

Impact of Migration Processes on the Economic Security of the Region (Volga Federal Okrug)

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Abstract: The relevance of the stated topic is determined by the fact that the uncontrolled migration in modern economic and demographic conditions leads to a significant change in the quantitative and qualitative parameters of the population, violation of the demographic balance of territories, which negatively affects the economic security of the state as a whole and its individual geographical regions. The main task of the article is to determine the degree of impact of population migration processes on the economic security of a geographical region, using the specific example of the Volga Federal Okrug. The research methodology is based on the combination of methods of theoretical analysis of population migration processes in the current economic conditions with the empirical study of the prerequisites for the impact of migration processes on the economic security in the geographical region as a whole. The obtained results clearly demonstrate the significant importance of population migration processes in the development of the economic situation in the state and a particular geographical region and form a qualitative basis for further scientific research on the impact of population migration processes on the economic security of the region.

1 INTRODUCTION


Throughout the history of Russia, migration processes have played a very significant role in the formation of the population and its labor potential. They have become especially important nowadays when the volume of migration within the state and in exchange with other countries is constantly growing. Therefore, the issues of migration of able-bodied population are always on the political agenda. Shifts in a settlement resulting from internal migration are assessed extremely negatively at the state level (Budilov, 2019). At the same time, internal migration should not be considered in isolation from external migration, so, first of all, it is necessary to highlight its characteristic features (Anger, Camehl, Peter, 2017). Over the past decade, the following trends in external migration processes were established in Russia:

- positive population growth in the period under consideration, even though from 2011 to 2017 the migration growth of the population completely overlapped its natural loss, the total

population in the country at the same time was increasing, and in 2017 the migration growth also completely compensated the population loss and exceeded it by 56%;

- exchange of migration flows of the population with neighboring countries is quite high, despite the fact that in 2017 the total volume of migration with the CIS member states was 6 times higher than the same indicator for non-CIS countries;
- the population of Russia is mainly replenished by migrants and displaced persons from Ukraine, which is the leader in the incoming flow of migrants among other countries of the former Soviet Union;
- foreign countries, except the United States, Germany, China, Japan, Finland, Great Britain, and Israel, showing a negative balance of migration exchange (Shaw, Ur-Rahman, Surjan, Parvin, 2016), take part in the positive growth of migration population of Russia.

Migration is an objective process of economic development in all countries of the world, and Russia

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is no exception in this case. On the one hand, it is an indicator of the life of the population of regions from or to which migration flows are directed, and on the other hand, it is one of the directions of state regulation aimed at the integrated development of individual territories and the country as a whole. When working out the mechanism of regulation, it is necessary to take into account many conditions and, first of all, the difference of goals pursued by participants in this process, namely the individual and the state (Kluge, Goldstein, Vogt, 2019). So, for a particular resident of a particular country, migration is, first of all, a given territorial movement in a certain direction, pursuing increasing personal or family material well-being, the realization of certain ambitions, etc. At the same time, from the point of view of society, a comprehensive and effective consistent improvement of all spheres of the national economy is paramount, and, as a result, an imbalance may arise – the population prefers to migrate from the north to the south, from rural to urban, etc., but the opposite directions would be optimal for the state (Avdeev, Ternovykh, 2019).

Migration has a significant impact on the formation of labor market trends for both the individual and the state (Gautier, Casseus, Blanc, Cloos, 2020). It is important to take into account the fact that all migration processes are extremely complex and ambiguous. The demand for labor resources in specific economic sectors dictates the need for specific categories of workers, while there may be significant differences in the labor markets of individual regions in general, which may be due to the presence of extremely specialized production in a particular region (Ghimire, Bhandari, 2020). In addition, the supply of labor is determined by the quantitative and qualitative indicators of the local population and the social and economic development of the region, determined by the attractiveness for migrants, which together provide potential opportunities for the organization of a new type of production (von Fintel, Fourie, 2019). Hence, the mechanisms of state regulation of such processes are not always universal; they shall take into account specific features of individual regions of the country (Avdeev, Ternovykh, 2019).

Thus, the impact of migration processes on the region's economic security is a complex phenomenon, which should be considered considering many interrelated factors.

2 MATERIALS AND METHODS

The methodology of this scientific research involves the combination of methods of theoretical analysis of migration processes in the current economic conditions with the empirical study of the prerequisites for the impact of migration processes on the economic security in the geographical region as a whole. The materials used include scientific developments of a number of domestic and foreign authors, who considered the problems and issues of the impact of migration processes on the economic security of the geographical region as a whole, in a retrospective analysis of the development of such trends concerning the Volga Federal Okrug. The theoretical part of the study is an analysis of scientific publications, taken as its materials, with the identification of the currently formed trends of external and internal migration of citizens on the territory of the Russian Federation and the impact of these processes on the economic security of the state as a whole and its individual regions in particular. Available statistical data, characterizing the course of migration processes in the country as a whole and the Volga Federal Okrug, in particular, are investigated.

Based on the theoretical analysis of migration processes in the country as a whole and the Volga Federal Okrug, in particular, the empirical study of the prerequisites of the impact of migration processes on the economic security in the geographical region under consideration is carried out. A practical comparison of results obtained in the course of the study is carried out in order to obtain a generalized picture of scientific research and its final conclusions. Conclusions obtained clearly reflect the results of the scientific research in assessing the impact of migration processes in the Volga Federal Okrug on the region's economic security. The chosen combination of materials and methods of scientific research enables to form a qualitative assessment picture.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The impact of migration processes on the region's economic security is expressed in a constant change in the population of the region as a whole and the able-bodied population in particular, which has a significant impact on the economic situation in the region as a whole. Migration processes significantly affect the formation of the employment market both concerning an individual and the country and its

geographical region as a whole. In addition, modern migration trends are significantly different from those of previous decades. In the global system of migration processes, contemporary Russia is the third after the United States and Germany in terms of population migration (Luzina, Elfimova, Vysotskaya, 2019).

Table 1 below shows comparative data regarding the number of internal relocations of citizens per 1,000 people as of 2008 and 2017.

Table 1: Number of internal relocations per 1,000 inhabitants in Russia and foreign countries (as of 2008 and 2017).

Country	2008	2017
Russia	6	12
Australia	17	21
Great Britain	19	25
Canada	9	7
Norway	22	28
USA	19	15
Sweden	21	25
Japan	23	19

As follows from the data presented in Table 1, for the period from 2008 to 2017, there is an increase in average indicators of internal migration both in Russia and in a number of developed countries in Europe, Asia, and North America. At the same time, it should be noted that in Russia the number of internal migrations of its citizens per 1,000 people has doubled over this time period, which is the highest indicator among all the countries taken for the study. In this regard, addressing the problems of theory and practical implementation of the concept of economic security of the state by the instruments of migration policy on the part of the scientific community is still relevant. The analysis of existing approaches to

ensuring national security showed the need to find and use a universal approach to the study of all components. The creation of an effective migration policy of the state, which could fully meet the existing paradigm, is also aimed at addressing the issues of national security of the state.

The main, currently relevant contradiction between the state policy of controlling migration processes and the functioning of the national security system is the lack of principles for justifying the needs for a specific number of migrants and the possibility of their integration into the social and economic system of the host country. The efficient practical resolution of this contradiction can be reached by developing efficient methods based on a unified, interdisciplinary research methodology, which has not yet been developed (Litvinenko, Sidenko, 2015). Table 2 below shows comparative statistical data on internal migration in the Russian Federation for the period from 1990 to 2020. (data presented in thousands of people).

Table 3 below shows comparative statistical data on external migration in the Russian Federation for the period from 1990 to 2020. (data presented in thousands of people).

The data presented in Tables 2 and 3 indicate serious imbalances between the federal okrugs of Russia in the formation and development of migrant flows, and this trend is taking on an alarming scale in a number of districts of the country. The Volga Federal Okrug, taken for study, has a negative migration balance. In the period from 2020 to 2016, processes of migration exchange reduced the total population in the region by almost 240.2 thousand people, which cannot be compared with the total population in the Jewish Autonomous Region (almost

Table 2: Comparative statistical data on internal migration in the Russian Federation for the period from 1990 to 2020.

Years	Arrived	In the country	In the regions	From other regions	From foreign countries
1990	5,176.3	4,263.1	2,415.4	1,847.5	913.3
2000	2,662.3	2,303.2	1,284.6	1,018.5	359.3
2005	2,088.6	1,911.4	1,095.7	815.7	177.2
2010	2,102.3	1,910.6	1,036.9	874.7	191.8
2011	3,415.1	3,058.5	1,705.7	1,352.8	356.5
2012	4,196.1	3,778.5	2,023.6	1,754.9	417.7
2013	4,496.8	4,014.6	2,102.0	1,912.6	482.2
2014	4,624.9	4,046.4	2,069.5	1,976.8	578.5
2015	4,734.5	4,135.4	2,053.1	2,082.8	598.6
2016	4,706.7	4,234.5	2,011.2	2,089.5	575.4
2017	4,709.6	4,032.3	1,987.5	2,086.5	555.4
2018	4,806.4	4,235.6	2,054.6	1,994.3	565.4
2019	4,695.4	4,125.6	2,004.3	2,035.6	574.9
2020	4,711.2	4,243.3	2,054.4	2,089.4	556.4

Table 3: Comparative statistical data on external migration in the Russian Federation for the period from 1990 to 2020.

Years	Departed	In the country	In the regions	To other regions	To foreign countries
1990	4,720.3	3,990.8	2,303.4	1,687.4	729.6
2000	2,420.6	2,274.9	1,284.6	990.3	145.7
2005	1,981.2	1,911.4	1,095.7	815.7	69.8
2010	1,944.2	1,910.6	1,035.9	874.7	33.5
2011	3,095.3	3,095.3	1,705.7	1,352.8	36.8
2012	3,901.2	3,778.5	2,023.6	1,754.9	122.8
2013	4,201.2	4,014.6	2,102.0	1,912.6	186.4
2014	4,354.8	4,046.4	2,069.6	1,976.8	308.5
2015	4,489.1	4,135.9	2,053.1	2,082.8	353.2
2016	4,444.5	4,131.5	2,041.4	2,089.8	313.2
2017	4,562.4	4,189.5	2,098.5	2,004.3	432.6
2018	4,489.6	4,133.2	2,103.2	2,034.2	354.3
2019	4,654.3	4,208.5	2,065.7	2,143.3	335.6
2020	4,382.7	4,187.6	2,065.4	2,098.3	365.3

163,000 people) and Chukotka (50,000). The Volga Federal Okrug has an area of 1,036,975 km² (6.06% nationwide), with a population of 29,748,000 people (20.36% nationwide), with a population density of 27.95 people/km² and an urban to rural population ratio of 72.37:29.85. The Okrug ranks second among all regions of the Russian Federation by migration activity after the Central Federal Okrug.

Relatively stable economic situation, favorable natural and climatic conditions, relatively high growth rates of most industrial sectors (machine building makes up 85% of the Russian car industry, 65% of aircraft construction, 40% of petrochemistry, etc.) are attractive to migrants in the okrug under consideration. The okrug has a unique transit location at the crossroads of international transport routes, connecting Siberia and the Far East, East Asian countries with European Russia and European and CIS countries. From the point of view of the overall economic situation, negative factors include the continuing aging of the population (almost 7.6 million people over the working age, or 23.4% of the total population of the okrug). The partnership between private and state structures in the educational sphere, the creation of high standards of health care and social services have not been properly developed. There are significant limitations in transport, energy, and social infrastructure. Agriculture is the most problematic sector in the Volga Federal Okrug, since there are significant issues with the decline of irrigation systems, and there is wear and tear of fixed assets and depopulation in rural areas of the northern and western regions of the okrug.

The Volga Federal District shows a persistent downward trend in the population that takes part in migration processes within the okrug itself, which has an extremely negative impact on the economic situation in the region as a whole. In addition, the total number and percentage of able-bodied adults leaving

the region increases every year. Moreover, from 2000 to 2016, the total able-bodied population of the Volga Federal Okrug decreased by almost 20,000 people, which is extremely unfavorable from an economic point of view.

Figure 1 below shows the dynamics of changes in the number of arriving and departing migrants in the Volga Federal Okrug for the period from 2016 to 2020 as a percentage.

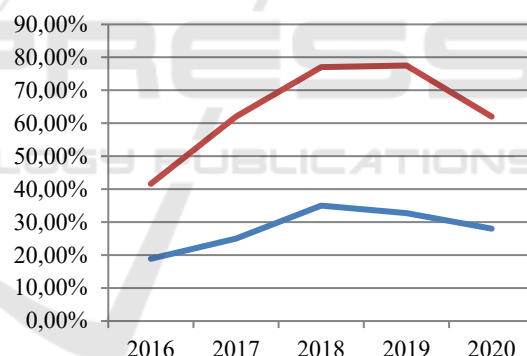


Figure 1: Dynamics of changes in the number of arriving (blue graph) and departing (red graph) migrants in the Volga Federal Okrug for the period from 2016 to 2020.

As can be seen from the data presented in Figure 1, in the period from 2015 to 2020, there is a constant prevalence of the number of departing migrants over arriving ones in the Volga Federal Okrug. This trend has an extremely negative impact on the economic situation as a whole, creating a real threat to its economic security since there is a tendency towards a general decrease in the number of able-bodied population of the Volga Federal Okrug, which, in turn, will inevitably lead to a shortage of qualified personnel at industrial and economic facilities located in this okrug.

Table 4. The structure of migration flows and related changes in the Volga Federal Okrug for the period from 2016 to 2020.

Indicator	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Number of highly qualified specialists who received a work permit in the okrug	4,152	3,854	4,065	4,298	4,275
Number of highly qualified specialists who left for work in other regions	5,372	4,563	6,543	5,890	6,438
Total number of patents issued for the implementation of innovations in the industrial sector	20,537	19,872	19,032	17,830	16,950
Number of highly qualified foreign specialists who received a work permit in the okrug	11,074	8,763	7,565	6,950	6,295
Number of highly qualified foreign specialists who left the okrug for other regions	12,378	10,639	10,739	9,864	10,894

As of 2020, there is a decrease in the total able-bodied population in the region due to migration processes by approximately 66,500 people, which is approximately 2.5% of the total population of this region. Table 4 below shows the structure of migration flows in the Volga Federal Okrug for the period from 2016 to 2020.

As can be seen from the data presented in Table 4, for the period from 2016 to 2020, there is an unfavorable economic situation in the Volga Federal Okrug due to negative trends caused by the processes of external and internal migration, concerning this geographic region. There is an annual prevalence of the number of highly qualified specialists leaving the region over those entering it to conduct their professional activities. In addition, there is a pronounced trend towards a decrease in government patents issued annually for the implementation of innovative solutions in the industrial sphere, which has an extremely negative effect on the prospects for the economic development of the region and its economic security.

In order to effectively and qualitatively solve the identified issues, a significant and consistent improvement in the quality of information support in the field of internal migration concerning the considered region of the Russian Federation is required. The development and consistent implementation of statistical observation systems, implementation of intelligible statistics, and targeted use of social and logical methods to study the first and third stages of migration (potential readiness of the population to change their territorial status, reasons for moving, settling in, migration tension, etc.) would be of high practical importance (Budilov, 2017).

The existing imbalance between the regions of an individual state in the formation of migration flows has an extremely negative impact on the economic situation as a whole and is a significant prerequisite for reducing the level of economic security of the state as a whole (Rose, Stavrova, 2019). The prevalence of departing migrants over arriving ones

leads to economic imbalance and a decline in the reproductive capacity of the labor force, which, in turn, is a serious prerequisite for economic decline in the future (Reese, Rosenmann, Cameron, 2019).

Thus, the peculiarities of migration processes in the Volga Federal Okrug, expressed in the persistent prevalence of migrants leaving the region over those staying there for permanent residence, have extremely negative tendencies in terms of the economic security of the region under study. In this regard, the impact of migration processes on the economic security of the Volga Federal Okrug can be considered negative.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The issues of studying the impact of migration processes on the economic security of the Volga Federal Okrug should be considered complex, depending on many interrelated factors. As it was established in the course of this study in the region under consideration, there is a persistent predominance of the number of departing migrants over the arriving ones, and this trend is generally negative in terms of assessing its impact on the economic security of the geographical region under consideration. This conclusion is explained by several circumstances. First, regional migration processes affect the able-bodied population, so there is an annual decrease in the total number of able-bodied citizens in the okrug. Secondly, as follows from the results obtained, there is an annual decrease in the number of the qualified labor force, specialists capable of solving complex production tasks and, as a consequence, influencing economic development in this okrug. Thirdly, the number of patents received for the implementation of innovations in the industrial sphere in the Volga Federal Okrug decreases every year, which can be partly explained by the impact of migration processes causing the factors listed first in

this list. Fourthly, migration processes partly indirectly affect the negative processes of population aging in the region, which is also dangerous from an economic point of view and does not contribute to an increase in the level of the region's economic security.

Thus, there is an urgent need for qualitative regulation of migration processes in the Volga Federal Okrug. The main goal is to gradually equalize the ratio of arriving and departing migrants. The trend that has developed over time is dangerous from an economic point of view, contributing to the outflow of the able-bodied population from the region, decrease in the total number of qualified personnel, and deterioration of the economic situation in the okrug. The solution in this context is in the consistent development and adoption at the state level of comprehensive programs for the purposeful development of the region, taking into account all the above factors.

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