Nature of illegal immigration: causes and negative consequences

Alisher Raufovich Hodzhiev

Kazan (Volga region) Federal University, Kremlevskaya str., 18, Kazan, 420008, Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation

Abstract. The development of the modern world is inconceivable without migration of the population. Being one of the manifestations of globalization, migration generally has a positive impact on the socio-economic and political development of the States and facilitates the integration of the international community, cultural rapprochement of peoples, the development of the productive forces. However, if migration processes are unmanaged, the level of security of States is sharply reduced. Especially it is necessary to consider at this time when the world community is faced with an unprecedented scope of terrorist threats and violence.

[Hodzhiev A.R. Nature of illegal immigration: causes and negative consequences. *Life Sci J* 2014;11(12s):626-629] (ISSN:1097-8135). http://www.lifesciencesite.com. 135

Keywords: Population migration, immigration, illegal immigration, migrant workers, illegal immigrants, international migration

Introduction

According to many researchers' point of view, effective regulation of migration processes and especially counteraction to spontaneously growing illegal immigration, minimization and prevention of its negative effects requires a comprehensive and indepth research. Current problems connected with illegal migration, which face before all every day, the receiving countries, are related not only to complexity of assessing its qualitative parameters, but mostly to variance of understanding of future consequences of such migration. It raises many questions, the answers to which are not as obvious as it may seem at first view. Does the economy of the receiving country suffer a loss from the influx of illegal immigrants? If so, then what is its scale and reasons? Do the illegals really have workplaces, which are supposed for locals [1]? Some researchers compare migration with turbulence [2].

Problems of illegal immigration are becoming not simply burning but they are directly interrelated with the rise of crime rates, terrorism and other negative social phenomena. Recently, not only developed but also rapidly developing countries, have been placing greater emphasis to this issue. However, it seems very unreasonable that counteraction of illegal immigration becomes a struggle against migration as such, and the word "migrant" itself becomes almost a common usage word [3].

Strengthening of control over borders and visa issues in the context of blurring of boundaries in economy, informational and cultural dimensions is one of the biggest paradoxes of the global world. Supposed "equal possibilities" of lifestyles in countries with qualitatively different levels of economic development create the concept of mass migration. One should note that depending on different countries the national criteria of definition for migration could vary greatly. Besides, in many third world countries statistics figures about migration processes are hardly collected. Qualitative and quantitative parameters of statistics about flows and numbers of migrants vary significantly because of the diversity of types in data collection systems.

The main sources of migration statistics are population registers, information about work permits and permits of stay, population census and sampling surveys, as well as border control data. However, national differences in systems of statistical data collection as well as various conceptual approaches to the definition of the accounting object cause big problems of data comparability when making international comparisons, which in turn affect equivocally on creation of an international legal basis for the regulation of migration.

Counting difficulties of migration flows arise from diversity of its forms, especially with respect to short-term transfers, changes in migration status and obviously illegal migration. It is noteworthy that in general in international migration statistics twoassessment criterion are typically used: the number of international migrants in the country now, and the volume of migration flows inside and outside of country.

In European countries, the most common method of migrants counting is population registers, which provide diverse and reliable information both on migration flows and on the number of international migrants. As a rule, typically among their disadvantages wrong numbers of outgoing individuals are considered. That is why in order to determine the scale of migrant flows many countries use additional information that has estimations from receiving countries.

In France, a source of international migration statistics are information about work and stay permits data and information about their expiration periods. Administrative sources handling the entry and stay of foreign citizens can be used both for determining the number of foreigners residing in the country, and for the assessment of migration flows. However, in this case the nature of data is limited to collecting information only about certain categories of migrants, depending on the administrative tools used for such statistical monitoring [4].

In order to estimate migrants' number in countries that do not have population registers, census data is commonly used, although the period of census allows doing it once in 5-10 years, which, for article author's point of view, may significantly effect on accuracy of data received.

It is not a secret anymore that the driving force of international migration is economic inequality of countries. People with low incomes, suffering from unemployment, are forced to leave their countries and move to destinations, which have keen demand for workforce.

However, not in all cases and not everyone can legally move there and get a job in the desired destination place. There are several reasons behind this: for example, incomplete legislation for migration, excessive red tape or, what is more, direct restriction of new immigrants' inflow, which in turn can result in a situation where local government actually resists the interests of internal labor market.

In our opinion, these reasons, and especially the latter, may directly affect the very nature of migration, as previously mentioned, people are just forced to immigrate to developed countries in order to get a job, and in such circumstances they do not care whether their actions are legal or not. In other words if a person is aimed to immigrate, he will fulfill his desire using current mature smuggling and further employment business, which finally joins the market of shadow economy. Thus, the process of illegal immigration shows an existing contradiction in international law between the right of every person to move freely outside the country and the right of every country to protect its interests and interests of its citizens [5].

It is clear that primary element here is legal migration, and the only reason for most people to migrate is either low-income level in his country or unemployment. Moreover, before we talk about the consequences of illegal immigration, one should mention potential advantages and disadvantages of labor migration, both for migrants and the receiving companies and countries.

Hence, the advantages for migrants are following:

a) an opportunity for women to get a job;

b) lower prices for goods and services;

c) career opportunities;

d) contact with other countries' culture.

Among potential disadvantages may be:

a) strong rivalry for jobs;

b) a sag in the overall level of wages;

c) an unknown language and alien life;

d) creation of immigrant ghetto.

For businesses and organizations that use foreign workers among the advantages of labor migration can be:

a) filling of vacancies;

b) cheaper and more flexible workforce.

Among the disadvantages are stated:

a) the need for language and professional training;

b) dependence on foreign labor.

For host countries for migrant workers in the list of advantages are:

a) a fall in the inflation rate;b) the influx of educated and professionally trained workers;

c) capital inflows via immigration and business - immigration;

g) tax revenues;

d) growth of population share with people of working age

Potential disadvantages of labor migration for countries include:

a) slowdown in technological productivity;

b) expenses for language and professional training, etc.;

c) social tensions;

g) capital outflow through migrants money transfers outside the resided country

d) Pressure on country's social security system [6].

Capital outflow takes a special place among the negative consequences for the countries. As a rule, in most cases men are the ones among migrant workers who are earning money, and having even minor monies, they immediately send it to their families. Thus, many families in countries of migration depend on such income as their main money source. At the same time, the increasing consumption level in their households allows families to use earnings from money transfers as their future investments. Governments, originating migration meet this trend very positively since the increase of money transfers give quite a positive effect on local economy [7]. These transfers made by migrants for their homelands, prove that there is a close link between migrants and their countries of origin. Such transfers

are nothing but inflow of capital, which have been increasing more than three times over the past three decades. These transfers are the second source of financial flows after foreign direct investment and they are considerably bigger comparing to the amount of official financial help in such countries [8].

When examining positive and negative sides of legal migration one should note that as for quantitative parameters of pros and cons of this social phenomenon they have almost equal position relatively to each other. However, the situation is different considering the illegal migration. It is quite difficult to give a fair assessment of the economic effects of illegal migration due to lack of information sources. In addition, the situation turns to be more complex since benefits and costs for migrants and their employers should be revised separately from benefits and costs of state and its economy in general. Some researchers believe that incomes of illegal migrants are not lower and in periods of economic growth can be even higher than of migrants with legal status. Despite of this fact, illegals have, as a rule, heavier living and working conditions, and economically in most jobs illegals are equally leveled with lower qualified legal migrants. Yet in vast majority of cases, illegal immigration exists for working purposes, so this type of migration can be considered as an independent socio-economic phenomenon and plays as a factor of country's economic development.

Analysis of costs and benefits of legal and illegal employment, as well as presence or absence of clear requirements for future employer and for living conditions in country, affect as a whole on evaluation of migration process shape. Existence of illegal migration as a form of international migration can also be justified as a result, incurred during progressive differentiation of various groups' incomes, as well as strong differences in the level of socio-economic development in country's regions, social inequality and lack of balance in economic development. French demographer, a renowned expert in the field of illegal migration, Georges Tapinos stated: "from an economic point of view, migration is firstly a response to the lack of development [9].

Sometimes employers themselves are interested in presence of illegal migration. Mainly it can be referred to those employers who cannot meet the labor demand within their own labor market. Thus, employers choose one of behavior strategies depending on what they need in a certain situation - a quality product or cost optimization. As a result, employers save on their labor costs, taxes, social costs, as well as on the flexibility of production process. Then what consequences bears illegal migration? It causes a series of painful political, social and economic problems. According to the International Labor Office data, about one third of international migration resists control.

Illegal immigration provides an effective balance in the labor market by filling labor shortages particularly in sector of less attractive jobs and at the same time appear as an important factor of production maintaining and production expansion. This is perhaps the only positive factor of this social phenomenon. Mainly the researchers negatively evaluate the effects of illegal immigration for both economy and society in the receiving countries.

Illegal immigration contributes to the sustenance and expansion of illegal and uncontrolled sectors and progressively leads to stronger pressure on employment in legal sector. Preventing market competition to become equal, illegal immigration contributes to filling labor market with unqualified labor. It should be pointed out that through illegal immigration money resources from the receiving country are being exported. Thereby it creates an uncontrolled market of goods and services, and stimulates development of shadow segments and distorts system of relationship between market entities and the state; illegal immigratios and their employers contribute to civilized labor market slowdown [10].

In the receiving country's economy the main negative consequence of illegal migration, as a rule, are losses caused by state taxes non-payment and extra burden on public sector. However, consequences of illegal immigration are not limited only to economic aspect, they are spread to all the aspects of society. It all boils down to the fact that growth of illegal immigrants in numbers (which cannot be accurately assessed, besides immigrants are not always able to get a job even illegally) is accompanied by increasing criminalization of society. As a result, organized crime level increases progressively acquiring an international character. When getting to big cities in the developed countries, illegal immigrants start to form various ethnical communities. As a result, ethnic gangs grow in numbers and further serve as a liaison between local criminal organizations. Thus, many foreign nationals are involved in illegal business, criminal economic activities, as well as smuggle workforce [11 and 12].

As one can see, the balance of positive and negative effects of increasing illegal migration has a negative character. Surely, the government of receiving countries clearly realize and feel the negative impact that illegal immigration brings with itself, because the very fact of existence of illegal immigrants in country undermines the authority of state and its laws. However, the policy of resisting to illegal immigration should proceed especially from the understanding of negative consequences of this phenomenon for the society in whole, and not only for having power individuals. Thus, measures taken by the state to resist increasing illegal immigration must be applied exclusively within the legal framework.

Seriousness of the problem of illegal migration is connected with several main aspects. First, it is complex to determine quantitative parameters of this phenomenon; they greatly exceed official estimations provided by officially recorded researches on migration. Second, it is connected with the ambiguity caused by its consequences. Third, with the conceptual lack of development of irregular migration problem in the global restructuring of the world economy.

The need to resolve external migration flows in Russia is long overdue. In contrast to the settlement of irregular migration processes within the state, in author's opinion, a priority for the various aspects of society and the state has a regulation of external migration. Consequences from lack of control over the process of external migration may lead to much more negative impact on economic and socio-political life of the country [13, 14, 15 and 16].

Since economic and social consequences of illegal migration and employment cannot be interpreted unambiguously, the fact of need for its complete elimination is not only utopian, but at least very doubtful. Among strategic directions of regulation of illegal migration are the following:

1) to prevent illegal immigration and employment;

2) to deport illegal immigrants which are already in the country;

3) legalize illegal migrants.

These three types of measures are not mutually exclusive, and matter-of-course should be implemented in parallel. However, having different types of migrants and limited resources, it is necessary to have a provision which strategy is more effective in specific circumstances.

In author's point of view, "illegal immigration" primary is an illegal entry or move towards territory of another state by means of crossing external borders of the foreign state by foreign citizens or persons without citizenship. In the very base of these movements, in authors' opinion, must be actions of those people that are aimed at violating immigration laws in a foreign country, as well as

7/28/2014

international law disobey. In addition, it one should note that such actions can acquire systematic character, and this will mean that later illegal invaders staying in the country will be considered as potential offenders.

Corresponding Author:

Dr. Hodzhiev Alisher Raufovich

Kazan (Volga region) Federal University

Kremlevskaya str., 18, Kazan, 420008, Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation

References

- 1. Krasynets, E.S., E.S. Kubishin and E.V Tyuryukanova, 2000. Illegal Migration in Russia. Moscow, pp:7; 25.
- 2. Papastergiadis, N., 2000. The Turbulence of Migration: Globalization, Deterritolization and Hybridity. Polity Press.
- 3. Iontsev, V.A., 2002. llegal immigration. Moscow: MAKS Press.
- Kharaeva, O.A. and M.M. Makushina, 2006. International migration at the end of XX - beginning of XXI century. Statistical Review. Migration of population: statistics, sample surveys, politics: Collected papers. Demographic research, 12: 246-247.
- Denisenko, M., 2006. The policy of preventing illegal migration. Population migration: statistics, sample surveys, politics: Collected papers. Moscow: MAKS Press, pp. 169.
- Stalker, P., 2000. Workers without Frontiers: the Impact of Globalization on International Migration. Colorado, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Inc.
- 7. Ratha, D. Workers Remittances An Important and Stable Source of External Development Finance. Date Views 01.04.2014

www.worldbank.org/prospects/gdf_ch07_web_pdf.

- Mellyn, K. Worker Remittances as a Development Tool. Date Views 10.05.2014 www.adb.org/Documents/Reports Consultant/Worker Remittances PHI.pdf.
- Tapinos, G., 1974. L'Economie des migration internationals, Paris, Armand Colin–Presses de la Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques, pp: 289.
- Krasynets, E.S., 2002. Illegal immigration and hidden employment in the border areas of Russian Federation. Moscow: MAKS Press, pp: 35-45.
- 11. Ruff, L.E., 1969. Research and Technological Progress in a Cournot Economy. Journal of Economic Theory, 1: 397-415.
- 12. Hicks, J. R., 1932. The Theory of Wages. London: Macmillan and Co, pp: 247.
- Nelson, R. (ed.), 1993. National Innovation Systems: A Comparative Analysis, N.Y.: Oxford University Press, pp: 232-245.
- 14. Kaplan, R.S. and D. P. Norton, 2001. The Strategy Focused Organization: How Balanced Scorecard Companies thrive in the New Business Environment Ilarvard Business School Press. Boston, pp: 640.
- Howelles, J., 1995. Tacit Knowledge and Technology Transfer. University of Cambridge; ESRC Centre for Business Research, pp: 156-177.
- 16. Tehnical Progress and Innovation. Oxford Economic Papers. 1996, 2.