

TOPIC

International migration and migrant populations

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Prospects of educational migration development

Annotation: in the article, after having analyzed trends in development of study migrations in Russia, the conclusion on its potential for improvement of intellectual, economic, and demographic situation in Russia is made. The following empiric results of pilot public opinion poll on the problem of educational migration in Tomsk and Moscow are presented, that is content analysis of city press, questioning of foreign students, transcription of the interviews with various analysts from governmental and educational institutions are conducted.

Key words: study migrations, content analysis, interviews, public opinion poll

Russia diversifies education export and competes for the educational market of CIS, Baltic countries, and countries of the Pacific Rim that are still available to enter. The migration of foreigners who come to Russia to get education, however, is gradually and unsystematically developing. The absence of state policy that is stimulating and poor normative legal base make educational centers carry out the process of enrollment and teaching of foreign citizens on their own, therefore overcoming considerable red-tape, financial and organizational obstacles. This leads to diverting educational migration flows to European countries, America and Canada.

The USA traditionally stimulates immigration through education, because now in the USA there are 22% of all people who are studying abroad. There are 11% in the UK and 10% in Germany, whereas in Russia there are 3% only [1.C. p.4.]. In 2004-2005 the whole amount of foreigners studying in Russia was 82 251 thousands and the amount of learners of preparatory departments is 8005 thousands [2.C.23]. In 2007 a pilot public opinion poll called “The role of educational migration from foreign countries in social, economic and demographic development of Russia” was conducted in three cities Tomsk, Moscow and Voronezh that are traditionally considered to be the centers of international students teaching. Within the frame work of the public opinion poll 10 questionnaires of international students that is 5 from Tomsk and 5 from Moscow were gathered and studied as well as 6 experts who are specialists in the sphere of educational migration are questioned in two cities, content-analysis of local press was carried out that allowed to make essential amendments in research methodology of problem study and get the monitoring of educational migration conditions in cities under study. This allowed to launch a straw poll that has been conducted since April 2008 where 700 students are engaged.

The world competition for educational migrants is increasing. European countries, the USA, countries of the Pacific Rim are the leading actors on international educational market, whereas Russia doesn't have an active position on entering the world educational market. Russian Universities are rarely advertised in the Internet, there are no Multilanguage Russian cites, the information available is not substantial. It's of no controversy that the absence of government initiative in promoting of Russian education to the international market, support of private initiatives of Russian Universities in development of positive effects of educational migration and enhancing of tolerance level to international students actually is formal. According to most experts, government bodies of different levels don't consider educational migration to be the source of indirect and direct benefits for scientific and educational system and economy of a definite city, to be a political source of international influence for the country in the whole, in government agencies there is no formed understanding of system and long-term benefits from educational migration the

There are many factors that are pushing Russia to rapid development and implementation of active development strategy of scale educational migration. There is a decrease in country's population along with

reduction of country's ability to integrate immigrants [3.C.259]. It's of no small importance that the Russian system of specialized secondary and higher education is preparing to accept large quantity of foreign youth for them to study. Regional higher educational establishments provoke a real competition for metropolitan ones due to available education fee and pay for accommodation, appropriate level of security and individual-oriented approach to each international student, that gives good resources to influence the motivation of choice of international student to study namely at the regional higher educational establishment. The simplification of red tape procedures on recognition of qualified documents of foreign applicants, the increase in quantity of government-supported students, granting educational scholarships, granting legal possibility to make money in Russia, the right to use social infrastructure, organization of the Russian language learning at preparatory courses, involving into cultural and social life of the country will allow Russia to reeducate educational migrants into full-fledged citizens of Russia with lower expenses in comparison with labors costs. Power, Mass Media and society ought to substantially and well-considered formulate new migration concept of Russia that will be appropriate for adequate response to internal and external challenges.

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