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## Reconciliation of migration data from different sources using microsimulation

Topic 7 – Better statistics for a globalised world

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### Introduction

Migration is defined and measured in various ways. Migration data from different sources are generally not comparable because the data sources differ in definition and measurement of migration. The available statistical data represent different manifestations (observations) of a common underlying process.

### Methods / Problem statement

How can data from different sources be made comparable?

### Results / Proposed solution

To reconcile data from different sources and to harmonize migration data, attention should shift from the data to the (underlying) migration process and data should be viewed as manifestations of the migration process. The underlying process is the individual migration experience or individual migration history. Individual migration histories should be modeled. Simulation could be used to generate different representations or measurements of the underlying process. In the presentation, I build on Beata Nowok's PhD dissertation "Harmonisation by simulation" and show that simulation facilitates the specification of behavioural rules in recently developed method for the estimation of international migration.

### Conclusions

Simulation of individual migration histories is a useful approach to harmonization of migration statistics.