

Not Here for Good?

International Migration Realities and Prospects in Asia

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International labor migration has been underway in Asia in the last 30 years, contrary to the intent of migration policies to keep migration temporary. Despite this experience, migration policies in the region continue to be premised on temporary migration and the refusal to consider the integration of migrants. This article examines whether Asian countries could continue to keep migration temporary and to admit migrant workers but exclude them the social and political life of the receiving countries? It has been possible to prevent settlement in Asia, thus far, but at a cost of denying rights to migrants and their families. The rights-gap is an issue that will need further attention in bilateral and regional discussions. Transnational communities are expected to raise this issue in public discussion and policy.