Recent Migration Tendencies from Georgia

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Introduction

Georgia, a republic of the Soviet Union until the USSR's dissolution in 1991, is an ethnically diverse country in the Southern Caucasus. With the help of active migration processes and especially of emigration, Georgia is involved in international migration of global kind and, according to its scales, takes part in formulating a so-called "migrant nation" characteristic for the modern world. It should be stressed that due to the profitable geopolitical location and pleasant natural and climate conditions, Georgia has never been characterized as a country with intensive external migration processes; whilst there was no particular need for people to go abroad to improve their living conditions. During the Soviet period ethnic Georgians tended to remain in Georgia, more than 95% of them lived on the own territory, while other Caucasian ethnics already in that time used to live in different Soviet republics. Migration of ethnic Georgians was primarily within the republic, towards the capital Tbilisi. However, social-economic crisis of the beginning of 1990s and ethno-political conflicts have caused unprecedented scales of emigration.

At the beginning of 90s Georgia was confronted with dramatic civil wars in Abkhazia and South Ossetia, which brought large flows of internal and external migration. These two territories have remained outside the control of the central government and been ruled by the de-facto, unrecognized governments, supported by Russia. Emigration from South Ossetia was quite significant. It has become massive since 1991, when political conflict emerged on the territory of former Autonomous region of South Ossetia. Although Ossetians had made up only three percent of the 1989 population, they began fight against Georgian troops and finally with the help of Russia proclaimed the independence of South Ossetia in 1994, when Georgia was weakened after Abkhazian war and internal political troubles. In Abkhazia's case, the ethnic Abkhaz population also resented Georgian rule and sought independence (which has never been recognized). Abkhazians made up a total of 1.8 percent of the population of Georgia in 1989, and, with almost all members of ethnic groups living in Abkhazia, made up only 17.8 percent of the population of the region. The conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia resulted in the displacement of about a quarter of a million people within Georgia. Unfortunately, those

events were accompanied by worsened statistical recording of migration and demographic events. According to the Ministry of Refugees and Displacement of Georgia, before the new conflict 2008, about 210234 internally displaced persons have been registered from Abkhazia and 12496 persons from South Ossetia. But according to the last population census 2002, there were 161,802 internally displaced persons (IDP), out of which 55.0% are women and 45.0% are men. 73.0% of them are urban residents. 98.9% of IDPs in Georgia are ethnic Georgians. However, many IDPs living abroad at that time were not included in the census. Situation changed dramatically last year. The conflict in South Ossetia repeated once again, but this time Russia was openly fighting against Georgia. As a result of this conflict 134728 refugees have fled from this province of Georgia. Now majority of them are returned to their houses in the conflict zone. According to the Ministry of Refugees and Displacement of Georgia, 61372 IDP are still in the capital and other regions of Georgia.

As for refugees of other countries, there has been an inflow of refugees to Georgia. According to the General Population Census of 2002, besides the IDPs in Georgia, there were identified 3751 of other refugees. The vast majority of them (3683 persons, i.e. 98.2%) have come from nearby foreign countries, including 3327 persons, i.e. 88.7% from the Russian Federation. Majority of them returned to their countries or departed to other European countries. According to the official data of Ministry of Refugees and Displacement, by the year 2006, 1320 refugees are registered in Georgia. They are mainly from the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation). At the moment they are settled mostly in Pankisi Gorge (Eastern Georgia).

So today there are the following categories of emigrants in Georgia:

I.Internal migrants:

- Who left their homes as a result of ecological catastrophes (avalanche, landslide, inundation, and earthquake) and moved to other places, i.e. ecological migrants, 31341 families.
- Internally displaces persons as a result of conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.
- Refugees

- II. External migrants:

- International labour emigrants, departed legally or illegally.
- Transit migrants.
- Refugees from Abkhazia and South Ossetia.
- Asylum seekers abroad.

- Deported people during the Second World War – Turk Meskhetians (During World War II, about 120000 Meskhetians were exiled from Georgia to Central Asia, as part of Stalin's policy "unreliable" ethnic groups. Today, many of survivors and their descendants are seeking to return to their country).

Numerical indicators of each category of migrants are not always defined and their exact figures are not known, that's why it's difficult to observe the tendencies and make their analysis.

Emigration Starting

The paper is focused on the Post-Soviet period. This period maybe divided into two parts: 1991-1994 and 1995-2009. These periods differ from each other not only numerically but also qualitatively.

Today Migration from Georgia is basically labour migration, but the situation was different at the beginning of nineties and especially in the previous decades. In the past, emigration was connected to political reasons and the share of Georgians was the lowest in the emigration processes. On the contrary massive immigration processes were noticeable in Georgia in the past. Thousands of Russians, Germans, Armenians and other nationalities settled in Georgia in the first half of the 20th century. In the fifties immigration slowed down and on the other hand from 1960 emigration exceeded immigration, but its scales has become unprecedented since nineties. During the Soviet period, migration from Georgia was dominated by men who participated in seasonal construction and road building projects in Russia and the Ukraine. As it is already mentioned, Georgia is historically a place of considerable ethnic diversity, and when Soviet-era restrictions on migration eased, migration among Georgia's ethnic minority grew. Already in the late 1980s, Greece offered residency to anyone proving Greek descent, leading approximately one third of Georgia's approximately 95,000 ethnic Greeks to emigrate by 1993. Similarly, large-scale migration of Soviet Jews to Israel included many Georgian Jews. These ethnically-motivated migration flows created social networks linking Georgians to former compatriots in Israel, Greece, and other countries. So a significant contingent of ethnic minorities - Russians, Greeks, Jews, Germans, Ukrainians repatriated from Georgia to their historical motherlands. Though after an increase of migratory processes of ethnic minorities, in the entire population of Georgia there has increased a share of Georgians. At that time the share of temporary labor migrants among them was comparably less. Those who went for temporary labor abroad in that time were mainly oriented on Russia and neighboring Turkey. The migration flows were more intensive to Russia, as compared to other countries, because of former economic relations, free move and absence of language barrier. Open borders inside of NIS-territory and easier visa regime with Turkey, as well as possibility to reach these countries with reasonable travel expenses, using ground transportation means, supported the moves of Georgian citizens to the neighboring countries. Among the nationalities living in Georgia the highest intention of external migration was characterized among Ossetians, Russians, Greeks, lower intensity was among Azerbaijanians and Armenians, and the lowest – among Georgians.

Causes and Motives for Emigration

Besides the wars, energy shortages, political turmoil, and deterioration of public services made living conditions extremely difficult. Economic reforms, and entering new market economy, depreciated of the staff salaries have generated intense dislocation, creating large numbers of un- and underemployed. These dire conditions have pushed hundreds of thousands of Georgians to look for work in other countries over the past 18 years. Ethnic majority departed abroad as labor emigrants in order to save their families from famine. According to the census 2002, 78.4% of emigrants left the country mainly to improve their living standards. Noticeably, in 1995-1998, the whole Georgian population despite of ethnicity became involved in the migration flows. The scales of temporary migration were increasing from year to year and labor migration became one of the active economic determinants of the country.

Thus at the present time the main motivation of emigration is still to escape economic hardship and to improve living conditions. As there are hardly any legal opportunities for labor migration from Georgia, these migration processes are basically irregular.

So emigration character and its preconditioned reasons have changed. If in 1991-1994 emigration was conditioned by social-political motives and has a stationary character, later it changed into a temporary labour migration.

Emigration Statistics

There is no exact statistics regarding migratory streams in Georgia. Due to the very high prevalence of undocumented migration, reliable statistics on the total number of men and women who have left Georgia are unavailable. Traditional Soviet system strictly controlled in and out migrations, but the new national registration systems failed to capture the scale of these flows. At present migration information is difficult to collect; registration of out-migration is practically unrealizable. Recording of migrants is performed according to the system by the passport offices of the Ministry of Justice. This registration system is not effective because the passport offices record only the persons who go abroad to live there permanently and even then they don't record them always. Georgia has had a negative balance of external migration since

1960 at the expense of ethnic minority. Population numbers proceeded to grow (because of high natural growth) despite the negative balance of external migration. During the Soviet period negative net migration was fluctuating between 5-25 thousands year by year and in 1960-1989 it consisted 439 000. The situation was exacerbated in the 1990s when fertility decreased significantly and mortality increased and at the same time external migration increased. The low natural increase couldn't offset the high negative balance of external migration, which led to the reduction of the total number of Georgia's population. At the same time external migration accelerated demographic aging and deformation of the population age-sex structure that in turn had some impact on the other demographic processes. There are cases when the data of the Soviet period on external migration from Georgia presented in some publications considerably differ from the official statistical data. According to the information of various researchers, from 1990 till now approximately 400 thousands - 1,2 million people have emigrated from Georgia. There were years when the size of negative net migration of Georgia's population was within 150 000 and the size of coefficient per 1000 persons was within 30, that is a very high indicator. According to the official data by the year 2006 negative net migration reduced from 30 till 2,8 and according to the experts' evaluation till 7,4. The level of external migration (negative net migration) in 2000-2005 for Georgia is much smaller than for the previous period of 1995-1999. On the whole, in 1990-2006 according to the official data negative net migration of Georgia's population reached 900 thous., and according the evaluative data - 1172 thous. and high negative net external migration is in the year of 1992-1996. It reached its maximum in 1993. In 2000 the net external migration in Georgia was 3, 6 times less than in 1994 and 3, 3 times less as compared even with 1996. The main reason for such different evaluation is the worsening of the registration of migrants. Because of this reason the census conducted in 2002 did not show us real number of emigrants. According to its results 113726 emigrants are abroad. The real number of emigrants exceeded officially registered emigrants' number 10 times. Nowadays, data of various scientists as well as data of Department for Statistics about external migration has evaluative character.

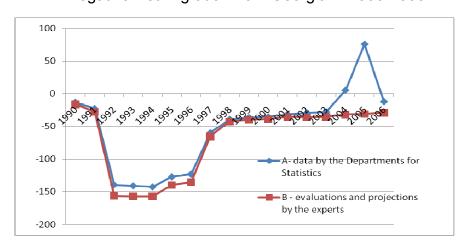
Due to the emigration, the share of Georgians increased among the population of Georgia. According to the census of 1989, the share of Georgians among Georgia's population was 70,1 %, but according to the next 2002 census this share is increased till 83,8 %, but it should be stressed that during this period the number of Georgians decreased from 3,8 million to 3,7 million.

Figure 1.

Georgian Population by Ethnic Origin According to Relevant Census

	1926	1939	1959	1970	1979	1989	2002
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total for Georgia	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
o/w:							
Georgians	<mark>66.8</mark>	<mark>61.4</mark>	<mark>64.3</mark>	<mark>66.8</mark>	<mark>68.8</mark>	<mark>70.1</mark>	<mark>83.8</mark>
Abkhaz	2.1	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	0.1
Osetians	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.9
Armenians	<mark>11.5</mark>	<mark>11.7</mark>	11.0	<mark>9.7</mark>	<mark>9.0</mark>	<mark>8.1</mark>	<mark>5.7</mark>
Russians	3.6	8.7	10.1	8.5	7.4	6.3	1.5
Azeris	<mark>5.2</mark>	<mark>5.3</mark>	<mark>3.8</mark>	<mark>4.6</mark>	<mark>5.1</mark>	<mark>5.7</mark>	<mark>6.5</mark>
Greeks	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.9	0.3
Jews	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.6	0.5	0.1
Ukrainians	0.5	1.3	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.2
Kurds	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.0
Yezids	0.1						0.4
Kist							0.2
Other	2.5	1.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.3

Negative Net Migration from Georgia in 1990-2006



As it is shown on the figure 1. according to the data by the Department for Statistics, in 2005 immigration excedeed emigration, but positive net migration is fixed because of incorrect registration of migrants. In these emmigrants is added not only real immigrants but also temporary foreing visitors. Such situation, of course, artificuially makes net migration positive.

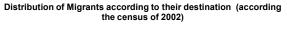
In the period between two population censuses, 1989 and 2002, Georgia has lost more than one million of citizens that consists a fifth of its population. Part of this drop is due a

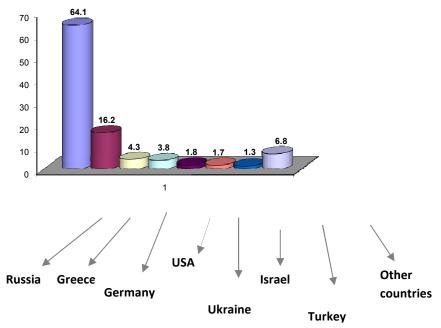
declining birthrate, the rest is due to emigration. During this short-term period Georgia became classical country of emigration.

Destination Countries

The dissolution of the Soviet Union and formation of sovereign states essentially changed scales, directions and structure of migration processes. According to the General Population Census of Georgia 2002, migration flows are mainly directed towards seven countries: Russian Federation (64, 1%), Greece (16, 2%), Germany (4, 3%), USA (3, 8), Ukraine (1, 8), Israel (1, 7), Turkey (1, 3%). If in the nineties the migration flows were directed towards Russia (was mainly dominated by men) and Turkey, today Russia isn't so attractive for Georgians. Prior to the adoption of recent restrictions on migration, Russia was the most accessible destination for Georgian migrants. Georgian nationals could travel to Russia without visas; rely upon strong existing social networks. Reduction of labor migration to Russia was the result of the developed migrant-phobia, turned also into ethno-phobia to Georgians. Escalating political hostilities between Russia and Georgia led to restrictive visa regimes, increasing the costs of Russia as a destination. In 2006, in the midst of a diplomatic conflict between the two countries, Russian authorities deported thousands of Georgian migrants. As Russia's policies toward immigrants became increasingly restrictive, job opportunities, offering lower salaries than in Europe, became less attractive. Nowadays, because of the recent occurred war in August of 2008 between Russia and Georgia, migration flows towards Russia have greatly decreased, we can even say, they have been stopped. As for Turkey, in the first years of the 1990-s deep crisis, Turkey was flooded by the immense wave of labor migrants from Georgia. However, this flow considerably diminished in the following years. This was caused by the low price for labor force in Turkey labor market.

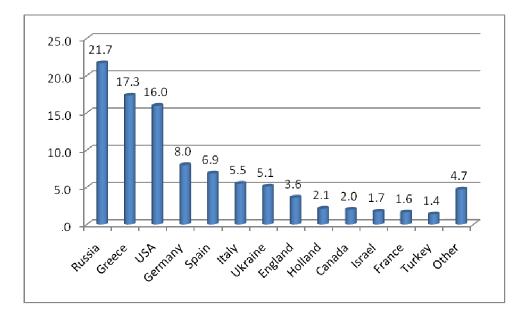
It should also be mentioned that extended economic crisis in Georgia and strained political relations with Russia in some way forced young people in Georgia to study English hastily, as a foreign language, instead of Russian. This has become totally widespread in Georgia; it also strengthened Georgian labor migrants' position in the labor market of western countries, and consequently, reduced providing Russian labor market with labor force from Georgia. However, labor migrants' role for Russia will be important for the long period if Russia doesn't exile Georgians from its territory and doesn't oppress the Georgians due to the new conflict (August 2008).





Distribution of Migrants According to Their Destination (according to the research held in Tbilisi in 2008)





Active visits of Georgians to Western European countries and USA started in the second half of 1990s. Nowadays the most attractive countries are Greece, the United States, Germany,

Spain, and Italy. The popularity of EU Member States seems to depend largely on personal connections and changes in immigration policy in those countries. But we must specifically indicate Greece and USA. The intensity of movies is higher now than at the beginning of 1990, especially for Greece and USA. The scales of labor migration towards the far abroad have increased but the flows of emigrants in the European countries have slowed down a little. Such situations are caused by the restrictions of European governments. A special research showing recent labour emigration processes from Georgia was conducted by the Institute of Demography and Sociology in Tbilisi in April-May. 802 respondents were interviewed. They are family members, relatives and friends of labour emigrants, who are better informed about labour emigrants' activity abroad. The questionnaire contains the questions about emigrants' demographic structure, emigration reasons, employment character, returning opinions, remittances, potential emigration and etc. Tbilisi was chosen for this research not only because it's the capital, but also because it is the main source of emigrants. The research also proved that directions of migration flows have considerably changed.

The figure 3. shows that migration flows have decreased towards Russia and considerably increased towards USA, Germany, Spain, Ukraine. In the case of Turkey and Israel the situation is unchanged.

Geography of external educational migration has changed substantially. If until the collapse of the Soviet Union citizens of Georgia were willing to receive education in Russia and other Soviet republics, now for this purpose they visit European countries and USA, though not many people manage receiving western education due to high costs of learning. According to the research 2008, only 3,2 % of emigrants study abroad. Their family members support them from Georgia, and 7.8 % of them study and work also. The highest flow of young migrants willing to study and work in Europe is towards Germany.

Structural Characteristics of Migrants and Spectrum of their Employment

According to the census 2008, the ratio of women in emigration is 41.3%, that has a negative influence on the country's demographic development, because majority of these women is at the reproductive age and their generative functions are lost abroad. According to the recent held research, the ratio of women in emigration flows is 55, 4 %. Quite non-profitable marital potential in modern Georgia is greatly conditioned exactly by sexually non-balanced migration processes.

Until the 1990s, labor migration of women from Georgia was socially unacceptable. However, as a consequence of increasing poverty and hardship, a significant proportion of woman decided to find a solution in the form of employment abroad. Aging populations and high rates of female labor force participation in many industrial societies create demand for workers in traditionally female jobs such as companions for the elderly, housekeepers, and nannies. Female migration from Georgia challenges deeply embedded social norms that portray men as breadwinners and emphasize the domestic duties and family obligations of women. As cultural norms have yet to adjust to contemporary economic conditions, women's labor migration is typically seen as a negative phenomenon, associated with the destruction of families and linked to immorality and vice-versa. According to the UN prognoses, by 2050 the population of Georgia will decrease by 2 million and it will become a demographically "dying" country. Against this background, the extensive labour migration of women from Georgia needs to be viewed and assessed from a different angle.

One of the most striking features of migrants from Georgia is the high level of education and professional qualification. In total, the share of migrants with a university degree is 53, 9 %. The share of migrants with incomplete higher education is also high (12, 7%). But they do not work by their profession. Only a small percentage of emigrants are able to raise their qualification, while the rest become disqualified. That reduces the demographic potential of Georgia and causes "brain drain." As it is indicated above only 3, 2% of emigrants study abroad. The USA attracts those with the highest level of education; the share of labor migrants with higher education is the lowest to Greece and Russian Federation.

The share of emigrants employed in the service and building spheres is quite high. Only 5,2 % of migrants work in their profession. The bulk of migrants are engaged in unskilled labour in the form of auxiliary workers such as nurses, nannies, waiters and cleaners. The share of people employed far abroad in the domestic job (as nurses, nannies, housekeepers, etc.) consists 22,7 % of total number of migrants and this sphere is prevailing among all others. The share of people employed in the domestic sector is significant for Greece, Germany and the USA. Migrants have also their own business, especially in Russia. Majority of emigrants to Russian Federation work as auxiliary workers, but the share of those having succeeded to start their own business is also high. In Russia Georgian migrants are engaged particularly in the area of construction and retail trade.

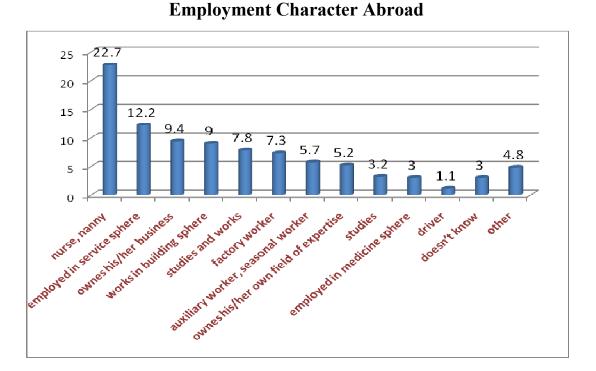
So, 66,7 of emigrants are engaged in physical work and 18,3 % in mental work while in Georgia before going abroad 26,8 % of these emigrants were engaged in physical work and 37,2 % in mental work. This means dramatic loss of intellectual resources. The survey revealed

that very highly educated contingent is leaving the capital for work, however most of them are employed is rather non-qualified, irrelevant for their specialties jobs. The skills required for working in Georgia and abroad vary significantly, Georgians are often not adequately qualified to work in particular field abroad. It is expected that this will lead to a further depreciation of their human capital in the long run.

Despite the fact that Georgian emigrants don't work by their professions, they receive high salaries in comparison with Georgian wages. The highest monthly incomes have those emigrants working in USA and Canada, and the lowest emigrants working in the countries of CIS.

Most labour migration is temporary. However, the adaptation to the local environment, better payment, high living standards, marriages abroad and the overall unfavorable social, economical and political situation in the home country, often turns temporary labour migration into permanent immigration. According to the last census 2002, 70% plan to return to Georgia in the nearest future, while 27.8% have no desire to return. But such disposition has been changed. According to the research of 2008, 56 % of emigrants from the capital are going to return to Georgia, 15, 8 % don't intend returning, 20,5 % have not decided yet what they will do. But desire doesn't always coincide with reality. If the current economic situation in Georgia continues for many years, the temporary migration will become permanent.

Figure4.



As for disposition of family members of labour migrants in Georgia to emigrate, the result of special research conducted in the capital established that 26,4 % of family members of labour migrants are prone to migration, 47,8 % do not plan to migrate and 25,8 % are not sure yet. The main destination countries for potential emigrants are: USA (21,9%), Russia (15,9%), Germany and England (for both countries 11,6%), Greece (11,2%) and the Ukraine (10,2%). The majority of potential migrants are oriented towards the USA. Nowadays emigration disposition of going to Russia has been probably changed. The distribution of potential labour migrants corresponds with the distribution of actual migration figures according country. This can be explained by the observation that the living standards of family members abroad significantly determine the direction of future potential migration flows.

Migration results

- A negative consequence of emigration is that it has caused extreme decrease of reproductive functions of emigrants. Emigration of the fertile young population has impacted on the birth decline. Women's generation function is lost. The people, who are of age 16-49 present the main flow in intense emigration processes. For example, two age groups are dominated in the age structure of labour emigrants 20-29 (30, 2 %) and 30-39 (26 %) age contingent. Such situation is equal to a catastrophe for Georgia, because 56, 6 % of emigrants are at the most reproductive ages and they cannot participate in the regeneration of the country. The high share of single emigrants is also disturbing and impacts negatively on the demographic development of Georgia, because it's obvious that the young people going abroad in order to improve living conditions, are unlikely to create families or if married, rarely have children. Emigration caused imbalance of the sexual-age structure and demographic aging of the population of Georgia; the deformation of family structure, emigrants' professional disqualification, the depopulation of certain regions of Georgia, growth of number of victims of trafficking. Besides, Georgian emigrants have difficulties with adaptations to the social environment in unusual areas. Only 38, 3 % of them have not difficulties with the adaptation to the new environment.
- The majority of labor migrants work and live abroad illegally. This leads to various problems related to their social security and economic status. Migrants from Georgia often neglect the regulations envisaged by the legislation of the host country associated with the employment restrictions. In particular, the above implies that a part of migrants recently staying abroad, due to various reasons, is involved in various kinds of illegal activity. This, in its turn,

leads to their exploitation and violation of human rights, on the one hand, and their criminal behaviors, on the other.

But labor emigration has also some positive consequences.

- International labor migration has become a critical stabilizing factor in Georgia's economy and society. Remittances are conservatively estimated at 20 percent of Georgia's GDP. According to the World Bank remittances, for example, from Russia constitutes five percent of Georgia's GDP. The real figures are certainly higher as much of the money is in roundabout fashion. The international labour deficiency of the country is covered by the price of the labour force export.
- Remittances of labor migrants to their families are often the only source of income for families. The labour migration remittances have saved a lot of Georgian citizens from physical destruction. According to the last census (2002) 41.1% financially support their families back in Georgia. 7.0%, on the other hand, are supported from Georgia. According to the research of 2008, 74,6 % of emigrants materially support their families. 32 % of remittances are the main source of income for the family members of emigrants.
- According to the information of various experts, money transfers fluctuate between 400 and 720 million US dollars per year. By Georgian expert G.Tsuladze, in 2000-s remittances are about 1,3 billion US dollars per year. These sums essentially increase the national income and help to stabilize the rate of exchange. Labor migration reduces the loading of labor markets of the country.
- Another positive side is that the young people who have received western education and working experience at certain level positively participate in the developing economic, political and social processes in Georgia.

But negative results of these migration flows definitely outbalance the positive ones.

Future perspectives

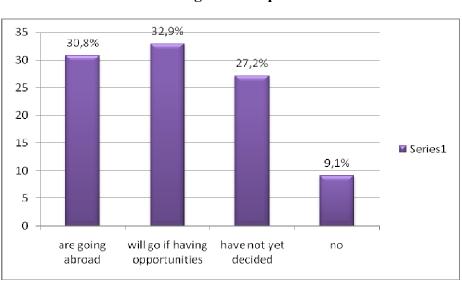
Negative net external migration will be characteristic for Georgia in 2010-2030 and perhaps for the next period when the population of Georgia will shrink again. We think so because the emigration disposition is still high in the population of Georgia (due to the economic stagnation of the country), especially among families whose members have become labor migrants abroad. Although the intensity of stationary emigration has slowed down in recent years (since 2005), the scale of illegal labor emigration is still high. Their possible emigration would worsen the demographic situation of Georgia. In order to clearly show the future

tendencies in migration processes we have held demo-sociological research among the students. In 2008 we have interviewed 550 students in Tbilisi to show the trends of the youth possible depart; to investigate migration disposition of the youth; causes, scales and main trends of the potential external migration of the youth, the possibility and desire of returning of the potential young migrants at home.

The research of potential students' emigration revealed that the emigration potential is quite high. The half of the youth (about 63,7%) is ready psychologically for going abroad and they will depart if they have any possibility and chances. Among the potential migrants, females prevail males. Migratory disposition is higher among the single population (about 57%). But it should be indicated that every fourth student doesn't intend leaving the country and 1/3 of them categorically refused to emigrate.

The main reasons of potential migration are: - social-economic hardship. This reason indicated more males than females; another reason is desire to study abroad. 25 % of students want to study abroad, both study and work is indicated by 43 % of students. Mainly females noted this reason. So, more frequently young women will refer migration in order to study and work, but young men will refer mainly labour migration. The important reason is desire to live abroad (12%).

Students' emigration disposition



The majority of potential migrants from Georgia, at present and in the near future, are oriented towards temporary migration. For both potential temporary and permanent migrants, the main reasons for migration besides educational purposes are economic situation and the problem in the field of employment. For a large share of potential emigrants, the decision

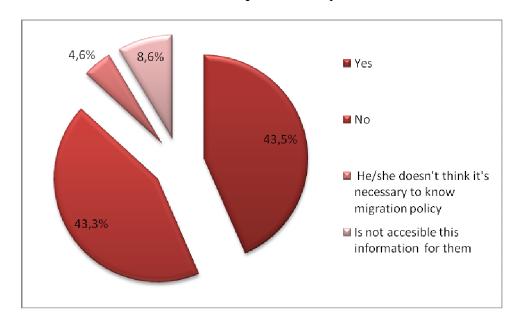
Figure 5.

whether to stay in a specific country depends on how well they settle. The respondents (79,0%) indicated that in case of emigration they would return home by all means. About 6,5 % of students in the case emigration think that they will not return to Georgia. 9,7 % don't know what they will do. They are in an uncertain condition. Such tendency is not enviable.

43,5 % of potential emigrants are not acquainted with the possibilities of going abroad, they have no information about the migration policy of recipient countries, 8,6 % have not possibilities of accessing this information and 4,6 % don't think that it's necessary for them to know it. Such indifferent attitude towards this issue will negatively impact on their future departure. Due to absence of such information many of them will become victims of trafficking and work under enslaving terms. Discriminated situation of Georgian emigrants is determined exactly by this condition.

In case of non-returning of youth, country will experience direct economic and demographic losses that result in the fall of labour potential; their human capital will be devalued. If social-economic conditions doesn't improve in Georgia, the number of people wishing going abroad will increase and their finally re-emigration decision will be dependent on the improvement of situation in Georgia.

The answers of the students to the question: "Do you know migration policy of the recipient country?



Conclusions

These two surveys showed that the migration is constant, will continue and migrants are prepared to return to Georgia only if certain pre-conditions are met; and the main pre-conditions for returning are of an economic nature.

Net migration will remain still negative till 2030. We assume so not only on the basis of the above indicated researches, but such prognosis is also offered by UN and Georgian experts. According to their evaluation, the net migration will remain negative till 2030 – in 2000-2030 Georgia will loose 320 000 humans with the help of natural income, and 603 000 human as a result of external migration, in other words it's expected that Georgia will loose about 1 million people. Thus, external migration will remain a central problem for Georgia not only at present time, but during the nearest 20 years.

The results of last year war on the territory of Georgia are terrible for the demographic development of Georgia. Firstly, many people are killed and many are wounded. Thousands of new IDP appeared. Majority of them will not marry and have children due to the economic difficulties. Stress that the whole population of Georgia underwent will cause increase of mortality and will spread a fear of future among young population that as a result will prevent increase of birth rate in the country. Majority of young people and especially IDP will postpone family creation for the better future. If such situation continues for a long time, the UN prognosis will be actually realized. It should be indicated that if 1980-s 94000 children were born on average annually, now number of new-born children reduced till 47795. Such situation is importantly caused by emigration processes where the half of the women at the age of 20-29 participates. They are the healthiest, youngest and the most capable part of Georgians, who had to improve the demographic condition of the country.

So, nowadays, labour migration is going alongside with intensive depopulation, constant reduction of the population and decreasing the birth rate. It's obvious that impact of as stationary as labour migration on the demographic development of Georgia is rather negative.

The enhancement of the economic and political situation in Georgia, the acceleration of development and implementation of viable social policies need to be prioritized. In parallel, the migration policy strategy for Georgia needs to be defined. Nowadays there exists no legal basis for the regulation of labour migration in Georgia. Relevant state programs should be developed and implemented. Failure to implement these policies will result in a significant increase in irregular migration from Georgia.

Finally, we should not forget that migration in the case of its effective management will be considered as a positive phenomena in the development of Georgia.

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