

## **The Market Model: Immigration Regimes in Comparative Perspective**

**INTRODUCTION:** The comparative study of immigration policy has been hindered by the absence of comprehensive, systematically collected data across space and time. Consequently, we have a limited understanding about the nature of regimes across countries and their drivers.

**METHODS:** In this study, we assemble immigration demographic data from 31 important destination countries in the Global North and South as a systematic measure of their immigration policy outcomes. These annual flow-based data cover total immigration, break it down by visa type, and consider naturalization rates to reveal a fuller picture of immigration governance in the selected states. We then employ an unsupervised k-means clustering algorithm to generate a global typology of immigration regimes. Based on the results, we consider what drives the trends that emerge.

**RESULTS:** We identify 7 immigration regime types, characterized by their different quantities of newcomers, their different emphases on visa types (economic, humanitarian, family, and regional free movement), their different preferences for permanent or temporary migrants, and their different propensities to naturalize the immigrants they receive. However, across all types of regime, we find a growing trend in which all countries---to different extents---are moving toward a 'Market Model' that prioritizes temporary labor migration with fewer paths to citizenship.

**CONCLUSIONS:** For the first time, this study permits a systematic, replicable, comparative understanding of immigration regimes. We argue that the Market Model emerges in response to the commoditization of labor, increasing populist pressures to limit immigration, and paranoia about international terrorism. Future work can extend these data further over time, consider a more countries, and compare immigration outcomes with complementary data on immigration law.