Anti-foreigner spin is vile and without merit

TODAY, restrictions on the movement of people from Bulgaria and Romania are being lifted so they can relocate to any EU country they like. We should be mindful, of course, that moving across countries isn’t easy, especially when there are language difficulties, and it is younger people who are most likely to move.

For the past seven years, it has been legal for folks from these countries to work in the UK, and already 100,000 have come. So it is likely that many who wanted to come here to work have already done so. And there are lots of more prosperous places they can now go to from these two countries in search of benefits. This, of course, is fanciful nonsense.

We have new evidence from a Europe-wide survey taken between May and June 2013 that a third of Brits, but only a fifth of Bulgarians and Romanians, would like to move to another EU country. People from Bulgaria and Romania were much more likely to say they would move for a higher salary and hardly any said they would move to get benefits. None of the evidence points to a flood of either benefits or job seekers. More vile spin. The Coalition has to blame someone for its failures. Foreigners are an easy scapegoat.

TODAY, restrictions on the movement of people from Bulgaria and Romania are being lifted so they can relocate to any EU country they like. We should be mindful, of course, that moving across countries isn’t easy, especially when there are language difficulties, and it is younger people who are most likely to move.

For the past seven years, it has been legal for folks from these countries to work in the UK, and already 100,000 have come. So it is likely that many who wanted to come here to work have already done so. And there are lots of more prosperous places they can now go to from these two countries in search of benefits. This, of course, is fanciful nonsense.

We have new evidence from a Europe-wide survey taken between May and June 2013 that a third of Brits, but only a fifth of Bulgarians and Romanians, would like to move to another EU country. People from Bulgaria and Romania were much more likely to say they would move for a higher salary and hardly any said they would move to get benefits. None of the evidence points to a flood of either benefits or job seekers. More vile spin. The Coalition has to blame someone for its failures. Foreigners are an easy scapegoat.