EMISSION – A SOLUTION FOR THE LABOR MARKET IN MOLDOVA?
(EMIGRAREA – O SOLUŢIE PENTRU PIAŢĂ MUNCII DIN MOLDOVA?)

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Resumat: Emigraţia reprezintă fenomenul părăsirii ţării sau regiunii natale de către un individ sau un grup de indivizi pentru a se stabili în altă regiune. Acetest fenomen este destul de actual şi pentru Republica Moldova, ea aflându-se în topul ţărilor afectate de acest proces migraţional. Fluxul de emigraţii este în continuă creştere, în urma cărui populaţia de vârstă medie descrește, suburbii şi zonele rurale sunt populate de persoane în etate sau rămân dezerte (nepopulate). Ulterior piaţa muncii ai ţării au suferit, din motivul lipsii forţei de muncă. Prin intermediul acestei lucrări vom observa cauzele ce determină creşterea şi dezvoltarea acestui fenomen, căt şi consecinţele sale şi dacă totuşi reprezintă o soluţie pentru forţele de muncă din Republica Moldova.

Cuvinte cheie: emigraţie, forţă de muncă, economie, populaţie.

JEL CLASSIFICATION: J6

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Moldova is a post-Soviet state, with an independence of 29 years and a population of about 3,547,539 (National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) data from 2018). Confronted with economic instability, collapsing incomes, and rapidly rising unemployment that accompanied the fall of the Soviet Union, people began emigrating from Moldova on a large scale in the first half of the 1990s. The Information and Security Service of the Republic of Moldova has estimated that 1,200,000 to two million Moldovan citizens (almost 45% of a population of some 3.6 million) are working abroad, most illegally. Only around 80,000 are estimated to be in their destination country legally [1]. The aim of this research was to analyze emigration in Republic of Moldova and to estimate its impact on the labor market. This analysis was based on survey data carried among 60 participants between March 2-4, 2020. To analyze the emigration flows, data from the National Bureau of Statistics were used. As well, a reliable publication such as Models of Migration and problems of development human resources in Moldova was used.

BASIC CONTENT

Emigration is a continuous and constantly increasing process, which largely affects the labor market in the Republic of Moldova. Through this research we will observe the tendency to increase along certain periods and causes that lead to this phenomenon as well as its effects on the labor market. Today, the third citizen of the country is an emigrant, and this emigration is an external type, in other words leaving the country to another country for certain purposes. In our research we will consider long-term emigrations and those that most affect the labor market of the country. According to the emigrants data (Tabel 1), the most predisposed to emigration are men, even if the difference of data between the sexes is not significant enough (for example: the age group between 25-29, in 2014, men who emigrated - 9908, women who had emigrated-8290) [2].
Table 1. Total number of emigrants targeted by age groups, 2014-2017

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<td>90</td>
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Among the countries preferred by emigrants in the top 5 are: Russia- 35.4%, Italy -22.9%, Spain-7% United Kingdom -5.6% and USA- 4.5% (Figure 1).

According to research studies, only 1.5% of potential emigrants have opted for Romania as a destination country. One possible explanation would be that the labor market in Romania is not very attractive to the citizens of the Republic of Moldova, despite the fact that they speak a common language, but this does not exclude the possibility of using Romania as a transit country[3].

According to the publication „Models of Migration and problems of development human resources in Moldova „ [3], the categories that are most prone to emigration are:

- young people aged 18-29 years (on average 51.0 percent);
- women (55.1%) compared to men (43.5%) (in general, women migrate more to Italy and Turkey, and men tend to choose among Russia and Portugal);
- unmarried persons and those without children;
- persons with high and medium level of education, as well as persons with intentions to continue studies;
- the inhabitants of the central region of the country;
- Romanian / Moldovan speakers.

The main factors driving the emigration from Moldova are the unsatisfactory living conditions work, as well as the difficulty of finding, or the failure to find a job in the country of origin. Thus, the study
data show that emigration is conditioned almost exclusively by the unsatisfactory conditions of the
population, which do not allow the daily needs to be met. This situation determines, in turn, a
pessimistic view of the population regarding its future in the native country, each of the fifth emigrant
being of the opinion that there is no future for them in Moldova.

Speaking about the labor market in the Republic of Moldova, and about the fact that the majority of
the population fails to find a job, here are some causes that determine this fact as: jobs that accept
only people with experience, and among students who finished university is very difficult to commit.
Also older workers who tend to work even after retirement, occupying jobs for young people. Small
salaries (for example for health and social assistance where 39,113 workers have a salary less than
10,000 MDL, while only 5411 workers have a salary greater than 10,000 MDL-September 2019,
according to the National Bureau of Statistics)[2].

Another cause is the reduced employment in some areas, because the most recent and modern
sectors are little developed in Moldova, but the labor force grows, and the labor market fails to fill
with jobs, from here and few specialists or re-profiling young students.
Also high school students, go abroad with the aim of obtaining quality studies and jobs with high
salaries. Following the survey analysis made with the help of 30 students, I found that 17 of them
want to emigrate abroad (in the case of high schools in rural areas). In the case of high schools in the
urban area, the situation is much more drastic, with 21 students from high school out of 30, want to
emigrate.

CONCLUSIONS

As a result of the carried research, we observe that emigration is a quite developed phenomenon in
the Republic of Moldova, and is expanding every year. And the main reason is the labor market. We
can say that this phenomenon is at the same time a solution for the labor market, but on the other hand
it is not. But we can also look at the situation from another perspective. If the state was able to offer
higher salaries, more generous pensions, and prices for first-aid products would fall, migrants would
be more willing to return to the country.

But if the state does not get involved in improving the living and the economic situation, the
labor market will suffer drastically, as it will lead to a lack of workers, and some sectors will be forced
to close. A concrete example is the epidemiological situation faced by the Republic of Moldova since
March 2020. The lack of medical staff and qualified specialists stagnates and makes it difficult to
resolve the current situation.

In order to reduce the phenomenon of emigration is needed to: increase of wages and the
constant involvement of the state in the life of the population towards improving the living conditions;
support for domestic producers and small business; involve the licensed students in the labor market,
by creating more available jobs.

REFERENCES:

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3. Models of Migration and problems of development human resources in Moldova.)
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