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NATIVISM AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION ACROSS THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Collision and Accommodation

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Nativism and Economic Integration Across the Developing World

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Abstract: Migration and nativism are explosive issues in Europe and North America. Less well known is the tumult that soaring migration is creating in the politics of developing countries. The key difference between anti-migrant politics in developed and developing countries is that domestic migration – not international migration – is the likely focus of nativist politics in poorer countries. Nativists take up the causes of subnational groups, vilifying other regions and groups within the country as sources of migration. Since the 1970s, the majority of less-developed countries have adopted policies that aim to limit internal migration. This Element marshals evidence from around the world to explore the collision of internal migration and nativism. Subnational migration is associated with a boom in nativist politics. Pro-native public policy and anti-migrant riots are both more likely when internal migration surges. Political decentralization strengthens subnational politicians' incentives and ability to define and cater to nativists.

Keywords: migration, backlash, nativism, discrimination, violence, immigration, urbanization, sons-of-the-soil, ethnic violence, globalization

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