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Ukrainian-American Concordia University
Department of International Economic Relations, Business & Management

Bachelor's Qualification Work

Migration crisis in Europe
(based on the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus for Grodno region case)

Bachelor's student of the 4th year study

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Nadzeya Hulinskaya

(First Name, Last Name)



Research supervisor



Liubov V. Zharova

(First Name, Last Name)

Doctor of Science in Economics
(academic degree, full name)

Abstract

The work is devoted to consideration of the issue of migration crisis in Europe in the context of 3 massive migration waves to European Union in 2015, 2020 and 2022 years. This paper examines the migration crisis in Europe, focusing on its causes, consequences, and possible solutions. The migration crisis has been a major challenge for Europe in recent years, with millions of people fleeing conflicts, poverty, and persecution in their home countries and seeking refuge in Europe. It also examines the social, political, and economic impacts of the crisis in terms of situation in Europe, as well as influence of the factors on donor countries, including the strain on public resources and social services, the rise of anti-immigrant sentiment, and the political polarization that has emerged in response to the crisis. Most problematic spheres, which require the implementation of additional reform were identified and suggestions on improvement of the situation also were introduced. The paper concludes by emphasizing the urgent need for a comprehensive, coordinated, and sustainable response to the migration crisis in Europe.

Keywords: migration crisis, refugees, European values, cultural integration, donor country, receiving country.

Анотація

Робота присвячена розгляду питання міграційної кризи в Європі в контексті 3 масових міграційних хвиль до Європейського Союзу у 2015, 2020 та 2022 роках. У роботі досліджено міграційну кризу в Європі, зосереджено увагу на її причинах, наслідках та можливих шляхах вирішення. Міграційна криза стала головним викликом для Європи в останні роки, коли мільйони людей тікають від конфліктів, бідності та переслідувань у своїх країнах і шукають притулку в Європі. У доповіді також розглядаються соціальні, політичні та економічні наслідки кризи з точки зору ситуації в Європі, а також вплив факторів на країни-донори, включаючи навантаження на державні ресурси та соціальні служби, зростання антиіммігрантських настроїв та політичну поляризацію, що виникла у відповідь на кризу. Було визначено найбільш проблемні сфери, які потребують додаткового реформування, а також надано пропозиції щодо покращення ситуації. У висновках підкреслюється нагальна потреба

у всеосяжній, скоординованій та стійкій відповіді на міграційну кризу в Європі.

Ключові слова: міграційна криза, біженці, європейські цінності, культурна інтеграція, країна-донор, країна-реципієнт.

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**TASK
FOR BACHELOR’S QUALIFICATION WORK**

Nadzeya Hulinskaya

(Name, Surname)

1. Topic of the work: Migration crisis in Europe (based on the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus for Grodno region case)

Supervisor of the work Liubov Zharova, Dr of Sci in Economics.

(surname, name, degree, academic rank)

Which approved by Order of University from “22” September 2022 №22-09/2022-1c

2. Deadline for Bachelor’s qualification work submission “23” April 2023

3. Data-out to the Bachelor’s qualification work_

Materials from internship received during consultation with representatives of the company. Information from open resources in the Internet, official reporting of financial and economic activities of the enterprise.







4. Contents of the explanatory note (list of issues to be developed).

There are main topics a student should develop in this work:

- Migration crisis in Europe: theoretical background
- Economic analysis of the activity of the main department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in the Grodno region, contribution to solving the migration issue at the border
- Ways to address economic, social, political, and spiritual implications posed by the migration crisis in Europe

5. List of graphic material (with exact indication of any mandatory drawings)
 Statistical visualization that characterizes the migration flows, statistics supplied by the Ministry of Finance, all other necessary information, etc.

6. Consultants for parts of the work

| Part of the project | Surname, name, position | Signature | |
|---------------------|--|---|---|
| | | Given | Accepted |
| 1 | Liubov Zharova, Dr. of Sci. in Economics |  |  |
| 2 | Liubov Zharova, Dr. of Sci. in Economics |  |  |
| 3 | Liubov Zharova, Dr. of Sci. in Economics |  |  |

7. Date of issue of the assignment

Time Schedule

| No | The title of the parts of the Bachelor's qualification work | Deadlines | Notes |
|----|---|------------|---------|
| 1. | I Chapter | 31.12.2022 | In time |
| 2. | II Chapter | 20.02.2023 | In time |
| 3. | III Chapter | 11.04.2023 | In time |
| 4. | Introduction, conclusions, summary | 23.04.2023 | In time |
| 5. | Pre-defense | 26.04.2023 | In time |

Student  (signature)

Supervisor  (signature)

Conclusions:

The work meets all formal requirements regarding qualitative and quantitative characteristics. A deep analysis of the concept of the migration crisis and the main trends in contemporary migration processes deserves attention. Research and analysis of the financial state of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in the Grodno region and analysis of enterprise activity during the migration crises on the Belarus-EU border are also crucial part of the study. It is also worth paying attention to The social and cultural consequences of the migration crisis and how to address them. In general, the Bachelor's work is a well-structured holistic study that deserves an "excellent" grade.

Supervisor 

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INTRODUCTION

In today's globalized world, migration processes are an integral part of the life of any highly developed country. Global migration in the context of expanding world economic relations has a crucial place in the development of society. More and more states are involved in migration processes. Hardly any country is left untouched by the migration issue and its consequences. Interest in this topic grew as the negative effects of migration began to be felt at the international level and as humankind faced the need to coordinate the efforts of countries to resolve the acute and problematic situations caused by migration.

The relevance of this topic is determined by the fact that migration in the modern world has become an essential factor in the life of many countries, significantly impacting the political, economic, legal, and religious life of states.

At present, when the global financial crisis has affected the economies of the world's leading countries, political processes and instability in the Central and Eastern region and African countries have led to a massive flow of migration into the countries of the European Union. European states were faced with the question of how to deal with migration and how to integrate them into society, as the path to integration, governments faced various problems, threatening the stability of the state itself.

Migration has become a global issue in the 21st century, affecting the shape of the EU, changing its size as well as its working and non-working population, and therefore requires new approaches for recipient and donor countries to cooperate more effectively in this area, as immigration threatens national and European identity.

The migration crisis in Europe has been a significant issue in recent years, with large numbers of migrants and refugees entering the continent from countries in the Middle East, North Africa, and elsewhere. This paper will examine the causes, consequences, and policy responses to the migration crisis in Europe, with a focus on the social, economic, and political dimensions of the issue.

The relevance of this topic also lies in the fact that immigration flows have become a massive phenomenon that requires close attention from the government to improve the immigration policy of the country. The government should create a system for regulating immigration issues that is, on the one hand, liberal towards immigrants. Still, on the other hand, the policy should be strict and effective to prevent an increase in the criminal situation in the country.

The object of the study is the countries of the European Union in the current system of international relations.

The subject of the study is the specific features, problems, and prospects of the development of EU migration policy in the context of the migration crisis.

The aim of the study is to examine the prospects for EU migration policy in the context of the current migration crisis. In order to achieve this, the following *tasks* were defined:

- to reveal the conceptual apparatus of the phenomenon of migration crisis;
- analyze migration processes in the EU at the present stage;
- consider the main causes of migration that have led to the migration crisis in Europe;
- describe the main migration issues in the EU under current international relations (labor migration, irregular migration, integration, etc.);
- investigate the impact of migrants on the economic situation of the receiving countries;
- investigate the impact of migration flows on the economic situation of the donor countries;
- to identify changes in migration legislation in the EU countries;
- an assessment of the role of the EU in responding to the migration challenge.

The research is carried out on the *basis* of materials from the internship, which was passed in The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in the Grodno region. The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus is the public administration body coordinating finance policy and regulating the financial sector. The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance for Grodno Region

is a territorial body of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus with the rights of a legal entity, which performs the functions of a treasury and controls the use of budgetary and other public funds

Research methods. In this study, we will use both general scientific methods, namely deduction (a logical inference based on general conclusions) and analysis (splitting a problem into its parts to examine them step by step). In addition, there are specific scientific methods, such as comparative analysis (comparing the objects under study, identifying similar and opposing views of the problem) and the institutional method, which analyses the activities of institutions, including parties involved in migration issues, which helps to present the problems of implementing migration objectives and the nature of the normative and legal framework.

Time framework: This paper has looked at Europe's most serious migration crises of the 21st century, with significant implications and importance for Europe at a minimum, and at a maximum, with an impact on the global community. Namely the migration crisis in 2015, the refugee crisis at the Belarus-EU border in 2021, and the issue of Ukrainian refugees in Europe in 2022.

A description of the structure of the thesis. The structure of the paper is conditioned by the purpose and objectives of the research. The paper consists of an introduction, three chapters, eleven paragraphs, a conclusion and a list of references.

CHAPTER 1.

MIGRATION CRISIS IN EUROPE: THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

1.1. The concept of the migration crisis and the main trends in contemporary migration processes

Broadly speaking, the concept of "crisis" comes from the Greek verb, which can be translated as "to determine" or "to choose." In other words, a crisis represents a turning point when previously existing means of achieving goals become ineffective and inadequate, resulting in unpredictable societal situations.

The categories of crises, such as economic, financial, debt, currency, energy, political and psychological, have been quite clearly formulated and elaborated in the social and social sciences.

The term "migration crisis" was used in April 2015 after it became clear that the flow of migrants from Africa to Europe across the Mediterranean Sea was increasing in scale and even in mass. The occasion for introducing the concept into public discourse was the sinking of several boats carrying African migrants in the Mediterranean Sea, accompanied by a massive loss of life, which caused a public outcry. Many publications made headlines using the term "migration crisis," often without defining it but simply describing the situation of refugees and economic migrants trying to enter Europe and in the best-off countries with a developed refugee welfare system. Many experts have noted that the 2015 migration crisis was the largest since World War II, implying that there have been migration crises in Europe before (The Guardian, 2015); (Financial times, 2015).

Thus, a migration crisis can be understood as a large-scale influx of migrants over a relatively short period of time in a somewhat limited territory. Of course, a migration crisis is usually triggered by extraordinary events: civil war, external invasion, armed conflict, and ethnic cleansing. At the same time, in such large-scale

migration flows, it is quite difficult to distinguish clearly traditional categories of migrants (forced labor, family, etc.) (Demny, 2016).

Some criteria for migration crises can be distinguished.

Firstly, a migration inflow (outflow) of the population over a relatively short period of time (temporal criterion). A migration crisis is usually characterized by a short period of active action ('surge'), a change in the number of migrants. For example, from 2000-2010, an average of 20-25 thousand people moved illegally to Europe per year in 2014. - 900,000 (according to IOM). In 2015, according to the EU Border Agency, it peaked at 1.8 million people; according to IOM, it was 1.1 million. The figure then went down. In 2016, only 290,000 migrants arrived in Europe, according to IOM data (Trofimova, 2017).

Thus, the migration crisis in Europe had a precise period (2014-2016), with a clear peak in 2015.

Secondly, a large-scale inflow (outflow) of migrants significantly negatively contributes to the country's demographic and socio-economic development. The migration crisis in terms of immigration has been described in detail in the EU case study.

Let us focus on the migration crisis in terms of emigration. Since the 1990s, the population of Bulgaria has fallen by 20%, from 9 million to 7 million. There are estimates of the people of Bulgaria, based on which the population by 2025 will be 5.5 million. Emigrants from Bulgaria are known to leave to work in Western Europe (Pécoud, 2016).

A mass exodus of the population, especially young people, is occurring in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia. From 1991 to 2019, 650 thousand of inhabitants left Latvia, and the inflow was 195 thousand people. The direct population loss is 455 thousand people, mostly young people, active entrepreneurs, and middle-class representatives, half of the population aged 25-44. The flow intensified in 2004: after joining the EU, the country lost 360 thousand people who left to work in Western Europe.

Latvia's remaining population is aging - at the beginning of 2020, some 48% of Latvians were over 45 years old (Mitroshenkov, 2017).

As a result of these migration crises, the economies of the countries that are losing their able-bodied, young, and economically active populations are severely affected. In the case of a large-scale influx of migrants into a country, there is an increase in the costs of adaptation and integration programs for immigrants in the short term. Still, the receiving country usually benefits for a long time, acquiring additional labor force and entrepreneurs and rejuvenating the population's age structure.

Europe's low birth rate and aging population could strain government budgets in the coming decades as the number of people who pay for public benefits such as social security and health insurance shrinks. Compared to the number of people who receive these benefits. An aging population will also need more health care. While migrants are a remarkably stable share of the world population, migration toward advanced economies has been overgrowing and will likely continue to do so in the future. Demographic factors will be essential in determining future migration's size, direction, and impact. With advanced economies aging rapidly and population growth continuing in EMDEs, migrants can play an essential role in sustaining economic growth in destination economies.

The term 'migration crisis' can be interpreted from two perspectives. In a narrow sense, a migration crisis can be defined as the large-scale arrival of large numbers of migrants, especially forced or environmental migrants, into a country or region in a relatively short period. This will strain the social infrastructure, labor market, and environment.

In a broader interpretation, the migration crisis should be understood as a sharp rise in the number of immigrants and as a drastic outflow of the population with negative consequences in the form of a loss of demographic potential, including able-bodied, economically active young people of reproductive age.

The main reasons provoking the migration crises are as follows: extraordinary events of geopolitical and ecological nature, such as civil war, foreign invasion, armed conflicts, ethnic cleansing, ecological disasters, etc.

Economic crises can cause mass population outflows, catastrophic rise in unemployment, political pressure, persecution based on ethnicity, religion or sexuality, and sexual persecution.

The consequences of the migration crises are mixed. Certainly, the impact in receiving countries has been more negative in the short term. A massive inflow of migrants exacerbates environmental problems, sanitary conditions, social situations, labor market state, housing issues, and interethnic conflicts. However, with an adequate integration policy in the medium term, the receiving countries are more likely to benefit from the influx of labor migrants.

In the medium term, receiving countries will benefit more from an inflow of able-bodied and young people to replenish the country's demographic potential. A large-scale outflow of emigrants from the sending countries results in the loss of young, reproductive, economically active, educated people and, consequently, losses to the country, aggravating the economic lag.

Migration generally improves the macroeconomic outcomes of recipient economies. The “dynamic gains” from immigration, in the form of rising TFP and investment, can be attributed to the complementarity between the skills of immigrants and natives.

The impact of migration processes on any country's social, economic and political life is ambiguous. Along with positive consequences, there are negative ones, among which, perhaps, the most unfavorable phenomenon is intellectual emigration, "brain drain", i.e., the departure of scientists and highly qualified specialists from the country for permanent residence, mainly in non-CIS countries. Given that brain drain occurs primarily at the expense of the country's best and most promising scientific and engineering personnel, it undoubtedly exacerbates threats to the economic and scientific-technological security of the donor country. Consequently, the country is losing its former position on the high-tech market.

Moreover, many inventions "leak away" through their sale to foreign firms "privately" due to imperfect legislation in this area, which causes great economic harm to the country, which has lost these minds and potential investments in development, and consequently the dividends from its implementation.

The problem of reproduction of skilled personnel can be seriously exacerbated by the exodus of young specialists to work abroad, which has become widespread, and the failure of many students who have studied abroad to return home.

In the short term for the donor country, migration reduces consumption. People, who left the home country do not buy anything there, as a result they do not pay taxes on their purchases - a minus for the budget.

The consequences in the long run could be worse. After all, the citizens who will never return will disappear forever as links from the overall economical mechanism and their children as promising links in the machinery of the economy as well. They will not contribute to the development of home country.

Children who have left the country are a lost workforce already in 10-15 years. This is the biggest loss in the future economy for the donor countries and the future GDP.

Active labor market and retraining policies, together with immigration policies aimed at better-integrating migrants, are associated with improved labor market outcomes following large immigration flows. International cooperation needs to complement national policies in addressing the challenges of refugee migration, especially into EMDEs.

Another important issue is the shadow economy, the aspect on which migration can have both positive and negative effects, depending on various factors such as the economic conditions of the host and origin countries, the legal framework governing migration, and the level of integration of migrants into the formal economy.

On the positive side, migration can reduce the size of the shadow economy by increasing the supply of formal labor and reducing the demand for informal labor. Migrants often seek formal employment opportunities, which can reduce the need

for them to engage in informal activities such as undeclared work or working without proper documentation. This can lead to greater compliance with tax and social security obligations and a reduction in the size of the shadow economy.

On the negative side, migration can also lead to an increase in the size of the shadow economy if migrants face barriers to accessing formal employment opportunities, such as discrimination or lack of skills. In such cases, migrants may turn to informal activities to earn a living, leading to an increase in the size of the shadow economy.

Moreover, irregular migration, such as undocumented migration, can exacerbate the size of the shadow economy as migrants may be more likely to engage in informal activities due to their precarious legal status. They may also face exploitation and low wages, leading to a cycle of poverty and exclusion from the formal economy.

And the negative impacts of the shadow economy are often quite significant. The growth of the shadow economy can lead to a decrease in tax revenues for the government, as businesses and individuals operating in the informal sector do not pay taxes or contribute to social security systems. This can reduce public spending on essential services such as education, health, and infrastructure.

In addition, the shadow economy can undermine fair competition, as businesses operating in the informal sector often have an unfair advantage over formal businesses that are subject to regulations and taxes. This can lead to a reduction in investment in the formal sector, as investors may be discouraged by the unfair competition.

The shadow economy can also undermine the rule of law, as businesses and individuals operating in the informal sector often operate outside the legal framework, leading to the exploitation of workers, environmental degradation, and other social problems.

1.2. Migration crisis of 2015 causes and main features

The European migration crisis arose in the autumn of 2015 due to a multiplication of the flow of refugees and irregular migrants into the European Union (EU) from North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia and the unpreparedness of the EU to receive and distribute them.

The armed conflict in Syria has been and continues to be the main reason for people to travel long distances. But continuing violence in Iraq and Afghanistan, universal military obligations in Eritrea and poverty in Kosovo, and poverty in Central Africa and Southeast Asia also compel people in these countries to seek a better life away from home.

The mass influx of refugees into Europe in 2015, dubbed the "migration tsunami" by journalists, fundamentally differed from what Europeans had faced in previous years.

The first characteristic of the 2015 migration crisis is that the refugee problem is no longer private, subregional, or regional. It has affected all EU countries, becoming a social dimension of globalization, and overcoming the crisis will require new, unconventional solutions from the EU leadership.

The second feature of the 2015 migration wave is the massive exodus of people from the world's hotspots, estimated at around 60 million.

Also noteworthy is the changed nature of the migration flow to a united Europe. Whereas previously, refugees were predominantly men who sought to settle in a new place and then bring their families to live there, today, whole families migrate to Europe.

The 2015 migration crisis was marked by the confluence of two refugee flows - political and economic - and both push and pull factors played an essential role in its emergence.

The frequency of local conflicts in the Greater Middle East and Africa, the brutality, anarchy and intransigence of the parties made it impossible - physically and psychologically - for people to remain in these zones of confrontation. Their

mass exodus to neighboring states provoked negative reactions from the local population and political leadership; the national economies of the host countries could not bear the burden; thousands of newcomers were unable or unwilling to integrate into the established society. In addition, a number of states in the Greater Middle East do not allow migrants at all, and some of them do not even have an official refugee institution. In these circumstances, it is Europe, with its highly developed economy, elaborate social security system and political tolerance, that has become the main destination for refugees seeking a new happy and safe life.

Another important fact is that the current crisis is taking place under different technological conditions, and the latest means of communication are making refugees well aware of the political system and public policy features of both individual EU member states and the EU as a whole, which after the 2004, 2007 and 2013 "enlargement to the East" has become a cumbersome structure of 28 countries. The compact residence of refugees from previous migration flows, who managed to preserve their customs, religious cults and traditions of political culture, changed the perception of Europe as something completely alien, distant and hostile.

As regards destination countries, the largest increases in the number of first-time asylum applicants, expressed as a share of the total population, were recorded in Finland (around ten times higher in 2015 compared to 2014), Hungary (around five times higher), and Austria (more than three times higher) (see Figure 1.1). In absolute numbers, the inflow of first-time asylum applicants in Germany increased from 173 thousand in 2014 to 442 thousand in 2015. Also, Hungary, Sweden, and Austria registered substantial increases in first-time asylum applications between 2014 and 2015. In contrast, most EU Member States in Central and Eastern Europe, e.g. the Czech Republic, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, and Romania, registered fewer asylum applicants in 2014 and 2015.

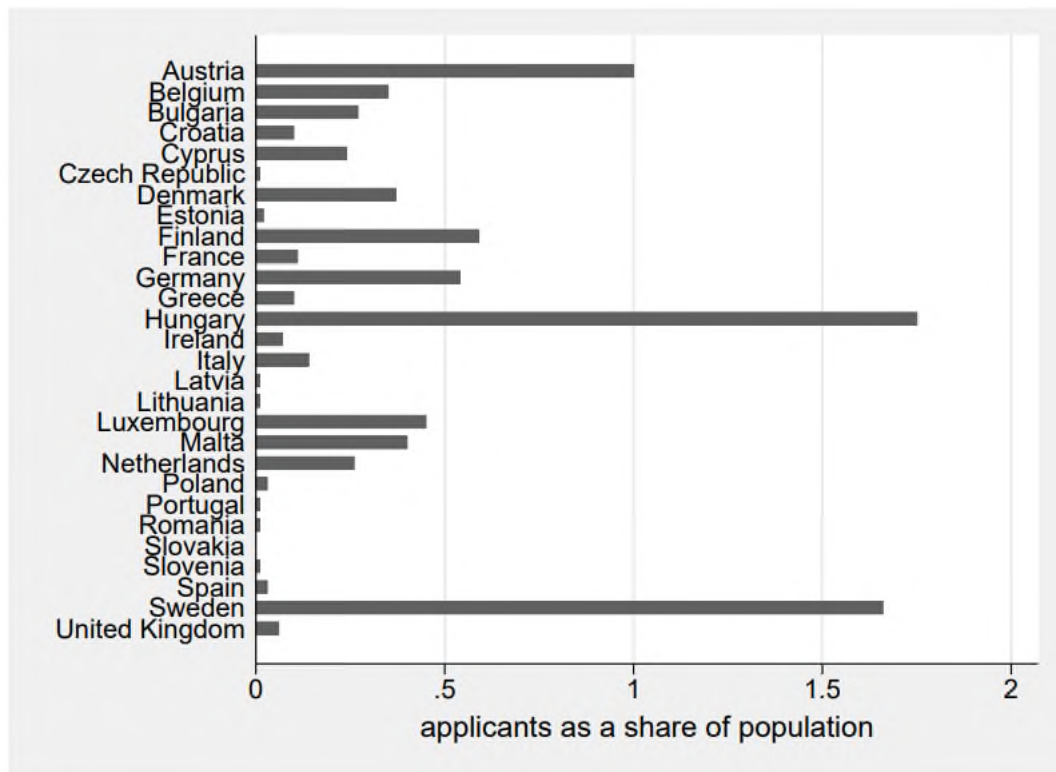


Figure 1.1. Asylum applications in EU Member States in 2015 as a share of the incumbent population in percent. [Eurostat (online data code: migr_asyappctza)].

The EU leadership's attempts to stop the "migration tsunami" have exposed the deepest contradictions within the European Union, demonstrating once again the growing inequality among member states and how different their interests are. A quota system for refugee admissions has strengthened the position of supporters of the UK's exit from the EU and of Eurosceptics in general. At the same time, the EU has had to adjust its foreign policy and counter the dangerous trend towards desolarisation that has re-emerged due to the growing migration crisis (New EU migrant plan abandons refugee quotas for 'mandatory solidarity', 2020).

Another problem associated with migration is of an economic nature. Countries in Europe need to pay refugee benefits, and although many countries have halved them, there is a lot of money being spent on this. In addition, a huge amount of money is flowing towards African countries, Turkey and others to set up various joint initiatives to stop potential migrants in their countries of origin. It is not yet

clear how much support EU member states will be willing to give to countries that absorb huge numbers of war refugees.

The European Commission's budget department has acknowledged that the EU budget is doing its bit to combat the unprecedented influx of refugees. More than €17 billion was spent in the EU and beyond in 2015-2017. Resolving the migration crisis and managing our external borders is a top priority for the EU. It is noted that EU funding to address these challenges was more than doubled in 2015, 2016 and 2017, bringing the EU's "budget response" to the migration crisis to a total of €17.7 billion.

The internal issues related to solving the migration crisis account for €7.4 billion, while the external issues account for €10.3 billion respectively. These funds are allocated, for example, for humanitarian aid, medical and educational services, and border control measures (EU Commission, 2021).

But, we should notice, that in terms of the age distribution, the vast majority of the first time asylum seekers in the EU in 2015 were less than 35 years old (83%); those in the age range 18-34 years accounted for slightly more than half (53%) of the total number of first time applicants, while almost one third (29%) were minors aged less than 18 years old. According to Eurostat more or less the same age distribution of asylum applicants was common across EU Member States, with the largest share of applicants being those aged 18-34. The fact that, the majority of asylum seekers in the EU are in the working age, will have consequences for the labour market, fiscal and budgetary impacts, and hence we take them into account in the computations of country-specific costs and increases in the labour supply. Among others, they have the potential to strengthen the EU's labour market and contribute to the EU Member States budget (Eurostat, 2020).

Therefore, while refugee integration is costly to state budgets, in the medium to long term the social, economic and fiscal benefits can far outweigh the short-term costs of integration. Moreover, integration policies can play an important role in improving social integration, filling vacancies, improving the ratio of the

economically active to the inactive, addressing Europe's demographic challenges as well as increasing jobs and growth in the EU (d'Artis Kanacs, 2016).

It's not surprise, that The European Agenda on Migration, which was proposed in May 2015, recognises migration both as an opportunity and challenge for the EU.

In the main the migration crisis of 2015 refers to the mass influx of refugees and migrants into Europe, mainly from war-torn countries such as Syria, Afghanistan, and Iraq. The crisis was fueled by a range of factors, including the ongoing conflict in Syria, political instability in the Middle East and North Africa, and poverty and economic hardship in many countries.

One of the main features of the crisis was the significant strain it placed on the resources and capacities of the affected countries. Countries such as Greece, Italy, and Hungary, which were at the forefront of the crisis, were ill-equipped to handle the large numbers of refugees and migrants arriving on their shores. This led to overcrowding in reception centers, strains on social services, and increased tensions between migrants and local populations.

The economic impacts of the crisis were also significant. On the one hand, the arrival of refugees and migrants represented an opportunity for many European countries to address demographic challenges, such as aging populations and declining birth rates, and to address labor shortages in certain sectors. Additionally, many refugees and migrants brought skills and expertise that could be valuable for European economies.

On the other hand, the crisis also placed a significant burden on the economies of affected countries. The costs of managing the crisis, including providing housing, food, and healthcare for refugees and migrants, strained public budgets and led to political tensions. Moreover, some countries argued that the arrival of refugees and migrants had negative economic impacts, such as driving down wages or increasing competition for jobs in certain sectors.

The crisis also had broader economic implications for the EU as a whole. The Schengen Agreement, which allows for free movement of people within the EU, was

threatened by the crisis, and the potential reintroduction of border controls could have negative impacts on trade and economic activity. Additionally, the crisis fueled anti-immigrant sentiment in many countries, which could have long-term implications for social cohesion and economic growth.

On the whole, the migration crisis of 2015 had significant economic impacts on both the affected countries and the EU as a whole. While it presented some economic growth and development opportunities, it also placed a significant burden on public resources and led to political and social tensions.

Most politicians are pessimistic when talking about solving the migration crisis. French Prime Minister Manuel Valls has suggested that Europe needs to take urgent action to control its external borders. He believes that if Europe is unable to protect its borders, the very idea of Europe will be called into question. The French politician noted that it is not Europe that will perish but the "European project," European values, and the concept of a united Europe. According to him, Europe cannot accept all refugees fleeing the terrible wars in Iraq or Syria. Otherwise, European society will be completely destabilized. Manuel Valls noted German Chancellor Angela Merkel's "courage" on the refugee issue but said her "come, you will be accepted" policy could lead to considerable changes in the EU.

1.3. The migration crisis at the Belarus-EU border, causes and main features

Belarus shares 1,250 kilometres of border with the European Union. Cooperation to improve border security has been ongoing for many years. Projects implemented jointly to improve control systems, build and equip border crossing points have often been fully or 80-90% covered by EU funds.

According to the EU Delegation to Belarus, between 2001 and 2012, the support to Integrated Border Management in the form of bilateral assistance amounted to about €47.5 million. Benefits from regional projects to upgrade border infrastructure, equipment, training and operational cooperation in the Delegation are estimated at a further €21 million.

Belarusian border guards in the 2000s - 2010s received tens of millions of EUR from the EU for strengthening the border, upgrading infrastructure, combating illegal migration and regional projects in the border area (68.5 million EUR in 2001-2012 and at least 15 million EUR after 2012). EU money was used, inter alia, to finance the BOMBEL project aimed at counteracting illegal migration (Belsat, 2021).

An agreement on readmission between the Republic of Belarus and the EU has been in force since 2020 (National Legal Internet Portal of the Republic of Belarus, 2020).

In late May 2021, following the landing of Ryanair's Boeing 737 in Minsk, the EU and the U.S. imposed sanctions on Belarus and cut off its airspace for the Belarusian airline Belavia. In June, Belarusian Foreign Minister Uladzimir Makiej said that because the European Union had stopped financing, including projects within the framework of the readmission agreement, it made no sense for Belarus to participate in this agreement anymore and it would not spend its own funds to equip the border infrastructure to protect Europe from migrants

In autumn 2021, thousands of migrants came to Belarus hoping to enter the EU. Neither Poland nor the EU were prepared for this. The EU imposed sanctions against the Lukashenko regime, accusing it of using migrants as a hybrid weapon.

Thus, the migration crisis was provoked by Alexander Lukashenko in order to avenge the sanctions imposed on the Belarusian regime after the fraudulent 2020 presidential election. Lukashenka himself also links the crisis to the sanctions and accuses the West of waging a hybrid war.

The migration crisis on the Belarusian border arose in the spring of 2021 due to the influx of illegal migrants, mainly from Iraq and Syria, to a lesser extent from Afghanistan and African countries (according to statistics from the Polish Border Guard) trying to enter the EU countries (Lithuania, Latvia, Poland).

Polish and Lithuanian governments see "Moscow's hand" in these events.

Belarusian and Russian authorities denied any involvement in irregular migration attributing the events to the COVID-19 pandemic, worsening economic

problems in the developing countries and incorrect economic and military policies of Europe and the US towards those countries. Furthermore, Belarusian President A. Lukashenko also accused the EU of unleashing a hybrid war against his country and said that after imposing sanctions, he had no intention of defending Europe, including against migrants

One of the most obvious features of the migration crisis on the border with Belarus is the fact that the crisis is man-made. The crisis became an instrument of pressure of the Belarusian regime on the EU to change its political position concerning the internal political crisis. The migration crisis was organized by the Belarusian authorities only to force the West to have a conversation with official Minsk about lifting sanctions and recognising the Belarusian regime. In other words, Lukashenko wants to shift the focus from the internal political crisis and the tragic situation of political prisoners to the migration crisis, trying to get sanctions lifted and dialogue with him in exchange for an end to the migration crisis he himself created.

Belarusian philosopher and methodologist Vladimir Matskevich called the new global resettlement of peoples one of the three major problems of our time, along with global warming and the ideological problem of world leaders' lack of philosophical and ideological means to solve the first two problems. The Belarusian migration crisis is part of the global crisis.

The EU's vulnerability arises from the lack of a principled solution to this global problem, which authoritarian leaders have used repeatedly in conflicts with the EU (Gaddafi, Erdogan). But what is even more worrying is the striking slowness of the EU in reacting to a potential crisis that threatens its vital interests. In fact, for half a year the EU has tried not to notice how Belarus is setting up an infrastructure of illegal migration and increasing migration pressure at the EU borders.

Due to the aggravated situation on the border with Belarus, the EU countries directly bordering Belarus (Lithuania, Latvia, Poland) decided to build protective fences in order to reduce the flow of migrants into their territories. This initiative required additional expenditures on the part of the EU. For example, Poland was the

first to address the issue of separating its territories with a fence and already at the end of June 2022 it reported the completion of the fence on its border with Belarus. Its construction began in January 2022 against the background of the migration crisis. Today, a 5.5-meter-high and 186-kilometer-long wall has been built along the border. The cost of the project is estimated at 353 million euros and the construction took 49 thousand tons of steel (Council of Europe, 2022).

Lithuania followed suit, completing the construction of the fence on its border with Belarus on 29 August. The length of this fence is 502 kilometres. The cost of the work is 152 million euro (Lithuania completes building fence along border with Belarus, 2022).

Latvia, the last EU country sharing a border with Belarus, has not been spared. The wall on the Latvian side is now under construction. The total length of the Latvian border with Belarus is 173 kilometres. It is planned that the fence will be about 4 metres high and 174 kilometres long. Barbed wire will be stretched on top of it. The cost of the project was not disclosed, but it is known that Latvia has already spent more than 2.5 million euro from the state budget on the temporary fence (LSM lv, 2022).

So, the migration crisis at the Belarus-EU border refers to the situation in which thousands of migrants, many of them from the Middle East and Africa, have attempted to cross the border from Belarus into EU countries such as Poland, Lithuania, and Latvia. This crisis has been fueled by a number of factors, including political tensions between Belarus and the EU, the COVID-19 pandemic, and worsening economic conditions in the migrants' home countries.

One of the main features of the crisis is the role of the Belarusian government in facilitating the migration. Belarus has been accused of luring migrants to its territory with promises of easy passage into the EU, as part of a larger geopolitical strategy to put pressure on the EU in response to sanctions imposed on Belarus. The Belarusian authorities have also been accused of actively pushing migrants towards the border and facilitating their crossing, sometimes with the use of force.

The crisis has had significant economic impacts on both sides of the border. On the Belarusian side, the influx of migrants has strained resources and led to overcrowding in border areas, which required financial inputs from the Belarusian side. The Belarusian government has also been accused of using the crisis to extract economic concessions from the EU, such as lifting sanctions or providing financial assistance.

On the EU side, the crisis has led to significant economic costs, both in terms of the resources needed to manage the situation and in terms of the potential long-term impacts on EU economies. The closure of border crossings and disruptions to trade have led to supply chain disruptions and reduced economic activity in some areas. Additionally, the crisis has further strained relations between the EU and Belarus, which could have negative economic consequences in the future.

Altogether, the migration crisis at the Belarus-EU border is a complex and multifaceted issue with significant economic, political, and social implications. It will require coordinated and collaborative efforts from all parties involved to address the root causes of the crisis and ensure that the economic impacts are minimized.

1.4. The migration crisis in the aftermath of the war in Ukraine: causes and main challenges

The Ukrainian migration crisis has become Europe's biggest since World War II. According to UN estimates, as of November 2022, over 7.8 million refugees from Ukraine were recorded across Europe, of which 4.7 million were registered for Temporary Protection or similar national protection schemes. 90% of the refugees are women and children (men under 60 are not allowed to leave Ukraine because of martial law). Ukrainian refugees have become a serious strain on the EU social system and a challenge for European politicians. On one side is solidarity with Ukraine in the face of Putin's aggression; on the other is Europe's own cost-of-living crisis, triggered by war and energy blackmail by the Kremlin (UNCHR The UN Refugee Agency, 2022).

Today, the response to the new wave of asylum seekers differs significantly from previous approaches. First of all, the Ukrainian crisis has entailed a tangible reconfiguration of the destination countries: Germany is no longer the main destination of asylum seekers. Countries such as Poland, the Czech Republic, Italy or Slovakia are, for historical reasons, destinations for migrants from Ukraine, while outside the EU the US and Canada are destinations. Geographical proximity also plays a role, with countries such as Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania taking the brunt, which can be seen on the figure 1.2.



Figure 1.2. Number of bord crossing from Ukraine to European countries as of 3 October 2022 [<https://www.statista.com/chart/26960/number-of-ukrainian-refugees-by-target-country/>]

One cannot but note that the very approach to the perception of refugees has changed. Whereas in the past the EU was reluctant to accept this group of migrants, given the serious divisions among member states, today it is showing unprecedented solidarity.

In the short term, costs are inevitable. It is not easy to calculate, but for the first year the European Union may spend between \$8,000 and \$10,000 per person on housing and support for refugees. These are not insignificant sums. However, according to all studies, in the second, third, fourth year - especially if refugees gain access to the labour market and especially if during the first year they have been supported and assisted at policy level to find employment and learn the language - they become a productive asset. They can be employed and the income they generate far outweighs the costs (Financial Development, 2022).

Migrants, mainly from Ukraine, have already been helping keep Poland's economy growing at one of the fastest rates in Europe over the past few years.

By late July, 385,000 Ukrainian refugees had found jobs since arriving in Poland, according to the labor ministry. Researchers and business groups estimate 20% to 50% of all Ukrainian refugees could remain after the war. That would amount to as many as 1 million people.

This means an inflow of qualified labour force, the majority of which perfectly supports the Polish economy, by influencing the labour market, lowering unemployment and, as a result, raising the GDP of the host country (see figure 1.3).

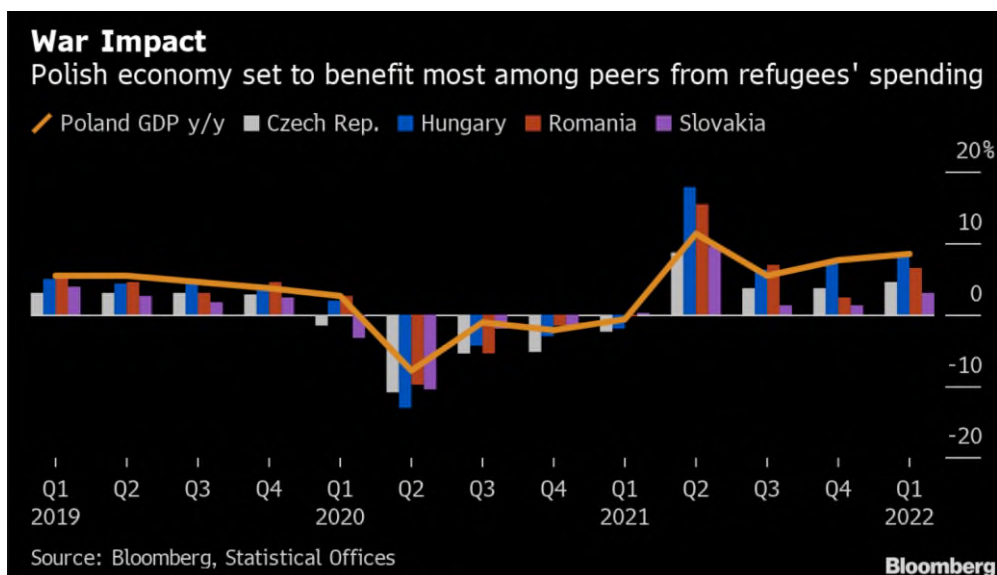


Figure 1.3. Benefits from spendings on refugees for polish GDP [Bloomberg, statistics offices]

There is an opportunity to invest in the human capital of refugees. Many economists believe that the arrival of these refugees is a plus for some European countries, where there are currently a significant number of unoccupied jobs for which they can qualify.

The results of the studies revealed an important reason for such positive country attitudes towards refugees: asylum seekers from the Middle East region face greater obstacles in terms of socio-cultural integration into European society. This situation is also linked to the level of socio-economic development of the countries of origin of refugees: while Ukraine ranks 74th in the Human Development Index, Syria is only 151st (United Nations Development Programme, 2022). This is confirmed by Herbert Brücker of the Institute for Employment Research in Germany, stating that compared to the refugees who arrived in Germany in 2015 (for whose integration the government has had to invest huge energy and resources in a wide range of training, orientation courses and skills development measures), Ukrainian natives are likely to be more suitable for the local labour market in terms of higher education (judging from past waves of migration). Furthermore, despite the 2015 EU migration crisis, the demographic situation in the EU, namely in Germany, has not improved after almost a decade. The shortage of human resources, and not just highly qualified ones, has also been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. There is already a proven economic benefit from labour migrants from Ukraine: according to the National Bank of Poland, Ukrainian migrants accounted for 11% of Poland's GDP growth between 2014 and 2019 (Ociepa, 2019).

For Ukraine, on the other hand, the migration crisis is associated with the loss of its able-bodied, skilled population. President Volodymyr Zelenski, referring to the topic of refugees in his publications, noted UN figures. According to them, between 24 February and 29 June, the net outflow of population because of the war was about 5.2 million people (refugees in Europe and citizens of Ukraine who went to the Russian Federation are taken into account) (Operational Data Portal, 2022).

That is, about 13% of the population left the country in four months. In the past, during the same period, the population decreased by 0.24%. The war has accelerated the demographic crisis by 54 times.

The demographic tragedy is fuelled by human tragedies: war deaths, falling birthrates and the Ukrainian government's lack of control over some 20 per cent of the country's territory.

Between 24 February and 27 June, nearly 5,000 civilians died, according to the UN. More than 50,000 babies were born in Ukraine in six months, but in the same period last year there were 133,000 newborns. Millions of Ukrainians have been held hostage by the occupiers (Office of the high commissioner for human rights, 2022).

Migration has a negative impact on a country's economy, but it is not possible to say exactly how much. It is a matter of predicting that a decrease in population by X% will cause the economy to fall by Y%.

If you think of the economy as a mechanism, each citizen is a small link, a cog in the mechanism. When it disappears, it hurts the mechanism. The flywheel slows down. The mechanism is damaged.

In the short term, this wave of refugees reduces consumption. They do not buy anything in Ukraine, do not pay taxes on their purchases - a minus for the budget. Also, the Ukrainian businesses serving these millions have lost some of their income.

The consequences in the long run could be worse. After all, the citizens who will never return will disappear forever as links and their children as promising links in the machinery of the economy. They will not contribute to the development of Ukraine. They are millions of workers and thousands of entrepreneurs see figure 1.3.

For example, there are about two million Ukrainians living in Poland. 1.5 million of which have already received a PESEL identification number. According to the ZUS Social Security Administration, 739,000 Ukrainians are already officially employed.

According to a survey by the think tank Gremi Personal (see Figure 1.4). 38% of Ukrainians who left the country because of the war plan to stay in Poland and not return to Ukraine. Another 7% of Ukrainians plan to move from Poland to another country and establish their lives there. According to a similar survey conducted by the agency in October 2022, only 17% of Ukrainians planned to stay in Poland and not return to Ukraine.

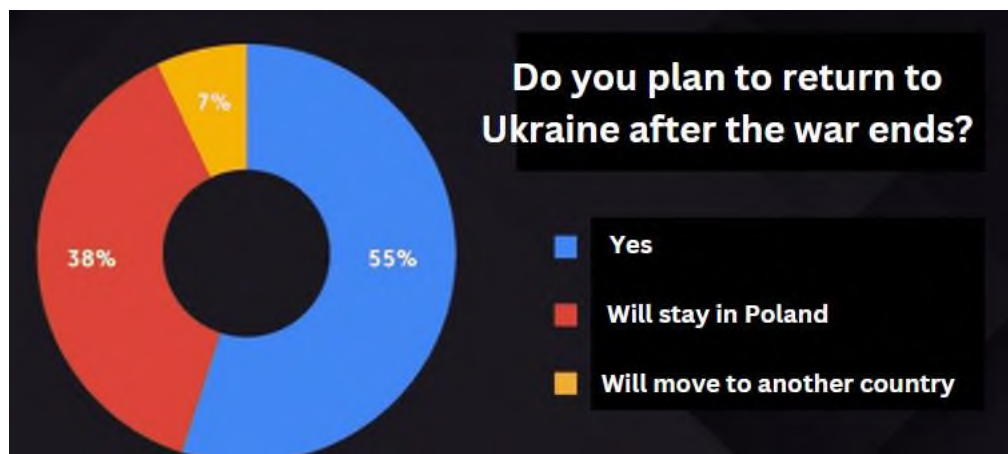


Figure 1.4. Percent of Ukrainians, who not plan to return to Ukraine [https://gremi-personal.com.ua/skilki-bizhenciv-ne-povernutsja-v-ukrainu-doslidzhennja/].

Some have nowhere to return, mostly people from eastern and southern Ukraine whose homes have been destroyed by the Russian occupiers. Many have already adapted to Poland, finding jobs and sending their children to Polish schools. Some women have built relationships with Poles and no longer want to leave. Most Ukrainians who have been in Poland for a long time are learning or have already learned the Polish language, which also opens up new opportunities in the job market.

Children who have left the country are a lost workforce already in 10-15 years. This is the biggest loss in the future economy, the future GDP.

CHAPTER 2.
**ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF ACTIVITY OF OF THE MAIN
DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE REPUBLIC
OF BELARUS IN GRODNO REGION, CONTRIBUTION TO SOLVING
THE MIGRATION ISSUE AT THE BORDER**

2.1. General characteristics and analysis of economic activity of The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region

The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance for Grodno region is a legal entity and a territorial body of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus. It has the following responsibilities: acts as a treasury body and monitors the use of budget and other public funds; guided by the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, other acts of legislation of the Republic of Belarus, Regulations on the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus; functions as the Main board of the Ministry of Finance on Grodno region.

The main objectives of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance are:

- To ensure the efficient use of finances in order to increase the national income;
- Fiscal policy on the territory of the region is carried out effectively;
- Control over observance of the financial interests of the state.

The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance, according to the tasks entrusted to it carries out the following functions:

- organization, implementation, and control of execution of the republican and local budgets, the budget of the Union State, as well as other funds accumulated in the accounts of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance on purpose and in accordance with the legislation, as well as accounting, drawing up reports on operations with the mentioned funds;

- control over compliance of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs (hereinafter referred to as audited entities) with the financial and budgetary, insurance legislation, purposeful and efficient use of funds allocated from the budget, state targeted budgetary and extra-budgetary funds in all directions and types of expenses

- Control over the work of financial departments of district (city) executive committees of the region on budget drafting and execution jointly with the financial department of the regional executive committee;

- Control over the departmental control in committees, departments, divisions, services and organizations of the Regional Executive Committee.

- Ensuring execution of the republican budget, local budgets, state targeted budgetary and extra-budgetary funds, the Union State budget from the accounts of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance;

- Interaction with banks, tax, customs, local financial, as well as other interested bodies

- assistance to local financial and other public bodies in mastering treasury technologies of budget execution

- conducting audits of execution of estimates for maintenance of local financial bodies

- Maintaining records in the prescribed manner, registration of correspondence of strictly accountable forms

- Considering applications, suggestions, complaints from the citizens on the issues that fall within the competence of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance;

- Performing other functions in accordance with the law (Ministry of finance of the Republic of Belarus, 2019).

The execution of the republican and local budgets in Grodno region is primarily handled by the Treasury, which plays a crucial role in the budget process. The State Treasury Administration is a component of a centralized treasury system that

operates based on the territorial principle. At present, the State Treasury Department is entrusted with such tasks as:

- organising, implementing and controlling the execution of republican and local budgets, the Union State budget, as well as other public funds accumulated in the accounts of the Directorate General on a targeted basis and in accordance with the legislation;

- Exercising control over targeted and efficient use of the budget, earmarked budgetary and state extra-budgetary funds

- Keeping records, producing reports and submitting them to the Main State Treasury of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus on the republican budget, the Union State budget and other public funds; on the local budget funds to the Main Financial Department of the Grodno Regional Executive Committee, financial departments of respective district (town) executive committees on the territory of the region

- Ensuring execution of revenues of the republican and local budgets through the accounts of the Main Department;

- control over operations on receipt and use of extra-budgetary funds received by the system of compulsory enforcement of judicial decisions and other enforcement documents (Sorokina, 2012).

2.2. Research and analysis of financial state of The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region

The main tasks of the territorial bodies of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus are:

- Ensuring efficient use of finances in order to increase the national income;
- effective implementation of the fiscal policy in the territory of the regions and the city of Minsk, control over the observance of the financial interests of the state;

controlling and supervising the issuance, circulation and redemption of securities, and activities of professional participants in the securities market.

Main Board of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus for Grodno region (hereinafter - Main Board) is a territorial body of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus with the rights of a legal entity and performs its functions within the territory of Grodno region.

The structure of the Main department includes:

- state treasury department;
- auditing Department;
- securities sector;
- an organisational and human resources department;
- a finance and procurement unit;
- legal sector;
- household.

The State Treasury Department is responsible for executing republican and local budgets, as well as state earmarked budgetary and extra-budgetary funds from the accounts of the General Directorate. They also maintain systematic, complete, and standardized accounting of operations related to the movement of accumulated funds on the General Directorate accounts. Additionally, the department provides assistance to state agencies and administrators (recipients) of budget funds in mastering treasury technologies.

The Control and Audit Department conducts inspections (audits) of legal entities and individuals to ensure compliance with financial and economic legislation and the proper use of budgetary funds and state targeted budgetary and extra-budgetary funds. They also audit the expenditure estimates of financial bodies and check the work of financial bodies regarding the organization of budget preparation and execution.

The Securities Sector is responsible for the state registration of share issues and supervises the compliance of joint stock companies with securities legislation. They

also accept and consider documents for state registration of securities and the introduction of changes into the State Register of Securities.

The department of organisational and personnel work organises work on recruitment, placement, professional development of personnel; keeps personal files of employees, issues service certificates; executes orders on appointment, transfer and dismissal of employees; carries out personal personnel records and prepares reports on work with personnel.

Finance and Material Sector organizes, maintains and prepares accounts and reports on budget execution; submits reports in due time; calculates salaries and other types of wages for employees.

The Legal Department offers legal assistance to the Main Department, manages legal proceedings and disputes, and advocates for the Main Department's interests in courts and government agencies. They also provide advice on legal matters that arise during the Main Department's operations.

Meanwhile, the Economic Department is accountable for supplying necessary materials and equipment to the employees of the Main Department's structural divisions, as well as organizing government procurement for the Main Department's requirements. They are also responsible for maintaining and enforcing sanitary conditions in the Directorate General's premises.

The Treasury plays the most significant role in the budget process; it deals with the execution of republican and local budgets in Grodno region. The State Treasury Administration is part of a unified treasury centralized system based on the territorial principle (Ministry of finance of the Republic of Belarus, 2019).

2.3. Analysis of the activity of the enterprise during the migration crises on the Belarus-EU border

The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region organizes the drafting of the budget, plans the sources of revenues of

the local budget, makes a forecast of revenues for the planned year, implements the mechanism of budget regulation at the local budget level, prepares the budget bill of income and expenses with a quarterly distribution, carries out the work on budget execution.

The main functions of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance in Grodno region are: organization, implementation and control of execution of the republican and local budgets; accounting of operations on the movement of funds accumulated on the accounts of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance; preparation of reports and their submission in terms of funds of the republican and local budgets; control over compliance of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs with financial and budgetary, insurance legislation, targeted and efficient use of funds of the State Treasury.

The State Treasury Department is a structural unit of the Ministry of Finance and is subordinated to it. According to the Regulation on its activities, its main task is to organize, implement and control the execution of republican and local budgets, the Union State budget, as well as other public funds accumulated in the accounts of the Main Department, for the purpose and in accordance with the legislation, as well as accounting and reporting on the operations with the mentioned funds.

In general, the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus for the Grodno Region demonstrates rather high results of activities, which indicates the efficient use of budgetary funds by ensuring their targeting, timely and rational spending; accelerated turnover of budgetary funds by reducing the flow of funds to the final recipient.

The situation on the Belarusian border has added another expense item for Belarus and consequently additional activities for The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region.

According to various estimates, Belarus hosts from five to 20 thousand migrants and refugees from the Middle East and Africa. According to experts, the cold season and migrants' lack of income and support could lead to a serious crisis that Lukashenka would have to reckon with (Euronews, 2021).

Belarus has already spent about 12.6 million dollars on the detention of migrants, who are in the logistics centre "Bruzgi" on the Belarusian-Polish border, said President Alexander Lukashenko, who did not specify what exactly the money was spent on in the interview. Additionally, the EU allocated \$260 thousand for the improvement of conditions for migrants on the border.

All in all, the EU allocated 700 thousand Euros for humanitarian assistance to irregular migrants in Belarus. 200 thousand Euros of this sum were sent directly to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), which supported the Belarusian Red Cross in providing people on the border with immediate assistance in the form of food, hygiene products, blankets and first aid kits, it was reported on Wednesday. Another 500,000 euros were sent to migrants through humanitarian partner organisations with which the EU is in contact, it was reported further.

Additionally, the European Commission has intended to allocate up to EUR 3.5 million to support the voluntary return home of migrants staying at the Belarus border (Deutsche Welle, 2021).

According to Yulia Abukhovich, senior lecturer of the International Relations Department of the Presidential Academy of Administration, the daily detention of migrants who stay at the logistics centre "Bruzgi" on the Belarusian-Polish border costs the country 20 thousand Euro. This amount arises on the basis of the following calculations: at the very least, for Belarusian citizens such a lower limit is 30 roubles per day. If a foreign citizen, the amount is doubled. Let's multiply it by 2 thousand officially announced refugees: 60 thousand Belarusian roubles is about 20 thousand euro a day. Moreover, every day, according to the reports of the Belarusian Red Cross Society, 8 tons of foodstuffs arrive. Also according to the official statements of the Belarusian authorities, in the logistics centre where the migrants are accommodated, the military cooks 2 tons of porridge for lunch and the volunteers distribute almost 4 tons of dry food rations - one packet per person. Inside the packet are three packs of instant noodles, bread, tinned fish, two tins of canned stew, a stick of sausage, biscuits and waffles. During the entire stay of refugees near the

Belarusian-Polish border, Belarus gave them almost 162 tons of humanitarian aid - food, warm clothing, and other necessary items.

In addition, about 50 people are working 24 hours a day to provide for the migrants. It is about their security, safety, and catering, which implies additional expenditure on working and processing people.

According to her, there are costs that are impossible to calculate. These are the after-hours work of medics, law enforcers, military, EMERCOM officials, and journalists.

The state's costs also include damaged infrastructure at the Bruzgi border crossing point and deforestation at the border, where refugees have set up a spontaneous camp (Sputnikby, 2021).

As far as the main functions of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance in Grodno region are: organization, implementation, and control of execution of the republican and local budgets; accounting of operations on the movement of funds accumulated on the accounts of the Main Department of the Ministry of Finance; preparation of reports and their submission in terms of funds of the republican and local budgets; control over compliance of legal entities and individual entrepreneurs with financial and budgetary, insurance legislation, targeted and efficient use of funds of the State Treasury. The migration crisis on the Belarus-EU border has become an additional item to control, allocate, and implementation of the budget allocated to this area.

The Grodno region, despite the fact that it is the smallest region of the country, with an area of 25.1 thousand square kilometers, finds itself in the epicenter of the migration crisis in 2021, as it shares a border with two EU countries (in the west it borders with Poland, in the north - with Lithuania). Grodno region has trade and economic relations with 130 countries and exports goods to the Russian Federation, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, China, Germany, Uzbekistan, Latvia, Turkey, Netherlands, France, Belgium, Moldova and Azerbaijan.

Grodnoinvest free economic zone was established in 2002.

The territory of the region is crossed by 5 railway lines that connect Grodno region with Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine and Russia. The Grodno Region has a favourable recreational and geographical location on the border with the countries of the European Union, a rich natural and historical-cultural heritage and a developed transport system. All this defines significant prospects for the development of various kinds of tourism in the region (President of the Republic of Belarus, 2020). All this makes the region even more attractive and promising in the eyes of migrants for further advancement into Europe and results in the additional field of work for The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region. The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region was in charge of the situation in 2021 and had to dispose of state funds to resolve and stabilize the situation on the Belarusian-European border in the Grodno region.

2.4. Influence of migration crises on the border of Belarus and EU on the activity of The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region

Due to the current situation at the Belarus-EU border, the Decision of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus approving the State Programme "Law Enforcement" for 2021-2025 included and described in detail a separate sub-programme called "Migration".

Thus, the State Programme includes the following subprogrammes:

Subprogramme 1 "Infrastructure of the Ministry of the Interior";

Subprogramme 2 "Migration". Within the framework of this thesis, we will consider the subprogramme "Migration" in more detail.

In order to achieve the goals, set for subprogramme 2 "Migration" the following tasks are envisaged:

- improving the efficiency of migration flows management, including in the field of external labour migration, by achieving compliance of their volumes, directions and composition with the prospects of demographic and socio-economic development of the Republic of Belarus;

- providing assistance to foreign citizens and stateless persons seeking protection in the Republic of Belarus

- development of mechanisms and means of prevention, prevention, detection and suppression of violations of migration legislation, as well as information resources (systems) in the field of citizenship and migration.

The State Programme will be financed from the state budget with annual adjustments of the volume of financing in the process of formation of the national budget for the next financial year.

The implementation of the State Programme will require 396,766,705.5 Belarusian roubles (\$147,727,569.2531) from the national budget (of which 394,316,083.5 Belarusian roubles (\$146,815,132.7351) to finance capital investment, which is spread in the following way in years 2021-2025. (See Figure 2.1.).

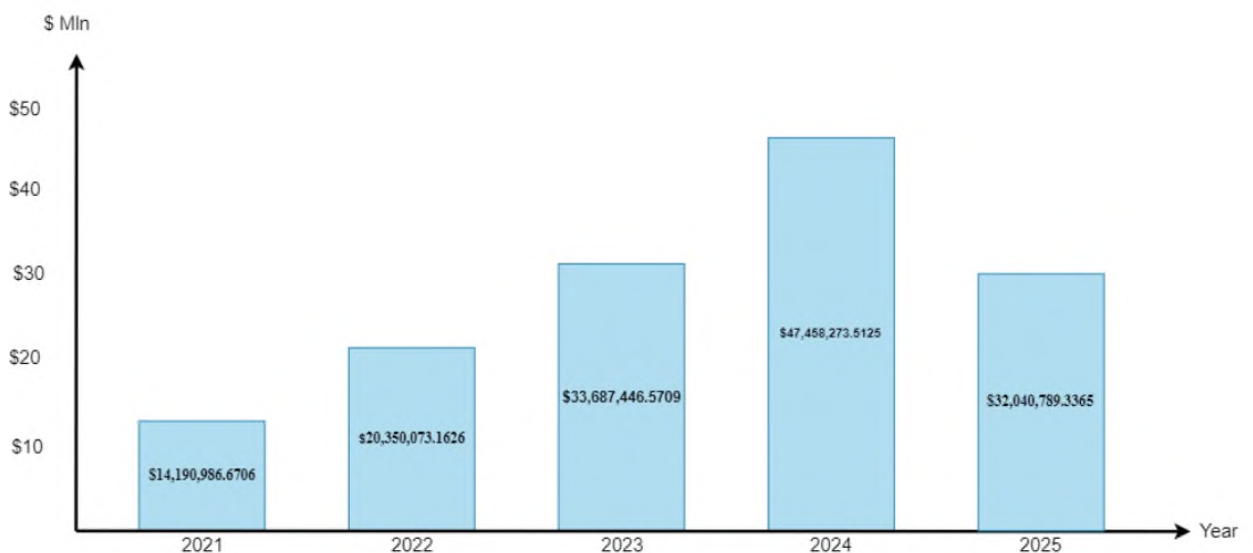


Figure 2.1. Expected spending of Belarussian government on subprogramme 2 "Migration" in \$ mln by years [created based on numbers from the document].

The scope of financing of the State Programme from the national budget is as follows under subprogramme 2, entitled "Migration" - 2,450,622 Belarusian roubles (\$912,436,518), of which for implementation:

- partial compensation of moving and initial settling-in costs for foreigners who received a permanent residence permit in the Republic of Belarus - 383,840 Belarusian roubles (\$142,914.5878);

- payments of lump sum and supplementary cash assistance to foreign citizens claiming refugee status, subsidiary protection or asylum in the Republic of Belarus, foreign citizens granted refugee status or asylum in the Republic of Belarus - 566,782 Belarusian roubles (\$211,029,1161);

- capital repair with elements of modernization of the institution "Temporary settlement of refugees in Vitebsk" - 1 500 000 Belarusian roubles (\$558 492.8141) (National Legal Internet Portal of the Republic of Belarus, 2021).

Thus, the spending on the sub-programme "Migration" under the Decision of the Council of Ministers to approve the State Programme "Ensuring the rule of law" for 2021-2025 will amount to about 912 thousand dollars.

The migration crisis at the Belarus-EU border could have a significant impact on the Belarusian Ministry of Finance, and The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region work in particularly. The influx of migrants may strain the resources and capacities of the Belarusian government, leading to increased costs for crisis management and migrant services. This may put pressure on the government budget and potentially affect its ability to meet other spending priorities.

In addition, the crisis may have a wider economic impact on the Belarusian economy. The closure of border crossings and trade breakdowns could cause supply chain problems and lower economic activity in the border areas. The crisis may also affect investors' confidence in the country, leading to a reduction in foreign investment and an increase in the cost of loans.

Moreover, the Belarusian government's response to the crisis may also have economic implications. If the government decides to use the crisis as a bargaining

chip in its negotiations with the EU, this could lead to negative economic consequences, such as the imposition of additional sanctions or the withdrawal of trade preferences.

So, in general, the migration crisis at the Belarus-EU border could have considerable economic consequences for the Belarusian Ministry of Finance and The Main Department of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Belarus in Grodno region and the country as a whole. Careful management and coordination will be needed in order to mitigate the economic effects and to enable the government to continue its priorities while meeting the needs of migrants and coping with the crisis.

CHAPTER 3.

WAYS TO ADDRESS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, POLITICAL, AND SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS POSED BY THE MIGRATION CRISIS IN EUROPE

3.1. Economic and political influence of migration crises on the EU

Migration is a phenomenon that occurs in various countries and regions, but the characteristics of migrant populations can vary widely due to different sources of migration. In Europe, for instance, citizens often have the right to free movement, leading to significant migration patterns. The impacts of migration on societies can be controversial, particularly with regards to its economic effects.

The migration crisis in Europe has resulted in short-term costs associated with managing the influx of migrants and providing them with basic needs. However, the economic consequences of migration can be both positive and negative for the European Union. On the positive side, migrants can contribute to the economy through their labor, entrepreneurship, and consumption. For instance, they can address labor shortages in various sectors such as healthcare, agriculture, and construction, and even establish new businesses and create job opportunities. Additionally, their spending contributes to consumer demand, which can spur economic growth.

Immigration is necessary for Europe to counter the trend of a decreasing working-age population. According to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Germany is projected to experience a decline of 13 million in its working-age population between 2010 and 2050. As the number of workers is a driving factor in economic growth, a shrinking workforce poses significant challenges in achieving economic development. (Eurostat Migrant Integration Indicators, 2019).

On the negative side, migration crises can create short-term economic costs for the EU, particularly in terms of managing the influx of migrants and providing them with basic necessities such as housing, food, and healthcare. This can strain public resources and budgets, and may lead to increased public debt.

In addition, costs may be associated with processing asylum claims, conducting background checks, and providing legal assistance to migrants. These costs can vary depending on the capacity and resources of individual EU member states.

Also, migration can put downward pressure on wages and working conditions in certain sectors, especially if migrants are willing to work for lower wages.

In the longer term, however, the economic effects of migration are complex and depend on a range of factors, such as the age, education, and skills of the migrants, as well as the policies and institutions in place to integrate them into the labor market and society.

Finally, there may be social and political costs associated with migration. For example, the arrival of large numbers of migrants can sometimes lead to tensions and conflicts within communities, and can also create political challenges for governments that are attempting to manage the situation.

The migration expert Hein de Haas states that when it comes to the impact on European economies, a lot of research has shown that migration increases GDP because migrants add to the workforce. There's very little real evidence to support the claim that migration is crowding out labor or bringing down wages. In public debates, the negative or positive effects of migration are generally exaggerated by adversaries or proponents.

International migration has direct and indirect effects on economic growth, and it is widely acknowledged that migration can expand the workforce and result in aggregate GDP growth. However, the impact on per capita GDP growth is less certain. One direct effect of migration is demographic, as it not only increases the size of the population but also changes the age distribution of the host country. Typically, migrants are concentrated in younger and more economically active age groups compared to native populations, which can help reduce dependency ratios.

Another direct effect is the addition of skills and abilities brought by migrants, which supplements the human capital of the host country. For example, in the United States, skilled immigrants are seen to contribute to enhancing research, innovation, and technological progress.

First, migration has a demographic impact, not only by increasing the size of the population but also by changing the age pyramid of receiving countries. Migrants tend to be more concentrated in the younger and economically active age groups compared with natives and therefore contribute to reduce dependency ratios (Gagon, 2014).

Second, migrants arrive with skills and abilities, and so supplement the stock of human capital of the host country. More specifically, evidence from the United States suggests that skilled immigrants contribute to boosting research and innovation, as well as technological progress (Hunt, 2010).

World Bank study on the Turkish experience shows that Syrian refugees have somewhat substituted the local work force in the informal and part-time sectors. However, employment rates of Turkish workers increased in the formal sector, contributing to higher average wages. Fiscal sustainability can be increased through better access to the labor market. He concludes that overall, the experience in those countries shows that the European Union, with more coordination and solidarity, might be well equipped to absorb a number well above the one currently accepted (Wagner, 2015).

Taking the example of Ukrainian refugees for the last few years. In this case, European economies are still rebuilding from the pandemic and dealing with ongoing supply chain deficits and rising inflation. Regardless of how expensive it is to provide short-term support to families temporarily displaced by war, in the longer term the expense of reintegrating millions of people will be much greater and put tremendous pressure on housing, education, and health systems.

Although we often think of international migrants mainly as a source of labour

They are more than just workers, playing different economic roles in countries of origin and destination, including in countries of origin and destination, including

- as workers, migrants are part of the labor market, but also have an impact on it; they also alter the income distribution within a country and influence the priorities for investment within the country;

- how migrant students - or their children - contribute to the pool of human capital stock and the spread of knowledge;

- as entrepreneurs and investors, they create jobs and contribute to innovation and technological transformation;

- as consumers, they contribute to the demand for domestic and foreign goods and services, which affects price levels and production, as well as the trade balance;

- as accumulators of savings, they not only send remittances to their home countries but also indirectly, through the banking system, contribute to the development of the banking system, they promote investment in the countries that absorb them;

- as taxpayers, they contribute to the public budget and benefit from government services (Borjas, 2003).

There is a large body of evidence on how migrants with both low and high qualifications make up for labor shortages that may be felt in particular occupational groups, sectors, or among specific occupations. In countries with a high proportion of highly-skilled local workers, low-skilled migrant workers complement the skills of locals by taking up jobs in sectors where there is a shortage of nationals; in many cases, these are in many cases, they are also sectors local workers find unattractive. This not only helps fill labour shortages in sectors such as construction and agriculture but also allows local workers in highly skilled sectors to continue their productive specialisation. This complementarity in skills is important for local highly skilled women. When migrants fill jobs in childcare and household jobs, local women are empowered to increase their participation and productivity. For example, a study in Italy found that

when there are many immigrants providing household services, local Italian women spend more time at work (Mocetti, 2010). A 2011 study in the United States reached the same conclusion.

By lowering the costs of serving households, the immigration of low-skilled workers increases the labour supply and average time spent in the labour market by locally highly skilled women.

With regard to their broader economic contribution in the form of widespread and long-lasting externalities to societies, migrants have long been a driver of entrepreneurship and innovation. Migrants, unlike people who have never lived outside their countries, are much more willing to take business risks. This may be because, as some researchers point out, researchers note that migrants have already taken the risk of leaving their countries of origin to seek better opportunities in new places. So, they will also look for opportunities in new locations and are therefore well prepared for the risks they might face.

Migration has also had a significant political influence on the European Union, particularly in recent years as the number of migrants entering the EU has increased. Some of the political effects of migration on the EU include:

Changes in political discourse: Migration has led to changes in political discourse across the EU, with some political parties and leaders using anti-immigrant rhetoric to appeal to voters. This has contributed to the rise of far-right and populist movements in some countries.

Shifts in public opinion: Migration has also influenced public opinion across the EU, with some individuals expressing concern about the impact of migrants on the economy, social cohesion, and national security.

Policy responses: Migration has led to policy responses at both the national and EU level, including changes to asylum and immigration policies, border controls, and efforts to improve integration and resettlement of refugees and migrants.

Strained relationships among EU member states: The migration crisis has also created tensions and strained relationships among EU member states, particularly in regards to burden-sharing and responsibility for managing migration flows.

The migration crisis in Europe has prompted a range of policy responses at the national and EU level, including changes to asylum and immigration policies, border controls, and efforts to improve integration and resettlement of refugees and migrants. However, these policies have often been controversial and have faced significant implementation challenges, which also require serious financial impacts (Borgna, 2014).

In the short term, the macroeconomic consequences from the refugee sudden and great increase are likely to be a not that a large increase in GDP growth, giving back the fiscal extension related to the help to the asylum seekers, as well as the wider in labour supply as the newcomers start entering the labour market. The outcomes are concentrated in the main target countries, such as Austria, Germany, and Sweden. The influence of the refugees on middling and long-term growth depends on the way they will be blended in the labor market. International experience with economic immigrants shows that quiet often, migrants have lower employment rates and as a result the wages received than natives because of these differences decline over time. Prolonged integration contemplates factors such as low level of knowing language and conveyable job qualifications, together with the obstacles to job search. In the situation of refugees, legal limitations on work during the asylum application period also need to be taken into account. Factors which complicate for workers of lower skills to take up jobs, such as high entry wages and other labour market rigidities, may also be important, as may be “welfare traps” formed by the combination of social benefits, which they could have and the tax system, applied in this or that country.

Policies can help open up the refugees’ way to the labour market: for example limitations on taking up work during the asylum application period could be minimized, and active labour market policies could get specifically targeted to the refugees strengthened. Wage subsidies to private employers have often been effective in raising immigrants’ employment; alternatively, temporary exceptions to minimum or entry level wages may also be taken into account. Initiatives to ease

avenues to self-employment (including access to credit) and facilitate skill recognition could also help refugees succeed (Patacchini, 2011).

3.2. Problems of immigrant integration in the host society and pathways to solve them

The role of migration in sustainable development cannot be overstated, as it has the potential to improve the social, economic, and physical well-being of individual migrants and their communities of origin and destination. However, for migration to truly contribute to these positive outcomes, it is crucial that migration governance actors prioritize successful integration of newcomers into society.

Failure to ensure effective integration can result in marginalization of newcomers, making them more susceptible to a range of risks such as limited access to education, language barriers, and difficulty finding suitable employment. As a result, there has been a growing focus on integration and social cohesion of migrants across various sectors including government, academia, and the private sector involved in international migration. (People on the move: Global migration's impact and opportunity, 2016).

Despite this growing interest, there is no consensus on what effective migrant integration and social cohesion fully entails, whether programs should target both temporary and permanent migrants, and whether social cohesion policies and programs are as relevant for countries of destination as for countries of origin.

Integration is defined as the two-way process of mutual adaptation between migrants and host societies in which migrants are incorporated into the social, economic, cultural and political life of the receiving community. As such, integration entails a set of joint responsibilities for migrants and host communities and, in this broad understanding, incorporates other related notions such as social inclusion and social cohesion (See Figure 3.1). Integration is a cross-cutting and multi-sectoral issue that pertains to policy areas that address the economic, social,

legal, cultural, and civic spheres and impacts all aspects of migrants' lives and their communities.

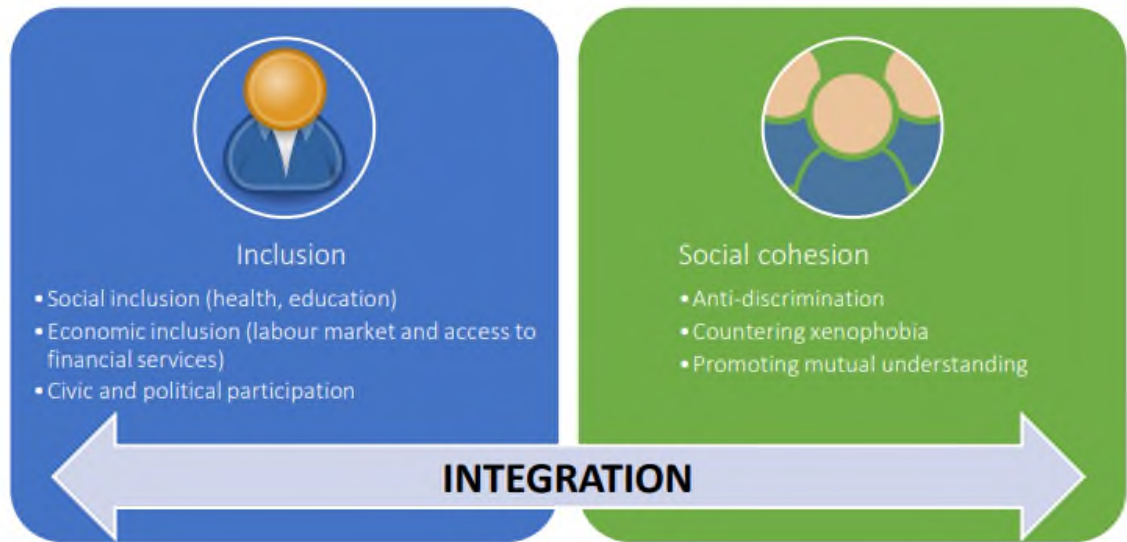


Figure 3.1. Elements of integration [International organization of migration]

But there are several challenges that immigrants face when integrating into a host society, they can include the following difficulties.

Language barriers can make refugees feel isolated, hopeless, and anti-social, which often leads to depression. It is one of the biggest challenges for immigrants - communicating in the language of the host society. This can lead to difficulty in finding employment, accessing healthcare, and interacting with the local community.

In 2017, continental Europe hosted 2.6 million refugees and nearly 1 million asylum-seekers (UNHCR global trends forced displacement in 2017, 2017). Non-coerced international migration contributes to the proliferation of languages. Eurostat estimates that 16.9 million European Union citizens reside in another EU country, and there are 21.6 million non-EU citizens in the EU, with the number of foreign permanent residents differing significantly from country to country. In Switzerland, a country situated in the heart of Europe, which can be used as an example of the mixture of languages and cultures is further accentuated by foreign permanent

residents (24.9%) the majority of which approximately 68% originate from the EU-28/EFTA countries, and migrants in the asylum receiving process. Most asylum seekers originate from African countries like Eritrea, Afghanistan, and Syria, followed by Somalia, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Nigeria and the Gambia (Burmeister, 2019). Which makes their situation more difficult, comparing to people, coming from neighboring countries and are qualified as foreign employees or also called “expats” are normally able to express themselves in a national language of the country or English, but in the case of other migrants, who may, especially upon arrival, face language barriers, including when seeking care.

Providing language classes and cultural training to new immigrants could be an effective solution to this problem. Language courses for migrants should be designed to assist them in raising their communicative competence in the language of the host country while meeting their perceived needs, identifying and formulating their language needs related to personal activities, employment and their particular situation (children at school, occupation...), overcoming any doubts they may have about their ability to learn the language of the host community to the level they need. (Jaeger, 2019)

The other difficulty lies in lack of access to services. Immigrants may have difficulty accessing basic services such as healthcare, education, and housing. This can also lead to social isolation and exclusion (Problems of and solutions for the study of immigrant integration, 2019).

From one side, health service providers face serious challenges when assisting refugees and migrants and risk being unable to ensure equal access to quality healthcare for these vulnerable populations. Access to healthcare is often hampered by a lack of inclusive legislation and policies, and insufficient adaptation of healthcare systems to the needs of these vulnerable groups. In particular, it is necessary to improve health coverage of the most vulnerable migrants and implement changes in administrative procedures, provide migrants and staff with essential information on health rights and promote awareness-raising activities to stimulate national government policies, as well as ensure coordination between the

different partners involved in the provision of health and social services to migrants and refugees. To achieve this goal, it is very important to present migration as a permanent element of the European social landscape and not as an acute problem. From another the lack of knowledge of entitlements and available services on the part of refugees and migrants and specific challenges included difficulties in accessing specialist services, understanding explanations of treatments and participation in health promotion and disease prevention programs.

As suggested by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the most effective way to improve access to services is to remove legal constraints and any inequitable practices that hinder access to healthcare (Ensuring Access to Health Care, 2011). The UNHCR also pointed out that solutions should aim, on the one hand at ensuring unconditioned healthcare coverage for all migrant groups through inclusive national legislation and, on the other hand, at reducing the bureaucracy and lengthy time to process documentation. To this purpose, health managers and decision-makers need to analyze the relevant laws and regulations in their country and identify solutions to financial and administrative barriers.

Governments and community organizations can work together to ensure that immigrants have equal access to these services.

The additional difficulty lies in cultural differences between immigrants and the host society, which can create misunderstandings and conflicts. Migration historically has been the process by which different ethnic, cultural, language, religious and groups have come into contact and resulted in many challenges for both migrants themselves and host society. In the age of globalisation, the potential for such mixing has achieved unprecedented levels so that the processes of coping with diversity are constantly increasing and will continue even further. Migrants are often perceived as the “different” and regarded with suspicion by receiving communities, at least during the first-time, so-called adaptation period of settlement in a new country.

Cultural differences can make it challenging for immigrants to connect with others in the host society. They may feel isolated and excluded from social events

and activities, which can impact their mental health and well-being. Those differences can also lead to misunderstandings and stereotypes. Host society members may have preconceived notions about immigrants, which can lead to discrimination and bias. Immigrants may also have their own stereotypes about the host society, which can lead to mistrust and resentment. Different cultural values and beliefs can lead to conflicts as well. For example, attitudes towards gender roles, religion, and family structures may differ between the host society and immigrant communities. Cultural differences can extend to customs and practices, such as eating habits, dress codes, and social etiquette. Which can also make process of entering new society more complicated for both newcomer and host society as well.

In order to avoid this tensions and misunderstandings ccultural training and education could be applied in order to help to bridge these differences and promote understanding and acceptance.

Another important issue is economic challenges. Immigrants may face challenges in finding employment, especially if their qualifications are not recognized in the host society. Immigrants may face financial challenges due to the cost of living in a new country, lack of employment, and difficulties in accessing financial services such as credit and loans. Additionally, problem appears in the field of finding affordable and suitable housing in a new country due to lack of knowledge of the housing market, language barriers, and discrimination. Sometimes, immigrants may face barriers in finding employment that matches their skills and qualifications due to poor language, cultural differences, discrimination, and lack of recognition of their qualifications.

Training and support to help immigrants navigate the job market can help them integrate more successfully.

3.3. The social and cultural consequences of the migration crisis and how to address them

The refugee crisis symbolizes Europe's duality and its current inability to cope with forced migration. Although Europe is the cradle of human rights and the very

concept of political asylum, at the same time it is dominated by a securitarian logic that currently prevails at the global level.

Immigration is a phenomenon that, by definition, challenges the boundaries of a community; not only the physical and political boundaries, but also those that define its identity, thereby calling into question the principles and values on which society is founded, both those shaped by shared history and those imposed by nationalist myths. It is therefore almost inevitable that when this phenomenon manifests itself on such a large scale and with such an unpredictable evolution, it generates alarmist reactions. These reactions have led to various attempts to select immigrants based on arbitrary criteria. For example, there is strong pressure in a number of EU countries to consider the cultural and religious background of asylum seekers and migrants and to give preference to Christians over Muslim immigrants.

For example, in 2015, European Union member Cyprus announced that it was willing to accept up to 300 Middle Eastern refugees to ease the crisis facing the EU, but preferred that they be Christians.

It has therefore joined a growing list of EU countries that have prioritized Christians over Muslims in hosting asylum seekers.

These other EU members include Bulgaria, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Poland. All state that their policy is not discriminatory but rather aims to maintain cultural cohesion (Staff, 2015).

Despite the fact that a proposal to mention Europe's Christian roots in the EU constitution was rejected. Applying religion as a selection criterion also risks undermining the very principles on which the EU was founded, namely universalism and the dignity of all people.

The inclusion of education and skills levels as criteria for entry has reintroduced a class-based element to membership, and while choosing more educated and skilled refugees helps them to enter the labour market, it is discriminatory.

Considering country of origin under the euphemism of merit is ambiguous and may undermine the protection of migrants coming from certain countries. The inclusion of educational attainment and skills as criteria for entry has reintroduced a

class-based element to membership, and while choosing more educated and skilled refugees helps them enter the labour market, it is discriminatory (United Nations, 2015).

The application of these arbitrary criteria attempts to portray immigrants as beneficial to the host community and to allay fears that new arrivals will irreparably alter the traits on which the nation-building process was founded. In this light we can also understand why the young Eastern European democracies, which have just experienced forced relocations and ethnic cleansing and a difficult transition to the post-communist era, are reluctant to open their borders to ethnic and religious minorities, of whom they have no direct experience, but only knowledge under the influence of alarmist rhetoric and fear of terrorism.

Given that a shared collective identity is a basic element of every political community, the problem is essentially a reluctance to include new members when the community feels it risks losing its identity. However, we should not forget that it is Europe's deepest identity, the one that gave rise to the principle of personal dignity and the idea of institutionalised solidarity, that would be in danger of disappearing if we choose to renounce the fundamental principles of our civilisation or if the call to protect ourselves from migrants and refugees overrides our desire to accept them.

The migration crisis has significant social and cultural consequences for both immigrants and the host society.

The influx of immigrants can lead to social tensions and conflicts with the host society, particularly if there is a perception that immigrants are taking away jobs or resources from the native population.

Another point is that the migration crisis can fuel xenophobic attitudes and discrimination against immigrants, particularly those who are perceived to be different or from non-Western cultures (European Commission, 2017).

The migration crisis can also bring about increased cultural diversity in the host society. This can lead to new opportunities for cross-cultural learning and exchange, but can also lead to tensions as different cultures come into contact with each other.

And for sure, immigrants face significant challenges in integrating into the host society, including language and cultural barriers, discrimination, and difficulty finding employment.

To address these social and cultural consequences, it is important to promote tolerance, understanding, and acceptance of cultural diversity. Which can be achieved with the help of the following steps:

1. **Providing Education** (special courses for migrants and adding the subject about culture, tolerance and respect towards each other in schools/universities for EU citizens): Education can be a powerful tool in promoting understanding and acceptance of cultural diversity. Schools and other institutions can provide education about different cultures and promote intercultural exchange.
2. **Building Bridges**: Organizations and community groups can work to build bridges between immigrants and the host society. This can include cultural events, language exchange programs, and other activities that promote cross-cultural understanding.
3. **Providing Resources**: Governments and community organizations can provide resources to help immigrants integrate into the host society. This can include language classes, employment training and assistance, and financial education and services.
4. **Fostering Inclusivity**: Host societies can foster inclusivity by promoting diversity and acceptance of different cultures. This can include policies and programs that promote equal access to employment, education, and other resources.

The importance of social and cultural consequences of the migration crisis should be taken into account as far as those issues have a significant impact on both the migrants themselves and the communities in which they settle.

On the one hand, migrants often face a range of challenges when they arrive in a new country, such as language barriers, discrimination, and difficulties finding employment and housing. These challenges can have a profound impact on their

mental health and wellbeing, as well as their ability to integrate into their new communities.

On the other hand, the arrival of large numbers of migrants can also have social and cultural implications for the host communities. For example, it can lead to increased diversity and cultural exchange, but it can also generate social tensions and conflicts, particularly if there is a perception that migrants are taking jobs or resources from local residents.

Furthermore, the issue of migration has become increasingly politicized in many countries, with some politicians and media outlets using anti-immigrant rhetoric to gain support. This can fuel negative attitudes towards migrants and lead to policies that are discriminatory or harmful.

That's why, the social and cultural consequences of the migration crisis are important to consider due to having far-reaching impacts on individuals, communities, and societies as a whole. It is crucial to address these consequences in a thoughtful and compassionate manner in order to promote social cohesion, reduce inequality, and ensure that all members of society are able to live with dignity and respect.

CONCLUSIONS

In recent years, there has been an increasing debate in Europe, and indeed worldwide, about the question of migration. There is no denying its impact on the economy, demographics and on cultural exchange.

In this work conceptual apparatuses of the phenomenon of migration crisis were revealed. The phenomenon of migration crisis in Europe is a complex issue that involves multiple factors and perspectives. Among the apparatuses, which were revealed in this work are the following: political (focuses on how governments and international organizations respond to the influx of migrants and refugees, as well as the policies and regulations that are put in place to manage the crisis); sociological (focuses on how migration and integration affect social relations, culture, identity, and cohesion in the host societies); economic (focuses on how migrants contribute to the economy, and how the costs and benefits of migration are distributed among different groups in the society); legal (focuses on how international and national laws and regulations govern migration and how they are enforced); psychological (focuses on how migration and integration affect the mental health and well-being of migrants and the host communities); environmental (focuses on how migration and environmental factors are interconnected and how they affect the sustainability of the host countries).

As result of analysis of migration processes in the EU at present stage findings were the following. Migration processes in Europe are characterized by a diverse range of factors and patterns. Some of the key trends and issues include continued refugee crisis, which happened because of ongoing conflict in Syria, as well as conflicts and persecution in other regions such as Afghanistan, Eritrea, and Yemen, has resulted in continued displacement of refugees seeking safety in Europe, later problem on the belarussian border appeared and war in Ukraine, as a result Europe had simply not enough time to overcome the previous flow of migrants, when a new wave was appearing. Alongside refugees, there are also mixed migration flows consisting of economic migrants, family reunification cases, and unaccompanied minors. While some of these migrants are granted asylum, others are subject to deportation and return policies. Many European countries have adopted increasingly restrictive policies

towards migration and asylum seekers, including tightening border controls, reducing access to welfare services, and limiting the rights of migrants. These policies have been implemented in response to public concerns about the social, economic, and political impact of migration.

Among the main causes, that led to migration crisis in Europe are conflict and instability, political and economic instability, poverty and lack of economic opportunities in donor countries. While EU is the representation of perfect place of stability and equality in the eyes of refugees, which makes it the detination point for them.

Under current international relations, the European Union faces several migration issues, which were defined in this work and include:

1. Labor migration. As far as the EU is facing an aging population and a declining workforce, which has created a need for migrant workers to fill labor shortages. However, there are challenges in managing labor migration, including ensuring that migrants have access to decent working conditions and preventing exploitation by employers.
2. Irregular migration. In this case the EU is also facing challenges related to irregular migration, including undocumented migrants, asylum seekers, and smuggled migrants. This has created political tensions and debates around issues such as border control, refugee resettlement, and return policies.
3. Integration of migrants and refugees into European societies is another major challenge. Language barriers, discrimination, and lack of access to education and employment opportunities can hinder integration efforts, which can lead to social exclusion and marginalization.
4. Asylum policy in the EU is also a contentious issue, with debates around the distribution of asylum seekers and refugees among member states, the criteria for granting asylum, and the length of the asylum process.
5. Security concerns, particularly in the context of terrorism and organized crime. This has led to increased security measures at borders and debates around the balance between security and human rights.

The impact of migrants on the economic situation of receiving countries in the EU is complex and context-specific. While migration can bring economic benefits, it also presents challenges and costs that need to be carefully managed and addressed to ensure that migration policies are effective and sustainable. So, during the investigation of the impact of migrants on the economic situation of the receiving countries were defined both positive and negative impacts.

Positive impacts: filling labor shortages (this is particularly important in aging societies such as those in Europe, where the workforce is declining); entrepreneurship (migrants can contribute to the economy by starting businesses and creating jobs, which can benefit both the migrant community and the wider society); public finances (impact by paying taxes and contributing to social security systems, which can help support public services and reduce the burden on native taxpayers).

Challenges and costs: pressure on public services (pressure on public services such as healthcare, education, and housing, which can be a challenge for receiving countries); competition for jobs with native workers (which can lead to tensions and concerns about wage depression and job displacement); integration costs (particularly if migrants face language barriers, discrimination, and lack of qualifications); social tensions (large-scale migration can lead to social tensions and political backlash, which can have negative effects on the economy and society).

Investigation of the impact of migration flows on the economic situation of the donor countries can also be defined as a complex process. In this work the impact was defined mostly as negative as far as first of all the migration of highly skilled professionals, also known as brain drain, can lead to a shortage of skilled workers in the donor countries, which can hinder economic development and growth. Secondly, migration can also result in a reduced labor force, particularly if young and skilled workers leave their home countries. This can have negative effects on economic growth, as well as social and demographic development. Thirdly, it provokes loss of investment, as far as migrants may take their savings and investment potential with them, leading to a drain on the local economy.

Migration legislation in EU countries has undergone significant changes in recent years due to the increasing number of migrants and refugees seeking asylum in Europe. EU countries have introduced stricter border control measures to manage migration flows, including increased surveillance, border fences, and enhanced cooperation with other countries. The EU has also established Frontex, an agency responsible for managing the external borders of the EU. Many EU countries have revised their asylum procedures to streamline the processing of asylum applications and improve the protection of refugees. The EU has also introduced common asylum policies, including the Dublin Regulation, which determines which EU country is responsible for processing asylum applications. Additionally, EU countries have introduced integration policies to help migrants and refugees integrate into their new communities. These policies may include language classes, job training, and housing support. In response to the influx of refugees, some EU countries have introduced temporary protection schemes to provide asylum seekers with temporary protection and support while their applications are being processed. Improving migration legislation requires the involvement not only of European countries, but also of developing donor countries. It is only through common coordination that the problems of migration can be combated effectively. This requires developing common laws and coming to agreements that do not contradict each other.

The EU has played a significant role in responding to the migration challenge in recent years. The EU's response has been shaped by a range of factors, including its international obligations under human rights and refugee law, its responsibility to protect the external borders of the EU, and its efforts to promote economic and social development in the regions from which migrants and refugees originate. Some have argued that the EU has failed to provide adequate protection to refugees and to address the root causes of migration, while others have criticized the EU's policies on border control and management as being overly harsh and inhumane. While the EU has taken significant steps to respond to the migration challenge, much more needs to be done to address the root causes of migration, to provide adequate protection to refugees, and

to promote social and economic development in the regions from which migrants and refugees originate.

In any case, overcoming the migration crisis is only possible with a solidarity-based approach of the countries as well as a comprehensive and comprehensive cooperation of all EU member states in the field of migration policy regulation.

With immigration dictating change, a comprehensive, coherent and effective policy that is supported by the whole society should be developed. These policies should be based on the following fundamental elements:

- Reasonable and flexible management of migration flows at the border;
- integration of immigrants on the basis of their inclusion in the host society;
- assistance to countries from which immigrants come.

In a favourable scenario, local and immigrant cultures may coexist, interact and interpenetrate; in an unfavourable scenario, national conflicts may develop, the outcome of which no one can determine.

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