A Mosaic of intervention ?

Toward a typology of provincial modes of intervention in immigration and integration

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Making sense of the Canadian mosaic

- Asymmetrical and partial decentralisation of integration and immigration governance to the provinces in Canada.

- What consequences in terms of public policy ?
  - Are provincial policy responses different and if so, how ?
  - What are the determinants of these responses ?

- 3 types of modes of intervention :
  1. Socio-economic
  2. Economic
  3. Attraction-Retention

Literature on the involvement of Canadian provinces in immigration and integration

- Mapping of roles and responsibilities
  - e.g. Biles 2008; Brown & Astravas 2009
- Decentralisation and intergovernmental relations
  - e.g. Seidle 2009; Garcea 1994; Vineberg 1987 and forthcoming
- Case studies
  - e.g. Hiebert and Sherell 2009; Leo and August 2009
- Limited number of large scale comparative studies
  - e.g. Garcea 2006; BC Coalition for Immigrant Integration 2002
  - Small-n comparison tend to be sectoral
- **The usual classifications…**
  - Québec versus the R.O.C
  - Variation of intergovernmental agreements
  - Number of immigrants received
  - All different/all similar

Modes of intervention

- **Mode of policy intervention:** Configuration of institutions, strategies, public policies and related instruments mobilised by governments to intervene in a given policy domain.
  - The object of intervention is an empirical question.
  - Variation of the use and combination of public policies and tools.

- Partial decentralisation resulted in the emergence of a variety of tools for provincial intervention in immigration/recruitment and integration.

- Autonomous development of strategies and policies by provincial governments.

Comparing provincial policy intervention

A 2008-2010 picture:

- Annual reports, agreements, general publications of the province, public accounts and other interpretative document attached
- Informal interviews
- Secondary literature

Limits:

- Rapid changes in policies and programs (e.g. P.E.I. PNP)
- Where does provincial intervention stop (Biles 2008)?
- Information hard to come by (Tolley *et al*., forthcoming, MQUP)

3 dimensions of the typology

1) **Immigration and recruitment :**
   - **Provincial use of targeted selection measures**
     - Intensity and content

2) **Settlement and integration:**
   - **Central domain of provincial policy intervention in integration**
     - *Basic settlement, linguistic integration, economic integration, cultural integration, political integration and capacity-building in integration/settlement.*
   - Cost, program's sophistication and number of initiatives

3) **Characteristics of the implementation of provincial intervention:**
   - Institutionalisation and coordination
   - Mode of delivery (actors and relations)

Three modes of intervention

	Socio-economic	Economic	Attraction-Retention
Immigration and recruitment	Limited use of specific recruitment measures TFWs	Intensive use of targeted recruitment measures (labour market specific and bilateral agreements)	Intermediary use of targeted recruitment measures (general recruitment efforts)
Settlement and Integration	Holistic intervention. *Emphasis on linguistic integration .*	Emphasis on economic integration .	General settlement . *Emphasis on capacity-building.*
Implementation	Independent institutions. High coordination. Delivery via Large SPO sector with clout and governmental actors.	Institutionalisation with labour and economic development. Medium coordination. SPO sector and importance of economic actors in delivery.	Small units with limited independence. Limited coordination. Partnership relationships with SPO for delivery and development.
Provinces	Québec British Columbia Ontario	Alberta Manitoba Saskatchewan	New Brunswick Newfoundland and Labrador. Nova Scotia Prince Edward Island

Is it a mosaic ?

- Despite provincial differences and multiple forms of bilateral agreements, three main types of mode of intervention.

- Some common traits:
  - Economic integration is a central goal
  - Cultural and political integration is a small, limited domain of intervention for provinces
  - Experimentation and innovation
  - Absence of restrictive measures

Why thinking of modes of intervention ?

- Asymmetrical and partial decentralisation of integration and immigration governance is a compelling case for the study of regional policy-making and federalism.

- Contributions to international literature on subnational and local immigration politics:
  - Subnational governments are intervening on different issues and according to multiple rationales
  - Local control and decentralisation do not always imply restrictive policy orientation

Thank you

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