

PREFACE

The idea for this book was planted after I had returned to the USA from the Middle East in 2007 and moved to Chicago. Despite regular visits to its museums and ballparks during my youth spent a few hours away in Michigan and my undergraduate years in South Bend, the Windy City outside of its main tourist haunts was largely a mystery to me. It did not take long to understand that residents and municipal officials alike decried Chicago's segregation into white, African American, and Latino zones and saw it as a prime source of many ills, including the violence wracking neighborhoods on the south and west sides. Precious little was being done to alter the status quo, however, and investment was clearly pouring primarily into downtown areas. A newcomer was repeatedly advised to head out to ethnic neighborhoods where "you would swear that you were in China/India/Mexico/Poland/Puerto Rico"—enclaves that might speak to diversity but not to an integrated, truly multicultural cityscape. Enjoying ethnic cuisine seemed to be enough to mark a person as a cosmopolitan global citizen. And such status was important, as the city fathers and mothers sang the praises of cultural variety and were keen on telling residents that Chicago's future would be dim if it were not recognized as a "global city." That term and the adjective "world-class" liberally peppered public discourse, suggestive of deep civic insecurity over the city's standing.

Personal and conference trips to Toronto subsequently familiarized me with another big, powerful, wealthy metropolis that was less divided and far less violent than Chicago yet, if anything, even more self-doubting

about its global stature, more concerned about socio-spatial and ethnic polarization, and more obsessed with celebrating ethnic cultures and marketing ethnic enclaves. How could all of the seeming contradictions be explained and reconciled? Was the general perception correct that the post-2008 economic crisis had worsened the situation for migrants in terms of their integration and residential segregation? Above all, I wondered how diversity was being lived at the neighborhood level, what multiculturalism (if it did exist) looked like on the ground in global cities, behind all the statistics coming out of urban research.

A sabbatical year in 2014–2015 gave me the opportunity to explore those issues in depth, both to satisfy my own intellectual curiosity and to contribute to the literatures on migrant integration and global cities. Starting with Chicago and Toronto, I looked for several more cities to compare that shared the same general global positioning and had migrants from several of the same countries but differed with respect to their social welfare policy context—widely seen as a critical factor affecting how newcomers fit into receiving societies. Barcelona, Hamburg, and Montréal emerged as the most suitable additional cases by those criteria.

Besides sabbatical support, my home institution, the Illinois Institute of Technology, funded several earlier research trips to Canada and Spain. A Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD) Research Visit Grant enabled me to spend 3 months in autumn 2014 in Germany. Bernd Simon, Jürgen Golz, and their colleagues at the Institute of Psychology at the University of Kiel provided me with a warm, supportive home base from which to explore nearby Hamburg. Thanks to a Council of Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) Multi-Country Research Fellowship, I was able to spend much of early 2015 in Barcelona conducting research for an ongoing project on West African migrants and local-level integration policies there and in Tangier and Dakar. Late spring and part of the summer were spent working on a curriculum project on interculturalism and migration on a Québec-United States University Grant from the Government of Québec. An American Political Science Association Small Research Grant then financed wrap-up visits to Montréal and Toronto. As migration studies have undergone “professionalization” in recent years, it has become far easier for an American researcher to obtain backing to sit for a year at a research center in New York or Washington, crunching numbers and pondering migration, than to spend time on site actually meeting and observing

migrants where they live. I am just that much more grateful for the financial sponsorship that I received for my fieldwork.

I am also thankful for the people and institutions who assisted in the development and writing of this study. The Statistische Amt für Hamburg und Schleswig-Holstein (above all Nicole Sehnert), Secretaria d'Igualtat, Migracions i Ciutadania and Departament d'Estadística (Barcelona), Harold Washington Library and Newberry Library (Chicago), City of Toronto Archives, Toronto Reference Library, Grande Bibliothèque (Montréal), and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (Ottawa) were invaluable sources of data and guidance. Useful comments were provided by fellow panelists and audience members at the International Studies Annual Convention in Atlanta in March 2016, the Securitization of Migrant Integration/Patterns of Mobilization Conference at Sciences Po in Paris in June 2016, and the International Political Science Association World Congress in Poznań in July 2016. William L. Ascher of Claremont McKenna College and, especially, Martin Schain of New York University gave me valuable input and encouraged me to submit the original manuscript to Palgrave Pivot for consideration. Important moral support was also provided by my family, Ariane Chebel d'Appollonia, Anthony Messina, Michel André Otis, Simon Reich, Rebecca Steffenson, and the staff and regulars at Galway Bay Pub. Peter A. Hall of Harvard University has been my mentor since graduate school, and his advice and friendship have meant the world to me.

Armour Square, Chicago
March 2017

Patrick R. Ireland

Migrant Integration in Times of Economic Crisis
Policy Responses from European and North American
Global Cities

Ireland, P.R.

2017, XVI, 117 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-58099-9