

MIGRATION EFFECTS ON THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract:

In this paper we propose to present the current migration patterns and consequences which they have on the economical and social life in Romania. Romania's integration in the European Union had numerous benefits, meaning that it opened gates to new jobs and to new systems of education. This paper aims to highlight the demographic, social, economical and educational effects of migration on the population of Romania. There is a social impact on the lives of migrant families, especially the temporary abandonment of minors by migrant parents, low academic achievement, early school leaving and adopting inadequately behaviors in society.

Key words: migration, labor, effects of migration, quality of life, impact.

JEL classification: O15

THEORETICAL APPROACH ON THE EXTERNAL MIGRATION

Migration is usually defined as moving a person or a group of persons from a geographical unit to another over an administrative or political border, and who wishes to establish permanently or temporarily in a place, other than his place of origin. Whereas the movement between two geographical units should not occur directly, it can still differentiate between place of origin or destination, transit areas and place of destination or the receiving region (ILO, 2003, p. 8). Movements within a country are usually defined as internal migration and, as a result, movements over international borders are known as international migration. For these reasons, we focus exclusively on international migration. Migration for employment has become the most important component of Romanian migration in the past few years. Unfortunately, official statistics do not capture the whole phenomenon of migration and employment, significant figures starting to exist since the year 2005. According to estimates of Romanian Office for Labor Migration (2), there are approximately two million people employees abroad, outside seasonal work, which represent more than 10% of Romania's inhabitants. In this article, we use data from temporary continued habitation study abroad.

Demographic trends in the last 10 years has been influenced by a number of factors, many of which are highlighted in particular: freedom couples decide whether to desired number of children and the amount of time in which to make a children, high level of economic and social costs supported by the population in the transition period, the lack of a house and low access of young people to an own house, changes in population behavior on the formation and division of families, social instability, the unemployment rate.

MIGRATION EFFECTS ON CHILDREN WHO ARE LEFT HOME ALONE

In Romania the issue of children whose parents are working abroad has become a phenomenon. Among the most common and serious consequences for children are: the longing for parents who turns into depression, anxiety, decreasing school results, school absenteeism, delinquency problems, risk of school abandonment, labor exploitation, abuse and not least, even suicide. Labor migration has increased constantly on the past decade, the most of international migrants, 64 millions, having currently resides in the European Union[1]. Freedom of movement is beneficial to all the Member States economies and provides EU citizens a chance of economic

development and personal, but the reality has shown that these positive effects can be reduced by undesirable side-effects of migration, including precarious conditions of life in which must live the children of migrants who remained in the country of origin, when their parents migrate to another Member State. Migration contributes to reducing poverty and to increase investment in human capital, in exchange for children who are left at home, there's negative aspects, including the risk of deficiencies in care, in terms of physical and mental health, and the mental health-related effects, such as depression, inappropriate use of free time to play and development, lack of participation in school, education and training, malnutrition and child abuse. Migrant children who move with their parents in the destination country can enjoy the improvement of living standards and education. Instead the children left behind became a phenomenon that has received little attention, even by depriving them the information on opportunities and benefits offered by the countries in which the parents find work. These observations are in proportion provisions of the European Parliament resolution of 12 March 2009 on migrant children who are left in the home. These provisions may be supplemented, adapted and adopted by each Member State, especially Romania where the phenomenon appears to be even more pronounced and I think we are all concerned about the high number of children who continue to be at risk.

According to studies carried out by specialized organizations in our country (UNICEF, Save the Children, Soros Foundation), in recent years, about 350,000 children have at least one parent abroad. Unfortunately, scientific studies could not been made for more than half of these children, specifically for an estimated 170,000 minors who are enrolled in the public education system, in secondary schools. Of these, approximately 80,000 children (47% of the total) are deprived of the presence of the father, 55,000 (33%) of the mother, while not less than 35,000 children (representing about 20% of the total) are forced to face an extremely difficult situation of departure of both parents. Conclusions resulting from the analysis can be easily extrapolated to the entire population of children affected by international migration of parents [2].

Proportion of children according to the parent gone to work abroad

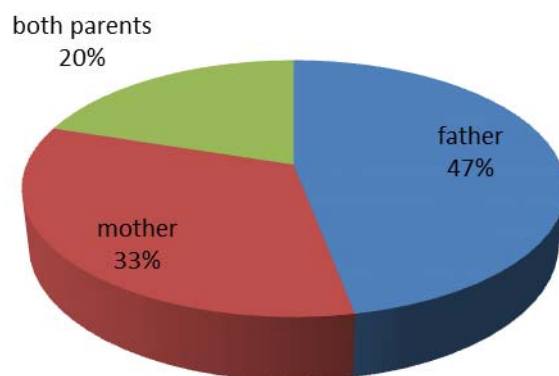


Figure 1. Proportion of children according to the parent gone to work abroad

In the analysis of international migration of Romanians an important factor is the age at which they leave their residence. It was found that about 40% of all those who have established their residence abroad in recent years is represented by the people aged between 30 and 39 years. The situation can be regarded as being potentially dangerous for children who remain in the country because, in most cases, they are left unattended by the family during the teenage years, a period which is considered to be the most difficult in the psychological development of the child.

THE EFFECTS OF TEMPORARY MIGRATION AT SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC LEVEL

Demographic trends in the last 10 years has been influenced by a number of factors, many of which are highlighted in particular: freedom couples decide whether to desired number of children and the amount of time in which to make a children, high level of economic and social costs supported by the population in the transition period, the lack of a house and low access of young people to an own house, changes in population behavior on the formation and division of families, social instability, the unemployment rate.

From a demographic perspective, the consequences of migration, both temporary and that of the final, are significant. The tendency to remain permanently in the receiving countries is well known and leads to considerable losses among the population. This loss results in slowing down the growth or even decline in economic activity [3]. According to recent studies it can be concluded that international mobility is higher among people who have the appropriate age for work. Consequently, emigration countries face an accelerated aging process of its own people. The human factor is the most important source of economic growth, growth rates are expected to be lower in the case of remaining at home. Most of those who emigrate are young, and their percentage is constantly increasing and can thus argues that immigration affects the age groups with high rates of fertility, thus reducing the potential for newborns in Romania. This is even more worrying as it becomes permanent emigration.

The structure of emigration by sex reveals some changes so that immigrant women are becoming more numerous in recent years. In 2004, 62% of migrants were women in the age group 26-40 years, which means 58% of the immigrant population and the percentage is growing. An increasing number of children are born outside the country [4].

The implications of migration in the family are multiple, they form part both from the positive and negative effects. Money sent by migrants to their families improve the quality of life having a positive impact on family relationships. On the other hand, we face the family's grief for the loss of one or more members, even if this situation is temporarily. In fact, the higher is the period the stronger are the effects on the family.

The departure of one of the members determines the reorganization of roles within the family. In this case, family members take on roles / functions of that migrant, which may lead to loss of wealth within the family and disturbances in the couple relationship. All this can easily lead to family dissolution (divorce). One of the major negative effects of labor migration seems to be related to the children of migrants who remain (in the best case) with only one of their parents.

There are lots of cases when both parents migrate in order to find a job and therefore, grandparents, other relatives or friends take the guardianship of children. Sometimes migrants abandon their children, which eventually end up in state care. So children are affected to a great extent (in some cases these situations are traumatic) by their parents because people who take care of them cannot successfully perform the role of parent. Another social category that could be negatively affected are the elderly especially in communities with high levels of migration. In situations where children leave the country with their parents they should go through a period of adjustment, learn a new language and learn to live in a different social environment, which most often involves a degree of stress.

MIGRATION EFFECTS AT ECONOMICAL LEVEL

At the macroeconomic level migration leads to destabilization of the labor market by creating either a surplus in certain areas, or to a deficit of labor force in certain sectors, in certain times and in certain areas. Labor overcapacity in a sector can be regarded as an aggressive phenomenon by the native population.

At the individual level appear phenomena not only positive, by increasing the living standards, thanksgiving, a sense of job security and also negative, targeting in particular the relationship with the group of origin (feeling of alienation etc).

Impact damage in Romania means the damage of some sectors (construction, services, manufacturing) faced with a shortage of labor until the last half of 2008, currently alarming unemployment to international and national level as a result of the crisis that shook different sectors (construction, retail, banking, etc.). It also, an influence has the decline of active population (direct loss and time effects due to unbalance of the structure of age and young population migration) [5].

On the other hand, if we consider the situation from Romania, the contribution to the national economy through economic flows was surprised illustrated by the following data: in 2005 entered the country about 3,033 million euro, in 2006 about 4,358 million euro, 2007- 4,987 million euro. It seems that in the crisis, money transfers are numerous, and growing in volume, but less significant in amounts.

In the case of exodus of qualified staff to the west, in countries such as Romania, with an intense need for managers and specialists, that must ensure the reforming of a system that is, economic, administrative and social nearly bankrupt, is badly needed "peaks" and recently qualified execution personnel. Although the state is investing in their training, supporting them during studies through access to mainstream education, until recently advanced, and, recently, though scholarship programs (some insufficiently developed), the chain is broken at the time of employment.

Patenting inventions is difficult, apparently reduced exploiting of the potential of programs, but at least poorly applied. "Return of Investment" for the Romanian state almost missing. Developed programs run without a coherent legislative and administrative support, made to impress, not to be effective, do not give off already in an chaotic administrative system [6].

Bureaucracy and indifference are failing young people, defeat even the nationalist feeling and generates frustration and finally apathy. The result: departures to well-paid jobs in the west, sometimes resulting to giving up to Romanian citizenship, deprivation becoming more pronounced in the Romanian society. This land was and is fully exploited by companies which are permanently looking to well trained human resources, to support their business strategy and maximum profit with minimum investment.

Table 1. The evolution of international migration in the years 1990 -2009

Year	People who have left Romania
1990	96.929
1991	44.160
1992	31.152
1993	18.446
1994	17.146
1995	25.675
1996	21.526
1997	19.945
1998	17.536
1999	12.594
2000	14.753
2001	9.921
2002	8.154
2003	10.673
2004	13.082
2005	10.938

2006	14.197
2007	8.830
2008	8.739
2009	10.211

Source: Official data published by the National Statistics Institute

In the table above it appears that the first years were characterized by a very high value of international migration of Romanian citizens. The situation can be attributed to the the opening of borders, the transition to a democratic regime, which led to the final departure of more than 170,000 citizens only in 1990 - 1992. After 2000 the international migration of our citizens was relatively constant. During that period, about 10,000 people/year have left Romania for a job in another country [7].

Regarding the negative effects of emigration, the biggest impact is felt in the family, especially when one or both parents migrate temporarily. The effects of this situation are painfully felt by individuals who have gone through an experience of personal or family migration and are analyzed objectively by the participants who did not experience such situations. Some effects at social community or society at large are identified the economic ones, related to changing the balance of labor and transfers of financial resources. The effects of political, cultural or religious referred to a lower extent.

CONCLUSION

International migration, temporary or definitive, of the Romanian citizens is a real phenomenon and relatively large, affecting directly over 350,000 of children.

Annually, around 10,000 Romanian have left during the last period, their families, in order to find a better job in another country. Even if the material terms of this openness to international labor market is an important advantage for the families involved, the effects that the absence of one or both parents on the development of children left behind are particularly unfavorable. Even though, in terms of material, this openness to international labor market is an important advantage for the families involved, the effects that the absence of one or both parents on child development, who are left home alone, particularly unfavorable.

A large proportion of children affected by international migration of parents are experiencing real problems in learning, face to special problems of social adjustment and, quite often, led to the extreme situations of breach of national legislation.

Another negative aspect is the brain drain, meaning that from the country emigrate, primarily, highly qualified people. Romania loses twice: once when they spend with their training and tuition fee and, secondly, the fact that it cannot benefit from their superior training, which would lead to an increase in the competitiveness and efficiency of certain economic areas.

The migration phenomenon is complex. The data presented are quite summary, the phenomenon itself is too large to an approach at this level. In order to understand it is necessary to undertake further research projects at international level, but these projects are unlikely to succeed to capture illegal immigration (possibly negative effects can be seen up to a certain level and obtained indirect evidence), and to capture the causes of the real phenomenon.

To control the phenomenon should be well known the causes, otherwise we try to treat only the effects. Poor knowledge of the phenomenon and motivation lead to the establishment of some policies which do not lead to expected results.

The problems faced by Romania in this moment in terms of labor, especially of qualified labor, are those that require little attention, and on the phenomenon of migration and its impact is worth to stop and try to understand and counteract it.

It is necessary the collaboration at the international level regarding this phenomenon (not only at the level of knowledge, but also at the control level), and regarding the policy of Romania, it would be preferable to go on supporting Romanian migrants as well as a better supervision of

foreign immigrants, promoting the image and interests of Romania on the international labor market, further studies on the real causes of migration (without understanding that we will continue to treat disparate effects) and on the creation of viable projects to support young people with potential.

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