

ACCESS TO THE LABOUR MARKET AMONG THE SECOND-GENERATION IMMIGRANTS IN SWITZERLAND

Andrés GUARIN

Supervisors: Laura BERNARDI & Guy ELCHEROTH

1. Introduction

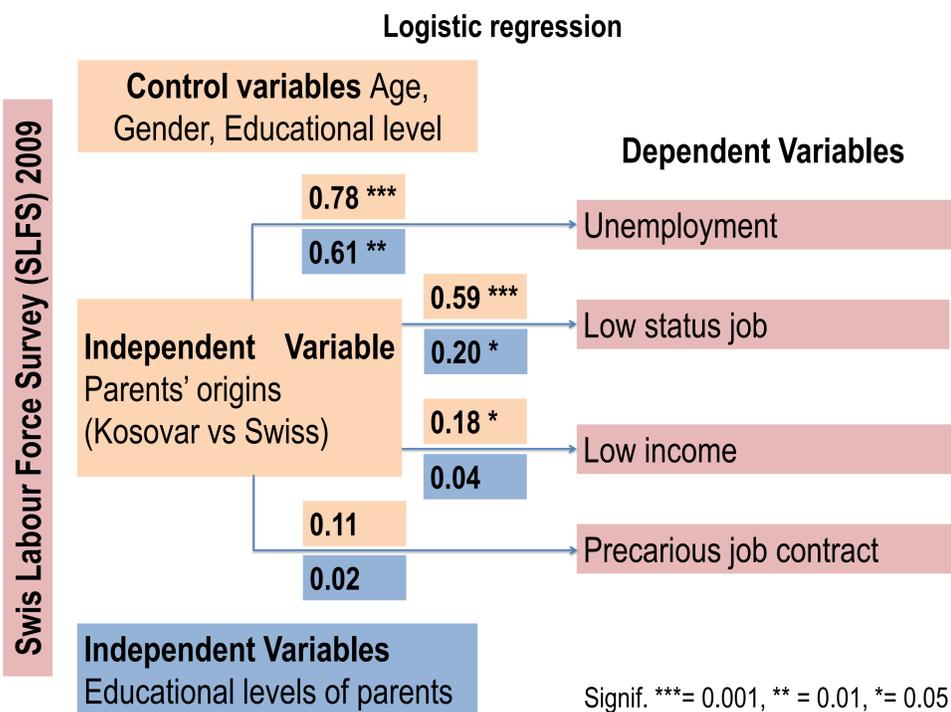
Several researchers have shown that first-generation immigrants with Kosovar origin have a higher likelihood of experiencing difficulties when entering their professional life compared to first-generation immigrants of different nationalities and Swiss natives (Burri et al., 2010; Fibbi et al., 2010). But what can we say about the children of immigrants? Are they more vulnerable when entering the working life? This research deals with access to the labour market among second-generation immigrants with Kosovar origin in Switzerland and its determinants, in comparison with their counterpart with other origins and Swiss natives.

2. Hypotheses

We investigate if :

- A The second-generation immigrants from several geographic backgrounds suffer of **disadvantages in the access to labour market** (Portes & Zhou, 1993).
- B The **social class** of parents (educational level of parents) explains a part of these disadvantages.
- C There is a specific "**ethnic penalty**" for the children of immigrants with Kosovar origin (Fibbi et al., 2007).

3. Methodology and results



- A Higher disadvantages for the access to the labour market are confirmed for second-generation immigrants.
- B The social class of parents plays a significant role in the access to the labour market of second-generation immigrants.
- C Even if we control our analyses for the social class of parents in addition to age, gender and education level, people with Kosovar origin still suffer from a substantial "ethnic penalty". Additional analyses show that this "ethnic penalty" is stronger for second generation immigrants with Kosovo background than for most other national background.

4. Following steps

1. Analysis of the Swiss Labour Force Survey (SLFS) database, 2012

A module on "Further training" and on "the entry of young people into the labour market" was included in 2009 as complement to the standard survey. We will study the timing of labour market entry after education and type of occupation achieved.

How can we explain the results found until now? Are there other mechanisms that could help us to understand these differences?

2. Methodological contribution on the study of sampling for hidden populations, 2013

Given the difficulty of identifying the upstream of the population, we must develop a new sampling method.

3. Substantive analysis of networks and their role in the transition to professional work, 2013-2014

Explanation hypothesis: Unequal opportunities and capacities to convert human capital into useful and easily mobilized resources are moderated by social capital. Inequality is distributed across ethnic communities as well as social classes.

7. Références

- BURRI, B. & al. (2010). *La population kosovare en Suisse*. Berne: Office fédéral des migrations.
- FIBBI, R. & al. (2010). Second generation of Turkish and former Yugoslavian Descent in Zurich and Basel. TIES country report. Neuchâtel: Swiss Forum for Migration and Population Studies.
- FIBBI, R., LERCH, M., & WANNER, P. (2007). Naturalisation and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Youth of Immigrant Descent in Switzerland. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 33(7), 1121-1144.
- HEATH, A. & CHEUNG, S. Y. (2007). *Unequal Chances: Ethnic Minorities in Western Labour Markets*, *Proceedings of the British Academy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- PORTES, A. & ZHOU, M. (1993). The New Second Generation: Segmented Assimilation and Its Variants. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 530, 74-96.