

Why People Move

Sociology

Beyond push and pull: the mechanisms that shape migration flows.

Push and pull is a starting point, not an explanation.

What the simple model says

Push: conflict, wages, climate, persecution.

Pull: work, safety, family, education.

Cost and distance as the friction.

What it misses

Networks: the first movers lower the cost.

The poorest rarely move furthest; migration costs.

Development can raise emigration at first.

Recruiters and brokers create routes.

Policy shapes route and risk, not only volume.

Most movement is internal, not international.

Educational reference. The migration hump, where emigration rises with income before falling, is a contested regularity.