

*Contemporary migration processes in Central  
Eastern Europe. „Fluid” type of migration and its  
political implications.*

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# Outline of the presentation

- Current issues of EU migration regime
- 2004 and 2007 enlargements of the EU and their implications for migration processes
- Migration processes in CEE region as “fluid” type of migration
- Contemporary migration in CEE as a challenge to migration policy and managing migration

# The EU as migration regime (normative basis)

- Freedom of movement of persons and labour force – as a basic rule of the EU and component to build up internal European labour market
- Idea of internal high mobility, with limited immigration from third countries (demographic base, highly skilled migration and as supplementary labour force in case of shortages)
- Most of the EU countries introduced transitory arrangements with regard to access to the labour market and welfare systems for new members
- Fortress Europe, Schengen zone and soft/hard borders

# CEE as migration regime

- 1980s internal migration space
- Buffer zone between East and West
- Transit zone
- Sending region
- Periphery of Europe mainstream

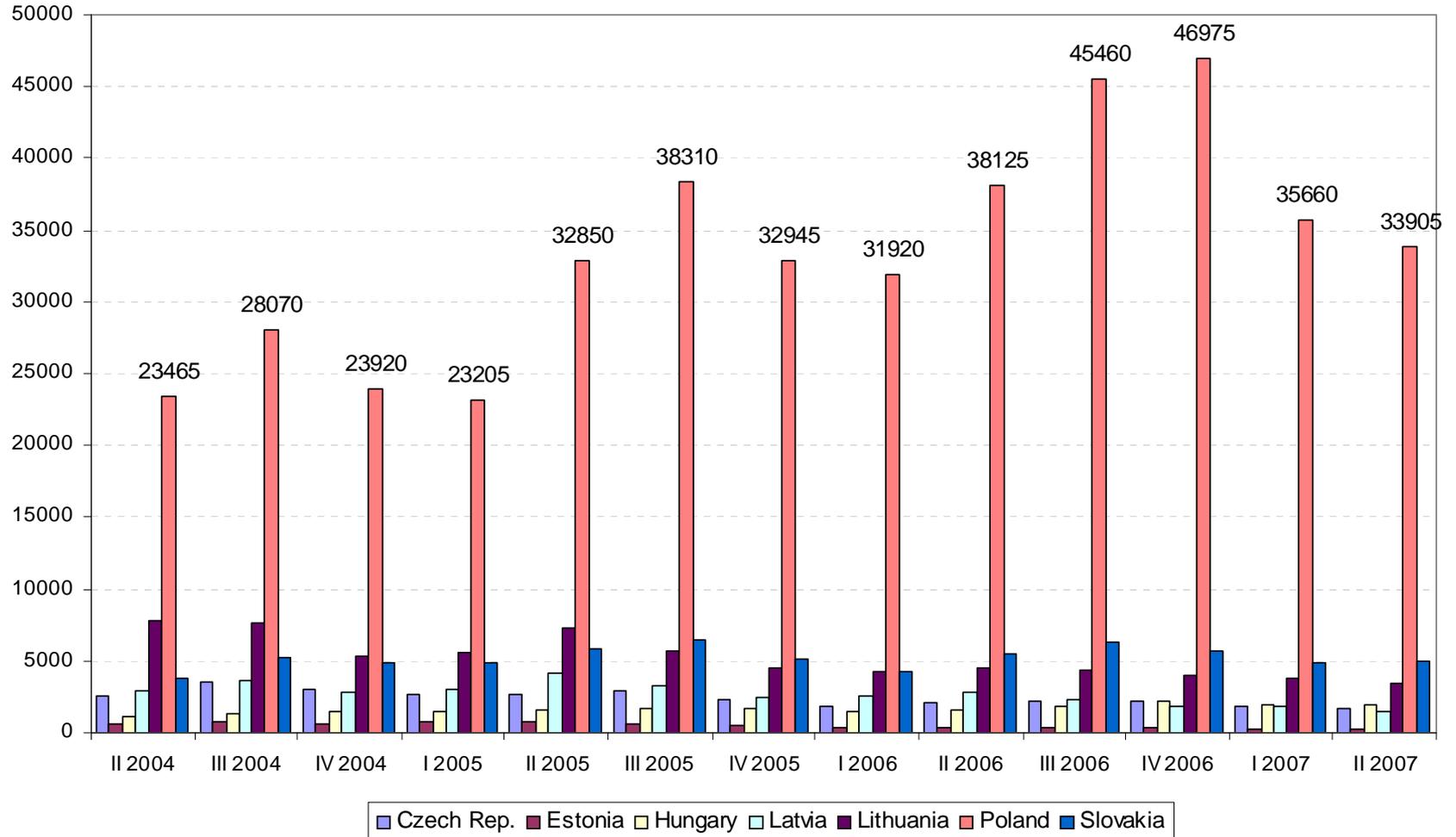
# EU enlargments

EU – 6 (1952)	founding countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands
EU – 9 (1973)	the UK, Denmark and Ireland
EU - 10 (1981)	Greece
EU - 15 (1995)	Austria, Finland and Sweden
EU – 25 (May 2004)	Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia
EU – 27 (January 2007)	Bulgaria and Romania
Official candidates to the EU	Croatia, Turkey, Macedonia, Montenegro

# Access to EU labour market of citizens of new member states

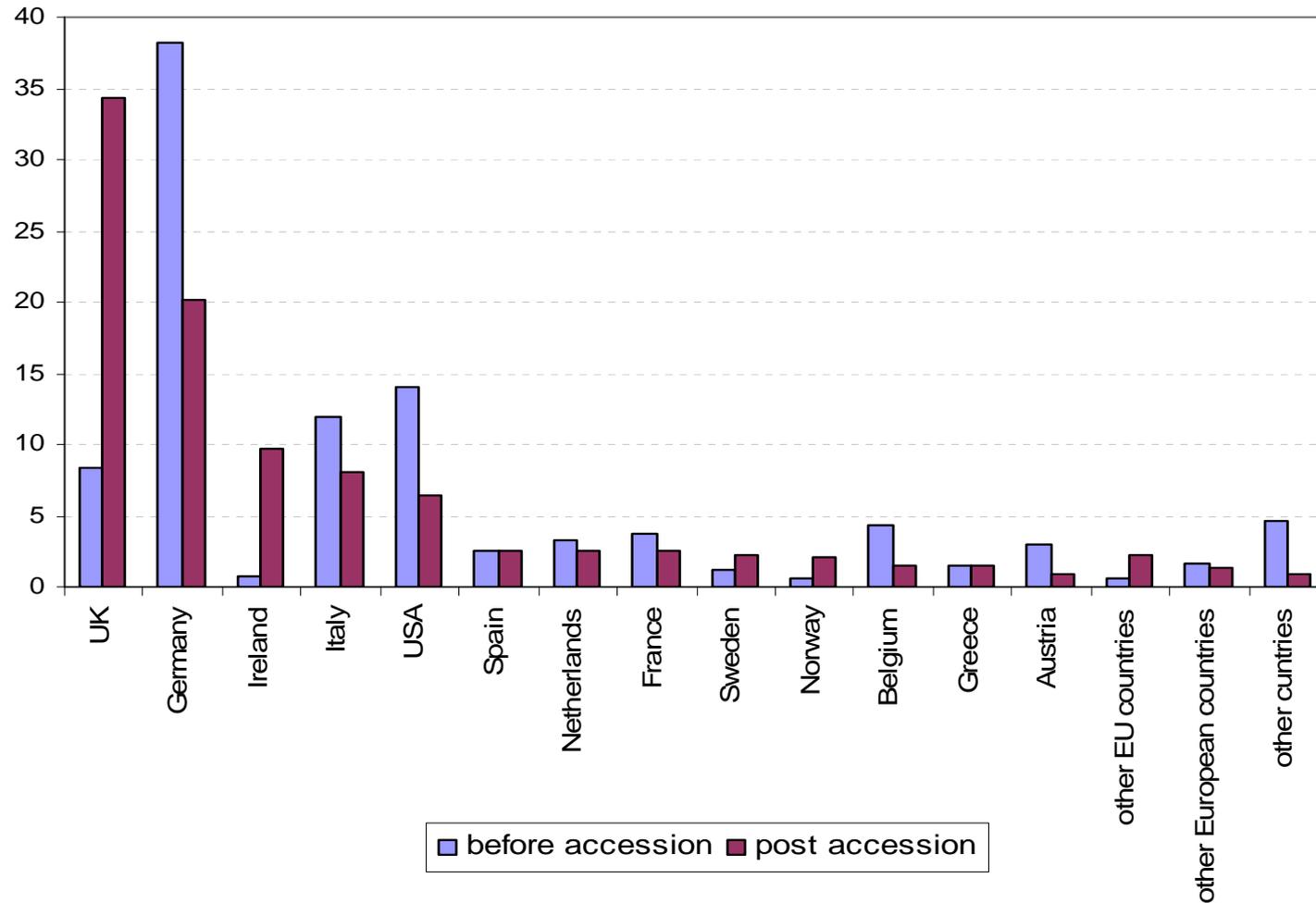
EU 15	2004 enlargement	2007 enlargement
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain	Restricted (transitory arrangements )	Restricted (transitory arrangements )
Finland	Restricted	Unrestricted
Sweden	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
the UK and Ireland	Unrestricted	Restricted

# Applicants with the Worker Registration Scheme (the UK) by major nationalities, March 2004 – June 2007, by quarters



Source: Accession Monitoring Report May 2004-September 2007, Home Office.

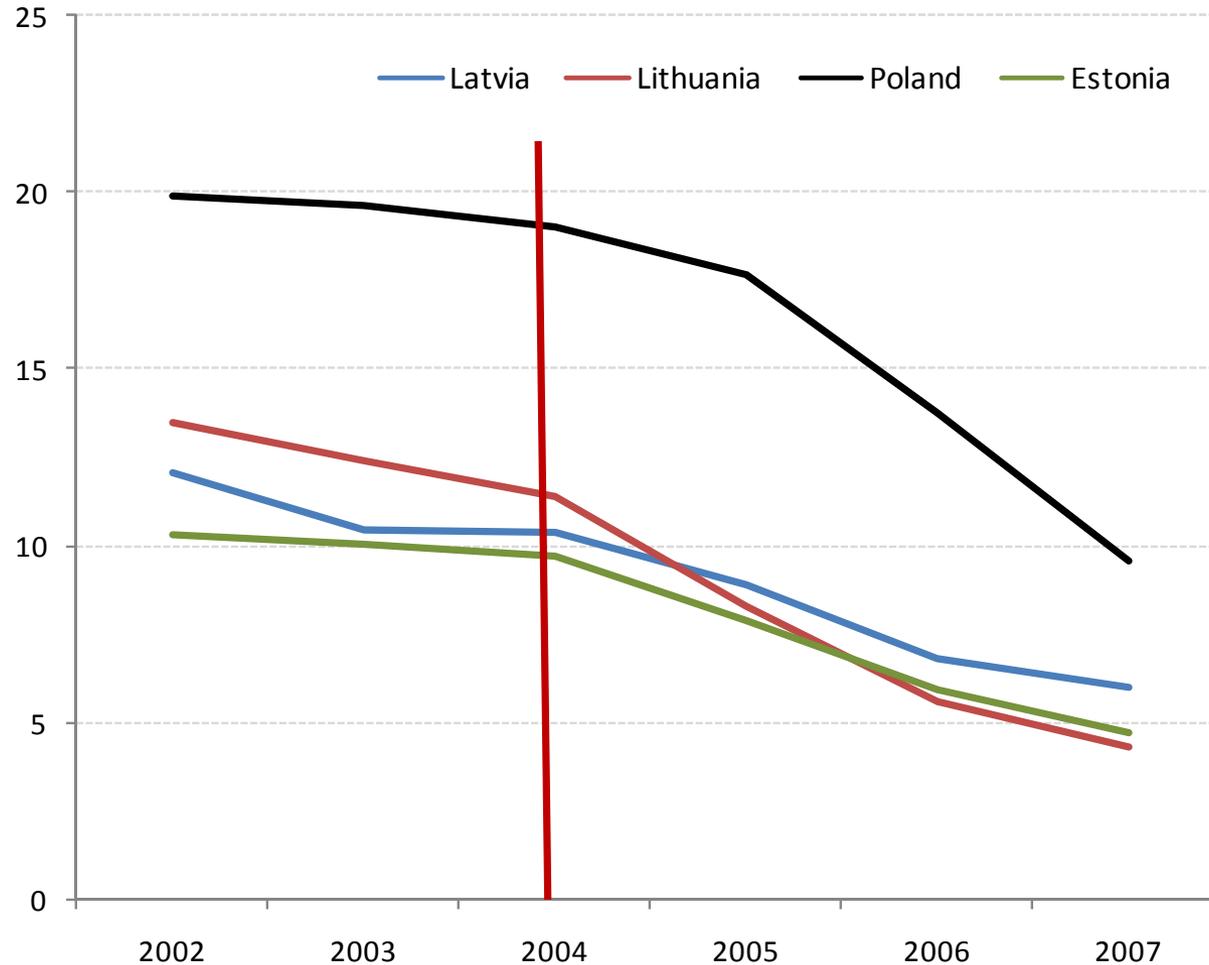
## Main destination countries for migrants from Poland before and after accession, in per cent



Source: SOPEMI

# Demographic and economic impacts of migration

Radical relief to labour market – a decline in unemployment



# Post accession movements

## Main features:

- Migration motivations → predominance of labour migration
- Duration of migration → (undefined) temporary migration
- Dynamics of migration: temporary, mostly circular, non-settled
- Main destination countries: pre- and post-accession directions

# Returns. Next phase of post-accession migration?

**Methodological problems** with estimation the scale of return migrants

**Variety of estimations:**

**IPPR 2008** – nearly a half of migrants from EU new members states settled in the UK after 2004 already returned

**GUS:** 580 thousands of Poles returned in 2004–2008 .

Economic crisis favours return flows

Support of Polish government to returnees

Return migration v. transmigration

**Final conclusion:** returns are the fact, however it is difficult to estimate its characteristics in qualitative and quantitative terms.

# „Fluidity” of migration

- „Fluid” migration : incomplete, indefinite, Euro-commuting
- Variety of and flexibility of personal migration strategies: ‘being here and there’, ‘deliberately keeping various options open’
- Transnational social spaces
- Variety of adaptation schemes to European migration space

# Poles, Romanians and Ukrainians' „fluid” migration

Different legal status within European migration regime

- Traditional countries of emigration
- Constant mobility
- Similar type of migration: not settled - circular, seasonal, short-term
- Key role of migrant networks
- Transnational (regional) spaces

# Challenges to policy and migration management

- How to manage an unpredictable, „fluid” migration phenomenon?
- CEE as destination region (concept of migration cycle from emigration to immigration country)
- Migration policy development: formulation of migration doctrine, politisation of issue of migration



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