

Immigration of Elites (IoE)

What should be done?

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Why IoE is matter

The concept and function of Immigration are changed in the new era of Globalization

Immigration is one of the main indicators of Globalization and development

Based on this change, Immigration is not just a threat but can be an opportunity

Societies are becoming more interconnected than ever in the new era of globalization, and if this connectivity is through immigrant elites, it can create many benefits and opportunities.

But in countries like Iran, there is still a classical view of the phenomenon of migration and it is seen as a serious threat.

This presentation of mine is based on the classical view of elite migration.

Statistics of Elites` Immigration

Category	Statistic / Data Point	Value / Details	Source
Total International Migrants	Number of people living outside their birth country	~304 million (3.7% of world population, 2024)	UN Migration Report 2024
Gender Distribution	% Female migrants	48%	Migration Data Portal
Top Destination Countries	United States	~50 million migrants	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Germany	~16 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Saudi Arabia	~13.5 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Russia	~11 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	United Kingdom	~9.5 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
Top Origin Countries	India	~18 million emigrants	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Mexico	~11 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	China	~10 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Russia	~10 million	MigrantConnectAI 2023
	Syria	~8.5 million (refugees)	MigrantConnectAI 2023
Remittances Sent by Migrants	Total remittance flows (2022)	\$831 billion globally (\$647 billion to developing countries)	IOM World Migration Report 2024
Displaced People	People displaced by conflict, disasters, etc.	~117 million (2024)	IOM World Migration Report 2024

Roots of IoE

There are many scientific studies:

Social Insecurity

- In some countries, elites have not social freedom and face many social limitations not only in their professional activities but in their everyday life

Political Insecurity

- In some countries, elites face numerous constraints and political problems that negatively affect their role, or they face unfinished political crises that jeopardize their social security.

Discursive Framework: Ideal Types

- In the discourses formed in various societies, especially in developing countries, the ideal type of elite has been formed in such a way that they consider the desirable scientific and economic life in advanced countries.

Metaphors and Myths

- Based on discursive change, some metaphors have been formed like: nobody can success in our country. At the same time some myths like Maryam Mirzakhani in Iran

Economic Situation

- Elites thought that just in developed countries can sustainable economic success be achieved and decent incomes be earned.

Research Facilities and presenting the results of researches

Main Motives of Elites` Immigrations

Motive	Typical Statistical Indicators	Approximate Importance (%) (Based on surveys & studies)	Examples of Data Sources
1. Economic Opportunities	Wage differential (up to 3-5x higher in developed countries); Employment rates in high-skilled jobs; Startup funding availability	35-45%	OECD, World Bank, Global Talent Competitiveness Index
2. Educational Advantages	Enrollment rates in top global universities; R&D spending per capita; International student migration stats	20-25%	UNESCO, QS World University Rankings
3. Political Stability & Security	Corruption Perception Index scores; Political stability indices; Crime rate comparisons	15-20%	Transparency International, World Governance Indicators
4. Quality of Life	Healthcare quality rankings; Environmental quality indices; Human Development Index (HDI)	10-15%	WHO, UNDP Human Development Reports
5. Social & Professional Networks	Size of diaspora communities; International business hubs ranking; Professional membership & networking rates	5-10%	Migration Policy Institute, Global Cities Index
6. Political or Social Constraints at Home	Political freedom scores; Conflict intensity indices; Political asylum application rates	5-10%	Freedom House, UNHCR, Global Peace Index

Global Migration Statistics by Motivation (2023–2024)

Motivation	Key Statistics	Estimated Share of Total Migration	Data Sources
1. Economic Opportunities	OECD: 21% of total migration, 2023. OECD: Over 2.4 million work permits and authorizations granted in 2023,16% year-on-year increase.	~21%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024
2. Educational Pursuits	OECD: Over 2.1 million new permits issued for students in 2023, a 7% increase from the previous year.	~7%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024
3. Political Stability & Security	OECD: 676,000 refugees granted international protection in 2023, a 15% increase from 2022.	~15%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024
4. Quality of Life	OECD: Family migration accounted for 43% of total permanent migration flows in 2023.	~43%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024
5. Social & Professional Networks	OECD: Family migration, including accompanying family of workers, was the leading migration category in 2023, driven by family reunification policies.	~43%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024
6. Political or Social Constraints at Home	OECD: Humanitarian migration increased by 20% in 2023, indicating a rise in migration due to political or social constraints.	~20%	OECD International Migration Outlook 2024

Definition of Elite:

Individuals with advanced educated High skilled professions

Region	Category	Statistic	Source
United States	Educational Attainment	13% of immigrants aged 25+ have a graduate or professional degree (vs. 12% of native-born).	U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 ACS
	Employment-Based Immigration	206,000 employment-based green cards issued in FY 2022.	DHS Office of Immigration Statistics, FY 2022
	Immigrant Investors	10,885 EB-5 immigrant investor visas issued in FY 2022.	USCIS, FY 2022
	International Students and Retention	~70% of international STEM Ph.D. graduates (2000-2015) remained in the U.S. by 2017.	IIE, 2021-2022; NFAP, 2017 study
	High-Achieving Immigrants	Immigrants accounted for 38% of Nobel Prizes awarded to Americans (1901-2019).	National Academy of Sciences, 2019 report
Canada	Skilled Worker Immigration	46,539 Express Entry invitations issued in 2022.	Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, 2022
	Retention of International Students	~30% of international students who graduated in 2015 stayed in Canada five years later.	Statistics Canada, 2020 report
Australia	Skilled Visas	79,620 skilled visas granted in 2021-2022.	Australian Department of Home Affairs, 2021-2022
Global	Highly Educated Migrants	Over 5 million highly educated migrants resided in OECD countries in 2020.	OECD, 2020 International Migration Outlook

What should we do

- International Experiences
- How can we nurture a successor for the country's scientific and executive elite?
 - Universities
 - Knowledge-based companies

■ Policies on Elite Immigration and Nurturing Successors

Country	Elite Immigration Policy	Description	Key Statistics/Impact	Nurturing Successors Policy	Description	Key Statistics/Impact	Sources
United States	H-1B visa program	Allows U.S. employers to temporarily employ foreign workers in specialty occupations	275,000 petitions received in FY2020	STEM education initiatives	Programs aimed at increasing the number of students pursuing STEM degrees	700,000 STEM bachelor's degrees awarded in 2019	USCIS, NSF
Canada	Points-based immigration system	Assesses immigrants based on factors like education, work experience, and language proficiency	196,658 skilled workers admitted in 2019	Canada Learning Bond	Provides financial assistance to low-income families for children's education	Over 1.2 million children benefited as of 2020	IRCC, ESDC
Singapore	Employment Pass	For foreign professionals, managers, and executives earning at least SGD 4,500 a month	187,700 holders as of December 2020	<u>SkillsFuture</u> initiative	Promotes lifelong learning and skills development through various programs	Over 500,000 participants in 2019	MOM, <u>SkillsFuture</u>
Germany	EU Blue Card	For highly skilled non-EU citizens to work and live in Germany	27,000 issued in 2019	Dual education system	Combines apprenticeships with vocational education to develop skilled	Over 1.3 million apprentices in 2019	BAMF, BIBB

Experiences of Developing Countries

Country	Nurturing Successors (Talent Development)	Managing Immigration/Emigration of Elites	Key Success Factors
Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Academic streaming from early years- PSC scholarships for public leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- High retention due to domestic opportunities- Limited emigration of elites	Strong meritocracy, elite education, and clear leadership pathways
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- IITs/IIMs as elite education pipelines- Public exam-based civil services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Encouraged returnees via tech/startup incentives- Diaspora engagement policies	Global reputation of institutions, entrepreneurial climate
China	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- "Thousand Talents" program- Top university support for gifted students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Incentives for returnees ("Haigui")- Research & academic investment	Centralized planning, economic opportunity, nationalist appeal
Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Merit-based civil service reforms- Rwanda Governance Board training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Diaspora engagement for tech and policy experts	Post-conflict nation-building through technocracy and trust
South Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Competitive civil service exams- Focus on STEM education	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strong domestic job market- High public sector prestige	Cultural respect for education, consistent policy focus
Vietnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- STEM-heavy curriculum- International academic partnerships (e.g., Fulbright U)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Increasing investment to retain researchers- Diaspora outreach	Long-term vision for education reform and innovation
Taiwan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tech-focused university programs- State-funded R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Incentives for returnee engineers & scientists	Strong private-public link in high-tech industry
Brazil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CAPES/CNPq funded PhDs with return obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Built strong local academic networks	State-funded research ecosystem, education-for-return contracts

Education Policies

Why it matters: Elites prioritize access to high-quality education for their successors to ensure they remain competitive in a globalized world.

Effective policies:

- Provide access to top-tier schools and universities, especially in fields like science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).
- Offer scholarships, grants, or subsidized tuition for the children of immigrants, making elite education accessible.
- Support lifelong learning through professional development programs to keep skills relevant.

Examples: Countries like the U.S. and Canada have robust education systems with pathways for international students, often leading to residency opportunities.

Employment and Entrepreneurship Policies

Why it matters: Many elites are professionals or entrepreneurs who want their successors to thrive in dynamic career or business environments.

Effective policies:

- Create a business-friendly climate with low taxes, minimal regulations, and access to venture capital to encourage entrepreneurial successors.
- Streamline visa processes (e.g., H-1B in the U.S. or Global Talent Visa in the U.K.) to allow elites and their successors to work or start businesses.
- Invest in innovation hubs and research opportunities to attract and retain talent.

Examples: Silicon Valley in the U.S. exemplifies how supportive ecosystems nurture entrepreneurial success across generations.

Taxation Policies

Why it matters: Elites seek financial security for their successors, often through wealth preservation and transfer.

Effective policies:

- Implement favorable tax regimes, such as lower capital gains taxes or tax incentives for investments.
- Reduce estate or inheritance taxes to facilitate intergenerational wealth transfer.

Examples: Singapore and Switzerland attract elites with low-tax environments that benefit both current and future generations.

Immigration Policies

Why it matters: Stable and clear immigration options allow elites to plan for their successors' long-term future in the host country.

Effective policies:

- Offer investor visas (e.g., EB-5 in the U.S.) or skilled worker programs that prioritize elites and their families.
- Provide pathways to permanent residency and citizenship for both elites and their successors.
- Include family reunification provisions to ensure successors can join and settle.

Examples: Australia's points-based immigration system prioritizes skilled migrants, making it attractive for elites and their families.

Social and Quality of Life Policies

Social and Quality of Life Policies

Why it matters: A high quality of life ensures successors grow up in a safe, healthy, and culturally rich environment.

Effective policies:

- Ensure access to universal healthcare, low crime rates, and international schools tailored to expatriate families.
- Provide family-oriented support, such as childcare subsidies or parental leave, to ease the transition for elite families.

Examples: Nordic countries like Sweden and Denmark offer exceptional living standards that appeal to elites raising successors.

Innovation and Mentorship Culture

Innovation and Mentorship Culture

Why it matters: A culture that fosters creativity and leadership helps successors build on their predecessors' achievements.

Effective policies:

- Fund startup incubators, mentorship programs, and networking opportunities to guide the next generation.
- Encourage public-private partnerships that connect successors with industry leaders.

Examples: The U.K.'s Tech Nation initiative supports young innovators, benefiting the successors of elite immigrants.

Immigration of Elites in Iran

Trend analysis

Status quo

Solutions

Iran`s Political situation Impact on Immigration:

Immigration rate from Iran

1992: - 450.000 (Hashemi`s Presidency)

2002: - 668.972 (Khatami`s Presidency)

2020: - 180.000 (Rouhani`s Presidency)

2021: +334.976

2022: +403.190

2023: +262.400

2024: +190.156

Net Change in Migration



Zoom

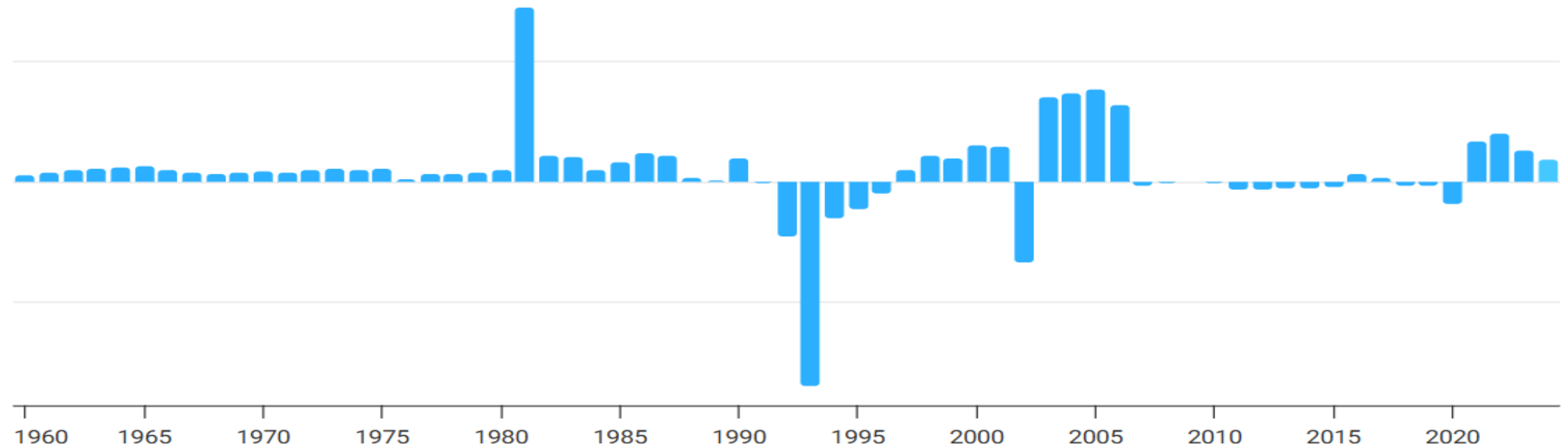
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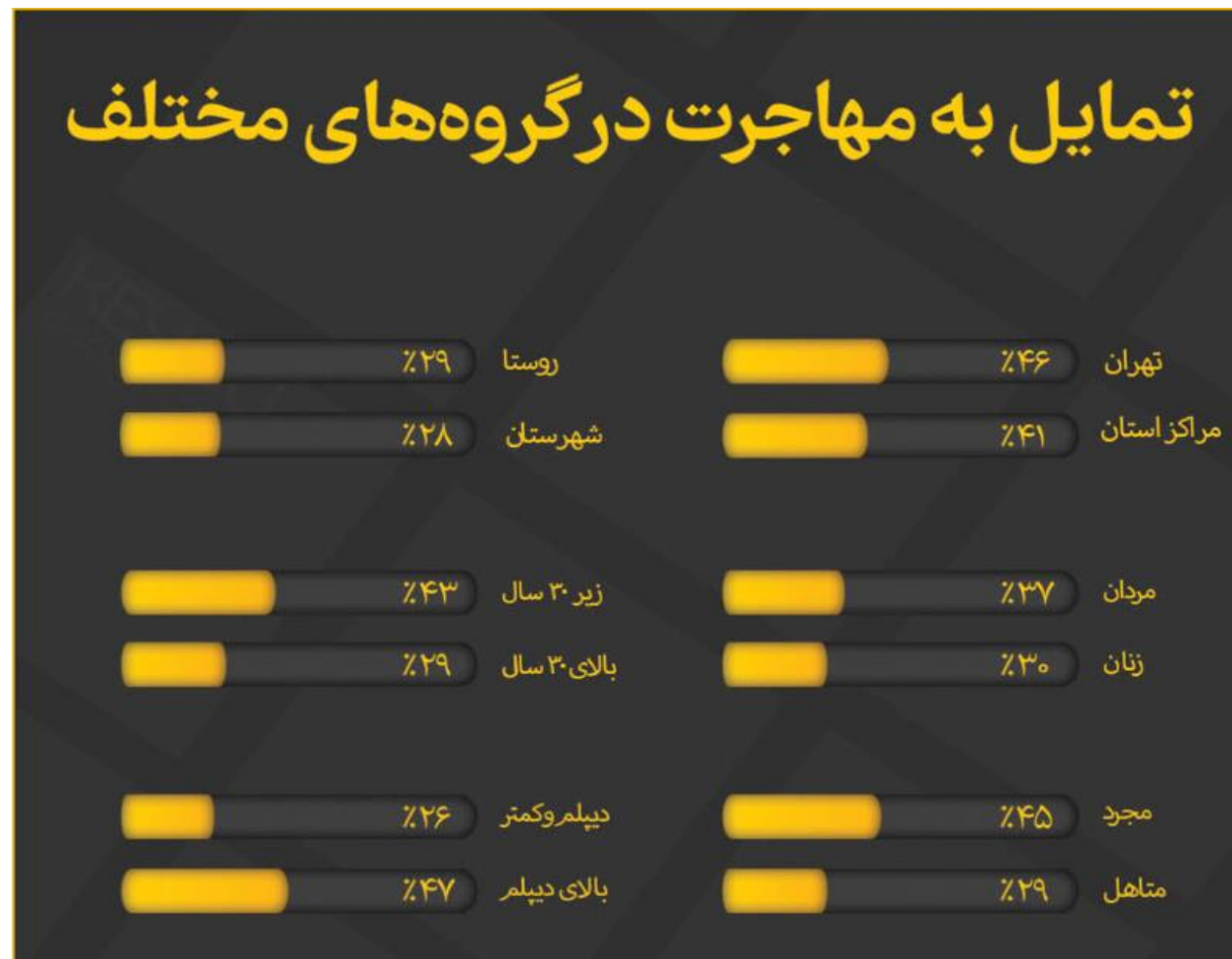
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All



Iranians' willingness to immigrate



This statistic can be very important and worrying.

Source	Year	% Considering Emigration	% Taken Steps to Emigrate	% Want to Move Permanently	Age Group Most Willing	Main Reasons
Iran Open Data	2023	93%	55%	N/A	University graduates	Economic issues, opportunities
Stasis Consulting	2022	N/A	N/A	34% overall, 49% (18–29)	18–29	Economic hardship, political/social restrictions
Gallup	2023	N/A	N/A	26% overall, 43% (15–29)	15–29	Economic, political freedom

A survey by Ministry of Science, Research and Technology Manifested that more than 55% graduate students want to immigrate other polls:

Group	Emigration Rate (%)	Time Period	Source
Top math students	60%	2011–2014	National Elites Foundation
Top math students	38%	2016–2019	National Elites Foundation
Top science Olympiad winners	62%	2011–2014	National Elites Foundation
Top science Olympiad winners	37%	2016–2019	National Elites Foundation
Medical students considering emigration	80%	Winter 2023	Iran International

Proposal 1:

We need to change our attitude towards elites and their migration, and not view them as people who have turned their backs on their homeland if they migrate.

We need to change the criteria and mechanisms for identifying elites. Many of those currently identified as elites by the Elite Foundation are not elites. Rather, they are affiliated with specific individuals or political or ideological trends that have prepared a file for themselves and registered themselves as elites.

Proposal 2:

Universities are the most important places to support elites. If they provide them with financial, technical, and political support from their student days, strengthen their working position at the same university, and provide them with the opportunity to travel to scientific centers around the world, many of them will remain there. They can be successors if professors and top researchers at the university

Knowledge-based companies should be given more serious support and their close connection to the global space should be established. If these companies can benefit from the advantages of being present in the international space while working within Iran, they will pave the way for the sustainability of many elites.

They will make successors automatically

Proposal 3:

Scientific and cultural elites in the humanities have been neglected in recent years because they do not even have the opportunity to emigrate, and sometimes their entire talent is wasted by emigration. It is essential to create institutions within universities and institutions that can utilize the services of elites in the humanities, such as philosophy, literature, art, history, psychology, and so on.

Their activities have been related to social and cultural Identity and can be vital for a country like Iran. And change the social, political and cultural atmospher

Why should we Implement These Policies.

Every country benefits from attracting elites who contribute to economic growth, innovation, and global competitiveness. For instance:

- Economic boost: Elites bring skills, capital, and entrepreneurial energy. Addressing shortages: Countries with aging populations, like Japan or Germany, use elite immigration to fill labor gaps.
- Long-term gains: Nurturing successors ensures sustained contributions from immigrant families. However, these countries must balance these policies to avoid favoring elites excessively, which could lead to public backlash or inequality.
- Potential Challenges Inequality: Focusing on elites might widen gaps between the wealthy and other groups.
- Integration: Successors may struggle to adapt culturally if policies don't encourage civic engagement.
- Global impact: Attracting elites can worsen brain drain in their home countries.