

Statement of research objectives

Science has accumulated rich experience, allowing describe the main features, the scale of migration; identify historical periods, the possible consequences of migration processes. However, the problem remains unsolved about the formation of an effective migration policy in Ukraine taking into account peculiarities, prerequisites factors and forms of migration. Improving the management of migration requires detailed scientific development of theoretical, methodological and practical aspects of the problem, development of scientifically based recommendations on formation of migration policy and mechanisms of its implementation.

The purposes of the article are: to outline the theoretical and methodological foundations of the study of contemporary Ukrainian labor migration; to evaluate trends of labor migration in Ukraine and abroad; to analyze and summarize the international experience of state migration policy and to identify opportunities to implement them in Ukraine.

Results

Labour migration as a process of mass movement of individuals from one area of the donor country to the territory of the recipient country with the purpose of employment and extended stay requires the widest possible use of multidisciplinary tools. Its socio-economic and geo-economic consequences become increasingly noticeable at regional, national levels as well as globally. For example, contemporary Western Europe in the context of globalization appears as a new space of migration. The development of Western “consumer society”, including a variety of consumer services, provokes constant growth in demand for “cheap” labor force that is met mainly by migrant workers from other countries. Ukraine as a European country also has a long involvement in global migration processes that were particularly intensified in the early 90s of the last century. Therefore, the analysis and consideration of general migration trends, their effects are one of the important factors in the formation of international and domestic policy of the Ukrainian state. Thus, the need for diverse research problems of Ukrainian labor migration, their proper understanding and assessment for the purpose of scientific predictions of this phenomenon, and thus for provision of scientific and analytical base for making applied developments becomes relevant.

After World War II, when the establishment of the European community was only planned, national governments stimulated labor immigration, because there was the need to rebuild the war-ravaged economy. Researchers claim that without the so-called “Gastarbeiter” or “guest workers” economic recovery in postwar Western Europe (including the “German miracle”) would be impossible.

The plan, adopted by the EU, called “Roadmap immigration” is intended to become a response to demographic and economic challenges faced by Europe, as well as migration pressure at its borders. The purpose of the approved plan is to use the potential of migration for the development of Europe including through

full integration of foreigners who are already in its territory as well as regulated attraction of new contingents of foreign workers. Qualified personnel who will use most favored treatment will make a separate category. The final section of the plan applies to migration management, which should be carried out in close cooperation with the countries of migrants' origin. For example, to prevent the problems that countries of origin face because of "brain drain", it is planned to encourage reverse migration, rotated migration etc. Active policy will be conducted on migration of unskilled and seasonal workers. Moreover, likely approaches are to be applied that are typical for traditional immigrant countries such as the US or Canada [7].

The development of the external sector of the EU migration policy expands opportunities for Ukrainian cooperation with the EU. At the same time, certain challenges for Ukraine that require adequate responses are connected with the formation of a common EU migration policy. Firstly, the introduction of a more open immigration policy will enhance the attractiveness of the EU for potential migrants from Ukraine, mainly highly skilled workers. It may adversely affect human and intellectual potential of the state and therefore it will require increased efforts to reduce emigration, to return emigrants to their Homeland. Secondly, extensive and detailed legislation in the field of migration will require hard work during the integration to the EU on its implementation, compliance with European standards.

According to the embassies of Ukraine, migrant workers are distributed by countries of destination as follows: there are 300 thousands of migrant workers in Poland, in Italy and the Czech Republic - 200 thousands, in Portugal - 150 thousands, in Spain - 100 thousands, in Turkey - 35 thousands, in the USA - 20 thousands. The number of Ukrainian citizens working in Russia is estimated at 1 million people [6, p. 27]. Therefore, more than half of migrant workers from Ukraine work in the EU. Unlike the eastern direction, that is Russia, the western direction becomes more attractive because of higher labor remuneration level and better conditions of work.

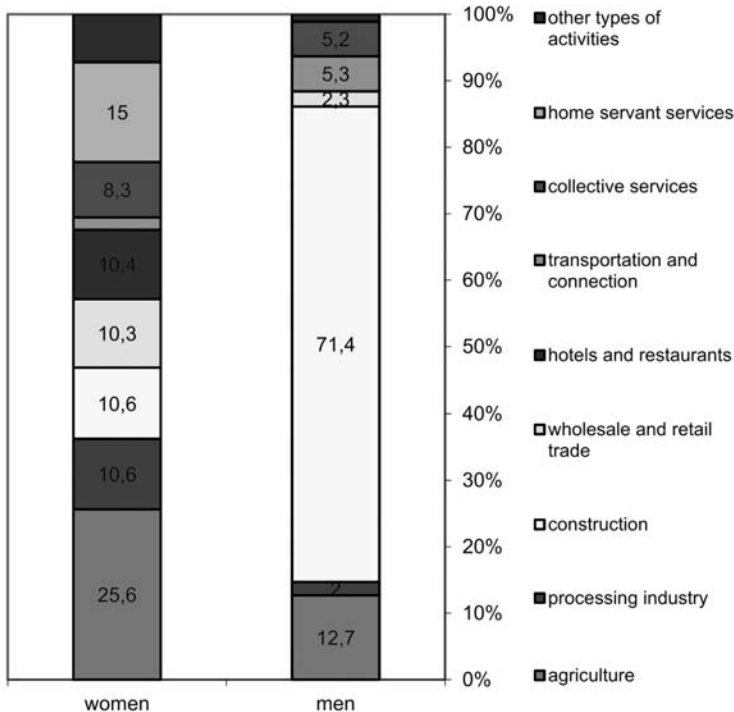
The main areas of employment of Ukrainian migrant workers are construction (71.4% men and 10.6% women), agriculture (12.7% men and 25.6% women) and home service. The structure of employment of Ukrainians in different countries is different and depends on the needs of the local labor market. Gender composition of migrants in some countries is correlated with the type of work that there they are busy at. For example, men predominate in Portugal and Russia where they work mainly in construction, and women - in Italy and Greece, where they are mainly engaged in agriculture and domestic service. Accordingly, in 2004 women accounted for 19% of Ukrainian migrant workers in Portugal and 75.7% in Greece [8-9].

After the collapse of the Soviet Union five main factors contributed to the spread of migration processes in the CIS region: geopolitical shifts that occurred as a result of the collapse of the USSR; liberalization of state control over migra-

tion processes; different rates of economic development of 15 independent countries; family and cultural ties of the population of the CIS countries, as well as knowledge of a common language, similar mentality, common communications and transport systems; the possibility of visa-free movement across internal borders of the former Soviet Union for most citizens of CIS countries. Ukraine has a negative migration balance with Russia. According to the Federal Migration Service of the Russian Federation on March 31, 2015, starting from April 1, 2014 2.5 million of citizens of Ukraine moved to Russia and continued to remain in its territory. About 6 thousands of Ukrainians applied for refugee status, 325 thousands - for temporary shelter [8-9].

Diagram 1

Areas of employment of Ukrainian migrant workers abroad in 2011, %



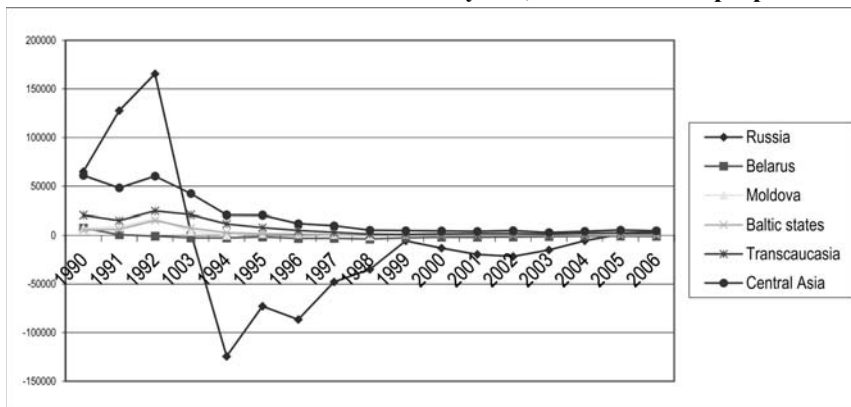
Source: 7. Verboviy M.V. Geoekonomichne ta instytytsiynе pole ukrayinskoyi trudovoyi migratsii (Gеоeconomical and institutional field of Ukrainian labour migration) : monograph / M.V. Verboviy. – Lviv: Prostir-M, 2012. – 316 p.

There is a significant movement of migrants from the CIS region with few resources, such as Moldova, Central Asia and the Caucasus to countries rich in resources, such as Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. In the short run, migration trends in countries of the former Soviet Union are formed primarily under the influence of economic factors. These factors will remain important, but in the future, demographic factors will play an increasingly important role.

Low fertility rate, aging of population, its natural decrease and reduction of the working population will occur in Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus and Russia in the long term. Meanwhile, the southern countries of the former Soviet Union, including in Central Asia and the Caucasus, have younger population. The birth rate there exceeds the death rate and the number of population grows. Given the geographical proximity and shared historical heritage, one can expect that young people from southern countries of the former USSR will seek work in the north. Available data indicate that this process occurs already today.

Diagram 2

The balance of migration between Ukraine and the CIS countries and Baltic States in 1990-2006 years, in thousands of people



Source: State Committee on statistics of Ukraine

Owing to close migratory links, which have developed historically, there is a clear interdependence of migration processes in the territory of former USSR. Policy of Russia, the main recipient country, makes the greatest impact on the migration situation in this space. This effect is enhanced because of transition of Russian Federation to active migration policy aimed at the prevention of depopulation by encouraging immigration, especially from ethnically and culturally close countries.

Recently the UN has investigated the possibility of using migration- replacement as an instrument of state policy to counter the negative impact of the aging of population, the total population decline and the reduction of the number of people of working age. In this study, the influx of 5.4 million of migrants during 2000-2050 was predicted for Russia. However, in order to keep the population at the level of 1995, the influx of migrants should be 24.9 million people, and to preserve the population of working age - to reach 35.8 million people. Russia is the main destination country for migrant workers from Ukraine [5; 8]. At the same time, worsening of geopolitical situation in the world, the military conflict in eastern Ukraine and the Middle East, migration crisis in Europe will significantly change recently projected trends of labor migration.

Conclusions

In conditions of unfavorable demographic trends of Ukraine, which could in the future lead to labor shortages, and given the increased competition for labor resources at European and world labor market, Ukrainian migration policy should be developed according to such basic directions: protection of rights of citizens working abroad; providing more opportunities for their legal employment in foreign countries by signing relevant international agreements, improving mechanisms of their implementation; simplification of visa regime, its gradual cancellation for certain categories of citizens, including residents of border areas; creating conditions for reduction of departure to work abroad and the return of migrants home by the means of maximum use of the results of labor migration for development interests, in particular, by directing funds earned abroad to start own business, to create new jobs, to implement programs of improvement of territories and regional development, where migrants come from.

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