Public concerns in Europe and Central Asia over the recent sharp increase in asylum seekers and undocumented migrants seem to reflect a broader anxiety about reduced job security, caused by technological developments and internationalization of production and work. Policy reforms should help both migrants and non-migrants cope with increased and unavoidable flexibility in labor markets.

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Mr. Ratha’s career spans three decades spent in academia, private sector and an international organization, on migration and financing for development, including remittances, South-South flows of migration and foreign direct investment, diaspora bonds, and prediction of sovereign credit ratings. He founded KNOMAD in 2013 and co-founded Migrating out of Poverty Research Consortium (at the University of Sussex) in 2011. In 2008, a New York Times article about his life and work stated, “No one has done more than Dilip Ratha to make migration and its potential rewards a top-of-the-agenda concern in the world’s development ministries.”

Mr. Hans Timmer is the Chief Economist for the Europe and Central Asia region of the World Bank. Prior to his current position, Mr. Timmer was Director of the World Bank’s Development Prospects Group. Mr. Timmer is a quantitative international macroeconomist and econometrician with 30 years of management experience in leading teams of modelers, forecasters, and policy analysts.

Roberta Gatti is the Chief Economist of the Human Development practice group in the World Bank. Roberta joined the World Bank in 1998 as a Young Professional in the Development Research Group. Her papers, which includes theoretical and empirical contributions on labor and household economics, political economy, growth, and social inclusion, are published in international refereed journals such as the Journal of Public Economics, the Journal of Economic
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