

*UNESCO  
Centre of Demography and Human  
Ecology, Institute of Economic Forecasting  
Russian Academy of Sciences  
Institute for Migration Research*

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
Migration and the Labour Market  
in Central and Eastern Europe  
May, 25-28, Chisinau (Moldova)**

Labour migration is a rather new phenomenon for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. It was only after the fall of the Iron Curtain and the end of the communist forms of government that the region underwent a rapid development and labour migration reached serious dimensions. Expert research shows that nowadays no less than 7 million people are involved in labour migration within the countries of Eastern Europe. In each Central European country the quantity of labour migrants from a neighbouring Eastern European country is estimated to number hundreds of thousands of people. Owing to labour migrants, Central and Eastern Europe have become integrated in the global migratory networks during the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As regards the future, the following two developments lend plausibility to the assumption that labour migration may rise:

- 1) a decrease in population in some countries;
- 2) the enlargement of the EU by several Central European countries.

The majority of the region's countries have no sufficient experience in managing labour migration; and as a matter of fact, in many of the countries legislation on labour migration is still at an experimental stage. Frequently, legislation is not systematic, but poorly co-ordinated as regards the interests of the labour market of a country, and it does not provide for the protection of the rights of migrants. So far no Central or Eastern European country has signed the *UN Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families*. Within society there is often no adequate understanding of the social and economic value of labour migration. The expansion of the *Schengen* zone is also unlikely to take place without serious new problems as far as labour migration between the countries of the region is concerned. In view of this, both an analysis and regional scientific discussions on these questions come at a very good time for Central and Eastern Europe.

Moreover, in recent years significant research material has been collected in many countries, which should be presented for discussion at the regional level.

Therefore, the third CEENOM conference is devoted to migration in connection with labour markets. It is a logical continuation of the CEENOM activities directed to attracting attention to the most pressing migration-related problems of the region.

In preparation for this conference, a set of national analyses will be prepared or compiled from existing research data, using the 6-point strategy of UNESCO. The national report will also highlight the current discussion on the ratification of the *UN Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their Families*.

The Conference also aims at an analysis of how labour migration will develop in the wake of the globalisation, of the ongoing economic transformation processes, and of the changing demographic situation.

Considerable attention will be given to national policies on labour migration and to potential management tools as well as to the problems associated with the barrier function of the enlarged *Schengen* zone.

The findings of research on labour migration in the different countries will also be presented at the conference, such as an estimation of the sizes of migration streams, the structure of migrants, the motivation for movement, the influence of migration on the well-being of households, the role of transfers, the situation of migrant workers, etc. Special attention will be given to the social problems of labour migration, e.g. the illegal trafficking of women for prostitution and the sex-industry.

Special sessions will be devoted to sharing the countries' experiences in the field of the protection of the rights of migrant workers. Twelve expert interviews will be prepared and presented during the conference. The over-all objective of the presentations is to elucidate the obstacles that hinder countries from ratifying the UN Convention.

Expected participants in the conference: researchers, employees of international organizations, decision-makers of different governmental organizations.

Financing: the conference is financed with funds provided by UNESCO *Section on International Migration and Multicultural Policies* and co-funded by the *Institute for Migration Research*.

## ***Migration and labour market***

### *Programme*

- Welcoming addresses:
- *from the Government of Moldova*
- *from UNESCO*
- *from the organizing committee*

### *Plenary session*

- Attempts of labour-emigration regulation by the Moldavian authorities  
*V. Muntyanu*
- The importance and value of the UN Convention on migrant workers  
*ILO*
- The labour-force market in a transit economy: the case of migrations  
*Z. Zayonchkovskaya*
- Demographic prerequisites of labour migration in the NIS and Baltic countries  
*A. Vishnevski*

### ***Session I. Migrant workers: a policy and management***

- Conceptual approaches to labour-migration regulation in Russia  
*Vorobieva O.*
- Labour migration in the context of globalization  
*Turukanova E.*
- Implications of the *Schengen* enlargement for migration to and from the CIS countries:
- *The Polish experience*
- *The Hungarian experience – I. Molodikova*

***Session II. Labour migration in Central and Eastern Europe:  
Tendencies, scales, motivations, effects***

- The labour migration of Ukrainian citizens: changes of the last 10 years  
*E. Malinovskaya*
- Migrants' strategies and behavioural norms of Ukrainians on labour markets abroad and at home  
*I. Pribytkova*
- The role of labour migration in the Armenian society  
*L. Harutunyan*
- Russians in Europe: the experience of illegal labour migration  
*G. Vitkovskaya*

***Session II. Continuation***

- Scales, directions and economic benefits of labour emigration from Kazakhstan  
*E. Sadovskaya*
- Remittances of Kyrgyz and Uzbek labour emigrants as a source for business development  
*A. Elebaeva L. Maksakova*
- Migrant's salaries as a means to survival for small-city populations in Russia  
*U. Florinskaya, T. Roschina*

***Session III. The social risks of labour migration***

- "Alive" traffic and measures of counteraction: the example of Moldova  
*V. Mosneaga*
- Azerbaijani illegal labour networks in Russia  
*A. Unusov*
- The lacking legal status of Afghans in Russia as the main reason for their illegal employment  
*T. Ivanova*
- Economic consequences of Chinese immigration to Russia  
*V. Guelbras*

***Session IV. The protection of the rights of migrant workers:  
Central and Eastern European countries reviewed***

- Azerbaijan - *A. Unusov*
- Armenia - *L. Harutyunyan*
- Hungary - *I. Molodikova*
- Moldova - *V. Moshneaga*

***Session IV. Continuation***

- Kazakhstan - *E. Sadovskaya*
- Kyrgyzstan - *A. Elebaeva*
- Russia - *S. Jagodin, T. Ivanova*
- Romania - *L. Ursu*
- Ukraine - *I. Pribytkova*
- Czech Republic – *D. Cermakova*
- Estonia - *L. Sakkeus*