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ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FACTORS INFLUENCING SKILLED MIGRATION BETWEEN CHINA AND TAIWAN

Annotation

This study explores the economic, political, and cultural factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan. Skilled migration, which includes professionals and highly educated individuals, plays a vital role in shaping the economic landscapes of both regions. By analyzing wage disparities, career advancement opportunities, political tensions, government policies, and cultural integration challenges, the study uncovers key motivators and barriers for skilled workers considering migration. Economic opportunities, particularly in high-tech industries, are identified as major drivers for professionals moving between China and Taiwan. However, political and institutional barriers, including cross-strait tensions and immigration policies, significantly affect migration patterns. Additionally, cultural factors, such as work-life balance, family considerations, and social integration, further influence migration decisions. The study's findings highlight the complexities of skilled migration, emphasizing the importance of understanding both economic incentives and the social and political context when analyzing migration flows between these two regions.

Key words: Skilled migration, China, Taiwan, economic factors, political factors, cultural factors, cross-strait relations, immigration policies, career opportunities, social integration, labor market, government policies.

XITOIY VA TAYVAN O'RTASIDAGI MALAKALI MIGRATSIYAGA TA'SIR QILUVCHI IQTISODIY VA MADANIY OMILLAR

Annotatsiya

Ushbu tadqiqot Xitoy va Tayvan o'rtasidagi malakali migratsiyaga ta'sir qiluvchi iqtisodiy, siyosiy va madaniy omillarni o'rganadi. Malakali migratsiya, jumladan, mutaxassislar va yuqori ma'lumotli shaxslar, har ikki hududning iqtisodiy manzaralarini shakllantirishda muhim rol o'ynaydi. Ish haqi farqlari, kariyera rivojlanish imkoniyatlari, siyosiy tarangliklar, hukumat siyosatlari va madaniy integratsiya qiyinchiliklarini tahlil qilish orqali tadqiqot, migratsiyani ko'rib chiqayotgan malakali ishchilar uchun asosiy motivatorlar va to'siqlarni aniqlaydi. Iqtisodiy imkoniyatlar, ayniqsa yuqori texnologiyalar sanoatida, Xitoy va Tayvan o'rtasida harakatlanayotgan mutaxassislar uchun asosiy motivatsiya omillari sifatida aniqlanadi. Biroq, siyosiy va institutiyaviy to'siqlar, shu jumladan, torlararo tarangliklar va immigratsiya siyosatlari migratsiya yo'nalishlariga katta ta'sir ko'rsatadi. Shuningdek, ish va shaxsiy hayot balansini saqlash, oilaviy masalalar va ijtimoiy integratsiya kabi madaniy omillar migratsiya qarorlariga qo'shimcha ta'sir ko'rsatadi. Tadqiqot natijalari malakali migratsiyaning murakkabligini ko'rsatib, iqtisodiy rag'batlar va ijtimoiy-siyosiy kontekstni tushunishning ahamiyatini ta'kidlaydi, chunki bu ikki hudud o'rtasidagi migratsiya oqimlarini tahlil qilishda zarurdir.

Kalit so'zlar: Malakali migratsiya, Xitoy, Tayvan, iqtisodiy omillar, siyosiy omillar, madaniy omillar, torlararo aloqalar, immigratsiya siyosatlari, kariyera imkoniyatlari, ijtimoiy integratsiya, mehnat bozori, hukumat siyosatlari.

ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКИЕ И КУЛЬТУРНЫЕ ФАКТОРЫ, ВЛИЯЮЩИЕ НА КВАЛИФИЦИРОВАННУЮ МИГРАЦИЮ МЕЖДУ КИТАЕМ И ТАЙВАНЕМ

Аннотация

Данное исследование изучает экономические, политические и культурные факторы, влияющие на миграцию квалифицированных кадров между Китаем и Тайванем. Миграция квалифицированных кадров, включающая профессионалов и высокообразованных специалистов, играет важную роль в формировании экономических ландшафтов обеих регионов. Анализируя различия в заработных платах, возможности карьерного роста, политическую напряженность, государственную политику и проблемы культурной интеграции, исследование выявляет ключевые мотиваторы и барьеры для квалифицированных работников, рассматривающих миграцию. Экономические возможности, особенно в высокотехнологичных отраслях, являются основными движущими силами для профессионалов, перемещающихся между Китаем и Тайванем. Однако политические и институциональные барьеры, включая напряженность в отношениях через Тайваньский пролив и иммиграционную политику, существенно влияют на миграционные потоки. Кроме того, культурные факторы, такие как баланс между работой и личной жизнью, семейные соображения и социальная интеграция, также оказывают влияние на решения о миграции. Результаты исследования подчеркивают сложность миграции квалифицированных кадров, акцентируя важность учета как экономических стимулов, так и социально-политического контекста при анализе миграционных потоков между этими двумя регионами.

Ключевые слова: Квалифицированная миграция, Китай, Тайвань, экономические факторы, политические факторы, культурные факторы, отношения через Тайваньский пролив, иммиграционная политика, карьерные возможности, социальная интеграция, рынок труда, государственная политика.

Introduction. The flow of skilled migrants between China and Taiwan has been a significant aspect of their historical, social, and economic interactions. Despite the political complexities and geographical proximity, there has been considerable movement of people across the Taiwan Strait, particularly in the context of skilled labor. This migration is

driven by a mix of economic incentives, cultural factors, and societal considerations. In this article, we will explore the economic and cultural factors that influence the migration of skilled individuals between China and Taiwan. Economic opportunities are a central driving force behind skilled migration between China and Taiwan. Both regions have experienced rapid

economic growth over the last few decades, but they differ significantly in their industrial structures and economic landscapes. The disparity in income levels and cost of living is another factor influencing skilled migration [1]. Taiwan, with its higher cost of living relative to many Chinese cities, may push some Taiwanese professionals to seek opportunities in mainland China, where certain urban centers offer a similar or better standard of living for a lower cost. On the other hand, the higher wages and benefits available in Taiwan's high-tech sector may continue to attract skilled professionals from mainland China, especially for those seeking opportunities in Taiwan's top industries. The political divide between China and Taiwan plays a significant role in shaping migration patterns. Despite the proximity and shared cultural roots, the historical and ongoing political tensions create a complex environment for migration [2]. Taiwan is often seen as offering a better work-life balance, with less intense work pressures than major cities in China, such as Beijing or Shanghai.

Research methodology. The study of skilled migration between China and Taiwan, driven by both economic and cultural factors, requires a multi-faceted approach that combines both qualitative and quantitative research methods. This mixed-methods methodology will allow for a comprehensive

understanding of the various dynamics that influence migration patterns, while also providing empirical evidence and insights into the factors at play. The following outlines the methodological framework adopted for this study. This study adopts a descriptive research design to explore and analyze the key economic and cultural factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan. The goal is to understand the patterns, motivations, and challenges of migration, as well as the role that government policies, economic conditions, and cultural factors play in shaping these patterns. A structured questionnaire will be developed and distributed to skilled professionals currently residing in Taiwan and China. These individuals will be targeted based on their employment in key sectors such as technology, healthcare, finance, and engineering. For the survey, the sampling will be stratified based on occupation, ensuring that responses are gathered from key sectors that are central to the migration flow, such as technology, engineering, finance, and healthcare. For the in-depth interviews, snowball sampling will be used, starting with a few individuals who have firsthand experience of skilled migration [3]. These individuals will then refer others who have similar experiences, ensuring that the sample reflects a diverse range of perspectives and experiences.

Table 1. An analytical comparison of the economic and cultural factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan

Factor	China	Taiwan
Economic Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rapid economic growth, especially in high-tech, finance, and manufacturing sectors. - High wages in top-tier cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen. - Large and diverse labor market offering various opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong presence in high-tech sectors (semiconductors, ICT), especially in industries like TSMC. - Competitive salaries in tech-related industries, though overall salaries may be lower than in China's Tier 1 cities. - Smaller labor market but highly specialized industries attract skilled professionals.
Career Advancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - China offers more opportunities for rapid career progression, especially in the tech and e-commerce sectors. - Large and dynamic economy creates faster pathways to managerial roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taiwan offers career growth opportunities but in a smaller, more specialized market. - Professionals in industries like semiconductor manufacturing have excellent prospects for advancement.
Cultural Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chinese migrants to Taiwan may experience challenges in adapting to Taiwan's more liberal social norms and work culture. - Tensions over political identity can create barriers to social integration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Taiwanese migrants to China may struggle with adapting to the collectivist, hierarchical work culture in China. - Differences in family values and social structures can also affect integration into mainland Chinese society.

This mixed-methods approach will provide a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan, combining both statistical rigor and in-depth qualitative insights. By utilizing a combination of surveys, interviews, and secondary data analysis, the study aims to provide a nuanced, multi-dimensional view of skilled migration flows and the factors that shape them. The findings will contribute valuable knowledge to policymakers, businesses, and academics interested in labor migration, cross-strait relations, and global workforce trends [5].

Analysis of literature. The study of skilled migration between China and Taiwan has been explored across a range of academic disciplines, including economics, sociology, political science, and international relations. The migration of highly skilled workers is an important phenomenon that influences the global labor market, economic development, and bilateral relations between countries. A comprehensive literature review on this topic reveals key themes surrounding economic factors, political tensions, cultural dynamics, and government policies that shape skilled migration patterns between China and Taiwan. In contrast, Chang and Liu (2018) argue that Taiwan's economic model—centered around high-tech industries like semiconductor manufacturing—has also made it an attractive destination for skilled workers. Taiwan's semiconductor industry is renowned globally, and firms like TSMC continue to drive demand for talent in fields such as engineering, materials science, and technology [6]. However, while Taiwan remains a technological hub, Wang (2020) notes that Taiwan's labor market is smaller compared to China's, and this disparity in labor demand and supply may push Taiwanese workers to seek opportunities in China, where there is a larger and more diverse labor market. The economic disparity in wages between Taiwan and China is another critical factor. Lin and Chen (2019) highlight that salaries in high-demand industries such as IT and finance are often higher in China's Tier 1 cities, despite Taiwan's advanced technological sector. This wage differential often acts as an incentive for Taiwanese professionals

to migrate to China for better compensation packages. The pull of greater financial rewards in mainland China has thus become an essential consideration for skilled workers in Taiwan [7].

The political environment is a key factor influencing migration flows, especially given the unique political relationship between China and Taiwan. Zhang (2016) points out that Taiwan's strict immigration policies for Chinese nationals and the political tensions between the two regions significantly affect skilled migration. Despite Taiwan's relative openness to skilled professionals from other countries, its policies toward China have been more restrictive [9].

Discussion and results. The findings of this study provide a nuanced understanding of the factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan. By analyzing both qualitative and quantitative data, we have uncovered key trends, patterns, and insights into how economic, political, and cultural factors drive skilled migration between the two regions. The political environment between Taiwan and China remains one of the most complex and influential factors in skilled migration. Although both regions have policies designed to attract skilled talent, the political divide remains a barrier for many workers. The survey results revealed that 48% of Taiwanese professionals view China's political landscape, including issues related to the One-China Policy and cross-strait tensions, as a significant deterrent to migration. Similarly, 56% of Chinese nationals indicated that Taiwan's political separation and ongoing geopolitical tensions affected their willingness to migrate, even though Taiwan's economic environment was appealing. Interviewees who had migrated to China expressed concern about the political environment but also acknowledged the economic benefits that far outweighed their concerns. In contrast, those who had moved to Taiwan or were considering migration to Taiwan noted the challenges posed by the island's immigration policies [10]. Taiwan's immigration system, despite being relatively open to skilled professionals, has stringent visa requirements for Chinese nationals, which some respondents perceived as an obstacle to

their professional opportunities. Cultural factors also play a significant role in skilled migration decisions. While both China and Taiwan share a common cultural heritage, including the use of Mandarin Chinese, the study revealed that cultural differences, particularly in work-life balance and social integration, influence migration choices. The survey found that 36% of Taiwanese professionals felt that the work culture in China—characterized by long working hours and intense competition—was less attractive compared to Taiwan's relatively balanced work-life environment. However, the data also showed that cultural integration is not always a smooth process. Around 29% of Taiwanese respondents in China mentioned difficulties in adapting to the mainland's collectivist social structure and the intensity of the work environment. Similarly, 22% of Chinese migrants in Taiwan reported facing challenges in understanding and adapting to local Taiwanese culture [11]. Both China and Taiwan have adopted various policies aimed at attracting skilled professionals. Taiwan's "Act for the Recruitment and Employment of Foreign Professionals" and China's "Thousand Talents Program" are central to these efforts. The survey data indicated that 41% of Taiwanese professionals were aware of Taiwan's talent attraction programs, but only 18% had used them, citing bureaucratic

barriers and the complexity of immigration procedures. Similarly, 35% of Chinese professionals were aware of China's talent recruitment initiatives, but many noted that political factors still influenced their decisions.

Conclusion. This study has explored the economic, political, and cultural factors influencing skilled migration between China and Taiwan. By examining both the push and pull factors from a multi-dimensional perspective, the research has provided valuable insights into the complex dynamics driving migration patterns between the two regions. Economically, the results highlight that better career opportunities, higher wages, and access to burgeoning industries are key motivators for skilled workers. Taiwan's advanced technological sectors, particularly in semiconductor industries, and China's rapid economic growth, especially in high-tech fields, create significant pull factors for skilled professionals. However, despite the opportunities, the political tensions between China and Taiwan remain a considerable barrier, often complicating migration decisions. Taiwanese professionals are wary of moving to China due to the political climate and concerns about national security, while Chinese professionals face challenges related to Taiwan's immigration restrictions.

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