



# Rural Development and Globalization in Europe

## *International migration to rural regions*

**DERREG Policy Seminar**

**31 March 2011**

**European Parliament, Brussels**



Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Fryś



# Leiding(F)/Leidingen(D) a border village



Foto: W. Frys 2009



Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Frys



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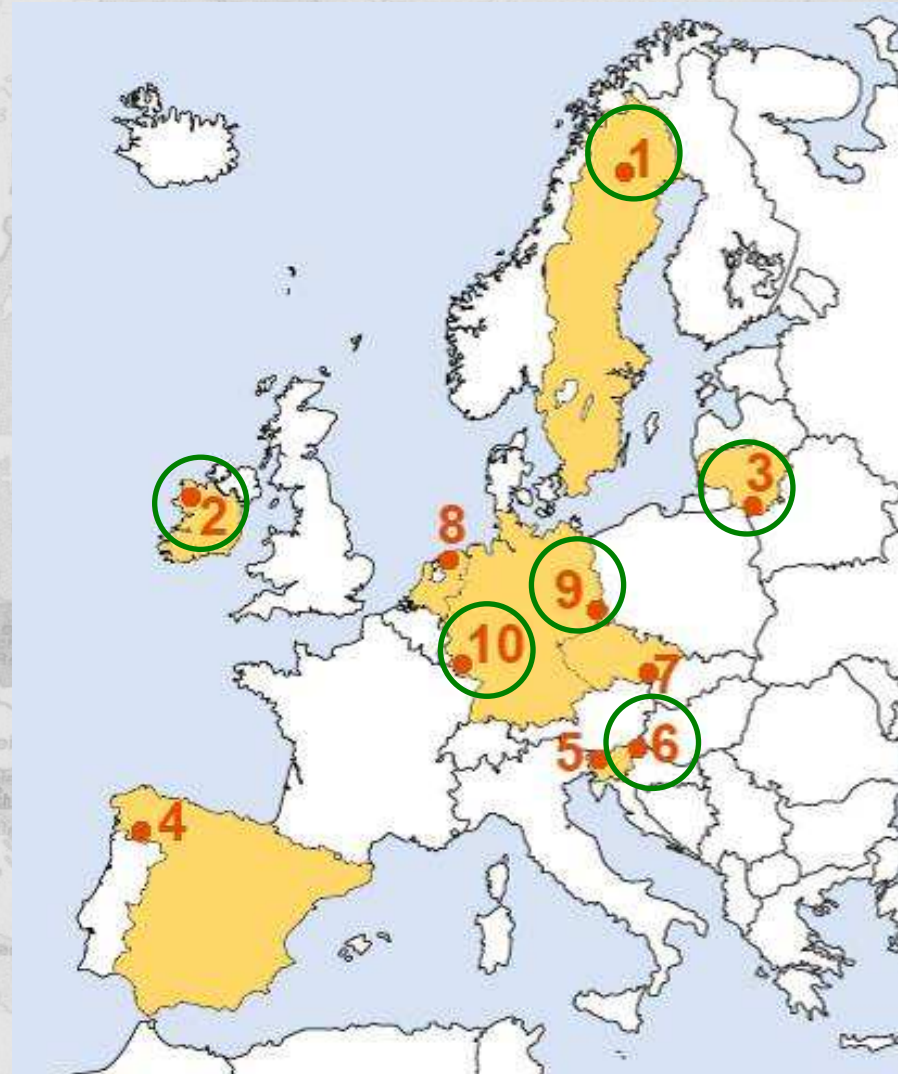
# Content of the presentation

- Research methodology
- Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions
- Results of the multidimensional analysis
- Examples of 'good practice'
- Recommendations for policy-makers



# Research methodology

1. Oevre Norrland, Sweden
2. West region (Roscommon), Ireland
3. Alytus, Lithuania
4. Comarca de Verín, Spain
5. Goriška, Slovenia
6. Pomurska, Slovenia
7. Jihomoravský kraj, Czech Republic
8. Westerkwartier, the Netherlands
9. Regierungsbezirk Dresden, Germany
10. Saarland, Germany



# Research methodology

## Qualitative interviews with migrants (December 2009-January 2010)

**Migrant Workers  
(MW)**

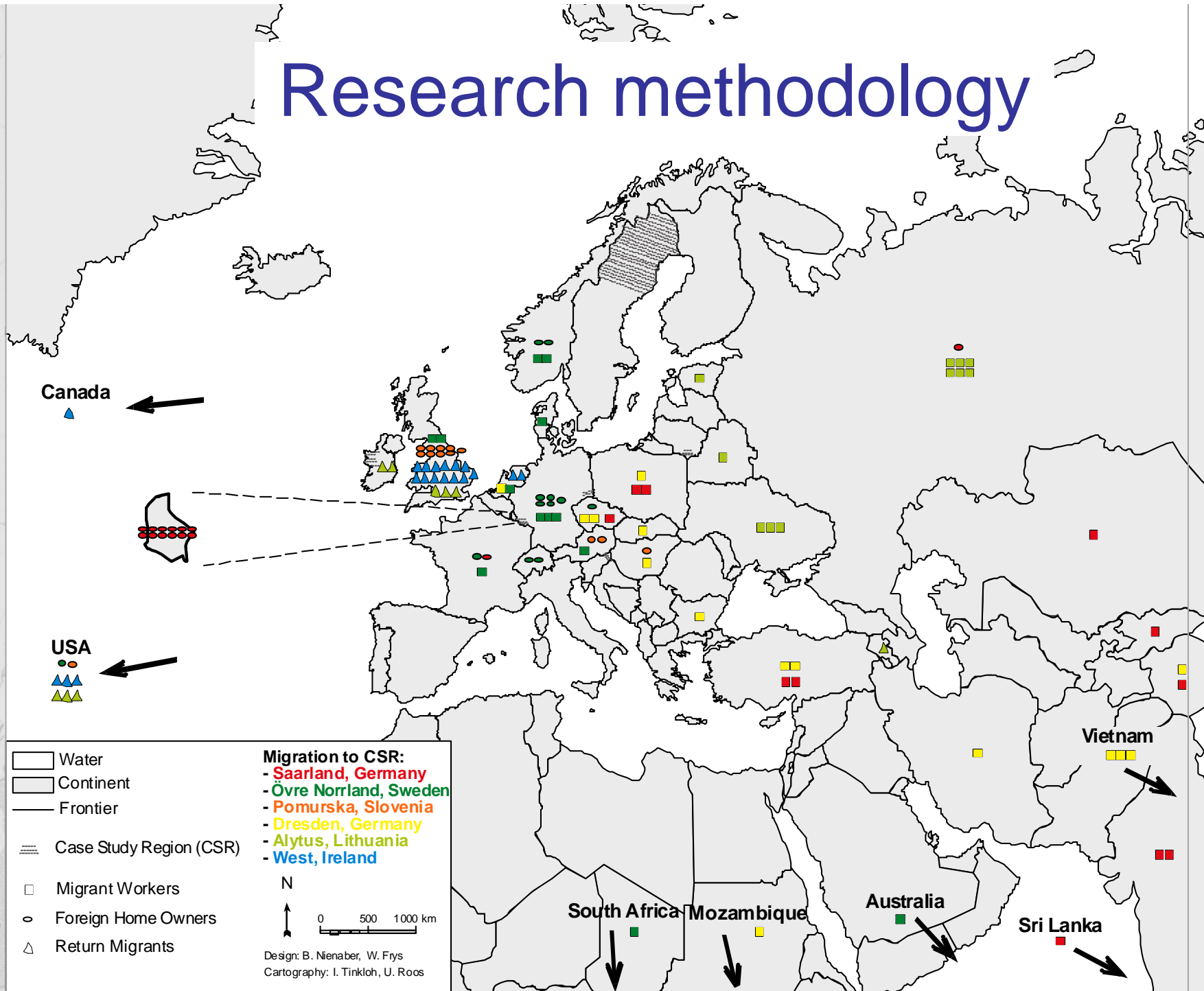
**Foreign Home Owners  
(FHO)**

**Return Migrants  
(RM)**

**Combining the results to a qualitative oriented type  
of network analysis of the interviewed migrants**

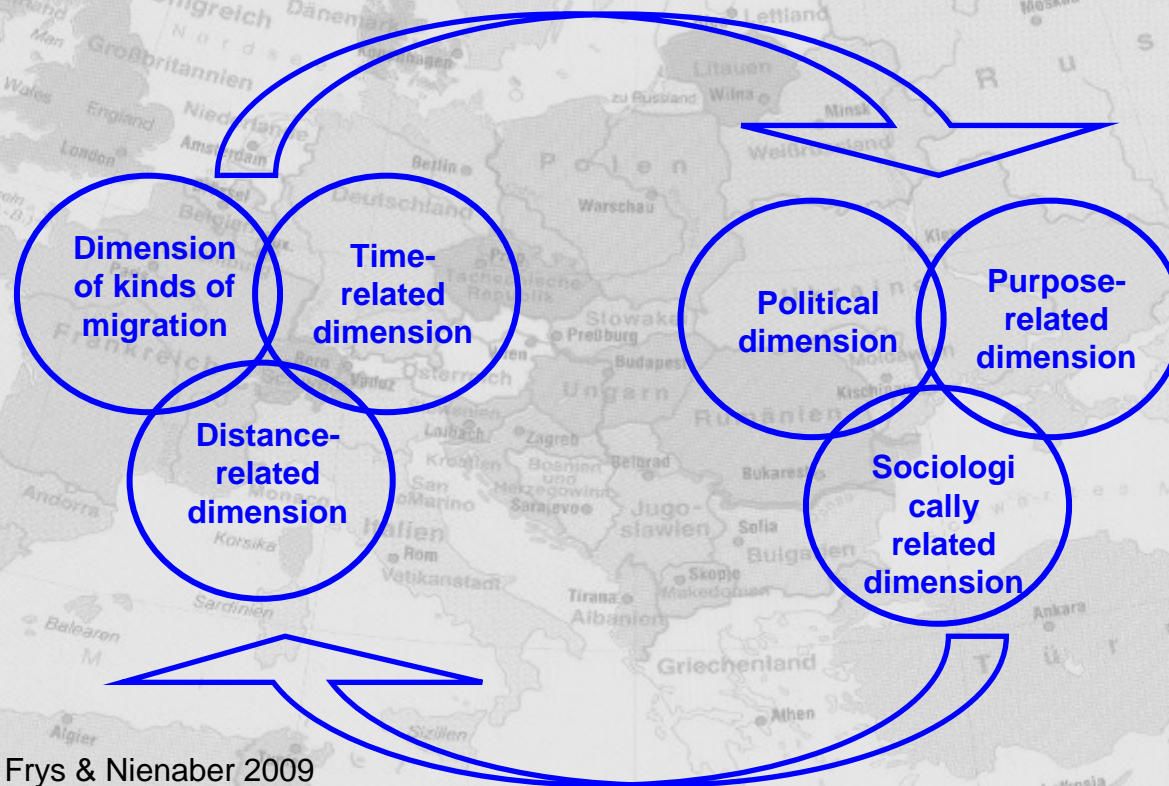


# Research methodology



# Research methodology

## Interpretative model for enquiries – in-depth-analysis The dimensions of migrations

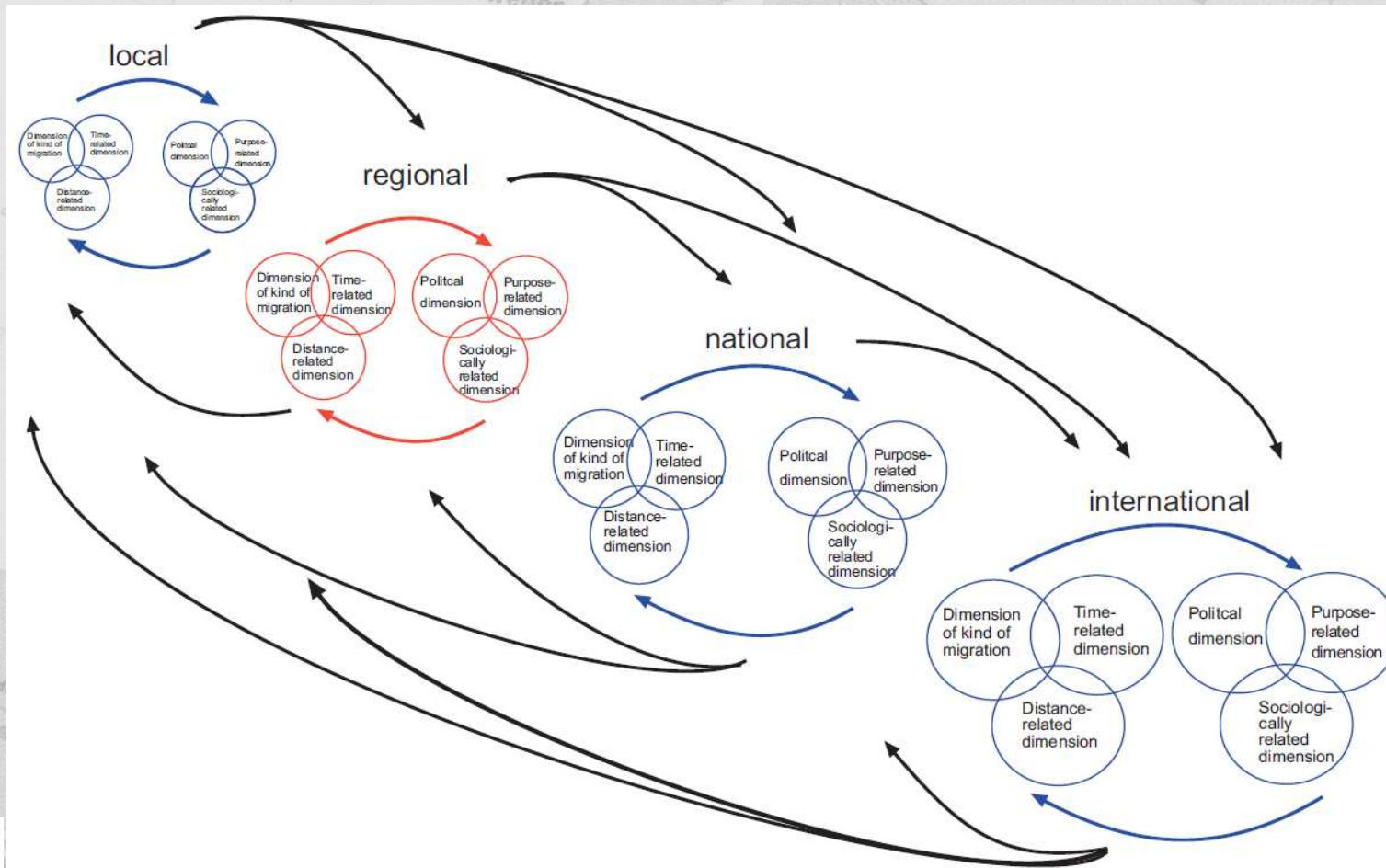


Source: Fry & Nienaber 2009

Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Fry



# Research methodology



Source: Nienaber & Frys 2009



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# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

**International migrants are present across rural Europe, but reflect differing regional dynamics**



# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

**Multiple, inter-connected motivations of Migration**



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# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

## Different Experiences of integration in rural regions



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# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

**Valuable contributions of migrants to the economy and society of rural regions**



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# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

## Importance of informal networks and individual actions for integration



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# Characteristics of the international migration in rural regions

## The impact of the economic recession on migration



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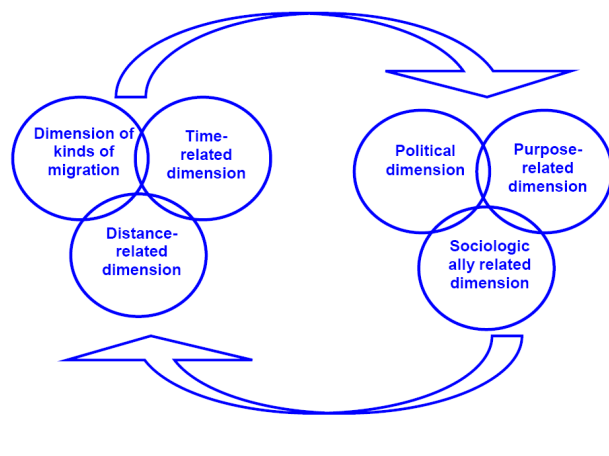
# Results of the multidimensional analysis

**Migrant Workers  
(MW)**

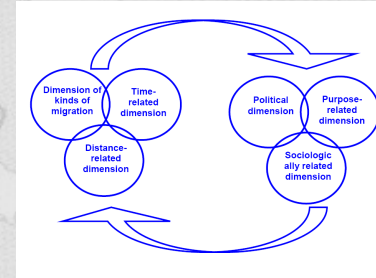
**Foreign Home Owners  
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# Results of the multidimensional analysis

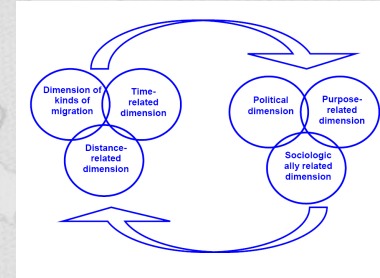


## Dimension of Kind of Migration

- Predominantly urban-rural migration
- Mainly from EU countries (FHO, RM)
- Mainly from non-EU countries (MW)
- Individual (MW, FHO), group or collective migration, as well as chain migration



# Results of the multidimensional analysis

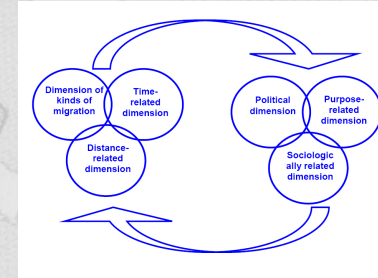


## Time-related Dimension

- Long-term migration (MW, FHO, RM)
- Short-term migration only by second home owners in Övre Norrland (FHO)



# Results of the multidimensional analysis

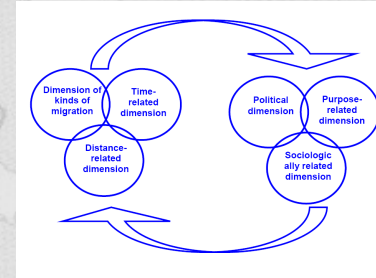


## Distance-related Dimension

- Mostly spacious migration (long-distance migration) (RM, MW)
- Spatially limited migration in border area (cross-border migration) only in Saarland and Alytus (FHO, MW)
- Cultural nearness as well as distance between migrants and locals (MW, FHO, RM)



# Results of the multidimensional analysis

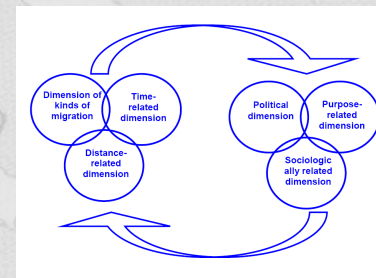


## Political Dimension

- Labour market policy (MW)
- Residential market (FHO)
- Relations between certain countries and environmental advantages (FHO)
- Residential market, social and public rules, environmental specificities and historical relations (MW)



# Results of the multidimensional analysis

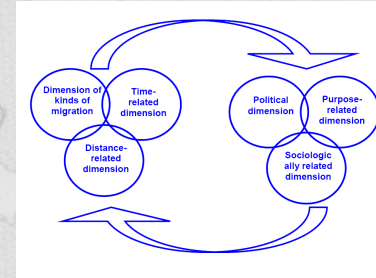


## Purpose-related Dimension

- Work (WM)
- Acquisition of property (FHO)
- Return to the home country (RM)



# Results of the multidimensional analysis



## Sociologically related Dimension

- Except for one case (MW), only legal migration
- Very good integration of interviewed foreigners into local everyday life (FHO, RM, MW)
- Good integration into local and regional organisations and associations (FHO, MW)



# Examples of 'good practice'



Source: Landkreis Saarlouis and Landkreis Merzig-Wadern  
Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Fryś



# Examples of 'good practice'



Source: Miteinander Leben e.V.

Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Fryś

# Recommendations for policy-makers

- Promotion of the positive benefits of international migration to rural regions
- Building of connections between in-migrants and long-term residents, to provide support for ethnic and cultural minorities
- Using of the skills, expertises and connections of international migrants in economic development
- Regulations on property ownership should be locally determined and simple formulated for migrants
- Rural regions in Central and Eastern Europe need to prepare for the return migrants from Western Europe



# More information

Project website:

[www.derreg.eu](http://www.derreg.eu)

Local contact:

Saarland University

European Regional Studies/ Geography

Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber

Tel.: 0681 302 64229

E-Mail: [b.nienaber@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:b.nienaber@mx.uni-saarland.de)

Dr. Wioletta Frys

Tel.: 0681 302 64207

E-Mail: [w.frys@mx.uni-saarland.de](mailto:w.frys@mx.uni-saarland.de)

[www.ers.uni-saarland.de](http://www.ers.uni-saarland.de)



Ass. Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber and Dr. Wioletta Frys

