Causing Reasons and Results of Migration in Georgia (In the context of gender)

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Migration is one of the most important global problem. Voluntary migration is going with a rapid pace, what is promoted with the development of technology, the access of information, diversification of labor market. In Georgia, in the first years of independence, obtained in 90-ies of the last centuries, labor migration appeared. The main factor of intensive migration is worsening of socio-economic conditions and living standards of Georgian population.

As a result of legal and illegal labor migration, healthy workforce – young people are migrating from Georgia. The largest number of emigrants is distributed in the age group between 25 – 35. Demographic aging appears in the country.

In 1990-ies, in Georgia, on the background of difficult economic and political situation, it has been significantly increased the scale of external migration and as a result of it, the number of Georgian population has been reduced since 1993 year. The number of population consisted of 4929,9 thousand men in accordance with the 1st of January, 1994 year and by the 1st of January, 2018 year – the number of population was determined with 3729,6 thousand men. For the last 24 years, the number of population was reduced with 1200,3 thousand men and one of the main factor of it is migration processes. The number of emigrants in dynamics is growing and among them, the number of women is high.

The reason why they’re going to emigration is poverty of Georgia, employment problem, also the income is low from households, what forces the woman (and man as well) to go to other country to work.

Most of the citizens, emigrated from Georgia send the money to their family members, what gives these families minimal social guarantees.

Despite of many disadvantages, emigration is somehow positive process, especially for the developing countries, for which it’s very important international money transfer.

The distribution of emigrated women and men according to the countries gives us an interesting picture. Women are mostly in the countries, where it’s easier for them to be employed (caretakers), most women are in Greece, Turkey and Italy. Most men are in Ukraine. In total, the highest number of emigrants are in Russia.

Despite of the fact that, there’s not an exact answer on the question, what kind of influence has money transfer on economic growth, on the level of household of remitters, their contribution can be very important on education, health care and capital in order to improve accessibility.

Keywords: migration; causing reasons and result of the migration; migration in the context of gender; statistics of migration.

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In recent years, the migration has significantly been increased throughout the world. Together with the years, borders have been becoming more and more invisible between the countries, what is stipulated with globalization. Market of employment and education has become so global that people are given an opportunity to learn and work in various countries of the world. The aim of the study is to reveal the reasons and results of migration. During the study qualitative, quantitative, abstract-logical thinking and statistical methods were used.

In the history of Georgia, migration has a special role. As a result of wars, happened due to the important strategic and geopolitical location, population willingly or unwillingly, was constantly migrating around or out of the country. The latest history of Georgia marks out several waves of emigration: 1. before 1950-ies, which was mainly characterized by the forced migration as a result of political repressions (inside the Soviet Union); 2. In 1950-1990 years, while the migration of Georgian population was principally going within the territory of Soviet Union and 3. 1990-ies mass emigration, which was the result of difficult socio-economic situation and military conflicts. The latter migration wave was basically towards Russia. However, in 2000 year, the introduction of a visa regime for Georgian citizens by Russia, the emigration flowed from Russia to another countries (especially, to Ukraine, USA and European countries). Since 2004 year, emigration processes became even more various from the motivation and direction point of view as well. To see the exact picture is complicated with the absence of mechanism of collecting reliable and comprehensive statistical information in terms of emigration.

According to the data of 2010-2016 years, the applications, submitted in the consulate of the Schengen countries located in Georgian in order to get Schengen visa was increased. Compared with 2010 year, in 2016 year, the number of applications were almost doubled, in 2015 year Consulates issued more than 87.000 visas and in 2016 year, more than 92.000 visas, most of them were single-entry visas. In 2015 year, the share of multiple entry visas consisted of 25.8 % of the total amount of the issued visas and in 2016 year, this indicator was increased till 32.6 % (Government 2017:16).

It should be noted that, after successful implementation of action plan on visa liberalization, from March 28, 2017 year, Georgian citizens, who have biometric passports, are able to travel EU countries without visa, just since 2017 year, the requirements of short-term visas were significantly reduced in the consulates of European union/Schengen countries, located in Georgia.

According to Eurostat data, in 2015 year in EU countries 71.223 and in 2016 year – 74.416 citizens of Georgia had valid residence permit. Annual number of valid residence permit, issued on the citizens of Georgia has been growing since 2010 year (53.020).

An analysis of types of residence permits shows that it’s mainly been growing the number of residence permits, issued by family union or “other” basics. The tendency of growth is noted in the residence permits, issued for the educational purpose. If in 2012 year, 1145 educational permits were issued, in 2016 year it was increased till 1919.

Within the state program of 2016 year, from June, 2016 year till March 31, 2017 year, the appeal of 460 returned migrants were registered, from where 398 was registered as beneficiary, from them 46.5 % - was women and 53.5 % was men. Nearly half of the registered beneficiaries (45 %) belong to the age group from 26 till 40 years and 39 % varies from 41 to 60 years.

According to the returning countries, Greece has the first place (24%), after that is Germany (20 %), Russia (16 %) and Turkey (9%). In the top ten are Sweden, Italy, France, Iraq, Ukraine and Austria. 64 % of beneficiaries returned voluntarily from the above-mentioned countries, 23 % - returned with forced and 13 % was returned in accordance with the “Agreement between the European Union and Georgia on the readmission of persons residing without authorization”.

| Table N1 |

| The distribution of Emigrants according to the countries in the context of gender |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| country         | Woman % | Man % |
| Russia          | 29       | 71    |
| Greece          | 83       | 17    |
| Turkey          | 67       | 33    |
| Italy           | 86       | 14    |
| Germany         | 55       | 45    |
| USA             | 51       | 49    |
| Spain           | 52       | 48    |
| France          | 42       | 58    |
| Ukraine         | 20       | 80    |
| Azerbaijan      | 39       | 61    |

Source: Geostat 2018

Distribution of emigrated man and woman according to the countries gives us an interesting picture. Women are mostly in the countries where it’s easier for them to be employed (caretakers), the highest number of women is in Greece, Turkey and Italy and men – in Ukraine. In total, the highest number of emigrants are in Russia.

Georgia, as a result of labor migration loses more. First of all, health workforce - young people moves to another country. Old people stay in Georgia. On the other hand, labor migration influences on the demographic situation of the country.

The problem of decline of Georgian population is alarming, because it’s going in abstruse environment for
population: In the country, during the high level of unemployment and during mass migration in foreign countries to work, the “lack” of population in Georgia is not noticed from the economic (workers) point of view. At present, Georgia practically can’t carry out demographic policy. Negative demographic background originates irrational migration mobility, labor migration itself even more worsens the demographic situation, which has already had a critical nature.

Taking into account the age composition of population and ongoing changes – it’s been growing the mortality coefficients on lower age groups of population. Presumably, the negative balance of external migration will be preserved and absolute majority of labor migrants, as it’s known, are of working age. The highest number of emigrants are distributed in the age group between 25-35.

Modal age of emigrants was determined with 28 years and median age – with 32.9 years.

\[
\bar{X}_{\text{mod.}} = x_{\text{mod.}} + \frac{h_{\text{mod.}}}{2} \left( \frac{f_{\text{mod.}} - f_{\text{mod.-1}}}{f_{\text{mod.}} - f_{\text{mod.-1}} + f_{\text{mod.-1}} - f_{\text{mod.+1}}} \right) = 28 \text{ years}
\]

where
\( \bar{X}_{\text{mod.}} \) is modal medium;
\( x_{\text{mod.}} \) is lower margin of modal interval (the most frequency);
\( h_{\text{mod.}} \) size of modal interval;
\( f_{\text{mod.-1}} \) frequency of the previous interval of modal interval;
\( f_{\text{mod.}} \) Frequency of modal interval;
\( f_{\text{mod.+1}} \) frequency of the next interval of modal interval.

\[
\bar{X}_{\text{med.}} = x_{\text{med.}} + \frac{h_{\text{med.}}}{2} \left( \frac{\sum f_{\text{med.-1}}}{f_{\text{med.}}} \right) = 32.9 \text{ years}
\]

where
\( \bar{X}_{\text{med.}} \) is a median medium;
\( x_{\text{med.}} \) is a lower margin of median interval;
\( h_{\text{med.}} \) size of median interval;
\( \sum f \) half of the sum of frequency of row;
\( S_{\text{med.-1}} \) the grown sum of the frequency of previous intervals of median intervals;
\( f_{\text{med.}} \) frequency of median interval.

Diagram 1

Source. Geostat 2018

In 80-ies, the attention was mainly paid to the woman migrants, what was caused with a global trend of feminization of migrant flows. Since this period, in the surveys, women are represented not as wives dependent on husbands, but women, who move independently and participate in various field of labor, but, mainly as caretakers and nurses. So, term “feminization of migration” has been often used since 80-ies, what is connected with the changes, related to women migrants for the last few decades.

Between the international migrants, the high indicator of women and girls, which has been stable increasing since 60-ies, was first revealed in the report, published by the UN in 1998 year. In 60-ies, there were 47 women from 100 international migrants, in 2000 year, 49 % of migrants were women. In accordance with the latest report of UN, in 101 countries, women were more than half migrants. All of this confirm the grown feminization of the international migration. However, in 60-70 years, due to the absence of
statistical data, to reveal the exact picture of dynamics was impossible.

According to population census of 2014 year, 37.2 % women emigrants and 37.7 % men emigrants have higher education. 34.1 % women and 43 % men emigrants – have secondary general education. It should be noted that, in men migrants, there are more engineers and high-qualified workers and in women emigrants there are mostly teachers, because the salary is low in this field (demography 2018).

Most of the citizens, emigrated from Georgia, send the money to their family members, what gives these families minimal social guarantees. It should be noted that if there was not labor emigration, the living standards in Georgia would be even more unbearable, but it’s unclear the amount of cash allowances intended for families from foreign countries. It’s thought that, average monthly income of labor emigrants is till 715 US dollars. Accordingly, the average value of the remittance, made by one emigrant is 168 US Dollars, what is equal to the average level of remittance.

In 2018 year, 1,576,508,500 dollars entered in Georgia from abroad in the form of remittance, what exceeds 4 billion in GEL (www.bm.ge)

According to the data of the national bank of Georgia, this volume of remittance exceeds 14 % of total indicator in 2017 year and it’s the highest level in the history of independent Georgia.

Russian Federation has the first place in remittances – $457 million. The main source of this amount is the amounts, sent by Georgian population, who are emigrated abroad from Georgia; accordingly, in the rating of remittances, the leaders are the countries, where more emigrants live. Russian Federation- $ 457 million, Italy - $ 191 million, Greece - $ 170 millions, USA - $ 159 Million; It has been increased the remittances from Italy, Greece, USA, Israel, Turkey, Spain and other countries. Remittances have a great role in providing family welfare.

But to appeal money transfers to long-term projects and investments is less done. Migrants money transfers (remittances) grows GDP of the country. The share of remittances in GDP fluctuated from 8 to 9 % from 2011 till 2013 years. According to the world migration portal data in Georgia, the share of money transfers (remittances) in GDP is 11.8 %. It’s necessary to improve the system of savings in the country In order to be encouraged the productive use of the remittances.

Despite of the fact that, there’s not an exact answer on the question, what kind of influence has money transfer on economic growth, on the level of household of remitters, their contribution can be very important on education, health care and capital in order to improve accessibility. Like other recipient countries of remittances, a large number of remittances in Georgia are spent on primary consumptions things like food, utility bills and clothes, what is followed the costs, related to health and education.

Migration has a negative impact on both demographical and socio-economic situation of the country as well. The main reason of modern migration are socio-economic problems. It equally deals with internal and external migrations. Labor migration is actual in Georgia, which mainly refers to the economically active, employable population. As a result of it the gender-age structure of population is violated, the number of population is decreased, there are demographic aging processes. Despite of many disadvantages, emigration is somehow positive process, especially for the developing countries, for which it’s very important international money transfer.

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