

1 **International Migration**

2 *(original at <http://www.economist.com/debate/days/view/371>)*

3 There is little doubt that legal, organised and well-managed migration can bring great
4 economic benefits to receiving societies, immigrants and their families, both at origin and
5 destination. And in an increasingly interdependent world, migration's benefits that are
6 not directly economic, such as greater cultural, social and even political understanding,
7 cannot be ignored, though typically they are.

8 Unfortunately, however, there are too many cases where migration is not legal,
9 organised or well-managed. One of the most telling consequences is that huge numbers
10 of people move outside legal channels.

11 Illegal immigration now probably stands at about 30m. About 40% of it is found in a
12 single country, the United States. But every region now hosts millions of illegal
13 immigrants. The combined efforts of the market and human nature and need are
14 overwhelming government regulators.

15 Illegal immigration is a problem. It fuels a robust industry of organised criminal
16 syndicates and human traffickers who transport people across borders for profit. In the
17 receiving country, unauthorised migrants have little recourse to legal protection and are
18 vulnerable to exploitation. Meanwhile, illegal immigration compromises receiving
19 countries' ability to protect their low-wage labour markets: the influx of new workers
20 may depress native workers' wages and job prospects. This puts unwelcome pressures
21 on a country's social infrastructure, and fuels anger and anxiety among voters.

22 Every country will need to work much better and harder if it is to harness the benefits of
23 migration more fully and avert the process's downside, since growing global economic
24 integration and demographic trends will only increase the need for well-managed
25 migration flows for decades to come.

Questions:

- 1) The proposition of the debate from which this text has been taken is 'There is too much international immigration'. Do you think the author of this text is arguing for or against the proposition? Why?
- 2) What are the pros and cons of immigration? What do you think are the economic benefits of migration?
- 3) What are 'legal channels' of migration? (line 9)
- 4) What is meant by 'The combined efforts of the market and human nature and need' (line 12)
- 5) What are the typical problems that go hand in hand with illegal migration? (lines 14 to 21)
- 6) What is recourse 'to legal protection' and why do illegal immigrants lack it?
- 7) 'Meanwhile' – give synonyms of this word! (line 17)
- 8) How can illegal migrant workers lower the pay of legal native ones? (18-19)
- 9) What is the 'social infrastructure' of a country? (19-20)
- 10) What is your position regarding the debate's proposition (see question 1)? Are you for or against it?

Vocabulary:

Telling consequence/**telling** example (8)

To put pressure on sb./st. (19)

To host st./sb. (11)

Upside/**downside** (22)

Přejeme Vám mnoho studijních úspěchů.

Tým jazykové skupiny Spěváček: