

# Editorial

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This issue consists of five articles. The first article by Mulatu Zerihun, entitled “Remittances and Economic Growth: Evidence from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda”, analyzes the possible effect of international remittances on the economic growth in three selected countries within the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). The result demonstrates that remittances in the countries included in this study serve as a ‘big-push’ towards economic development and have an impact on growth. The findings also suggest the development of close cooperation with host countries to leverage mutual benefit, as well as the establishment of successful collaboration with migrants and diasporas. Finally, the research proposes future studies on the impact of remittances on economic growth.

The second article by Adebayo Makanju and Hafiz Khan is entitled “Determinants of Healthy Aging in Internally Displaced Communities in Nigeria”. Different statistical techniques were used in the analysis, including cross-tabulation and binary logistic regression. The findings of the research indicate a high mean prevalence of old-age disability within the study area, irrespective of migration status in North-eastern Nigeria. The research also establishes robust predictors of later-life health outcomes as socio-economic and environmental determinants. Regression analysis has also shown that a variety of factors have a negative influence on the well-being of older adults. Based on the findings of the research, the authors recommend that the proposed Sahelian ‘Green Belt’ afforestation project of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) targeting, in particular areas around the Chad basin, be fully implemented. The authors also emphasize the urgent need to formulate a systematic and evidence-driven integration between migration and geriatrics.

The third article by Edmond Akwasi Agyeman is entitled “Between the Imagined and the Reality: Threat of African Invasion and Spain’s Migration Policy in Sub-Saharan Africa”. The study examines Spain’s migration policy aimed at controlling Sub-Saharan African immigration. A review of policy papers, migration statistics and secondary literature was used methodologically in the research. The study indicates that current migration trends and statistics do not support the perception that Spain is being invaded by Sub-Saharan African migrants. The study also shows that the restrictive policies of Spain neglect the long-standing interdependent trade and other economic networks existing between Spain, North Africa and West Africa prior to the European colonization of Africa.

The fourth article presented by Hemish Govera and Amiena Bayat is entitled

“Differences in Mental Health among Migrants and Non-migrants in South Africa: Evidence from the National Income Dynamics Study”. The goal of this research was to determine whether the prevalence of depressive symptoms is higher in South Africa among migrants than among non-migrants. The study also investigates the association of migration status with a wide set of sociodemographic variables in the same context. The study applied descriptive analysis and logistic modelling to the South African National Income Dynamics Study (NIDS) panel datasets. The study found a significant association between low sociodemographic status and the risk of poor mental health. The report concludes that compared to the Western Cape, residing in the rest of the South African provinces was associated with a lower risk of poor mental health after controlling for migration status.

The final article, presented by Victor Mlambo, is entitled “Externalization and Securitization as Policy Responses to African Migration to the European Union”. The study explores the externalization and securitization of African migration to the European Union (EU) and the consequences this has for migration governance and management for both the EU and Africa. Methodologically, a qualitative research approach was applied. The study concludes that EU-Africa migration management needs to be focused on policies that address the main ‘push’ factors driving irregular migration from Africa.

I believe these articles offer invaluable insights to scholars, practitioners and students with the skills necessary to provide solutions to many of the major migration challenges faced by society. They also provide informative advice for policy-makers to think critically about migration policies, programs and projects by presenting the continent with reliable empirical research evidence.