

შრომითი მიგრაციის ზრდა უკრაინაში და მისი შედეგები

GROWTH OF LABOR MIGRATION IN UKRAINE AND ITS EFFECTS

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ABSTRACT

The paper examines a range of the cause-and-effect relations of the issues of employment of Ukraine's population. The data on migratory processes of the employable population in Ukraine is presented. The structure of labor migrants, their gender and industry characteristics, age groups, education level and motivational factors of labour emigration are determined. The leading countries, to which Ukrainian migrants give preference, are established. The dynamics of remittances, their objectives and structure of income and their positive effect on the welfare of migrant families are analyzed. The directions of the use of remittances of migrants are described, which has indicated their use for starting their own business, purchasing goods, solving housing problems, financing education, etc. The negative consequences for Ukraine in the area of sustainable development due to the strengthening of migration processes are outlined.

Key words: labor resources, employment, international labor migration, labor force, sustainable development.

ანოტაცია

სტატიაში განხილულია უკრაინის მოსახლეობის შრომითი დასაქმების მზარდი პრობლემები. მოყვანილია მონაცემები უკრაინაში შრომისუნარიანი მოსახლეობის მიგრაციული პროცესების შესახებ. განსაზღვრულია შრომითი მიგრანტების სტრუქტურა, მათი დარგობრივი მახასიათებლები. ასაკობრივი ჯგუფები, განათლების დონე და საზღვარგარეთ სამუშაოდ გამგზავრების სამოტივაციო ფაქტორები. განსაზღვრულია ქვეყანა - ლიდერები, რომლებსაც უკრაინელი მიგრანტები ანიჭებენ უპირატესობას. განხილულია ევროპის ქვეყნებში სტუდენტების სასწავლებლად გასვლის მიზეზები. გაანალიზებულია ემიგრანტების საზღვარგარეთ გამომუშავების შესაძლებლობები და იძლევიან თუ არა ისინი შესაბამის

სტარტს უკრაინის ტერიტორიაზე ბიზნესის განვითარებისათვის. გამოვლენილია უკრაინისათვის ნეგატიური შედეგები მიგრაციული პროცესების მდგრადი განვითარების ქრილში.

საკვანძო სიტყვები: შრომითი რესურსები, შრომითი მონყობა, საერთაშორისო შრომითი მიგრაცია, სამუშაო ძალა, მდგრადი განვითარება.

INTRODUCTION.

Free excess of Ukraine to the European vector of development is accompanied both by a large number of politic a land economic transformations and by certain socio-economic problems caused by the demographic crisis, one of which is labour emigration to other countries. This problem is rather urgent as the growth of migration processes has become more dynamic in recent years, which has negative effects on the sustainable development of the state, causes deformation of qualitative parameters of the labor market, lack of attraction of human resources to the economy of the country and, consequently, a decrease in the rate of its economic security. Such processes derive from the spectrum of domestic and foreign economic factors caused by the economic crisis, hryvnia devaluation, armed conflict in the East of the country, etc.

In the current conditions of dynamic transformations of the world economy, the priority of the state policy of the developed countries is the transition to sustainable development, which is interpreted in "The Strategy of Sustainable Development of Ukraine 2030" [1] as a process of the state development based on harmonization of social, economic and ecological components in order to meet the needs of modern and future generations through the process of changing the value orientations of people. Freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance, respect for nature, shared responsibility are the recognized international

fundamental values of sustainable development. National goals of sustainable development are based on the political, economic, social, ecological, moral and cultural values inherent in the Ukrainian society. They target the strategy towards the care for the common welfare and protection of the national interests of Ukraine.

METHODOLOGY .

The strategic view of Ukraine’s sustainable development is based on the support of the national interests and fulfillment of the international obligations. Such development implies:

- overcoming of imbalances in the economic, social and environmental spheres;
- transformation of the economic activity, transition to the principles of the “green economy”;
- formation of a peaceful, secure, socially consolidated society with the adequate governance and inclusive institutions;
- support of the partner cooperation between public authorities, local authorities, business, science, education and civil organizations;
- high level of science, education and public health;
- maintenance of the environment in a proper condition that will ensure the quality of life and well-being of the present and future generations;
- decentralization and implementation of the regional policy, which involves a harmonious combination of the national and regional interests;

- preservation of national cultural values and traditions;
- full employment of the population [1].

If the business climate is not improved and economic growth is not increased in Ukraine, soon it will result in the inability to supply pensioners with foodstuff.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.

According to statistics, every seventh Ukrainian is working abroad today, which is more than 7 million citizens of the active working age. According to sociologists’ estimates, on average about 50 people leave Ukraine forever every day. And in recent years, Ukrainian emigrants have become younger, since it is the young people who actively leave the territory of Ukraine. In particular, according to official statistics, the majority of migrant labour from Ukraine are people aged 20-34 [2].

In addition, young Ukrainians go to study abroad, where they often remain to work. Thus, according to statistics, now there are about 17 thousand Ukrainian students in Poland. In total, nearly 50-55 thousand Ukrainians study in the European universities [4].

Difficult economic situation in the country has reasoned the growth of labor migration among young people since the 90’s. Today, the generation of the children, whose parents have migrated, has grown, hence, many of them have emigrated to their parents. Consequently, the entire families are emigrating.

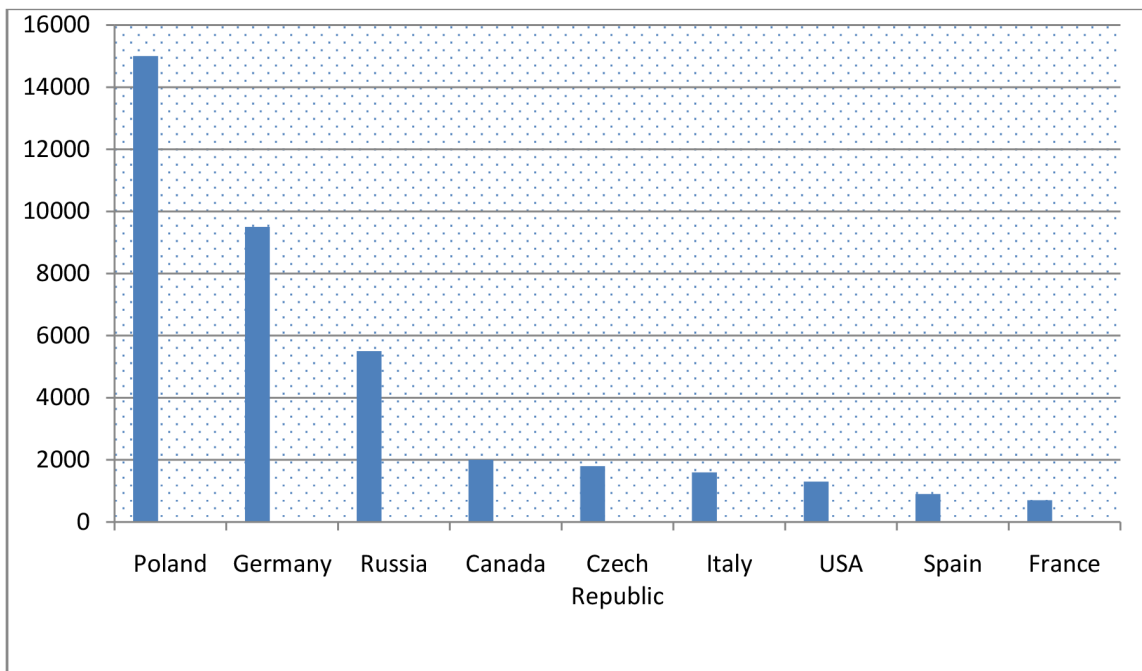


Fig.1. Countries where Ukrainian youth study [2].

Migration processes are also influenced by the demographic problems of the neighboring European countries. They are keen to have our talented youth move to their countries. According to Figure 1, Poland ranks first and the number of students from Ukraine in it exceeds 15 thousand, then there goes Germany with more than 9 thousand, Russia with 5 thousand, Canada and the Czech Republic with 2 thousand people.

As it can be observed, there are no changes for the better in Ukraine. Therefore, the youth will continue to leave in the future. The question is why there is such a

great outflow of workers if Ukraine seems to provide jobs. It is explained by much lower wage than abroad, the lack of good jobs, and the opportunities of career growth and development.

Representatives of the working professions such as miners, builders, drivers, people who work in agriculture emigrate mainly to the CIS countries; while highly qualified specialists (scientists, programmers, translators), sailors, young people who have higher education and expect to find jobs in the service sector emigrate to the far abroad.

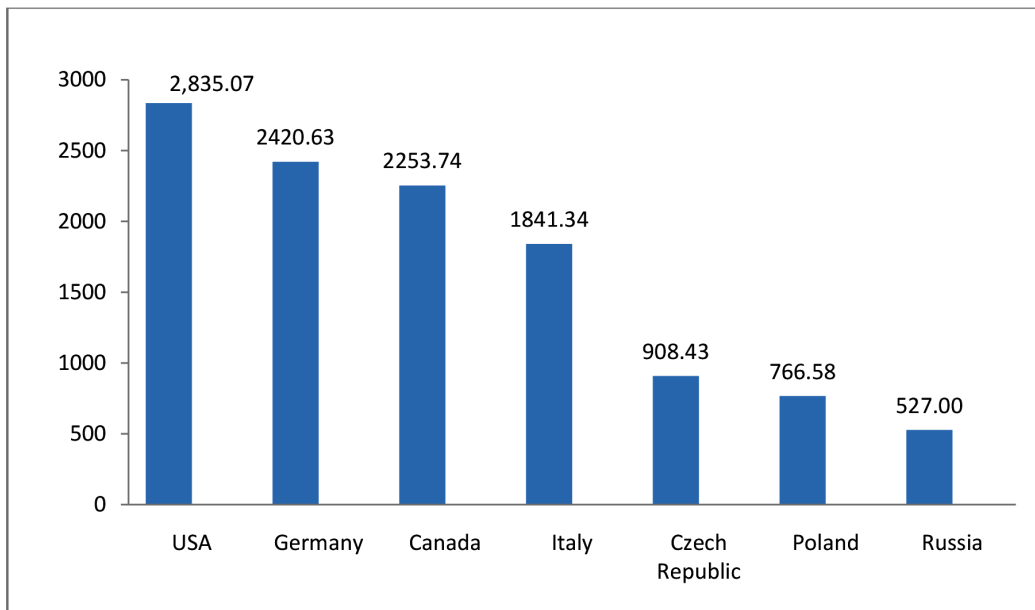


Fig. 2. Average wage, USD

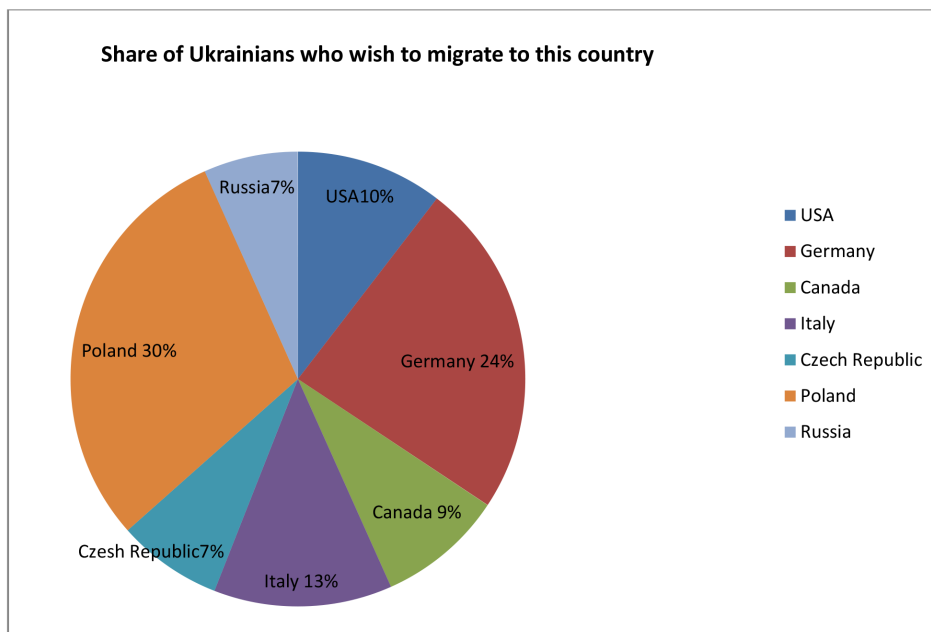


Fig. 3. Average wages in the countries where Ukrainian emigrants are employed [2], [3].

Inter-state labor emigration has many positive features: it helps the families of migrants to survive in the difficult period of the market economy development. According to official statistics, the level of unemployment in the labor market is decreasing, while in fact it is growing.

Many people migrate because of inability to find work in Ukraine, since they were only partially employed or unemployed for a certain time before making a decision to migrate. This means that the “outflow of minds” and loss of qualification are the factors that push young people out of Ukraine, mainly because of incompliance of the educational system to the market demand for labor.

Unfortunately, nowadays qualified labor with higher education like doctors, teachers and scientists is depreciated, while in the European countries these specialties are well-paid and have great prospects. The country, which does not take care of the health and education of the population, has no future.

Thus, the current level of education is decreasing at a high rate, since it is also affected by corruption.

Therefore, young people go abroad to study. It would be great if they return to Ukraine and work for the benefit of our state when they have got good European education and work experience. But we understand that these are just our dreams and hopes. Our country experiences a huge outflow of educated, progressive and active youth. Today,

Ukraine has already got a shortage of qualified personnel, specialists in the field of IT technologies, doctors. In other words, our labor migration is of intellectual nature. After all, such professions as doctors and teachers in Ukraine have lost social prestige. In its turn, it has a great negative effect on the economy. In fact, on the one hand, young people die in the war, and on the other hand they run away from the country. At the same time, more than half of them are not going to return. Accordingly, when the population decreases, then the economy, namely GDP, does not grow. Lack of economically active population results in the fact that production and technologies are not developed and new jobs are not provided. In the world, young people develop innovations and new approaches.

If the youth leaves the country, such a country becomes unattractive to investors.

Empirical results As a result, under such conditions, the nation is aging and there is even no sense to talk about its reproduction. Moreover, the coefficient of reproduction is 1.1, while the nation regeneration requires the coefficient of at least 2.4. Today, there are 12.2 million pensioners living in Ukraine and only 10 million are of the active working age who regularly pay a single social tax, i.e. the pensioners exceed the number of employed people by 2.2 million people. So, there arises a question where to get money for further pension payments.

Table 1

MODERN CONDITIONS OF ECONOMIC SECURITY OF THE POPULATION OF UKRAINE

Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	Consumer price index	109.1	104.6	99.8	100.5	124.9	143.3	112.4
Nominal GDP per capita, USD - Ukraine	2,974.0	3,570.8	3,856.8	4,030.3	3,014.6	2,115.4	2,185.9	2,459.0
- Poland	12,602	13,887	13,158	13,777	14,337	12,559	12,361	13,429
Minimum wage, UAH	922.0	1,004.0	1,134.0	1,218.0	1,218.0	1,378.0	1,600.0	3,200.0
Minimum wage fee, USD	115.3	126.4	141.9	152.4	152.4	85.3	62.6	118.2
Average wage in Ukraine, UAH	1,955.0	2,338.0	2,799.0	3,044.0	3,189.0	3,633.0	4,585.0	6,209.0
Average wage in Ukraine, USD	244.4	294.5	350.3	381.0	399.1	225.0	179.4	229.3
Average wage in Ukraine, % of GDP	8%	8%	9%	9%	13%	11%	8%	9%
External debt per capita, USD	2,553.0	2,762.4	2,963.3	3,123.5	2,884.5	2,771.3	2,660.0	2,744.0

According to the results of the study presented in Table 1, in Ukraine the indicators of economic support remain below the average figures of countries belonging to a group of a high level of human development and lower than the average figures in the countries in Europe and Central Asia. In Ukraine, about 60% of population lives below the poverty line, which is defined as the actual living wage. Inflation rates are high.

While in 2013 consumer prices increased only by half a percent, in 2015 they increased by 43.3%. At the same time, in 2014 the average monthly real wage was 94% of the rate of 2013, and in 2015 it was 80% of the rate of the previous year.

Although nominal average wages increased and amounted to 3,480 UAH in 2014, in 2015 it was 4,195 UAH, as a result of the rapid inflation of the national currency it sharply decreased in dollar terms and was 399 USD in 2014 and 229.3 USD in 2017. However, there is a considerable heterogeneity and a large gap between the average and the minimum wages of Ukrainians, since the latter is more than twice as low and equaled 118.2 USD in 2017 and it equals 133.7 USD in 2018.

In Poland the minimum wage is 2,000 PLN, while in Ukraine since January 1, 2018 it has amounted to 3,723 UAH, or about 480 PLN. This means that an employee from Ukraine is ready, even having the qualifications, to perform technical work to get a minimum wage in Poland, which raises the problem of an outflow of minds. Due to high-skilled labour migration, the development of scientific and technological progress is hampered in Ukraine. Emigration of specialists in technical specialties leads to a decrease in the efficiency of the production process, so that the results of scientific and technical developments cease to be implemented. The main reasons why scientists are forced to leave scientific institutions include a very low salary, a sharp decline in the prestige of scientific work in the society, deterioration of conditions for adequate scientific activity or inability to fulfill themselves as scientists. The number of specialists who carry out research works in Ukraine has decreased by half during the last ten years, while the remaining 30% of scientists are actually conducting researchers ordered by foreign clients.

Migration of young people abroad is a very negative phenomenon in Ukraine. It can only be positive if these people start to return home from abroad. But for this pur-

pose, young people must be provided with proper social conditions in Ukraine. But, unfortunately, the state policy in no way aims to involve young people into the public life, start social programs and create conditions for their implementation. State is much more loyal with the pensioners who have privileges, get subsidies, pensions, while the youth is getting nothing. At present, in the state structures, all the key positions are held by the same working pensioners, while the university graduates cannot find jobs in their profession and they are forced to go abroad after graduation.

CONCLUSION.

Thus, the negative effects of intensification of labor migration in Ukraine, which cause violation of the requirements of The Concept of Sustainable Development of the state economy, are as follows:

1. Due to labor migration from Ukraine, there is a marked weakening of the national economy, as a competitive part of the population migrates abroad, which is a major factor in the socio-economic development of society.

2. Activation of migration processes leads to the destruction of families of migrant workers, if the period of staying abroad of one of its members reaches several years. Another negative phenomenon that leads to labor migration is the so-called "social" orphanhood of children, when the latter have to grow alone having their parents alive. Today, more than 200 thousand children of labour migrants are deprived of parental care. A survey conducted in February 2009 shows that 54.55% of those polled migrants left their children in Ukraine when going abroad for a work: among them 32.05% were 1-3-year old children; 20.51% were 7-12-year old children; 21.79% were 13-15-year old children. As a result, the first generation of migrants' children, who has been deprived of parental care, has grown in Ukraine.

3. Lack of skilled young professionals can be a problem for attracting investments into the country's economy.

4. The outflow of youth abroad reduces marriage indicators, undermines family relations, and leads to the destruction of Ukrainian young families.

Therefore, under the current rate of labor migration, the Government's adoption of the Concept of Human Resources Management aimed to regulate the employment process and ensure appropriate wages should be of top priority.

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