

## Mobility and the future of mobility

Agnieszka Nowinska, assistant professor Business School, The Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Aalborg University

## **Assignments:**

1) Describe the different types of human resources MNEs get access to (think along the two access Internal vs. external and local vs. global) based on Makkela et al (2009)<sup>1</sup>

	Local	Global
Internal	Local-Internal	Global-Internal
External	Local-External	Global-External

Figure 1. Four archetypes of subsidiary staffing within the MNC.

Reflect on what type of knowledge the MNEs are getting with each of the staffing archetypes (quadrants)? Is it more in-depth knowledge of the firm, is it the knowledge of the local market, both or none?

2) Explain and discuss how mobility has changed over time based on Caligiuri and Bonache (2016) <sup>2</sup>and Shaffer et al. (2012).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mäkelä, K., Björkman, I., & Ehrnrooth, M. (2009). MNC subsidiary staffing architecture: building human and social capital within the organisation. The International Journal of Human Resource Management, 20(6), 1273-1290.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Caligiuri, P., & Bonache, J. (2016). Evolving and enduring challenges in global mobility. *Journal of World* Business, 51(1), 127-141.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Shaffer, M. A., Kraimer, M. L., Chen, Y. P., & Bolino, M. C. (2012). Choices, challenges, and career consequences of global work experiences: A review and future agenda. Journal of Management, 38(4), 1282-1327.

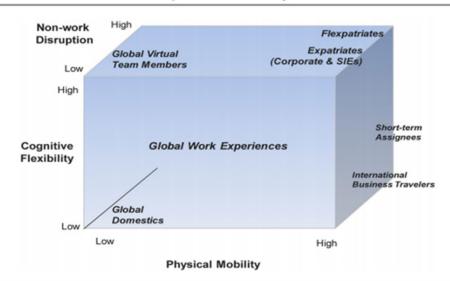


Table 1 Evolution of trends in global mobility.

	Traditional approach (1960s to the late-1980s)	Modern approach (1990s to Present)
Changes in the strategic deployme	ent of expatriates	
Reasons for expatriation	Control of subsidiaries	<ul> <li>Knowledge transfer around MNC</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Fill skill gaps unavailable in host countries</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Professional development of global leaders</li> </ul>
Typical mobility flow	<ul> <li>One directional flow from headquarters to subsidiaries</li> </ul>	· Mobility in all directions (e.g., lateral moves, reverse
	· Mostly from large US, European, and Japanese headquarters	expatriations)
		<ul> <li>MNCs from emerging market and developing countries</li> </ul>
Dominant perspective	Headquarters' perspective was dominant	<ul> <li>Multiple perspectives (headquarters, regional, local) are considered</li> </ul>
Changes in assignment types		
Duration of assignments	<ul> <li>Relatively long assignments (two to four-year period)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>More traveling and short-term assignments</li> </ul>
Employment modes	Relational contracts	<ul> <li>Relational and transactional contracts</li> </ul>
Initiating the global experience	<ul> <li>The company requests employees to relocate</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The company posts open requisitions for international assignments</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>The employees request opportunities for international assignments</li> </ul>
Changes in the profile of expatriat	tes	
Gender	Male executives	<ul> <li>More female expatriates</li> </ul>
Age and level	Middle-aged	All ages
	<ul> <li>Senior level managers and executives</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>From all levels in the organization</li> </ul>
Other	Single-income families	Dual career couples
	Non-working spouse	Elderly parents
		<ul> <li>Non-traditional families</li> </ul>

Shaffer et al. / Global Work Experiences 1301

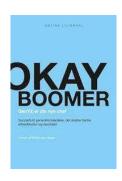
Figure 2
Taxonomy of Global Work Experiences



Do you remember how COVID-19 pandemic did affect the mobility of employees in MNEs?

Before you start filling in the survey, please listen to a short recording I made for you on the topic with Bettina who is an author of a book on generational changes in workplace. You find the recording here: <a href="https://youtu.be/40SlcXY04uc">https://youtu.be/40SlcXY04uc</a>.





3) Fill in the survey about your future job wishes:

https://www.survey-xact.dk/LinkCollector?key=HFVJ6SDSL191

For solutions to the assignment questions, please reach out: aun@business.aau.dk