

CAUCASUS MIGRATION *Journal*



Tbilisi 2015

THE PROJECT

UNIMIG - Migration and Higher Education - Building Skills and Capacities

Target countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia

Duration: 15.10.2011 - 14.04.2015

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Georgian Institute of Public Affairs
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International Organization for Migration Mission to Armenia
International Organisation for Migration - Mission Azerbaijan
International Organisation for Migration - Mission to Georgia
State Migration Service of the Min. of Territorial Admin., AM
Ministry of Education - Azerbaijan

Project Description

The wider objective of the project "Migration and Higher Education: Developing Skills and Capacity" is to transfer skills and competences in the interdisciplinary field of migration studies in the ENPI East region, specifically in AM, AZ and GE.

The specific objectives are:

1. To develop, accredit and implement a basic curriculum for a Master Program in Migration Studies with a regional dimension in line with the Bologna requirements at 6 universities in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The curriculum, developed jointly by EU partners and partner country institutions, will then be adapted to each partner country/ university's specific needs. The joint curriculum should serve as a strong foundation for further cooperation among the partner institutions (universities and non-university partners); mutual degree recognition and potentially even joint programs are envisaged.

The cooperation between traditional "sending" and "receiving" countries of migrants will shape the contents of the curriculum in migration studies.

2. To found sustainable structures with the establishment of national Migration Competence Centers (as integrated university units at the I.J. Tbilisi State Univ., GE, the Yerevan State Univ., AM, and the Khazar Univ., AZ) and a Regional Research Network that serve as an interface between universities, research and public institutions, governments and society.

The Regional Online Platform on Migration, maintained and updated by the MCCs, is another important project output. It will support the master students through (a) providing relevant literature and data for research purposes and (b) the setup of an e-Learning component. On the other hand, the platform will be widely used to disseminate the curriculum and all publications, statistical data etc. produced by the MCCs and make all materials accessible to a wider public (migration officials, journalists, researchers, public institutions, civil society).

THE JOURNAL

The consortium agreed upon to issue a regional online journal on migration “**Caucasus Migration Journal**” as part of the project and as part of the activities of the MCCs in the three countries of AM, AZ and GE. The journal is to strengthen the research capacities and activities on migration in the region and should include contributions from all parts of academia and include relevant stakeholders.

The first issue of the Journal is devoted to the Analytical Assessment reports of three respective target countries.

- The editorial board is as follows:

Institution	Name	Position/s at the institution	Journal
TSU	Prof. Levan Alexidze LLAlexidze@yahoo.com	Deputy Rector	Editor
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Table of Contents

UNIMIG - Migration and Higher Education - Building Skills and Capacities	1
ARMENIA - Analytical Assessment Report	4
AZERBAIJAN – Analytical Assessment Report	33
GEORGIA - Analytical Assessment Report.....	45
Annexes:.....	68
Annex 1. Migration legislative basis of the Republic of Armenia	68
Annex 2. List of publications of YSU and RAU in Migration (2012-2015)	73
Annex 3. Projects in Migration, realized in Armenia (2010-2015)	75

ARMENIA - Analytical Assessment Report

(Report is prepared by representatives of YSU and RAU)

1) State of the Art of Migration Policy in Armenia

a) Facts and Figures about Migration

Settlement changes have accompanied the humans during the whole history being one of the main elements conditioning the origin, existence and fall of states, societies, civilizations. Such changes in modern times are, more than ever, reflections of different evident or latent processes with their main or secondary factors. This is especially visible during the 20th century, which began and ended in the atmosphere of migrations.

Migration is neither a new nor a homogenous phenomenon in Armenia. Armenian communities of the Near East, East Asia, Europe, North and South America, Russia and Georgia have centuries old histories. They were qualitatively reshaped especially at the beginning of the 20th century and are dynamic also today, particularly during the 1990s that migration movements were significantly reshaped both quantitatively and qualitatively. During the last 20 years, Armenia, as an integral part of the modern world, underwent the same global, regional, and local events of world developments. One of the results of such developments is migrations of post-Soviet period which left traces on all spheres of social life of Armenia from everyday life to geopolitics.

It is characteristic of the late 80s and 90s that due to the economic and social stalemate after the collapse of the Soviet Union, natural catastrophes, such as the devastating earthquake in 1988 causing the resettlement of approximately 200 000 people, and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict leading to the relocation of approximately one million refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) on the sides of both Azerbaijan and Armenia, more than 40 % of the Armenian population have been involved in migratory movements.¹ The flows of emigration in this period resulted inter alia in the transformation of the demographic situation with undesirable changes of the reproductive model, decreases in numbers of the economic active population, the depopulation of villages, and the deformation of social structures. The Armenian society was especially marked by the phenomenon of brain drain since it was primarily the well educated class leaving the country for the greater good.

On the other hand, however, emigration had also its positive impacts on the development of the country because of increasing amounts of money transfers (remittances)² and foreign investments but also because emigration contributed to a decrease in potential social tensions in the 1990s. Despite the positive impacts labour emigration had on development

¹ G. Pogossyan, Migration in Armenia, Yerevan 2003.

² Armenia is one of the major receiving countries of remittances worldwide. According to World Bank Statistics, in 2010 US\$ 824 million have been sent by Armenian emigrants. See <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTLAC/Resources/Factbook2011-Ebook.pdf>.

in particular at the house-hold level in Armenia, Armenian workers abroad were increasingly confronted with precarious working conditions and violations of their labour rights in host societies. Mainly being employed in peripheral labour sectors on the basis of oral working agreements the human rights situation of emigrated workers became a main concern of Armenian policy makers.

Between 1995 and 2001 emigration rates evened out due to the relatively stable economic situation of the country and the decreasing trend continued between 2002 and 2010.³ Even though the net migration rate remains negative it is interesting to note that between 2002 and 2010 approximately 80 % of emigrated Armenians returned to their country of origin. The reintegration, in particular of returning forced migrants, however imposes severe social-economic challenges on the Armenian society especially with regard to language issues, since reintegrated Armenians often do not speak the Armenian language, employment and housing.

Violent/forced migration

Migration image of Soviet Armenia in mid 1980s consisted of labor migrants (*khopanchi*) who were engaged in seasonal works, the ones who returned from other Soviet republics, as well as more and more increasing immigration outside of Soviet Union. At the end of 1980s these processes became unprecedented in Armenian reality. In spring 1988 Soviet Armenia hosted first wave of refugees saved from Sumgait massacres which had its continuance until the autumn and winter of 1991. During 1988-1993 more than 420000 refugees migrated to Armenia, 350-360000 of which from Azerbaijan, the rest from other Soviet Republics (Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kirghizistan, Abkhazia).⁴ During the mentioned time span, according to some sources, Armenia left 100-150000 ethnic Azerbaijanis. The crisis in Armenia of early 1990s caused outflow of 120-150000 former migrants which seemed to have found their homeland.

If the inflow of migrants from Azerbaijan, due to its massiveness and direct impact on Armenian society, has been investigated properly than other immigrations still need to be investigated.

Evacuation of population in earthquake epicenter

The earthquake of December 7 1988 took more than 25000 lives and caused evacuation of the rest of population. During 1989 their destroyed houses left more than 200000 people (mainly women and children). Resettlement of the most of them (160000 people) was organized by the state, the rest managed evacuation due to own links. Although most of them returned back, however ca. 1,5% of population of Armenia (50000 people) found their

³ Statistic Yearbook of Armenia 1997-2010.

⁴ Framework Paper on State Regulation of Population Migration in the Republic of Armenia, Department of Migration and Refugees under the Government of Armenia, Yerevan 2004.

permanent residences outside of Armenia.⁵ One of the negative results of this event was that it served as a factor for further massive outflows.

Internally displaced persons (IDP-s)

Besides the migrants from Azerbaijan, Armenian-Azeri confrontation served as a reason for the formation of a mass of internally displaced persons. During bombardment of borderline regions in 1991-1993 the nearby settlements were left for the central regions of Armenia by 70-80000 citizens. One part of this flow returned back, however a considerable percentage became part of outflow of 1992-1994.⁶

Social-political emigration

Collapse of the Soviet Union, disappearance of the iron curtain, reshaping of social structure, degradation of Soviet value system, social and economic crisis and social tension served as a ground for qualitatively new outflows in which were mainly involved:

- people who were discontent with Soviet rules and always wished to migrate;
- Armenians from mainly Near Eastern countries who, due to new conditions, were able to continue their lives in Europe and USA;
- specialists with high qualification, mainly scientists who had now possibilities to work in Western research centers;
- newly formed businessmen which preferred to try their possibilities in other post-Soviet countries, mainly in Russian Federation;
- representatives of national minorities, mainly ethnic Russians, who were assisted by the politics of repatriation promoted by Russia;
- Russian speaking pretty big group of Armenia;
- representatives of administrative apparatus of Soviet Armenia, who, using their former links, moved to Russian Federation and other republics of the former USSR.⁷

Mass social-economic migration during 1992-1994

First years of independence was a period of social, economic unprecedented decrease in all Soviet republics. This period was especially crucial for the Republic of Armenia: the 1988 earthquake, Nagorno-Karabakh war, blockade resulting in social, economic, energetic and cultural chaos served as an impetus for unprecedented migrations. According to different sources, during 1992-1994 Armenia left 980000-1000000 people, the absolute majority of which (620000) did not return back. During these years more than 40% of population of Armenia was directly involved in migration processes.⁸ The data of investigations essentially surpass the ones from official reports. The census of 2001 demonstrated, that

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Post-Conflict Recovery Plan of Borderline Areas of the Republic of Armenia, Department of Migration and Refugees under the Government of the Republic of Armenia, Yerevan 2000.

⁷ National Human Development Report. Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges, Armenia 2009

⁸ G. Pogossyan, Migration in Armenia, Yerevan 2003.

during 1990-2001 Armenia left more than 632000 people without coming back, which 14 times surpasses (44000 people) the data of border crossings. For another apogee of migration activities in 2002 the data differ 35 times.⁹ The main reasons of such an image are social uncertainty as well as gaps in counting of migration acts during the first years of independence, as well as un-perfectness of the system and the lack of reliability today. The citizens of the Republic of Armenia having no confidence with future were not able to foresee the process of migrations, which made obstacles for realization of such investigations. Unfortunately, due to different reasons, the data and estimations are scarcely considered reliable by publicity today.¹⁰

Many investigations show that mass migration in early 1990s consisted mainly of two flows - short and long temporary labor migrants, whose relatives were in Armenia, and long term social migrants or migrants without coming back. The geography of mentioned flows, as a rule, was restricted by the Russian Federation (80-90%), other countries of Community of Independent States (mainly the Ukraine). In the demographic structure prevailed economically active men of reproductive age (more than 65%). The presented flows can be labeled as "Brain Drain" because the educational level of the involved migrants in the average surpassed the middle-republican.

As a negative result of this mass migration can be stated as follows:

- decrease in population quantity and critical depopulation of settlements;
- mass outflow of active reproductive and middle age men, which conditioned the deformation of demographic structure of the Republic of Armenia;
- critical decrease of number of qualified specialists;
- increase in proportion of not wholly "unfather" families;
- deformation of traditional family as socialization agent;
- increase in social-economic overloading of the population which remained in Armenia.

Besides negative results, the migrations had also positive outcomes. So, due to such migrations the Republic of Armenia "emancipated" itself from the army of unemployed and marginal persons who were the main element of social tension and inevitable conflict.

The only source of income for many families in Armenia was direct monetary transfers of their relatives abroad. Labor migrants organized their activities in some spheres, among which constructions, repairs, trade and service were the most important. The broadening of flows, increasing of migrants quantity in different social and economic spheres, possibilities to earn money and the acute need of it, chaos in relations concerning labor organization as well as corruption and illegalities increased risks of migration activities. Migrants being involved in Peripheral sectors of host societies were working often with oral agreement. The rights of migrants were continuously disregarded. Besides evident

⁹ Ruben Yeganyan and Karine Kuyumjyan, Socio-Demographic Challenges of Post-Soviet Armenia, the Eurasia Foundation, CRRC Armenia Program, UNFPA, Yerevan 2004.

¹⁰ National Human Development Report. Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges, Armenia 2009.

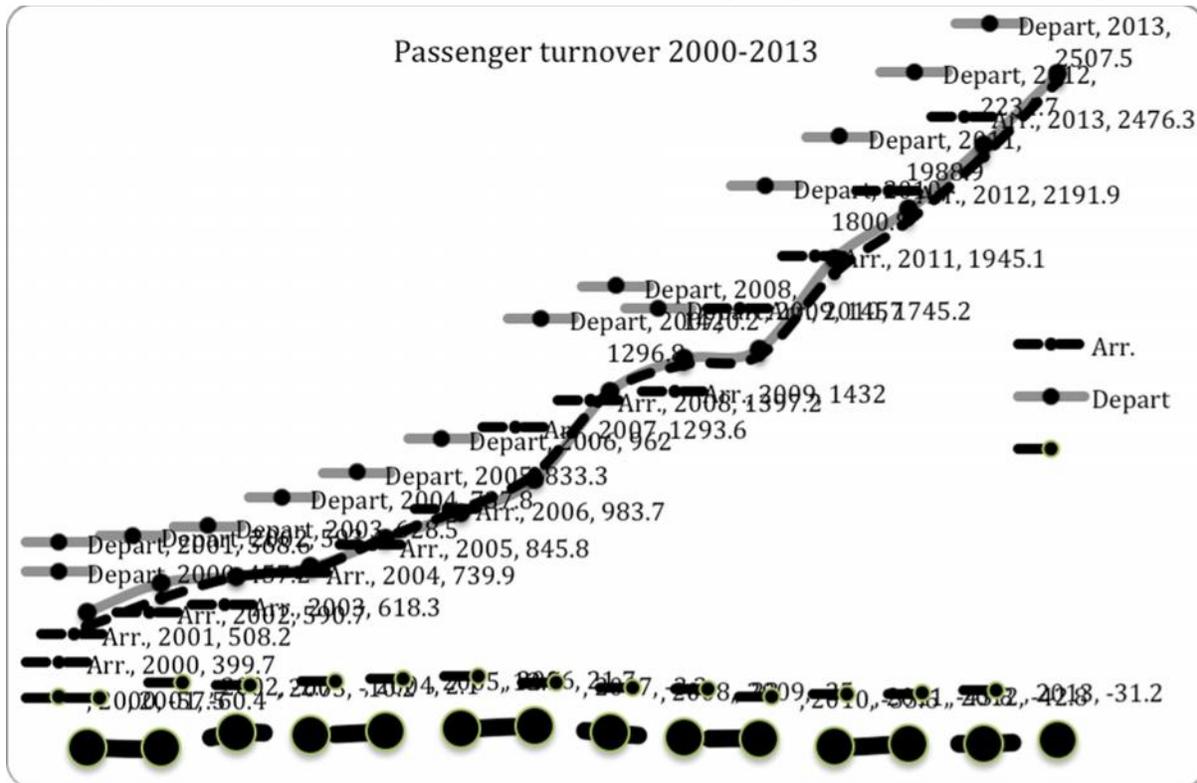
anti-Caucasian and anti-Armenian trends of particular groups were essential, which sometimes ended with tragic outcomes.

Decrease in outer migration activities

The years of 1995-2001 are characterized by abrupt decrease of migration activities and by considerable increase of inflow (outflow 600-650000, inflow 350000, migration balance 250000 people).¹¹ This phenomenon was conditioned by comparative stability of social and economic conditions in Armenia for which monetary transfers and decrease of migration potential played the most essential role.

Migrations in Armenia during 2002-2010: increase of migration trends

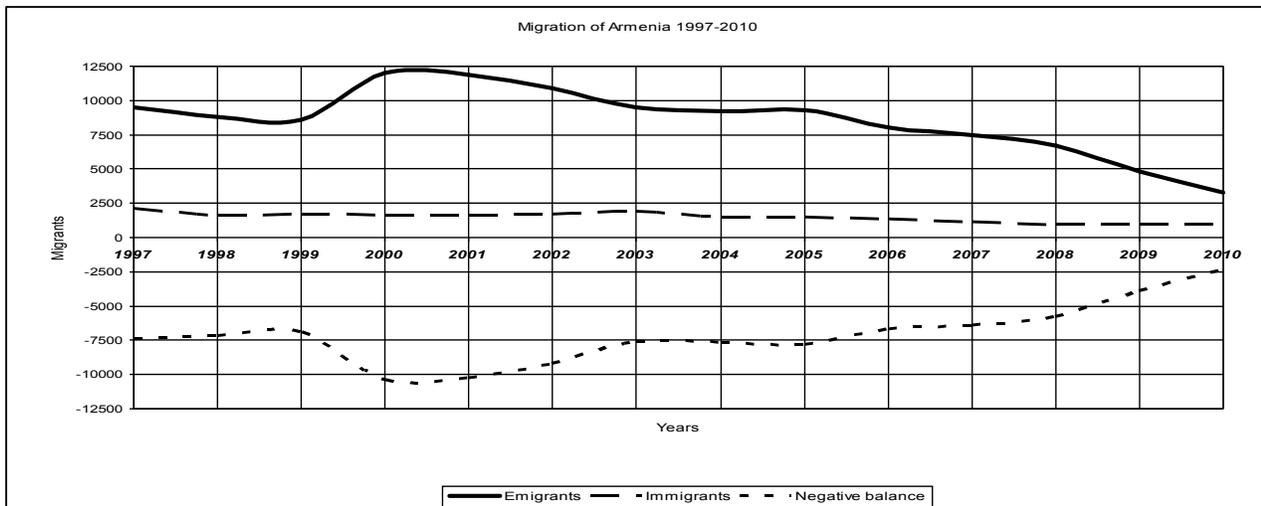
The researcher will definitely have the first relation to the migration through quantitative data, the monitoring of the dynamics of change of which is an important component of migration studies. Particularly, information on volumes of border crossing directly shows migration circulation of the population of Republic of Armenia. Despite of the simplicity and accessibility of the latter, they are not free of some drawbacks, which do not allow making a more in-depth analysis. Thus, the presented data lacks a quality component. Anyone, crossing the Armenian border is included in migration circulation without the most important characteristic features, which are very important for social analysis.¹²



¹¹ Migration of Armenia's Population in the Post-Soviet Period (UNFPA, Yerevan 1996).

¹² See http://www.smsmta.am/?menu_id=18

According to official sources, the outflow from Armenia in all directions made up only 54000 people and inflow 9100 people which provided 45100 migrants negative balance.¹³



Experts investigations show that during the mentioned period the outflow from Armenia in all directions made up 750000 people, inflow 600000 people and negative balance 150000 people, i.e. ca. 5 % of the population.¹⁴ We can conclude that during this period emigration from Armenia becomes more intensive, mainly keeping the qualitative image of mass outflow of 1990s, it means:

- emigration is, as a rule, temporary, connected with labor search;
- most of the emigrants are men;
- the most part of emigrants (82%) are 20-54 years old;
- the most part of emigrants (67-68%) are married;
- the role of persons with high education and overqualified persons is considerable in emigration flows (22%);
- the most part of emigrants, as before, is involved in constructional (63%) and then trade (10-11%) spheres;
- the most part of emigrants (75-76%) is oriented to the Russian Federation.¹⁵

The expert data presented above are characterized by the fact that 80% of the emigrants of 2002-2010 came back to Armenia which is to interpret by the evident decrease of social and economic conditions in host countries.

Refugees from Syria, Ukraine and other places

Not only quantitative, but also qualitative changes, having a number of truly profound, far-reaching consequences, are common to recent migratory processes and circulations. The recent Armenian migration dynamics picture is supplemented by a large number

¹³ Statistic Yearbook of Armenia 1997-2010.

¹⁴ Sampling Survey of Armenia's External and Domestic Migration, UNHCR, National Statistical Service of Armenia, Yerevan 2008.

¹⁵ Labor Emigration from Armenia during 2002-2005: Sociological Survey of Households, OSCE, Survey of Migrants Returning to Armenia during 2002-2008, OSCE.S

migrants, immigrated to Armenia as a result of Syrian and Ukrainian political crises, wars. The data, presented in the website of the State Migration Service of Ministry of Territorial Administration and Emergency Situations of Republic of Armenia involve only the migrants from the abovementioned places, who have applied for shelter and received it¹⁶:

ble 1. Syrian citizens applied for asylum

Total		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
Applied	Received										
819	626	4	-	6	6	519	372	290	248	49	27

At the same time, there are 114 shelter seekers from Ukraine. Naturally, this data is much less than the number of migrants firstly from Syria and Ukraine, immigrated in recent years, from the actual total number of refugees. The problem actually has the qualitative most important ingredient. The biggest part of immigrants from these countries is ethnic Armenians.

b) Main Challenges Armenia is facing

Table 2. Basic economic facts of Armenia¹⁷

Estimator	Details	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Population	thousand at yearend	3222.9	3230.1	3238.0	3249.5	3262.6	3 021.4	3 026.9
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	AMD billion	2656.2	3149.3	3646.1	3141.7	3501.6	3 777.9	3 997.6
	US \$ million	6384.5	9206.3	11916.6	8648.0	9371.2	10142.1	9950.3
GDP per capita	AMD thousand	824.6	976.1	1127.4	968.5	1075.4	1252.8	1321.9
	US \$	1982.1	2853.3	3684.8	2666.1	2878.0	3363.2	3 290.3
External public debt	US \$ million	1205.6	1448.9	1577.1	2966.7	3299.0	2955.83	3157.95
Average monthly nominal wages	AMD	62293	74227	87406	96019	102652	108 092	113 163
	US \$	150	217	286	264	275	290	282
Fixed minimal amount of	AMD	15000	20000	25000	30000	30000	32500	32500
	US \$	36	59	82	82	80	87	81

¹⁶ See http://www.smsmta.am/?menu_id=152

¹⁷ Source: National Statistical Service of RA – www.armstat.am

wages								
Average size of monthly pensions	AMD	10912	12746	21370	24520	27107	27 062	29 696
	US \$	26	38	70	67	73	73	72
Average annual consumer price index	% of previous year	102.9	104.4	109.0	103.4	108.2	107.7	102.6
Consolidated budget revenues	AMD billion	533.4	698.3	800.8	711.7	804.3		
Consolidated budget expenditures	AMD billion	567.8	746.8	827.4	947.6	975.9		
Exports (including services)	% of GDP	23.4	19.2	14.7	15.1	21.0	24.0	25.0
Imports (including services)	% of GDP	39.3	39.2	39.8	43.0	45.0	47.0	49.0
Labor resources, total	thousand persons	2114.9	2171.4	2 376.9	2 397.6	2 389.7	2 286.3	2 260.8
Economically active population	thousand persons	1418.3	1416.3	1 414.6	1 418.8	1 463.3	1 440.9	1 418.3
Unemployment rate	%	19.2	18.5	16.4	18.7	19.0	18.4	17.3
Unemployment total	of which (by education) :	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
	higher, post-graduate	14.4	11.8	12.4	14.2	14.8	16.7	16.3
	secondary specialized	79.8	32.4	33.1	30.0	29.6	29.0	30.4
	secondary		50.6	49.5	50.3	49.9	48.0	46.9
	basic	5.8	5.2	5.1	5.5	5.7	6.3	6.4

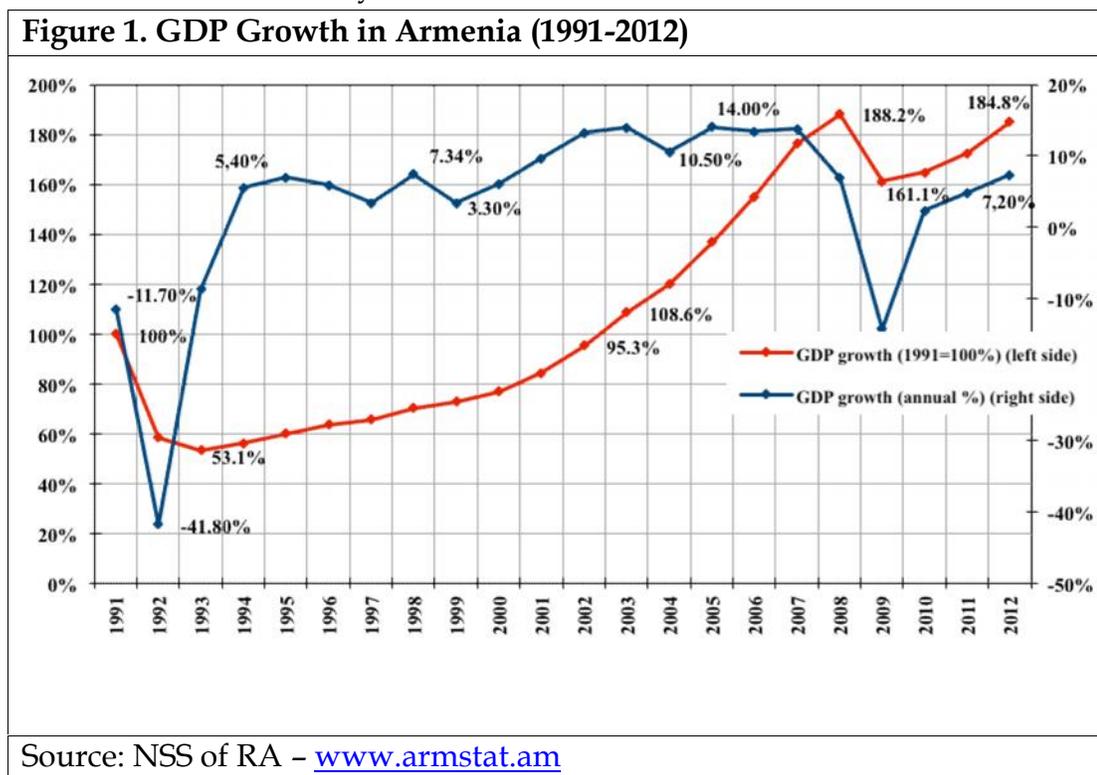
Poverty and inequality

Armenia and the Armenian people have always been engaged in migration processes. A number of concurrent economic, military-political, social and other factors drew Armenia into turbulent currents of migration during the last two decades.

In the last two decades, though, the migration flows related to Armenia, by virtue of their obvious intensity, started to affect the country's public life and development in an unprecedented manner and still require a comprehensive and profound study.

Armenia and settled abroad during 1990-2005 alone. Reasons of migration as a rule have economic character. One of the basic reasons for leaving their own country is bad living conditions and low quality of life.

From the very start of the transition to a market economy, income inequality rose sharply in Armenia. It led to a higher rate of poverty in the total population. 1991-1994 years were marked by unprecedented economic decline and related macroeconomic and social indicators, leading to widespread poverty. Figure 1 shows that only in the second period of independence Armenian economy reached the level of 1991.



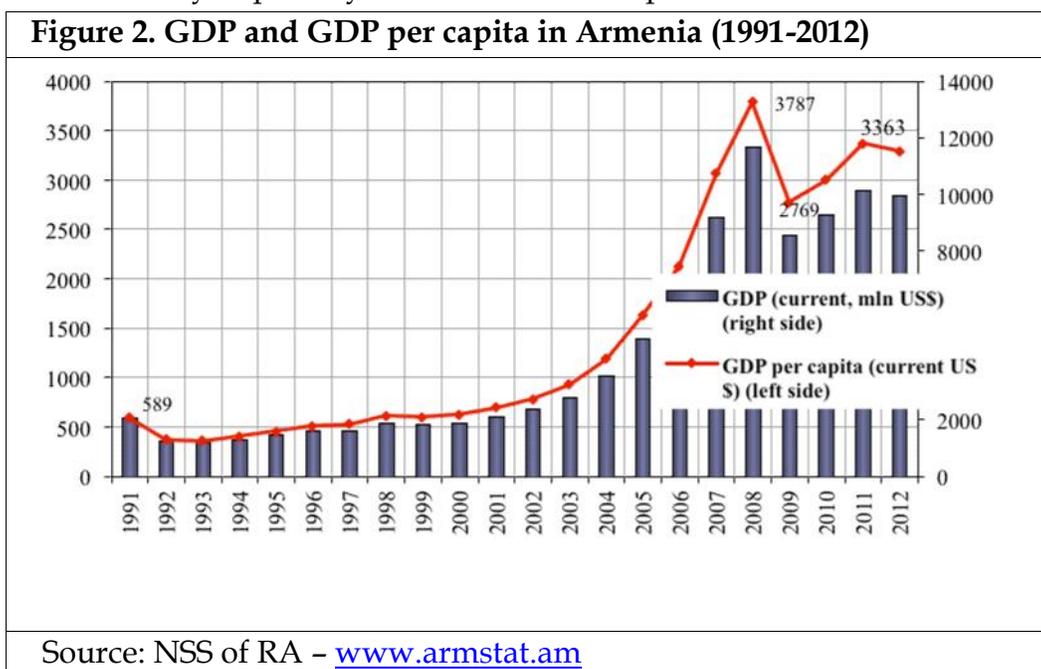
As we can see from the Figure 2, GDP per capita in Armenia increased from less than 600 USD in the beginning of the independence to 3000 USD in 2010. Before the global financial crisis of 2008-2009 this estimator reached the top level – 3787 USD per capita. It means that Armenia is still lower middle income country according to the World Bank country distribution by income level.

In 2009 34.1% of population in Armenia were defined as poor - those with consumption per adult equivalent below the upper poverty line, while extremely poor population share

made up 3.6% – those with consumption per adult equivalent below the food (extreme) poverty line.

The poverty gap in 2009 was 7.8%. This estimator indicates that if the country could mobilize resources equal to those percent of the poverty line for each individual (both poor and non-poor) and if these resources were allocated to the poor, poverty would be theoretically eliminated, assuming that the assistance to them were perfectly allocated. If calculated over the poor population only, the poverty gap indicates poverty shortfall or deficit, i.e. it shows how much the average consumption of the poor falls short of the poverty line.

The severity of poverty measures the inequality among the poor; it takes into account that some poor are further away from the poverty line, while some have consumption closer to it. In 2009 the severity of poverty in Armenia made up 2.4%.¹⁸

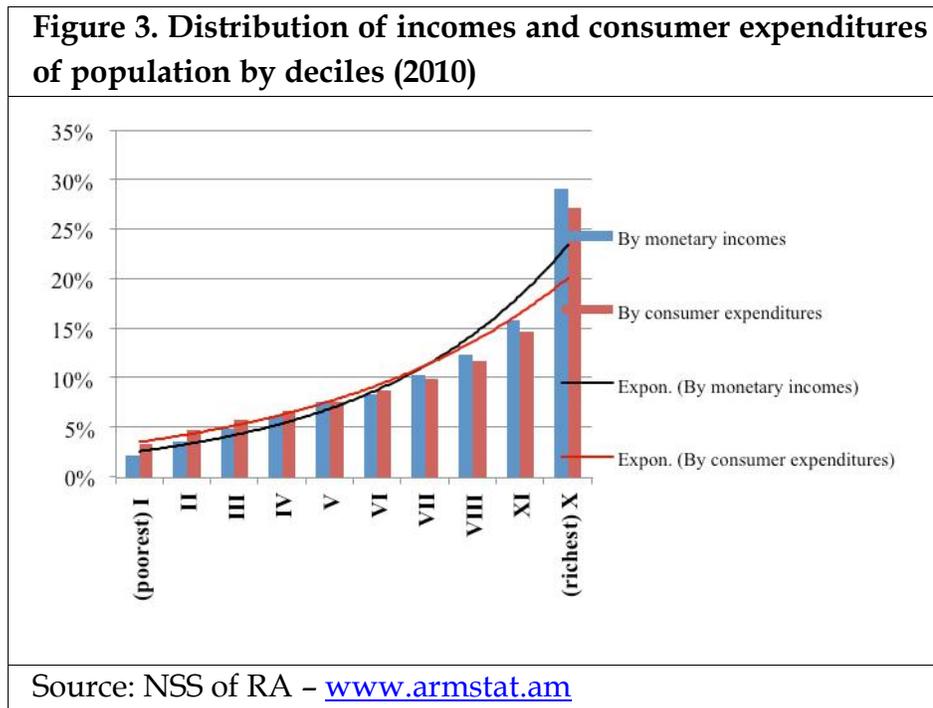


Poverty and inequality are closely interconnected. Inequality affects not only the individual, but also society, provoking mass stress and frustration, which in turn are conducive to the destruction of families, crime, suicide and violence. Various forms of inequality between the living conditions of different social groups are continuously growing as a consequence of rising poverty. Poverty and inequality explicitly and implicitly affect not only the health, but also the social, psychological and physical well-being of the individual, his or her position in society, access to public goods, the individual's attitudes towards society and society's attitudes towards the individual, and numerous other spheres.

¹⁸ NSS of RA / Statistical Yearbook of Armenia 2011 - <http://www.armstat.am/file/doc/99466823.pdf>

As we can see from the Figure 3, distribution of incomes and expenditures of population by deciles is uneven. Thus, the richest decile of population receives about 30% of income and makes up 27% of consumer expenditures.

The Gini coefficient that reflects the degree of income inequality of the population rose from 0.258 in 1989 to 0.59-0.60 in the second half of the 1990s, causing Armenia to rank among the countries with the most income inequality in the world. Today the Gini coefficient is almost equal to the level of 1989.



The poverty and inequality situation in Armenia leads to the raising of emigration from the country searching for the “best life”.

Fortunately, the acuteness of the problem of poverty for the nation has been recognized at the level of government in Armenia, as reflected in the adoption in August 2003 of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)¹⁹, the most comprehensive strategic program document on the socio-economic development of Armenia adopted since Armenia gained independence.

More information about poverty and inequality and migration you can find also the following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report “Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges” (2009)²⁰
- IMF Country Report “Republic of Armenia: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Progress Report” (2005)²¹

¹⁹ Government of the RA / Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper // 2003 - <http://www.gov.am/files/docs/58.pdf>

²⁰ UNDP Armenia / Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>

- etc. (see sources in the Annex 4).

Access to finance resources, labor market and business environment

Factors determining the demand of population for financial services have crucial importance for the increase of financial coverage and depth, thus, it should become the main focus of the policy in this field. The quality of financial services' supply under such circumstances becomes a secondary issue. To increase and improve supply at this stage, demand improvement is crucial.

Nowadays according to surveys Armenian population does not see the need or necessity for using bank accounts and cards. They keep cash savings at home for more than three months, thus not trusting banks. Banks are perceived as risky for taking loans. Overall financial awareness and literacy is very low. Awareness on loans is relatively higher among population. Awareness on plastic cards is especially low. Use of main financial services is very low.

In terms of geography, physical access of banks varies dramatically. In villages, despite very few banks available, there are numerous loans lent. Loan interests also vary. Borrowings with high interest rates are two times more in Marzes.

More information about access of the finance resources you can find in the following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" (2009)²²
- etc. (see sources in the Annex 4).

Given the close causal link between unemployment and migration in Armenia, the 2008-2021 Sustainable Development Program (SDP)²³ adopted by the Government on the basis of the Revised PRSP views expanding dignified employment through economic growth as a feasible way to overcome poverty. By regarding employment as a key factor in overcoming poverty and, thereby, preventing emigration from the country, the SDP rightly recognizes that, presently, having employment in the Armenian labor market is not necessarily an adequate safeguard for overcoming poverty, because a considerable number of employed persons are still unable to provide for a basic living standard for themselves and their family members. This is evidenced by the fact that, in 2005, 24% of the employed population (including their family members) were considered poor (compared to 49% in 1999). See also the Table 1 in current document. Nevertheless, having a job is a primary factor for overcoming poverty, as proven by the fact that the share of the poor among the employed population is 10 percentage points lower than the overall level of poverty.

²¹ IMF / Republic of Armenia: Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Progress Report // 2005 - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2005/cr05176.pdf>

²² UNDP Armenia / "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>

²³ Government of the RA / Sustainable Development Program // 2008 - http://www.nature-ic.am/res/pdfs/documents/strategic/SDP_01_eng_20081030.pdf

Relying on rising demand for labour and wage increase trends in the Armenian labour market on the backdrop of economic growth during 2002-2006, as well as the net immigration reported during 2004-2006, the SDP regards supply-demand mismatch in the labour market as the main cause of migration processes. More specifically, the SDP (*paragraph 313*) views the significant difference in levels of demand for labour force in the Armenian and Russian labour markets as a primary reason for emigration. The authors of the SDP believe that "...labour migration plays a dual role in terms of the poverty risk to migrants and their family members. In the short run, it plays a key role in reducing poverty on the background of persisting high unemployment in Armenia. However, in the long run, especially informal migration poses strong risk to migrants in view of the unstable nature of the employment."

More information about Armenian labor market you can find in the following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" (2009)²⁴
- etc. (see Sources below).

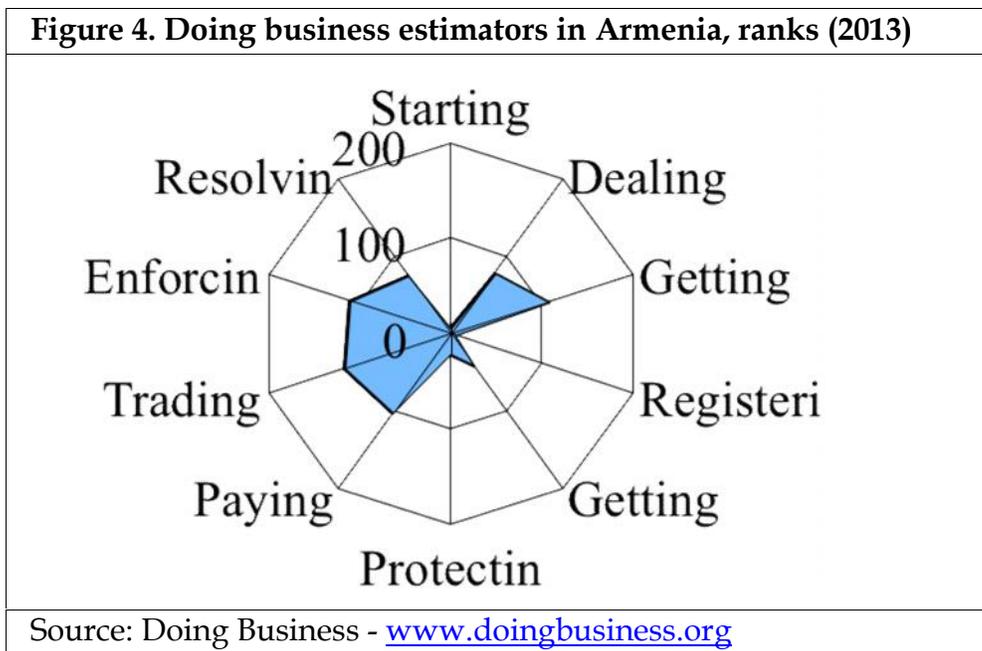
One of the most important reasons of leaving Armenia is not sufficient good conditions for small and medium business development.

Annex 1 shows the main doing business estimators in Armenia for 2006-2010. We can see that either the overall doing business rank or almost all estimators' ranks of Armenia among the rest of the world are going up. According to the Figure 4 nowadays the easiest in procedure for Armenian entrepreneur is registering property (5) and starting business (10). The most time, procedures and costs require paying taxes (153), trading across borders (102) and protecting investors (93).

But it tells only part of the story. Yearly movements in rankings can provide some indication of changes in an economy's regulatory environment for firms, but they are always relative. An economy's ranking might change because of developments in other economies. An economy that implemented business regulation reforms may fail to rise in the rankings (or may even drop) if it is passed by others whose business regulation reforms had a more significant impact as measured by Doing Business.

Moreover, year-to-year changes in the overall rankings do not reflect how the business regulatory environment in an economy has changed over time or how it has changed in different areas.

²⁴ UNDP Armenia / "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>



The absolute values of the indicators tell another part of the story (see Annex 1). The indicators, on their own or in comparison with the indicators of a good practice economy or those of comparator economies in the region, may reveal bottlenecks reflected in large numbers of procedures, long delays or high costs. Or they may reveal unexpected strengths in an area of business regulation - such as a regulatory process that can be completed with a small number of procedures in a few days and at a low cost. Comparison of the economy's indicators today with those in the previous year may show where substantial bottlenecks persist - and where they are diminishing.

All these factors tell about incomplete institutional environment in Armenia, low level of right protection and absence of strong rule of law.

More information about business environment in Armenia you can find in the following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" (2009)²⁵
- etc. (see sources in the Annex 4).

c) Policy Framework (Policies, Programmes and Action Plans)

The migration conception of the Republic of Armenia and 2008-2012 state program of migration regulation underline the rights of migrants as an important background. In the

²⁵ UNDP Armenia / "Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges" // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>

frameworks of the mentioned program and in case of other equal conditions, the government of the Republic of Armenia considers the legislative regulation of the questions concerning labor emigration, migrants' right protection and labor activities as being of primary importance. The document is directed to regulation of labor and other rights of both the citizens of the Republic of Armenia working abroad and the foreign residents of Armenia.

Currently the migration service of Ministry of Territorial Government implies the strategic program of migration regulation for 2010-2014, which is based on the idea of equality of rights of migrants as well as on the basic right of free movement.²⁶

The mentioned problems have posed the following key challenges of policy and governance before the Armenian state:

1. Creating a situation (through appropriate policies) that will considerably reduce the motivation of Armenia's population to leave the country and increase the motivation for return;
2. Developing a framework of state regulation of migration, proportionate with the intensity and complexity of the migration problems faced by Armenia, which will help to minimize the negative impact of migration and maximize the positive contribution of migration to public life.

The experience of recent years has demonstrated that the RA state system of migration regulation along with the political approaches, as well as the former institutional and administrative mechanisms, was incapable of effectively solving the migration problems faced by the RA. It is also evident that up until now the day-to-day, reactive policy of the RA directed, as a matter of priority, at the consolidation of the legislation in this area could not automatically lead to improved positive impact of the RA migration policies and the prevention and reduction of their negative consequences. Therefore, it is now time to switch from a passive-contemplative and operative-reactive policy to proactive-foreseeable migration policy.

More detailed information state policy of the RA you can find here:

- Concept for the Policy of State Regulation of Migration in the Republic of Armenia²⁷
- Decision "On Approving the Action Plan 2012-2016 for the Implementation of the Policy Concept for State Regulation of Migration in the Republic of Armenia"²⁸

²⁶ The "Concept Paper on State Regulation of Population Migration in the Republic of Armenia" was adopted as Appendix to the Republic of Armenia Government Session Record Decision # 24 dated June 25, 2004, "2008–2012 Program of the Republic of Armenia Government" adopted by the Republic of Armenia Government Decree 380-A dated 28 April 2008 and approved by the Republic of Armenia National Assembly Decision N-074-4 dated 30 April 2008 "On Approving the Program of the Republic of Armenia Government."

²⁷ Government of the RA / Concept for the Policy of State Regulation of Migration in the Republic of Armenia // 2010 - http://www.carim-east.eu/media/sociopol_module/Concept%20for%20the%20Policy%20on%20State%20regulation%20of%20migration%20Concept_2010.pdf

- RA Government Program for 2008-2012²⁹
- Sustainable Development Program of the RA Government³⁰
- for more information about Armenian legislation regarding to migration regulation see Annex 1.

d) Assessment of Impacts (Improvements)

Migration in modern Armenia is not a common and unified phenomenon and has different kinds of reflections, each of which has its own impact on the life of modern Armenia.

Besides the quantitative impact external movement (especially emigration) of a large percentage of the country's total population has affected public life and development in a number of clearly alarming ways, including, most importantly economic consequences. There are two main directions of the migration influence on the economy: through the labor market and financial flows.

Labor market

In addition to the general impact on public life, migration negatively influences specific migration flows and groups of migrants in a variety of ways. In the last 20 years, migration flows out of Armenia have been loosely regulated - irregular migrants have accounted for a large share of emigrants, and the vast majority of emigrants have been labour migrants.

The main negative consequences of the contemporary migration processes in Armenia in terms of global financial and economic crisis are the following: irregular drain of 'brains,' quality labour force and the capital, decrease in the economic potential of the country, deterioration of the economic development opportunities and perspectives.

More information and particularly list of recommendations in this regards are given in in the following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report “Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges” (2009)³¹
- etc. (see Sources below)

Remittances

Remittances from abroad to Armenia are an important source for economic growth and poverty reduction. This reflects in a number of studies and expert estimations. However,

²⁸ Government of the RA / On Approving the Action Plan 2012-2016 for the Implementation of the Policy Concept for State Regulation of Migration in the Republic of Armenia // 2011 -

http://www.arlis.am/DocumentView.aspx?DocID=72241&DocID_AM=72241&DocID_RU=0&DocID_EN=0

²⁹ Government of the RA / RA Government Program for 2008-2012 // 2008 - <http://www.gov.am/files/docs/77.pdf>

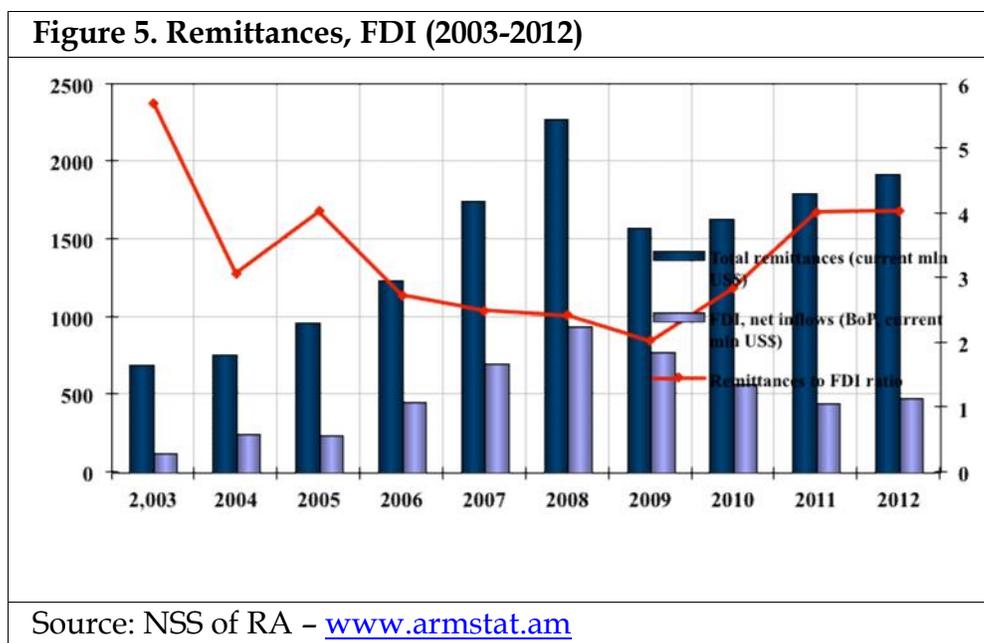
³⁰ Government of the RA / Sustainable Development Program // 2008 - http://www.nature-ic.am/res/pdfs/documents/strategic/SDP_01_eng_20081030.pdf

³¹ UNDP Armenia / “Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges” // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>

there are very few data and researches on the role of remittances to Armenia and, in particular their impact on households' welfare.

Remittances have played an essential role for the Armenian economy as financial inflows accounting for a considerable share of the GDP (Armenia is in the top 20 countries of the world in terms of this indicator, and is among the world's leaders in terms of remittances per capita). Remittances are 2.5-3 times the volume of direct investments in Armenia. Nominal remittances tend to grow, despite the decline that started at the end of 2008. The volume of remittances in real terms, i.e. adjusted by the exchange rate change and inflation, will tend to fall in the years ahead. Historically, a stable factor that moved counter-cyclically (in the opposite direction of an economic crisis) in the recipient countries, remittances are currently affected by a different situation caused by a global crisis that has undermined the economies of numerous countries.

Therefore, projecting the future flow of remittances becomes even more difficult. Migrants remit money to their families rather frequently - most migrants remit money at least once a quarter, and one fifth of the migrants remit once a month. In terms of remitting money, the most important group is that of seasonal migrants, and the leading origin countries of remittances are the Russian Federation and the USA. The majority of the remittances are still spent on current consumption needs; savings are made for purposes such as future investments, education and special occasions.



Though savings still account for a small share of remittances, there is rather strong potential in terms of the volume, which can be put to effective use. Moreover, the potential of the migrants' savings abroad is even more promising. During 2004-2006, the share of remittances in household income fell. Moreover, there is a trend to consume less and to

save more. Though a larger number of households have started to save, the number of households making investments has virtually not changed. According to the results of the regression analysis, when remittances grew, households were more inclined in 2006 to spend those amounts on business investments followed, in the order of priority, by land and other real estate acquisition, current consumption, education, savings, renovation, and purchases of household appliances.

The growth of remittances has caused changes in the structure of the use of remittances - growth of remittances caused the share of current consumption to decline and the shares of investments and savings to increase. The comparative analysis of households receiving remittances and those not receiving any using the case-control method provided additional evidence of the existence of such links, i.e. remittance-receiving households save more but still invest less than households not receiving remittances. Considering that the estimated relation between remittances and investments is highly significant and remittance-receiving households have a high propensity to invest, the impact of remittances on poverty reduction promises to remain stable, if this propensity is put to efficient use, because in absolute terms, remittance-receiving households continue to invest less than households not receiving remittances. According to the results of the analysis, remittances have a strong and reliable impact on and can, therefore, give a stimulus to education and health care.

The Armenian Diaspora has strongly influenced economic and human development in the Republic of Armenia. It is one of the main generators of foreign investments, but its own share in total direct investments apparently remains below expected (25% of direct investments in Armenia), possibly because the Armenian economy still does not provide sufficiently competitive and attractive investment climate from the standpoint of the Diaspora.

More information and particularly list of recommendations in this regards are given following sources:

- UNDP Armenia National Development Report “Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges” (2009)³².
- WB report “Migration and Remittances: Eastern Europe and Former Soviet Union” (2006)³³
- ADB Country Report “Remittances of International Migrants and Poverty” (2007)³⁴
- IMF Working Paper “Microeconomic Implications of Remittances in an Overlapping Generations Model with Altruism and Self-Interest” (2008)³⁵

³² UNDP Armenia / Migration and Human Development: Opportunities and Challenges // 2009 - <http://europeandcis.undp.org/home/show/87B390CE-F203-1EE9-B95DF29A79F6080C>

³³ WB / Migration and Remittances: Eastern Europe and Former Soviet Union //2006 - http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTECA/Resources/257896-1167856389505/Migration_FullReport.pdf

³⁴ ABD / Remittances of International Migrants and Poverty // 2007 - http://www.edrc.am/WP/Rem&Poverty_in_Central_Asia.pdf

- IOM Policy Brief “The Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Migrants and Migration” (2009)³⁶
- etc. (see Sources below)

Trafficking

Exploitation of human beings, their violent movements or trafficking in modern terminology is one of disgracing and dangerous phenomena which spreading through the world involved also the Republic of Armenia.

Armenian trafficking has two main reflections - sexual exploitation of women in the United Arabian Emirates, sexual and labor exploitation in Turkey and forced labor of men mainly within the Russian Federation. This is not an open phenomenon in Armenia, and despite the opposite undertakings, the results are not satisfying (only 23 criminal cases during 2001-2009). Other type of trafficking is forced begging by children, which also has not corresponding response in the society yet.³⁷

Typical is the public interpretation of trafficking, according to which, Armenian prostitutes which actually appear in sexual slavery in Turkey and the United Arabian Emirates, are not perishes of trafficking because they made conscious choice.

e) **Gaps to be closed**

Migration studies mirror the migration and related processes, which are witnessed by modern societies and states. It is meaningless to speak about any issue of migration to be finally analyzed and there is no need to refer to it. Especially nowadays, in the case of intensive changes and processes many new challenges come along, and the old ones are presenting themselves in a fundamentally new way. At the same time, many problems related to people’s mobility do not receive enough research attention due to their complexity, politicization, lack of academic cooperation. Today we are witnessing political, economic, social and cultural processes and developments, at which social, cultural seemingly contradictory forms of penetration, rearrangement, obvious interrelations at different levels of societies are revealed at first site.

Under these conditions such issues, as various social integrations and issues due to their presence or absence, in particular, corruption and intense transformation of common, otherwise said, traditional forms of organization of life, construction of social equity and cohesion in a new way, appear in the focus of migration and related researches. Undernationalism with its partial demonstrations receives primary importance, which throw unprecedented challenges to identity, consciousness, conventionalism, etc of

³⁵ IMF / Microeconomic Implications of Remittances in an Overlapping Generations Model with Altruism and Self-Interest // 2008 - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/wp/2008/wp0819.pdf>

³⁶ IOM / The Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Migrants and Migration // 2009 - http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/policy_documents/policy_brief_gfc.pdf

³⁷ Human Trafficking in Armenia, OSCE, 2007.

participants of the processes. States, being the producer and the holder of the migration processes, are continuously caught between attractive choices of strategic significance in conditions of intense changes.

The importance of research and academic agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations is highlighted more than ever in this situation. Widely assorted knowledge, which are regularly enriched with empirical approaches, can greatly contribute not only to represented issues and reveal and solution of many other problems, but also to reopening of many other unnoticed, denied problems.

Science is no more collection of information on mysterious, exciting phenomena and discussions on it. It is an integral and often referred to as a primary instrument of modern social developments.

In its turn, the public sector in the form of non-governmental organizations and associations of various fields and contents, being more mobile and flexible, take upon themselves revealing, regulating and directing of such problems, which, in case of state regulation would require enormous resources, extensive bureaucratic apparatus, resulting in a lot of questions remaining unanswered.

2) Research and Projects dealing with Migration in Armenia

a) Main actors in Migration Research and Policy Development

Investigations and research has been increasingly conducted on a broad scale encompassing *inter alia* the economic impact of labour migration on Armenia, integration of Armenian labour migrants in countries of destination, forced migration and its socio-political context, irregular migration, human trafficking etc., comprehensive data and research on migration in Armenia is still lacking. At the beginning migration and its implications on the Armenian Society has been addressed within the frames of forced and violent migration in particular in the field of conflict and refugees studies with an emphasis on the specific situation of refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs), problems arising with regard to their reintegration and accommodation (e.g. minimal living conditions etc). In the mid 90s due to the second wave of economic emigration, research focused increasingly on socio-economic implications - both positive and negative ones - the mass outflows have had and on how negative impacts could be cushioned. Since labour migration was and is the dominant feature of migration realities in Armenia research not only was mainly concerned with the economic impact of remittances on the various spheres of the Armenian society, it quickly took up the topic of the situation of Armenian labour migrants in host societies encompassing studies on living conditions, discrimination and conflicts within the host societies, integration and cultural adaptation. However, research in Armenia never seemed to be able to keep track with migration realities leading as well to delayed answers by policy makers. Only in the end of the 90s when emigration rates started to level off migration related research seemed to catch up. Proper assessments of the migration related impacts were made and policy responses drafted accordingly. Migration related questions that have been ignored so far, such as

irregular migration and human trafficking, came into the field of vision of researchers and politicians. From the state side attempts to approach migration more systematically have increased since the beginning of the new millennium and the State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration started to statistically compass migratory movements (i.e. border-crossings) and to continuously monitor inward and outward migration through the regular analysis of preliminary data.³⁸

The phenomenon of migration still remains to be an important topic for Armenian society, being a target of interest of state, international, research, personal and public spheres. Especially often touched problems are concerning labor and illegal migration, trafficking, social evaluation as well as state regulation mechanism.

b) Migration as a topic in academia

The present report, together with the attached table on resource data, is a brief description of migration processes and their social impact in Armenia during last 20 years. This time span is characterized by considerable inertness in perception of social phenomena and particularly in evaluation of migration influences, the result of which is reflected in certain delay of corresponding investigations.

The first discourse towards the topic was in the frames of the problem on violent/forced migration, unprecedented inflow of refugees, its social-political context and multi-level results (integration, adaptation, minimal life conditions for refugees, etc). Parallel to it the migration discourse was added by many reflections towards the second unprecedented wave – social-economic mass outflow of 1990s. In the mentioned context, factor analyses of the formed situation as well as reconstruction of social-economic and geographic images of social flows were especially important. Attempts were made for perspective previsions. Works elucidating positive and negative results of migration processes were pretty often.

While among the main elements of developments in 1990s was labor migration than also it found reflection in current investigations. In this regard causal analyses, outcome investigations (particularly demonstrating the impact of monetary transfers on particular spheres of social life of Armenia) were realized. Targets of such investigations were life conditions of labor migrants, possible and real conflicts within the accepting societies, problems towards their adaptation and integration, etc.

The decrease in migration activities at the end of 1990s enabled the statesman, researches, members of public and international organizations to view the problems on migration without “*zeitnot*” and reconsider the questions on regulation and overcoming of negative results of migrations. Corresponding investigations and evaluative researches towards the current social events came to life. Questions which were disregarded earlier were considered among them especially important were illegal migration and trafficking, the first investigation towards which was published in 2002.³⁹ Also the academic sphere

³⁸ See <http://www.ssmta.am/>.

³⁹ Irregular migration and smuggling of migrants from Armenia, 2002.

became active: some deep sociological investigations, among which articles and dissertations were presented.

Since the mentioned period until now The State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration realizes statistical registrations of migration acts (i.e. border-crossings) as well as continuous monitoring of migration situation with analyses of preliminary data.⁴⁰

YSU and RAU have a huge scientific background in migration studies, especially in face of the Department of Sociology of YSU and the Institute of Economics and Business of RAU. In the **Annex 2** you can see the list of some key publications in this field, made by YSU and RAU staff during the main period of UNIMIG Tempus project realization.

c) Gaps identified/Fields requiring further research

Since the 1990s considerable progress has been made regarding migration research, however, a comprehensive approach in research towards the various forms of migration is still missing, especially at the academic level. Furthermore, research on migration in Armenia is characterised by a certain degree of delay with regard to the exploration of the social implications of migration on the Armenian society throughout Armenian migration research.

Even though the interest in migration related research significantly increased and the approaches made during the last decade were considerable, migration related research is far from being comprehensive and systematic and public data available remains unreliable. One noteworthy reason for this is that research on migration was and is mainly conducted by IOs and NGOs applying different methodologies and approaches. Therefore their outcomes seem to be self-sufficient and foreseen for 'internal use' rather than for broader dissemination. Accessibility to and dissemination of research results appears to be a major problem in Armenia being reflected as well in policy responses. Migration researchers cannot rely and build upon already existing research but basically have to start from zero again since previous results are hardly accessible. This not only leads to duplication of research done but also to diverging and superfluous data as well as causal interpretations. Although during last years many investigations have been undertaken, however deep and multisided academic analyses of the migration problem in Armenian reality unfortunately does not exist. This lack is especially discernable in consideration of the contexts concerning social, cultural, communicative, symbolic and identity levels. As the main migration factor has been considered the economic one, however, even in this regard, we lack essential researches. In fact the migration problem in Armenia still remains to be unsolved, the questions in front of researchers are huge hence it is impossible to present their variety within the frames of one report.

There are a lot of reasons for such situation. Among them especially noteworthy is the fact that today many structures are involved in investigation of migration processes in

⁴⁰ <http://www.smsmta.am/>.

Armenia, however the approaches, methodologies, results of the most of them remain to be unknown even for scientific circles: they seem to be sometimes self-sufficient and as if foreseen for the “internal” use.

In this regard the need of establishment of a resource center to be engaged in collection, investigation, monitoring and coordination of questions concerning migration in Armenia on academic level and with special involvement of sociology, seems to be evident.

In consideration of such questions in Armenia are engaged mainly international (IOM, ILO, UNDP, UNFPA, USAID, OSCE, etc.) and public organizations to be financed by abroad. Also essential seems to be the involvement of the state sphere. However all of them have their own interests, methods and approaches. Meanwhile the deep and multisided academic investigations of essential scientific quality remain to be unknown both for the broad public and for the mentioned organizations: they even do not appear in Internet. Scientific researches are hardly accessible and every new researcher begins from zero, as a rule being restricted by quantitative and superfluous data and causal interpretations.

d) Migration in projects

The phenomenon of migration still remains to be an important topic for Armenian society, being a target of interest of state, international, research, personal and public spheres. Especially often are touched problems concerning labor and illegal migration, trafficking, social evaluation as well as state regulation mechanisms. A lot of national and international projects are aimed to find out decisions of current problems in this field. Among the organizations/institutions mostly interested and realized researches, studies and projects in migration problems can be mentioned State migration service (SMS) of Ministry of territorial administration of the RA, Ministry of Diaspora of the RA, IOM mission in Armenia, National Statistical Service of Armenia, Caucasus Research Resource Center (CRRC), International Center for Human Development (ICHD), The International Committee for the Development of People, Armenian Caritas foundation, “Hope and Help” NGO, “People in Need” NGO etc., as well as Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University and Yerevan State University (YSU).

Here are details of some of the most important projects, realized in Armenia during 2010-2015.

- *“Strengthening Evidence-Based Management of Labour Migration in Armenia”* project was realized in 2010-2013 by International Centre for Human Development (ICHD) and was supported by EU. The overall goal of the project was to enhance management of labour migration flows from Armenia to EU countries through four cross-cutting specific objectives: (A) enhancing capacities of private employment agencies (PEAs) to match labour demand and offer; (B) enabling a conducive environment for circular migration of Armenian workers; (C) strengthening national capacities in migration data collection, analysis and policy and (D) raising awareness towards possible approximation of

legislation on migration management with EU Acquis. To address these objectives a series of interlinked activities were implemented, including policy advice, institutional capacity building and awareness raising, which were constantly being revised and updated in line with new developments both in Armenia and the European Union.

- **“Migration and Development”** project (2010-2013) of Armenian Caritas was aimed to promote links between migration and development in the Armenian context by contributing to the establishment of sustainable reintegration measures for returnees to Armenia and to prevent illegal migration wave from communities having high rate migration waves and risks.
- **“Migration and Skills”** survey, hold on by CRRC-Armenia, was aimed to provide quantitative data of labor migration for analysis and later cross comparison with datasets gathered from other test countries. Information obtained from this endeavor will help guide labor migration efforts in Armenia with the European Union, which other counties have begun to initiate over the past several years. The Migration Survey from July 2011 to June 2012 has given CRRC-Armenia an opportunity to continue building upon data collection which will assist with development of well rounded policy recommendations at all institutional levels directed towards issues within the field of labor migration.
- **“Labor migration and STI/HIV risks in Armenia: Assessing prevention needs and designing effective interventions”** study was realized in November 2012 – March 2013 by CRRC-Armenia. The study was aimed to assess the scope, scale and, to a certain extent, the quality of the current interventions aiming at providing HIV prevention among labor migrants, examine the HIV/STI risks in urban and rural Armenia stemming from labor migration, assess the needs for prevention interventions, and produce recommendations for comprehensive, evidence-based, culturally-grounded, and cost-effective interventions to reduce these risks.
- Another project of Armenian Caritas **“Migration and Trafficking Resource Center”** (2012-2014) was aimed to mitigate the steady outflow of illegal migrants from Armenia and consequences connected with trafficking by serving as global resource center for promotion and dissemination information on legal ways of migration and by counselling support to the victims of trafficking.
- **“The depopulation crisis in Armenia”**, funded by Kololian Foundation (Canada) and realized by Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University Research Team, Research and Business Center of the Faculty of Economics of Yerevan State University, Hrayr Maroukhian Foundation and independent research group in 2013-2014 (see detailed information below)
- **“Evaluation of Migration Situation in Armenia through Selective Survey”**, funded by State committee of science at the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia, realized by Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University and National Statistical Service of Armenia in 2013 (see detailed information below).

- **“Missing Women in the South Caucasus”** short-term study was realized in February-March 2014. CRRC-Armenia with the support of the World Bank launched this project to explore the son preference and sex selective abortions in Armenia. The issue of “missing women” – women who would have been born (or survived infancy) if there hadn’t been efforts to prevent their birth or survival past infancy – has received attention globally since the 1990s. The reproductive patterns in South Caucasus shifted with the independence of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia in 1991. Even considering the traditional male preferences at birth, the increasing imbalance of sex ratio may deepen gender inequality and injustice in the societies of the countries. Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, a highly skewed sex ratio at birth has emerged in the South Caucasus. Sex ratios in Armenia (114.5), Azerbaijan (116.5) and Georgia (113.6) put our countries among those with the highest in the world. The figure that may not seem troublous in the short run may eventually end up with a range of serious problems considering low fertility rates and son preferences and increasing trend for technology to interfere with the support of the pattern. Focus group discussions, life stories and expert interviews initiated by the World Bank and implemented by the CRRC-Armenian in cooperation with Department of Sociology at Yerevan State University will provide an opportunity to shed light on the trends and consequences in the long run in Armenia.

- **“Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development”** current project (2014-2015) is realizing by CRRC-Armenia and supported by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This nation-wide study is a part of the comparative project in 10 countries worldwide, investigating relationships between migration and economic development of the sending communities. The study is aimed to examine migration-related development opportunities and the role of migration policies in promoting these opportunities.

Full list the most valuable projects, realized in Armenia in the mentioned period is given as an **Annex 3** to the current report.

3) Outlook: The role and contribution of the submitting institution in migration policy development, research etc.

Taking into account the specific of migration processes in Armenia and corresponding challenges, mentioned above, the role of each institution, participating somehow in migration policy development is too valuable. In 2011 both YSU and RAU have had an opportunity to increase their role and contribution in migration policy development in Armenia taking part in *“Migration and Higher Education: Building Skills and Capacities (UNIMIG)”* Tempus project together with another 15 organizations from 8 countries of the region and EU. Project duration was 3,5 years – from 15 October, 2011 to 14 April, 2015. One of the specific objectives of the project is “to develop, accredit and implement a basic curriculum for a Master Program in Migration Studies with a regional dimension in line with the Bologna requirements at 6 universities in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia”⁴¹. As

⁴¹ Official website of the UNIMIG project: <http://www.unimig.tsu.edu.ge/>

migration problems are too actual and urgent for nowadays Armenia, there is a strong need in qualified professionals in these field. The project gave us a chance to cover this gap due to two developed Master Programmes: “Master in Migration and Conflict Studies” in YSU and “Master in Economics and Migration” in RAU.

Moreover, the project was aimed also to found sustainable structures with the establishment of national Migration Competence Centers (MCC) and regional research network that serve as an interface between universities, research and public institutions, governments and society. The establishment of the MCC as integrated unit on the basis of YSU will contribute significantly to both the improvement of quality research on migration and the enhancement of knowledge on migration realities and therefore contribute to closing the aforementioned gaps in migration research. Being established as part of the Sociology Department, the MCC will build upon the considerable experience and corresponding scientific potential of the Sociology Department’s members who are actively engaged in various projects, studies, and teaching processes concerning migration. As a project partner RAU has a full access to MCC resources too, and this fact promotes new additional ways of cooperation especially in migration studies between two universities.

It’s initial that two other partners within the project from Armenia are IOM mission in Armenia and State migration service (SMS) at the Ministry of territorial administration of the RA, that are one of the key actors in migration policy development in Armenia. Cooperation between universities, representing academia, and such kind of key institutions is quite important in case of Armenia, where one of the huge gaps in migration policy is the gap between academia and state regulation of migration processes. These cooperation promises to be more productive due to the direct involvement of the Head of SMS into the working group of RAU as an expert and lecturer as well.

Thus, the UNIMIG project realization is a very special practical step towards qualified migration policy development and its’ sustainable improvement due to created mechanism.

Now, let’s speak about another experience of YSU and RAU in migration studies.

Yerevan State University (YSU)

International conferences, workshop meetings on migration in YSU.

Department of Sociology of Yerevan State University and Center for Migration Studies is one of the leading research centers of migration analysis. Since late 1990s, many specialists of the Faculty are involved in migration studies, have made numerous publications on the issue. In recent years, along with the establishment of Center for Migration Studies and "Migration and Conflict Studies" master's program, has increased the academic attention to the migration and related issues. State and international grant-supported research projects are undertaken and implemented, such as Rural communities as a mechanism of national identities' traditional elements reproduction in transition societies (on the example of Armenia and Belarus) research project, based on cooperation between Armenia and Belarus, on the results of which the "Issues of Social Identity Preservation in Armenian

Rural Communities" 42 collective monograph was published. Besides, "Features of formation and operation of Armenian migration networks " research program, being carried out under the direction of A. Atanesyan and funded by Scientific State Committee of RA is currently in progress.

Year of 2014 was especially significant for Center for Migration Studies, as well as for the Faculty. A series of events, conferences, workshops, directed to elimination of migration problems, were organized and carried out. Thus, in April 2014, "Migration in Globalized World" international conference was organized in the Faculty of Sociology, which was attended by experts from more than 15 countries. The results of the conference will be published in March issue of the "Bulletin of Yerevan University" magazine, as well as a number of works on transnationalism, presented at the conference, will be published in an anthology (Atanesyan).

In early November of 2014, the the Center for Migration Studies of Department of Sociology in cooperation with the "International Committee for Human Development" Italian NGO has organized a lecture on "Migration. challenges, development, development advantages", presentation of "Assessment of migration development policies, programs and projects in Armenia" study results, carried out under "Migration positive socio-economic empowerment in Armenia for a better future" programm.

At the same time, the Faculty and Center for Migration Studies organized and carried out "Armenia on the Verge of Eurasian Union: Economic Growth or Emigration" international conference, which was attended by experts from Russia, Armenia's leading research centers.

Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University (RAU)

Conferences

Institute of Economics and Business at the RAU has organized a lot of events, including conferences, round tables and discussions regarding migration processes in Armenia. One of the last conferences was International scientific-practical conference "*The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries*", organized on October 17-18, 2013. One of the two sections of the conference was "Migration and its Role in the Innovational Processes Development in the Economy".

Participants have made presentations in the respective thematic sections focusing on the strategic management of innovation processes in organizations, migration and its role in the development of innovative processes in the economy, as well as the peculiarities of formation and development of innovative economy in developing countries. The conference also hosted a round table discussion on "How to examine the migration of the former Soviet Union?".

⁴²Vartikyan A., Vermishyan H., Mkrtychyan A., Sahakyan A., Shahnazaryan G. "Issues of Social Identity Preservation in Armenian Rural Communities"// Yerevan: YSU publ., 2013.

Besides that, as was mentioned above, professors and researches in RAU have a lot of publications in migration studies in different collections and editions. For more information see Annex 2.

Projects

1. "The depopulation crisis in Armenia"

Understanding unprecedented levels of emigration from Armenia and the emergence to reverse the population tide, The Kololian Foundation of Toronto, in cooperation with the International Center for Human Development (Armenia, Yerevan), announced one-year research project aimed at identifying the root causes of emigration from Armenia. Four academic groups from Armenia were selected to implement the research project: the Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University, the Research and Business Center of the Faculty of Economics at Yerevan State University, the Hrayr Maroukhian Foundation and an independent group of academics who present the case of repopulating Kashatagh and Shahumyan. The research report⁴³ was presented on October 8, 2013 in Yerevan. The report analyzes Armenia's demographic situation, with the aim of identifying reasons behind current trends and possibilities for their reversal. Drawing on statistical data, other research sources, media reports, focus groups and surveys, researchers in Yerevan assembled various analyses to show common patterns. They also undertook case studies of successful strategies for repopulating remote areas and attracting diaspora immigrants. Together, these sources have produced a set of policy recommendations through which the Armenian government and other stakeholders could take action to reverse population decline. By the end of the project two representatives of RAU research team hold on an international Speaking Tour, organized from January 30, 2014 to February 11, 2014 in Beirut – Paris – Toronto – New York – Los Angeles⁴⁴.

2. "Evaluation of Migration Situation in Armenia through Selective Survey"

Due to the support of State committee of science at the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia in 2013 Centre for Social-Demographic Researches of RAU hold on a one-year project "Evaluation of Migration Situation in Armenia through Selective Survey". The results of the survey have caused many reflections and discussions on different levels of migration policy development in Armenia, including the Government and Prime-minister of the RA, which decided to include the procurement of sustainability of similar researches in migration into the working plan of the Government for 2015-2017.

Besides the mentioned funding, the survey of Armenian households was supported also by IOM mission in Armenia projects financed by the Institute for the Study of International Migration at the Georgetown University (USA) and EU, as well as by "People in Need"

⁴³ See the full report here: <http://www.depop.am/download-report/>

⁴⁴ See DEPOP Speaking tour 2014 presentation here: http://www.depop.am/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/The-Depopulation-Crisis-in-Armenia-_-THE-KOLOLIAN-FOUNDATION_ENG_Speaking-Tour-Presentation1.pdf

NGO (Czech Republic) and Armenian Caritas. Working process and database creation due to the results of survey was organized by RAU and National Statistical Service of Armenia. Full report was published in 2014.⁴⁵

3. "3-year Research of External Migration in the RA through Selective Survey"

This project started on January 1, 2015 and will last till the end of 2015 (December 30). The research is financed by State committee of science at the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia and is going to be realized by RAU research team. This Survey figures as a part of sustainability of researches in migration due to the working plan of the Government for 2015-2017, mentioned above. Results of the research will be published in 2016.

⁴⁵ See full report here:

http://rau.am/uploads/blocks/3/31/3115/files/Migration_Project_Report_final%281%29.pdf

AZERBAIJAN – Analytical Assessment Report

(Report is Prepared by Dr. Jeyhun Mammadov, Head of Economics and Management Department, Konul Bayramova, instructor, Anar Iskandarov)

Migration Policy in Azerbaijan: The national migration-related legislation in Azerbaijan includes the Constitution of Azerbaijan⁴⁶, Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan⁴⁷, international treaties Azerbaijan has ratified laws and regulatory by-laws.

In 2006, by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan with the purpose of improvement realization of the state policy in the field of migration, development of migration management system and harmonization of migration legislation with in international norms and requirements “The State Migration Program of the Republic of Azerbaijan” (2006-2008) was approved.

As the result of implementation of this program in March 19 2007, State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan was established by the Presidential Decree No. 560⁴⁸.

The next step was the first Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan approved on July 02 2013, by the President of Azerbaijan and came into effect on 1 August 2013. The biggest advantages of the Migration Code was that it systemizes and combines statutory legal acts in the field of migration and governs various aspects of migration in Azerbaijan (except local migration within the territory of Azerbaijan). The following laws was revoked once the Migration Code came into effect:

- Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons” - dated March 13 1996 No 41-IQ
- Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Immigration” -dated December 22 1998 No 592 -IQ
- Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Labour Migration” - dated October 28 1999 No 724-IQ
- Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On Approval of the Resolutions on Transit Rules of Foreigners and Stateless persons in the Territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan” - dated December 27 2002 No 414-IQ

Citizenship: The right to citizenship in the Republic of Azerbaijan is stipulated in the Constitution and the Law “On Citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” adopted on 30 September 1998.

⁴⁶ The Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan adopted on November 12 1995 - <http://en.president.az/azerbaijan/constitution>

⁴⁷ The Code of Migration of the Republic of Azerbaijan approved on July 02 2013- http://cs.mfa.gov.cn/zggmcg/ljmdd/yz_645708/asbj_645896/rjil_645906/jlrj_645912/W020140827524286150309.pdf

⁴⁸ The Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated to March 19 2007- <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/47fdf1932.pdf>

According to the Article 52 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Article 1 of the Law “On Citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan”, *a person having political and legal relations with the Azerbaijan Republic and also mutual rights and obligations is the citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic. A person born on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic or by citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic is the citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic. A person is the citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic if one of his/her parents is the citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic.*⁴⁹

According to this Law, the following persons shall be considered citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic:

- Persons having citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic on the day of entering into force of this Law (on the basis of: person’s registration in his/her place of residence in the Azerbaijan Republic up to the day of entering into force of the present Law);
- Persons who, until 1 January 1992, were not citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic or any other state but who have been registered in their place of residence in the Azerbaijan Republic;
- Refugees who have been accommodated in the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic from 1 January 1988 until 1 January 1992;
- Persons who obtain the citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic in accordance with this Law.⁵⁰

The grounds for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan are the followings:⁵¹

- birth on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic or to a citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic;
- admission to citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic;
- grounds provided by international treaties of the Azerbaijan Republic;
- other grounds provided by this Law.

Dual or multiple citizenships are not recognized for the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan. However, the President of the Republic may grant the permission to have dual citizenship. By the Law of May 30 2014, the Article 10 (*non-recognition of Azerbaijani citizen's Affiliation to Citizenship of a Foreign State*) of the Law “On citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan were amended. According to the Article 10 of the Law in new edition, if the citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan has dual citizenship (if the person is a citizen of another country (other countries) besides Azerbaijan), affiliation of that citizen to citizenship of a foreign states shall not be recognized, except in the cases envisaged by international treaties of the Republic of Azerbaijan,

⁴⁹ Article 1 of the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Article 52 of the Constitution of Azerbaijan Republic - <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3ae6b52717.pdf>

⁵⁰ Article 5 of the Law “On citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” - <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3ae6b52717.pdf>

⁵¹ Article 11 of the Law “On citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan”- <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3ae6b52717.pdf>

or in the cases dealt in accordance with paragraph 32, Article 109 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to the second part of the Article 10 the citizen of Azerbaijan Republic who acquired the citizenship of a foreign state should notify Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Migration Service of Azerbaijan Republic about it in written form within a month. The person who doesn't give such information will bear responsibility in a way envisaged by the Criminal Code of Azerbaijan Republic. We assume that our citizens who are abroad of Azerbaijan borders will inform relevant state authorities about the issues of citizenship from now on⁵².

The recent “Law on addendum to the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” dated to May 30 2014 edited title and content of the Article 12 of the Law as well, which stipulated that, a child born on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan to stateless persons shall be a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan. According to the recent changes,

*“The child born on the territory of Azerbaijan and whose both parents are foreigners is not a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan; state persons’ child born on the territory of Azerbaijan is a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The child born on the territory of Azerbaijan and whose one of parents is foreigner and another stateless person is not a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The child born on the territory of Azerbaijan and whose parents are stateless persons is a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan”.*⁵³

It is worth to note that this amendment to the provision of the Law contradicts Constitution which defines that, *a person born on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic or by citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic is the citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic.*⁵⁴

According to the legislation in force, a foreigner or stateless person residing on the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic for the last 5 years, who submits a document certifying his/her knowledge of the state language, may be admitted to citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic upon his/her personal application, regardless of his/her origin, social and property status, race and nationality, sex, educational background, language, religious views, political and other convictions.

A person’s application for citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic shall be rejected if the person makes appeals for forcible change of the State structure set by the Constitution of the Azerbaijan Republic, commits acts harmful for the State security, public order, health or public morals, disseminates ideas of racial, religious and national exclusion or has relations with terrorist activities.⁵⁵

⁵² <http://www.migration.gov.az/index.php?section=009&subsection=043&lang=en&pageid=4681>

⁵³ <http://www.migration.gov.az/index.php?section=009&subsection=043&lang=en&pageid=4681>

⁵⁴ Article 52 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan - <http://en.president.az/azerbaijan/constitution>

⁵⁵ Article 14 of the Law “On citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan”- <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3ae6b52717.pdf>

The Law on citizenship permits voluntary renunciation of Azerbaijani citizenship. A person, who used to be the citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan but has renounced to it, has a right to recover the citizenship of AR.

Under the recent amendments to the Article 18 (*former deprivation of citizenship of Azerbaijan Republic*) of the “Law on Citizenship” of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the name of the article has been changes as *grounds to lose citizenship of Azerbaijan Republic* and the followings were defined as grounds:

- voluntary acquisition of citizenship of other country by the citizen of Azerbaijan Republic;
- voluntary service at state bodies and municipalities or armed forces and/or another armed units of the foreign country by the citizen of Azerbaijan Republic;
- behavior of the citizen of Azerbaijan Republic seriously damaging state security;
- intentional falsification of the data necessary to acquire the citizenship or submission of a falsified document by the person who acquired the citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan.⁵⁶

The definition of a citizen residing abroad is defined by the Law ‘On State Policy Concerning Citizens Residing Abroad’: citizens of AR and their children, former USSR citizens or former citizens of Azerbaijan and their children. This Law stipulates that residence of an AR citizen in another country shall not serve as a pretext for termination of his or her citizenship.

Refugees and IDPs: The basis of providing refugee status in the Republic of Azerbaijan is defined in the Constitution of it. According to the Article 70 of the Constitution, *in accordance with recognized international legal standards the Azerbaijan Republic grants political refuge to foreign citizens and stateless persons. Extradition of persons persecuted for their political beliefs and also for acts which are not regarded as crime in the Azerbaijan Republic is not permitted*⁵⁷.

The 1951 UN ‘Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees’ and the 1967 ‘Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees’ ratified by the Republic of Azerbaijan on Februar 13 1993 is the second most important act in protection of refugee rights in Azerbaijan after its Constitution.

On May 21 1999, Azerbaijan has adopted Law “On the Legal Status of Refugees and Displaced Persons” which provides the definition of a refugee and IDPs. Thus according to the Law, *the term “refugee” shall apply to person who owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of face, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence s a result of such events, is unable or owing to such fear is unwilling to return to it.*

⁵⁶ <http://www.migration.gov.az/index.php?section=009&subsection=043&lang=en&pageid=4681>

⁵⁷ Article 70 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan - <http://en.president.az/azerbaijan/constitution>

The term “internally displaced person shall apply to any person who has moved to another place being forced to leave his/her permanent residence within the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan in connection with military aggression, natural or technological disaster.”⁵⁸

The definition of an “asylum seeker” is not provided in this Law.

The Law defines application submission procedure for refugee/IDP status, bodies dealing with granting and depriving the refugee status, rejection of the granting refugee status, loss of the status of refugee and IDP, as well as rights and obligations of the refugees and IDPs. According to the Law, *unless otherwise is provided by the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan, present law and other legislative acts, the refugees use the rights and duties of the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan and have the same duties with them.*

Under this Law, a person obtained the status of refugee or IDP has a right:

- *To live free-of- charge in special allocated places until acquiring the job or place of residence, but no more than 3 months;*
- *To go free-of-charge to the place of temporary residence and transportation of property;*
- *To get free-of-charge medical assistance and day –to-day goods on favourable conditions at the places or the temporary residence by the elders, children, poor people, and the families;*
- *To educate the children in kindergartens and teenagers and youth at relevant educational institutions;*
- *To purchase foodstuff and industrial goods in the settlements on the basis of equality with the permanent residents;*
- *To obtain of one-time and other aid determined by the state;⁵⁹*

“The Rules to examine applications for refugee status” was approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated to 13 2000. According to the paragraph 1 of the Rules, *a foreign citizen or a stateless person who intend to get refugee status in the Azerbaijan Republic shall apply at checking points, as well as in the territory of the country, directly or through state bodies (Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of National Security, State Border Service and their structural subdivisions, as well as local executive authorities) to the State Migration Service.*

A person who does not have appropriate identification documents or grounds for legal entry into the territory of the Azerbaijan Republic and intends to get refugee status shall pass the procedures of identification and dactyloscopy, if needed, to be organized by bodies of internal affairs in accordance with international legal norms, and shall remain in a temporary settlement centre until the information provided by such person is verified. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Azerbaijan Republic shall be immediately informed about such persons.⁶⁰

⁵⁸ Article 1 of the Law of RA “On the Legal Status of Refugees and Displaced Persons”- <http://www.refugees-idps-committee.gov.az/en/laws/2.html>

⁵⁹ Article 6 of the Law of RA “On the Legal Status of Refugees and Displaced Persons”- <http://www.refugees-idps-committee.gov.az/en/laws/2.html>

⁶⁰ <http://www.refworld.org/pdfid/3edbc31d4.pdf>

According to the Rules, the State Migration Service of the Republic of Azerbaijan is entitled to receive applications of a person intending to get refugee status and make decision on examination or rejection of refugee status.

It should be noted that, to improve legal base related to social protection of the refugees and IDPs the following initiatives have been taken by Azerbaijani authority:

- The “State Program on resolution of problems faced by the refugees and internally displaced persons” through the Presidential Decree N 895, dated 17 September 1998;
- The “State Program on improving living conditions and employment situation of refugees and internally displaced persons” through the Presidential Decree N 298, dated 1 July 2004;
- Amendments to the “State Program on improving living conditions and employment situation of refugees and internally displaced persons” through the Presidential Decree number 2475, made on 31 October, 2007.

Human trafficking: In 1996, Azerbaijan has ratified UN Convention “For the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Other”. It was one of the first steps taken on struggle against human trafficking in the country; however Azerbaijan did not hurry up with the harmonization of its legislation with the provisions of the Convention until 2003, time of ratification of UN Convention “Against Transnational Organized Crime” and the “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children,” and the “Brussels Declaration on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings”. It has inspired Azerbaijani authority to take further steps which is resulted in “National Action Plan on Struggle against Human Trafficking in Azerbaijan Republic” affirmed by the Decree of the President of Azerbaijan Republic, dated on May 6, 2004. Following it, Law “About struggle against Human Trafficking” of the Republic of Azerbaijan was adopted and corresponding appendixes and amendments were inserted to the Criminal Code of Azerbaijan Republic. By the Law of Azerbaijan Republic dated to 30 September 2005 “On amendments and addition to some legislative acts of AR”, provisions on human trafficking (Article 144-1), forced labor (Article 144-2), disclosure of confidential information about of a victim of human trafficking (Article 316-1) have been added to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Under the National Action Plan, the National Coordinator – the responsible official – was appointed to provide the institutional basis of struggle against human traffic. A working group of representatives from competent central executive powers was established to create a single mutual cooperation system of participants of National Action Plan and to provide exchange of information among them. Office on Struggle against human traffic attached to Head Office for Organized Crime of Ministry of Internal Affairs was established in 2004 and it has begun to function as an independent agency in ministerial structure as of 2006.

Beside of it, Azerbaijan Republic has joined most of the international agreements in the field of combating human trafficking, including United Nations Convention “Against Organized Transnational Criminality”, the Protocol “About prevention, elimination and punishment of Human and especially woman and child trafficking” which supplements this Convention, Facultative Protocol “About Child trafficking, child prostitution and child pornography” of UN’s Convention “About The Rights of Children” and UN’s Convention “About Combating Human Trafficking and Exploitation of prostitution by the third persons”.

According to the Article 144-1 of Criminal Code, *human trafficking - involving, obtaining, storage, concealment, transportation, delivering or accepting of people for exploitation purposes shall be penalized with five to ten years of deprivation of liberty”.*

If similar actions are made against two or more persons, against minors, against a pregnant woman whose pregnancy is apparent to the accused person, by taking victim of human trafficking out of borders of Azerbaijan Republic, by preliminary conjoint group of people, organized group or criminal union (criminal organization), by accused person by abusing his duty position, by applying force that endangers the life and health or when threatening to apply this force, by means of tortures to victims or cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment, with the purpose to use the organs or tissues of the victim shall be penalized with ten to twelve years of deprivation of liberty. ⁶¹

According to Note to this Article, “*exploitation of human being” in this Article means forced labor (service), sexual exploitation, slavery, traditions similar to slavery and dependence caused by them, illegal transplantation of human organs and tissues, conducting unlawful biomedical research on persons, involvement in illegal as well as criminal activity.* ⁶²

With the amendments to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated to May 09 2013 means of committing human trafficking, such as *by using force or under the threat of force, by threat or other methods of compulsion, by means of theft, fraud, deception, abuse of possibility to influence or victim's weakness, or by providing or obtaining material and other boons, privileges or concession in order to get the consent of the person controlling another person to the definition of human trafficking provided in the Article 144-1 of the Criminal Code of Azerbaijan* was added to the definition of the human trafficking and it was totally brought in line with the international treaties Azerbaijan Republic is party to. Under the Article 144-3 of the Criminal Code, *falsification of identity card, passport or any other identity document, as well as travel document of a person with the purpose of human trafficking is criminal act and is classified as less serious crime (is penalized with one year to four years of deprivation of liberty).* ⁶³

Azerbaijan still makes efforts on improvement of the legislation in the field of combating human trafficking, prevention of human trafficking, development of criminal prosecution, enforcement of the security of victims and suspected victims, their rehabilitation, cooperation in the field of

⁶¹ Article 144-1 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan - <http://iaqmi.gov.az/files/uploader/cixarish%20az-ing.pdf>

⁶² Note to the Article 144-1 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan- <http://iaqmi.gov.az/files/uploader/cixarish%20az-ing.pdf>

⁶³ http://www.carim-east.eu/media/exno/Explanatory%20Notes_2013-88.pdf

combating human trafficking, measures for coordination and enlightenment.⁶⁴In order to reach these goals it has adopted National Action Plan for 2009-2013 and later for 2014-2018.

Stateless persons: After gaining its independence Azerbaijan adopted number of legislative acts on citizenship and has ratified numerous international treaties regulating status of stateless persons. Azerbaijan is party to UN *Convention on the Legal Status of Apatrides*, Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and Convention on Nationality of Married Women since 1996

With the adoption of the Law “On the citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” in 1998 more than 300.000 stateless persons were granted Azerbaijani citizenship. However persons who were not registered at the time of adoption of the Law “On the citizenship of Republic of Azerbaijan” at the place of residence could not benefit from it.

The Article 69 of the Constitution stipulates that, *foreign citizens and stateless persons staying in the Azerbaijan Republic may enjoy all rights and must fulfil all obligations like citizens of the Azerbaijan Republic if not specified by legislation or international agreement in which the Azerbaijan Republic is one of the parties.*⁶⁵

The Article 3 of the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan gives the definition to stateless person as it defined in the UN *Convention on the Legal Status of Apatrides*, *stateless person - a person who is not considered as a citizen by any State according to its law.*⁶⁶

According to the Migration Code, stateless persons may be granted following rights:

- Right to permanent residence in the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Right to temporary residence in the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- Right to temporary staying in the Republic of Azerbaijan;

Under Paragraph 1 of the Regulation “**On special documents for stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Azerbaijan and aliens intending to stay in the Republic of Azerbaijan for more than 30 days**”⁶⁷ the document affirming the identity of a stateless person permanently residing in the territory of Azerbaijan is the ID card issued to him/her under the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan in a relevant form. There are three categories of ID cards:

- ID card issued for a stateless person under the age of 16 for the use within the boundaries of the Republic of Azerbaijan;

⁶⁴ <http://www.iaqmi.gov.az/files/uploader/milli%20fealiyyet%20plani%20az-ing.pdf>

⁶⁵ Article 69 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan - <http://en.president.az/azerbaijan/constitution>

⁶⁶ Article 3 of the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan - http://cs.mfa.gov.cn/zggmcg/ljmdd/yz_645708/asbj_645896/rjil_645906/jlrj_645912/W020140827524286150309.pdf

⁶⁷ Approved upon the Law dated 30 December, 1997; By Law dated to 05 March 2013, amendments were made to the Regulation and term “aliens” and provisions related to them were taken out of the name and content of the Regulation.

- ID card issued for a stateless person above the age of 16 for the use within the boundaries of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
- ID card (travel document) issued for a stateless person for his/her travels abroad.⁶⁸

According to the changes and amendments made to this Decree on 24 June 2008 these ID cards are only issued for stateless persons who were granted permanent residence in the Republic of Azerbaijan until January 1 1992. This appears to suggest that those affected by statelessness after 1st January 1992 are not considered under the legislation.

Under the requirements of the present legislation, state officials can only extend documents (and consequently grant permanent residence) of individuals that were granted stateless person status before January 1, 1992.

What the above means is that individuals currently affected by statelessness are unable to regularize their stay in Azerbaijan. As the vast majority of those currently affected by statelessness are persons originating from the former Soviet Union who are only in possession of their expired passports, they are unable to obtain valid ID cards from Azerbaijan or in their former country of residence. When these individuals came to Azerbaijan, the documents they used to identify themselves were Soviet passports or birth certificates indicating their citizenship (nationality) as the territory in which they previously resided. The validity of these documents expired while they were in Azerbaijan and resulting in their statelessness.

Although they have ceased to issue new documents, since 1st January 1992, the Ministry of Internal Affairs has continued to extend the validity period of ID cards for persons who were documented as stateless before that time. The MIA retained the registration data of this residual caseload of about 1500 individuals who had been formally recognized as stateless. The vast majority of this caseload are ethnic Azerbaijanis from Georgia and Iranian migrants (who arrived and settled in Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic (SSR) in the 1940s and were recognized as stateless person) as well as their descendants.

Gaps and challenges:

1. *Human trafficking:* Although provision criminalizing human trafficking were added to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, separate Articles on forced labor, purchase and compulsion to withdrawal for transplantation of body organs or tissues of a person, involving to prostitution, slavery, illegal implementation of biomedical researches or application of the forbidden ways of diagnostics and treatment, and also medical products, involving of minor to

⁶⁸ Paragraph 2 of the Regulation “On special documents for stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Azerbaijan and aliens intending to stay in the Republic of Azerbaijan for more than 30 days” - http://www.carim-east.eu/media/legal%20module/natfr/AZ_esr_6.2%20Regulations%20on%20Documents%20for%20Foreign%20Residents%20and%20People%20Without%20Citizenship%20Residing%20Permanently%20in%20Azerbaijan_EN.pdf

criminal activity, involving of minor to prostitution, or commitment of immoral action still is in the Criminal Code which leads to confusion in qualification of committed crimes. Also with the inclusion of Article on human trafficking to the Criminal Code in 2005, Article 173 criminalizing sale and purchase of minor or commitment of other bargains concerning minor or connected with his transfer to another, or owning him was removed from it. Therefore current text of Criminal Code does not include it. According to the Article 144-1 of current Criminal Code, involving, obtaining, storage, concealment, transportation, delivering or accepting of minors with the purpose of human trafficking shall be considered human trafficking even if methods described in the Article 144-1 have not been used. However if these actions are committed in respect of minors without human trafficking purpose it will not be penalized by any norms of the Criminal Code.⁶⁹

2. Citizenship: First of all, it should be noted that recent amendments to the Law “On the citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” contradicts Constitution, as it recognize only child born on the territory of Azerbaijan and whose parents are stateless persons as a citizen of the Republic of Azerbaijan, but not child whose both parents foreigner, or one of them stateless person and the other one is foreigner.

Secondly, giving Article 18 of the Law “On citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” grounds for loss of citizenship in new edition⁷⁰ it will lead to increase number of stateless persons in the country, although it is stipulated that, amendment is about voluntary loss of citizenship, but not deprivation of the citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan and purpose of amendments is to invite the citizen to be in responsible relation with state.

Beside of it, it also contradicts Article 53 of the Constitution of the Republic of Azerbaijan which defines that, in no circumstances a citizen of the Azerbaijan Republic may be deprived of citizenship of the Azerbaijan Republic.

3. Statelessness: The main problem with regard to statelessness in the Republic of Azerbaijan is that individuals currently affected by statelessness are unable to regularize their stay in Azerbaijan, as according to the changes and amendments made to the Regulation Decree “On special documents for stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Azerbaijan and aliens intending to stay in the Republic of Azerbaijan for more than 30 days”⁷¹ on 24 June 2008 these ID cards are only issued for stateless persons who were granted permanent residence in the Republic

⁶⁹ http://www.carim-east.eu/media/exno/Explanatory%20Notes_2013-88.pdf

⁷⁰ The “Law on addendum to the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Azerbaijan” dated to May 30 2014 - <http://www.migration.gov.az/index.php?section=009&subsection=043&lang=en&pageid=4681>

⁷¹ Approved upon the Law dated 30 December, 1997. By Law dated to 05 March 2013, amendments were made to the Regulation and term “aliens” and provisions related to them were taken out of the name and content of the Regulation. - http://www.carim-east.eu/media/legal%20module/natfr/AZ_esr_6.2%20Regulations%20on%20Documents%20for%20Foreign%20Residents%20and%20People%20Without%20Citizenship%20Residing%20Permanently%20in%20Azerbaijan_EN.pdf

of Azerbaijan until January 1 1992. This appears to suggest that those affected by statelessness after 1st January 1992 are not considered under the legislation.

Research

In order to address the challenges about migration problems, propose theoretical and practical perspectives, and raise awareness on national and international levels Qafqaz University Migration Studies department which was established in the framework of the TEMPUS UNIMIG project, with the support of European Commission, has organized workshop entitled as “Capacity Building and Brain Drain in Azerbaijan”. The event took place on October 19th of 2014 at Baku Hilton Hotel, Azerbaijan. Participants of the workshop comprised academic researchers from leading higher education institutions of Azerbaijan, experts of relevant fields, representatives of NGOs etc.

Presenters drew attention on different aspects of brain drain such as: migration processes in Azerbaijan; significance of government policy to prevent emigration of human capital; ethnicity and brain drain in the context of Azerbaijan; legal dimension and implications; human capital accumulation; the impact of brain drain on state’s economy; statistical implications of migration theories; differences in research methods and data analysis; etc.

More specifically, the discussions focused on many points such as the need for strong professional and market environment and support for innovation development in order to create better room for the individuals to apply their knowledge and technical skills and to be financially rewarded accordingly in their country. At the same time with theoretical aspects presenters also introduced empirical analysis – by exploring foreign direct investment, net migration and mortality rates – providing a comprehensive understanding of the determinants of human capital accumulation with special attention to the countries of the Central-Eastern Europe and the Baltic States (CEB), South-Eastern Europe (SEE) and Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Experts also highlighted the significance of developing national policy tools against negative economic and social impacts of brain drain by examining state policy initiatives such as “State Program on Education of Azerbaijan youth abroad in the years 2007-2015”. Conducted research on pull and push factors of brain drain explored probability of various factors which might affect migration and emigration of human capital in the region. While analyzing the statistical data on migration and emigration the importance of Nagorno-Karabagh conflict and occupation of the Azerbaijani regions were also discussed as some of the primary factors negatively influencing migration status quo in Azerbaijan.

As a follow-up Qafqaz University and Khazar Universities agreed to initiate a joint research project that will be a partial solution to above mentioned problems.

Furthermore, Khazar University Economics and Management Department and Qafqaz University Migration Studies Department concentrate on the research in the field of migration and offer master programs in World Economy (with a specialization in Migration and World Economy) and

Organization of Migration Services, respectively. Master students of both universities play an active role in research projects on migration. Research areas of master students cover International Migration; Economic Growth; Economic impacts of migration; Migrant labour market integration, skilled migrations; Educational and internal migration characteristics of the Republic of Azerbaijan; Non-citizenship issues in modern Azerbaijan; Legal-social aspects of the institute for citizenship. Eradicating non-citizenship problems in Azerbaijan and etc.

GEORGIA - Analytical Assessment Report

(Report is Prepared by representatives of TSU and GIPA)

1. Objectives of the Analytical Assessment Report

In the context of migration, Georgia is a country of origin, transit and destination. After the Rose Revolution, Georgia fundamental institutional reforms have been carried out in such essential spheres, as economics, education, healthcare, police, judicial system, fight against corruption and organized crime. As the result, stabilized social-economic conditions have been formed, tourism infrastructure has developed and attractive investment environment has been created. Implemented reforms had significant influence on decreasing emigration index. Particularly, after negative index of 2006 – 2008 years, in the 2009 – 2010 index of net migration was positive.

Furthermore, during recent years the State made significant steps towards the prevention of illegal emigration through introducing hard and soft instruments to address this problem. After introducing the state-of-the-art-infrastructure, effective management of border protection has been implemented, highly secure personal identification and travelling documents has also been introduced (biometrical passport of the second generation and protected electronic ID card), and efficient systems of fighting against trafficking in human beings and smuggling have also been developed and implemented. Georgia has joined the list of 32 countries, which are the most successful in fighting trafficking⁷². In addition, to expand opportunities for legal emigration, cooperation with EU and other countries are being reinforced. Special attention is paid to the public awareness raising campaign on threats and risks that accompany illegal migration.

Today, considering Georgia's approach to its economic interests, particularly, for promoting the sustainable economic development, improving tourism infrastructure and attracting additional investments, the Government of Georgia follows a liberal approach towards its visa policies. However, possible challenges, which are related to an increasing number of immigrants, should be taken into account. Special attention should be paid to this process, in order to turn it into a useful tool for economic, social and cultural development and, at the same time, avoid possible negative effects of unregulated migration.

Migration policy is remaining to be at the top agenda in EU-Georgia relations. Since 2007, considerable work has been undertaken at both government and academia level with regard to migration policy development, advancement and harmonization of already existing Georgian migration legislation with that of EU.

⁷² Trafficking in Persons Report 2011, US Department of State

Migration policy development in Georgia shall be divided into two parts, to concentrate on academia and government respectively and their cooperation to meet joint goals.

To begin with, the leading academic institution to advance student training and respectively awareness on migration in Georgia is Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (*hereinafter* - TSU). Since 2007, TSU Institute of International Law of the Faculty of Law has gradually started the introduction of migration related subjects in the curriculum of the Faculty of Law, along with which numerous events had been taking place within the framework of teaching the migration policy development since. In particular, variety of public lectures, moot court competitions, article contests were organised for students of all three Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level. Special course for Bachelor students was launched titled "Introduction of the Course on International Protection of Refugees" while students of Masters Program are involved in lectures around: "International Standards in the Fight against Trafficking in Persons" and "Introduction to the Migration Management" course. TSU Institute of International Law through its academic staff has prepared and offers specific course in the Justice, Freedom and Security Policy of the European Union to students of Multidisciplinary Masters Program in European Studies at the Institute for European Studies at TSU.

The establishment of the Migration Research Centre at Ilia State University in cooperation with the Office of State Minister on Diaspora Issues is also being considered, however the scope of the research which will be carried out at this centre has not yet been defined.

In addition to this, IOM has supported the establishment of the migration research group at Kutaisi State University.

As regards Doctoral Students, they are mostly involved in academic research on diverse directions of regular and irregular migration thus enhancing the establishment and circulation of updated and comprehensive information among all interested institutions. In summer 2011, the PhD Dissertation about migration was defended at TSU Faculty of Law.

As regards Governmental institutions it is noteworthy that the key bodies involved in migration policy development are: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs including Police, Ministry for Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, the Office of State Minister on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Issues, Office of State Minister for Diaspora issues.. The most important coordinating body of the migration policy in Georgia is the State Commission on Migration Issues, a consultative body comprising of the Deputy Ministers from all relevant ministries, which is involved in coordinating activities of the Government agencies, as well as interacting with Social Partners in developing and implementing the Strategy and activities envisaged in it.

All Institutions enumerated above are actively involved in not only developing state policy and legislative framework for migration management but also are taking part in all negotiations and meetings around the European Neighbourhood Policy and its Action Plan. Government of Georgia consider it very fruitful in cooperation with academia to enhance awareness among students concerning diverse issues of regular and irregular migration in which governmental bodies are being involved. Several examples of such cooperation are meeting with students with participation of TSU Rector, US Ambassador and the First Deputy Chief Prosecutor of Georgia. Meeting was initiated by TSU Institute of International Law and it gave students possibility to participate in discussion around Trafficking in Persons and mostly to get familiar with Georgia's international achievements in this regard. One of the best examples of the cooperation of Government and Academia in Georgia in the area of migration and asylum is the involvement of both – government and academia in the EC thematic program: "Building Training and Analytical Capacities in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)" through which Georgian students and academic staff together with representatives of Government are given possibility to have deep look in policy dimensions around migration and EU standards in this regard. Whilst a horizontal dimension is necessary to reach an adequate level of internal security in a complex environment that requires involvement of law enforcement and border management authorities, with the support of legal cooperation, civil protection agencies and also the political, economic, financial, social and private sectors, including non governmental organizations; likewise a vertical dimension of security at various levels as well as international cooperation, regional cooperation and level security policies and initiatives must be taken into account.

Georgia is included in European Neighbourhood Policy and has become eligible for European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, a program for support of ENP through concrete assistance actions. The EU-Georgia ENP Action Plan was adopted in November 2006 and covers timeframe of five years (2007-2012). Therefore, Migration Policy development is among the most important priorities for Georgia today and the enhancement of the environment for comprehensive research and finding ways of governing migration flows from and to Georgia.

The basis and a legal foundation for European Union (EU)-Georgia relations is the **Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA)**, which was concluded in 1996 and entered into force in 1999. The PCA established EU-Georgia partnership institutions: Cooperation Council, Cooperation Committee and Parliamentary Cooperation Committee. The PCA regulates cooperation in the areas of political dialogue, trade, investment, economic, legislative and cultural cooperation.

The increased interest of the EU towards the Caucasus region has manifested itself in the appointment of the [EU Special Representative for South Caucasus](#) (EUSR) in 2003. The mandate of the EUSR includes assisting the Council in developing a comprehensive policy towards the South Caucasus, contributing to conflict prevention and assisting the conflict settlement in the region. The mandate has been strengthened in 2006 to include contribution to conflict resolution.

On the Commission's recommendation, the Council in 2004 invited Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia to participate in the **European Neighbourhood Policy** (ENP). The ENP offers Georgia to engage in unprecedented close political, economic and cultural relations with the EU, to enhance cross-border cooperation and share responsibility for conflict prevention and resolution.

The European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan for Georgia has a strong focus on the Justice, Liberty and Security (JLS) sector, which includes also border management, trans-border cooperation between Georgia, European Union Member States and neighbouring countries, migration management (readmission, visas and asylum), the fight against organized crime and trafficking in human being. In November 2007, a JLS Sub Committee on Georgia-EU cooperation was established.

The European Union concluded a **Mobility Partnership** with Georgia in November 2009. It is a Memorandum of Understanding between the European Commission, some of the EU Member States and Georgia. This Mobility Partnership is a flexible, legally non-binding framework for enhanced dialogue and cooperation between the EU and Georgia, involving the coordinated and consistent implementation of practical initiatives in the field of migration, proposed by the European Commission, interested EU Member States and Georgia, according to their own competences. Mobility Partnership agreement supports Georgian citizens to legally immigrate to the EU member countries.

The Agreement on simplifying visa facilitation between Georgia and EU was signed on June 17th 2010, which was a result of successful partnership in the frames of Mobility Partnership and Eastern Partnership.

Visa Facilitation and Readmission agreements between EU and Georgia

On 1 of March 2011, the Visa Facilitation Agreement and Readmission Agreement between the European Union and Georgia entered into force. The **Visa Facilitation Agreement** sets out conditions which make it easier for the Georgian citizens to obtain visas to European Union Member States. The **EU-Georgia Readmission Agreement** sets out clear obligations and procedures for the authorities of both Georgia and EU Member States as to when and

how to take back people who are illegally residing on their territories. Full respect of Human Rights as provided by the European Convention of Human Rights will also be guaranteed during the application of the readmission agreement.

Visa regime of Georgia

The Law on the Legal status of Aliens defines a list of countries the citizens of which are exempt from the visa obligation to enter Georgia (Article 4, paragraph 5).

The Georgian Constitution provides that “everyone legally within the territory of Georgia shall, throughout the territory of the country, have the right to freedom of movement and freedom to choose his/her residence” and “shall be free to leave Georgia”.⁷³ It also provides that “foreign citizens and stateless persons residing in Georgia shall have the rights and obligations equal to the rights and obligations of citizens of Georgia with exceptions envisaged by the Constitution and law”. Regarding the emigration of Georgian citizens, it provides that “On the basis of international agreements governing labour relations, the state shall protect the labour rights of the citizens of Georgia abroad”. This provision aims to strengthen the prevention of human trafficking, slavery and exploitation.

Law on citizenship of Georgia

The Law on citizenship provides the rules of acquiring, granting and losing Georgian citizenship.

Law on the Legal status of Aliens

The Law on the Legal status of Aliens regulates legal grounds and mechanisms for aliens’ entry to, stay in, transit through and leaving Georgia the forms and procedure of deportation, as well as the field of competences.

Law of Georgia on Refugees and Humanitarian Statuses

The Law regulates the granting of refugee and humanitarian status and establishes the competent authority for decision-making on this issue.

⁷³ Georgian Constitution, Article 22, Chapter II (*adopted on August 24, 1995, last update effective from December 27, 2006*)

Law on Georgian State Border

The law establishes Georgian border policy and state border regime on land, in internal and territorial waters, air space, the exclusive economic zone and on the continental shelf. The law also regulates the border crossings.

Criminal Code of Georgia

The Criminal Code of Georgia criminalizes trafficking in persons and using the service of victims of trafficking, as well as illegal crossing of state borders.

Law of Georgia on Combating Trafficking in Persons

The Law on Combating Trafficking in Persons establishes the legal status of victims of trafficking and ensures legal and social guarantees of their protection.

2. What to do?

In October 2008 International Organisation for Migration published Georgia's Migration Profile, which was based on the comprehensive research conducted by IOM and devoted to migration in Georgia, focusing on immigration, emigration, remittances, migrant communities, diasporas, irregular migration, assessment and analysis of migration issues. Special emphasis was drawn to the role of government agencies in dealing with migration; specifically, some key players were identified through the research with following hierarchy: President of Georgia, Parliament and Judiciary with subsequent sub-divisions and services. Research has also underlined international instruments in place which Georgia has ratified since.

In December 2011, the State Commission on Migration Issues adopted new extended migration profile, which, besides above enlisted information, also includes comprehensive coverage of socio-economic factors influencing migratory processes.

One of the main researches conducted around current migration policy in Georgia is EC Assessment Report on Justice, Liberty and Security format which comes across Georgia's commitments under EU-Georgia Partnership and Co-operation Agreement from 1999 with its

Action Plan (ENP AP) elaborated in 2006 (for a duration of five years) and along with other policy issues also focuses on migration and asylum standards.

In June 2010,⁷⁴ the EU and Georgia started negotiations on new form of future co-operation. Georgia is also included in the Eastern Partnership, which foresees to strengthen the European Neighbourhood Policy with tailored assistance for improving the administrative capacity in all relevant sectors where also mobility and security play a relevant role. On 2 October, the Memorandum of Understanding between Georgia and EU was signed on Comprehensive Institutional Building framework which shall pave the way to concrete forms of financial support (31 Million EUR) of cooperation in the sectors which shall contribute to institutional development in the sectors relevant for democracy, rule of law and economy⁷⁵ in the period 2011-2013. The programme which was conceived in the framework of Eastern Partnership strives to contribute to strengthening institutions, among which there are two institutions which should, also, play important role in matters related to migration, in particular in regard to the aspects of human rights and, if necessary, influence adoption of legislation.

On 6 June 2008, the JHA Council of the EU gave the mandate to the Commission to liaise with the Member States and the Presidency to initiate exploratory talks with Georgia to open a dialogue with the view to launch an additional pilot Mobility Partnership initiative. The Mobility Partnership⁷⁶ with Georgia where the first official EU-Georgia meeting took place on 15th of September 2010 (Joint declaration of 16 participating EU Member States, FRONTEX and European Training Centre on 30th of November 2009)⁷⁷ is built on a result-oriented partnership with the EU Member States on joint management of migratory flows where the main areas of co-operation lay in:

1. Further development of capacity building for migration management;
2. Stimulating positive effects on development in the migration context by contributing to sustainable reintegration, reducing negative effects of brain drain and brain waste through brain circulation, and targeted remittance schemes;
3. Combating illegal migration, through soft tools like information campaign and hard tools like measures in the field of border control, return and readmission.

⁷⁴ http://www.enpi-info.eu/maineast.php?id=22195&id_type=1

⁷⁵ http://www.eeas.europa.eu/eastern/index_en.htm, Press release, 2nd of October

⁷⁶ <http://eu-integration.gov.ge/index.php?que=eng/news&info=321>

⁷⁷ http://www.se2009.eu/polopoly_fs/1.25814!menu/standard/file/111580.pdf

Moreover, the main goal of the ministerial conference “Building Migration Partnerships”⁷⁸, the launching conference of the project funded by EC 2007 Thematic Programme, “Building Migration Partnership –a platform for applying Global Approach to migration to the Eastern and South Eastern Regions Neighbouring the European Union” which was organized in Prague on 27-28 April 2009, was to intensify joint co-operation based on the principle of partnership between involved countries in governing migration. Georgia is actively participating in its activities, which foresee to conclude migration partnership, mapping of Migration profile reports on size of migration flows. IOM, DRC, UNHCR, ILO and ICMPD, as well as other international organizations play a relevant role in supporting the Georgian institutions in the management of migration and asylum matters, border management and in fighting trafficking in human beings, within capacity-building projects and the Budapest Process activities, IOM⁷⁹ Job Counselling and referral centres.

a) Fields

The research is concentrated on the fields related to refugee legislation and protection and internal forced displacement.

A call for articles in migration was made by the Institute of International Law of Tbilisi State University with the deadline on 15 June 2012.

Student essay competition was made by the Institute of International Law in 2011 on the topic of fight against trafficking in persons. The similar competition is planned for 2012.

To boost the research the following courses are offered:

1. Public International Law;
2. International Organizations;
3. International Economics;
4. International Relations;
5. EU Migration policies and relations in this field with Georgia;
6. International Protection of Refugees;

⁷⁸ [http://www.icmpd.org/906.html?&no_cache=1&tx_icmpd_pi1\[article\]=1338&tx_icmpd_pi1\[page\]=1341](http://www.icmpd.org/906.html?&no_cache=1&tx_icmpd_pi1[article]=1338&tx_icmpd_pi1[page]=1341)

⁷⁹ “Informed Migration – An Integrated Approach to Promoting Legal Migration through National Capacity Building and Inter-regional Dialogue between the South Caucasus and the EU.” Funded under EC AENEAS program and <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/pid/2029>

7. Fighting against Trafficking in Persons and Domestic Violence.

Particular Topics:

1. Law;
2. Conflict;
3. Social Work;
4. Legislation;
5. Migration;
6. Human Rights;
7. Political Theory;
8. National Migration;
9. Legal/ Irregular Migration;
10. Refugees and Asylum Seekers;
11. IDPs – International Norms and Principles;
12. Trafficking and Smuggling.

TSU together with its partner GIPA is focusing on development of multidisciplinary approach for researching Migration. Therefore, the subjects are chosen to give students possibility to develop their knowledge though diverse directions and gain transferable skills necessary for modern labour market. In particular:

To have deep and systematic knowledge of primary issues, which gives an ability to deal with complex problems and to find new ways of their solution, to realise the ways how to solve the problems falling within the scope of his/her knowledge to act in new multidisciplinary environment. Ability to identify complex problems and finding grounds for their legal, economic, political solution. Ability to collect data necessary according to the sphere of activity and capacity to analyse them. Ability to make argument conclusions using mixed research methods. Ability to prepare detailed report about the ideas, problems and the ways of their solution and ability to communicate understandably the thoughts in Georgian

as well as foreign languages to specialists and non specialists of the sector. To refer creatively to the modern information and communication technologies. Ability to think over own learning process for establishing further learning needs. Ability to consider economic, legal, political dimensions and ability to permanently renew own knowledge.

b) Sources

I. Official Sources: State Commission on Migration Issues, Ministry of Justice including Prosecutor Office; Ministry of Corrections and Legal Assistance; Ministry of Internal Affairs including Police; Ministry for Refugees and Accommodation; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Office of State Minister for Diaspora issues; Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, National Statistics Office of Georgia (GeoStat). International Organisations: IOM, ICMPD, ILO, UNDP

II. NGOs (local, regional, international)

III. Academia

President of Georgia

In accordance with the Constitution of the state and other legal acts, the President of Georgia decides on granting, reinstatement and termination of Georgian citizenship, granting asylum and declaring aliens as *Persona Non-grata*. Besides, the President defines procedures on the issuance, extension and suspension of Georgian visas, and on issuing residence permits to aliens.

Ministry of Justice / Civil Register Agency

The Civil Registry Agency (CRA) along with the Ministry of Justice are responsible on issuing visas and residence permits to the emigrant on the territory of Georgia, as well as providing travel documents to stateless persons and refugees, managing united database and ensuring that all corresponding institutions and organizations have access to it.

Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia

The ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Accommodation and Refugees of Georgia is responsible for forming state policy on the issues of internally displaced persons, refugees, asylum seekers, repatriated persons, disaster victims and returned Georgian migrants. The ministry has competences in registering asylum seekers,

processing asylum applications, granting refugee status, providing temporary accommodation for asylum seekers and the persons who have refugee or humanitarian status, supporting/coordinating the integration of recognised refugees into the Georgian society and managing the resettlement process of refugees.

Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) / Patrol Police Department and Border Police

Agencies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia are involved in migration management. According to the Georgian legislation, the management of cross-border migration and border protection of the country fall under the responsibilities of these agencies.

At the border crossing points, the Patrol Police Department has competences of inspecting travel documents of Georgian and foreign citizens', issuing visas and ensuring protecting of legal regime.

It also acts as a competent authority on the implementation of readmission agreements and related procedural and organizational issues. Respectively the Border Police has the responsibility to conduct migration related law enforcement activities on the ground as well as on maritime boundary.

Related to the fight against organized crime, MIA has competences in preventing and eliminating trans-border organized crime, irregular migration and trafficking in human beings, preventing and combating smuggling of drugs, weapons, explosive devices, movement of nuclear materials and other activities as defined by the legislation.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia is responsible for keeping consular registration of Georgians residing outside Georgia, issues certificates for returning in Georgia and Georgian visas. The ministry is actively involved in the implementation of agreements regarding readmission of persons who do not have residence permission and simplification of visa issue procedures through participating in committee meetings. Georgian diplomatic representatives and consulates abroad promote to inform Georgian citizens residing abroad on programs for Georgian returning migrants and supporting victims of trafficking in human beings. Georgian diplomatic representatives and consulates abroad in the frames of their power register civil acts, issue ID cards and receive applications on citizenship in order to send them to the agency later.

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration

The Office of the State Minister coordinates the following:

- Implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan, including issues related to Freedom, Security and Justice;
- “Eastern Partnership”, including migration related issues;
- Cooperation with the European Union in the framework of the Mobility Partnership and implementation related programs and projects.

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora Issues

The Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Diaspora Issues is responsible for deepening relations with Georgians residing abroad. It maintains a database with contact details of Georgians residing abroad and their organizations, also with the contact details of individuals and organizations interested in Georgia and adding them to the database. In addition, in order to improve relations between Georgian residing abroad, it maintains the social network “iamgeorgian.com” The Office supports involving of Georgians residing abroad in different cultural and educational activities which are organized by the Office and provides information on economic, social and cultural developments in Georgia.

State Commission on Migration Issues

The State Commission on Migration is a consultative body, which has competencies in formulation of the National Strategy on Migration, the improvement of migration management and design of proposals within the framework of European Neighbourhood Policy. The Commission is entitled to prepare proposals for the Government regarding migration management and amendments to legislation as well as international agreements. In addition, the Commission has the capacity to establish relationship with other countries on matters related to migration, request and obtain information from other institutions regarding migration, as well as set up thematic working groups.

As a source of research at TSU the data received and officially published by the following agencies is used: International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), United Nations in Georgia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), ICMPD together with several Georgian NGOs such as: Innovations and Reforms Centre, Tanadgoma, Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association and several other institutions dealing with migration and refugees problems, in particular: United Nations Association Georgia (UNAG), Georgian Centre for Psychosocial and Medical Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (GCRT), Article 42 of the, European Centre for Minority Issues, CiDA.

As regards governmental bodies the data available from whom is incorporated in research papers and research process are: Ministry of Justice including Prosecutor Office; Ministry of

Corrections and Legal Assistance; Ministry of Internal Affairs including Police; Ministry for Refugees and Accommodation; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Office of State Minister for Diaspora issues; Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs, GeoStat. Apart from cooperation with International, Governmental and Non-Governmental Institutions referred to above TSU has access to electronic libraries being recognised worldwide such as: EBSCO Host, Cambridge Journals, JStor Journals, Heinonline Data Base, LexisNexis Database..

c) Research character

As indicated above Georgia maintains migration policy on its top agenda of priorities so there are several governmental, non-governmental and International Organisations dealing with migration research in Georgia.

That’s why there are several reports on current dimensions of migration development in Georgia, most active in this regard is IOM, ICMPD, ILO, examples of such researches are: Migration in Georgia: a County Profile (IOM 2008), Employer Workforce Demand, (IOM 2008), Review of Migration Management in Georgia (IOM 2008), EU Commission Experts Assessment report (2010 Tbilisi), European Training Foundation (ETF) and so on.

Due to the fact that TSU has practice on Migration research, students interested in migration related subjects are using diverse Methods for handling student papers and scientific articles. Among research methods applied by students are: Quantitative and Qualitative Methods; Comparative Methods; Data Gathering and Evaluation etc. One of the most helpful sources for interested researchers is remaining statistics which is available on official webpage of national department of statistics. With support of TSU, students are given possibility to explore the situation from a technical, legal and institutional point of view, through semi-structured interviews and round table discussions with selective and relevant stakeholders and gather pertinent document for conducting their research.

d) Projects

Frame work	Title	Beneficiary	Dur atio n	Budg et	Information at
EU - ICMP	Building training and analytical capacities on	Govern ment and	2010 -		http://research.icmpd.org/1691.html

D	migration in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)	Academia	2012		
EU - ICMPD	Supporting the Implementation of the EC visa facilitation and readmission agreements in Moldova and Georgia (REVIS)	Government	2010 - 2012		http://www.icmpd.org/News-Detail.1668.0.html?&cHash=5dee73284e&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=14
EU - IOM	Support Reintegration of Georgian Returning Migrants and the Implementation of EU-Georgia Readmission Agreement	Government	2011 - 2013		http://www.informedmigration.ge/tig/index.php
DRC- ICMPD	Consolidating Reintegration Activities in Georgia	Government	2011 - 2012		http://www.drc.dk/fileadmin/uploads/pdf/IA_PDF/HAP/humanitarian_accountability_framework_2011_south_caucasus.pdf
IOM	Support for the Authorities of Georgia to Implement the Readmission Agreement with the	Government	2011 - 2012		http://www.iom.ge/index.php?events&readmission_p

	European Union.				
Reforms and Innovation Centre - EU	Advancement of Human Rights Dimension of Re-admission and Visa Facilitation	NGO	January 2012 - March 2013		http://www.georgiatoday.ge/article_details.php?id=9829

3. Expected deliveries for the Kick-of-Meeting 16-17. January 2012

Migration - International Organisations

Organisation	Title	Year	Character	Available at
IOM	Migration in Georgia: Country Profile	2008	Report	www.iom.ge/jcp.ge/iom/pdf/M_Georgia.pdfv
IOM	Employer Workforce Demand	2008	REPORT	www.iom.ge
IOM	MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN GEORGIA	2010	REVIEW	www.iom.ge
EC	The situation in Georgia relating to Justice, Liberty and Security	2010	Assessment Report	-----

	sector			
ILO	Migration and Development in Georgia	2010	Report	
ILO	Migration Rates in Five Local Territorial Units of Rustavi City	2011	Report	http://iamgeorgian.com/pdf/ILO%20Rustavi%20-%20Draft%20Kvleva%2010.06.2011/Report%20-%20migration%202011%20ILO%20English%20revised.pdf
ETF	Migration Survey in Georgia	Ongoing	Survey	http://www.etf.europa.eu/eventsmgmt.nsf/(getAttachment)/2402907B95A37F31C12579BA00579FB7/\$File/Day1_10_Nadiradze.pdf

Migration - Academia

TSU Institute of International Law, Faculty of Law	“Deportation and Extradition in the light of Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights”: author of the study in the	2006	collection of articles published by the Council of Europe	
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TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law	Analysis of the dynamics of the National Action Plans of Georgia on Fighting Against Trafficking in Persons and the Implementat ion of the Respective Legislation -	200 8	Publication supported by OSCE (ISBN: 978- 9941-0-0943- 3)	
TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law	Trafficking Prevention - The World Practice and Georgia	201 0	Student Paper	http://www.law.tsu.edu.ge/?lang=geo&rid=19
TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law	For interpretatio n of one human rights issue: protection of victims of trafficking in persons - in the	201 0	compilation of articles on “Constitutio nal and Internationa l Mechanisms for Human Rights Protection“	

TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law	A right to return for IDPs	201 1	Article published in GIZ supported collection of articles	
TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law	International Legal Regulation of the Crime of Trafficking in Human Beings for the Purpose of the Removal of Organs	201 1	Student Paper	http://www.law.tsu.edu.ge/?lang=geo&rid=19
TSU Institute of Internati onal Law, Faculty of Law		201 1	PhD Dissertation	

I. Comprehensive set of tabular compilation with regard to already implemented or on-going migration related projects

Frame work	Title	Beneficiary	Duration	Budget	Information at
EU - ICMPD	Building training and analytical capacities on migration in Moldova and Georgia (GOVAC)	Government and Academia	2010 - 2012		http://research.icmpd.org/1691.html
EU - ICMPD	Supporting the Implementation of the EC visa facilitation and readmission agreements in Moldova and Georgia (REVIS)	Government	2010 - 2012		http://www.icmpd.org/News-Detail.1668.0.html?&cHash=5dee73284e&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=14
TEMPUS	517002-TEMPUS-1-2011-GE-TEMPUS-JPCR Migration and Higher Education: Building Skills and Capacities	Academia	2011 - 2014		

EC	Strengthening of comprehensive anti trafficking responses in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf
EC	Building Migration Partnership	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf
EC	Programme of co-operation in Black Sea Region in the area of emigration between countries of origin, transit and destination	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf
EC	Bridges of good neighbourhood	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf
EC	Strengthening of protection capacity, integration and protection of secondary movement	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf
EC	Enhanced return to Georgia operationally	Government	2007 - 2008		http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/migration-asylum/documents/list_projects_selected_tp_2007_2008_2009_cfp_2007_2008_direct_wards_for_publication.pdf

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Academic Institutions:

1. TSU;
2. GIPA.

Georgian Governmental Institutions:

1. Ministry of Justice including Prosecutor Office;
2. Ministry of Internal Affairs including Police;
3. Ministry for Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories of Georgia, Refugees and Accommodation;
4. Ministry of Finance;
5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
6. Office of State Minister on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Issues;
7. Office of State Minister for Diaspora issues;
8. Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs;
9. State Commission on Migration Issues.

International Organisations:

1. International Labour Organization (ILO);
2. International Organization for Migration (IOM);
3. Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE);
4. United Nations in Georgia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP);
5. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
6. ICMPD

7. European Training Foundation (ETF)

Non-Governmental Institutions:

1. Tanadgoma;
2. Women for the Future;
3. Georgian Young Lawyers' Association;
4. Georgian Centre for Psychosocial and Medical Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (GCRT);
5. Article 42 of the Constitution.
6. European Initiative - Liberal Academy Tbilisi
7. Reform and Innovation Centre

Where are the main gaps?

One of the main gaps in the research is the lack of consistency in the research, therefore there is no time-series information on the similar topics, which can be comparable and show progress made or actions undertaken.

Another gap, which can be identified, is the limited scope of geographic coverage, i.e. regional studies, which do not provide relevant information for decision-makers.

In addition, most of the topics are either too wide or too narrow for the research, which provides either a generalised picture - which is much needed, however one such research would be useful and other more narrow researches concentrating on directions and covering all directions which are interesting and relevant to the migration topic.

In addition, many researches, which are carried out, are not known to policymakers meaning that some other gaps identified are:

Which fields require further research?

It would be of good use to have standard generalised research of the area, which would be carried out in cycles, so that it can provide generalised view on the possible priorities.

To complement this, it would be very interesting to research areas like:

- Long term impact of migration on development;
- Possible impact of visa-free movement with Europe from social as well as economic perspective;

Involvement of Diaspora in the development of the country.

Annexes:

Annex 1. Migration legislative basis of the Republic of Armenia.

Multilateral agreements

- Agreement between the RA and the EU on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation (signed on 19 April 2013, entered into force on 1 January 2014)
- Agreement between the RA and the EU on the facilitation of the issuance of visas (signed on 17 December 2012, entered into force on 1 January 2014)
- Convention on the legal status of labor migrants and members of their families from member-states of the CIS (signed on 14 November 2008)
- Agreement on the establishment of the Council of the heads of migration bodies of the CIS member states (signed on 5 October 2007, entered into force for the RA on 15 June 2010)
- Council of Europe convention on action against trafficking in human beings (adopted on 16 May 2005, entered into force for the RA on 20 March 2008)
- UN convention against transnational organized crime (adopted on 15 November 2000, entered into force for the RA on 19 April 2003): Protocol against the smuggling of migrants by land, sea and air : Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children
- Agreement on cooperation between CIS member states in combating illegal migration (signed by all the CIS member states on 6 March 1998, entered into force for the RA on 13 August 1999)
- Agreement on cooperation in the sphere of labor migration and social protection of labor migrants in the CIS countries (signed by all the CIS member states on 15 April 1994, entered into force for the RA on 26 February 1996)
- International convention on the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families (adopted on 18 December 1990, signed by the RA on 26 September 2013)
- European convention on the legal status of migrant workers (adopted on 24 November 1977, Armenia has not joined it)
- ILO convention No. 143 on migrations in abusive conditions and the promotion of equality of opportunity and treatment of migrant workers (adopted in 1975, entered into force for the RA on 27 January 2006)
- UN convention on the reduction of statelessness (adopted on 30 August 1961, entered into force for the RA on 16 August 1994)
- UN convention on the status of stateless persons (adopted on 28 September 1954, entered into force for the RA on 16 August 1994)

- UN convention on the status of refugees (Geneva, 1951) (the convention entered into force for the RA on 4 October 1993): Protocol on the status of refugees (1967)
- ILO convention No. 97 on migration for employment (adopted on 8 June 1949, entered into force for the RA on 27 January 2006)
- Agreement between the Governments of the RA and the RF on the order of stay of the RA citizens in the RF and the RF citizens in the RA (was signed on 11 July 2014)
- Memorandum on intentions of the RA and the RF on further development of cooperation in the field of migration (was signed on 8 April 2014)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Russian Federation on the readmission (was signed on 20 August 2010, entered into force on 31 May 2011)
- Agreement between the Republic of Armenia and the Czech Republic on the readmission of persons residing without authorization (was signed on 17 May 2010, entered into force on 1 April 2011)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway on the readmission of persons with unauthorized stay (was signed on 29 January 2010, entered into force on 26 June 2010)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Benelux countries (the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the Kingdom of the Netherlands) on the readmission of persons illegally residing without authorization (was signed on 3 June 2009, ratified by the RA on 7 June 2010)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden on the readmission of persons residing without authorization (was signed on 7 November 2008, entered into force on 19 April 2009)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on the readmission of persons with unauthorized stay (was signed on 13 November 2007, entered into force on 1 July 2008)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the readmission of persons with unauthorized stay and transit transport (was signed on 16 November 2006, entered into force on 20 April 2008)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Swiss Federal Council on the readmission of persons with unauthorized stay (was signed on 30 October 2003, entered into force on 1 March 2005)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the readmission of persons residing without authorization (was signed on 15 September 2003, entered into force on 22 May 2004)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark on the readmission of persons with unauthorized stay (was signed on 30 April 2003, entered into force on 1 January 2004)

- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Latvia on the extradition and acceptance of persons (was signed on 26 June 2002, entered into force on 17 May 2003)
- Agreement between the Government the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on temporary working activities and social protection of the citizens working outside the borders of their states (was signed on 19 July 2000, entered into force on 24 May 2001)
- Treaty between the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation on the legal status of the citizens of the Republic of Armenia permanently residing in the territory of the Russian Federation and the citizens of the Russian Federation permanently residing in the territory of the Republic of Armenia (was signed in August 1997)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Ukraine on temporary working activities and social protection of the Armenian and the Ukrainian citizens working outside the borders of their states (was signed on 17 June 1995, entered into force on 12 March 1997)
- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the Russian Federation on working activities and social protection of the citizens of the Republic of Armenia working in the territory of the Russian Federation and the citizens of the Russian Federation working in the territory of the Republic of Armenia (was signed and entered into force on 19 July 1994)
- Agreement between the Government the Republic of Armenia and the Government of Georgia on working activities and social protection of the citizens of the Republic of Armenia working in the territory of Georgia and the citizens of Georgia working in the territory of the Republic of Armenia (was signed and entered into force on 3 December 1993)

RA Laws

- On amendments in the RA Criminal Code
- On refugees and asylum
- On foreigners
- On citizens who failed to complete compulsory military service through violation of the established procedure
- On allocation the apartments, with ownership right, built for the refugees deported from Azerbaijan in 1988-1992
- On border guard troops
- On state border
- On political asylum
- On citizenship of the Republic of Armenia

RA Government decrees

- On amendment in the decision №907-N of the RA Government from 23 July 2009 (approved by the decision №1268-N from 13 November 2014)
- On amendment in the decision №1510-N of the RA Government from 20 October 2011 (approved by the decision №1166-N from 16 October 2014)
- On introduction of amendments and additions to a number of decrees of the RA Government (approved by the decision №1137-N from 16 October 2014)
- On approval of the order on maintenance of the internet information system <http://www.tundarc.am> (approved by the decision №942-N from 4 September 2014)
- On amendment in the decision №907-N of the RA Government from 23 July 2009 (approved by the decision №893-N from 28 August 2014)
- On amendment in the decision №407-N of the RA Government from 3 April 2003 (approved by the decision №889-N from 14 August 2014)
- On approval of the Action Plan 2014-2016 aimed at bringing the RA legislation regulating the field of migration, in line with international standards, including the approaches and principles adopted by the European Union and the Common Economic Area (approved by the decree №769-N from 17 July 2014)
- On approval of the order of acceptance, registration, allocation, provision of temporary shelters, life assurance and medical support of massively displaced population, including refugees (approved by the decree №774-N from 10 July 2014)
- On measures providing implementation of the “Agreement between the RA and the EU on the readmission of persons residing without authorization” (approved by the decision №300-N from 19 March 2014)
- On amendment in the decision №1515-N of the RA Government from 17 December 2009 (approved by the decision №212-N from 6 March 2014)
- On defining the order of function of special accommodation and keeping foreigners in border check-points and transit zones of the RA (approved by the decision №783-N from 18 July 2013)
- Concept on studying and preventing irregular migration originating from the Republic of Armenia (approved by the protocol decision №51 from 29 December 2011)
- On approval of the action plan for implementation of the policy concept for the state regulation of migration of the Republic of Armenia in 2012-2016 (approved by the decision №1593-N from 10 November 2011)
- On approval of the concept for the policy of state regulation of migration of the Republic of Armenia (approved by the protocol decision №51 from 30 December 2010)
- On recognizing of the entity authorized by the Government of the Republic of Armenia dealing with migration issues (approved by the decision №301-N from 25 March 2010)
- On establishing the procedure for facilitating the issuance of necessary travel documents and visa to enter the country of citizenship or permanent residency, or possible third, transit countries to the persons who submitted application (asylum

seekers and refugees) for voluntary repatriation (approved by the decision №48-N from 21 January 2010)

- On establishing the “Staff of the State Migration Service”, state governmental institution of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia, and establishing the charter and the staff structure of the State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia (approved by the decision №1515-N from 17 December 2009)
- On approving the format of conventional travel document issued to a refugee, a person with the right to political asylum, and the procedure of issuance thereof (approved by the decision №1417-N from 3 December 2009)
- On approving the format of conventional travel document issued to refugees, granted temporary protection, and the procedure of issuance thereof (approved by the decision №1367-N from 26 November 2009)
- On amendment in the decision №407-N of the RA Government from 3 April 2003 and in the order for functioning and maintenance of the temporary reception center for asylum seekers (approved by the decision №1441-N from 19 November 2009)
- On approving the procedure for placing asylum seekers in the temporary reception center and providing them with subsistence means (approved by the decision №1440-N from 19 November 2009)
- On establishment and confirmation of the work plan of commission defining insurance experience of forcibly deported persons from Azerbaijan in 1988-1992 and those who were forcibly replaced from Artsvashen village of the RA in 1992 (approved by the decision №907-N from 23 July 2009)
- On defining the procedure of notifying to the authorized body of the RA Government of acceptance or acquisition by a RA citizen of the citizenship of another country (approved by the decision №1110-N from 20 September 2007)
- On priority housing program for the people forcibly deported from Azerbaijan in 1988-1992 (approved by the decision №747-N from 20 May 2004)
- On approval of the privatization order of dormitory residential area under the state, budgetary entities by the persons forcibly deported from Azerbaijan in 1988-1992 and those who received the RA citizenship (approved by the decision №404 from 14 May 2001)
- On approving the order of registration of the refugees, needing houses, and housing allocation in the RA (approved by the decision №330 from 9 August 1997)

Prime minister decrees

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SMS legal acts

- [On approving the new edition of appendix N3 to order of the head of the State Migration Service of the Ministry of Territorial Administration of the Republic of Armenia N18-A dated February 25, 2013](#)
- [On a statistical indicator system on persons in need of international protection](#)
- [On ensuring the implementation of the Government order # 1360-N, 22 September, 2011 on “The considering by state authorities the applications received from foreign countries within the framework of the agreement between “the European Union and the Republic of Armenia on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation”](#)

National migration program

- **2012-2016 Action plan**
- Interdepartmental monitoring committee

Other national programs

- RA-EU Action plan
- Program on improvement of RA demographic situation
- Program on RA border security
- Program on combating trafficking
- Program on combating HIV/ AIDS
- National strategy on the protection of human rights
- Action plan aimed at bringing the RA legislation regulating the field of migration in line with international standards

Annex 2. List of publications of YSU and RAU in Migration (2012-2015)

YSU

1. Arutyunyan L.A., Zaslavskaya M.I. / “Migration processes on the territory of former USSR: Exhausting of post imperial tendencies” // Year-Book 2012, Economics.Ed. Sargsyan G. L., Yerevan, YSU, 2013, pp 427-438 (in Russian)
2. Mkrtichyan A.E., Shahnazaryan G. N., Sahakyan A. K., Vartikyan A. R., Vermishyan H.R. / “The problems of social identity's preservation in RA rural communities” // YSU, 2014 (in Armenian)

3. Sahakyan A.K. / "The sociological analysis of impact of migration processes on rural communities life" // Sociology and Law, Saint-Petersburg 2013, High attestation Committee, pp. 41-49 (in Russian)
4. Vartikyan A.R. / "Migratory situation in Armenia: new developments, new boundaries" // "Armenians around the world: Migration and transnationality", Yerevan, April, 2015 (in print)
5. Vartikyan A.R. / "The peculiarities of Armenian post-genocide diaspora" // "Genocide in the focus of social researches", Yerevan, April, 2015 (in print)
6. Zaslavskaya M.I. / "On the transformation of ethnic identity in the context of transnational migration (on the example of Armenian labour migration)" // Migration bridges in Eurasia: Collection of VI international scientific-practical conference "The role of migration in socio-economic and demographic development of immigration and emigration countries of Eurasia", Ed. Ryazancev S. W., Moscow 2014, pp. 343-347
7. Zaslavskaya M.I. / "Peculiarities of ethnic tolerance in modern conditions, in Tolerance and in-tolerance in modern society: Comprehension of new reality" // Ed. I. L. Perlova, Saint-Petersburg State University, 2013, pp. 180-188 (in Russian)
8. Zaslavskaya M.I. / "Peculiarities of transformation of ethnic identity in the context of migration processes of modernity Eurasian research: Actual problems and perspectives of development" // Yerevan, 2013, pp. 184-189 (in Russian)
9. Zaslavskaya M.I. / "The transmigration as the strata-forming factor in modern societies: Armenian case" // International Conference "Migration and Integration in Europe and Russia: New Challenges and Opportunities", Collection of abstracts, Center of German and European Studies, S.-Pb, 2012, p. 29
10. Zaslavskaya M.I. / "On some problems of regulation of migration processes in modern Armenia, Social technologies in modern societies" // Materials of international scientific conference of IV Saint-Petersburg's sociological readings, 19-20 April 2012, part 2, Saint-Petersburg, 2012, pp. 296-302 (in Russian)

RAU

1. Aghajanyan A.V. / "The influence of financial crisis on remittances' flows" // International scientific-practical conference for students and young scientists "Economical development of the subjects of market economy: methodological and practical aspects", Moscow, 2013 (in Russian)
2. Aghajanyan A.V. / "The influence of remittances on the dollarization level (the case of Armenia)" // VII Scientific Conference, RAU, Yerevan, 2013 (in Russia)
3. Astvatsaturov S.V., Marzpanyan A.A. / "Migrations risks of transition period in the context of human capital theory" // Moscow scientific review, Moscow, 2012, p. 47-49 (in Russian)

4. Avetisyan L.A. / "Economic consequences of international migration of the labor force in Armenia" // International scientific-practical conference "The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013, (in Russian)
5. Avetisyan L.A. / "Economic aspects and prospects of development of migratory processes in China" // "Migration in Globalized World" International conference, YSU, Yerevan, 2014
6. Avetisyan L.A. / "Educational migration: problems and trends" // VII Annual Scientific Conference, RAU, Yerevan, 2013 (in Russia)
7. Avetisyan L.A. / "International migration in the course of globalization: key problems" // VI Annual Scientific Conference, RAU, Yerevan, 2012 (in Russian)
8. Avetisyan L.A. / "Migration processes in Armenia in terms of Eurasian integration: problems and perspectives" // VIII Annual Scientific Conference, RAU, Yerevan, 2014 (in Russian)
9. Avetisyan L.A. / "Students' academic mobility as a factor of higher professional education development in Armenia" // International forum for PhD students "Modern Science: development trends, problems and perspectives", RAU, Yerevan, 2013, p.204-208 (in Russian)
10. Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013, (in Russian)
11. Mnatsakanyan L.A. / "Internal migration in Armenia: current tendencies" // International scientific-practical conference "The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013 (in Russian)
12. Petrosyan I.B. / "The influence of migration and remittances on the economy of developing countries" // Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Economy, Moscow, 2012, p. 155-167 (in Russian)
13. Petrosyan I.B. / "The influence of financial crisis on the remittances' flows into the developing countries of the world" // International scientific-practical conference "Preparation of innovative staff for the labor market in terms of lifelong learning", Yekaterinburg, 2012 (in Russian)

Annex 3. Projects in Migration, realized in Armenia (2010-2015)

#	Project Title	Executive organization	Supported by	Project Duration
1	3-year Research of	Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University	State committee of science at the Ministry of Education and	01.01.2015-30.12.2015

	External Migration in the RA through Selective Survey		Science of Armenia	
2	Evaluation of Migration Situation in Armenia through Selective Survey	Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University, National Statistical Service of Armenia	State committee of science at the Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia, IOM mission in Armenia, EU, "People in Need" NGO (Czech Republic), Armenian Caritas, Institute for the Study of International Migration at the Georgetown University (USA)	01.01.2013-30.12.2013
3	Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration, and Development	Caucasus Research Resource Center CRRC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	2014-2015
4	Labor migration and STI/HIV risks in Armenia: Assessing prevention needs and designing effective interventions	Caucasus Research Resource Center CRRC	Mission East Armenia (ME-Armenia)	November 2012 - March 2013
5	Maximising the social and economic impact of Migration for a better future in Armenia	The International Committee for the Development of People	EU	2012-2014
6	Migration and	Armenian Caritas	EU	2010-2013

	Development			
7	Migration and Higher Education: Building Skills and Capacities (UNIMIG)	Yerevan State University, Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University, IOM mission in Armenia, State migration service (SMS) of Ministry of territorial administration of the RA	EC	15.10.2011-14.04.2015
8	Migration and Skills	Caucasus Research Resource Center CRRC	European Training Foundation (ETF)	July 2011 - June 2012
9	Migration and Trafficking Resource Center	Armenian Caritas	Secours Catholique	2012-2014
10	Missing Girls in the South Caucasus	Caucasus Research Resource Center CRRC	The World Bank	May 2013 - June 2013
11	Missing Women in the South Caucasus	Caucasus Research Resource Center CRRC	The World Bank	February 2014 - March 2014
12	RECEA-Reintegration Centre Armenia	Return Fund of the European Commission, Hope and Help NGO	Return Fund of the European Commission	2012-2014
13	Rural communities as a mechanism of national identities' traditional elements reproduction in transition societies (on	Department of Applied Sociology, Department of Theory and History of Sociology and Migration Competence Center of Faculty of Sociology of YSU	State committee of science of RA	2011-2013

	the example of Armenia and Belarus)			
14	Strengthening Evidence-Based Management of Labour Migration in Armenia	International Center for Human Development ICHD	EU	2010-2013
15	Support the State migration service for strengthening of migration management in Armenia	State migration service (SMS) of Ministry of territorial administration of the RA	EU	2012-2015
16	The depopulation crisis in Armenia	Russian-Armenian (Slavonic) University Research Team, Research and Business Center of the Faculty of Economics of Yerevan State University, Research Group: Arshak Balayan, Armen Gakavian, Avetik Mejlumyan, Hrayr Maroukhian Foundation	Kololian Foundation (Canada)	2013-2014
17	The peculiarities of formation and functioning of Armenian migration network	Department of Applied Sociology of Faculty of Sociology of YSU	State committee of science of RA	2012-2014

14. Petrosyan I.B. / "Migration and remittances: theoretical justification" // International scientific-practical conference "The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013
15. Sahakyan M.A. / "Modern problems of migration management in Armenia and its influence on the process of innovative economy formation" // International scientific-practical conference "The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013, (in Russian)
16. Sarkisyan I.A. / "Some identity specificities of Armenian diaspora's representatives" // VII Annual Scientific Conference, RAU, Yerevan, 2013 (in Russian)
17. Tevikyan A.R., Tavadyan A.A. / "Assessment of migration and remittances' flows based on the case of Armenia" // International scientific-practical conference "The Modern Issues of the Innovational Economy in the Developing Countries", RAU, Yerevan, 2013, (in Russian)
18. Yeganyan R.S. / "Basic characteristics and tendencies of emigration in Armenia" / "Creation of migration observatory on the Eastern Neighbourhood", European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy, 2012
19. Yeganyan R.S. / "Basic characteristics and tendencies of immigration in Armenia" / "Creation of migration observatory on the Eastern Neighbourhood", European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy, 2012
20. Yeganyan R.S. / "Circular migration of Armenian population" / "Creation of migration observatory on the Eastern Neighbourhood", European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy, 2012
21. Yeganyan R.S. / "Migrants' integration: Armenian realities" / "Creation of migration observatory on the Eastern Neighbourhood", European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy, 2012
22. Yeganyan R.S. / "The influence of labor migration on the demographic situation of Armenia" / "Creation of migration observatory on the Eastern Neighbourhood", European University Institute (EUI), Florence, Italy, 2012

