



ISSUES OF FURTHER IMPROVEMENT OF POPULATION MIGRATION REGULATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract:

The article analyzes the strategic directions for further reform in the field of management and regulation of migration processes in Uzbekistan, substantiates the relevance of improving legislation in this area.

Keywords: action strategy, migration, bills, management and regulation.

Аннотация: в статье проанализированы стратегические направления дальнейшего реформирования в области управления и регулирования миграционными процессами в Узбекистане, обоснована актуальность совершенствования законодательства в данной сфере.

Ключевые слова: стратегия действий, миграция, законопроекты, управление и регулирование.

Migration is a powerful driver and an important consequence of economic, political and social change. Given its significant impact on communities, migration needs to be fully measured and understood. Reliable statistics are key to a basic understanding of this important phenomenon. However, in many countries, even the most general migration data are incomplete, outdated or non-existent. Improving this area requires knowledge of the principles of collecting, compiling and analyzing migration statistics. Migration policy makers and others need to know the definitions and measurement issues regarding migration data in order to be able to interpret them. Events such as births and deaths are fairly easy to account for. They are unique in the life of each person and are uniquely defined. The number of events is equal to the number of persons with whom they happened. Migration is much more difficult to measure. Movements of people differ in directions (departure or arrival), time of absence or stay, distance, goals, etc. The same person may change residence several times during their lifetime (or even during a certain period of observation), and short-term trips are even more difficult to account for because of their frequent recurrence.





International migration, in particular the migration of labor resources, plays a significant role both for the migrants themselves - participants in the international division of labor, and for countries of origin and destination, especially in terms of economic development. The positive impact of labor migration for countries of origin as a donor of labor resources is known, when migrants send significant funds to their homeland, thus improving the standard of living of household members left in their homeland, by providing access to basic social benefits and services, such as education, health care, food. At the same time, the issues of regulating migration processes in Uzbekistan itself are still relevant, and the latest attempts at leveling have not yet been successful. Against this background, Russia, as the main partner of Uzbekistan in the migration exchange of labor resources, being the country of destination, is taking the first steps towards the liberalization of migration legislation and, most likely, will take other strong-willed decisions to simplify the procedures for accepting an increasing number of persons (citizens of the CIS) in priority order. Uzbekistan in the medium term will have an excess of labor resources, the market for the application of the labor of its citizens will be Russia. To create a solid foundation for the social protection of Uzbek migrants, it is necessary to have legislative foundations of local significance and international agreements. In the article, the author gives recommendations on the development of a migration policy to ensure the sustainability of the growth of the economy of Uzbekistan and the strength of the social system.

According to the UN, in 2022 the number of international migrants was approximately 281 million people (3.6% of the world's population), of which the number of international labor migrants was 164.0 million people.

In recent decades, international migration has constantly remained in the center of attention of the world community. This is due to the growing, often poorly regulated, flows of international migrants and the problems they create both in host communities and for the often poorly protected international migrants themselves.

For a quarter of a century, action in the field of international migration at the global level has been determined by the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, adopted in 1994. It examined the opportunities and challenges of international migration in a development context, the rights of documented migrants and measures to address the problems of undocumented migrants.

In 2018, UN Member States adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. It recognizes the importance of migration for the sustainable development of all countries: origin (departure) of migrants, their transit and destination (arrival). The adoption of the treaty has become a powerful stimulus for





the inclusion of issues related to international migration in the national development plans of all countries of the world. At the same time, all UN entities continue to develop indicators and collect data to monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets related to migrants and migration.

The need for complete, reliable, up-to-date and policy-relevant information on international migrants has been repeatedly stated at the highest level international forums, but reliable and comparable data remain limited for a number of reasons.

Uzbekistan, being a part of the world economy and world economic relations, has also become a participant in the processes of international labor exchange due to the presence of a young population and, accordingly, an excess labor force that is able and willing to move outside the republic in search of work.

The annual departure of a significant number of the unemployed population of Uzbekistan outside the republic naturally reduces pressure on the domestic labor market, where there is a shortage of stable jobs with decent wages, and, moreover, has a positive effect on the financial situation of households sending their members to work abroad, who contribute to the household budget by sending part of their wages in the form of transfers.

According to the UN, in 2019, about 58.0% of migrants from Uzbekistan chose the Russian Federation as their destination country, Ukraine - 11.2%, Kazakhstan - 15.0%, Turkmenistan - 3.4%.

The choice of these countries is obvious due to a number of factors:

- no visa restrictions;
- historical connections;
- availability of language skills;
- contiguity of countries.

The integration of Uzbekistan into world economic relations, as well as the changes taking place in recent years with the accepted vector of the country's openness policy to other countries of the world, are changing the nature and geography of the movement of citizens of Uzbekistan, which is confirmed by an increase in the share of people leaving not only for the CIS countries, but also for the developed countries of the world: the United States, Canada, Israel, Germany, South Korea and Turkey.

As the above data show, the number of migrants from Uzbekistan is increasing from year to year. The available demographic forecast allows us to assume that the country's labor market will be saturated, and in order to reduce the demographic burden, one of the ways out will be for the unemployed part of the population to leave the republic for work. In addition, the citizens themselves express their willingness and desire to travel outside the country in search of better wages.





In the short term, the main partner of Uzbekistan in the exchange of labor resources will remain the Russian Federation due to the problems of filling in irreversible demographic losses and the corresponding measures taken by the Russian government.

It should be noted that since the beginning of 2020, the government of the Russian Federation began to quickly change its legislation in the direction of greatly simplifying the regime for admitting persons from a number of CIS member states into their citizenship, as a result, the Federal Law of April 24, 2020 No. 134- Federal Law "On Amendments to the Federal Law "On Citizenship of the Russian Federation" in Part of Simplifying the Procedure for Admitting Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons to the Citizenship of the Russian Federation".

If we consider the issue of the impact of labor migration on the economy of Uzbekistan without in-depth analysis, then, of course, we can single out the leading role of migrants' remittances in reducing poverty in families where there is a labor migrant, increasing the flow of freely convertible currency, which positively affects the balance of payments of the republic, the multiplier effect and the growth of the economy as a whole.

Available data from the Central Bank of Uzbekistan for 9 months of 2019 show that in the line "Personal transfers - cross-border transfers of individuals" only 4.445 million dollars were transferred to Uzbekistan, of which 3.775 million dollars (85.0%) only from Russia, while growth compared to 9 months of 2018 (\$3.236 million) amounted to 17.0%. In general, remittances from individuals accounted for 33.0% of the country's total exports (\$13.422 million).

We believe that it will not be a special manifestation of alarmism if we assume that without an effective state policy in the field of migration and a long-term vision of this issue, Uzbekistan is on the path of losing part of the population, and this process may be irreversible, and the consequences unpredictable.

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