i>n</i> = 608)	( <i>n</i> = 1395)	( <i>n</i> = 608)	( <i>n</i> = 1395)
Migration aspiration				2.513*** (0.123)	26.610*** (0.159)
Gender: woman	1.115* (0.058)	1.143 (0.119)	1.116 (0.101)	1.109 (0.122)	1.025 (0.114)
Age: under 18 years	1.277** (0.099)	1.077 (0.205)	1.570*** (0.174)	1.042 (0.210)	1.415* (0.198)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.146 (0.096)	1.070 (0.197)	1.398** (0.171)	1.041 (0.205)	1.326 (0.194)
Age: 35 to 49 years	1.060 (0.142)	0.647 (0.307)	0.893 (0.245)	0.625 (0.311)	0.803 (0.280)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.994 (0.256)	0.158** (0.800)	0.790 (0.404)	0.158** (0.806)	0.740 (0.486)
University degree	0.807*** (0.075)	1.469** (0.154)	0.930 (0.131)	1.627*** (0.159)	1.145 (0.151)
Student	0.919 (0.081)	1.306 (0.166)	0.836 (0.143)	1.344* (0.172)	0.865 (0.163)
Migration experience	1.104 (0.077)	1.428** (0.162)	1.491*** (0.138)	1.456** (0.167)	1.510*** (0.156)
Partner: native	1.075 (0.088)	0.980 (0.184)	1.200 (0.155)	0.963 (0.190)	1.189 (0.175)
Partner: non-native	1.232 (0.132)	0.783 (0.300)	1.590* (0.237)	0.749 (0.309)	1.486 (0.271)
Children	0.764** (0.134)	0.708 (0.312)	0.839 (0.234)	0.782 (0.314)	1.130 (0.271)
Willingness to take risks	1.019 (0.015)	1.026 (0.030)	1.076*** (0.025)	1.028 (0.030)	1.077*** (0.028)
Patience	0.996 (0.012)	1.016 (0.026)	0.991 (0.022)	1.018 (0.026)	0.993 (0.024)
Number of observations	2677	2677	2677	2677	2677
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	77.3	52	52	62.9	62.9
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.16	0.16

**Panel B: Student sample**

	( <i>n</i> = 1008)	( <i>n</i> = 479)	( <i>n</i> = 379)	( <i>n</i> = 479)	( <i>n</i> = 379)
Migration aspiration				3.541*** (0.133)	15.622*** (0.201)
Gender: woman	1.195*** (0.069)	1.012 (0.126)	1.125 (0.136)	0.929 (0.131)	0.972 (0.148)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.937 (0.098)	1.461** (0.175)	1.066 (0.192)	1.537** (0.183)	1.165 (0.208)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.774 (0.172)	1.358 (0.305)	0.812 (0.364)	1.525 (0.316)	1.006 (0.396)
University degree	1.051 (0.078)	1.338** (0.144)	1.251 (0.151)	1.351** (0.150)	1.311* (0.165)
Migration experience	1.083 (0.078)	1.389** (0.140)	1.411** (0.151)	1.388** (0.146)	1.382** (0.164)
Partner: native	0.991 (0.078)	0.737** (0.143)	1.046 (0.152)	0.737** (0.148)	1.034 (0.165)
Partner: non-native	1.048 (0.214)	1.112 (0.434)	3.050*** (0.399)	1.224 (0.448)	3.693*** (0.443)
Children	1.085 (0.168)	0.618 (0.303)	0.503* (0.376)	0.553* (0.314)	0.418** (0.410)
Willingness to take risks	1.003 (0.016)	1.063** (0.030)	1.065** (0.032)	1.071** (0.031)	1.079** (0.035)
Patience	0.987 (0.014)	1.007 (0.025)	1.006 (0.027)	1.015 (0.026)	1.017 (0.029)
Number of observations	1648	1648	1648	1648	1648
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	67.1	50.2	50.2	54.3	54.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.12	0.12

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 606 (GI sample), *n* = 640 (student sample)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 674 (GI sample), *n* = 790 (student sample)). Middle-income countries are countries which have a GNI per capita of \$1,036 to \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Bosnia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Ukraine). All middle-income countries are not EU member states.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

Table B3: Aspirations and intentions. Women.

**Panel A: GI sample**

	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1) aspirations to migrate permanently <i>(n = 1953)</i>	(2) intentions to migrate temporarily <i>(n = 747)</i>	(3) intentions to migrate permanently <i>(n = 1182)</i>	(4) intentions to migrate temporarily <i>(n = 747)</i>	(5) intentions to migrate permanently <i>(n = 1182)</i>
Migration aspiration				3.054*** (0.113)	23.125*** (0.147)
Age: under 18 years	1.387*** (0.117)	0.822 (0.232)	1.764*** (0.204)	0.742 (0.240)	1.464* (0.227)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.093 (0.089)	0.992 (0.172)	1.512** (0.163)	0.996 (0.180)	1.538** (0.184)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.804** (0.110)	0.567*** (0.214)	0.755 (0.206)	0.610** (0.221)	0.876 (0.235)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.540*** (0.155)	0.110*** (0.388)	0.333*** (0.302)	0.128*** (0.396)	0.440** (0.353)
Age: 65 years or above	0.375*** (0.229)	0.111*** (0.520)	0.107*** (0.643)	0.137*** (0.528)	0.190** (0.696)
University degree	0.838** (0.072)	1.229 (0.141)	0.896 (0.133)	1.335** (0.146)	1.027 (0.150)
Student	0.975 (0.083)	1.137 (0.158)	0.965 (0.149)	1.157 (0.165)	0.967 (0.167)
Migration experience	1.050 (0.061)	1.475*** (0.120)	1.474*** (0.114)	1.510*** (0.124)	1.546*** (0.129)
Partner: native	0.960 (0.071)	0.936 (0.137)	0.912 (0.133)	0.941 (0.141)	0.931 (0.151)
Partner: non-native	1.116 (0.106)	1.081 (0.218)	1.867*** (0.202)	1.136 (0.227)	2.050*** (0.233)
Children	0.990 (0.099)	0.854 (0.208)	1.110 (0.187)	0.863 (0.212)	1.161 (0.218)
Willingness to take risks	1.083*** (0.013)	1.080*** (0.025)	1.150*** (0.024)	1.057** (0.026)	1.102*** (0.027)
Patience	1.001 (0.011)	0.991 (0.022)	0.991 (0.020)	0.988 (0.023)	0.988 (0.023)
Number of observations	2943	2943	2943	2943	2943
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	73.3	52.2	52.2	61.4	61.4
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.15	0.10	0.10	0.20	0.20

**Panel B: Student sample**

	<i>(n = 945)</i>	<i>(n = 629)</i>	<i>(n = 311)</i>	<i>(n = 629)</i>	<i>(n = 311)</i>
Migration aspiration				4.609*** (0.126)	14.187*** (0.198)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.915 (0.095)	1.260 (0.167)	0.946 (0.209)	1.357* (0.176)	1.053 (0.225)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.767 (0.188)	0.591 (0.346)	0.502 (0.432)	0.643 (0.357)	0.606 (0.458)
University degree	0.876* (0.070)	1.155 (0.123)	1.148 (0.156)	1.300** (0.130)	1.349* (0.168)
Migration experience	1.311*** (0.069)	2.063*** (0.120)	2.060*** (0.151)	1.927*** (0.126)	1.868*** (0.163)
Partner: native	0.791*** (0.068)	0.959 (0.119)	0.800 (0.155)	1.086 (0.126)	0.958 (0.166)
Partner: non-native	1.131 (0.153)	1.834** (0.308)	4.063*** (0.318)	2.100** (0.328)	4.911*** (0.354)
Children	1.145 (0.180)	0.513** (0.332)	0.591 (0.411)	0.429** (0.349)	0.452* (0.449)
Willingness to take risks	1.068*** (0.016)	1.111*** (0.029)	1.115*** (0.036)	1.085*** (0.030)	1.071* (0.038)
Patience	0.984 (0.013)	1.023 (0.023)	0.989 (0.029)	1.036 (0.024)	1.006 (0.031)
Number of observations	1761	1761	1761	1761	1761
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	66.8	50.9	50.9	57.2	57.2
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.10	0.06	0.06	0.14	0.14

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' ( $n = 990$  (GI sample),  $n = 816$  (student sample)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' ( $n = 1014$  (GI sample),  $n = 821$  (student sample)). Respondents who gave no answer regarding their gender or indicated "No answer/prefer not to say" are excluded from the gender subsamples.

\* $p < 0.1$ ; \*\* $p < 0.05$ ; \*\*\* $p < 0.01$

Table B4: Aspirations and intentions. Men.

## Panel A: GI sample

	<i>binomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	aspirations to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 1316)	( <i>n</i> = 472)	( <i>n</i> = 877)	( <i>n</i> = 472)	( <i>n</i> = 877)
Migration aspiration				2.899*** (0.140)	23.192*** (0.164)
Age: under 18 years	1.153 (0.122)	1.055 (0.252)	1.025 (0.217)	0.986 (0.259)	0.885 (0.251)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.038 (0.104)	1.229 (0.217)	1.317 (0.193)	1.272 (0.224)	1.387 (0.222)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.956 (0.135)	0.427*** (0.288)	0.697 (0.250)	0.433*** (0.296)	0.668 (0.291)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.564*** (0.180)	0.155*** (0.399)	0.248*** (0.349)	0.177*** (0.407)	0.311*** (0.413)
Age: 65 years or above	0.359*** (0.244)	0.041*** (0.691)	0.071*** (0.603)	0.051*** (0.698)	0.102*** (0.688)
University degree	0.823** (0.089)	1.452** (0.186)	0.912 (0.163)	1.560** (0.192)	1.110 (0.187)
Student	0.932 (0.092)	0.914 (0.191)	0.672** (0.168)	0.901 (0.199)	0.670** (0.193)
Migration experience	1.073 (0.072)	1.036 (0.151)	1.138 (0.135)	1.050 (0.157)	1.124 (0.156)
Partner: native	1.149 (0.087)	0.971 (0.184)	1.455** (0.164)	0.940 (0.190)	1.406* (0.189)
Partner: non-native	1.044 (0.140)	1.006 (0.304)	1.570* (0.271)	1.018 (0.314)	1.732* (0.315)
Children	0.804* (0.119)	0.771 (0.271)	0.856 (0.225)	0.822 (0.276)	1.072 (0.265)
Willingness to take risks	1.039** (0.015)	1.110*** (0.033)	1.114*** (0.028)	1.102*** (0.034)	1.101*** (0.032)
Patience	0.981 (0.013)	0.960 (0.028)	0.951** (0.025)	0.968 (0.029)	0.960 (0.029)
Number of observations	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	71.6	53.1	53.1	64.5	64.5
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.22	0.22

## Panel B: Student sample

	( <i>n</i> = 730)	( <i>n</i> = 471)	( <i>n</i> = 270)	( <i>n</i> = 471)	( <i>n</i> = 270)
Migration aspiration				3.139*** (0.134)	16.427*** (0.209)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.018 (0.104)	1.106 (0.185)	0.999 (0.224)	1.088 (0.190)	0.967 (0.245)
Age: 35 to 49 years	1.010 (0.208)	0.930 (0.376)	1.083 (0.454)	0.913 (0.385)	1.069 (0.502)
University degree	1.004 (0.078)	1.558*** (0.142)	1.197 (0.170)	1.610*** (0.146)	1.291 (0.188)
Migration experience	1.178** (0.079)	1.331** (0.140)	1.466** (0.171)	1.278* (0.145)	1.297 (0.188)
Partner: native	0.931 (0.080)	0.770* (0.147)	1.362* (0.174)	0.811 (0.151)	1.462** (0.192)
Partner: non-native	1.471* (0.220)	0.857 (0.416)	2.565** (0.435)	0.752 (0.426)	1.995 (0.475)
Children	0.942 (0.204)	0.823 (0.366)	0.289** (0.552)	0.789 (0.375)	0.260** (0.600)
Willingness to take risks	1.018 (0.016)	1.141*** (0.031)	1.069* (0.036)	1.139*** (0.032)	1.082** (0.040)
Patience	1.006 (0.015)	0.981 (0.027)	1.062* (0.032)	0.982 (0.028)	1.062* (0.035)
Number of observations	1470	1470	1470	1470	1470
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	63.7	53.8	53.8	59.3	59.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.14	0.14

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 705 (GI sample), *n* = 740 (student sample)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 672 (GI sample), *n* = 729 (student sample)). Respondents who gave no answer regarding their gender or indicated "No answer/prefer not to say" are excluded from the gender subsamples.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01



Table B5: Aspirations and intentions. GI sample, 6 countries. Younger age groups (under 35 years of age) and older age groups (35 years and above).

GI sample, younger age groups (under 35 years of age)					
	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	aspirations to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 1680)	( <i>n</i> = 717)	( <i>n</i> = 977)	( <i>n</i> = 717)	( <i>n</i> = 977)
Migration aspiration				2.366*** (0.116)	20.462*** (0.159)
Gender: woman	1.095 (0.058)	1.056 (0.112)	0.999 (0.105)	1.024 (0.114)	0.917 (0.117)
Age: under 18 years	1.270** (0.103)	0.780 (0.204)	1.208 (0.184)	0.728 (0.208)	1.006 (0.207)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.081 (0.091)	1.092 (0.173)	1.350* (0.169)	1.093 (0.177)	1.320 (0.188)
University degree	0.882* (0.075)	1.604*** (0.143)	1.011 (0.137)	1.687*** (0.146)	1.135 (0.153)
Student	0.999 (0.081)	1.163 (0.154)	0.896 (0.149)	1.161 (0.159)	0.879 (0.165)
Migration experience	1.105 (0.075)	1.577*** (0.140)	1.375** (0.141)	1.547*** (0.143)	1.332* (0.156)
Partner: native	1.012 (0.086)	1.121 (0.162)	1.245 (0.164)	1.116 (0.166)	1.242 (0.182)
Partner: non-native	1.054 (0.132)	1.037 (0.271)	1.796** (0.262)	1.098 (0.282)	2.028** (0.301)
Children	0.717* (0.189)	0.565 (0.374)	0.644 (0.348)	0.620 (0.379)	0.933 (0.403)
Willingness to take risks	1.059*** (0.015)	1.069** (0.028)	1.113*** (0.026)	1.057* (0.029)	1.085*** (0.029)
Patience	0.982 (0.012)	0.987 (0.024)	0.972 (0.022)	0.992 (0.024)	0.982 (0.025)
Number of observations	2443	2443	2443	2443	2443
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	71.4	46.8	46.8	56.8	56.8
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.09	0.04	0.04	0.14	0.14
GI sample, older age groups (35 years and above)					
	( <i>n</i> = 193)	( <i>n</i> = 98)	( <i>n</i> = 127)	( <i>n</i> = 98)	( <i>n</i> = 127)
Migration aspiration				7.872*** (0.332)	19.646*** (0.337)
Gender: woman	0.788* (0.134)	1.061 (0.269)	0.616* (0.255)	1.149 (0.284)	0.707 (0.288)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.838 (0.167)	0.387** (0.373)	0.564* (0.320)	0.363** (0.398)	0.546 (0.370)
Age: 65 years or above	0.488*** (0.252)	0.193*** (0.572)	0.196*** (0.590)	0.243** (0.584)	0.281* (0.657)
University degree	0.785 (0.203)	1.408 (0.436)	0.779 (0.387)	1.576 (0.469)	1.023 (0.462)
Migration experience	0.805 (0.134)	1.208 (0.271)	0.856 (0.257)	1.383 (0.289)	0.987 (0.296)
Partner: native	1.161 (0.175)	0.980 (0.333)	0.941 (0.330)	0.856 (0.355)	0.827 (0.375)
Partner: non-native	1.088 (0.214)	1.189 (0.425)	1.322 (0.411)	1.174 (0.449)	1.305 (0.473)
Children	0.898 (0.152)	0.396*** (0.306)	0.738 (0.287)	0.388*** (0.325)	0.686 (0.326)
Willingness to take risks	1.060* (0.034)	0.949 (0.068)	1.273*** (0.071)	0.951 (0.072)	1.252*** (0.078)
Patience	0.937** (0.029)	0.858*** (0.058)	0.806*** (0.055)	0.860** (0.061)	0.814*** (0.063)
Number of observations	478	478	478	478	478
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	73.2	61.1	61.1	68.8	68.8
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.21	0.15	0.15	0.26	0.26

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. GI sample restricted to younger age groups (under 35 years of age) or older age groups (35 years and above) and to the 6 countries which are also observed in the student sample. Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 763 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 285 (GI sample, older age groups)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 749 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 253 (GI sample, older age groups)).

\**p*<0.1; \*\**p*<0.05; \*\*\**p*<0.01

Table B6: Aspirations and intentions. GI sample, 14 countries. Younger age groups (under 35 years of age) and older age groups (35 years and above).

GI sample, younger age groups (under 35 years of age)

	<i>binomial probit</i>	<i>multinomial probit</i>		<i>multinomial probit</i>	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	aspirations to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	<i>(n = 2845)</i>	<i>(n = 1065)</i>	<i>(n = 1788)</i>	<i>(n = 1065)</i>	<i>(n = 1788)</i>
Migration aspiration				2.628***	23.622***
				(0.094)	(0.125)
Gender: woman	1.106**	1.057	0.963	0.998	0.848*
	(0.046)	(0.091)	(0.082)	(0.093)	(0.094)
Age: under 18 years	1.259***	0.839	1.355**	0.788	1.180
	(0.083)	(0.167)	(0.146)	(0.171)	(0.166)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.046	0.993	1.345**	1.011	1.404**
	(0.068)	(0.135)	(0.125)	(0.139)	(0.142)
University degree	0.856***	1.301**	0.903	1.375***	1.019
	(0.060)	(0.117)	(0.108)	(0.121)	(0.123)
Student	0.940	1.020	0.829*	1.035	0.844
	(0.061)	(0.121)	(0.110)	(0.125)	(0.125)
Migration experience	1.165***	1.326***	1.462***	1.309**	1.411***
	(0.055)	(0.108)	(0.101)	(0.111)	(0.114)
Partner: native	0.943	0.944	1.084	0.980	1.176
	(0.063)	(0.126)	(0.119)	(0.130)	(0.136)
Partner: non-native	1.059	1.155	1.667**	1.197	1.784**
	(0.103)	(0.215)	(0.202)	(0.223)	(0.230)
Children	0.805	0.736	0.768	0.778	0.969
	(0.136)	(0.293)	(0.254)	(0.298)	(0.298)
Willingness to take risks	1.060***	1.088***	1.121***	1.075***	1.093***
	(0.011)	(0.022)	(0.020)	(0.023)	(0.023)
Patience	0.993	0.993	0.994	0.996	0.999
	(0.010)	(0.019)	(0.017)	(0.019)	(0.020)
Number of observations	4005	4005	4005	4005	4005
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	73.1	50	50	59.9	59.9
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.17	0.17

GI sample, older age groups (35 years and above)

	( <i>n</i> = 522)	( <i>n</i> = 191)	( <i>n</i> = 337)	( <i>n</i> = 191)	( <i>n</i> = 337)
Migration aspiration				6.960*** (0.218)	26.717*** (0.228)
Gender: woman	0.913 (0.087)	1.085 (0.190)	0.688** (0.169)	1.103 (0.202)	0.682* (0.199)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.685*** (0.106)	0.289*** (0.249)	0.481*** (0.208)	0.317*** (0.262)	0.532** (0.250)
Age: 65 years or above	0.424*** (0.160)	0.126*** (0.412)	0.149*** (0.412)	0.173*** (0.422)	0.236*** (0.462)
University degree	0.737** (0.145)	1.245 (0.331)	0.791 (0.277)	1.472 (0.349)	1.114 (0.334)
Migration experience	0.849* (0.086)	1.263 (0.188)	1.028 (0.169)	1.471* (0.201)	1.268 (0.200)
Partner: native	1.277** (0.109)	0.796 (0.225)	1.027 (0.216)	0.617** (0.241)	0.758 (0.255)
Partner: non-native	1.209 (0.148)	0.720 (0.325)	1.889** (0.286)	0.673 (0.340)	1.902* (0.335)
Children	0.882 (0.096)	0.829 (0.209)	0.950 (0.185)	0.903 (0.223)	1.015 (0.218)
Willingness to take risks	1.092*** (0.020)	1.095** (0.045)	1.189*** (0.040)	1.058 (0.048)	1.132*** (0.047)
Patience	0.987 (0.018)	0.924* (0.040)	0.909*** (0.036)	0.913** (0.043)	0.897** (0.042)
Number of observations	1105	1105	1105	1105	1105
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	70.8	62.8	62.8	71.4	71.4
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.30	0.30

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. GI sample restricted to younger age groups (under 35 years of age) or older age groups (35 years and above). Specification (1) estimates the probability of aspirations to migrate permanently via binomial probit; reference category is 'no aspirations to migrate permanently' (*n* = 1160 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 583 (GI sample, older age groups)). Specifications (2) and (4) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate temporarily, and specifications (3) and (5) estimate the probability of intentions to migrate permanently via multinomial probit; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 1152 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 577 (GI sample, older age groups)).

\**p* < 0.1; \*\**p* < 0.05; \*\*\**p* < 0.01

Table B7: Intentions by aspirations. GI sample, 6 countries. Younger age groups (under 35 years of age) and older age groups (35 years and above).

GI sample, younger age groups (under 35 years of age)				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 273)	( <i>n</i> = 62)	( <i>n</i> = 444)	( <i>n</i> = 915)
Gender: woman	0.908 (0.169)	0.943 (0.297)	1.138 (0.157)	0.969 (0.138)
Age: under 18 years	1.191 (0.311)	1.021 (0.492)	0.524** (0.282)	0.903 (0.240)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.045 (0.263)	1.393 (0.479)	1.253 (0.254)	1.422 (0.235)
University degree	2.018*** (0.222)	0.944 (0.402)	1.478* (0.199)	1.093 (0.181)
Student	1.492 (0.244)	1.118 (0.431)	0.927 (0.216)	0.744 (0.196)
Migration experience	1.276 (0.209)	1.024 (0.391)	1.970*** (0.209)	1.655** (0.198)
Partner: native	1.049 (0.236)	0.824 (0.448)	1.351 (0.252)	1.508* (0.236)
Partner: non-native	1.026 (0.368)	1.823 (0.605)	1.270 (0.509)	2.497* (0.468)
Children	0.690 (0.452)	0.289 (1.099)	0.795 (0.869)	1.671 (0.770)
Willingness to take risks	0.995 (0.043)	1.093 (0.077)	1.110*** (0.040)	1.109*** (0.035)
Patience	0.992 (0.036)	0.967 (0.064)	0.995 (0.033)	0.987 (0.030)
Number of observations	763	763	1680	1680
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	56.7	56.7	56.8	56.8
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05

GI sample, older age groups (35 years and above)				
	( <i>n</i> = 47)	( <i>n</i> = 26)	( <i>n</i> = 51)	( <i>n</i> = 101)
Gender: woman	0.887 (0.375)	1.357 (0.483)	1.945 (0.519)	0.510 (0.431)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.616 (0.484)	0.241* (0.810)	0.151*** (0.710)	0.703 (0.501)
Age: 65 years or above	0.183** (0.811)	0.159* (1.108)	0.421 (1.070)	0.432 (0.943)
University degree	1.241 (0.590)	/ <sup>†</sup>	1.149 (0.926)	0.387 (0.749)
Migration experience	1.208 (0.379)	1.701 (0.521)	1.598 (0.523)	0.650 (0.444)
Partner: native	0.794 (0.471)	0.516 (0.633)	0.757 (0.668)	0.867 (0.595)
Partner: non-native	2.196 (0.587)	0.932 (0.727)	0.378 (0.798)	0.836 (0.703)
Children	0.521 (0.425)	1.310 (0.571)	0.224*** (0.551)	0.473 (0.459)
Willingness to take risks	1.152 (0.107)	1.210 (0.131)	0.780** (0.123)	1.172 (0.110)
Patience	0.807** (0.084)	0.805** (0.107)	0.900 (0.102)	0.866* (0.086)
Number of observations	285	285	193	193
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	76.1	76.1	66.8	66.8
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.15	0.15	0.21	0.21

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. GI sample restricted to younger age groups (under 35 years of age) or older age groups (35 years and above), and to the 6 countries which are also observed in the student sample. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 428 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 212 (GI sample, older age groups)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 321 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 41 (GI sample, older age groups)). Since only 1 of 478 respondents in the GI older-age-group sample is a student, we control for it, but do not report the coefficient. <sup>†</sup>Since all respondents in the older-age-group sample who have no migration aspirations but who have intentions to migrate permanently (*n* = 26) possess a university degree, the coefficient is not meaningful.

\**p*<0.1; \*\**p*<0.05; \*\*\**p*<0.01

Table B8: Intentions by aspirations. GI sample, 14 countries. Younger age groups (under 35 years of age) and older age groups (35 years and above).

<b>GI sample, younger age groups (under 35 years of age)</b>				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to	intentions to	intentions to	intentions to
	migrate temporarily	migrate permanently	migrate temporarily	migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 386)	( <i>n</i> = 106)	( <i>n</i> = 679)	( <i>n</i> = 1682)
Gender: woman	0.968 (0.138)	0.723 (0.225)	1.075 (0.129)	0.899 (0.112)
Age: under 18 years	1.187 (0.265)	1.140 (0.418)	0.600** (0.227)	1.050 (0.193)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.913 (0.210)	1.529 (0.353)	1.201 (0.195)	1.549** (0.175)
University degree	1.708*** (0.186)	0.819 (0.319)	1.192 (0.163)	0.979 (0.146)
Student	1.199 (0.194)	0.993 (0.330)	0.890 (0.167)	0.759* (0.147)
Migration experience	1.060 (0.165)	1.123 (0.274)	1.552*** (0.159)	1.626*** (0.145)
Partner: native	0.905 (0.186)	1.067 (0.307)	1.139 (0.194)	1.324 (0.178)
Partner: non-native	1.053 (0.307)	1.762 (0.529)	1.462 (0.372)	2.207** (0.344)
Children	0.923 (0.370)	0.594 (0.601)	0.771 (0.576)	1.197 (0.500)
Willingness to take risks	1.018 (0.033)	1.093 (0.056)	1.126*** (0.031)	1.118*** (0.027)
Patience	0.996 (0.029)	0.994 (0.049)	0.996 (0.027)	0.999 (0.024)
Number of observations	1160	1160	2845	2845
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	58.5	58.5	60.9	60.9
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.07
<b>GI sample, older age groups (35 years and above)</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 80)	( <i>n</i> = 44)	( <i>n</i> = 111)	( <i>n</i> = 293)
Gender: woman	0.994 (0.280)	0.738 (0.357)	1.481 (0.326)	0.673 (0.273)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.409** (0.359)	0.182*** (0.605)	0.286*** (0.409)	0.708 (0.326)
Age: 65 years or above	0.226*** (0.541)	0.118*** (0.823)	0.153** (0.732)	0.266** (0.589)
University degree	1.736 (0.509)	/ <sup>†</sup>	0.955 (0.541)	0.551 (0.451)
Migration experience	1.282 (0.280)	1.592 (0.379)	1.756* (0.313)	1.232 (0.267)
Partner: native	0.653 (0.340)	0.670 (0.476)	0.518* (0.386)	0.770 (0.351)
Partner: non-native	1.107 (0.444)	1.345 (0.575)	0.349* (0.553)	1.914 (0.465)
Children	0.892 (0.319)	1.329 (0.416)	0.933 (0.339)	0.899 (0.290)
Willingness to take risks	1.163** (0.073)	1.058 (0.092)	0.960 (0.071)	1.114* (0.060)
Patience	0.920 (0.061)	0.854* (0.081)	0.927 (0.064)	0.919 (0.055)
Number of observations	583	583	522	522
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	79.1	79.1	64.8	64.8
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.16	0.16	0.20	0.20

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. GI sample restricted to younger age groups (under 35 years of age) or older age groups (35 years and above). Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 668 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 459 (GI sample, older age groups)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 484 (GI sample, younger age groups), *n* = 118 (GI sample, older age groups)). Since only 3 of 1105 respondents in the GI older-age-groups-sample are students, we control for it but do not report the coefficient. <sup>†</sup>Since all respondents who have no migration aspirations but who have intentions to migrate permanently (*n* = 44) possess a university degree, the coefficient is not meaningful.

\**p*<0.1; \*\**p*<0.05; \*\*\**p*<0.01

Table B9: Intentions by aspirations. Women.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 264)	( <i>n</i> = 75)	( <i>n</i> = 483)	( <i>n</i> = 1107)
Age: under 18 years	1.014 (0.395)	3.637** (0.601)	0.621 (0.302)	1.228 (0.255)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.790 (0.285)	0.906 (0.529)	1.378 (0.246)	2.079*** (0.224)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.397*** (0.342)	1.296 (0.575)	0.895 (0.321)	0.905 (0.297)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.078*** (0.613)	0.284 (0.950)	0.202*** (0.556)	0.513 (0.428)
Age: 65 years or above	0.105*** (0.706)	0.247 (1.240)	0.182** (0.865)	0.153** (0.876)
University degree	1.457* (0.229)	1.905 (0.414)	1.232 (0.196)	0.917 (0.175)
Student	1.220 (0.264)	1.590 (0.483)	0.995 (0.215)	0.832 (0.193)
Migration experience	1.323 (0.188)	1.366 (0.320)	1.802*** (0.177)	1.746*** (0.162)
Partner: native	0.762 (0.208)	1.002 (0.352)	1.057 (0.209)	0.995 (0.195)
Partner: non-native	1.308 (0.323)	2.176 (0.495)	1.010 (0.345)	1.997** (0.311)
Children	1.172 (0.297)	1.055 (0.430)	0.624 (0.338)	1.003 (0.292)
Willingness to take risks	1.051 (0.039)	1.112 (0.066)	1.063* (0.037)	1.105*** (0.032)
Patience	0.962 (0.034)	0.902* (0.056)	1.024 (0.031)	1.020 (0.028)
Number of observations	990	990	1953	1953
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	66.4	66.4	59.4	59.4
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08
<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 217)	( <i>n</i> = 40)	( <i>n</i> = 412)	( <i>n</i> = 271)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.374 (0.249)	0.851 (0.521)	1.425 (0.264)	1.138 (0.284)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.276* (0.665)	0.236 (1.224)	1.181 (0.503)	1.058 (0.560)
University degree	0.988 (0.191)	1.329 (0.382)	1.569** (0.186)	1.430* (0.204)
Migration experience	2.585*** (0.182)	1.071 (0.410)	1.544** (0.181)	1.831*** (0.196)
Partner: native	1.309 (0.182)	1.048 (0.380)	0.928 (0.180)	0.863 (0.199)
Partner: non-native	1.725 (0.439)	6.299*** (0.643)	3.330* (0.636)	7.154*** (0.629)
Children	0.492 (0.570)	2.161 (0.919)	0.302** (0.475)	0.234*** (0.555)
Willingness to take risks	1.088* (0.044)	0.888 (0.086)	1.100** (0.043)	1.127** (0.047)
Patience	0.995 (0.037)	0.894 (0.075)	1.080** (0.034)	1.058 (0.037)
Number of observations	816	816	945	945
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	68	68	47.6	47.6
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.08	0.08	0.05	0.05

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 651 (GI sample), *n* = 559 (student sample)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 363 (GI sample), *n* = 262 (student sample)). Respondents who gave no answer regarding their gender or indicated "No answer/prefer not to say" are excluded from the gender subsamples.

\**p*<0.1; \*\**p*<0.05; \*\*\**p*<0.01

Table B10: Intentions by aspirations. Men.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 187)	( <i>n</i> = 71)	( <i>n</i> = 285)	( <i>n</i> = 806)
Age: under 18 years	1.989*	0.516	0.604	0.746
	(0.391)	(0.637)	(0.360)	(0.306)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.107	2.314*	1.375	1.295
	(0.323)	(0.459)	(0.320)	(0.279)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.325***	1.861	0.466*	0.534*
	(0.430)	(0.571)	(0.444)	(0.381)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.209***	0.214*	0.159***	0.309**
	(0.538)	(0.925)	(0.688)	(0.554)
Age: 65 years or above	0.069***	/ <sup>†</sup>	0.025***	0.076***
	(0.863)		(1.319)	(0.872)
University degree	2.729***	0.669	1.096	1.025
	(0.302)	(0.411)	(0.265)	(0.230)
Student	1.059	0.765	0.786	0.600**
	(0.311)	(0.450)	(0.270)	(0.233)
Migration experience	1.009	1.178	1.106	1.170
	(0.230)	(0.315)	(0.231)	(0.202)
Partner: native	0.996	0.910	0.950	1.615*
	(0.271)	(0.382)	(0.290)	(0.251)
Partner: non-native	1.036	1.208	1.083	2.147*
	(0.413)	(0.596)	(0.529)	(0.459)
Children	0.681	0.945	1.119	1.271
	(0.374)	(0.463)	(0.467)	(0.387)
Willingness to take risks	1.054	1.073	1.148***	1.128***
	(0.051)	(0.074)	(0.047)	(0.038)
Patience	1.006	1.015	0.923*	0.926**
	(0.044)	(0.064)	(0.042)	(0.036)
Number of observations	705	705	1316	1316
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	65.4	65.4	64.1	64.1
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.13	0.13	0.10	0.10
<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 197)	( <i>n</i> = 34)	( <i>n</i> = 274)	( <i>n</i> = 236)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.887	0.859	1.416	1.144
	(0.267)	(0.590)	(0.292)	(0.306)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.729	5.510**	1.154	0.629
	(0.605)	(0.836)	(0.541)	(0.621)
University degree	1.469*	1.410	1.681**	1.290
	(0.198)	(0.424)	(0.220)	(0.226)
Migration experience	1.343	0.586	1.284	1.550*
	(0.206)	(0.509)	(0.215)	(0.226)
Partner: native	0.707	3.109***	0.854	1.264
	(0.214)	(0.429)	(0.225)	(0.233)
Partner: non-native	0.591	/ <sup>††</sup>	0.992	2.405
	(0.634)		(0.615)	(0.593)
Children	1.492	0.164	0.390*	0.234**
	(0.516)	(1.245)	(0.557)	(0.699)
Willingness to take risks	1.174***	0.990	1.105**	1.082
	(0.044)	(0.091)	(0.048)	(0.048)
Patience	0.992	0.951	0.974	1.088**
	(0.039)	(0.078)	(0.041)	(0.043)
Number of observations	740	740	730	730
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	69.6	69.6	47.3	47.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.06

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 447 (GI sample), *n* = 509 (student sample)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 225 (GI sample), *n* = 220 (student sample)). Respondents who gave no answer regarding their gender or indicated "No answer/prefer not to say" are excluded from the gender subsamples. <sup>†</sup>Since none of the respondents who have no migration aspirations but intentions to migrate permanently (*n* = 71) are 65 years or above, the coefficient is not meaningful. <sup>††</sup>Since none of the respondents who have no migration aspirations but intentions to migrate permanently (*n* = 34) have a non-native partner, the coefficient is not meaningful.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

Table B11: Intentions by aspirations. High-income countries.

**Panel A: GI sample**

	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily ( <i>n</i> = 280)	intentions to migrate permanently ( <i>n</i> = 86)	intentions to migrate temporarily ( <i>n</i> = 368)	intentions to migrate permanently ( <i>n</i> = 644)
Gender: woman	0.919 (0.158)	0.516*** (0.242)	1.122 (0.183)	0.686** (0.163)
Age: under 18 years	1.037 (0.439)	0.507 (0.857)	0.206*** (0.422)	0.500** (0.345)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.894 (0.268)	1.082 (0.452)	1.229 (0.284)	1.929** (0.261)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.351*** (0.315)	1.142 (0.503)	0.646 (0.348)	0.813 (0.328)
Age: 50 to 64 years	0.143*** (0.412)	0.121*** (0.777)	0.174*** (0.496)	0.417** (0.433)
Age: 65 years or above	0.074*** (0.567)	0.121** (0.910)	0.051*** (0.887)	0.122*** (0.701)
University degree	1.707** (0.228)	1.063 (0.373)	0.896 (0.239)	0.773 (0.223)
Student	0.863 (0.263)	0.934 (0.453)	0.589** (0.255)	0.709 (0.231)
Migration experience	1.047 (0.163)	1.250 (0.255)	1.286 (0.183)	1.234 (0.167)
Partner: native	0.863 (0.186)	0.882 (0.307)	0.905 (0.228)	1.074 (0.214)
Partner: non-native	1.460 (0.284)	1.493 (0.437)	1.238 (0.391)	2.610*** (0.361)
Children	0.883 (0.258)	1.123 (0.360)	0.827 (0.331)	0.916 (0.294)
Willingness to take risks	1.105*** (0.038)	1.115* (0.061)	1.132*** (0.042)	1.145*** (0.037)
Patience	0.955 (0.033)	0.963 (0.053)	0.960 (0.036)	0.982 (0.033)
Number of observations	1137	1137	1296	1296
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	69.6	69.6	57.6	57.6
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.10

**Panel B: Student sample**

	( <i>n</i> = 281)	( <i>n</i> = 39)	( <i>n</i> = 345)	( <i>n</i> = 165)
Gender: woman	0.877 (0.159)	0.954 (0.361)	1.428* (0.212)	1.297 (0.248)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.197 (0.226)	0.973 (0.538)	0.728 (0.352)	0.736 (0.399)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.160** (0.799)	/ <sup>†</sup>	0.201* (0.924)	1.044 (0.873)
University degree	1.134 (0.166)	1.202 (0.365)	1.979*** (0.223)	1.504 (0.264)
Migration experience	2.053*** (0.161)	0.904 (0.391)	1.633** (0.213)	2.422*** (0.252)
Partner: native	1.166 (0.160)	1.030 (0.355)	1.202 (0.223)	1.364 (0.260)
Partner: non-native	1.423 (0.409)	2.050 (0.824)	2.180 (0.573)	5.213*** (0.581)
Children	0.849 (0.503)	/ <sup>†</sup>	0.478 (0.845)	0.110** (1.022)
Willingness to take risks	1.157*** (0.039)	0.854* (0.088)	1.139** (0.052)	1.102 (0.061)
Patience	0.994 (0.034)	0.861** (0.075)	1.060 (0.043)	1.147*** (0.051)
Number of observations	920	920	674	674
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	65.1	65.1	53.9	53.9
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 771 (GI sample), *n* = 600 (student sample)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 284 (GI sample), *n* = 164 (student sample)). High-income countries include countries which have a GNI per capita larger than \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Czechia, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, South Korea, and Spain). <sup>†</sup> Since none of the respondents who have no migration aspirations but intentions to migrate permanently (*n* = 39) are between 35 and 49 years of age or have children, the coefficients are not meaningful.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

Table B12: Intentions by aspirations. Middle-income countries.

<b>Panel A: GI sample</b>				
	no aspirations to migrate permanently		aspirations to migrate permanently	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently	intentions to migrate temporarily	intentions to migrate permanently
	( <i>n</i> = 186)	( <i>n</i> = 64)	( <i>n</i> = 422)	( <i>n</i> = 1331)
Gender: woman	1.059 (0.199)	1.100 (0.295)	1.133 (0.158)	1.028 (0.134)
Age: under 18 years	1.331 (0.341)	1.999 (0.529)	0.879 (0.271)	1.269 (0.228)
Age: 25 to 34 years	0.742 (0.352)	1.595 (0.520)	1.283 (0.265)	1.503* (0.235)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.650 (0.519)	1.416 (0.691)	0.529 (0.406)	0.660 (0.337)
Age: 50 to 64 years	/ <sup>†</sup>	1.621 (1.250)	0.190* (0.901)	0.574 (0.580)
University degree	2.192*** (0.270)	1.225 (0.430)	1.433* (0.203)	1.071 (0.175)
Student	1.897** (0.292)	1.304 (0.469)	1.065 (0.219)	0.730* (0.190)
Migration experience	1.279 (0.288)	1.080 (0.419)	1.652** (0.218)	1.707*** (0.194)
Partner: native	0.783 (0.339)	1.069 (0.445)	1.131 (0.245)	1.340 (0.214)
Partner: non-native	0.529 (0.553)	2.282 (0.669)	0.918 (0.409)	1.621 (0.348)
Children	0.891 (0.496)	0.683 (0.600)	0.948 (0.456)	1.441 (0.370)
Willingness to take risks	0.944 (0.051)	1.057 (0.078)	1.074* (0.039)	1.102*** (0.033)
Patience	1.051 (0.045)	0.945 (0.065)	1.007 (0.034)	0.992 (0.029)
Number of observations	606	606	2071	2017
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	59.9	59.9	64.3	64.3
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05

<b>Panel B: Student sample</b>				
	( <i>n</i> = 134)	( <i>n</i> = 35)	( <i>n</i> = 345)	( <i>n</i> = 344)
Gender: woman	0.946 (0.227)	1.113 (0.408)	0.926 (0.166)	0.920 (0.166)
Age: 25 to 34 years	1.015 (0.318)	0.805 (0.571)	2.103*** (0.237)	1.453 (0.243)
Age: 35 to 49 years	0.976 (0.545)	2.079 (0.772)	2.162* (0.418)	0.954 (0.480)
University degree	1.390 (0.246)	1.655 (0.448)	1.294 (0.190)	1.230 (0.185)
Migration experience	1.688** (0.254)	0.819 (0.534)	1.324 (0.183)	1.444** (0.184)
Partner: native	0.652 (0.267)	3.278*** (0.445)	0.739 (0.185)	0.881 (0.185)
Partner: non-native	0.662 (0.818)	14.024*** (0.835)	1.633 (0.630)	3.508** (0.594)
Children	1.080 (0.540)	1.224 (0.802)	0.334*** (0.404)	0.281*** (0.478)
Willingness to take risks	1.074 (0.050)	1.019 (0.090)	1.066 (0.040)	1.090** (0.040)
Patience	1.016 (0.044)	0.950 (0.077)	1.023 (0.033)	1.030 (0.033)
Number of observations	640	640	1008	1008
Country FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Correctly predicted values	73.6	73.6	41.6	41.6
McFadden Pseudo R2	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05

*Note:* This table shows risk ratios with standard errors in parentheses. Specifications (1) and (2) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with no aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 356 (GI sample), *n* = 471 (student sample)). Specifications (3) and (4) estimate the probability of having intentions to migrate temporarily or permanently for those with aspirations to migrate permanently; reference category is 'no intentions to migrate' (*n* = 318 (GI sample), *n* = 319 (student sample)). Middle-income countries are countries which have a GNI per capita of \$1,036 to \$12,535 in current US-Dollars, as of 2020 (Bosnia, India, Indonesia, Mexico, and Ukraine). <sup>†</sup>Since none of the respondents who have no migration aspirations but intentions to migrate temporarily (*n* = 186) are between 50 and 64 years of age, the coefficient is not meaningful.

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01