

Georgia is among those countries where external migration played, and still does, an important role in the formation of its population and workforce. In the period after the country gained independence, population's migratory behavior and intensity, in quantitative and qualitative terms as well as with its immensity, was clearly distinct from the factors which stipulated the population's migratory behavior that existed in the "closed territory" during the Communist period. The level of unemployment was reduced to its minimum during the Communist period and families were, more or less, provided for with minimal income. The main factor of external migration was presented in the form of emigration to constituent republics, where people could satisfy their social-economic needs (receiving additional income, etc.) as those countries contained better labor environment. The mentioned process had seasonal characteristics. Moreover, insofar as migration did not surpass the border of the Soviet Union, its scales were less compared to what it is today.

In the aftermath of acquiring independence, migration from Georgia to other countries assumed an intensive character and was determined by three basic factors: first - ethnic migration, which took place when after the collapse of the USSR, tens of thousands of representatives of other nationalities returned to their historical homeland; second - the emigration of a large mass of refugees from the lost territories and thirdly, an economic collapse

Emigration from Georgia, besides economic factors, is also associated with such social-demographic factors of migration as are: receiving education, status of a refugee, wish to live together with family members, etc.

As a result of the high level of illegal emigration and low level of natural increase in the course of 1992-2018, the population of Georgia decreased by 1/3 and amounted to 3.17 million individuals in 2018. Illegal emigration is especially intensive among those members of the population who are able-bodied and in reproductive age. This has caused deformation of the age-sex structure. According to the 2014 population census, from among those individuals who left Georgia 85% is aged from 20 to 50, whereas the share of the mentioned age group in the total population of Georgia is only 43%. This influences the political, social-demographic and economic development of the country.

According to the Georgian population census of 2014, if among emigrant men the number of those aged above 45 was prevalent, in the case of immigrants the number of men aged above 40 exceeded all the other age groups. This indicates to the fact that the men aged above 45 refrain from emigrating and once they approach 45 the majority of the emigrants return to homeland.

As opposed to men, emigrant women aged between 20 and 60 significantly exceed the same age group of immigrant women and in contrast to the men, one does not notice the

analogous reverse process among the women yet. The share of the immigrants aged below 15 is also reduced.

The number of the emigrants below 65 among both men and women is more or less stable, The mentioned fact can be explained by those emigrants' overcoming various difficulties (finding a job, studying, solving the issues of everyday living conditions, acquiring the status of a refugee or citizenship, etc.) in the receiving country and they do not yet intend to return to their homeland. The decrease in the number of emigrants above the age of 65 is associated with the reduction of the potential of those population in the mentioned age group who want to emigrate abroad.

The increase of women's emigration in the field of service is stipulated by their work activity, however, below-the-average salary forces them to emigrate abroad where they receive higher income by performing a relatively low-qualification jobs (care-taker, babysitter, servant, etc.). As a result of a higher demand for women's labor, they found themselves to be in a clearly advantageous position compared to men. Nowadays, more than 200 thousand women from Georgia labor abroad and play the role of a breadwinner for members of their families back in homeland.

It must be noted that since 2017 a kind of new "impetus" was given to the process of illegal emigration from Georgia by the introduction of visa free regime with the countries of the EU, which is limited to 90 days. Since its implementation up until 27 March of 2019, 390 175 Georgian citizens have visited the EU without visa, more than half of them have already violated the three month visa free period and are currently staying illegally in various countries of the EU.

It should also be noted that visa liberalization with the European Union (2017) has, so far, yielded the opposite result and instead of reduction, the number of illegal emigrants in the EU has increased still more. Consequently, compared to 2017, in 2018 negative net migration of Georgian population has grown from 2212 to 10784 individuals, that is, nearly 5 times.

Under conditions of limited visa free regime, one notices a qualitative change in illegal migration. This is associated with the wish to reunite with one's family members and live together in emigration. In particular, there has recently been noticed illegal emigration caused by the above-mentioned wish to live together with family members abroad (spouse, parent, child). This was impossible to do when the visa free regime was non-existent.

It must be stressed that net migration of Georgia was reduced at the expense of foreign citizens and it had nothing to do with illegal Georgian citizens abroad.

In accordance with the results of sociological research, there is a high probability that a fairly large portion of youth will remain abroad. From among the interviewed students' 42.7% plan on going abroad, among these, 49.8% intend to return to their homeland; almost the same

percentage (47.0%) will reach the decision whether to stay abroad or return after graduation. 3.4% of the students have firmly decided not to return to homeland.

The Geography of leaving the country is fairly multi-vectorial and people are willing and ready to travel to: Germany (37.2%), the USA (16.8%), the UK (11.4%), Italy (5.4%), France and Russia (3.4%).

For such a small-sized country as Georgia, the readiness of the several tens of thousands of youth contingent to go abroad and stay there poses a serious threat for the country's social-economic and demographic development. The mentioned process will, on the one hand, decrease the already low indicator of population reproduction in Georgia, and on the other hand, in terms of economy, the country will lose the human capital with a high level of education, in other words, "brain drain" will continue on.

It is discernable from the brief analysis of Georgian population's migration, which the article deals with, that it is still early to make conclusions regarding the decrease of emigration and increase of immigration of the Georgian population.