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# MIGRATION PROCESSES IN UKRAINE IN THE POSTWAR PERIOD AND AFTER THE PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE

On the basis of statistical data from the website of the State Migration Service of Ukraine and work of scientists who studied issues related to migration processes in Ukraine the author of the article analyzes the information on the subject, identifies reasons of migration and tries to suggest ways to avoid negative migration processes in future.

**Keywords:** migration processes, immigration, emigration, urban population, rural population, traveling abroad, foreign workers, labor migration, foreigners, residence.

Migration is one of the important factors contributing to the change in population of the country and its redistribution among regions and towns. Migration is the movement by people from one place to another with the intentions of settling temporarily or permanently in the new location. Migrations have different intensity, direction, duration depending on many factors. There are different types of migration by reasons: social, economic or employment (in search of earnings), environmental (forced relocation from contaminated territory), political, family and household (family reunification), religious, ethnic-national migration. By the area of migration there is external migration (outside the country) and internal migration (within the country). External migration directed out of the country, called emigration, and the opposite direction is immigration. Internal migration is a population transfer between different regions, cities and towns. It does not affect the change in the number of the population in general, but only in redistribution of boundaries.

Migration can be permanent or seasonal (temporary) depending on the timing of migration, organized (if set for a job) or natural (people go forward without known residence and labor) depending on the form of organization. It also may be voluntary or mandatory, depending on the form of movement. The leading role of migration in terms of workers is taken by socio-economic (or labor) migration. It's structure is provided on the scheme composed by M. Romanyuk (2000). Some researchers of migration identify so called "Pendulum" where the direction of migration is village-city-village or city-village-city implemented by people during the day. It means they live in the village (city), go to work in the city (village) and then return back home to the village (town) making travel on the principle of the pendulum. It can't be called migration, because people do not change residence. So such trips properly called "pendulum" movement of people [4].

As for Ukraine, sometimes it was a destination for immigrants from nearby territories and sometimes there were mass emigration processes in Ukraine, depending on particular period of history.

In the postwar period Ukraine has become a region of mass immigration. People from different regions of the USSR moved here to live and work. They settled cities of the eastern and southern part of the country. Experts from various industries who lived in the eastern regions of Ukraine were sent to work in the western region, and people from the western regions were sent to eastern and southern Ukraine. According to contracts between Soviet and Polish governments over 400 thousand Ukrainians who lived in Poland were relocated to Ukraine. It didn't significantly affected the population of the area, but there was an impact on the ethnic composition (increased the share of indigenous nations). The mass migration of Russians in the Crimea in place of deported Crimean Tatars affected in the opposite direction of the process.

Starting from early 60's of 20th century Ukraine became the country of significant emigration of young people. They moved to the enormous industrial buildings of the Soviet Union to develop virgin lands of Siberia and Kazakhstan. This process slowed down a bit in 70's – 90's but lasted until the proclamation of the independence of Ukraine. The majority of migrations at this time were socioeconomic, but there also were persecuted by government people and Jews who had to emigrate. After the war migration of people towards the village-city intensified due to rapid industrialization of the state. Due to such migration both the number and proportion of urban population increased greatly up to 16.9 million people in 1939 – 1979 (from 33.5 to 61.2%). The highest rates of this migration were typical for Dnieper and Donetsk regions, the least - for the western and northern parts of Ukraine. A feature of such migration was not only the movement of people from rural areas to cities in their region (oblast') but also their migration in cities of other parts of Ukraine (from villages of northern and western parts – in central cities, capital and Donbass [2].

During the last decade of the twentieth century the amount and direction of migration flows significantly changed. In the first years after the proclamation of the independence of Ukraine the volume of emigration significantly reduced due to the fact that conscription, distribution of specialists and organized recruitment of workers outside the Ukrainian state stopped. On the other hand, many Ukrainian and representatives of national minorities who lived in Ukraine earlier (Germans, Crimean Tatars and others), moved back to their homeland. During 1989 – 1997 about 243 thousand of Crimean Tatars and 12 thousand of deported Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks and Germans returned to Ukraine. As a result net migration was positive, for example in 1992 it was more than 282 thousand people. However, since 1993 the flow of immigrants stopped because of the intensified crisis in the economy that led to shaped layoffs in various sectors of the economy, reduced the quality of life. Hope for the transience of these processes and hope for the implementation of market reforms in the country hampered resettlement outside the state for some time. But from 1994 net migration is negative, its volume increases, gradually more and more people involved in international migration. According to the center of "Democratic Initiatives" at least 5-7 million citizens of Ukraine are more or less frequently traveling abroad on temporary seasonal work to supplement the family

budget. Many people are unable to realize their potential in their own country so they decide to leave. Mostly people with high quality labor and intellectual potential are leaving the country. Since 1995, when the Ministry of Statistics in Ukraine began to expose migrants, we can analyze not only the volume of migration, but also age, gender, ethnic, educational and occupational structure of workers. These data indicates that an outflow of population of Ukraine is a serious problem that may pose a threat to the formation of productive labor resource potential in the future. This is confirmed by a number of indicators, above all, the amount of migrants. The analysis confirms high migration activity of Ukrainians. It involved both the internal (intra and inter-regional) and international migration. 18.3 million people were involved in these migrations in 1991 - 1999. Internal migration did not affect the change in the population of the state, but only a redistribution within its territory. It's volume gradually reduced because of the high unemployment covering all regions of Ukraine that does not contribute to the displacement of the population. Especially the volume of migration from rural areas to cities, which were quite significant in 80-90 years, slowed down. The volume and direction of internal state migrations are caused largely by regional differences in socio-economic development, different levels of the population, its structure and others.

Research has found that migration activity is much higher among urban population than rural. People leave small and medium-sized cities and arrive to the big ones. Only in 1998 more than 129.5 thousand people has moved within Ukraine with the change of residence, which is much less than in previous years. A characteristic feature of contemporary migration in Ukraine is a gradual decrease in internal flows and increasing interstate migration. By 1993 Ukraine had a positive net migration (immigration is not dominated by emigration) and later - negative. In 1999 the number of departures exceeded the number of arrivals by 45 thousand people. The largest immigration in Ukraine was in 1991 – 1992. After the proclamation of an independent state nearly 1.3 million people arrived. And in 1999 the number of immigrants amounted to 66 thousand people (8 times less than in 1992). Among them are many seasonal workers who leave for a certain period of time (3 years) in search of work. This migration to some extent mitigates the unemployment situation in Ukraine and became a source of income for many families. If earlier the main flows of migrants formed from the border regions, now people from all regions of Ukraine are abroad on temporary, seasonal work. 8.3% of them in 1998 were employed in the CIS, and the rest – in other countries. Most of the immigrants are working in Greece, Italy, Spain, Germany, Great Britain, Czech Republic, Poland, Russia, Israel, Liberia, the Bahamas, Cyprus, USA and others. The vast majority of migrants - men (70%). The biggest amount of officially registered migrants who are temporarily working abroad was in Odesa, Zakarpattya, Lviv, Kharkiv, Ternopil, Donetsk and Ivano-Frankivsk regions. The widest geography of external relations is in Odessa region. People from this region worked in 32 countries [2].

In 1991 – 1999 number of emigrants exceeded 2.1 million people. The majority of emigrants moved to Russia, but their number was gradually decreasing (in 1998 it was 2.4 times less than in 1993). The number of people who migrated in de-

veloped countries (USA, Israel, Germany, etc.) increased. The majority of migrants -60% – people of working age that reflects the labor migration. Among those who left Ukraine a high proportion of people is with higher education, especially among those who emigrated in the developed world (in 1995 - 24%). Among them there are many people who have a scientific degree indicating the outflow from Ukraine highly professional staff that is so called "Migration of minds". In recent years directions of migration changed. In the middle of the last decade of the twentieth century a significant proportion of workers (over 47%) were Jews who were returning to their historic homeland - Israel. At the end of this decade their share among immigrants decreased while the share of Ukrainian emigrants to developed capitalist countries increased. Counter migration flows (immigration) between Ukraine and the countries of the former Soviet Union are the same and almost equal, but they are insignificant from other countries. Among those who arrived in Ukraine from the former Soviet Union dominated persons who were born in Ukraine, but for a long time lived and worked in different regions of Russia and other countries. Among them there are many people of retirement age that enhances the process of "aging" population in our country.

Ukraine always takes refugees from "hot spots" of CIS – Chechnya, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Tajikistan and other countries. Ukraine due to geographical location (on the way from Asia to Europe) is a region through which runs the illegal migration of people from South and Southeast Asia to European countries. Its western border is a barrier to such migration. At the beginning of 2005 there were 12.4 thousand refugees in Ukraine [3].

Because of unresolved relations with many countries Ukraine also becomes a source of outflow of illegal migrants. After leaving abroad for tourism many people remain there to work (for a period). Most of these workers – in Greece, Italy, Portugal, Czech Republic, Spain and Turkey. In the interim, seasonal work abroad there are people from all regions of Ukraine. More than 700 thousand people only from western Ukraine border region annually goes to temporary work abroad. They have no legal, nor social security there, work for low wages in heavy and dangerous conditions, often persecuted by racketeers. Measures from the government to stop this migration and transformation into legal form are necessary. The highest migration activity is among urbanized populations and border regions of Ukraine: Lviv, Donetsk, Luhansk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Odesa regions and Crimea. Migration from northern and central regions of Ukraine is much less. Due to the deepening economic crisis in Ukraine the volume of the pendulum movement of migrant people significantly reduced. In 1991 more than 2.5 million people participated in such migrations. It was especially significant around large cities. Every day many people moved from their villages and "satellite towns" to big cities to work and then returned home for night. The bigger was the city, the more people were involved in the pendulum trips. These trips are mostly effective within a radius of 45 minutes – 1 hour availability to work. They allow people from rural areas not only to work in the city, but also provide them with many social services, deprived them of their housing problems and others. However, due to enterprise reform process, the termi-

nation of their work or reduction of needed employees many people who participated in the pendulum travels returned to the rural way of life. Reduction in the number of commuter rail and bus routes, higher prices of travel on them also contributed to reduction of pendulum travels. In towns where there are more job opportunities (especially large cities), there are still significant amounts of "pendulum" migration, but it is already much lower than in previous years. Daily flow of people to work in Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Lviv, urban agglomerations of Donbass and Dnieper decreased twice or even three times. During the socio-economic crisis a new pendulum migration of the population - shop-tourism occurred, which means people travel abroad to purchase goods. At the beginning it covered population of border areas, and now – the whole territory of Ukraine. People make these migration to neighboring countries (Poland, Hungary, Romania, Moldova, Russia, Belarus, Turkey), as well as in China, Singapore, United Arab Emirates and others. The volume and geography of migration are changing. The leadership of the Ukrainian state must work on the issue of developing a new migration policy that would be aimed to reduce immigration flows of population and protect our migrants abroad [1].

The problem of the Ukrainian labor market is the excessive labor migration. About 80% of labor migrants work abroad illegally. According to statistical surveys our workers have a high educational level. 75% of them have higher or incomplete higher education. The fact that overseas respondents work generally not by profession is not a factor that inhibits the migration. That means that enough qualified experts from various fields, educated people, on the preparation of which mostly public funds were spent, cannot realize themselves in their own country, and therefore money spent on their training remain unfulfilled. Moreover, a significant percentage of migrants are young people. Among people aged 15-70 years who were looking for another basic or additional work in 2006, one in three was a young man aged 15-29 years. The main reason that motivates young people to seek other jobs are low pay and under-employment. In addition, young people who moved abroad or to other regions in search of temporary income are more likely to remain for permanent residence. There is a higher risk that such people will not return back to Ukraine, so they withdraw themselves as a workers and their future children as individuals who may update workforce in future.

Thus, among the main causes of labor migration of Ukrainian population are the following:

- 1. High unemployment
- 2. Low salaries
- 3. Inability to find a job in one's specialty at homeland
- 4. The disappearance of certain industries or staff reduction
- 5. Economic underdevelopment of certain regions or their incomplete shift to a market economy (it applies especially in western Ukraine, where almost no large industrial enterprises and the status of "Union resort" was lost by this region, so a significant portion of labor was freed up to move in Eastern Ukraine or to neighboring states).

The high unemployment rate is a result of processes to which people almost cannot affect. Independence, the transition from a planned to a market economy, speed rate of passage from the development of administrative-command system towards democracy, economic downturn, the obsolescence of fixed assets, frantic pace of technological progress, economic reforms etc. A survey of migrants showed that 95% of them evaluated the results of their foreign travels clearly positive. Ensuring of a certain level of material well-being and the prevention of widespread poverty in conditions of deep social crisis and thus a reduction of social tension in society is the most important result of international migration. On the other hand, Ukraine is losing manpower and faces a number of social problems related to the education of children of migrant workers that remain without proper adult supervision [5].

Labor migration is a problem in deciding of which we should pay attention to the following aspects.

Ukraine has become a neighbor of the European Union. Countries that joined the Union, gained access to the EU market for goods and the labor market. Today the market of these countries require more labor migrants, but the commitments made before joining complicated entry and legalization. On the other hand, the proximity to Ukraine allows to create joint ventures in the border areas with the involvement of the local workforce. This should be taken into account in the planning and distribution of productive forces in the region. As the country of significant number of migrants Ukraine is also the subject of migration from South-East Asia. Residents of these countries work in agriculture and trade, and Ukraine is a transit country for illegal migrants to Western Europe that causes a problem in relations with the EU. A large number of migrant workers causes an ambiguous reaction of society in the countries of employment. The expansion of Ukrainian women in the life of Italian society, for example, led to the organized opposition in certain regions of Italy. Alarming threat to demographic situation in Ukraine is that the highly developed European countries (Germany, Italy, England, France) and Russia are in a phase of demographic crisis that will force them to create favorable conditions for labor migration from Ukraine in the future. Thus, to solve the problems of labor migration in Ukraine the government must resolve the issue of raising wages, provide graduates and people with higher education with jobs by their specialty, and after that there will be no need for our people to leave Ukraine in order to avoid life in poverty.

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### МІГРАЦІЙНІ ПРОЦЕСИ В УКРАЇНІ У ПІСЛЯВОЄННИЙ ПЕРІОД ТА ПІСЛЯ ПРОГОЛОШЕННЯ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ

У статті автор надає дефініції основних понять, пов'язаних з міграцією, та аналізує статистичні дані по міграційних процесах у різні періоди часу. Метою статті є окреслення основних причин, що сприяли тим чи іншим міграційним процесам, та виокремлення економічних питань, які необхідно вирішити для запобігання негативним наслідкам трудової міграції населення України.

**Ключові слова:** міграційні процеси, імміграція, еміграція, міське населення, сільське населення, виїзд за кордон, сезонні робітники, трудова міграція, іноземці, постійне місце проживання.

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## МИГРАЦИОННЫЕ ПРОЦЕССЫ В УКРАИНЕ В ПОСЛЕВОЕННЫЙ ПЕРИОД И ПОСЛЕ ПРОВОЗГЛАШЕНИЯ НЕЗАВИСИМОСТИ

В данной статье автор дает основные понятия, связанные с миграцией как явлением, и анализирует статистические данные по миграционным процессам в разные периоды времени. Целью статьи является определение основных причин, которые способствовали тем или иным миграционным процессам, а также выделение экономических вопросов, которые необходимо решить для предотвращения негативных последствий трудовой миграции населения Украины.

**Ключевые слова:** миграционные процессы, иммиграция, эмиграция, городское население, сельское население, выезд за границу, сезонные рабочие, трудовая миграция, иностранцы, постоянное место жительства.