# The Challenges of Immigration in a Small European State

Liechtenstein

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### Map



#### Population Dynamics

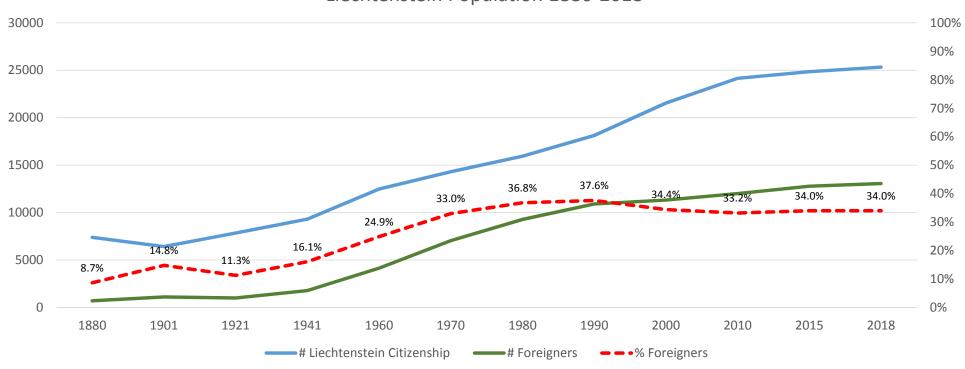
 How is the Local Population divided? (Ethnically; Residents, Citizens, Foreign/Guest Workers) Provide Total Numbers and Percentages (Latest Estimates)

Residents	# 31.12.2018	%	Employees	31.12.2017	%
LIE citizens	25.322	66.0	LIE Residents	17.362	44.9
Foreigners	13.058	34.0	Commuters	21.299	55.1
- Switzerland	3.667	9.6	- Switzerland	11.729	30.3
- Austria	2.257	5.9	- Austria	8.682	22.5
- Germany	1.658	4.3	- Germany	627	1.6
- Italy	1.189	3.1	- Other	261	0.7
TOTAL	38.380	100.0	TOTAL	38.661	100.0

Source: Statistics Liechtenstein (Citizens; Employment)

### Population Trends

#### Liechtenstein Population 1880-2018

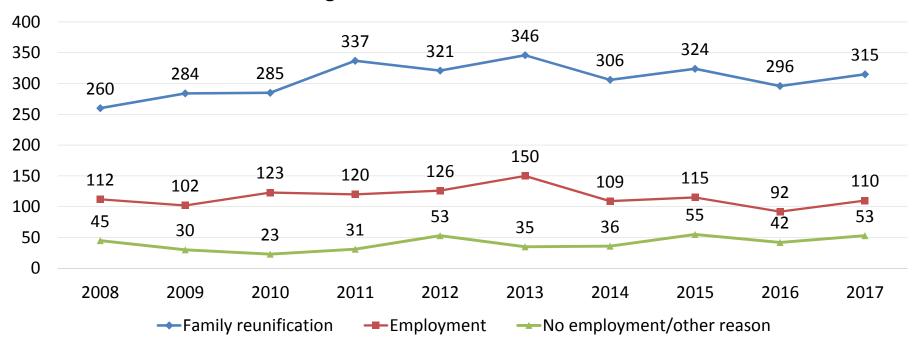


#### Types of Immigration (1)

- Explain the type of persons who are immigrating to your country, the reasons for their migration (both PUSH and PULL Factors), and whether they intend to stay or leave.
  - Residence permit for family members (partner, children, parents)
    - Liechtenstein citizens (cf. marriage with foreigners)
    - EEA and Swiss citizens
    - Third country citizens
  - Immigration for employment
  - Immigration as non-employed
  - Refugees and asylum seekers
  - (specialty: cross-border commuters, about 55% of all employees)

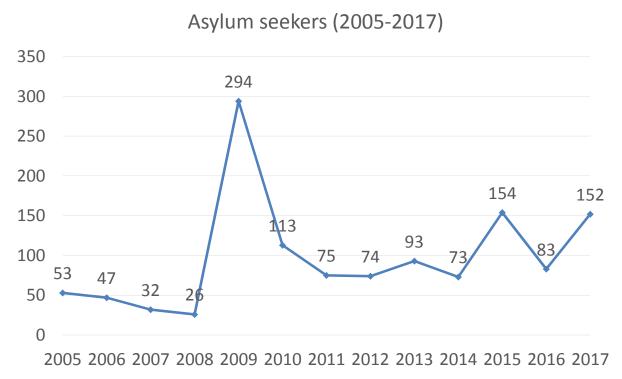
#### Types of Immigration (2)

#### **Immigration to Liechtenstein 2008-2017**



Source: Statistics Liechtenstein (Migration)

#### Types of Immigration (3)



Country of origin	Number
EUROPA	106
- Serbia	64
- Macedonia	15
AFRICA	16
AMERICA	-
ASIA	30
- Syria	11
TOTAL	152

Source: Statistics Liechtenstein (Migration)

#### Challenges to Immigration (1)

- Explain what are the main challenges that emerge as a consequence of migration to your country.
  - 34% foreigners
    - Mostly from Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Italy
    - EEA: exceptional rule for LIE regarding immigration/free movement of persons
  - Integration and social inclusion
    - Language, education, employment, citizenship, religion...
  - Naturalisation
    - **High hurdles**: 30 years of residence, integration test, no dual citizenship

#### Challenges to Immigration (2)

- How does being a SMALL STATE nuance / exacerbate / influence these main challenges that have emerged as a consequence of migration to your country.
  - **Economy**: need of immigration and commuters
  - Living space, traffic: increase of costs etc.
  - Political discussion: "no resources" topos
  - **Identity**: limiting immigration since the 1970s (cf. EEA agreement 1995 without free movement of persons)
  - Marriage: High percentage of marriage of LIE citizens with foreigners
  - Mobility: Immigration and emigration (smallness, education etc.)

#### Responses to Immigration

- Explain what are the main strategies and policies that have been developed (by the State, by NGOs, by local communities . . .) to address the challenges resulting from migration.
  - Immigration **restrictions** (since 1970s)
  - Less immigration and more cross-border commuters (since 1960s)
  - New law regarding the integration process (2008)
  - NGOs offer integration services (language courses etc.)

## Crisis, security, integration and asylum/migration (1)

- Have there been any issues in your country which have altered the challenges in addressing migration and asylum issues?
  - Issues are more or less the same since 1970s
  - Refugee immigration after 2015 without impact on Liechtenstein
  - Ongoing debates on integration and multiculturalism
    - Moderate populism and nationalism
    - +/- political consensus of going on with restrictive immigration and citizenship law

## Crisis, security, integration and asylum/migration (2)

- Are there scale/size, national specificities or uniqueness issues invoked and how are these framed in the context of migration, asylum and integration?
  - Liechtenstein: No country of first entry
  - Refugees admitted voluntarily (cf. refugees from Syria)

## Crisis, security, integration and asylum/migration (3)

Recognition or type of departure	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Recognition as a refugee				2	18	1	2	2	19	17
Admitted on humanit. grounds		2						4	14	
Controlled departure	7	7	39	12	19	18	8	27		
Readmission	6	58	22	17	15	12	3	15	5	13
Withdrawl of asylum application		81	34	14	4	23	17	29	65	48
Application by letter rejected	4	12	1		1					
Hiding, disappeared	8	101	19	27	31	37	14	27	22	45
Other reason			1							1
Total	25	261	116	72	88	91	73	100	125	124

#### Flashpoints

- Describe a particular episode/s that occurred in your country and which highlight/s some of the challenges in addressing migration appropriately.
  - Popular vote on facilitated naturalisation in 2000 (admitted)
    - 3858 Yes votes 3843 No votes
  - Dual citizenship
    - Parliament debate on 7 September 2018 defensive argumentation
    - Final debate and decision in 2019
    - Popular vote (referendum) if parliament admits dual citizenship

#### Conclusion: Prospects

- Looking forward, what can one expect of immigration in your country?
  - Ongoing immigration
  - Dependence on Swiss immigration policy
  - Government and majority of parliament for restrictive citizenship and immigration rules
  - Prosperous globalized economy vs. local identity
    - Need for foreign employees and commuters
    - Pluralism and multiculturalism vs. nationalism and conservatism.