

UKRAINE IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION PROCESSES

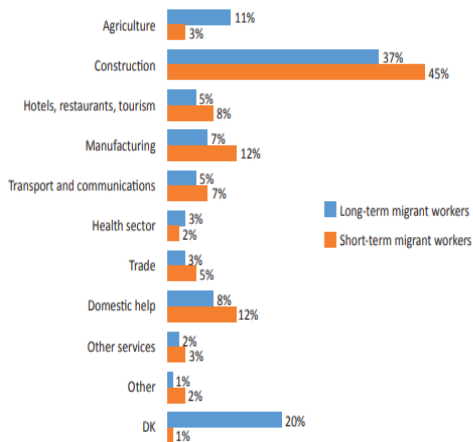
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International labor migration is part of the world system management, it is the result of the evolution of labor, the system international division of labor and integration. Today Ukraine on international markets mainly acts as a labor-exporting state forces, although there is a tendency to increase the number of foreign citizens working in Ukraine. The problems of this research are considered in the works of domestic and foreign scientists (Kvitka, S. et al., 2019 [1]; Cosmulese, C.G. et al., 2019[2]; Lekashvili, E., 2019 [3]; Domashenko M. et al., 2017 [4]; Zolkover, A. et al., 2020 [5]; Yelnikova, Y. et al., 2020 [6,7]; Bhowmik, D., 2020 [8]; Moskalenko, B. et al., 2020 [9]; Borella, C. et al., 2017 [10]; Sysoyeva, L. et al., 2017 [11]; Kotenko O. et al., 2018 [12]; Singh, S.N., 2020 [13]; Andreas Karaoulanis et al., 2018 [14]; Constantoglou, M., 2020 [15]; Singh, S., 2019 [16]; Nagy, Z. B. et al., 2018 [17]; Bardy, R. et al., 2017 [18]; Zolkover, A. et al., 2020 [19].

Ukrainian's first opportunity to enjoy the right to freedom of movement coincided with the deep structural transformation of the economy, accompanied by falling living standards and increased unemployment. Due to the degradation of the free healthcare and education systems, the population had to cover these expenses itself. In the absence of a developed credit system, those willing to start a business needed start-up capital. The transition to a market economy created a new consumer demand for high cost products like housing, cars, and household appliances. This stimulated labour migration, which in the late 1990's became a mass phenomenon and a source of income for many families.

According to the same study, the majority of Ukrainian migrant workers are men, over 40% are 30-44 years old; most migrants come from the Western regions of the country. Forty-one (41%) per cent of migrant workers have a secondary or vocational education, 36% have a higher education. The main countries of destination for Ukrainian labour migrants are Poland, Russian Federation, Czech Republic, and Italy. The sectors of employment of the Ukrainian migrant workers are primarily construction (men) and domestic care (women), as well as the service sector and agriculture.

Due to the military conflict and a deep economic crisis, the pro-emigration sentiment is growing among the population. The attempts to solve problems by finding a job abroad are facilitated by Ukrainians' labour migration experience, and powerful migration networks that emerged in recent decades.



Picture 1 - Sectors of employment of the Ukrainian migrant workers abroad

According to UNESCO, in 2000 – 2012, the number of Ukrainian students abroad increased by more than four times and reached 37,000. The main growth was in the countries to which the labour migration flows from Ukraine have been directed. Over the past two years, the growth of the number of Ukrainians who went to study abroad accelerated. According to the annual monitoring of the number of Ukrainian citizens studying full-time in foreign universities, conducted by the analytical centre CEDOS (covering 34 countries), in the 2013/2014 academic year, 47,724 citizens of Ukraine were studying abroad¹⁹. The majority of them were studying in Poland (15,000), Germany (9,000), Russia (6,000), Canada (2,000), Czech Republic (2,000), Italy (1,900), the USA (1,500), Spain (1,400), France (1,300), and the UK (1,000).

International labor migration is based on the opportunities, conditions and aspirations of the able-bodied economically active population to work in any region, countries of the world community in order to meet their living needs. One of the main motives for emigration is still the higher level of wages in the countries of arrival. One of the main motivations for migration is the high level of wages in the countries of arrival. The goal of interstate movement of labor potential-the desire to improve the material condition-remains unchanged in the long historical perspective.

World experience shows that labor migration provides undoubted obstacles to both the countries receiving labor and the countries that supply it. At the same time, international labor migration generates acute social and economic problems. However, let us consider at first the positive consequences of this phenomenon. The receiving countries (recipient countries) obtain the following benefits: – due to the

reduction of production costs, the competitiveness of domestic goods increases, which is associated with a lower price of foreign labor, which, in turn, affects the cost of production; – foreign workers, presenting additional demand for goods and services, stimulate the growth of production and additional employment in the host country; – import of skilled workforce saves the cost for education and training of local people; – foreign workers are often seen as a certain shock absorber in the event of crisis and unemployment, as the first to fall under the exemption; – foreign workers are not provided with pensions and are not taken into account in the implementation of various social programs.

The current situation in Ukraine requires the government weighted legislative, organizational and economic measures in the field of demographic policy, aimed at creating new jobs with adequate wages and appropriate social security, improvement of the existing education system, raising the level health care and birth rate growth, promotion of healthy lifestyle, etc.

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