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[Lecture]

Air Pollution as a Driver of Population Mobility: Empirical Evidence and Underlying Mechanisms

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Abstract: This study examines the impact of air quality on migration intentions and potential destination choices, using empirical data from field surveys conducted in the City of Belgrade, Serbia, in 2025. Employing advanced statistical modeling within the R programming environment, the findings provide critical insights into both current demographic trends and future trajectories. The analysis reveals a significant correlation between air pollution and population migration intentions and identifies spatial patterns of potential mobility at both domestic (rural–urban frameworks) and international scales. These findings expand the existing literature by highlighting the necessity of analyzing urban migration within the context of specific, localized external pressures experienced by residents over time. By addressing potential future prospects, this research establishes a vital foundation for subsequent investigations into environmental migration in Serbia.

Keywords: migration, air quality, City of Belgrade, Serbia

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