CONFERENCE REPORT ON

“THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION IN UKRAINE”

KYIV 12 OCTOBER 2011
IOM MISSION
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Established in 1951, IOM is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration working closely with governmental, intergovernmental and nongovernmental partners.

With 146 member states, a further 13 states holding observer status and offices in over 100 countries, IOM is dedicated to promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all.

It does so by providing services, policy advice and recommendations to governments and migrants. IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration challenges and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people. The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement. IOM’s activities include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants’ rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

The IOM Mission in Ukraine was established in 1996, when Ukraine became an observer state of IOM. In 2001, Ukraine requested membership in IOM, which was formalized with the Ukrainian Parliament’s ratification in 2002.

In line with IOM’s global strategy, IOM Ukraine aims at maximizing the opportunities and minimizing the challenges presented by migratory movements in the country. The Mission continues to fight trafficking in human beings, assisting the Government in dealing with irregular migration, improving its migration management system, and creating migrant-inclusive health practices and policies. At the same time, IOM Ukraine engages in exploring and promoting regular channels for Ukrainian labour migrants, harnessing the development potential of migration, disseminating migration information, managing migration movements and integration of ethnic minorities, promoting the benefits of cultural diversity, and counteracting xenophobia and intolerance.

To achieve its objectives, IOM Ukraine is assisting the Government and works closely with several executive, legislative and judicial bodies dealing with migration issues, including such key partners as the Verkhovna Rada, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Migration Service, State Border Guard Service, Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Education, Science, Youth and Sports, Office of the General Prosecutor, and the Ministry of Justice.

IOM Ukraine assisted in the development of over 20 major legislative acts in the field of migration, such as the State Migration Policy Concept and the Law on Countering Trafficking in Persons.

During the last 15 years of presence in Ukraine, IOM has assisted over 300,000 migrants, potential migrants, victims of trafficking, and other vulnerable groups, directly or through its project partners.

IOM and UNHCR staff consulting migrants in Volyn Migrants Accommodation Centre
On 12 October 2011, senior international and Ukrainian experts and policy makers gathered to discuss the economic, social and cultural impact of migration on Ukraine’s future development, at a conference, organized by the Ukrainian Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (MFA).

Aiming to advance the understanding of the opportunities and challenges of migration in the Ukrainian context, IOM Ukraine arranged the conference to mark the Organization’s 60th Anniversary globally and 15 years of its presence in Ukraine. Two topics were chosen for the discussion during the all-day event at the Diplomatic Academy in Kyiv: how the demographic developments in Ukraine and globally might affect migratory movements in the future, and how Ukrainian migrants might become more involved in the development of their home-country.

The conference was opened by the First Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine Mr. Vasyl Nadraha, the Director of the Consular Service of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Ukraine Mr. Andrii Olefirov and IOM Ukraine’s Chief of Mission Mr. Manfred Profazi.

Mr. Profazi stressed that during last two decades of independence Ukraine has shifted from a relatively immobile society with limited freedom of movement to a country where migrants come from, transit through and stay. “We are proud and honoured to have been able to assist the country in almost all migration-related fields during the last 15 years and grateful to all the donors and partners who supported us,” said IOM Ukraine’s Chief of Mission. Stressing the importance of better understanding the role of migrants’ monetary transfers, Mr. Profazi added that “it is striking how little effort is made in Ukraine for better understanding and increasing remittances flows as well as their potential for development.”

Mr. Olefirov congratulated IOM staff for the work implemented in the practical and analytical spheres, including labour migration, and touched upon recent steps made by the MFA Ukraine to support migrants abroad, including the simplification of passport issuing procedures.

Mr. Olefirov also expressed the MFA’s appreciation of IOM’s recent efforts to evacuate Ukrainian citizens from Libya.

The speech of Mr. Nadraha was dedicated to the Ministry’s vision of the model of state regulation of labour migration, which should be based on the principle of human rights protection and fulfillment of decent work standards. “Firstly, it is necessary to conduct an effective employment policy, which utilizes a set of tools for distribution, redistribution, conservation and rational use of labour potential of Ukraine. Secondly, it is important that the state effectively manages labour migration processes,” said Mr. Nadraha.

The framework of the first session “Migration and Demographics” was introduced by a keynote speaker, Academic Director of Erste Bank School of Banking and Finance and Senior Fellow at the Hamburg Institute of International Economic Prof. Rainer Münz. “Ukraine’s population is shrinking. However, this is a global phenomenon, our common European future and one of the major drivers of migration,” he said. According to Prof. Münz, the age of an average European today is 40 year, soon this figure will reach 50.

UN Population Fund Country Director Ms. Nuzhat Ehsan added that young people aged 15 – 34 comprise 29.8 per cent of the total Ukrainian population as of 2010. “The share of youth will further shrink. Ukraine’s youth is more engaged in active migration activities than any other age groups. They account for about 2/3 of the total migration turnover in the country,” stated Ms. Ehsan.

According to Mr. Münz, one of the steps to cope with demographic ageing and population decline could be attracting skilled and talented immigrants by creating competitive admission schemes, job and housing opportunities, educational infrastructure and a welcoming cultural environment. However, this does not exclude the necessity of sound population policies for increasing of the number of children.

Some of the panellists touched upon migration-related challenges. Migrants can improve the economic situation in the country, but they can also worsen the level of crime,
mentioned the Head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations Mr. Oleg Zarubinskyi. The First Deputy Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine Mr. Viktor Sheibut underlined that due to its geographical location, Ukraine will remain a major transit country for irregular migrants, mainly from the CIS countries and Asia, to the EU. “Development of an effective modern system of identification and registration of foreigners and stateless persons is one of the priorities of the State Migration Service, which will help influence the regulation of migration flows,” said Mr. Sheibut.

The Head of Migration Studies Department of the Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine Mr. Oleksii Pozniak stated that the number of immigrants from developing countries living in Ukraine is small which creates favourable conditions for their successful integration, albeit depending on the implementation of the appropriate policy. “It’s time for Ukraine to develop a policy for attracting and integrating migrants,” said Mr. Pozniak.

Adecco Ukraine Country Manager Mr. Dariusz Ptak added that Ukrainian authorities also should think how to attract emigrants back home and provide them with jobs. He mentioned the example of Zakarpattia where, according to Adecco Ukraine data, there is high demand for skilled workers and a shortage of potential employees.

The second session on “Migration and Remittances” was opened by the World Bank economist of the Human Development Department, Europe and Central Asia Unit, Mr. Johannes Koettl. He stressed that migrants’ remittances to Ukraine are officially approximated at USD 5.3 bln in 2010, reaching about 4 per cent of the GDP.

Discussing the problem of leveraging remittances, which are currently mostly spent on consumption, for the country’s development and safeguarding future wellbeing of migrants, the Director of the International Agency for Source Country Information Mr. Nicolaas de Zwager underlined that circular and long-term migrants seem to represent a largely misunderstood potential resource, one that should be of much greater interest to key stakeholders in the government, both in the countries of origin and destination. “This also applies to the financial intermediation industry, which commonly holds a narrow and limiting view of migrants as ‘remitters’, rather than potential clients”, underlined Mr. de Zwager.

The Ambassador of Mexico to Ukraine H.E. Mrs. Berenice Rendón-Talavera shared her country’s experience on the subject. Mexico is among the leading countries in attracting migrants’ remittances. In order to maximize their development impact, the Mexican government has created specific programmes aiming, inter alia, to reduce the transfer costs and link remittances with investments in productive projects, business opportunities and credits for housing in Mexico. “We would like to present our experience to Ukraine for future study in their efforts to enhance the economic gains of its own migrants”, said Ambassador Rendón.

The Vice-President of MoneyGram International in Russia, CIS, Emerging Europe and Israel Mr. Peter Hnatiuk shared his views on the steps that need to be undertaken by Ukrainian authorities to study, develop and promote remittance policy and initiatives. This should include the creation of a responsible governmental department, promotion of official remittance channels, and motivating Ukrainian banks to create favourable conditions for migrants to open deposit accounts in banks, including higher interest rates.

The representative of the International Labour Organization Ms. Tetiana Minenko highlighted the importance of informing migrants on work and business possibilities in their home countries for fostering regular and circular migration. “Information should be provided on vacancies and skills needs in a country of origin. Analysis of how skills acquired abroad can be used in the home countries is also important,” said Ms. Minenko.

The session was concluded by the British novelist of Ukrainian origin Ms. Marina Lewycka who shared her view on the human face of migration, reading a chapter from her well-known book Two Caravans.
AGENDA AND SPEAKERS

THE FUTURE OF MIGRATION IN UKRAINE CONFERENCE / PANEL DISCUSSION

Discussion topics:

- Migration & Development: The role of Ukrainian migrants and Diaspora in economic and social development
- Migration & Demographics: Shrinking population, ageing society and the role of migration

Moderator: Mr. Andrii Kulykov, TV anchor and observer

Opening addresses

- Mr. Manfred Profazi, Chief of Mission, IOM Ukraine
- Mr. Vasyl Nadraha, First Deputy Minister of Social Policy
- Mr. Andrii Olefirow, Director of the Consular Service of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Key-note speech No 1 “Migration and demographics”, Prof. Rainer Münz (Austria), Academic Director of Erste School of Banking and Finance (Erste Group) and Senior Fellow at the Hamburg Institute of International Economics

Moderated Session No 1 “Migration and demographics”

- Ms. Oleksii Pozniak, Head of Migration Studies Department of the Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine
- Mr. Oleh Zarubinskyi, Head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations
- Mr. Oleksandr Zabrudskyi, Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine
- Ms. Nuzhat Ehsan, Country Director, UN Population Fund
- Mr. Dariusz Ptak, Country Manager, Eastern Europe Government Affairs Director, ADECCO Ukraine

Key-note speech No 2 “Migration and remittances”, Mr. Johannes Koettl (the U.S.), Economist at the Human Development Department, Europe and Central Asia Unit, World Bank

Moderated Session No 2 “Migration and remittances”

- Ms. Tetiana Minenko, Representative of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Ukraine
- Mr. Nicolaas de Zwager (Austria), Director, International Agency for Source Country Information
- Ms. Marina Lewycka (Great Britain), British novelist of Ukrainian origin
- Mrs. Berenice Rendon Talavera, Ambassador of the United Mexican States to Ukraine
- Mr. Peter Hnatiuk, Vice-President, Russia, CIS, Emerging Europe and Israel, MoneyGram International
Excellencies, Deputies, ladies and gentlemen, colleagues, dear guests,

Let me welcome you warmly to today’s event. “The Future of Migration in Ukraine” we have chosen as today’s topic to mark the Organization’s 60th Anniversary globally and 15 years of presence in Ukraine.

During these last 60 years, we could witness an unprecedented era of human mobility. An era in which IOM assisted millions of migrants and fostered dialogue among nations to ensure orderly and humane responses to the challenges and opportunities coming with increased human mobility. Throughout all these years, the Organization has steadfastly served a world in motion and is committed to drawing attention to the significance and inherent potential of migration. That more and more countries have recognized the importance and potential of migration is also evidenced by IOM’s membership growth – from the representatives of 16 Nations which met in Belgium in 1951 to the 132 Member States of today, with Ukraine being amongst them since 2002.

Ukraine has just recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary. During these last two decades, the country has shifted from a relatively immobile society with limited freedom of movement to a country where migrants come from, transit through and stay. We are proud and honored to have been able to assist the country in almost all migration related fields during the last 15 years – from helping Ukrainian migrants going abroad, protecting and assisting those that have fallen victims to human trafficking to better dealing with irregular migration and improving the protection and treatment of irregular migrants. From better managing border crossings and migration management to promoting cultural tolerance and integration of migrants, counteracting xenophobia and hate crimes.

None of that we could have achieved without the support of the various donors and partners that supported us. It would go too far to name them all, but let me highlight the continuous support of the US Government and the European Union, the excellent working relationships with all the government bodies dealing with migration and the parliament, our partners and friends in the UN Country Team, our NGO partners and in particular all the IOM colleagues whom I am very proud to work with – all of them were and are indispensable for our work and I want to thank them all for their support, friendship and trust provided.

But, ladies and gentleman, we are not here today to focus on the past, but on what the future of migration might bring for the country. As in the past, there will be challenges and opportunities and we hope that today’s event will help to better understand where these challenges and opportunities might lie and how Ukraine can “manage” migration in the future in way, so that these opportunities are maximized and the challenges minimized – to the extend possible.

We have chosen two migration related topics that we believe highlight these challenges and opportunities and that haven’t received so far the attention in the Ukraine context they deserve: How the demographic developments in Ukraine and in the world might affect migratory movements in the future and how Ukrainian migrants might get more involved in the development of their home-country.

Only through demographic decline, the country has lost more than five million of its total population in the past 20 years. It continues to lose 380,000 a year, roughly the population of Sevastopol. How this might affect migration from and to Ukraine in the future will be the topic of our first session.

The money transfers from Ukrainians abroad sent home – also know as remittances – already match what foreign companies invest in the country. And that is just what is officially recorded – the real figure might very well be double as high. Monetary transfers from migrants are even eight times higher than what Ukraine receives as Official Development Assistance.
MR. MANFRED PROFAZI, is IOM Ukraine’s Chief of Mission since January 2010. A German National, he received his Masters’ Degree in Political Science at the Free University of Berlin. Before joining IOM in 1997, Mr. Profazi worked as a consultant at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW) in Berlin and at the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) in Vienna.

He started his career with IOM as a consultant at the IOM Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. Between 1998 and 2003, he was the Liaison Officer and later Programme Coordinator at the IOM office in Berlin, Germany. From 2003 to 2006 Manfred Profazi worked as Programme Manager of the Qualified Afghans Return Programme in Kabul, Afghanistan. Between 2006 and 2008 he served in Indonesia as Executive Officer and Head of Office a.i. of IOM’s Tsunami Response Operation in Aceh, Head of IOM’s Earthquake Response Operation in Yogyakarta and as IOM’s Executive Officer in Jakarta.

As for all international organizations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the first and primary point of contact for IOM. But our relationship with the MFA is far more than protocol. It is characterized by close cooperation in the sphere of migration, and not just here in Ukraine. To mention a recent example, we have closely coordinated our efforts to rescue Ukrainian migrant workers from conflict-affected areas in Libya with the Ministry’s own efforts in this respect. More than 200,000 migrant workers have been evacuated by IOM from Libya – for those trapped in Misrata, the IOM chartered ships were the only way out for weeks, amongst them also over 30 Ukrainian migrant workers.

I therefore want to express my gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for having agreed to co-host today’s event and for opening the premises of the Diplomatic Academy for that purpose. I welcome the Director for Consular Affairs, Mr. Olefirov who will speak to us later.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you and all of us an interesting day, fruitful discussions and thank you for your interest and participation.

If one sees how much is invested by Ukraine and the donor community to increase Foreign Direct Investment and international donor support, it is striking how little is invested to better understand and increase remittances flows and their potential for development.

We hope that today’s discussions in the afternoon can be useful to improve this in the future.

Key-note speakers and panelists include Ukrainian and International experts, Members of the Ukrainian Parliament and Government, diplomats, writers and private-sector representatives. They will be introduced to you in more detail later on by Mr. Kulykov, a journalist most of you know already and who has thankfully agreed to moderate today’s event.

Ladies and gentlemen, the importance to better manage labour-migration flows has been a priority of Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Social Policy Tihipko from the outset and we are grateful for the strategic partnership we enjoy with the Ministry of Social Policy in this respect. The link between labour mobility and demographic decline has been highlighted by the Minister and the Ministry on several occasions. We are therefore grateful to have the First Deputy Minister of Social Policy Mr. Vasyl Nadraha with us today.

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Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you and all of us an interesting day, fruitful discussions and thank you for your interest and participation.
I would like to congratulate the International Organization for Migration on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary. Let me also express gratitude to the IOM Mission in Ukraine, which over 15 years of its presence in Ukraine, has been strongly and professionally representing and protecting the interests of migrants in accordance with the international standards, while providing a civilized dialogue between the government and the society.

The Ministry of Social Policy appreciates the progress and prospects of cooperation with the International Organization for Migration. The signing of the Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry and the IOM Mission in Ukraine took place in September this year, once again emphasizing the importance and relevance of implementing migration policies, taking into account the priorities of the Ministry.

The modern world becomes increasingly globalized and interdependent. In these circumstances, virtually all countries are reassessing their roles, tasks and goals that will enable them to more effectively meet the future challenges of modern world.

Ukraine is a donor country of the workforce for developed countries, a host country for people from the countries with low socio-economic development, and a transit country of labour force to the European Union.

The processes of labour migration are the objective reality of today. They significantly influence social development and feature political, economic and demographic components, which, in the absence of a balanced policy in this area, may create some threat to the state. So, today the question of international labour migration has gained national importance and the acts of the President of Ukraine and the Government declare it as a priority of significant importance to the state.

The migration sector reform has started according to the EU “Eastern Partnership” Initiative and the Presidential Decree “On the State Migration Policy” signed in May this year, becoming the road map for the government agencies on strategic areas of migration policy of Ukraine.

Let me say a few words about the Ministry’s vision of the model of state regulation of labour migration, which will be based on the principle of human rights protection and fulfillment of decent work standards.

Firstly, it is necessary to conduct an effective employment policy, which utilizes a set of tools for distribution, redistribution, conservation and rational use of labour potential of Ukraine. Secondly, it is important that the state effectively manages labour migration processes.

Implementation of these policies will be conducted by means of:
- implementation of the system of measures aimed at improving the situation at the national labour market and creating jobs with decent wages;
- development and implementation of clear and transparent mechanisms for the regulation of migration processes that eliminate the possibility of social dumping, discrimination and exploitation;
- development of effective mechanisms to protect migrant workers;
- motivating circular labour migration;
- involvement of returning labour migrants and highly skilled foreign workers in the domestic labour market, followed by their integration into the Ukrainian society.

Another important task of the Ministry is to foster international cooperation in the sphere of labour migration and to strengthen social and legal protection of Ukrainian citizens abroad. It should be noted that this task is actively running.

Today, Ukraine is a party to the European Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers and the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Labour Migration and Social Protection of Migrant Workers within the CIS. In 2008, during the Summit of Heads of Governments of the CIS countries, the Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families of the CIS Countries was signed and is currently being prepared for ratification. At the same time Ukraine has signed 13 bilateral agreements in the field of employment. There are seven bilateral treaties on social security in force. Work continues regarding the conclusion of bilateral agreements in the sphere of social protection with the countries hosting the largest number of Ukrainian immigrants, particularly with...
Mr. Vasyl Nadraha graduated from Taras Shevchenko Luhansk State Pedagogical Institute, the Luhansk Regional Institute of Management, and the National Academy of Public Administration under the Office of the President of Ukraine. He has a PhD in Public Administration and a title of Assistant Professor. Mr. Nadraha held positions of the Deputy Head, Head of the Kamianobridsk District Council of Luhansk city (1995–1998), Deputy Head of Luhansk Region State Administration (1998–1999), Head of Luhansk Region Department of the Pension Fund of Ukraine (1999–2002). Since 2002 he is a Member of Administration of the Pension Fund of Ukraine. In 2002–2006, Mr. Nadraha was a People’s Deputy of Ukraine. Since September 2006 – First Deputy Director General of the Federation of Employers of Ukraine. Since March 2009 – Head of the Social Insurance Fund for temporary disability. Since June 2009 – Director General of the Federation of Employers of Ukraine. From March to December 2010, he was the Minister of Labour and Social Policy of Ukraine. In December 2010, he was appointed as a First Deputy Minister of Social Policy.

Poland, Germany, Greece and Israel. The agreements in the sphere of social protection with Portugal and Estonia are being prepared for ratification.

It is necessary to point out that continuous monitoring of external labour migration has been identified among the priorities of the migration policy. Effective migration policy is not possible if there are no figures available. However, the majority of Ukrainian migrant workers, especially those who left outside the formal channels of employment, work in the informal sector and they are very difficult to count. But the real estimates of the number of workers abroad can be approached through the data on remittances they send home. Following 2010, remittances to Ukraine amounted to more than USD 5 billion which is equal to all Foreign Direct Investment in Ukraine.

A lot of attention is currently given to the issue of integration of foreigners in Ukraine. This fact is supported by the task of the President of Ukraine to the Government to accelerate the adoption of the State Programme of integration of immigrants into the Ukrainian society and the new Law of Ukraine “On Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons”, which provides legal framework to protect the rights and interests of foreigners in Ukraine.

It is clear that addressing priority tasks needs joint efforts of state authorities, social partners, other organizations and civil society. This role will be prescribed to the Council on Labour Migration of the Citizens of Ukraine, established as an advisory body to the Cabinet of Ministers.

In addition, during today’s government meeting it is planned to approve amendments to the Council’s terms of references, which foresee creation of a convenient environment for remote participation of NGOs dealing with labour migrants and Diasporas in the Council meetings. We believe that this interaction may significantly contribute to developing proposals for improving the social and legal protection of migrant workers and strengthen our position towards facilitating the return of migrant workers.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that the International Organization for Migration is the bearer of a unique experience on how to solve migration issues and influence developments related to migration. In Ukraine we clearly understand that such large-scale and global task of regulating migration processes cannot be resolved on its own, without the participation of international partners. In this context I would like to point out that the Ministry of Social Policy and the IOM have common goals and aims. We work for the people and for people’s benefit. I hope that our further cooperation will become stronger and more fruitful and relationships will remain sincere, honest and friendly.
Let me congratulate the International Organization for Migration with the two anniversaries—60th Anniversary of the founding of the Organization and the 15 years of the IOM Mission in Ukraine, and to start my speech with my own understanding of the IOM activity. For me, the success of this Organization is based on two pillars. The first of them is the ability to daily work quickly and effectively, in many cases saving peoples’ lives. I know this from my personal experience: when in the early 1990s I worked in Bosnia and Herzegovina, through a clear joint action with the International Organization for Migration, we managed to save the lives of more than 100 Ukrainian women-victims of human trafficking. Another example, which was just mentioned by Mr. Profazi, is the IOM’s help in the evacuation of foreign nationals, including Ukrainians, from Libya. The second pillar on which the IOM’s activity is based is the deep analytical work.

The combination of analytics and practice is the key to a successful 60 years of IOM’s activity worldwide and the 15 years of work in Ukraine. All these years are just the beginning. So I wish the International Organization for Migration many returns.

Proceeding to the topic of the conference, I want to paraphrase a famous quote of the U.S. President John F. Kennedy: “Do not ask what labour migrants can do for you. Ask what you can do for labour migrants.”

The work conducted in this direction by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) may seem trivial to external observers; however, for our citizens abroad it has a very significant meaning.

For example, last year at the initiative of the MFA supported by the Government of Ukraine, some steps were taken to provide our citizens outside the country with passports for leaving abroad. In addition, at the initiative of the MFA supported by the Verkhovna Rada, this year, amendments were introduced to the legislation of Ukraine allowing, as of 1 January 2012, to significantly expand the categories of Ukrainian citizens abroad who can be provided with foreign passports without a necessity to come to Ukraine. Another example: labour migrants temporarily staying abroad were provided with the possibility to arrive in Ukraine by car without clearance for two months’ stay in Ukraine.

At the global level we see the way to ensure a dignified life for migrant workers in the creation of a broad legal framework. Particularly, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Policy we aim to expand the bilateral and multilateral legal framework, improve the provision of information for our compatriots abroad etc.

The Consular Service of the MFA of Ukraine is also trying to combine practical measures, analytics and global work on systems development. We have common objectives and goals with the International Organization for Migration, and are ready to continue to work together.

Concluding my brief speech, I would like to congratulate all participants of this event and thank all IOM staff for their support and assistance provided to MFA in ensuring a clear understanding of the processes of labour migration and an effective response to them.

Mr. Andrii Olefirov became the Director of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in April 2010. Prior to assuming this position, he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. He is a career Ukrainian Foreign Service Consular Officer and has served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for 15 years.

From 1996 to 2009 Mr. Olefirov served in different sections of the Consular Department (from 2008 to 2009, as the Head of Section for Legislative Affairs). From 2004 to 2008 he served as Consul of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York. Mr. Olefirov also served as Consul in the Embassy of Ukraine in Croatia. In that capacity, in 2001, for almost a year, he served as Charge D’Affairs a.i.

Mr. Olefirov earned an M.A. from the Kyiv Shevchenko State University and studied at the Diplomatic Academy of Ukraine.
Mr. Andrii Kulykov, TV anchor and observer, moderating the Conference

Mr. Peter Hnatiuk, Vice-President, Russia, CIS, Emerging Europe and Israel, MoneyGram International

Mrs. Berenice Rendon Talavera, Ambassador of the United Mexican States to Ukraine

Ms. Nuzhat Ehsan (left), Country Director, UN Population Fund and Mrs. Berenice Rendon Talavera (right), Ambassador of the United Mexican States to Ukraine

Mr. Manfred Profazi, Chief of Mission, IOM Ukraine
In these days, world population is about to reach 7 million people – more than ever before. But at the same time, the population is getting older driven by two major demographic trends: an increasing life expectancy and a decreasing number of children per family.

Both are general trends which are most advanced in Europe and Japan. In the past centuries, the life span of Europe’s inhabitants has continuously increased resulting in a current average life expectancy of 73 years for men (with Iceland and Switzerland above 80 years) and 80 years for women (with France, Spain, Switzerland and Italy above 84 years). Furthermore, our life expectancy keeps on increasing, currently by 6 hours per day. No earlier generation ever had had the chance to live for almost a century. At the same time, the average number of children per woman has decreased to 1.6 in Europe. Only in Iceland, Ireland and Turkey women on average have slightly more than two children. Our generation is the one with the smallest offspring so far. Given these facts, Europe is greying. Both, the number and the share of the elderly are rising. In countries like Germany, Italy, Greece and Sweden, around one fifth of the population is 65 years old or older.

Ukraine is fully in line with these global trends, however, with large differences within the country. Due to socio-economic differences, life expectancy and fertility rates show a West – East divide. Among European countries, Ukraine is the one mostly affected by population decline. During the last 20 years, the number of inhabitants has fallen from 52 million to 46 million. And within the next 20 years, Ukrainian population is expected to further shrink by more than 18 per cent.

In the 1990s, Ukraine’s net migration suddenly turned from positive to negative. After independence, Ukrainians returning from Russia and formerly displaced Tatars returning to the Crimean peninsula made up for the majority of immigrants. But only a few years later, emigration for economic reasons predominantly to Russia occurred. Today, besides Russia, the EU and North America are the main target destinations of Ukrainian emigrants. Remittances of emigrants are, however, key to GDP, comprising up to 8 per cent.

These demographic trends, of course, have a negative effect on the size of the potential labour force.

What can be done to cope with demographic ageing and population decline?

- Increase the number of children by establishing stimuli for women to give birth to more children, such as financial support or child care facilities.
- Increase retirement age since Ukraine is one of the countries with the lowest retirement age throughout Europe. Employing people longer, however, means also challenges for employers to deal with older workers.
- Increase labour productivity. Higher energy efficiency, modernization of production and the possibility to purchase land for private individuals would lead to higher competitiveness and productivity.
- Be attractive for skilled and talented immigrants by creating competitive admission schemes, job and housing opportunities, educational infrastructure and a welcoming cultural environment.

In Ukraine, there are huge potentials that could be exploited by reforms and measures.

Mr. RAINER MÜNZ, Academic Director of Erste School of Banking and Finance (Erste Group) and Senior Fellow at the Hamburg Institute of International Economics. Mr. Münz is an expert on population change, international migration and demographic aging, their economic impact and the implications for retail banking and social security systems. He earned his PhD from Vienna University in 1978. Mr. Münz has worked as consultant for the European Commission, the OECD and the World Bank. He served as an advisor to the Greek (2003), Dutch (2004) and Slovene (2008) EU presidencies. In 2000–2001 he was a member of the German commission on immigration reform (Süssmuth commission). In 2008–2010 he was a member of the high level “EU Group of the Wise”. Mr. Münz is a member of several boards and advisory boards; among them Bruegel (Brussels), the Centre for Migration, Integration and Citizenship at Oxford University, the European Policy Centre (Brussels) and the World Demographic and Aging Forum (St. Gallen).
According to established demographic estimates, the world population is expected to reach 7 billion people on 31 October 2011. The population growth has reached unprecedented levels over the last 24 years adding one billion people every twelve years. This historical rate of growth has been the result of a demographic transition, with a significant drop of mortality while fertility rates remained high before they started declining. While absolute numbers witnessed unprecedented increase, population growth rates have been decreasing from 2.02 per cent in 1965–1970 to 1.17 per cent in 2005–2010 and are expected to further decline to 0.36 per cent in 2045–2050. The world population is therefore expected to increase to 9.1 billion by 2050 and to stabilize at around 10 billion by 2100.

The population growth has been concentrated primarily in the developing world and where fertility rates have remained relatively high. In contrast, the population of more developed countries, where fertility is below replacement level, is not expected to increase. In some countries absolute numbers are even expected to decrease. The population of developed countries is also quickly ageing as a result of fertility decline and increased life expectancies at higher ages and would actually decline, were it not for sustained migration.

It is worth noting that fertility is declining worldwide. This is largely due to the impact of family planning, which has helped to prevent unintended pregnancies and has improved women’s reproductive health. Excluding sub-Saharan Africa, the world as a whole has now attained a level of replacement or below replacement fertility.

Through declining fertility the demographic transition first increased the share of younger populations, prompting a “demographic dividend” thus lowering the demographic burden in many developing countries and causing the proportion of the older people to increase. The population of over 60 years of age already forms more than 20 per cent in the developed countries whereas it is growing at fast rate in the developing world.

The largest ever population of young people is changing our world and the future. When young people can claim their right to health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and decent working conditions, they are a powerful force for economic development.

Due to low fertility, high mortality and migration losses, some countries have seen significant declines in their populations. This is observed primarily in the countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. This has led to social and economic problems that need to be addressed. Helping governments design policies to better manage the consequences of fertility decline without violating individual rights is already one of the challenges to many public policies.

**DEMOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF UKRAINE**

The population and development situation in Ukraine has been acknowledged by the Government as a demographic crisis, due to a combination of rapid population decrease and deterioration of the population wellbeing. In summary, Ukraine is now witnessing:

- Below replacement fertility: total fertility rate was 1.445 in 2010.
- High mortality (especially among men of working age): 15.2 per cent in 2010.
- Poor health (including reproductive health and health of children).
- Relatively low longevity with significant gender disparities in life expectancy. Men aged 15-34 years die three times more than women of the same age; the most frequent causes of death being life style choices/ issues.
- Population ageing: 20.9 per cent people aged 60+ (2011) – Ukraine is in the world’s top 30 oldest countries; large gender and regional discrepancies (here you can refer to the pyramid showing larger cohorts of aged females).
- Significant population mobility: positive net migration of only 16.1 thousand people in 2010, but Ukraine is in the lists of top migration countries.
- Change in traditional family values and roles.
- High relative poverty and income stratification.
- Broadening quality of life gap between rural and urban areas.

In this context I will speak briefly regarding one population group: namely the youth.

**SITUATION OF YOUTH IN UKRAINE**

(According to the 2010 IDSS research on youth funded by UNFPA):

- Young people aged 15-34 comprise 29.8 per cent of the total population as of 2010. The share of youth in the Ukraine’s population will further shrink.
- Ukraine’s youth are more engaged in active migration activities than any other age groups: they account for about 2/3 of the total migration turnover in Ukraine.
- Young people massively migrate from rural to urban areas: 71 per cent of young people live in urban settlements.
• The health of Ukraine’s youth is substantially poorer, and mortality significantly higher than in Europe: youth mortality is thrice as much as the European average.
• Inequalities in access to education grow, especially for rural youth.
• The education system is not well attuned to the labour market resulting in difficulties with employment for young graduates and higher levels of unemployment in the age group 15-24 years.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR UKRAINE
• Integrate the population and development dynamics and linkages into national policies, development programmes and plans in all sectors, walks of life and at all levels. Population dynamics, including growth rates, age, fertility and mortality, migration and more, influence every aspect of human, social and economic development.
• Collect, disseminate and use good quality population data, including gender and age disaggregated data, for national policy making, programming and planning. National population census is the most comprehensive population data source, and these numbers tell us about the people.
• Focus on population quality (health and well-being) rather than mere numbers. Depopulation itself is not the key development challenge, as demonstrated by many European experiences.
• Address the needs and demands of young people through a participatory approach: health, education, employment, self-fulfilment.
• Improve health and prevent “early” mortality, especially among men, through health promotion and prevention of diseases and accidents. The largest reserve to slow down depopulation and increase longevity lies in the mortality reduction domain, while promoting fertility will be less effective.
• Foster conducive environment to families to enable them realize their childbearing plans: legislation, employment, housing, infrastructure.
• Improve migration measurement and consider effective and culturally sensitive migration management for labour force replacement.
• Promote gender equality and eradicate gender discrimination in order to fully utilize the economic and social development potentials of women.
• Ensure active participation of older persons in economic and social life, and promote health in older age. Healthy older workers represent a growing reservoir of unrealized human capital. The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing to be used as a roadmap for planning and implementing a national policy response.

I want to conclude with a few words about a world with 7 billion people: by reaching 7 billion humanity marks an achievement. However, a lot of effort is still required to ensure that the social dividends of this achievement are equitable and shared by all. Decisions that societies and governments make today and the adoption of sound population policies can therefore have a significant impact on the paths that population size, structure and distribution follow in the years to come.
Ukraine is a donor, a host (though not in a large scale) and a transit country for the workforce. In regard to demographic situation, Ukraine is a country with substantial emigration as well as immigration potential. Ukraine is one of the largest donors of labour in Europe. According to the first national survey on labour migration (2008), during 2005 and first half of 2008, 1.5 million residents of Ukraine worked abroad, or 5.1 per cent of Ukraine’s working age population. Given the groups of migrants, who were not covered by the study in accordance with the accepted methodology, the total number of Ukrainian workers by the estimate of Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Studies (IDSS) of the National Academy of Science (NAS) of Ukraine amounts to 2.1 million people. (Fig. 1)

Fig. 1. The volume of external labor migration of Ukraine’s population by host countries

Sources: The results of a nationwide survey on migration (2008), the author’s rating

The process of labour migration in Ukraine has lasted for more than a decade. As international experience shows, the longer the duration of labor tours and the more often they occur, the greater is the likelihood of migrants settling in the host country. In the 1990s, the cases of permanent emigration of the Ukrainian citizens were rare, now they are becoming more common. It should be understood that some of our workers will not return to Ukraine.

During the study “Gender-Specific Migration Behavior of the Population of Ukraine” conducted by Ptukha IDSS of NAS, supported by the UNDP Equal Opportunities Program, student surveys were carried out, which included six cities of Ukraine: Zaporizhia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Odesa, Uman and Khmelnytskyi. The survey showed a relatively high willingness of students to go abroad, but at the same time the level of determination to leave Ukraine for permanent residence is low. Only 5.6 per cent of respondents plan to leave for permanent residence immediately after graduation and another 8.4 per cent will consider opportunities to do so in the future. Instead, 13.7 per cent of respondents showed willingness to go abroad to work immediately after graduation and more than half (56.1 per cent) of respondents wanted to leave for some time in a more distant future. Among the latter, almost half intend to leave from one to three years, almost 25 per cent would like to leave for less than one year, 25 per cent – from three to five years, and less than 8 per cent – for more than five years. Average expected term of stay outside Ukraine is about 30 months. More than a half of those who wish to go abroad certainly are not going to refuse Ukrainian citizenship, only one out of eight is going to do so, and the rest of the respondents are undecided on this issue. Stable trends in dependence between intention to change the citizenship and the place of residence and the respondents’ year of study were not observed.

Therefore, despite the large amounts of external labour migration, Ukraine still has a considerable potential for emigration. Assessing the results of the survey, namely the dominant determination of students towards temporary rather than permanent emigration, it is worth remembering that the absolute majority of workers who once traveled from Ukraine had no intention to change permanent residence.

Immigration potential of Ukraine is even higher than emigration potential. In Ukraine, as a result of the demographic crisis, further decrease of the total population is inevitable, especially of the number of people of working age. According to the medium demographic development forecast for Ukraine, developed by the IDSS, in the beginning of 2051, Ukraine’s population will shrink by more than 14 per cent as compared to the current level. Moreover, the decrease of working age population is inevitable. By mid-century, this group is expected to shrink by one fourth according to the best case scenario, by one third to almost a half in the worst case.

The levels of decrease of number of population in Ukraine are not the same throughout its territory: the number of residents of Kyiv and other multifunctional
cities and the main resort areas will not significantly decrease in almost any circumstances. If the number of population shrinks by 1.5 times, in some regions such decrease will reach two to three times and some areas (with favourable living conditions) will become deserted. Under the medium forecast of demographic development of Ukraine’s regions, while the total number of the population will reduce by 12.4 per cent before 2036, it will still grow by 18 per cent in Kyiv and by 14 per cent in Volyn region, by 10 per cent in Sevastopol, Odesa, whereas in some Western regions the number of population will remain virtually unchanged, while in Donetsk, Chernihiv, Sumy and Kherson regions decrease in the number of population will reach 24-27 per cent, and in Luhansk and Kirovohrad regions it will be more than 28 per cent.

Under these conditions, attracting migrants (“replacement immigration”) remains almost the only way to increase the total population of Ukraine and to balance its gender and age structure. This migration flow may improve the demographic situation. Ukraine may well expect (under appropriate policy) immigration flows, since the level and conditions of life in Ukraine are better than in most countries in Asia and Africa. On the other hand, the problem of overpopulation in developing countries makes this region of the world a practically inexhaustible source of migrants.

World experience shows that small groups of immigrants tend to quickly integrate into the society of the host country, while the large group of people of common ethnic origin (especially if they arrived in the country within a short time) may form a strong diaspora that lives by its laws and in fact, beyond the legal framework of the host country. Today the number of immigrants from developing countries living in Ukraine is small which creates conditions for successful (subject to implementation of appropriate policy) integration.

As the survey conducted by the IDSS among the students of Ukrainian universities in 2005–2011 shows, the level of tolerance of Ukrainian students regarding “nontraditional” immigrants is quite high. This determines the need for taking measures aimed at convincing the public opinion of a need for an active immigration policy, finding rationale for the general public behind the need to introduce unpopular measures of migration policy; developing harmonious relationships among various population groups, countering xenophobia, promoting tolerance in the society; and supporting integration of certain groups into the Ukrainian society. Among the urgent measures of the state immigration policy of Ukraine it is recommended to simplify the procedure for granting citizenship to the immigrants who already reside in Ukraine (first of all – the graduates of the Ukrainian universities), to form a small integrated groups of immigrants of different ethnic origin.

[1] The survey was conducted by the Ukrainian Centre for Social Reform and the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine in June 2008 under the "Study of Labour Migration in Ukraine" Project, supported by the International Organization of Migration, the World Bank and the Fund of Arsenii Yatseniuk “Open Ukraine”.

I am happy that the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the International Organization for Migration in Ukraine and the 15th Anniversary of activity of the Mission of this reputable international organization belonging to the United Nations (UN) system begins with such a representative international conference where I am honoured to participate.

The number of migrants in the modern world is continuously growing. According to the UN expert estimates, in 2010 the number of migrants reached 214 million, and by 2050 the number of international migrants may reach 405 million.

Thus, the problem of migration in the world is an objective reality which we must consider and systematically work towards developing mechanisms for overcoming possible risks. To solve these problems and prevent new ones we should know the number of migrants who are in Ukraine today and also predict possible migration volumes in the future. Only then we can talk about advantages and gains of receiving migrants for the interests of the country.

The State Migration Service (SMS) of Ukraine, whose activity is based on the principles of openness and transparency, is a serious and responsible partner of international and non-governmental organizations and neighboring countries in the implementation of migration policy and ensuring compliance with the European standards in this area.

It should be admitted that today Ukraine is a country of origin, transit and destination for international migrants. Specifically, Ukraine remains a country of origin of migrant workers for both the CIS and the European Union. Much of migration flows are characterized by irregular circular migration which results not only in the loss of the young and working population, but also presents the threat of human rights violations.

We should also bear in mind the general demographic trends that significantly affect the migration situation in Ukraine. Over the past 20 years the population of Ukraine decreased by almost 5 million, which is a result of high level of mortality and large migration outflow. Given the demographic decline, and the complex nature of migration flows we should focus at least on the following areas: improving the regulation of migration flows in the country and their control, as well as securing the needs of the Ukrainian economy in formal labour immigration.

While the real volume of immigration to Ukraine may only be forecasted, most expert estimates agree upon the fact that about 87 per cent of registered immigrants come from the CIS countries, mainly from Russia, Moldova and Uzbekistan. Due to its geographical location, Ukraine will remain a major transit country for irregular migrants to the EU in the future. According to the experts, economic growth, approaching the level of wages to the standards of the EU countries, as well as demographic decline will weaken the intensity of immigration from our country. These factors obviously will make Ukraine a more attractive destination for regular and irregular migrant workers from the CIS countries and Asia.

I can affirmatively state that the work to reform the immigration legislation of Ukraine is continuing and we already have the most important legal instruments available using which the State Migration Service actively carries out its functions. The President of Ukraine approved the Concept of the State Migration Policy, which has become a comprehensive document that allows solving most issues related to migration.

We understand that Ukraine should develop a strategic vision of the consequences of migration, because its absence may lead to serious demographic and social instability in the Ukrainian society.

It is well known that irregular migration is not only detrimental to the economic and social development, but also often associated with different types of crime. So, with the increased dynamics of migration flows, the problem of combating irregular migration becomes especially important. In this respect, irregular migration is one of the threats to the national security of Ukraine.

I consider the development of effective modern system of identification and registration of foreigners and stateless persons as one of the priorities of the State Migration Service, which will help influence the regulation of migration flows.

The Government of Ukraine has set priority task for the State Migration Service of Ukraine, which is to create a system of registration of foreigners and stateless persons entering the territory of Ukraine, and integration of this system into the European one, together with introduction of passports for the citizens of Ukraine featuring electronic chip with biometric information.

*The speech was presented by a representative of SMS*
Thus, the following steps should be taken:

- Creation of a unified automated system of registration of foreigners who crossed the state border and stay in Ukraine.
- Development and approval of the necessary regulatory framework, including the need for separation of power of the government agencies, dealing with migration management.

I would like to mention the issue of immigration amnesty in Ukraine, the expediency of which has been actively debated in recent years. Currently, SMS is actively studying the experience of the European countries and the nearest neighbouring states on this issue in order to form a position regarding this measure. (Considering the fact that under the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the census should be conducted in Ukraine in 2012-2013, respectively, such an amnesty for certain categories of people would make it possible to get actual figures on the population in the country and, therefore, to forecast further development of demographic and socio-economic situation).

Implicitly, the question regarding the implementation of migration amnesty should be based on thorough research on positive aspects and the risks which it may bring to the national security.

The following can be attributed to absolutely positive aspects:

- Further development of migration legislation.
- Obtaining reliable statistical data, which in turn will help making more effective management decisions.
- Legalization of irregular immigrants in the labour market of Ukraine, which will make them pay taxes and help fight the shadow economy.
- Reduction of the conflicting nature of immigration process.
- Documentation of irregular immigrants will partly solve the problem of voluntary repatriation.

Given the peculiarities of Ukraine, immigration amnesty would apply to various categories of foreigners and stateless persons, in particular, it would provide an opportunity to finally resolve the issue of documenting ethnic Koreans and others.

The following risks should be considered:

- Encouraging further irregular migration.
- Ambiguous perception of migration by certain political forces in Ukraine.
- Need for financial support of migration policy in a new wave of global economic crisis.
- Creating understanding of migration as a serious social problem in the society.

The implementation of the system of these and other measures will allow to obtain objective data on the actual numbers of foreigners who are permanently residing on the territory of Ukraine, and also ensure the effective management of migration flows and to provide workers access to health services, employment, and their integration into the Ukrainian society.

IOM is one of our most reliable partners in the realization of common objectives for strengthening Ukraine’s democratic values and human rights standards. This year we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of this organization. Let me use this occasion and warmly congratulate all colleagues from the International Organization for Migration and wish you continued success in your extremely important work.

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**MR. OLEKSANDR ZABRUDSKYI,** Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine (SMS) from April to December 2011. Graduated from Dnipropetrovsk State University and Dnipropetrovsk State University of Internal Affairs with Degrees in Economics, Banking and Law. In 1995 he started working for Dnipropetrovsk Regional Department of the National Bank of Ukraine. From 1996 to 2000 he served at the Dnipropetrovsk branch of JSCB “Ukrsotsbank”. Between 2000 and 2005 Mr. Zabrudskyi worked in different management positions at the Main Control and Revision Department of Ukraine. From October 2005 to January 2008 he held the position of Deputy Head of the Main Control and Revision Department of Ukraine. From March 2010 to April 2011 he worked for the Ministry of Internal Affairs as Head of the Control and Revision Department.

The State Migration Service of Ukraine is a central executive body responsible for migration management, directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers through the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The SMS was established on 9 December 2010 and is a civilian body.
Migration processes in the modern world significantly affect economic life and status of human resources in different countries. It is migration that largely determines the socio-economic “picture” of many states.

Global trends of increased migration encourage every sovereign state to produce and implement an adequate migration policy. Migration may be a benefit or a challenge, may positively impact the economy or may lead to social upheaval and increased level of crime.

Solving problems generated by large scale migration is difficult even for wealthy countries of the European Union (EU). This is also true in Ukraine. Therefore, we are grateful that we can cooperate with a reliable partner, the International Organization for Migration. I would like to congratulate this respected and reputable organization on the occasion of its 60th Anniversary. I would also like to congratulate personally the Chief of the IOM Mission in Ukraine, Mr. Manfred Profazi, on the occasion of 15th Anniversary of the IOM’s work in Ukraine. I hope that our cooperation will strengthen and help overcome migration-related challenges Ukraine is facing.

Due to its geopolitical location, our state is in the centre of migration flows. It is extensively involved in international migration as a host country, a donor country and a transit country. Unfortunately, despite the successful steps towards development of legislation on migration, until recently we did not have clearly defined goals of the state migration policy of Ukraine, its strategic objectives, and, in fact, there was no migration service that would cover the main set of activities in this area. A few years ago at the round table organized by the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations, we discussed the necessity of creating a single state executive authority in the field of migration. This body has been created and now it operates while still defining resources and staff structure. However this is the issue of executive power, and I would like to focus on the legislative component, especially since lately a considerable progress has been made in this area.

In May 2011, the President of Ukraine approved the Concept of Migration Policy of Ukraine. This strategy paper has defined the priorities of the state in the area of migration and formulated specific tasks for the state authorities. Moreover, a number of tasks have already been implemented since the adoption of the Concept.

First of all, we improved the national system of providing asylum. The problem was that Ukraine, unlike other European countries, had no legal institutions of additional and temporary protection, which did not contribute to the appropriate ensuring of human rights in our country. A large number of foreigners and stateless persons could not obtain a refugee status because of their failure to comply with the conditions prescribed by the Law “On Refugees”. But at the same time, their return to the country of origin or previous residence was not possible due to environmental, technological or other emergency circumstances. In other words, foreigners and stateless persons stayed in Ukraine without any defined status, which often led to negative consequences.

That is why one of the tasks defined by the Concept of Migration Policy of Ukraine was to improve the legislation on refugees by adopting legislation on the provision of additional or temporary protection in Ukraine to foreigners and stateless persons. The Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations Committee quickly prepared the draft Law “On Refugees and Persons Requiring Additional or Temporary Protection” for consideration by the Parliament in the first and second reading, submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. On 8 July 2011, the bill was passed as the Law. It has regulated the procedure of recognition of individuals as refugees, i.e. persons requiring additional or temporary protection, and defined the legal status of these individuals.

The next step was to update the legislation on the status of foreigners and stateless persons. The need for this was determined by the necessity to bring it into conformity with the Constitution of Ukraine and international treaties on human rights to which our state is a party. In addition, it was one of the obligations regarding the implementation of the Action Plan towards liberalization of visa regime between Ukraine and the EU.

New version of the Law “On Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons” was drafted by the Committee. It was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 22 September 2011.
This Law has considerably improved the procedures for entering and exiting Ukraine for foreigners and stateless persons and secured a simplified procedure for registration of foreigners and stateless persons. In particular, the Law provides that they are registered at the state border crossing points. The grounds for temporary stay of separate categories of nationals on the territory of Ukraine were extended. Such categories include volunteers, members of religious organizations or public non-government organizations, journalists of foreign media.

Thus, the legislation regulating the process of receiving migrants was improved, in particular, regarding the grounds of migrants’ stay in Ukraine and conditions for entry and exit.

If we take a different component of migration, namely the supply of migrants by Ukraine, we are facing several important challenges, and one of the main ones is fighting human trafficking. According to the study of the International Organization for Migration, published in December 2006, approximately 117,000 of Ukrainians have suffered from human trafficking since 1991. Significant progress has been made in development of legislation in the sphere of counter-trafficking. I shall remind that on 14 October 2010, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine ratified the Convention of the Council of Europe “Action against Trafficking in Human Beings”. And a draft law “On Combating Human Trafficking” was immediately developed.

This Law proposed to regulate the entire system of relations in this area. I personally introduced the draft to the Parliament. On 22 September 2011, this bill was adopted as the Law. The Law identifies the organizational and legal framework for combating human trafficking, the main areas of state policy and principles of international cooperation in this area, the authority of executive bodies, the process of defining the status of victims of trafficking, and the procedure of granting assistance to victims. I hope that this Law will help to increase the effectiveness of anti-trafficking measures as well as activate the mechanism of victim protection.

The Law “On the Documents that Prove Identity and Citizenship of Ukraine” regulates a number of issues aimed at efficient management of migration flows, personal data protection in line with European standards, creation of the system of biometric verification and identification of the citizens of Ukraine, combating crime, including trafficking, protection of the citizens of Ukraine abroad, and foreigners and stateless persons staying in Ukraine.

This Law was also discussed by the Committee and adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in September 2011. (The Law was vetoed by President Yanukovych on 21 October 2011. – editor’s note).

I would also like to touch upon the important aspects, which we need to focus on in the future.

First of all, state authorities should change the perception of migration as solely a problem for the country and learn to use migration policy as an effective tool for overcoming the negative consequences of the demographic crisis and for involvement of migrant labour for the benefit of the country.

For a long time we have been a country supplying migrant workers. The pace and scope of the outflow of labour and intellectual potential of the nation threaten the sustainable socio-economic development of the country and worsen demographic situation. It is very difficult to slow down or stop this complex multidimensional and continuous process, because people will always go to places where living conditions are better, salaries are higher, and where they can realize their employment potential. We should consider the fact that the immigration policies of neighbouring countries aim at attracting foreign labor. It is possible that in the near future we will have to compete for potential migrants with the CIS countries and especially with Russia.

With this in mind, in my opinion, there is an urgent need to upgrade the national immigration policy. Existing priorities became irrelevant. Now we need to shift the focus from restriction towards encouraging immigration. Immigration quotas in Ukraine should be determined on the basis of detailed analysis taking into account current and future demographic situation and the situation on the labour market.

In this context, special attention should be paid to the issues of adaptation and integration of migrants into the Ukrainian society. I believe that government should be more active in this area. Only in the second half of 2009, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine began applying a systematic approach to integration of refugees, in particular, the Cabinet issued the Regulation “On the Action Plan for the Integration of Persons Granted Refugee Status into the Ukrainian Society until 2012”. In June 2011, the Government approved a plan of integration of migrants into the Ukrainian society for 2011–2015. These are the first steps that should lead to the development of a comprehensive model of integration and adaptation
of migrants into society. We have to help migrants to socially adapt in a new environment and also overcome ethnic, religious and linguistic barriers through the establishment of intercultural dialogue in order to achieve a social consensus and prevent conflicts. In this regard it is worth noting that we have almost twenty years of unique experience of resettlement and adaptation of a large number of returnees, in particular, the Crimean Tatars.

In conclusion I would like to mention that according to the division of authority, it is the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations which has the right for legal regulation of most of the questions which I have touched upon. As for immediate plans, we are working on drafting bills aimed at supporting Ukrainians abroad, restoring the rights of persons deported on ethnic grounds, in particular, ensuring their rights and facilitating acquiring of Ukrainian citizenship. The Committee keeps monitoring the issue of protection of the rights of the citizens of Ukraine who work abroad. In the future, we consider it necessary to focus on the formation of the state ethnic policy, which should take into account the issue of new migrant communities in Ukraine.

Migration processes has always existed and will continue existing in the future. The task of each state is to effectively manage such processes and to turn them into the benefit of the society.

MR. OLEH ZARUBINSKYI, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations, PhD in history, professor of political science. Mr. Zarubinskyi graduated from Vinnitsa State Pedagogical Institute and Ternopil Academy of National Economy. From 1985 to 1998 he lectured and chaired the department at the Vinnytsia State Pedagogical Institute. Between 1998 and 2006, Mr. Zarubinskyi was a people’s deputy of 3rd and 4th Verkhovna Rada convocation. He held the posts of the Cabinet of Ministers Permanent Representative to the Parliament, First Deputy Chair of the European Integration Parliamentary Committee, and Head of the Ukrainian Delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. In 2007 Mr. Zarubinskyi was elected as a people’s deputy of 6th Verkhovna Rada convocation. He is the author and co-author of more than 130 scientific publications and about 200 legislative proposals.
SeSSion “MiGRATion AND deMoGRAPHiCS”

DAriUSZ PTkA, COUNTRy MANAgER, 
EASTERN EUROPE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, ADECCO UKRAINE

As a Private Employment Agency with a Global presence we have a pragmatic approach. We know that the “future” has its beginning now and we can form and in some way have an impact on coming processes. As a company working on the labour market we are the first barometer of economic trends and cycles. We know first when our business partners start to hire and when they begin laying people off. We know from job seekers their current expectations and what skills employers are looking for. We have to recognize the trend when job seekers are interested in getting jobs 500 km or 1,000 km from their home town and when employers face the problem of a lack of candidates in their area. Our industry looks at migration from a labour perspective

We can analyze migration from a structural approach and see three main dimensions:

1. Micro. Individual values or desire and expectancies: improving and securing survival, wealth, status, comfort, autonomy.

2. Meso. Collective and social networks: obligation and solidarity, control and access to the resources of others.


From the labour perspective and to present an approach pragmatically if we want to speak about future of migration, we have to point out:

- What is the economic development trend?
- What is the basis and what will be the future conditions for creating new jobs?
- How flexible is the labour market and what are the legal regulations which impact on the rights of employers and employees?
- How to attract migrant workers from abroad (now hosted by different countries)?
- How to attract and integrate migrants due to future skills demand?
- How to promote business models which support international job seekers?

The main message in terms of labour migration in the Ukrainian context is that now is the time for the Government and other concerned stakeholders to provide support and to implement effective solutions which will coordinate labour migration.

MR. DAriUSZ PTAK, Country Manager, Adecco Ukraine. Mr. Ptak has been a part of Adecco since 1999. He began his career in Adecco as a Consultant, later becoming a Branch Manager and the Region Director in Poland. In 2004 he became the General Director/Country Manager of Adecco Poland. In 2008 Mr. Ptak was promoted to the position of International Mobility Director in Eastern Europe and in 2009 held the post of Operational Director for the Region of Russia and Ukraine. From 2011, he has held the position of Country Manager of Adecco Ukraine and Eastern Europe Government Affairs Director responsible for lobbying activities for temporary work regulations in Eastern European Countries.

Adecco Group is one of the largest providers of HR solutions in nine out of the 13 major world economic markets. These markets account for 95 per cent of the turnover of the world’s recruitment industry.
PHOTO REPORT

Ms. Tetiana Minenko (left), the ILO representative and Ms. Marina Lewycka (right), British novelist of Ukrainian origin

Mr. Oleh Zarubinskyi (left), Head of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and International Relations and Mr. Dariusz Ptak (right), Country Manager, Eastern Europe Government Affairs Director, ADECCO Ukraine

Mr. Ibrahim Pada Kasaii, Ambassador of Nigeria to Ukraine (centre)

Mr. Johannes Köttl, Economist at the Human Development Department, Europe and Central Asia Unit, World Bank and Mrs. Berenice Rendon Talavera, Ambassador of the United Mexican States to Ukraine
The global labour force will undergo drastic changes over the coming decades. Regions with aging and declining labour forces will exist next to regions with strongly expanding, young labour forces. These labour force imbalances will have a considerable impact on migration pressures. So-called deficit regions – the high-income countries of East Asia and North America as well as Europe – will struggle to keep their economic models, fiscal sustainability, and care for their elderly afloat in the absence of increased immigration. At the same time, the increasing number of young workers in the so-called surplus regions – the low and middle-income countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America – will look for economic opportunities abroad; economic opportunities that their home countries are currently not able to provide.

These increased migration pressures pose a risk for sending and receiving countries if not addressed proactively. On the one hand, governments in receiving countries have to shift towards more proactive and demand-driven migration policies that attract the right number and types of immigrants. On the other hand, governments in sending countries have to ensure that increased future emigration does not endanger their own development. This means reaping the many positive development impacts of migration and remittances by actively reaching out to the diaspora; and by investing in the skills of their labour force that can serve not only their own needs, but also the needs of receiving countries.

MR. JOHANNES KOETTL is an economist at the Human Development Department of the World Bank’s Europe and Central Asia unit and a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA). He has been working on issues related to labor markets, migration, health, and social protection at the World Bank since 2004.

Previously he completed an M.A. in International Relations at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies and a PhD in Economics at the University of Vienna and the Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS) Vienna. His current work focuses, inter alia, on long-term care for the elderly, informal employment, skills development, internal labor mobility, and social protection for international migrants.
Migration:
Given the severity of the economic crisis, migration movements have not declined as much as one might have expected. Overall, across the 24 countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), including the Russian Federation, permanent-type inflows of migrants declined by almost 7 per cent in 2009, compared with a decline of 5 per cent registered in 2008. On-going demographic trends, mainly in European countries, point to growing labour needs at all skill levels. Family and humanitarian migration have been less affected by the downturn. As economies recover from recession and demographic and labour needs increase, migration will again be an attractive way to fill shortages and finance health and pension systems, albeit as part of more controlled flows – supported by population growth in the developing world.

The migration process is continuous and will continue to grow in volume and significance.

- In the past 25 years migration has doubled and will double again in the next ten years
- The economic effect of full opening of borders in the next 25 years is estimated to be USD 39 trillion (economists Anderson and Lomborg)
- Migrants work in those sectors of the economy that are unacceptable to the local population
- Negative birth rates and increased economic demand will necessitate all developed countries to import labor, changing local demographics which will impact both domestic and foreign policies.

Remittances:
- Global remittances recovered in 2010, reaching USD 440 billion, with a broad based recovery in remittance flows forecast across all regions during 2011–2013.
- Global remittances are forecast to grow to USD 468 and USD 499 billion in 2011 and 2012 respectively.
- Remittance flows from key send markets in Europe will continue to be impacted by weak economic growth, high levels of unemployment, increased Visa restrictions and taxation on remittances. Remittance flows from Russia (mainly to CIS countries), resumed in tandem with high oil prices and a rising pace of economic activity and will continue to grow.

Risks:
Political and economic risks will continue to impact the global remittance business through 2011–2012. The debt crisis in Europe and the United States and slow economic growth, combined with continued unrest in the Middle East and Africa, as well as the political need to restrict migration in the developed world will all contribute to potential risks to the future growth of remittance flows.

Ukraine
- Migrant remittances are the largest investment resource in Ukraine. About 5-6 million Ukrainian migrants invest and support directly and indirectly 12-14 million Ukrainian households.
- The World Bank estimates that Ukrainian migrants have around USD 10 billion in savings kept in banks abroad.
- Experts estimate that in 2010, the total remittances entering Ukraine comprised around USD 25.6 billion, which equals around USD 350 per month per migrant. These funds arrive through various forms and are not all statistically registered as remittances. This is 2.3 times larger than the USD 10.9 billion in Direct Foreign Investment in the record year of 2008. The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) officially reports remittances in 2010 at USD 5.9 billion. Thus remittances accounted for 4.2 per cent of GDP (officially) and almost 18 per cent informally.
- In the crisis year of 2009, money transfers (in Hryvnia equivalent) grew by almost 30 per cent, while Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) shrank by 40 per cent. The official money transfer figure of USD 5.4 billion exceeded the USD 4.8 billion in FDI. In 2010 they were nearly equal at USD 5.9 billion. This is equal to the combined GDP of four Western Ukrainian regions – Volyn region (USD 1.5 billion), Rivne region (USD 1.68 billion), Ternopil region (USD 1.4 billion) and Zakarpattia region (USD 1.57 billion).
- Estimates indicate that more than half of remittances enter Ukraine through unofficial channels. The negative effects of this are that there is increased risk for remitters and the impact of these resources cannot be considered in national and regional development programs.
- Unlike FDI where 80 per cent is registered in the Kyiv region, money transfers are primarily sent to remote and economically under developed regions of Ukraine.
Mr. Peter Hnatuk, Regional Director, Russia and CIS, MoneyGram. Mr. Hnatuk leads the operations and marketing efforts in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) for MoneyGram International. He joined MoneyGram in 2006 and brought with him an extensive background in money transfer, retail banking, payment systems and management consultancy in Ukraine. Prior to joining MoneyGram, Mr. Hnatuk was Regional Director, Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia and Central Asia for Western Union. Mr. Hnatuk also has significant experience in management consultancy working for 15 years as an economic/business advisor for Ukrainian government organizations including the Ministry of Economy, the State Property Fund of Ukraine and the Kyiv State Administration. Mr. Hnatuk holds a Bachelor of Arts in Russian Area Studies and International Relations.

MoneyGram is present in almost every country of the world, enabling its clients to make payments and transfer money.

- Remittances soften the political and social stress and demand on the Government to fund social welfare programmes.

**Lack of Government support**
- Unlike FDI, there is not a single Government regulatory body that is responsible for formalizing and stimulating the remittance market in Ukraine.
- There is no department in any branch of the Ukrainian government that is responsible for developing the remittance market.
- Global experience of formalizing the remittance market and integrating remittance funds into the financial and banking system in Ukraine is not being used.

**International Experience**
- Mexico: The 3-for-1 Programme for migrants. For every one dollar of migrant investment into micro-businesses in social projects, the Government matches three dollars (one Federal, one State and one local). In the last 20 years this has stimulated more that USD 500 million in migrant investment.
- India and Portugal: special bank deposits for migrants with better interest terms, no income tax on remittance funds, open repatriation of funds and no reserve requirements on banks. As of January 2010 in India there were USD 50 billion in such deposits (20 per cent of all deposits of the banking system).
- Turkey: special programmes created to support rural agricultural development in the form of agricultural cooperatives and joint ventures. In 8 years there were 1,500 such cooperatives created that employed remittance receivers. Between 1961 – 2003, more than 45 different Government and private programmes were created to promote remittances. The State Industrial and Workers Investment Bank (DESIYAB) was specifically created for this purpose.

Government and Private Sector Initiatives and Opportunities in Ukraine
- Create a Government department that will study, develop and promote remittance policy and initiatives in Ukraine.
- Promote official remittance channels and actively combat informal channels through legislation and law enforcement.
- Increase regulatory control and licensing of Money Transfer systems operating in Ukraine.
- Motivate Ukrainian banks to create special favourable conditions for migrants to open deposit accounts in banks, such as higher interest rates
- Create tax exemption on remittance deposits.
- Release banks from the requirement to create reserves in the NBU against remittance deposits (NBU acts as guarantor).
- Allow migrants to use remittance history as a form of proof of income for obtaining Ukrainian low interest loans for investment in Ukraine.
- Establish a Diaspora Bond program administered by private and public institutions (Israel, India, Ethiopia, Nepal).
- Implement programmes to promote remittance investment based on international experience and best practices.
Various reports and resolutions discussed and adopted each year by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly show that migration concerns virtually all countries around the world. These reports and resolutions revolve around such issues as migrants’ rights, development, security and policy, and many others.

Around 214 million international migrants contribute to economic growth and human development; they enrich societies through cultural diversity, knowledge and technology exchange; and they improve demographic balance in aging populations.

In Ukraine, various sources provide different data on labour migration ranging from 1.5 million to 6 million migrants. The latest State Statistics Survey carried out in 2008 identified 1.5 million labour migrants from Ukraine, most of them working in Russia, Italy, the Czech Republic and Poland.

The International Organization for Migration (ILO) has a constitutional mandate to protect migrant workers, and this mandate was re-affirmed by the 1944 Declaration of Philadelphia and the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. In fact, the ILO has been dealing with labour migration issues since its inception in 1919. It has pioneered international Conventions to guide migration policy and protect migrant workers. You may be familiar with Conventions No. 97 and 143 on Migration for Employment and Migrant Workers, respectively, and the Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration adopted in 2005 by a Tripartite Meeting of Experts and endorsed by the ILO’s Governing Body in 2006. The ILO adopts a rights-based approach to labour migration and promotes tripartite participation (governments, employers and workers) in migration policy. Today, all major sectors of the ILO – standards, employment, social protection and social dialogue – work on labour migration issues within the overarching framework of the Decent Work Agenda.

The mainstreaming of labour migration issues throughout ILO activity reflects the growing importance of labour migration. Many sending countries have adopted labour migration policies, which are at different stages of implementation. The development and implementation of labour migration strategies and action plans indicates the importance given to this area of policy work. However, there is a need to improve the capacity for designing, implementing and monitoring pro-migrant policies.

Enforcement of laws and regulations remains a key issue, thus they are reflected in the new EU-ILO-IOM project “Effective Governance of Labour Migration and its Skills Dimensions”, launched on 27 May 2011 for a 30 month duration. The new project is co-financed at 80 per cent by the European Commission, with a total budget of EUR 1,884,376. The project is aimed to support Ukraine and Moldova to strengthen their capacity to regulate labour migration and promote sustainable return, with particular focus on enhancing human capital and preventing skills waste.

Turning to the skills dimension of labour migration for a moment, this project will specifically focus on questions related to what we call the external and internal dimensions of migrants’ qualifications.

With reference to the outbound flow of workers, two groups can be identified as targets: potential migrants and receiving countries. For potential migrants, information should be provided on the desired skills and qualifications according to the labour demand, articulated by economic sector; working conditions; types of jobs and related specific requirements; rules and procedures for recognition, including the need to enhance skills through training, if necessary. For receiving countries, access should be ensured to information on the actual content, scope and level of qualifications – as available in the educational system in the country of origin. The project will therefore focus on building the essential capacity to gather, elaborate and disseminate the above mentioned information, as well as to develop effective measures to improve the skill matching and qualification recognition.

With regard to the Internal dimension of migrants’ qualifications, information should be provided on vacancies and skills needs in their country of origin labour markets highlighting growing economic sectors and sub-sectors; analysis of average returns by sector and by level of qualification (salaries, other benefits) is needed; as is analysis of how skills acquired abroad can be useful in their home countries – including recognition processes – especially validation of non-formal and informal learning, and exploring
possibilities for further training opportunities, if required. The project will contribute through capacity building and awareness raising activities to further improve good governance, migrants’ rights protection and coordination of social security benefits. Gender aspects will be also systematically integrated in the project’s interventions at all levels, given not only the increasing feminization of migration flows, but also the persistent gender segregation in the labour market and differentiated access to education and vocational training both at origin and at destination.

For the ILO, cooperation among governments, employers’ and workers’ organizations at the national and international levels to promote better management of job-related migration and in order to ensure that labour migration yields benefits for everyone is absolutely critical.

We believe that a tripartite mechanism is a key for social dialogue on the formulation of national or regional migration policies. A tripartite approach should serve as the operating principle in structuring decision-making in this important sphere of government policy. Closer cooperation between governments and social partners could help create better regulated labour migration processes and more effective information systems on supply and demand of migrant workers, based on labour market assessments.
Migration has become a relevant aspect of national and multilateral agendas given its dimensions and impact for the individual countries and the international community, in order to address the many challenges and opportunities that this global phenomenon entails.

Mexico as a country of origin, transit and destination of international migration has developed in the last twenty years different mechanisms to serve the significant Mexican diaspora that mainly lives in the United States of America and Canada, where our migrants make a very positive contribution every day.

Remittances represent a direct economic benefit of migration. For Mexico they total approximately 2 per cent of GDP. In order to facilitate remittances and to maximize their development impact, the Mexican government has created specific programmes through the Institute for Mexicans Abroad (IME) that jointly implements them through our network of Mexican Consulates in the USA and Canada.

Some of the major programmes that Mexico has undertaken for this purpose are: the reduction of transfer costs in cooperation with financial institutions; the promotion of financial education and inclusion of migrants into the banking systems of each country; and most importantly linking remittances with investments in productive projects, business opportunities and credits for housing in Mexico.

In that respect, the successful the 3-for-1 Programme for migrants which combines remittances from Migrants’ Home Town Associations (HTA) and federal and local government funds have helped to implement social and development projects, i.a., in environment, water supply, roads and infrastructure, education and health, in their communities of origin.

IME has established international cooperation projects with other countries as well, based in these successful experiences. We would like to present them to Ukraine for future study in their efforts to enhance the economic gains of its own migration.
When personal, private and public elements are harnessed constructively, they can have a simultaneous and profound effect on personal and company bottom-lines, sustainable development, and migration management. Unfortunately, poorly developed migration policies and practices, in combination with counter-productive legal, administrative, financial, social, and political obstacles often make reaching the laudable personal objectives of most long-term migrants more difficult than they need to be. In response, International Agency for Source Country Information, in collaboration with partners, have focused on carrying out practical research and developing market-driven applications to design “actionable” outputs and service platforms designed to provide migrants with viable migration, savings and investment options.

Despite geographic and demographic variations, migrants share common goals and objectives: While remittances are undoubtedly important to both recipient countries and households, it is in fact the eventual (and of course voluntary) transfer of migrant wealth, rather than current remittances, which carry the most weight, both at a personal level and in its potential as a substantial development opportunity. This is especially true when combined with the social and human capital migrants might wish to invest in order to achieve their goals. For example, the average net savings rate for migrant households studied is in the order of 3 to 5 times their remittance value, when measured over the same period.

The real migration-management and development challenge is to encourage and facilitate efficient circular migration processes from pre-departure through to successful return. The human, social and financial capital of migration, when properly understood and captured, holds significant opportunities, and the totality of circular migration and wealth accumulation elements has the still unrealized potential of representing an important

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**What is the migrant profile?**

- relatively young, educated
- self-motivated, ambitious
- entrepreneurial risk-takers
- responsible remitters and savers
- early adapters and trendsetters in their home communities
- highly successful

Source: Mr. de Zwager’s presentation
catalytic role in any overall corporate, national or multilateral development strategy. Moreover, this development impact would clearly be leveraged when efficiently intermediated by financial institutions, or when coupled with resources from the private sector or local authorities.

In practical terms this means identifying and offering relevant migrant-specific training, savings, investment, and employment services – while influencing the debate on key strategic and environmental issues in both countries of origin and migration.

Given the above, circular and long-term migrants seem to represent a largely misunderstood potential resource, one that should be of much greater interest to key stakeholders in government, both in countries of origin and destination. This also applies to the financial intermediation industry, which commonly holds a narrow and limiting view of migrants as “remitter”, rather than as depositors and creditors, and thus, as potential clients.

Conversely, continued misunderstanding or misrepresentation of the personal ambitions and goals of migrants and their families will continue to hinder circular migration processes to the detriment of all stakeholders.

It is recommended for the countries of origin to systematically engage in projects with commercial financial institutions to extend their products and services, including developing specific departments, capacities, and vehicles, together with targeted marketing strategies, to raise awareness of their products among the migrant community and provide better tailored services to its members.

As a precondition, these governments need to assume their coordinating role as well as take ownership of the technical capacity capable of supporting it. Domestic capacities, supported by the relevant specialized agencies, should be capable of increasing the development impact of migrant/diaspora contributions by

- identifying and filling significant informational gaps;
- ensuring that future initiatives in both public and private spheres are complementary and sufficiently coordinated on inter-ministerial and inter-agency levels;
- initiating priority initiatives and suitable pilot projects that take into account the interests of relevant public and private stakeholders, and not least the migrants themselves.

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MR. NICOALAAS DE ZWAGER, Founder and Director of the International Agency for Source Country Information (IASCI). His primary interest is in developing innovative private-sector approaches to migration and development issues, and in facilitating operational partnerships between the private sector, governments, and specialized international actors.

Before founding IASCI in 2004, he was Director at the International Centre for Migration Policy Development from 1998, and served as the first Chief of Mission for IOM Ukraine from 1996. Prior to this he worked with the United Nations (UN) as senior consultant in the areas of economic development and social integration.

Earlier Mr. de Zwager spent ten years in the private sector, identifying investment and market opportunities in Asia. Mr. de Zwager holds a graduate degree in International Economic Relations from the University of Amsterdam (the Netherlands) and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History from the University of Victoria (British Columbia, Canada).
Most people gain their knowledge of migrants not from statistics and graphs and charts, but from the media, from books and television and newspapers. My novels are largely about the human face of migration – about the stories that people bring with them when they travel across continents, and the secrets they leave behind. So what is wonderful about this conference is being able to share those insights with specialists in the field, to learn from the experts an enormous amount about the economic and demographic data which underpin those human dramas – personal ambition, adventure, trafficking, exploitation, children left at home, and of course love. I am sure I can now write with more confidence about globalization and migration, those personal journeys woven into the texture of our everyday economic and political life.

Two journeys

Chapter from Marina Lewycka’s Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian

I wake up early, with a stiff neck. The choice last night was between sharing the bunk-bed with Stanislav or sleeping on the two-seater settee, and I chose the latter. It is still not fully light outside, the sky slate-coloured and overcast.

But the house is already full of sound and movement. Father is singing in the bathroom. Valentina, Stanislav and Dubov are rushing around loading up the car. I make a cup of tea, and stand at the window to watch. The capacity of the Rolls-Royce is amazing.

In go two enormous bin bags of indeterminate contents, which Valentina stows in the boot with a shove. In go Stanislav’s CD collection in two cardboard boxes, and his CD player, wedged in place between two huge bales of disposable nappies beneath the back seat. In go two suitcases, and Dubov’s small green rucksack. In go a television (where did that come from?) and a deep-fat-fryer (ditto). In goes the small portable photocopier. In goes the blue civilized-person’s Hoover (which, Pappa later tells me, he and Dubov have adapted to take ordinary bags), and my mother’s pressure cooker. (How dare she!)

Now the boot is full (slam!) and they start loading up the roof rack. Out comes the baby’s painted wooden cot, which has been disassembled and tied together with string. One, two, three – up! – goes an enormous fibreglass suitcase, as big as a small wardrobe. Out comes – surely not – Stanislav and Dubov struggle under its weight as they lug it across the garden – bend your knees, Stanislav! bend your knees! – the brown not-peasant-cooking not-electric cooker. But how will they lift it onto the roof rack?

Dubov has constructed a sort of hoist out of thick rope and some stout canvas sheeting. He has slung the rope over a strong branch of the ash tree by the road in front of the house, and pulled it so that it rests securely in a fork. He and Stanislav lower the cooker, on its side, onto the canvas cradle. Then Valentina jumps into the Lada, and Dubov directs her into position in front of the cooker, and the other end of the rope is attached to the bumper. As she inches forward – “Slowly, Valenka, slowly!” – the cooker rises into the air, swings, and hangs suspended, steadied by Dubov until he motions to her to stop. The Lada is smoking a bit, the engine running rough, but the handbrake holds. Now the Rolls-Royce is brought round – Stanislav is at the wheel! – and positioned directly underneath the cooker swinging in its cradle. Father has come out into the front garden, and is helping Dubov to give directions, waving his arms wildly – forward a bit – back a bit – stop! Dubov motions to Valentina.

“Back now, Valenka. Gently! Gently! STOP!”

Valentina’s clutch control is not brilliant, and the cooker lands with a bit of a bump, but the Rolls-Royce, and Dubov’s roof rack, can take it.

Everybody cheers, including the neighbours who have come out into the street to watch. Valentina gets out of the Lada, minces over to Dubov in her high-heeled slippers (no wonder her clutch control is wanting) and gives him a peck on the cheek – “Holubchik!” Stanislav beeps the horn of the Rolls-Royce – it makes a deep sophisticated sound – and everybody cheers again.

Then the canvas is wrapped around everything on the roof rack and secured with the rope, and that’s it. They are ready to go. Valentina’s fur coat is spread across the back seat, and on it, wrapped in layers of blankets, is placed baby Margaritka. Everybody exchanges hugs and kisses, apart...
from Father and Valentina, who manage to avoid each other without causing a scene. Dubov takes the driver’s seat. Stanislav sits in front, next to him. Valentina sits in the back beside the baby. The engine of the Rolls-Royce purrs as contentedly as a big cat. Dubov engages gear. And they’re off. Father and I come out onto the road to wave to them, as they disappear round the corner and out of view.

* * *

That evening, after supper, my father spreads a map out on the table in the dining-bedroom, and pores over it, pointing with his finger.


He has gone very quiet.

I stare at the map. Crisscrossing the route he has traced with his finger, another route is marked in pencil. Hamburg to Kiel. Then from Kiel the line dips south into Bavaria. Then up again into Czechoslovakia. Brno. Ostrava. Across into Poland. Krakow. Przemysl. Ukraina.

“What did they do there?”

“Milla’s job was to fit fuel pipe to aircraft engine. First class engine but somewhat heavy in the air. Poor lift-drag ratio. Poor maneuverability, though some interesting new developments in wing design were just...”

“Yes yes,” I interrupt. “Never mind about the aircraft. Tell me what happened in the war.”

“What happened in war? People died – that is what happened.” He fixes me with that stubborn clenched-jaw look. “Those who were bravest perished first. Those who believed in something died for belief. Those who survived ...” He starts to cough. “You know that more than twenty million Soviet citizens perished in this war.”

“I know.” And yet the number is so vast it is unknowable. In that measureless ocean of tears and blood, where are the landmarks, the familiar bearings? “But I don’t know the twenty million, Pappa. Tell me about you and Mother and Vera. What happened to you after that?”

His finger moves along the pencilled line.

“Here, near Kiel, this is Drachensee. I was some time in this camp. Building boilers of ships. Ludmilla and Vera came near end of war.”

Drachensee: there it sits on the map, shameless, a black dot with red lines of roads leading from it, as though it were any other place.

MS. MARINA LEWYCKA, English author of Ukrainian origin. She was born of Ukrainian parents in a refugee camp in Kiel, Germany, after the end of World War II, and now lives in Sheffield, Yorkshire. Her first novel, The Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian (2005) was published when she was 58 years old, and went on to sell a million copies in more than thirty languages. It was shortlisted for the 2005 Orange Prize for Fiction, longlisted for the Man Booker prize, won the 2005 Saga Award for Wit and the 2005 Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for Comic Fiction. Marina’s second novel Two Caravans (2007) (published in US as Strawberry Fields) which deals with the plight of migrant workers was short-listed for the George Orwell prize for political writing. Her third novel, We Are All Made of Glue, was published in 2009, and her fourth novel is on its way.
Over 200 guests attended the conference.

Mr. Nicolaas de Zwager, Director, International Agency for Source Country Information

Mr. Andrii Olefirov, Director-General of the Consular Services of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Press briefing of the conference participants attracted attention of many media representatives.

Mr. Viktor Sheibut, First Deputy Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine
Aiming to foster deeper understanding of migration-related benefits and challenges and addressing the future, IOM Ukraine organized a students’ competition, dedicated to the IOM’s 60th Anniversary globally and 15 years of presence in Ukraine. The main goal of the competition was to ensure youth engagement and provide young people an opportunity to express their opinion about the future of migration in Ukraine.

From spring to autumn 2011, IOM received a lot of works from all regions of Ukraine. Every work has undergone two stages of evaluation: by IOM specialists, representatives of the Government and experts from partner organizations, who were members of the Selection Committee. Anonymity and integrity of the assessment criteria were maintained at every stage of evaluation. The winners were announced and awarded on 12 October 2011 at the conference “The Future of Migration in Ukraine” and their works have been published on IOM’s web-site (www.iom.org.ua).

Contest winners

Ms. Liliia Derhachova, the winner of the “Article” category with her work “Potential of In-country Migration as a Mean of Establishing Intercultural Dialogue and Consolidating a Nation”

Born on 20 April 1989 in Sumy. In 2005 graduated from Sumy high school named after S.P. Suprun. In 2005–2009, studied in Sumy Higher College of Arts and Culture named after D.S. Bortnianskyi. From 2009 Ms. Derhachova has been studying at the Humanities Faculty of Sumy State University. Currently she is a student of Law Department.

“The subject of migration processes, in particular in-country ones, is very interesting for me as for a young researcher in terms of influence of migration on social development and formation of a unified ideologically polarized Ukrainian nation. I am interested in finding possible ways of addressing existing contradictions and dispelling the myth about “two Ukraines” through justification of a regulatory policy in the sphere of migration. I believe it is the future of Ukraine, which is comprehended and created by its citizens.”

Article summary

Today, in-country migration flows are not considered enough, unlike external migration flows. However, by means of stimulating in-country migration, it is possible to regulate a range of interconnected issues. For example, it could help solving the problem of misbalance on labour market; overcoming regional contradictions; preventing emigration of educated population; facilitating the formation of a political nation through establishing intercultural dialogue, and as a result – creation of a unified Ukrainian society.

Regulation of in-country migration flows has great perspectives. First of all, it could help challenge ideological theoretical contradictions regarding polarization of Ukraine into Western and Eastern parts (major populations of eastern and western regions have vague idea about each other’s values. In conditions of increased mobility it would be possible to access information without any subjective influence). Second, it would be possible to relieve conflict between representatives of opposite political forces, as with low level of tension in society it would be more difficult to encourage conflict among people. Third, understanding unity in spiritual values, despite cultural or ideological differences, will be a long step towards development of a political nation. Besides, migration will lead to decrease of calls for change of political and territory structures to federal form, and will increase critical attitude towards the subject of “splitting”.

Stimulating in-country migration is a necessary factor of relieving tensions and stabilizing social and economic situation in Ukraine; it is a factor of consolidation of a nation.
Mr. Tymur Demchuk, the winner of the “Academic Essay” category with the work “The Policy of Integration of “Non-traditional” Migrants in Ukraine”

In September 2005 – June 2011, studied at the National University “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”, Department of Social Sciences and social Technologies, specialization: Political Sciences. In 2009 got Bachelor’s Degree with honours, National University “Kyiv-Mohyla Academy”, Department of Social Sciences and social Technologies, specialization: Political Sciences. In April 2009, gained second place in All-Ukrainian Olympiad in political science among Ukrainian universities. In June 2010, Mr. Demchuk presented a speech at the Round Table “Perspectives of a visa-free regime between Ukraine and EU”.

“The issues of migration and its impact on individuals as well as on countries and different regions of the world are of interest to me for a number of reasons. First of all, I am myself a migrant. I was born in a village in Volyn region, but I have been living in Kyiv for six years now, experienced the change of identity and underwent secondary socialization. I was born in the Western part of Ukraine and learnt about migration first hand. I was lucky, because my parents didn’t go abroad. They continued working in Ukraine and gave me a full family upbringing. However, 60 per cent of my classmates found themselves in a different situation. They had one of their parents going abroad to provide better life for their families... While studying in Kyiv-Mohyla Academy at Political Science Department, I have gained enough knowledge and methodology to study migration issues more carefully and thus to help Ukraine develop a better migration policy.”

Essay summary

This essay is an attempt to put the problem of an inevitable influx of large number of immigrants and their further integration into Ukrainian society on the agenda of migration policy stakeholders. The need to develop and implement the policy of integration of non-traditional immigrants is justified. The main interest group is non-traditional immigrants (migrants who come from non USSR countries but predominantly from African and Asian countries). The problem of integration of this group of migrants is more tangible. In the course of research the main characteristics and trends of current migration processes are determined. Having analyzed main approaches, which are currently being developed as concepts and strategies for migration research, the approach is selected, paying main attention to immigrant’s personality and factors of how they are perceived by host-country population. The essay determines main problems, which have to be solved as a first step towards implementation of integration policy. International experience in addressing similar problems is also analyzed.
The population of Ukraine is shrinking and aging. To speak of a “dying nation”, as some commentators have suggested is surely exaggerated. However, this trend is certainly a cause for concern as it will impact on the economic and social development of the country.

In 1990 the population of Ukraine was 51 million, while by 2010 it shrank by more than 5 million to 45.5 million. The World Bank suggests this trend is continuing, with the population decreasing by 0.8 per cent per year, or 380,000 people, roughly the population of Sevastopol.

“Prediction is very difficult, especially about the future” the Danish Physicist Niels Bohr once said. However, demography is not about reading in a crystal ball. In circumstances of peace and disregarding migration, one can fairly accurately assess how many 20 year old Ukrainians there will be in 20 years, simply by counting the newborns of today. Ukraine’s fertility rate currently stands at 1.28, which is below the EU average of 1.59 and far lower than the 2.1 required to maintain a steady population level. Moreover, demographic decline means the population is ageing, with a continuously growing percentage of elderly persons in society.

The population of Ukraine will continue to shrink and age; this is not prophecy, but simple extrapolation. In the not so distant future, these demographic trends will result in shortages on the domestic labour market. Already today, some regions are short of construction and metal workers as well as electricians, to name just a few examples. It will also put pressure on the pension system and the public health sector, with less and less people of working age having to support a growing number of elderly persons.

**The Role of Migration**

In the past 20 years Ukraine has shifted from a relatively immobile society with limited freedom of movement to a country of origin, transit and increasingly destination of migrants. Out-migration will continue and future shortages on the Ukrainian labour market have the potential to be further accelerated as the populations of many traditional destination countries for Ukrainian migrants are also shrinking and aging, notably in the European Union and the Russia Federation. Their labour shortages might very well be filled by an ever growing number of Ukrainian migrants in the future.

Discouraging Ukrainians seeking employment abroad cannot be the solution. To mitigate the negative consequences and promote the positive impact of
migration, Ukrainians should rather be encouraged to migrate circularly and return to invest their savings. This will simultaneously alleviate demographic concerns and also increase the development potential of migration.

Few people realize the crucial importance of the money transferred home by migrants. Ukrainian migrants remit 5 to 9 billion USD per year, representing between 5 to 8.5 per cent of national GDP and equaling the amount foreign companies invest in the country. How this inflow of money could be increased and better used for development purposes is an issue which needs to be addressed. Traditional labour-sending countries like Mexico and the Philippines have long realized the enormous development potential of migrant transfers and have successfully created substantial support structures to increase and better utilize remittances.

Paradigm Change in the Perception of Migration

The current migration debate focuses mainly on Ukrainians going abroad and citizens of other countries transiting through Ukraine. However, in the future it will become increasingly necessary to include the need for immigration into this debate.

The population of Europe as a continent is shrinking and ageing, while the world population continues to grow. Ukraine’s neighbours are beginning to realize that due to increasing labour shortages, more immigration will become necessary to fill this gap. Countries like Germany, Sweden and Russia for example, have started looking into their immigration needs. The European Union’s Eastern Neighborhood policy also reflects the need to establish more legal employment opportunities for labour migrants from the region. To a certain extent this means Ukraine will be competing with other countries in the future in terms of attracting foreign labour and also employing its own Ukrainian citizens. It is therefore of vital importance that Ukraine considers how to attract migrants to work in Ukraine legally and promote circular and return migration for their own nationals.

It is important to note that migration cannot be regarded as the sole solution to demographic decline. The challenges accompanying shrinking and ageing societies are far too complex to be solved by simply importing labour. Increasing the fertility rate and live-work time are amongst those questions that have to be addressed. However, if managed well migration can become one of the tools which will stem the negative affects of demographic decline and promote sustainable economic growth.

Ukraine is currently about to address several demographic and migration–related issues. Demographic decline will affect the country no matter what, the question is how to respond to it and how migration can help to alleviate the consequences of this trend.

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PHOTO REPORT

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Ms. Tetiana Minenko, the ILO representative

The audience actively participated in the discussion

Discussion on migration and demographics

Prof. Rainer Münz, Academic Director of Erste School of Banking and Finance (Erste Group) and Senior Fellow at the Hamburg Institute of International Economics