

Conference „Immigration to the Nordic-Baltic region:
New challenges to nation-states in the age of migration“.
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New demographic projection of Estonia with different scenarios for migration

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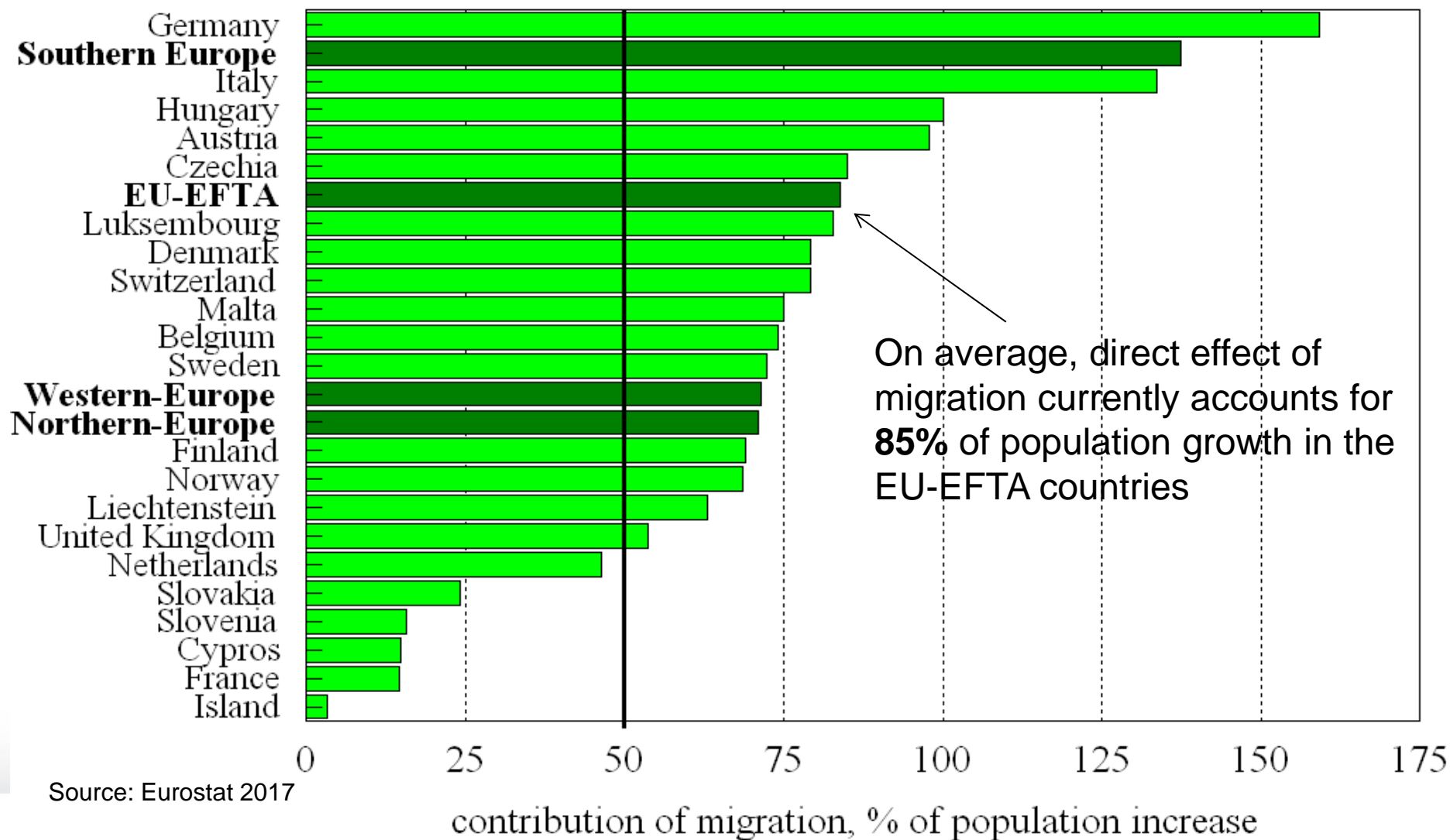
Outline of the presentation

- ▶ Background and motivation
- ▶ Methodology
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Some conclusions

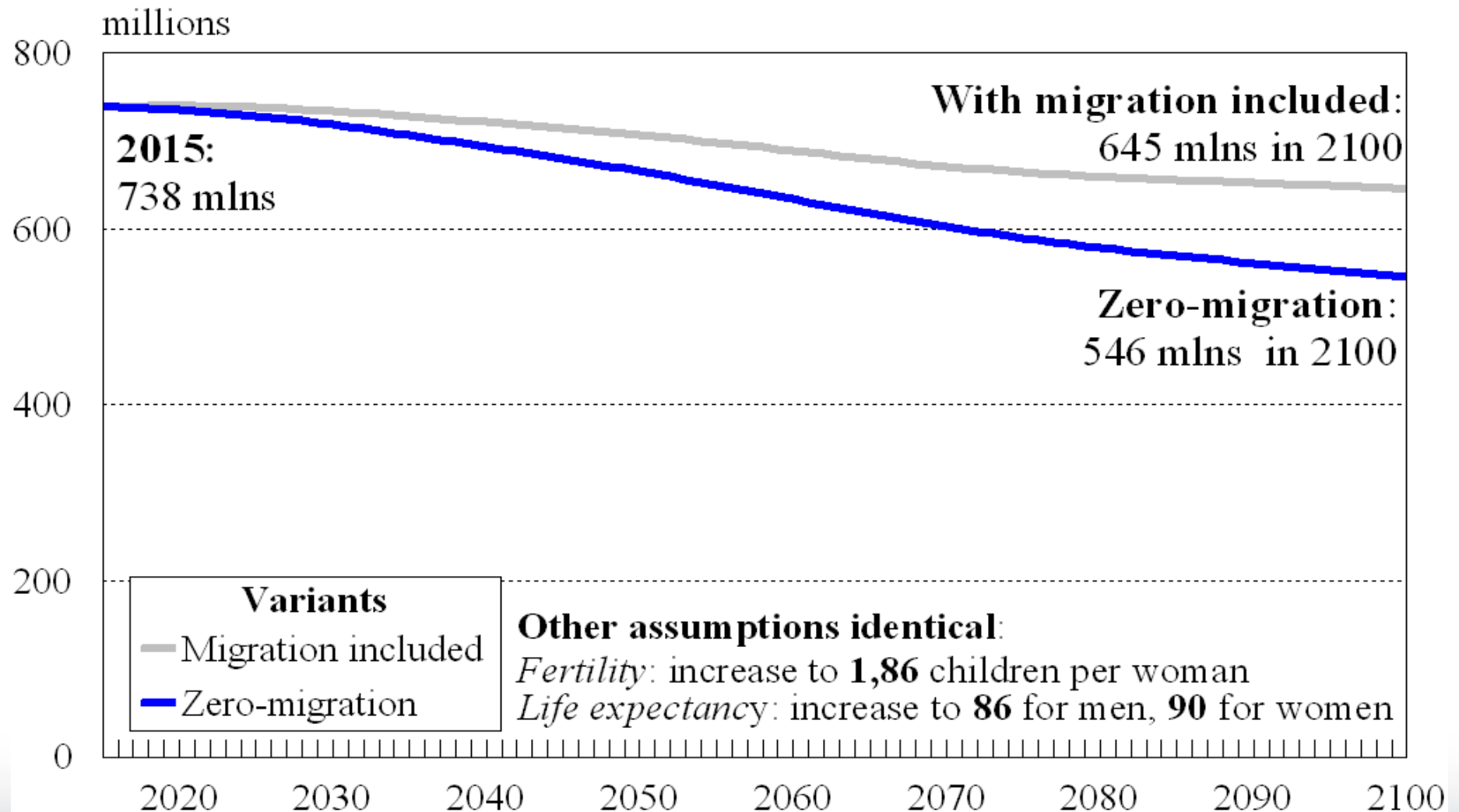
Background

- ▶ „Age of migration“ — international migration is **dynamic, intensive** and exerts **considerable influence** on the size and composition of populations in contemporary Europe
- ▶ In countries with persistent below-replacement fertility and positive net migration, immigration has become a **main factor** that **maintains** population **growth** or **prevents decline**
- ▶ Immigration is widely seen as a significant **remedy for population ageing**, as the majority of immigrants belong to younger age groups
- ▶ The situation is unprecedented and could be portrayed as demographic **migration dependence**

Contribution of migration to population increase, EU-EFTA countries, 2010–2015



Projected population size, Europe 2015–2100



Source: UN Population Division 2015



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Motivation: What about Estonia?

- ▶ Official population projection for Estonia by **Statistics Estonia**:
 - relatively short-term (until 2040)
 - only a couple of scenarios
 - ▶ Projections by **international agencies** (Eurostat, UN Population Division):
 - long projection periods (Eurostat 2080, UNPD 2100)
 - variety of scenarios
 - BUT limited attention to international migration
- => New set of projections for Estonia:**
- **long range** perspective (until 2100)
 - variety of scenarios, focussing on **migration** and **fertility**
 - projection of **sub-groups** (ethnic Estonians, other groups)

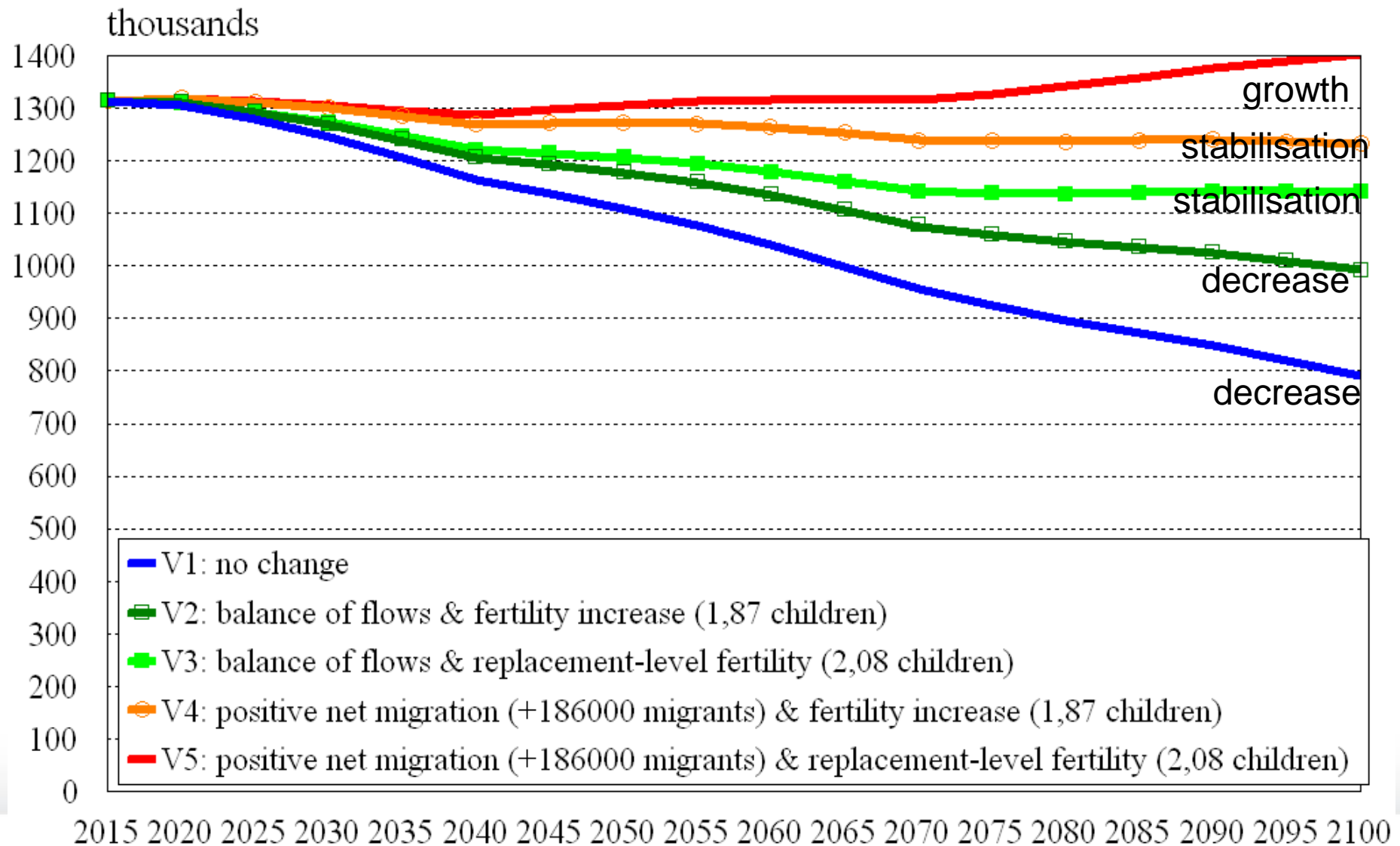
Methodology: projection scenarios

| Scenarios | Negative net migration continued (R-) | Balance of migration flows (R0) | Moderate positive net migration (R+) | Large positive net migration (R++) |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Constant fertility | Migr: -71300 TFR: 1,67 | Migr: 0 TFR: 1,67 | Migr: +78900 TFR: 1,67 | Migr: +186100 TFR: 1,67 |
| Small fertility Increase | Migr: -71300 TFR: 1,77 | Migr: 0 TFR: 1,77 | Migr: +78900 TFR: 1,77 | Migr: +186100 TFR: 1,77 |
| Moderate fertility increase | Migr: -71300 TFR: 1,87 | Migr: 0 TFR: 1,87 | CNM: +78900 TFR: 1,87 | Migr: 186100 TFR: 1,87 |
| Large fertility increase | Migr: -71300 TFR: 1,97. | Migr: 0 TFR: 1,97 | Migr: +78900 TFR: 1,97 | Migr: +186100 TFR: 1,97 |
| Replacement level fertility | Migr: -71300 TFR: 2,08 | Migr: 0 TFR: 2,08 | Migr: +78900 TFR: 2,08 | Migr: +186100 TFR: 2,08 |

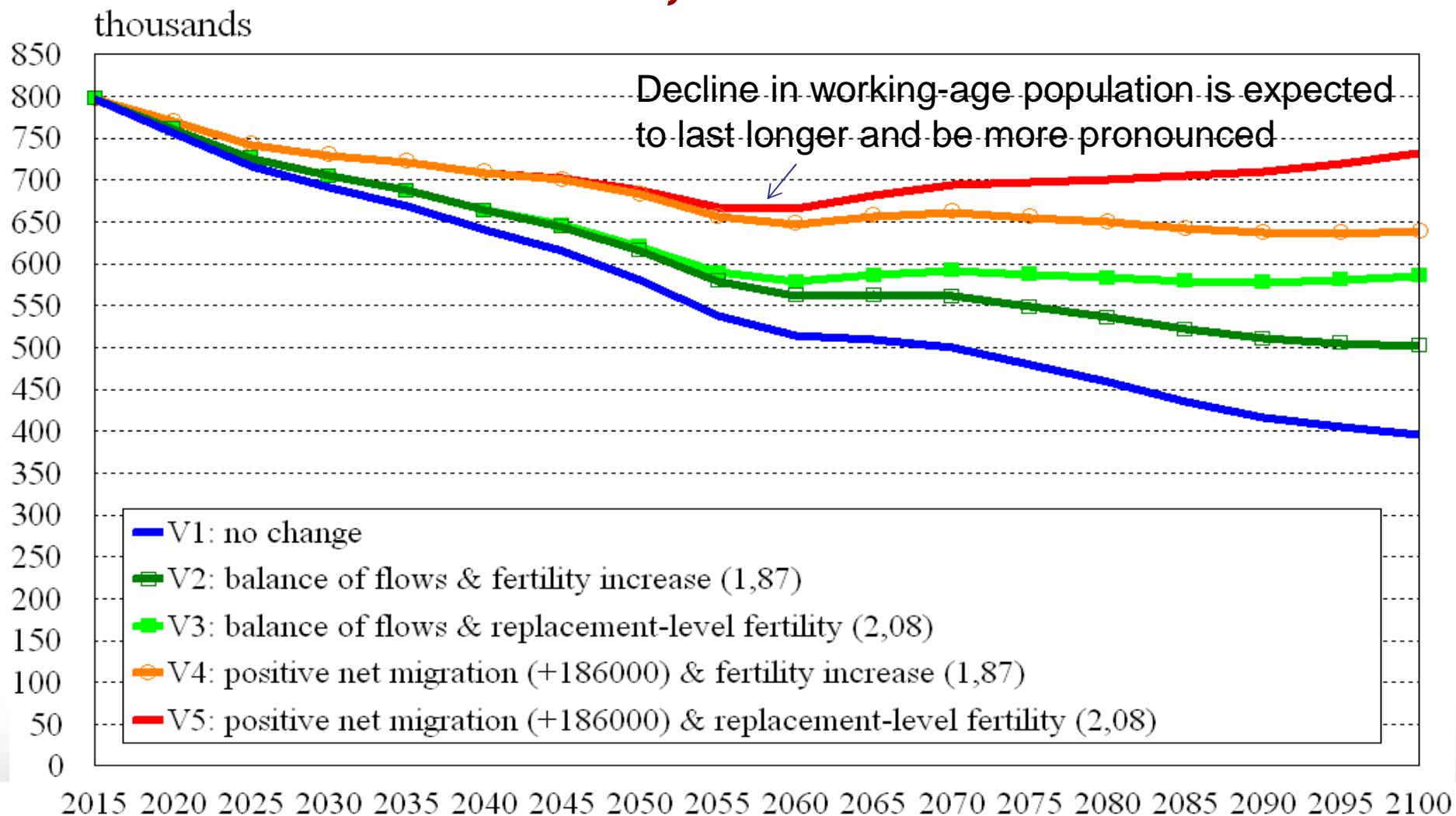


Main results

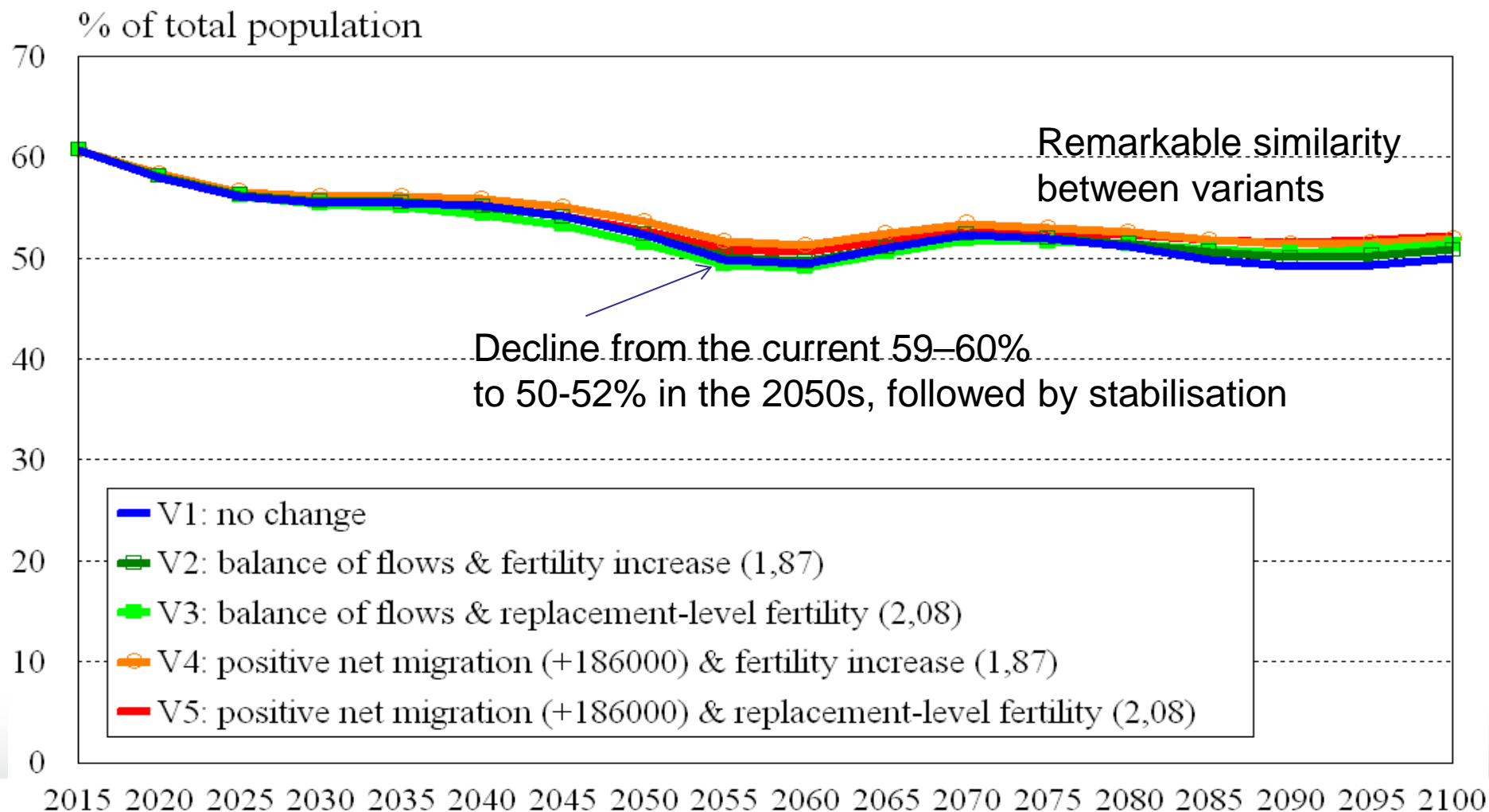
Projected population size, Estonia, 2015–2100



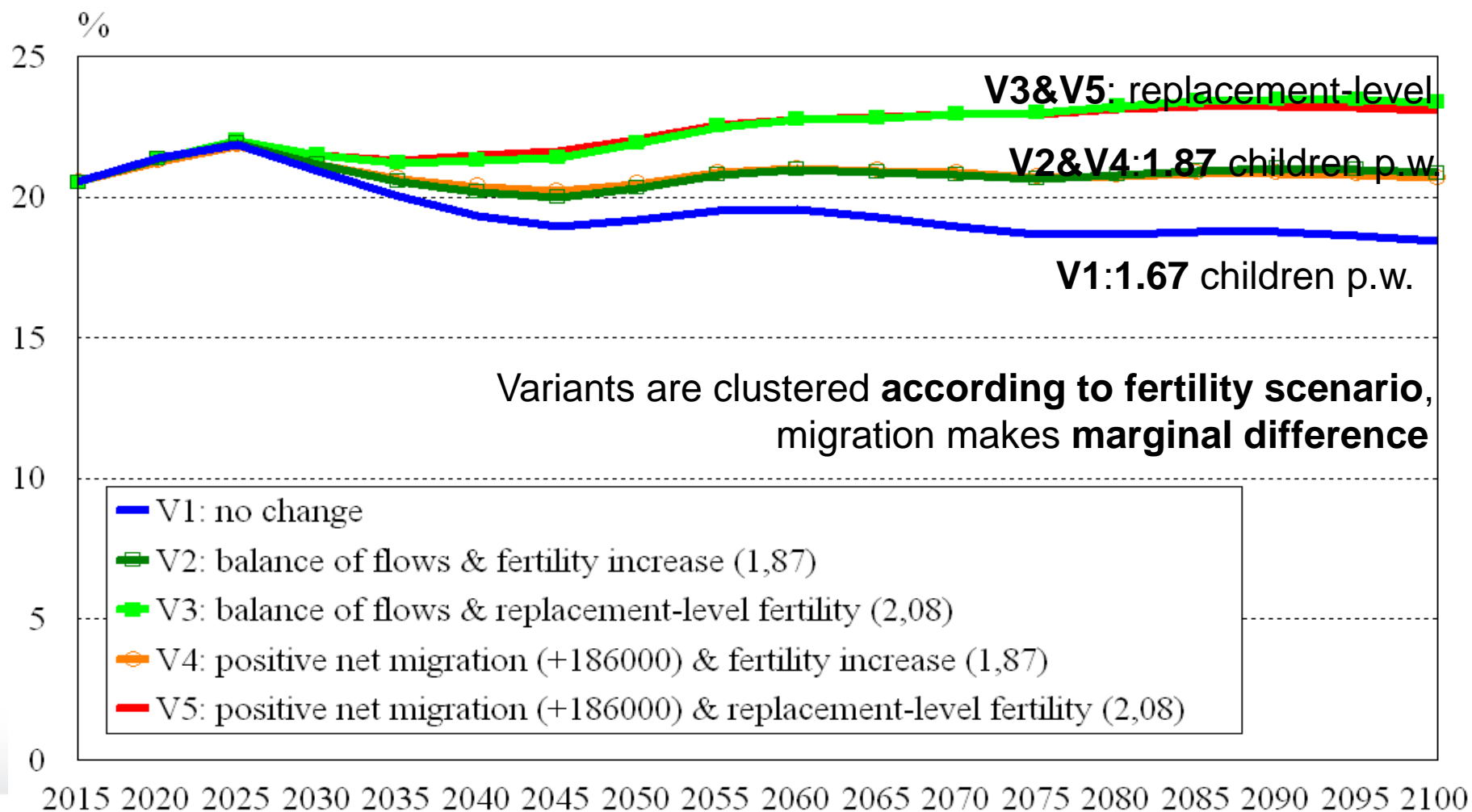
Projected working-age population (20–64), Estonia, 2015–2100



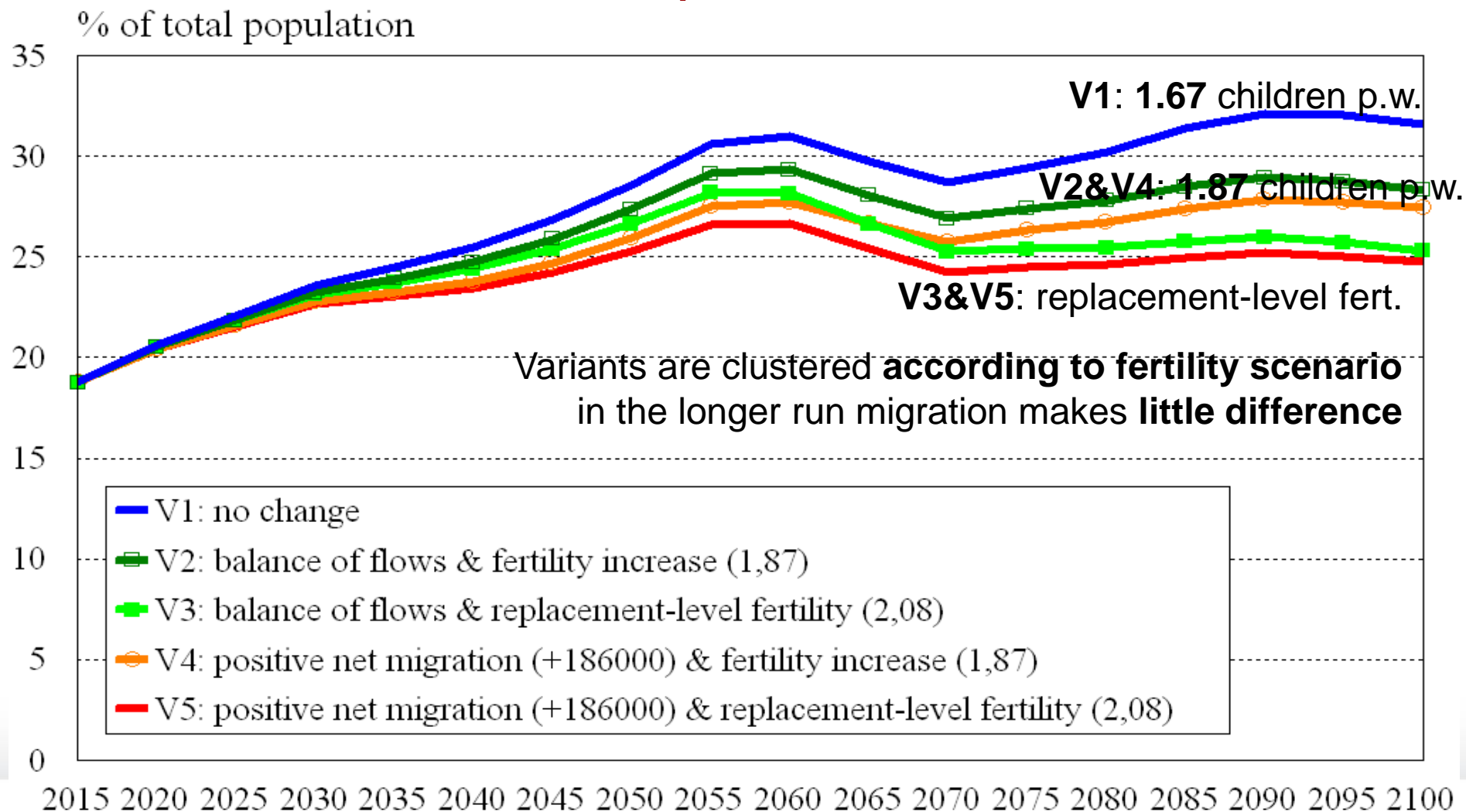
Projected proportion of working-age population (20–64), Estonia, 2015–2100



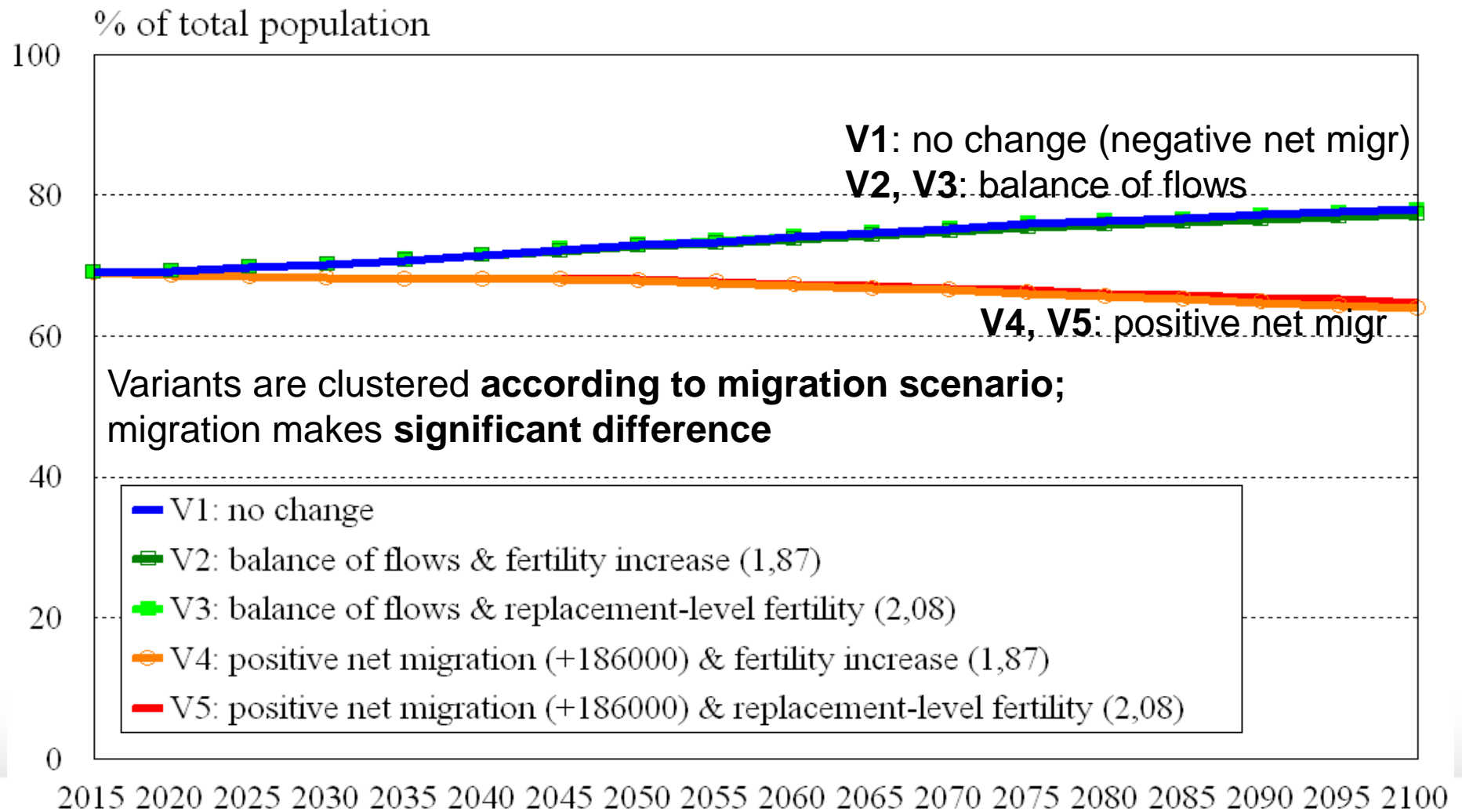
Projected proportion of children and youth (0–19) Estonia, 2015–2100



Projected proportion of older population (65+), Estonia, 2015–2100



Projected proportion in ethnic Estonians, Estonia, 2015–2100



Take-home messages

- ▶ The **paths** of Estonia's future population development, as charted by projections, exhibit high **diversity**
- ▶ The extrapolation of current demographic regime leads to **least sustainable outcomes**, with regard to both population dynamics and ageing
- ▶ The depopulation trend can be broken by bringing **fertility** close(r) **to replacement level**, by achieving **sustained positive net migration**, or by a **combination of both**.
- ▶ If trend-breaking was seriously attempted, what would be the **balance of efforts** between **family policies**, on the one hand, and **policies aimed at stimulating immigration**, with subsequent **integration of new arrivals**, on the other hand?

*THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!*