



Charles University in Prague, Czechia

Faculty of Science

Department of Social Geography and Regional Development

• Visegrad Fund

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EASTmig

Migration between
Eastern partners (Belarus, Georgia,
Ukraine, Moldova) and the Visegrad Countries

Migration profile of Czechia

The main immigration country in the V4

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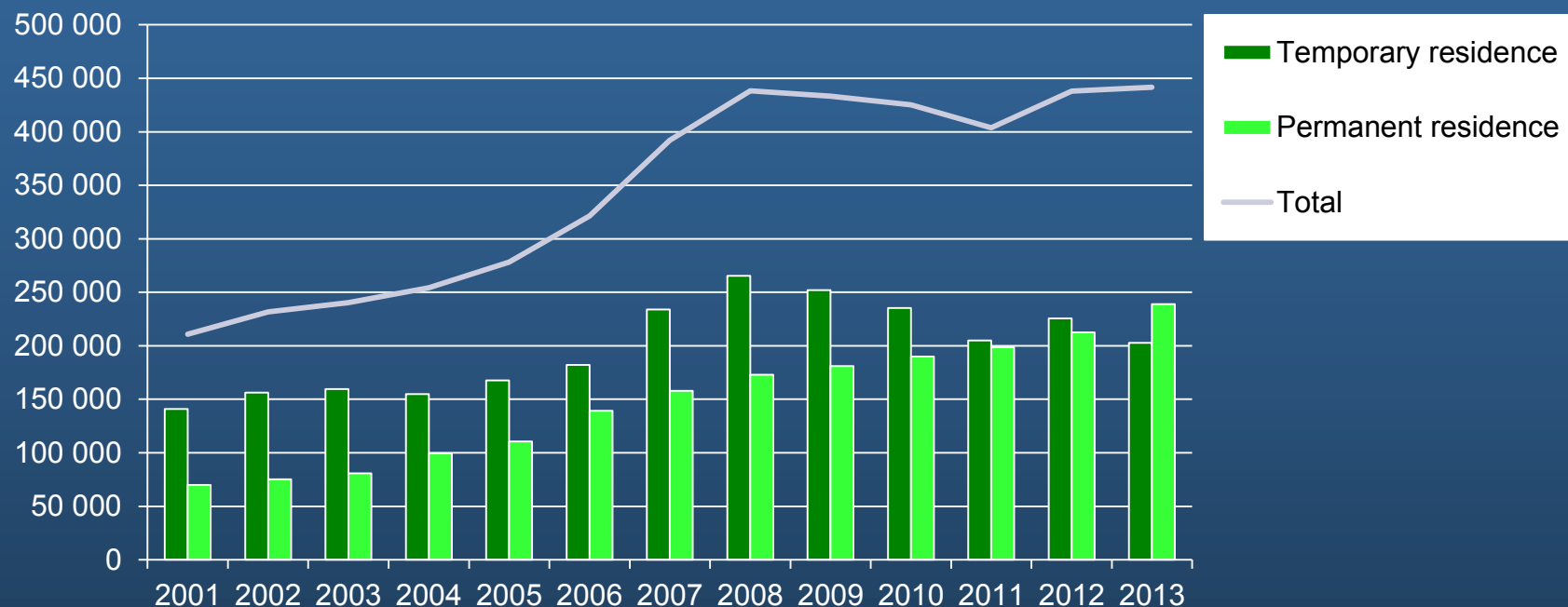
**Conference „Discovering migration between Visegrad Countries and Eastern Partners“
Budapest, Hungary**

Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

- **Social, Economic, Political and Demographic Context**
 - A relatively stable political and economic setting during the phase of political and economic transition
 - Natural decrease of Czech population between 1994-2005 and continuous overall ageing of the population
 - Labour market increasingly demanded foreign workers during the first half of the 1990s as well as after 2005 until 2008
 - Nature of migration policy

Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

• International Migrants



Region of origin:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Eastern immigrants | 52 % |
| Western immigrants | 33 % |
| Asian immigrants | 15% |

Purpose of stay:

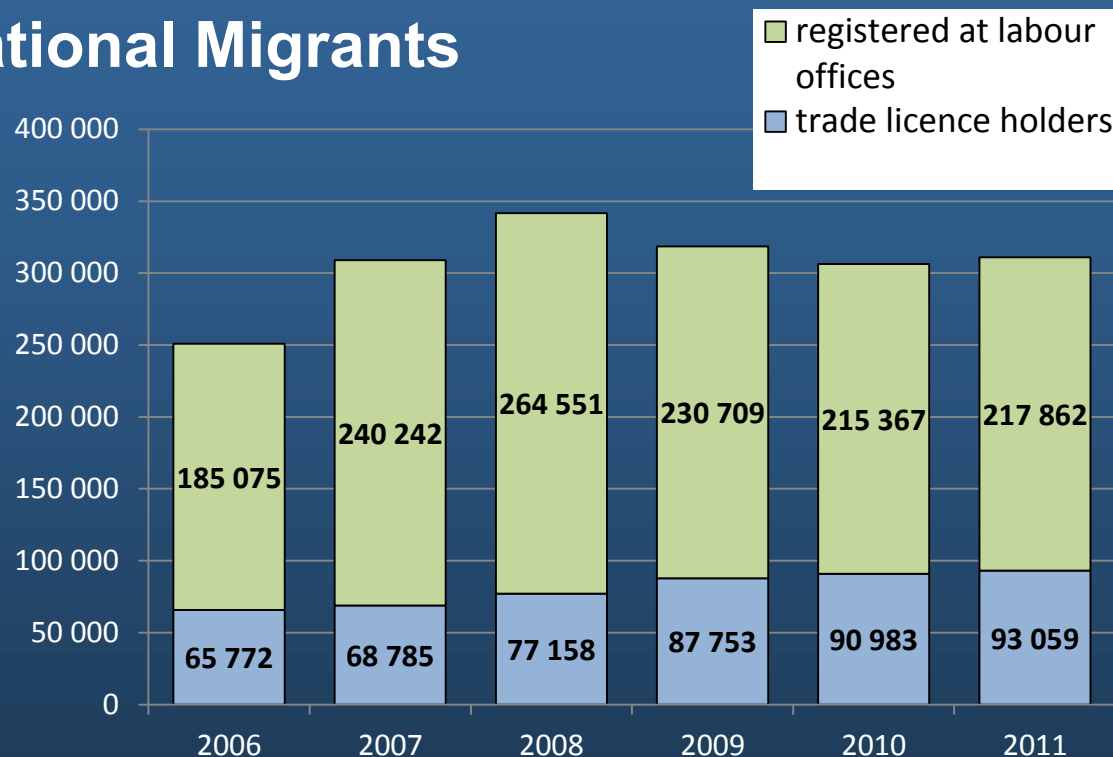
| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Economic migrants | 45 % |
| Family-based migration | 28 % |
| Settlement | 17 % |

Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

• Impact of the Economic Downturn on Economic Activities of International Migrants

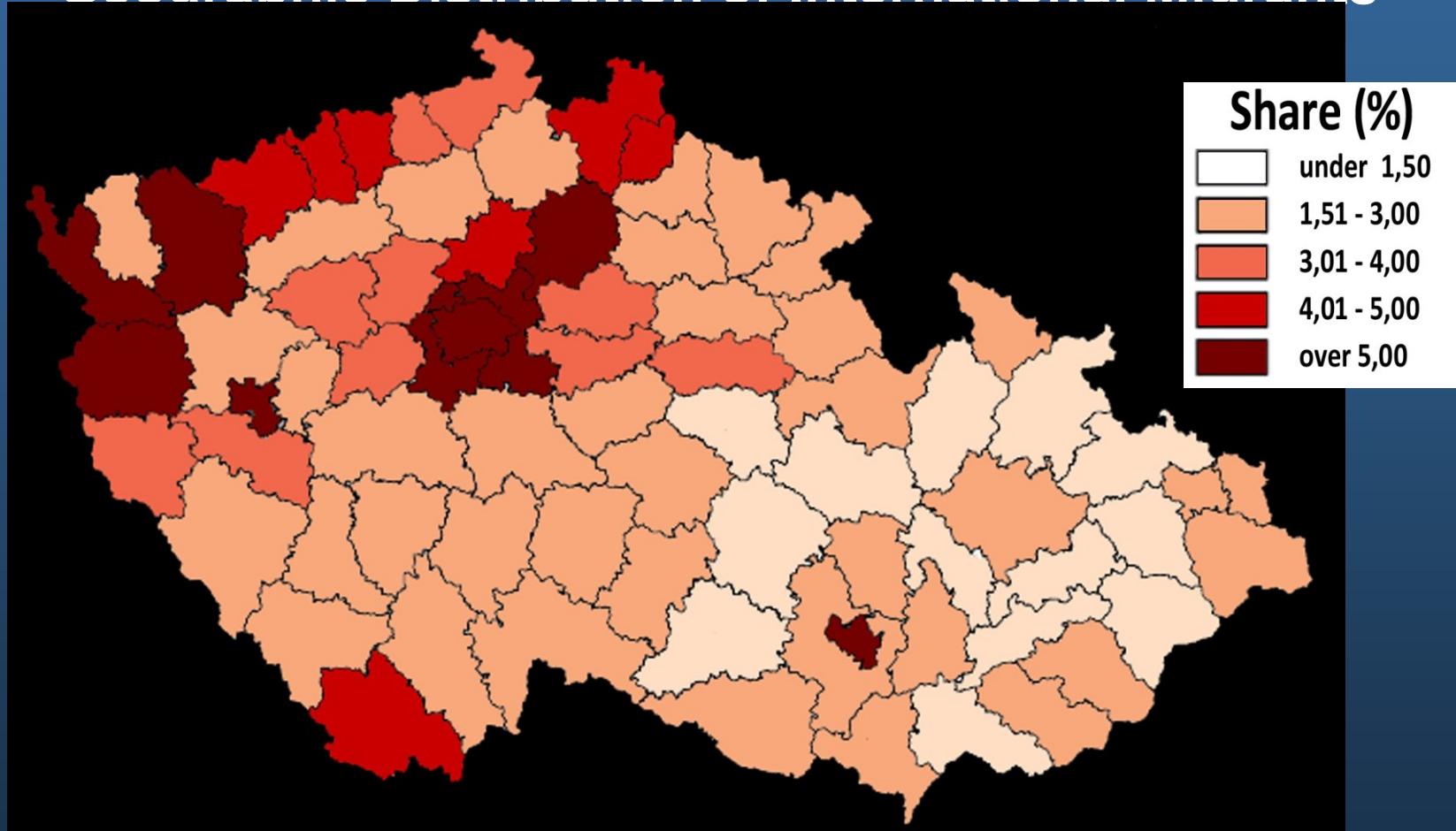
• Survival strategies:

- Permanent residence
- Entrepreneurship
- Irregularity



Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

- **Geographic Distribution of International Migrants**



Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

- **Visegrad and Eastern Partnership countries figures (2011)**

| Citizenship | Total number | Share | Temporary | Permanent |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Ukraine | 119 025 | 27,3 % | 57,8 % | 42,2 % |
| Slovakia | 81 253 | 18,6 % | 61,8 % | 38,2 % |
| Poland | 19 058 | 4,4 % | 43,0 % | 57,0 % |
| Moldova | 7 608 | 1,7 % | 62,5 % | 37,5 % |
| Belarus | 4 498 | 1,0 % | 41,1 % | 58,9 % |
| Hungary | 839 | 0,2 % | 52,3 % | 47,7 % |
| Georgia | 836 | 0,2 % | 58,5 % | 41,5 % |
| Total no. of foreign citizens | 436 389 | 53,1 % | 54,6 % | 45,4 % |

Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

• Structure of Status of Employment of Foreign Workers (2011)



Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

• **Features of Migration and Integration Policy in Czechia**

- Differentiation between EU citizens and Third-country nationals
- International migration is still not a political issue
- Migration policy as a set of ad-hoc measures
 - » A long-term concept is still missing
- General rule: more liberal approach in times of economic growth, restrictive measures imposed in times of economic downturn

– **Integration policy:** „Civic integration“ approach (2009)

- Enhancing the knowledge of Czech among migrants
- Enhancing the economic self-sufficiency
- Orientation of migrants in the host society
- Relationships between migrants and host society members

Czechia – the main country of immigration in the V4

- **Issues and challenges of international migration in Czechia**
 - More systematic and conceptual perspective in migration management still missing
 - Predominant are economic and national security aspects when dealing with international migration
 - Insufficient system of data collection and monitoring of international migration
 - Insufficient utilization of migrants' qualification and educational attainment at the Czech labour market
 - Issue of irregular migration



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Thank you!

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www.geomigrace.cz