

## **ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE HUMAN MIGRATION CONCEPT TRANSFORMATION IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

According to the United Nations report, the number of international migrants has continued to grow rapidly over the past 15 years. Having reached 244 million by 2015 [2; 8], foreigners already constitute the fifth most populous nation on Earth [7].

However, along with the traditional motives of leaving one's homeland, recent studies reveal new reasons of migration. Thus, the 20<sup>th</sup> century witnessed a huge surge of people moving from the countryside to cities and was the prevailing time of concepts «immigrant» and «expat» [1]. While all of the mentioned phenomena continue to exist, the 21<sup>st</sup> century brought up the very new shades to understanding the concept of human migration, among which the most significant are:

1. Roamers – people who identify themselves as neither immigrants nor expats; however, they live and work abroad motivated by the current opportunities and relevant needs without any final goal to settle down in a particular country [1; 7]. The concept was developed by CM Patha in her book «Roaming: Living and Working Abroad in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century» (2016). According to the author's study, among the total amount of the world human migrants, around 10% are roamers [1].

2. Existential migration – a chosen attempt to express something fundamental about existence by becoming a foreigner [6]. The term was suggested by Greg Madison in his book «Existential Analysis» (2006).

3. Global nomads – people who live a highly mobile and international lifestyle. The term was coined in the early 2000s. Unlike traditional nomads, global nomads travel alone or in pairs rather than with a family and livestock. They also travel worldwide and via various routes whereas traditional nomads have a fixed annual or seasonal pattern of movement [4].

The general trend still cannot be described certainly, as long as the concept of human migration is complex. For example, a number of recent significant political events (Brexit, Trump elections and others) may be explained by the voters' and politicians' support of strengthening border controls [7]. As well, the 2016 BBC World Service poll revealed that in Germany fewer people say they feel like global citizens now (equalling around 30%), compared with 2001, being the lowest rate for the last 15 years [3]. In fact, a serious hit after the financial crash of 2008 and a 2015 refugee crisis turned out to be of a high influence on these outcoming results.

On the contrary, the GlobeScan poll, which began 15 years ago, states that representatives of countries with emerging economies saw themselves first and foremost as global citizens rather than national citizens [3]. Moreover, Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (2015) claims that in almost every region of the world people are more likely to be in favour of migration than against it (with one but notable exception to this in Europe) [2].

It is worth to mention that the fact of appearance of such new concepts as roamers, existential migration and global nomads brings specific trends to the world development.

Firstly, we are facing the growth of role of the top-big cities. This is of no surprise as long as one in five world's migrants live in the top 20 largest cities [2]. Moreover, world's top 30 cities now account for roughly 18 percent of the planet's GDP [7]. This brings us back to the earliest model of city-state citizenship of ancient Greece and is viewed as a process of localization. Related to this, the world's major cities are beginning to recognise the voting rights for roamers, like in New York City and the EU [1].

Secondly, more and more voices are calling for international free movement of labour with some economists even claiming it would increase global economic output by 122% [7]. Significantly, a number of large-scale surveys proved people with experience of living abroad to be more creative and solution-oriented [5].

To sum up, even though the current changes in the concept of human migration cannot be fully predicted and the idea of its impact is not absolutely widespread, the role of 21<sup>st</sup> century migrants is undeniable. While every seventh person on the planet is either international or internal migrant [2], their power of influence should not be underestimated.

### References:

1. EasyJet (July, 2016). «Are you a Roamer?» [Internet] CM Patha LinkedIn Blog. Available from: <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/easyjet-you-roamer-cm-patha> [Accessed 5 March 2016].
2. Global Migration Trends Factsheet (2015). Global Migration Data Analysis Centre. International Organisation for Migration.
3. Grimley N. (2016) Identity 2016: «Global Citizenship» rising, poll suggests [Internet] BBC Identity. Available from: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-36139904> [Accessed 5 March 2016].
4. Kannisto, P. 2016. Global Nomads and Extreme Mobilities. Ashgate: Farnham.
5. Maddux W.W., Galinsky A.D., Tadmour C.T. (September, 2016) «Be a Better Manager: Live Abroad» [Internet] Harvard Business Review. Available from: <https://hbr.org/2010/09/be-a-better-manager-live-abroad> [Accessed 5 March 2016].
6. Madison, Greg (2010). Existential Migration. Voluntary Migrants' Experiences of Not Being-at-home in the World Lambert Academic Press.
7. Patha CM (2016). «How Do Global Citizens Live in the Real World?» [Internet] Chevening Alumni Blog. Available from: <http://www.chevening.org/alumni/blog/2016/how-do-global-citizens-live-in-the-real-world> [Accessed 5 March 2016].
8. Trends in international migration (2015). Popfacts №2015/4, December 2015, pp. 1-4.