

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION. SECURITY IMPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IS AN EXTREMELY COMPLEX PHENOMENON , WHICH UNFOLDS OVER A HUGE AREA AND INVOLVES MANY CONTRADICTIONARY EVENTS AND CONSEQUENCES ON MULTIPLE DIRECTIONS. THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN SECURITY AND MIGRATION ARE INDISPUTABLE . ON THE ONE HAND, MIGRATION MAY BE THE RESULT OF THE MANIFESTATION OF CERTAIN THREATS ON HUMAN INDIVIDUALS SECURITY SUCH AS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, ETHNIC CONFLICT, CIVIL WAR, ETC. ON THE OTHER HAND, MIGRATION ITSELF CAN BE A SOURCE OF RISKS, DANGERS AND THREATS, WHEN NOT CONTROLLED, CAUSING EMPHASIZING OF THE ORGANIZED CRIME, XENOPHOBIA AND RACIAL VIOLENCE, ETC. THE COMPLEXITY OF THESE RELATIONSHIPS IS EXTREMELY HIGH, AS THEY ARE CORRELATED WITH ALMOST ALL SECURITY DIMENSIONS.

KEYWORDS: MIGRATION, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS, SECURITY RISKS, THE EUROPEAN UNION, GLOBALIZATION.

Although international migration is a phenomenon deeply rooted in the history of the human society, however, up to the present, no single and unitary theory has been developed to capture this phenomenon in its many manifestations. International migration is an extremely complex phenomenon, unfolding over a huge area and involving many conflicting events and consequences on multiple directions.

Migration has been since the nineteenth century, the object of study for demographers, economists, geographers, historians, anthropologists, sociologists and other specialists who have sought to discover the factors and conditions that favor territorial displacement of people.

Demographic and statistical analysis described and measured migration flows, highlighting in particular the effects of spatial mobility on fertility and marriage of the population. Economists have investigated the implications of this process of migration from the perspective of the relationship between supply and demand of labor force in the labor market within the strong industrial developed corporations. Some historical works deciphered the origins of migration and the time evolution of the volume of migrants, building an image illustrating the phenomenon on a continental and global level.

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Geographical studies have revealed some spatial patterns of the territorial mobility and have shown correlations between population migration and social changes, economic and environmental². In the contemporary world there were several migration flows at an international level, of which we mention as more important the following:

1. To U.S. and Canada - to which were directed particularly those with high professional skills. Immigrants from these countries come from the entire surface of the globe, but most of them originated in Eastern Europe, South America and the Pacific area. Statistics show that between 1945 and 1975, over 20 million people immigrated to the U.S., and selection measures imposed by the U.S. authorities subsequently reduced the average annual number of entrants, but also increased the quality of the labour force attracted;
2. to Western Europe – they represented a major attraction for the people of Eastern Europe, North Africa and Asia, from the former colonies, and in areas affected by armed conflicts (the Balkans, the Middle East, etc.);
3. To the oil states of the Middle East - they have received immigrants from the Asian region and even from the Western Europe, accounting for about 7 million people, before the outbreak of the Gulf War (1991), the Middle East was one of the most important destinations for immigrants from the neighborhood areas. This region is considered the third in the world in terms of the labour force it attracts, after the USA and the Western Europe;
4. To Japan and the emerging industrialized countries of the Far East - especially sought by immigrants from the Asian region, but also from other geographical areas of the world, including the North American space. In this region there were 2.5 million foreigners in Hong Kong, around 1.2 million in Japan, nearly 500 000 in Singapore, etc.³.

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in the volume of people who emigrated from the Central and the Eastern Europe to the Western countries on our continent. The annual average number was raised to around 850 thousand people, a number that is two times higher than that of the past three decades. The main causes of the emigration to those who have not returned to their countries of origin were economic and cultural, the professional development and the family security.

Today, migration should be seen as a result of the interaction between individual decisions and social constraints. For the migrants, migration can have one or more reasons: *professional* (long-term mission abroad) and studies; *political* (political refugee because of persecution in his country); *security*, especially in case of war in the country of origin; *economic* (inhabitants of poor countries seeking better living standards in rich countries, possibly temporary); *personal* (willingness to settle in a country of your choice, for example if you recognize yourself in its values); *family* (family reunification); *taxation level* (installation in a country that offers a lower taxation level)⁴. From a demographic perspective, in relation to a given population, we can talk about two types of migration: immigration and emigration, meaning the inputs and the outputs of persons. In fact, any migrant is both immigrant for the host country and emigrant for the country of origin⁵. From the point of view of international security, migration is particularly interesting

² Dumitru Otovescu (coord.), *Tratat de sociologie generală*, (Craiova:Ed. Beladi, 2010), 609.

³ Valeriu Rusu, *Migrația forței de muncă în Europa*, (București:Arvin Press,2003),11.

⁴ Petre Duțu, Cristina Bogzeanu, *Provocări actuale pentru securitatea europeană*, (Bucharest:Publishing House of the National Defence University „Carol I” 2010), 45.

⁵ Petronela Daniela Feraru, *Migrație și dezvoltare. Aspecte socio-economice și tendințe*, (Iași:Ed. Lumen, 2011), 56.

regarding its external aspect. The international migration develops nowadays under several forms:

- ethnic minorities migration to the countries of origin;
- labour migration;
- family migration (migration of workers' families previously emigrants) as the right to family reunification, guaranteed by the international legislation;
- migration forced by natural disasters, political persecutions or religious wars etc.

The issue of security is one that gains more and more dimensions: the economic, the socio-professional dimension, the dimension of education, social protection and health, etc.

The economic plan has, in this extension, a priority function, sickness, unemployment, problems in developing regions and so on, representing as many areas to be funded to ensure security⁶.

The relationship between security and migration is indisputable. On the one hand, migration may be the result of the manifestation of certain threats on human individuals security such as human rights violations, ethnic conflict, civil war, etc. On the other hand, migration itself can be a source of risks, dangers and threats, when not controlled, causing emphasizing of the organized crime⁷, xenophobia and racial violence, etc. The complexity of these relationships is extremely high, as they are correlated with almost all security dimensions. The social dimension of security is the most exposed, immigration flows may affect social stability, cultural identity, demographic characteristics, living standards, human rights⁸ and enhance the level of organized crime in the country of destination⁹. Meanwhile, countries of origin can also record problems such as an aging population and falling production through labour migration (especially the brain drain phenomenon). However, the migration, especially labour immigrants may be the source of economic growth, increasing living standards of the citizens of the country of destination and, consequently, their economic security¹⁰.

The work of illegal immigrants¹¹ affects the economic component¹² of the national security. Through this way, practically the state loses money from the employer and the employee, and the illegal worker does not benefit from a number of social measures. The security and immigration relationship is immediately and fully political. In this sense, immigration is seen as a political problem appreciated by the security agencies as a significant danger. Both these ones and the politicians analyse security as a sphere of politics, a sphere revealing the military and the strategist or the presence of an existential threat that menaces survival, but varies according to different sectors¹³.

On a psychosocial level it is likely that a large number of immigrants to a country under the rule of law and democracy, to have less desirable effects on social cohesion, the national consensus, the interpersonal relationships and on the climate of groups and local

⁶Adrian Gorun, *Geopolitică, geostrategie, globalizare (cu fundamentări în P. Claval și S.P. Huntington)*, (Tg-Jiu: Ed. "Academica Brâncuși", 2010), 172.

⁷I. C. Rujan, *Criminologie*, (Târgu Jiu: Ed. Academica Brâncuși, 2009), 6.

⁸Laura Magdalena Trocan, [Garantarea dreptului la apărare în lumina dispozițiilor tratatelor internaționale specializate în materia drepturilor omului și jurisprudenței CEDO](#), *Analele Universității "Constantin Brâncuși" din Târgu Jiu, Seria Științe Juridice*, nr. 4/2010, 111-128.

⁹Elena-Giorgiana Simionescu, *Recidivismul și recidiva legală*, (București:Ed. Universul Juridic, 2012), 8-9.

¹⁰Alexandra Sarcinschi, *Migrație și securitate*, (Bucharest: Publishing House of the National Defence University „Carol I”, 2008), 6.

¹¹Didier Bigo, *Sécurité et immigration: vers une gouvernementalité par l'inquiétude?*<http://www.conflicts.org/index539.html>, 4-6.

¹²Didier Bigo, *Sécurité et immigration: vers une gouvernementalité par l'inquiétude?*<http://www.conflicts.org/index539.html>, 4-6.

¹³Barry Buzan, *People State and Fears*, (Brighton:Harvester Press, 1983).

communities¹⁴. In this way, we can say that immigrants as individuals, and immigration as a complex social phenomenon prejudice the national security on a psychosocial level. Human migration has a major impact on the recomposition of spheres of influence through¹⁵:

- new forms of mobility;
- globalization of trade, free movement of people and capital;
- distribution of population;
- access to natural resources;
- environmental phenomena;
- political crises.

The main feature of the security environment remains the multiplying of asymmetric threats¹⁶. Political and military analysts show that respect for the citizens' rights and freedoms in Western societies, was and is speculated by those who threaten the democratic value system. Proseletism conducted among refugees by anarchist or terrorist groups can generate serious security problems to the host countries. Free movement leads to the real risk that terrorists use chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, highlighting a religious or psychological side within it. The multiplying of the Islamic movements and the popularity they enjoy in Western Europe are based on the resentment of Muslims against Westerners, whom they held responsible for their personal failures¹⁷. To this situation, also contribute the relatively limited opportunities for social and economic benefits offered by their host countries. The sense of humility that they live, leads many Muslims to put their hopes and trust in the "miracle of faith".

This is accentuated by the failure of belonging to the majority Christian European societies, which have constantly tried to assimilate Muslim immigrants. The result was contrary to the expectations. All actions and gestures of assimilation contributed only to the "Increasing Islamic radicalization".

Many Western political scientists also have paid rather less attention than they might to the role of the state in international migration, although fortunately there now are a number of notable exceptions who have seen international migration as central to the study of both internal and international political dynamics¹⁸. These writers have paid special attention to security dimensions of international migration, in recognition of the fact that large-scale population movements across borders by refugees or other migrants can affect the cohesion of societies and generate social and political conflict both within and between countries. Existing security arrangements, developed for reasons other than migration concerns, have also been used to minimize migrations perceived to be destabilizing.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Organization on Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) have been deeply engaged since 1992 in the political and security implications of asylum, refugee, and migration issues¹⁹. NATO military

¹⁴Duțu, *Provocări actuale pentru securitatea europeană.*, 48.

¹⁵Catherine Wihtol de Wenden, *Les enjeux migratoires comme facteurs de recomposition des sphères d'influence.*

<http://www.aedh.eu/plugins/fckeditor/userfiles/file/Asile%20et%20immigration/CWWenden%20enjeux%20migratoires.pdf>

¹⁶Gheorghe Văduva, Mihai Ștefan Dinu, *Crizele politico-militare ale începutului de mileniu*, (Bucharest: Publishing House of the National Defence University „Carol I”, 2005), 24.

¹⁷I. Stoica, *Migrația internațională și securitatea – Noi provocări*, în *Infosfera*, issue, 1/2009, 52-53.

¹⁸Michael S. Teitelbaum, *The role of the state in international migration*, in *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, Watson Institute for International Studies, vol. VIII, Issue 2/2002, 158.

¹⁹Sharon Stanton Russell, *International Migration in North America, Europe, Central Asia, the Middle East and North Africa: Research and Research-related Activities*. Geneva: Economic Commission for Europe and the World Bank, 1993.

interventions in Bosnia and Kosovo were motivated by security threats perceived by NATO member states as relevant both to regional stability - from feared violent consequences of ethnic dissolution in Yugoslavia - and to the direct consequences for member states of the mass migrations unleashed by violence in these areas.

Trade liberalization reveals more the difference between developed and underdeveloped countries. Thus, measures restricting market and especially tough measures against illegal migration, attract illegal migration in the market with all that entails the existence of illegal forms of travel and labor of a person, including involvement in criminal phenomena that threaten the internal security balance of the states (also the EU)²⁰. The flexible and cheap labour that is required by the post-industrial economies is often facilitated by illegal work. Illegal migrants on the one hand, easily find jobs corresponding - at least initially - to their migration plans²¹. Also, as an effect of migration, there can no longer be support for the processes of social protection, the young and active population is lost from the labour market (population capable of work - job security) and there is an increase on that market of the unemployed people or the retired people. The four freedoms actually maintain a permanent loss of resources beginning with the human resources, perhaps the most important, with major effects on the concept of security in the European Union²².

International migration affects, and in its turn, is influenced by all the security dimensions, especially the psychosocial. Since migration consists at the same time, a source of uncertainty and safety both for the country of origin and their citizens, as well as for the destination countries and their inhabitants, international migration has become a priority in the recent years of the internal and external agendas of most countries of the world, and of the international organisations. Immigrants consist a source of benefits, but also of economic, social, political, military and environmental problems both for the destination as well as for the origin country²³. It is therefore necessary a deep analysis of this increasing phenomenon, since its patterns have begun to radically modify, revealing, at an international level new surprising directions both in what concerns the orientation of the migration flows, the psychosocial of migrants and the effects of migration.

²⁰Grigore Silași, Ovidiu Laurian Simina, *Cele patru libertăți și dimensiunea conceptului de securitate în Europa*, în vol. Complexitatea și dinamismul mediului de securitate, Publishing House of the National Defence University „Carol I” Bucurest, 2012, 371-393; Elena-Giorgiana Simionescu, *Fenomenul recidivismului*, Conferința Științifică Internațională „Economie și Globalizare”, Universitatea „Constantin Brâncuși” din Târgu-Jiu, 2004, vol. II, 500.

²¹ThanosMaroukis,KrystynaIglicka,KatarzynaGmaj, *Irregular Migration and Informal Economy in Southern and Central-Eastern Europe: Breaking the Vicious Cycle?*, International Migration, Vol. 49, Issue 5, 2012, p. 177.

²² Laura Magdalena Trocan, [Dreptul la liberă circulație a lucrătorilor în statele membre ale Uniunii Europene](#), Analele Universității “Constantin Brâncuși” din Târgu Jiu, Seria Litere și Științe Sociale, nr. 1/2008, 195-204.

²³Sarcinschi, *Migrație și securitate*, 42.

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