

Human Consequences of External Migration in Durres District

Lindita Kiri

Phd Candidate, Aleksander Moisiu University,
Faculty of Business Durres, Albania

Doi: 10.5901/mjss.2013.v4n4p209

Abstract

Emigration has been a part of the development of human history, has been and remains essentially the expression of desire and determination of the individuals to stand on the difficulties, designed with an eye toward a better life for themselves and their family. In different historical stages have changed the composition of migratory flows. The purposes and motives of the international mobility are directions and senses of movement to come in our era of globalization. 21 century, along with transport and communication facilities has led to a growing number of people, who not only desire, but also the ability to live and work in different places of origin, or residence. Migration in the Durres region, the movement of people from Durres district to another region within the country or abroad (where they migrated and a greater number of people), this effect has played a pivotal role in the development history of this county. In many places of the world, negligible regions or countries have taken major proportions, while powerful states are weakened or strengthened, thanks to the international movement of people. The world would have been very different without historical patterns of international migration (V.MISJA; International Emigration in Albania in the transition period; Page 38; 1998; Publishing house "Marin Barleti").

Key word: external migration, ethnic origin, Albanian immigrant status

1. Introduction

In Albania policy, has taken part district of Durres in primary international coordination and in cooperation. Now we have embraced the philosophy that migration policies should not only consider economic aspects, but to keep the school of thought that external migration produces social consequences, cultural, and even political is not only something between being rich, or poor, but the models themselves societies where people want to live.

In the transition period, since 1990, by the totalitarian regime to democracy, as well as Albania Durres district experienced a migration performance with lots of curves and changes. However, in summary we had to face some major problems that deserve special sight: "brain drain", smuggling and human trafficking, remittances, return with the desire of Albanian immigrants, legal and unauthorized movements for economic reasons.

2. Methodology

For this paper I have used quantitative and qualitative methods, empirical data obtained from different sources. For this purpose, I have investigated and interviewed the population of the Durres district and have concluded as follows: external migration population of Durres district after 90 s began and increased rapidly as a result of the economic and social consequences of the country. Was used the method of analysis and synthesis of data. In this paper, I compared the external of migrating of Durres district population with other regions of the country. Finally, all parts in theoretical frame of reference and the empirical findings where analysed and conclusions where drawn.

2.1. Foreign migration, consequences and its impact on the Albanian population

Migration in the region of Durres, the movement of people from Durres district to another region within the country or abroad (where they migrated and a greater number of people), has played a main role in the development history of this county. In many countries of the world, regions or negligible States, took major proportions, while powerful states are weakened or strengthened, thanks to the international movement of people. The world would have been very different without historical patterns of international migration.

Migration brings benefits in a cost-benefit balance, unless managed properly for the benefit of the individuals, the family, but also societies of origin and the host country.

If we link properly the emigration with development, then we will find this phenomenon precious for us. However, this process has the other side of the coin. That's why not only evokes heated debates, but also divides schools of thought. For instance, migration can deprive countries of origin of the best skills and talents and brilliant minds, as it may affect the cleavage / break-up of the family; often it is used for smuggling purposes and trafficking in human beings to go till the use of migration flows from criminal and terrorist organizations.

It is never too much to affirm and reaffirm that many of the problems can be resolved through engagement, debate, within the country involving all key actors, as well as through international cooperation. This will lead to a better knowledge and understanding of gains and premature volumes that provides migration (Ex General Secretary of Assembly of the United Nations, Kofi Anan is expressed in 2010).

None of us is likely to solve alone immigration problems, but each of us holds in his hand a piece of solving puzzle. The migration experiences were not always positive: immigrants of both sexes are exposed more and more to exploitation and abuse by smugglers of human beings; others, as a result of rising social tensions, religious and cultural rights in some societies see themselves involved and in front of walls of discrimination, xenophobia and racism.

International migration policies do not exist in isolation, all have global consequences. Costs and benefits of migration are not shared equally among countries, as well as between social groups (Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for managing the visa system and providing migration services abroad).

In Albania policies, in which Durres district is part of, takes a primary place the international cooperation and coordination. Now we have embraced the philosophy that migration policies should not only consider economic aspects, but keeping to the school of thought that the external migration produces social cultural, and even political consequences, is not only something between being rich or poor, but the models themselves societies where people want to live.

In the transition period, since 1990, by the totalitarian regime to democracy, Albania as well as Durres district experienced a migratory trend with many curves and changes. However, in summary we had to face some major problems that deserve special sight: "brain drain", smuggling and human trafficking, remittances from migrants, voluntary return of Albanian emigrants, legal and unauthorized movements for economic reasons (INSTAT is an institution that collects and analyzes data on migratory flows).

External migration of the population of the district of Durres and Albanians as a whole is affecting the creation of some essential factors of External Emigrator Durres district population but the Albanians from whole is affecting the creation of some essential factors.

Age factor: the first generation of emigrants is reaching retirement age;

Second generation, still in school, or on the periphery of the labor market;

Ethnic origin: the majority part of Albanian migratory community is located in Greece and Italy, being the first host country with more than 70% of the total emigrant population there, followed by the presence in another country; in daily life the Albanian emigration encounters with prejudice, victimization phenomenon, incrimination and often based on perceptions and not on facts. This public perception is mainly conceived and fueled by certain media, especially local ones. Geographical proximity raised expectations that Albanian emigrants in these countries would be closer, but they feel the distance and miss the relatives. As well, they are not always close to the local population, despite acultural, geographical, linguistic familiarity, at least compared to initial expectations.

"**Ethnic ghettos**" prohibit the integration of emigrants, but this phenomenon touches just a few easy the Albanian migration, as our immigrants tend not to focus on these "ghetto" (Ministry of Interior, Directorate of Border and Migration Police. MI has an important role in the implementation of readmission agreements).

Human capital: the majority of emigrants of Durres district have still low level of professional training and education; highly skilled emigrants and outstanding talents are employed in jobs of not their skills and not appropriate sectors. This has slowed the integration, creating anti-migratory feelings, perceptions and reactions, especially those that are illegal and stay on the periphery of social institutions. Currently, not only by the presence, especially in the two countries Greece and Italy, Albanian emigrants make significant contributions to social care system (Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for managing the visa system and providing migration services abroad).

Albanian immigrant status: In the early migratory flows, Albania was unprepared for their management. Similarly, the two main host countries, Greece and Italy were not prepared to wait properly the mass flows, most of them unauthorized (Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Directorate of Migration Policy responses to migration for employment purposes, in cooperation with the SHKP, ZRP, SHSSH and ISSH. MPÇSSHB is responsible for the design and implementation of the employment agreements).

2.2 The ratio of irregular / regular began in 1998

During the period 1998-2005, approximately 70.000 Albanian illegal emigrants adjusted their status each year in Italy and Greece (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs 2012). During the period 2003-2007, the proportion of regular / irregular was 1.5-1 in Greece and 3-1 in Italy.

Active versus passive migration: More and more had increased the family migration, conditioned and favored by the cultural, linguistic and geographical vicinity, as well as low cost to migrate to neighboring countries. Emigration was accompanied by high levels of juvenile emigration, accompanied or not. Step by step the external emigration in Durres region, but also the Albanian as a whole, followed the general trend of feminisation of his subject, conditioned and favored by real amenities of female employment in certain sectors, such as services, household work etc. But according to a global emigration trend, the unemployment rate among emigrants was much higher compared to the locals.

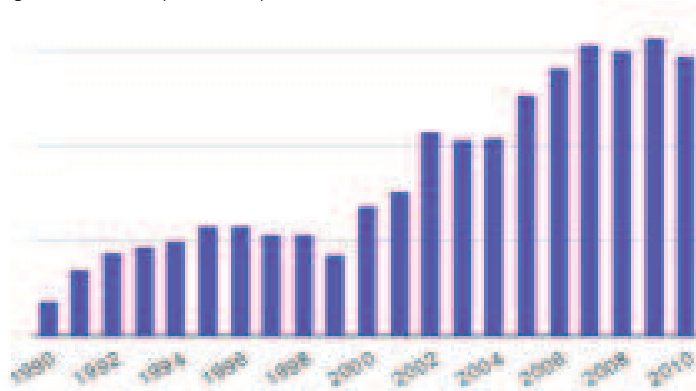
Short-term versus long-term migration: Employment opportunities offered by migration policies of neighboring countries. Geographical proximity favors periodic returns home (Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for managing the visa system and providing migration services abroad).

Synergy between economic and professional activities in the host countries and Albania –the emigration of the survival and consumption to be a development factor: In the first 15 years, the emigration served as a source of survival and consumption. In recent years, were made and are still made efforts to use external emigration in Durres region a factor of economic, social, cultural and political development. Thus, special attention is being paid to return policies and programs, supported and programmed. More and more people are passed from the findings into action to use remittances and virtual skills of emigrants as a source of financing, the creation of jobs and developmental factors in the community.

Changes in the structure of migration flows: The growing number of skilled immigrants. Growing number of students who choose and are able to complete their studies abroad. Feminization of migration in general, not just through passive migration (family reunification), but independent female migration (almost) equal ratio emigrant / immigrant.

Changes in the composition of migration flows: The trend of strengthening the entrepreneurial initiative of Albanian immigrants in two main host countries, Greece and Italy. The venture remains a male activity, which leads to the task of promoting this initiative to female migration (National Institute of Diaspora, as structure Ministry of Foreign Labours).

Graph: Albanian emigrants, INSTAT, (1990-2010)



Albanian emigrants are those individuals who have applied and received emigrant status in the territory of a given country. Applications for asylum and emigrant status are set out in the Convention and internationally recognized protocols.

2.3 -Performance and features to external migration in the early 1990s

Albanian migration is divided into three periods that are known nationally. The division into three periods of Albanian migration is analyzed on the basis of cause and effect that followed in the history of Albanian emigrants. External

migration can be divided into three periods:

1. Migration flows, before 1944; a recent diaspora, in small proportions, who emigrated during the period 1945-1990; substantial inflows after 1990s, or the collapse of the totalitarian communist regime. Before 1944, the main directions were the United States and several Latin American countries. There are lack of accurate data on the size of these flows, although small-scale and mostly with economic motivation.
2. After 1945, with the establishment of the communist regime in Albania was formed a class of political emigrants, always small size. Albanian government strongly opposed by all means even with punitive measures, put in place strict legal and political, even calling it a crime leaving the country. This was the second phase
3. The third phase started after 1990s, divided into several sub phases: migration flows time frame 1991-92, completely uncontrolled. At this time approximately 300 thousand Albanian citizens left the homeland by any means; ii) flows of 1992-96 when pulled roughly as citizens, often illegally, despite the temporary improvement in the economy, political stability of the country, better border controls and, from time to time, "soft" policies of some states; flows in 1996-07, after the collapse of the various pyramid schemes and socio-political turmoil that followed the collapse.

Several factors combined as: unemployment, insecurity, poverty, general economic deterioration led to nearly 100 thousand people to leave the country within a few months; since 1998 there has been an improvement in socio-economic and political conditions; these along with some favorable policies of the time of two neighboring countries, Italy and Greece led to growing legal migration flows and sit them illegal; and finally after the visa liberalization occurs another population migration focused family reunification, relatives, but this emigration was focused and directed that every immigrant should not stay more than 90 days in a six-month (Republic of Albania, Ministry of Foreign 2012).

The massive emigration that characterizes the post-communist period began in July 1990, when over 5 thousand people entered the embassies of Italy, Germany and France to leave the country.

- At the end of 1990, over 20 thousand Albanian citizens fled overland to Greece where they sought asylum.
- In March 1991, a large number of Albanians entered the port of Durres, the largest in the country. Once seized several ships merchant marine fleet, sent them landed in the ports of southern Italy. The same situation was repeated a few months later, in August, when about 18 thousand people, as took control of several ships, landed on the coast of Italy. Illegal immigration rose sharply during the subsequent years.
- Immigration suffered a decline during 1992-1996. The reason was attributable to improved political stability and socio-economic situation. At the end of 1996 the number of Albanian citizens living abroad amounted to 350 thousand people. Became massive migration flows in 1997, as a result of the collapse of pyramid schemes and political chaos that accompanied the event (INSTAT 2001).

Durres district immigrants and emigrants in general, rational selection of countries have direction or not consciously interact with several factors such as: the geographical vicinity, cultural and linguistic, supported by legal access opportunities in these countries.

In the collective memory of Albanians from Durres district, in the migration to places remote areas, traditional, USA, Canada, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, from where they returned, the phenomenon of "exile" in popular memory, synthesized and made merchandise concern Durres district immigrants tend towards immigration in adjacent or neighboring countries. However, subsequent opportunities to find better employment, legal status and socio-cultural conditions for themselves and children pushed Albanians even farther than these countries.

Greece, Italy and Western Europe were the main direction in the period 1992-96. An earlier preference for countries like Germany, Switzerland and other countries in Western Europe increased hand-hand, because of their immigration policies, and more.

In the collective memory of Albanians from Durres district, in the migration to places remote areas, traditional, USA, Canada, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, from where he returned, the phenomenon of "exile" in popular memory, synthesized and made merchandise concern Durres district immigrants tend towards immigration in adjacent or neighboring countries. However, subsequent opportunities to find better employment, legal status and socio-cultural conditions for themselves and children pushed Albanians even farther than these countries.

- The first wave of immigration: 1991-1992 period was due to the a destabilizing political environment, social and economic development;
- 1992-1996 period relative called characterized by political stability and socio-economic progress;
- The period December 1996-April 1997 was the third wave of emigration. (collapse of pyramid schemes);

- 1998-2012 period onwards, Albanian governments implemented and are implementing a National Stabilization Program.

2.4 *The performance and features of outward migration after 1990s*

In Durres region, as in the entire country of emigration abroad was at the heart of economic and social changes that have occurred in Albania since 1990. It is estimated that more than 25 percent of Albanians living abroad. No other country in Central or Eastern Europe is not so much affected by emigration for so short a period of time. Albania can be seen as a laboratory for the study of new processes of migration (King Russel & V. Julie, *Migration and Development in Albania*, December 2005). The data show that starting in 1990, 710,000 to 1,000,000 Albanians moved out temporarily or for all. In a country with no more than 3 million of population, this figure is relatively high, so as to attract and justify the attention of researchers. As migration has been chaotic, illegal and unregistered, the figures on this phenomenon are un-specified.

Albanian migration model after 1990 has been described as unique. It is characterized by several features (UNICEF Institute for Urban Research Albanian migration after the 90s and its impact on economic and social life of children left behind Final Report August 2009).

Firstly, migration displayed as an immediate phenomenon, impetuous and explosive, after a stop about 45 years. Combined with a powerful internal migration, results have moving in and out of Albania to about half of its population.

Second, its size, relative to the population of Albania have been greater than in other countries. Albania is one of the few countries with a 1/4 of its population in emigration.

Thirdly, migration has played an important role in the survival of the population, especially in two key moments. In the early 1990s, migration relates to the consequences that accompanied the economic and political changes. During the period 1993-1996 economic stability and GDP growth contributed to the reduction of migratory flows. Also remittances, which accounted for 25% of GDP, made an important contribution to the survival of a large number of Albanians (World Bank, *Albania, Urban growth, Migration and Poverty Reduction*, June 2010). In 1997, political chaos, economic and social development created by:

- Collapse of fraudulent pyramid firms, and negative impact on the well-being of Albanians increased migratory flows again.
- The district of Durres immigrants have and are playing an important role in the development of this country, to be clearer and better understanding of Durres district .
- Population migration is necessary to divide them into several definitions that are used in about immigrants, this applies not only to immigrants Durres region but for all immigrants of the Republic of Albania (UNICEF Institute for Urban Research Albanian migration after the 90s and its impact on economic and social life of children left behind Final Report August 2009).
- Permanent migrants are those family members who currently reside abroad for employment purposes.
- Temporary migrants are persons currently residing in Albania family, who have been abroad for at least a month since 1990 and the purpose of migration has been employment.
- Illegal Migrants (irregular) are those who have entered a country to look for work / working without visa or stay in this country after the visa and residence permit has expired.
- Union familiar: people who are members of a family, who join members abroad. Some states recognize the right of family re-union, other labor contract system, denying this right.
- Remittances are remittances that someone does for someone or for household distance.

2.5 *-Destination countries of Albanian Emigration*

In 2003 in Greece, according to the European Commission's Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics Bounce, lived and worked 434 810 Albanian citizens of these immigrant shows that 6% of them were from the region of Durres (European Commission's Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics Returns 2002).

In 2006 in Italy, according to ISTAT and Italian Statistical Office, lived and worked 348,813 Albanian citizens, of which about 30% were immigrants from Durres district (INSTAT and Italian Statistical Office 2005) it shows in neighboring Italy immigrants from Durres district and number great as to affect directly in physical geographical position of this region with the neighboring country Italy.

In 2005 in the U.S., according to the General Census of Population, lived and worked 113,661 Albanian citizens and by these immigrant results more than 15% were immigrants from Durres district (General Census of Population 2005).

In 2005 in the UK, according resources MoLSAEO, lived and worked 50,000 Albanian citizens. In 2001 in Canada, according to the General Census lived and worked 14,935 Albanian citizens. In 2002 in Germany, according to the Federal Statistical Office, living and working 11. 630 Albanian citizens (MPÇSSHB Sources 2005). From these sources shows that about 12.5% of emigrants who had migrated to these countries were immigrants from Durres district. Durres Region played in immigrant supply almost count greater neighboring countries and beyond affecting the non-uniform distribution of migrants from one country to another, but immigrants from Durres district are sweeping across the states where the Albanian immigrants are.

3. Conclusions

- At the current stage we suffer from not collecting statistical data on a variety of factors and contemporary interpretation and processing, this absence of proper legal, institutional coordination and appropriate human and material resources in key ministries dealing with the migration phenomenon. This bid is not and will not remain alone in implementing appropriate measures to create registry of immigrants and other interventions in the Civil Registry.
- Start monitoring system implementation / coordination of the National Strategy on Migration and PKZSKM through the lead unit of the Department of Immigrant Policy, among others will have one of exerting positive pressure's priorities, including all institutions, according to tasks. But statistics are not an end in itself.
- It will assist in the design of better immigration policies, in their ongoing monitoring, improved successor. If so, they will help you quickly and properly understand what is happening, helping policy-makers and decision-makers to take informed positions on all aspects of migration, irregular migration, migration for employment purposes, protection and integration of immigrants.

4. Recommendations

By accepting this challenge institutions have started to throw the first steps for the creation of relevant records, the Department of Policy, as well as the Regional Offices and Local Immigrant Employment.

Measures for sustainable development of these areas are:

- Promoting an active desire for a quality environment which should not be an obstacle for local community but an incentive for economic development
- Encourage local communities to see them more functional aspects of rural areas
- Promotion of agricultural products that respect the environment and come up with competitive prices, so that the income can grow
- Saving the best traditions and the promotion of alternative youth activities in these areas
- Provision of investment in agriculture and other sectors and open the way for economically sustainable economic activities
- Prevention interventions that can damage the ecological balance of these areas
- Improve infrastructure social cultural and communication

Bibliography

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Statistics, 1999

Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Statistics semiannually, 2000

Ministry of Health, "Evaluation of primary health service" analysis report statistics conducted by IMC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Tirana 1999. Statistics Monthly Statistical Bulletin 3. No.4 Tirana 1999.

Albanian Ministry of Health "Health Care Reform in Albania", Background Document No.1

'Situation analysis' Tirana 1997migrant.Albania", World Bank, July 1999

Arlinda Ymeraj, "The role of Social Protection to social exclusion and social capital" Robert MacNamara Fellowship Program, 1999

CIGO, "Urgent Rehabilitation of Schools and Prisons in Albania", July 1998

NACSS, Paper, "Social Assistance and Welfare in Albania", May 1999

Council of Ministers, Department of Development and Foreign Aid Coordination, "Public Investment Program" 1998-2000

Brian Munday & George Lane, "The old and new. Changes in social care in Central and Eastem Europe "Eissa, 1999
Albanian National Observatory "Albanian National Observatory national report" 1998
Albanian National Observatory "Albanian National Observatory national report" 1999
UNDP, Human Development Report, 1998
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Statistics, 1999
Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Statistics semiannually, 2000
Ministry of Health, "Evaluation of primary health service" analysis report statistics conducted by IMC in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Tirana 1999.
INSTAT, «labor market» 1990-1999
INSTAT, "Albania in Figures", 1998
INSTAT, "Albania in Figures", 2000
INSTAT, "Annual Social Indicators", 1999
INSTAT, Social indicators by region, 1998
INSTAT, and Social Security Protection System in Albania, 1996
INSTAT, Statistical Yearbook of Education, the December 1998
NICEF, "national study to cover vaccine", 1999
UNICEF, the rights of women and children, 1998
UNFPA, "Programme review and strategy development", 1997
World Bank, "Institutional and Capacity assessment of social services for vulnerable groups", 2000
World Bank, Albania, "filling the Vulnerability Gap", Mansoura Rashid, Vajeera Dorabawila

