International migration of Ukrainians

Introduction. The democratization of public life after gaining independence has opened much wider opportunities for citizens to travel outside Ukraine. However, the acquisition of the right to free movement coincided in time with the deep structural transformation of the economy, which accompanied by falling living standards of the population, rising unemployment, and underemployment. Due to the degradation of the education system and medicine, payment for these services rests on the population. In the absence of developed capital markets and consumer loans, individuals who wanted to start their own business required start-up capital. The transition to a market economy has created new consumer demand for such goods high cost like housing, cars, household appliances and other. All this has stimulated labour migration abroad, which in the late 1990s became a mass phenomenon and a source of income for many families.

According to estimates based on surveys of the State Statistics Service, in the beginning of the new Millennium for more than 10% of the population worked abroad. In subsequent years, the number of migrant workers decreased slightly, but remains significant and is estimated today at 2-3 million people.

Today Ukraine is experiencing a boom in internal and external labour migration. The war in Donbas and annexation of Crimea stimulates millions of Ukrainians to seek a better life for themselves and their families in other regions of the country and in other countries. Going abroad those Ukrainians who did not convert or did not scale to their achievements in Ukraine and it is a major problem for the country. In fact, migrate most capable and motivated workers, managers, qualified professionals and in future that will lead to the decline of various spheres of public life.

Therefore, the aim of our work is to study the processes of labour migration of Ukrainians and its consequences for the country.

Basic material. It should be noted that, Ukraine is now in the international markets mainly serves as the exporting state workforce, although there is a trend to increase in the number of foreign citizens working in Ukraine. Statistics show that, the number of the latter is...
about 10 times less than the number of Ukrainians who work abroad. In this case, we are talking only about official statistics, which does not take account of illegal migrants and refugees.

Among the countries targeted by the labour migration flows from Ukraine are – Russia, Poland, Czech Republic, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, and recently – Germany, Portugal, Spain and other developed countries of Western Europe. The flow of labour migration in this direction is due to the proximity of borders and a certain loyalty to the local laws to workers and immigrants. The introduction of visa regimes in some countries (in particular Russia, the Czech Republic, etc.), where was mainly workers from Ukraine, contributes to the expansion of the geography of labour migration. More and more Ukrainians emigrated to the United States, Canada, Middle East countries and others.

In our country are employed citizens of Russia, Moldova, China, Vietnam, Turkey, mainly in the field of trade, services, etc., while Ukrainians abroad – in industry, construction and agriculture.

To reduce labour emigration from Ukraine (especially illegal) it is necessary to implement the system of measures, which in the opinion of specialists² should have a clear internal and external direction. The first group consists of measures of macroeconomic stabilization and economic recovery – creating jobs, expanding foreign investment, etc. External measures should provide a civilized form of the departure of workers abroad and the possibility of their free return from abroad, the import of currency, and the guarantee of our compatriots in defending their labour rights abroad.

World experience shows that labour migration offers additional benefits for the countries receiving labour force and the countries that supply it. However, international labour migration generates acute social and economic problems.

The countries that host the labour force, receive the following benefits:

- by reducing production costs increases competitiveness of the goods produced by country, which is associated with lower price of foreign labour;
- foreign workers, placing additional demand for goods and services, stimulate increased production and additional employment in the host country;
- by importing a skilled workforce, the country that hosts, saves on the cost of education and training;

• foreign workers are not provided with a pension and are not considered in the implementation of various social programs.

International migration plays an important role in the demographic development of some countries and regions. As a result of migration flows, a number of industrialized countries have offset the decline in population growth, first and foremost, this concerns the countries of Western Europe.

The recruitment of foreign labour leads to an increase of competition in the domestic labour market and to a certain extent, stimulates the growth of labour productivity and production efficiency in the country. It should be noted that, the economy of a number of industrialized States was created through mass recruitment of workforce from outside. It should also be noted that, foreigner workers tend to experience, in the country of the importer of the labour force, various forms of discrimination, like conditions of employment, remuneration and also with the sphere of health care and insurance.

Countries-exporters of labour force, also receive a range of benefits and additional difficulties. The advantages include the following:

1) labour export is an important source of hard currency into the country. According to the IMF, the average rate of profit from the export of goods is 20%, services 50%, and the export of labour force is much higher;
2) export of labour means reducing the pressure of excess labour resources and, consequently, social tensions in the country;
3) free for the exporting country workforce training, new professional skills, familiarity with advanced labour management, etc.

At the same time, countries-exporters of labour force are faces with certain negative phenomena. The main is a "brain drain", that is qualified, enthusiastic personnel that are so essential to the national economy. The impact of migration processes on the countries of immigration and emigration is multidimensional.

Consequences for the countries of immigration

1. Countries of immigration have significant benefits of training in other countries. So, according to current estimates, the net benefit for the host country from attracting one "average" humanist is 230 thousand dollars, scientist in the field of social sciences – 235 thousand dollars, engineer – 253 thousand dollars, doctor – 646 thousand dollars.

2. Companies of countries of immigration have savings due to the lower wages for immigrants and due to the fact that the foreign workers can lower the wages at the overall level.

3. Workers-immigrants contribute to the rejuvenation of the structure of labour resources of the countries of immigration.

4. Remittances from emigrants home contribute to the expansion of sales of goods of the countries of immigration overseas.

However, the influx of workers abroad, compounding the problem of employment in the country and have a negative impact on the economic situation of local workers. Along with the economic, there are social, cultural, legal and other problems.

For countries of emigration of experienced skilled workers returning after working abroad contributes to the development of the national economy. For some of these countries remittances are the main source of foreign exchange earnings that exceed foreign exchange earnings from exports of goods. However, emigration has detrimental effect to the countries, as the national economy loses the best part of labour. This leads to the aging structure of the labour force.

Readaptation of workers is a serious problem, as workers returned after working abroad and estranged from the local conditions of work and life.

Especially negative consequences for countries of emigration is an outflow of highly qualified specialists and scientists. Therefore, the governments of these countries pursue a policy of trying to slow this process\(^4\).

It should be noted, that before the Russian annexation of Crimea and the outbreak of the conflict in eastern Ukraine, the scale of labour outward migration of Ukrainians had been characterised by a slight downward trend. Back in 2014, an increase in the number of Ukrainians who migrated to Russia was observed, although no similar increase was recorded for EU countries (excluding Poland). The year 2015 brought a more rapid surge in the number of Ukrainians migrating to the EU, again mainly to Poland. Due to the lack of current EU-wide data\(^5\), estimates can be made based only on data compiled by national statistical offices in countries which are the most popular with Ukrainian migrants. In Poland, as of October 2015 Ukrainians held 52,000 valid residence cards. Much greater migration dynamics have

\[^4\] Піскун О. Проблеми становлення міграційної правової політики України // Розбудова держави. – 1997 – № 10. – С. 89

been observed in the case of temporary migration – the number of declarations which enable an individual to take up a temporary job in Poland, issued in the first half of 2015, was a staggering 400,000.

Figure 1. The main destinations of Ukrainian labour migrants (2010-2012)

As regards places of residence in Poland, according to the Office for Foreigners data, as of 9 December 2014, 37% of Ukrainian nationals resided in Mazowieckie province, the majority of them in Warsaw. Large urban centres provide more work opportunities in both the formal and informal sectors of the economy as well as allowing irregular or semi-compliant migrants from Ukraine to remain “invisible”. However, rural areas also are an important destination for seasonal workers from Ukraine as they attract workers to the agriculture sector. Ukrainians also chose regions in the south and east of Poland: Dolnośląskie and Małopolskie (10 and 9%, respectively), Lubelskie (8%), Podkarpackie (6%) and Śląskie (5%) provinces.

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By comparing migrants who came to Poland in 2014 and those who came later, I can say that significantly reduced the percentage of people employed in households (from 51.3% to 18.3%). But note that, increased importance of other sectors, namely construction (from 15% to 35.3%). This is due to increased migration of men and the need in construction, and women from the household sector go to the hotel and restaurant sector and agriculture.\footnote{Nowa fala migracji obywateli Ukrainy do Polski, 2016. [Електронний ресурс]. – Режим доступу: https://www.obserwatorfinansowy.pl/tematyka/makroekonomia/nowa-fala-migracji-obywateli-ukrainy-do-polski}

According to studies of migration conducted by the national Bank Polish, from 100% of Ukrainians, located in Poland are 93.8% of them are working. Without the work of only 6.2%, but these persons are actively seeking employment. Among the Ukrainians, the majority of their jobs are temporary. In such a way works almost half of the studied (47.9%), second half(45.6%) has a regular job. A small percentage of Ukrainians are self-employment (0.3%)\footnote{Жовнір С.М. Українська трудова міграція: реалії, перспективи, вектори модернізації державної політики в управлінні нею / С.М. Жовнір // Український соціум. – 2014. – №4 (51). – С. 144–159.}.
Figure 3. Main employment areal of Ukrainian labour migrants

Composition of labour migrants as their numbers in the last 20 years has changed. Note that men constitute the majority of workers – 58% and women 42%. However, the proportion of female migrants has increased significantly compared to 2001 (24%). The sex structure of migrants differs depending on the host country and the nature of workplaces in it9.

Figure 4. Age structure of the migrants

Source: [Raport na temat obywateli Ukrainy, 2017]

Moreover, according to UNESCO, in the period from 2000 to 2012 years the number of Ukrainian students abroad has increased more than four times and reached 37 thousand. Rapidly it grew up in countries where the labour migration flows.

In the past two years, the growth in the number of Ukrainians that went to study abroad, greatly accelerated. According to the annual monitoring of the number of Ukrainian citizens who are studying in foreign universities According to the annual monitoring of the number of Ukrainian citizens who are studying in foreign universities on a day-to-day form of study, carried out by the analytical centre CEDOS, carried out by the analytical centre CEDOS (covers 34 countries), in the 2013/2014 academic year studied abroad 47724 citizens of Ukraine. Most of them in Poland (15 thousand), Germany (9 thousand), USA (1.5 thousand), Spain (1.4 thousand), France (1.3 thousand), UK (1 thousand).

Figure 5. The number of students from abroad Ukrainians (2008-2014)

Source: [Стадний, 2016]

It should be noted that, only some migrants who travel to other countries, unable to find jobs appropriate to their skill level, almost all of them, regardless of their level of

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education, work in low-skilled jobs. In such a mismatch of the skills of migrants and the work they do abroad, labour migration of Ukrainians may be characterized as a "brain drain".

Statistics indicate contradictory effects of labour migration for Ukraine. The maximum average monthly income of labour migrants make up more than 2 billion UAH or 400$ million. In the country decreases the level of poverty and increasing aggregate demand, increasing the market capacity etc. Simultaneously from 2 to 6 billion dollars a year is not taxed by the state, and prices for goods and services in the domestic market are rising without a corresponding increase in the purchasing power of the general population. A sociological survey of labour migrants showed that 95% of them in all regions of the country evaluated the results of their foreign travel as positive. Ensuring a certain level of material well-being, prevent the impoverishment of people in conditions of deep social crisis and thus reduce social tension in society is the most important consequence of international migration. On the other hand, Ukraine is losing workforce and faces a number of social problems that are associated with the upbringing and education of children of migrant workers, who remain without adequate adult supervision.

Conclusion. Summarizing, it should be noted that, undoubtedly the most important factor is the economic situation in Ukraine. Although the first symptoms of stabilisation of the economic and social situation can be seen, including, for example, the successful renegotiation of part of the country’s external debt or the indexation of salaries and raising of the minimum wage, the current trends suggest that complete recovery from the crisis will take a considerable time. The unemployment rate in Ukraine has been relatively low. This results from the fact that state-owned companies maintain excessive numbers of employees whom in turn they can offer low salaries as well. Considering the dramatic decline in Ukraine’s industrial production, this rate of unemployment is unlikely to be maintained at its current level over a long-term perspective. Other factors include the security situation in the region affected by the conflict and Russia’s policy towards Ukraine.

However, in relation to labour migration of citizens abroad, practical measures are still not enough. The inadequacy of the legislative base, in particular, the absence of a law on

labour migration and the legal status of migrant workers, fragmentation of managerial functions, and most importantly – the lack of structure of Executive power specialized on the management of labour migration, which would be able to shape policy, lobby for the adoption of the necessary legislation, to coordinate the activities of the authorities in the relevant field, to form a favourable for the solution of migration problems public opinion (the powers of the newly formed State migration service, labour migration does not apply).

Under such circumstances it seems appropriate to develop the plan of implementation of the Concept of state migration policy of Ukraine, to give priority attention to labour migration. Take into account the opinions of experts-scientists, public associations of migrants, in particular, to intensify the work of the Council on labour migration under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

To reduce labour emigration it is necessary to implement the system of measures, which in the opinion of specialists, should have a clear internal and external direction. The first group consists of measures of macroeconomic stabilization and economic recovery – creating jobs, expanding foreign investment, etc. External measures should provide a civilized form of the departure of workers abroad and the possibility for them to freely return home, the importation of currency, and the guarantee of our compatriots in defending their labour rights abroad.\(^\text{15}\)

The main factor that will reduce labour migration is to provide people with jobs and with proper working conditions and pay, the limitations of "shadow" economy and "shadow" employment. Because productive employment is the way of poverty reduction and the distraction of leaving for work abroad.

For a large part of the population of Ukraine external labour migration became the main means of ensuring an acceptable standard of living. Among the reasons for their development is the low level of wages, lack of jobs and limit job opportunities, especially in rural areas. Concurrently with the migration associated negative consequences, such as illegal migration, the use of the Ukrainian human potential in other countries, slowing the pace of socio-economic development due to the absence of part of the working population in the country, which went abroad. How to explain the fact that Ukraine, with its the world's best black soil is not able to provide an increase in the welfare of citizens, who survive at the expense of foreign earnings. Obviously, the reason for that exists, but still it was not disclosed in full.

The further course of migration processes will depend on the economic situation in the country and living standards of the population. However, the production of national income per capita in Ukraine is the lowest compared to neighbouring countries, which for some is not such a reservoir of labour migration as our country. Therefore, in the coming years we should expect an increase in labour migration abroad. While the need for intense work on all areas of economic life does not possess the mass consciousness, by the time Ukraine will remain the main donor of labour migration in Europe. Of course, labour migration is an international phenomenon, which is primarily a national dimension, therefore, requires effective regulation how to prevent its negative consequences and to ensure the economic security of the state. Therefore there is a need to adopt the concept of migration policy of Ukraine. The effectiveness of state policy in the sphere of labour migration is achieved by having complete and reliable information, monitoring of migration processes. Important is access to information the various subjects in migration processes.

Ukraine is a European country. Therefore, the migration policies of the European countries has a direct impact on migration of population of Ukraine. From the European countries depends the intensity of migration flows from Ukraine. This implies the need for cooperation between Ukraine and the European countries in the field of migration. In the context of globalization, the solution to the immigration problem must happen on an international scale.

References:
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Abstract. International migration is a global phenomenon that is growing in scope, complexity and impact. Migration is both a cause and effect of broader development processes and an intrinsic feature of our constantly globalizing world. While no substitute for development, migration can be a positive force for development when supported by the right set of policies. The rise in global mobility, the growing complexity of migratory patterns and its impact on countries, migrants, families and communities have all contributed to international migration becoming a priority for the international community.

Labour migration, in the modern world, has undergone and continues undergoing serious evolution. In addition to regional migration, the flows have intensified in domestic and foreign labour market. It should be pointed out that, for migration processes the following factors are critical: progress in the field of transport, development of mechanization and aviation communications as well as modern systems of communication, media and information technology.

A fundamental role in the formation of migration potential and its growth in Ukraine play, on the one hand, demographic phenomena, as well as increasing unemployment; on the other hand, significant changes in the global economy, the emergence and development of powerful economic centers of the modern manufacturing industries, the comprehensive development of the service sector.

Political decisions to limit labour migration in Ukraine are unlikely to play a significant role in international relations. Neither restrictive measures nor development strategy as a whole will not be able to rein in international labour migration in the short term. Two strong factors contribute to the displacement of population. These factors include the spread of a global culture, the rise of international capital, goods and people. The world community must learn to live in the conditions of mass migration in the near future.

Keywords: mass migration, population, labour, policy, demography, economy