

International migration and development in Africa: Past, present, future

Bela Hovy

Chief, Migration Section

**Population Division, Department of Economic and
Social Affairs (UN DESA)**

**Regional Consultation on International Migration in Africa
UN/ECA, Addis Ababa, 26-27 October 2017**

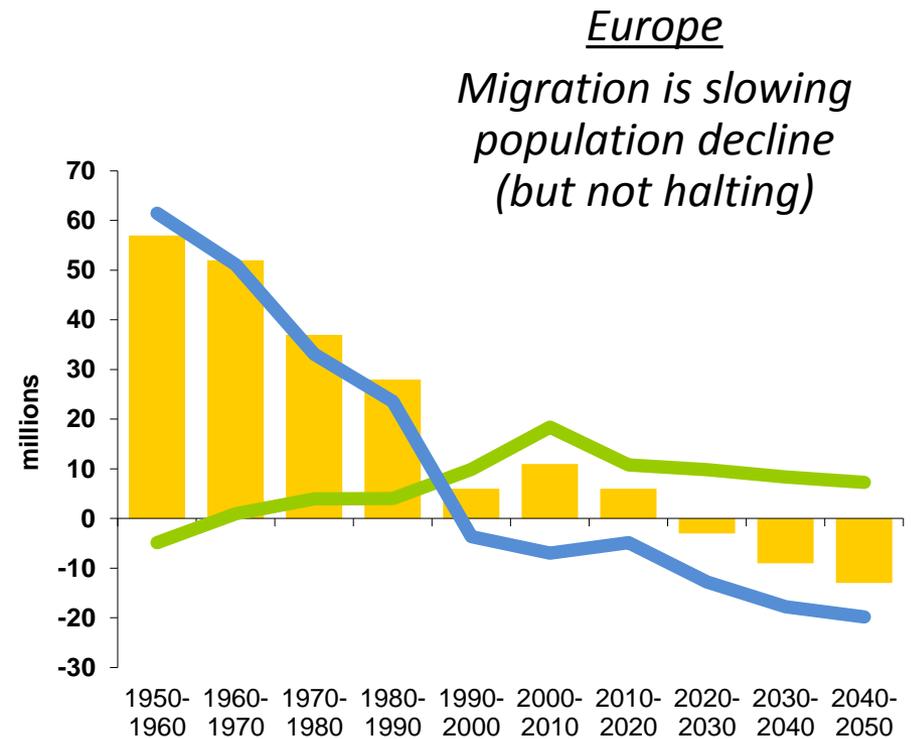
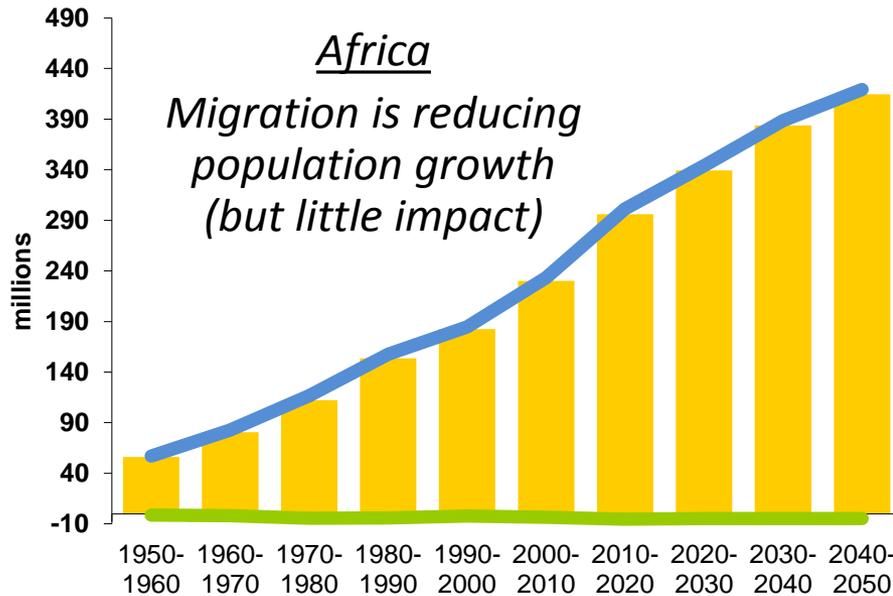


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Components of population change - Africa and Europe compared



— Natural change
— Net international migration

■ Total net population change



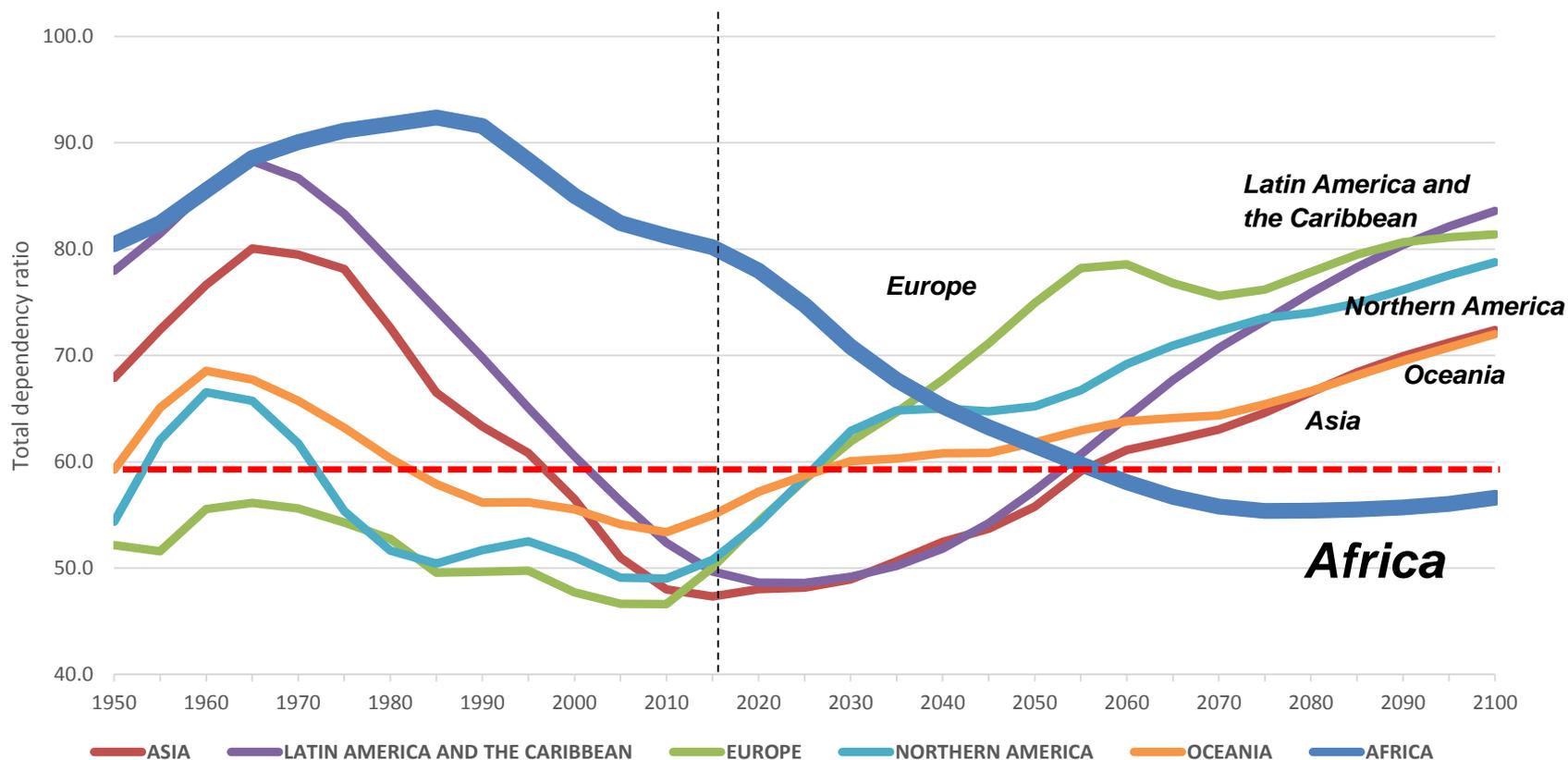
Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



The demographic window of opportunity

Total dependency ratio, by region, 1950-2100,
(ratio of population 0-14 and 65+ per 100 population 15-64)



—Source: World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision

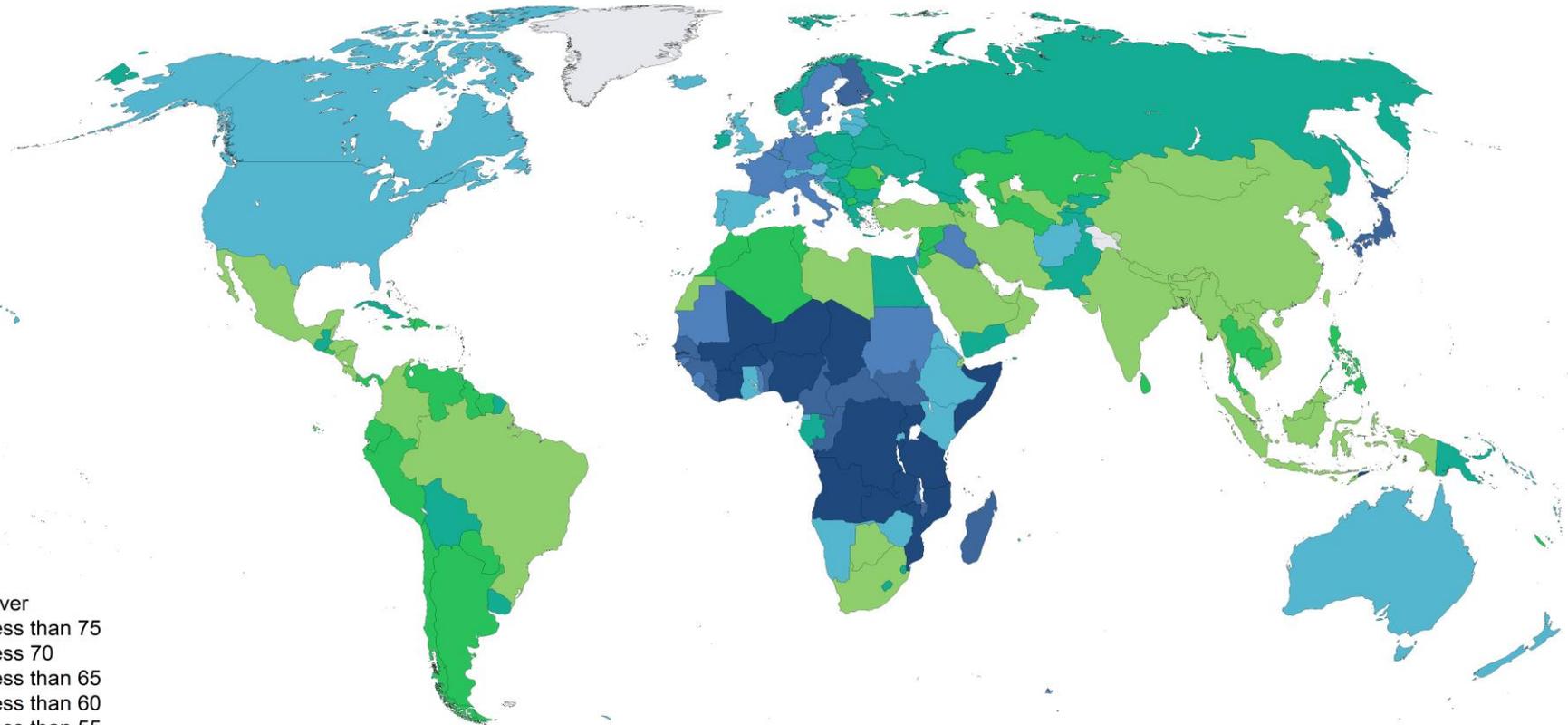


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



2030



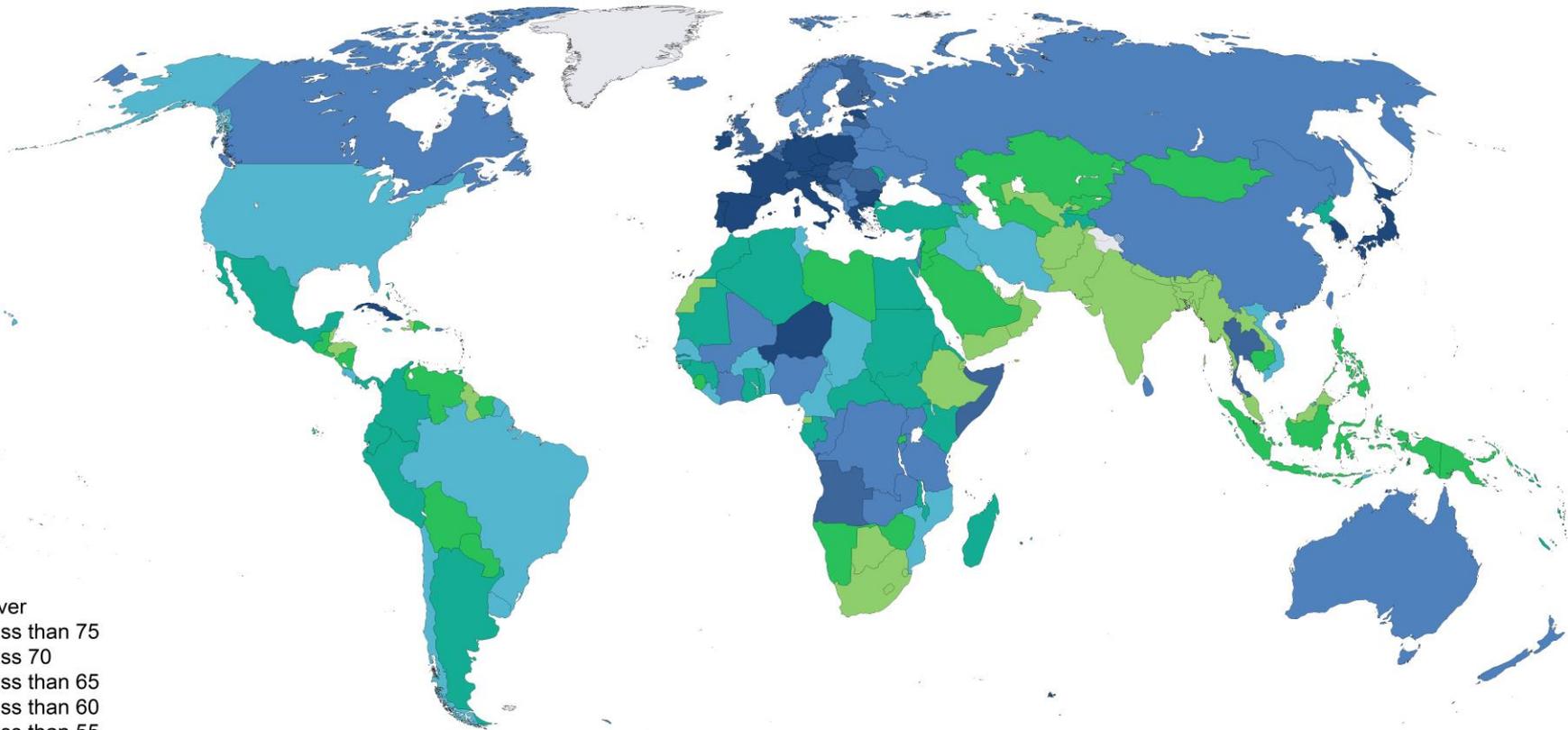
- 75 or over
- 70 to less than 75
- 65 to less than 70
- 60 to less than 65
- 55 to less than 60
- 50 to less than 55
- Less than 50
- No data



Population Division
United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



2050



- 75 or over
- 70 to less than 75
- 65 to less than 70
- 60 to less than 65
- 55 to less than 60
- 50 to less than 55
- Less than 50
- No data

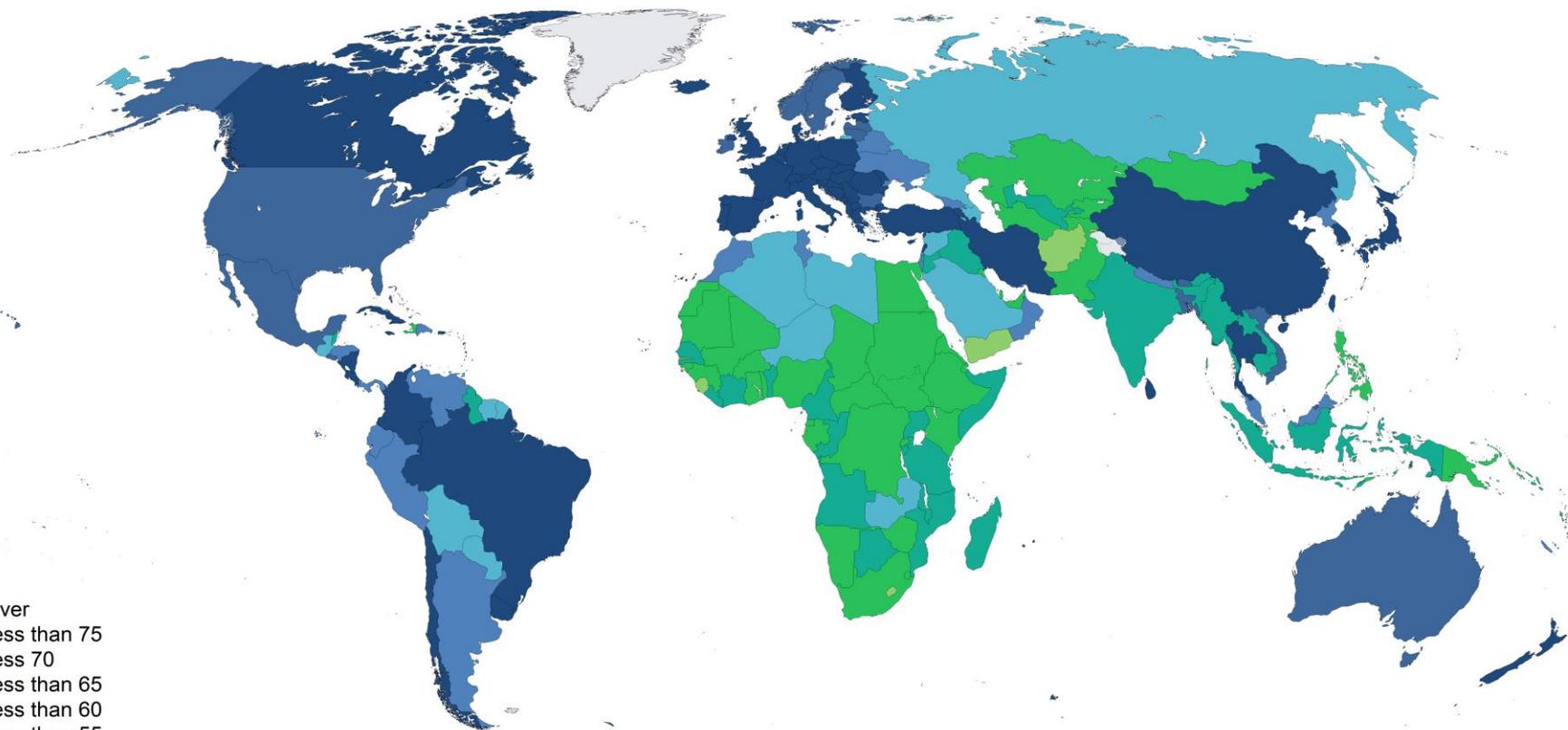


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



2075



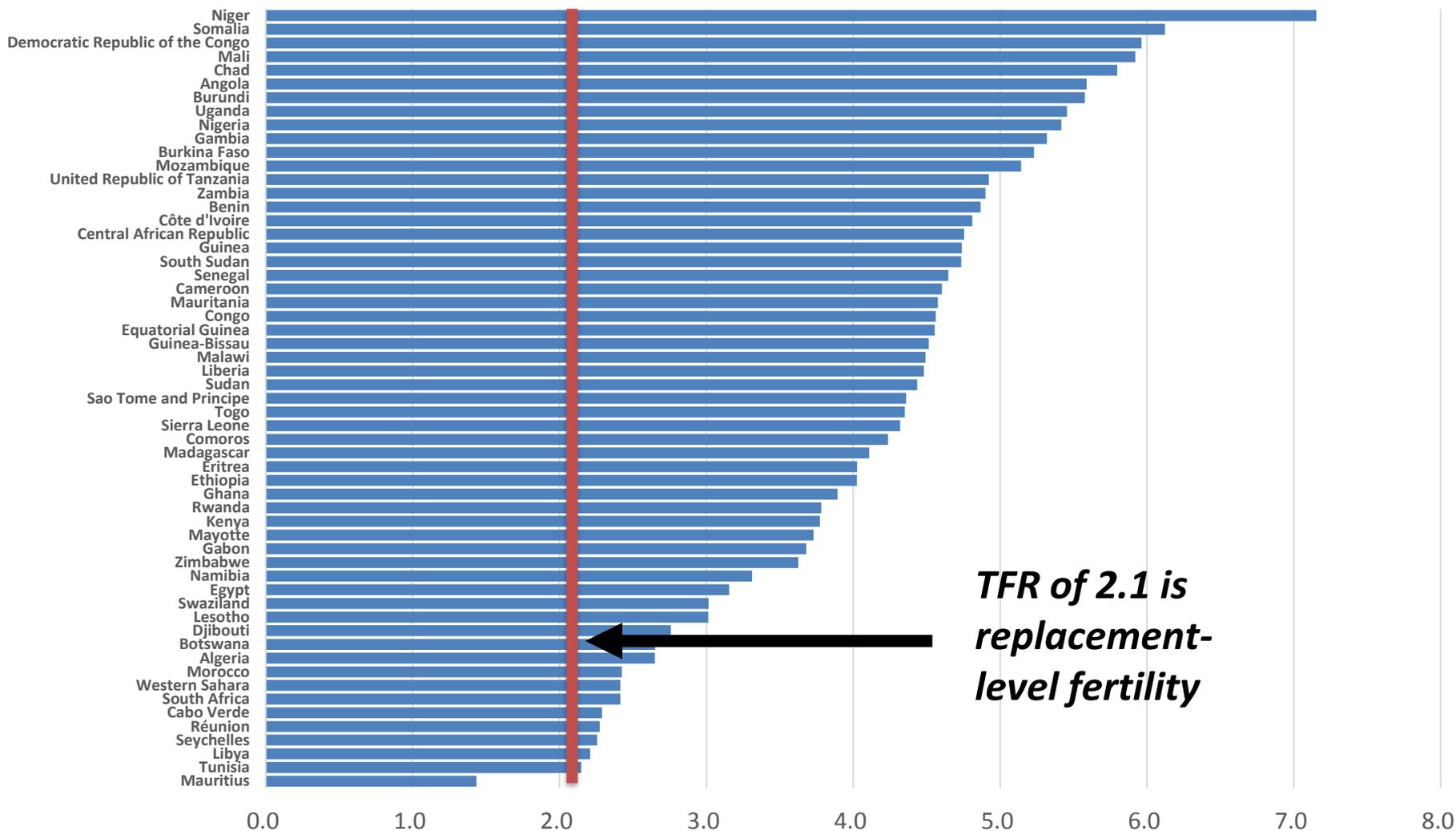
- 75 or over
- 70 to less than 75
- 65 to less than 70
- 60 to less than 65
- 55 to less than 60
- 50 to less than 55
- Less than 50
- No data



Population Division
United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Total fertility rate, Africa, 2015-2020



TFR of 2.1 is replacement-level fertility



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Who is an international migrant?

(UNDESA, 1998. Recommendation on statistics of international migration)

- **Anyone who changes her/his country of residence**
 - Part of this definition:
 - A physical move
 - Minimum duration of stay (1 year or more)
 - Not part of this definition:
 - Reason (work, family, study, asylum, etc.)
 - Legal status
- **How to measure?**
 - Foreign-born population and foreign citizens in census

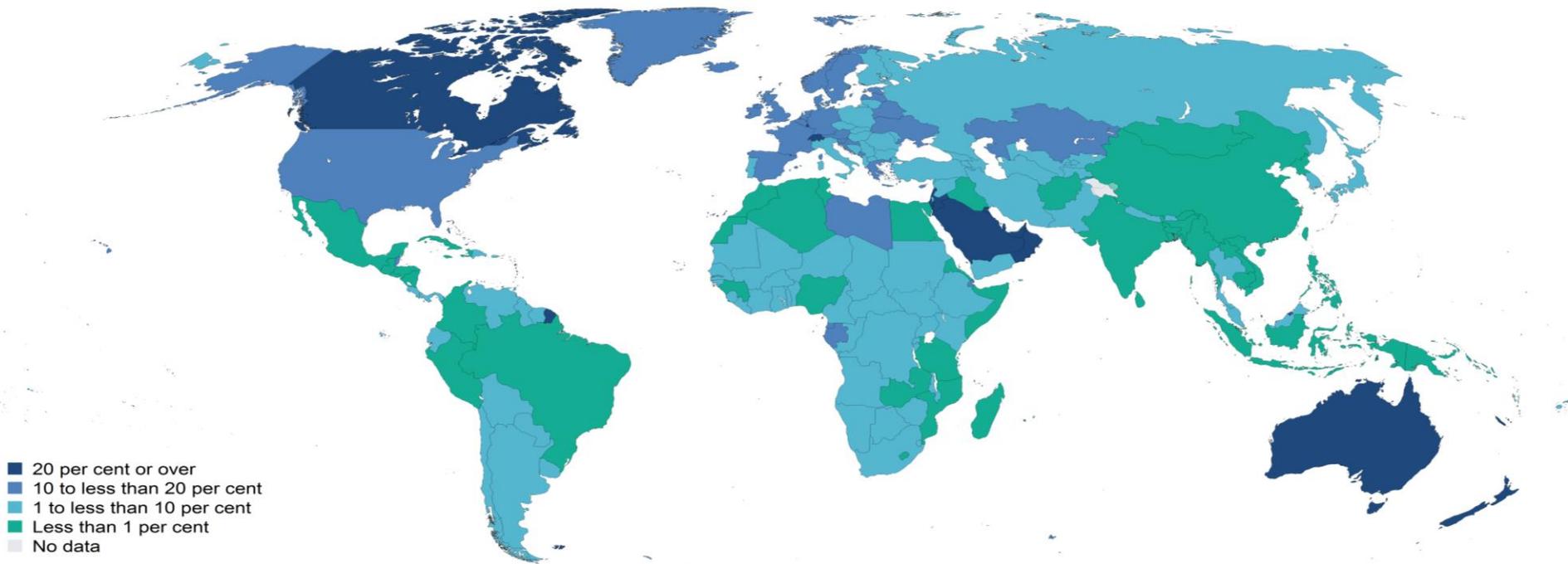


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



International migrants are highly concentrated



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Total number of international migrants 2000 and 2017

	2000	2017	Change
Africa	14.8	24.7	67%
<i>Eastern Africa</i>	<i>4.8</i>	<i>7.6</i>	<i>57%</i>
<i>Middle Africa</i>	<i>1.8</i>	<i>3.5</i>	<i>101%</i>
<i>Northern Africa</i>	<i>1.9</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>28%</i>
<i>Southern Africa</i>	<i>1.2</i>	<i>4.3</i>	<i>255%</i>
<i>Western Africa</i>	<i>5.1</i>	<i>6.8</i>	<i>33%</i>
Asia	49.2	79.6	62%
Europe	56.3	77.9	38%
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.6	9.5	45%
Northern America	40.4	57.7	43%
Oceania	5.4	8.4	57%
World	172.6	257.7	49%

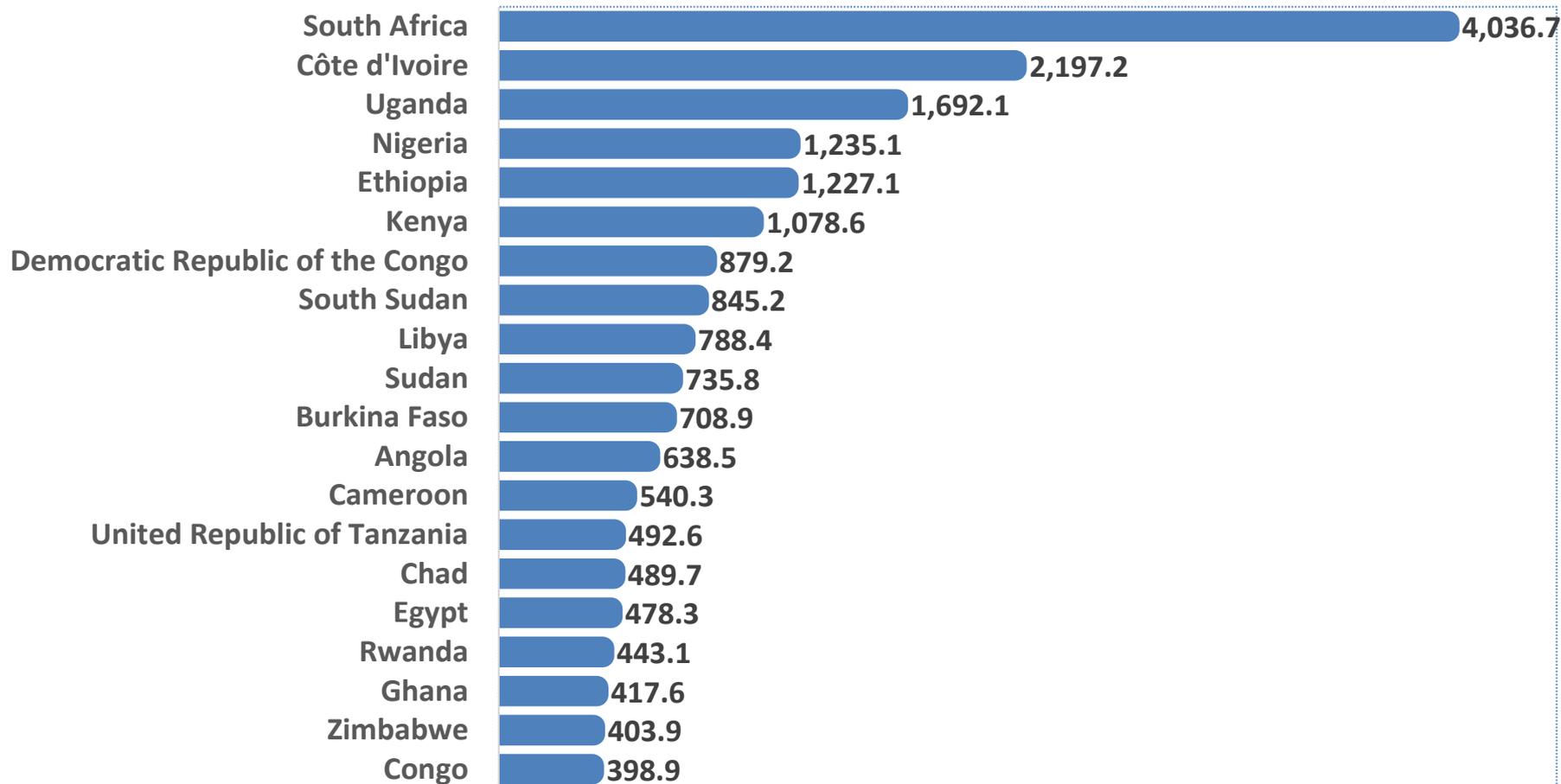


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Top-20 countries of destination of international migrants, Africa, 2017 (thousands)



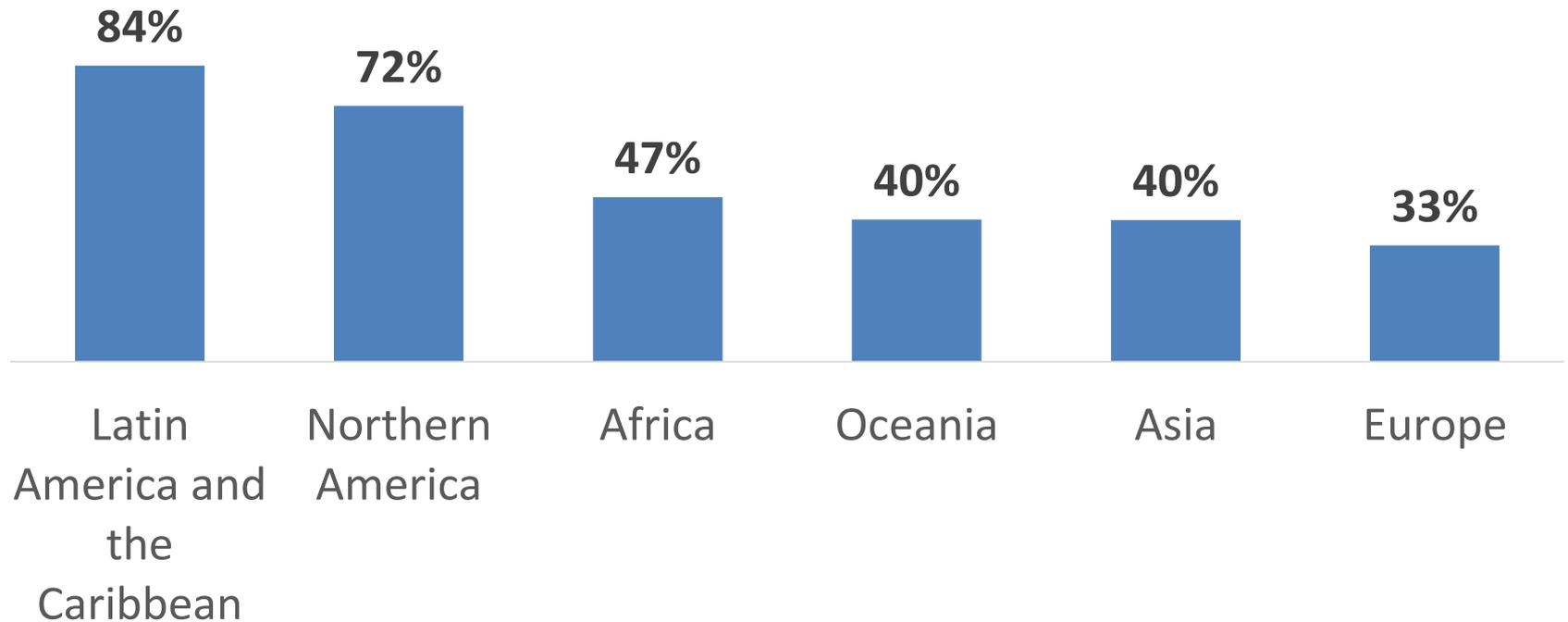
Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Regional expatriation rates

Percentage of international migrants who reside outside the region in which they were born



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Who is a refugee?

(1951 United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees)

- **Refugee definition (art. 1)**
 - well-founded fear of being persecuted
 - for reasons related to race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion
 - outside country of nationality and unable to return
- **How to measure**
 - Administrative records (registers of refugees and asylum-seekers)
 - [Population census (reasons for migration)]



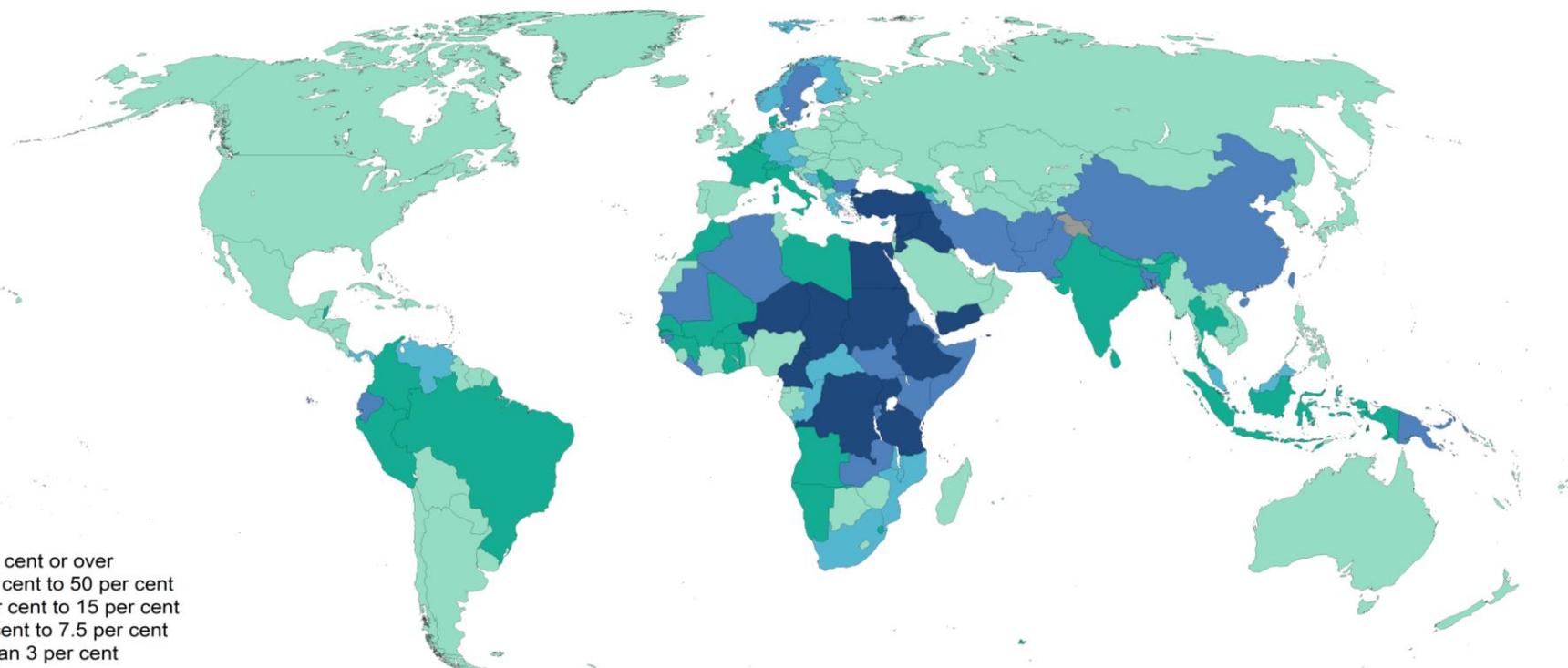
Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



In Africa and Western Asia, refugees constitute an high percentage of all international migrants

Refugees as a percentage of all international migrants



- 50 Per cent or over
- 15 per cent to 50 per cent
- 7.5 per cent to 15 per cent
- 3 per cent to 7.5 per cent
- less than 3 per cent
- No data



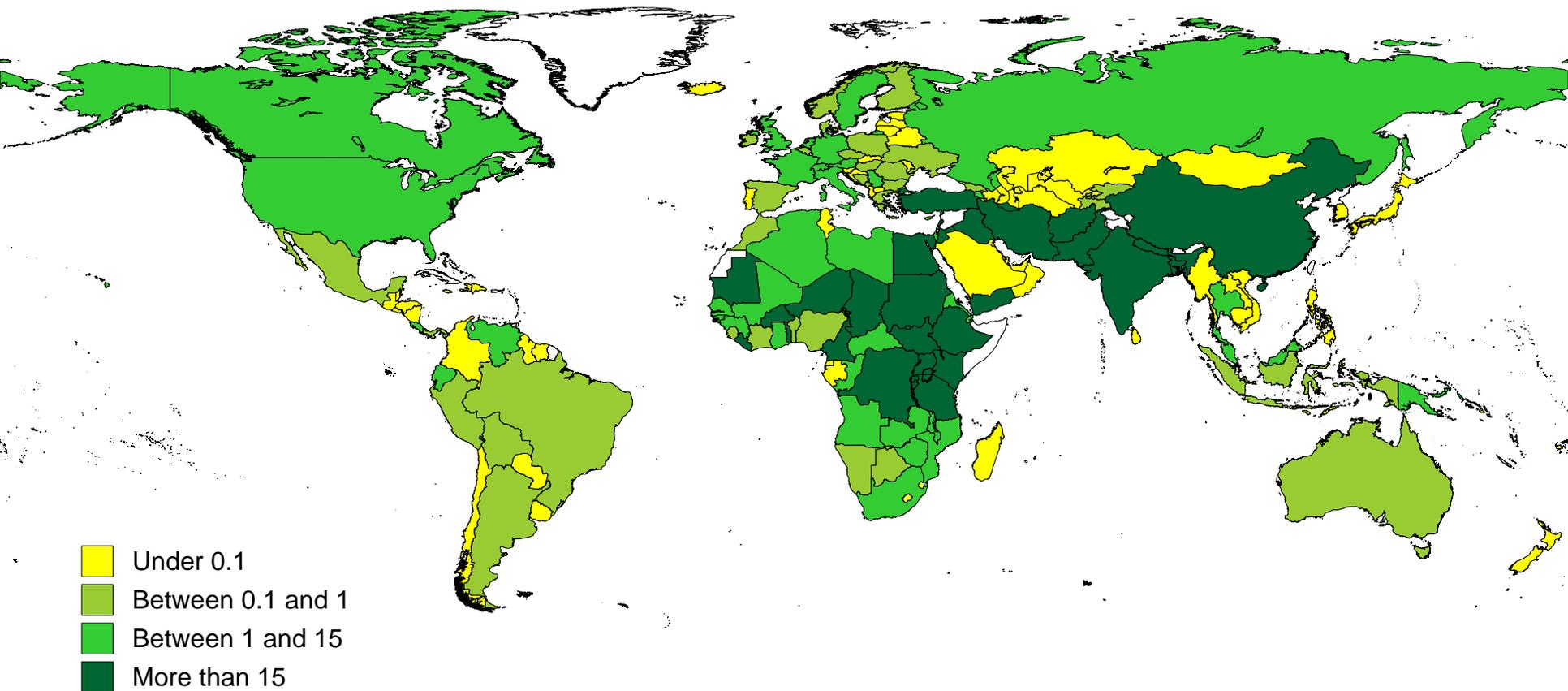
Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Uneven sharing of responsibilities for refugees

Ratio of refugee population to gross domestic product per capita (PPPs)



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Migration in the 2030 Agenda

(10 out of 169 targets are “migration-related”)

Figure 2. Migration in the sustainable development goals and targets

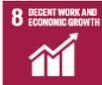
	Strengthen and retain the health workforce in developing countries (3.c)
	Increase the number scholarships for study abroad (4.b)
	Eradicate human trafficking (5.2, 8.7, 16.2)
	Protect labour rights of migrant workers (8.8)
	Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration (10.7)
	Reduce transaction costs of remittances (10.c)
	Establish legal identity, including through birth registration (16.9)
	Disaggregate data by migratory status (17.18)

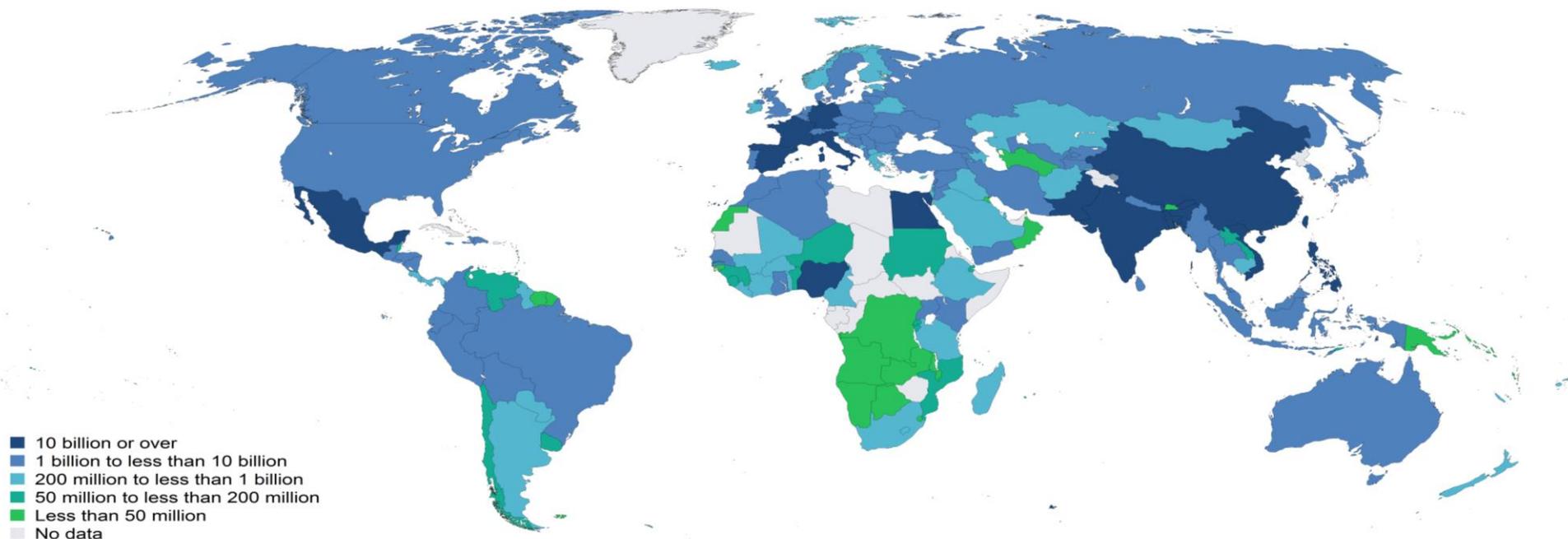
Figure 3. Migration in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda



- Combat xenophobia
- Facilitate integration through education and communication strategies
- Lower the cost of recruiting migrant workers
- Increase portability of earned benefits and recognition of qualifications
- Promote faster, cheaper and safer transfer of remittances
- Enhance the productive use of remittances
- Mitigate negative consequences of anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing measures

While remittance flows to Africa vary and are relatively small ...

Inflows of migrant remittances, 2016 (US\$)



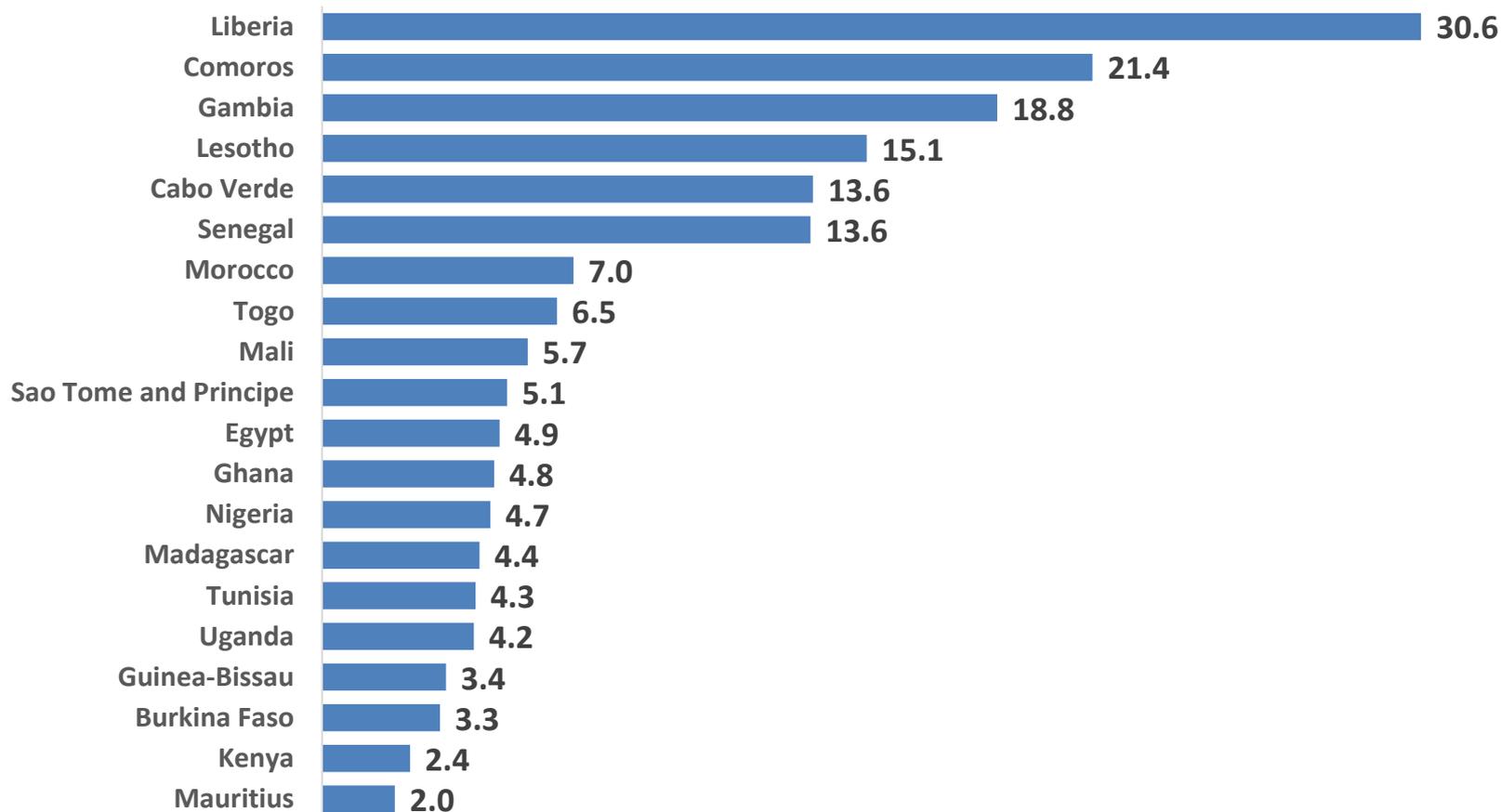
Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



... they form an important part of the gross domestic product in some countries

Remittance inflows as a percentage of GDP, 2016

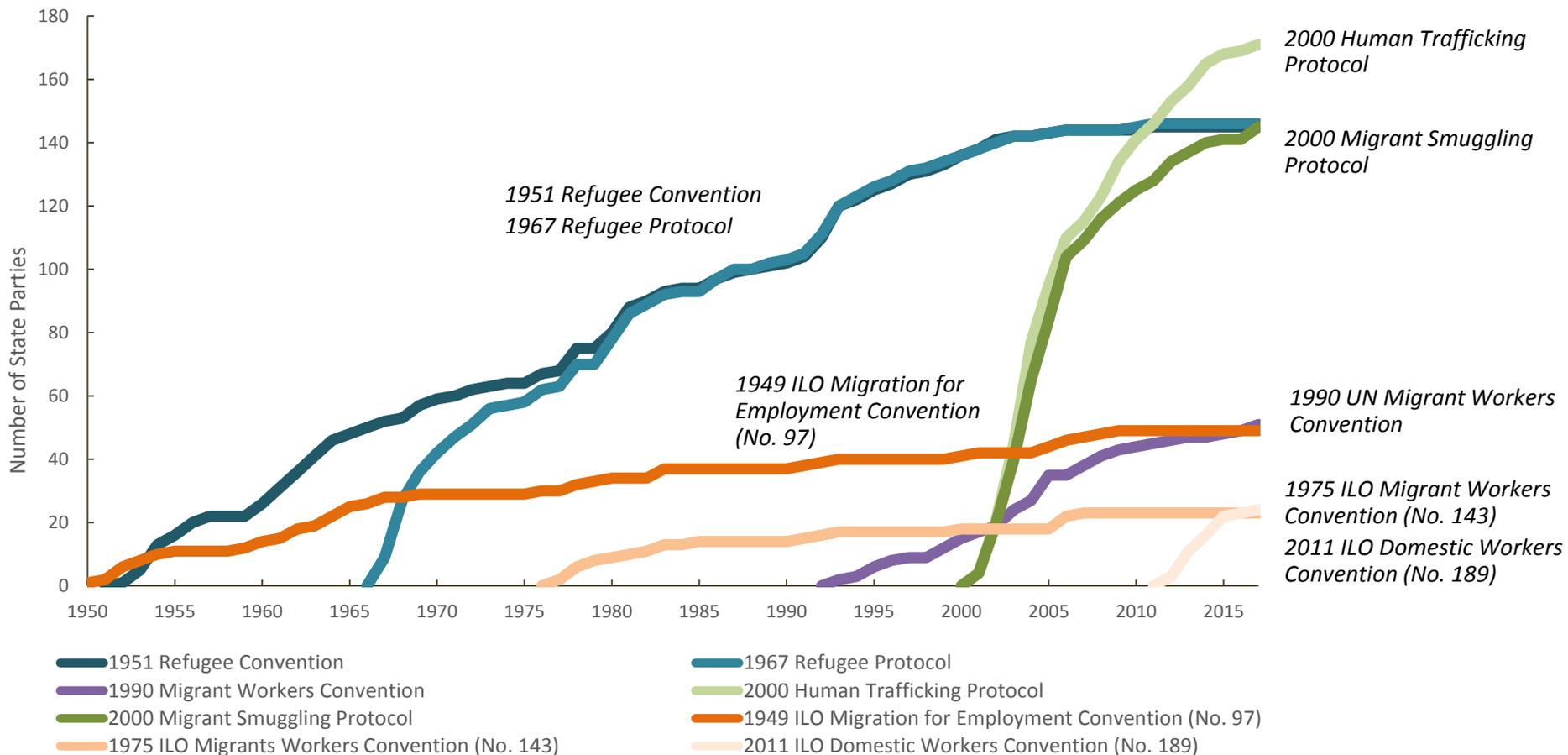


Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Ratification of relevant conventions reflects policy priorities of Member States



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



The global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration: A comprehensive and ambitious agenda

(Source: New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, Annex II)

- 24 elements (indicative, non-exhaustive)

Interrelationships with development, opportunities, drivers, contributions, safe, orderly and regular migration, well-managed migration policies, international cooperation, impacts on human capital, remittances, human rights of migrants, migrants in vulnerable situations, border control, human trafficking and migrant smuggling, irregular migration, migrants in countries in crisis, inclusion and access to basic services, regularization, labour rights and working conditions, migrant responsibilities, return and readmission, diasporas, racism and xenophobia, data disaggregation, portability



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Preparing for the global migration compact at the national level: Next steps

1. Develop coherent national position (inter-ministerial taskforce)
2. Mobilize stakeholders (NGOs, private sector, academia, diaspora groups, migrants, etc.)
3. Consider implementation and follow-up
 - a) How to integrate migration in national development planning?
 - b) How to strengthen national institutions?
 - c) How to improve data, research and training?
 - d) What role can the international community play?



Population Division

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

