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Reflections on the PIONEUR and Eurostars/Eurocities
projects on mobile European populations

The small and large 'n' dilemma

- Ragin's U-curve – exploring the middle ground
- Juxtaposing ethnography/micro/agent based work with surveys/macro/structural work
- Example: the 'human face' of global cities
- Three projects that speak to this

The Human Face of Global Mobility

- Edited with Michael Peter Smith
- Forthcoming Jan 2006, Transaction press
- Demography + public policy analysis + ethnography
- Working group created an interdisciplinary space between three approaches
- An integrated, edited work

PIONEUR

- <http://www.obets.ua.es/pioneur/>
- First systematic study (survey) of intra-EU migrants post 1973, now complete
- Framework V project, directed by Ettore Recchi
- OBETS, Alicante; CSLS, Oxford; CIUSPO, Univ of Florence; ZUMA, Mannheim; CEVIPOF, Paris
- forthcoming book (Recchi/Favell, editors), *Pioneers of European Integration: The Spatial and Social Mobility of Intra-EU migrants*
- Conventional social survey approach, modified by parallel qualitative/investigative work
- Classic 'Euro'-network study with collective dynamics

Eurostars and Eurocities: Free Moving Urban Professionals in an Integrating Europe

- Forthcoming, Blackwell late 2006
- London, Amsterdam and Brussels as 'Eurocities' → hubs of intra-EU mobility
- See, e.g.: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/gawc/rb/rb150.html>
- Focus on cities as international 'places'
- Ethnography + oral history interviews
- Selecting on the dependent variable to find archetypes and exceptions

Conclusion: Combining approaches

- Qualitative work as a pilot study and/or as an alternative/response to survey work
- Contrasting studies based on 'given' and 'constructed' populations
- The human face of macro-structures
- Understanding plausible *mechanisms* (cf. Hedström and Swedburg) linking micro-experience to macro-structures

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