

## MIGRATION IN THE ROMANIAN SPACE, BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

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### ABSTRACT

*IN THE PAPER, THE AUTHORS ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF MIGRATION IN THE ROMANIAN SPACE, BOTH FROM THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE AND AS A CONTEMPORARY PHENOMENON, DETERMINED BY THE MUTATIONS OCCURRING GLOBALLY, WITH POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CAUSALITY. IN THE FIRST CHAPTER THE AUTHORS BRIEFLY PRESENT, FROM THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, THE MIGRATION PROCESSES IN THE CARPATHO-DANUBIAN-PONTIC SPACE, HIGHLIGHTING THE INFLUENCES ON THE ROMANIAN ETHNOGENESIS. IN THE NEXT CHAPTER, THE AUTHORS APPROACH, THEORETICALLY, THE COMPLEX PHENOMENON OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION, SPECIFYING THE CAUSES THAT CURRENTLY DETERMINE THE ILLEGAL MIGRATORY FLOWS. A SEPARATE CHAPTER IS DEVOTED TO THE ILLEGAL MIGRATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL, GIVEN THE FACT THAT MIGRATORY FLOWS TO WESTERN EUROPE AFFECT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY ROMANIA. THIS MATTER WAS ANALYZED AT NATIONAL LEVEL FOR THE PERIOD 2015-2017, CONCLUDING THAT THE PHENOMENON IS IN A SHARP INCREASE, IN THE CONTEXT IN WHICH FOR REASONS OF NATIONAL SECURITY THE STATE AUTHORITIES HAVE ADOPTED A SERIES OF MEASURES TO LIMIT THE EXTENT OF THE PHENOMENON AND TO CONSOLIDATE ROMANIA'S STATUS OF "EXPORTER "SECURITY ZONE.*

**KEY WORDS:** MIGRATION, BORDER, GROUPING, CRIME, SECURITY.

### 1.Migration in Romanian space. Historical considerations.

Beyond a specific of the living world, the phenomenon of migration is probably the most extensive anthropological and sociological process that accompanies mankind from the beginning, being related to two primary factors: access to resources and / or danger.

On this line, the current Romanian space, located very close to the border of three continents and with direct connection to the largest river in continental Europe (a true "highway" for millennia), located at the border of the temperate continental-zone, with access to water resources, wood, stone and with fertile soil, was a transit space or settlement area for countless tribes.

Within the limits of civilization development, the **first migration process** in the Carpatho-

Danubian-Pontic space was the Indo-Europeanization. Thus, between 2700 and 1800 BC, the tribes of the north-pontic steppes up to the Caucasus came in contact with the native population, resulting in a synthesis called conventional the pre-Thracian, from which they later developed during the centuries, the Thracians and their Carpathian branch, the Dacians. The local fund of the cultures here has transformed into new cultures with a wide spread area due to the great mobility of semi-sedentary pastoral and farm tribes [6]. At the turn of the millennia III and II, between the Neolithic sedentary and the Indo-European migrants, there was an ethno-linguistic and cultural interdependence, in the course of which, newcomers have imposed their language, but have ended up by being assimilated by local populations. [4]

**The second migration process** with irremediable effects on the definition of the ethnic proto-Romanian was the Romanization. After the Roman conquest at the beginning of the 1st century AD, due to the need of Romans to gain access to Dacia's wealths (primarily gold), Rome has massively colonized the new province, first by letting go the veterans of the 3-4 legions that were defending the region after finishing their military service, but also by settling down under the army protection of the craftsmen and merchants around the hardened castles. Due to the depopulation of Dacia as a result the wars with Trajan, the consequence was the assimilation of the Dacians by the new population and its Romanization over a century and a half, the Dacian-Roman synthesis leading to the creation of a new civilization.

**A third migration process**, carried out during the Romanian ethnogenesis, was that of migrations between the 3rd and the 7th centuries AD. The cause of this phenomenon was a synthesis between the climatic factors (climatic cooling), inter-tribal pressures and conflicts and the attraction to the resources of the Roman, later Byzantine world.

On the one hand, generally on the same East-West axis and using the established routes that included the valleys of the rivers and of the Danube, and the passes through the mountains (Oriental Carpathians), the Sarmatians, the Vandals and the Goths (on the gates of Moldova) pass through the Proto-Romanian space. Then they are followed by the Gepids (through the North), the Huns (also through the north, but they come back from Transylvania to Oltenia), the Avars (through the north and following the Danubian line), the Slavs through the North (entering the valleys of the rivers of Moldova) and the Bulgarians (through the south of Moldova, following the Danubian line). [6]

The great migrations, carried out for more than half of a millennium, have made their mark on Romanian ethnogenesis, without altering, with one exception (Slavic admiral), consistently the language and the customs of the Proto-Romanians and the predominant Romanity of the only ethnic developed in the Carpatho-Danubian-Pontic space.

The influence of the migrants was rather negative, delaying the evolution of the Daco-Roman world, to the process of ethnic crystallization, the barbarian tribes contributing to a very small extent. [2]

**A fourth migratory wave** is the one of the Hungarians, Pechenegs, and Cumanians. In the ninth century, the Hungarians crossed the northern part of Romania and settled in the Pannonia Plain, where, for three centuries, they made the incursions on Transylvania after the route to the west was blocked because they were defeated by the Germans. As a direct consequence of blocking the route to the west, the Hungarian kings colonize the Saxons (southern Transylvania) and the Szeklers (southeastern Transylvania), their role being primarily a defense of the passers-by of the Southern and Eastern Carpathians. [5] Their role was an important one, and the descendants of the

communities from those days have continued to live today in the specified areas and have imprinted the history of Transylvania and Romania irremediably.

The double evolution of the Romanians situation in relation with the Hungarian Kingdom - progressive emancipation to the south and east of the Carpathians and the loss of autonomy in Transylvania – has facilitated the appearance of the Romanian medieval states. [2]

In the eleventh century, the Pechenegs and the Cumanians followed the Hungarians, transiting the Romanian space on the Moldova - Muntenia and Moldova - Transylvania routes, their influences being exclusively related to toponymy. [5]

The last great barbaric invasion was the incursion of the Mongols in 1241, apart from local struggles, this population movement did not have consistent effects on the evolution of Romanian space. [4]

As **modern migratory movements** happened in the Romanian space, it is worth mentioning that in the 18th century in the Banat there were tens of thousands of savabi colonized, without generating major changes in the region. On the other hand, the bringing of the Gagauz in Bessarabia and the massive colonization of the region with the Ukrainians and the Russians generated extensive ethnic changes in the second Romanian state, the impact of these population changes being felt consistently today. [3]

## **2. Illegal migration. Concept. Causes.**

One of the criteria for classifying the migration is the one of legality, an approach that involves understanding illegal migration from the perspective of the transit and destination states, being associated with the illegal way of penetrating and staying in those spaces, thus generating problems in the security plan.

Regardless of the perspective way from which the illegal migration is being approached, *political, economic or social way*, the common element of all these approaches is the process by which an individual seeks to maximize their usefulness or achieve their aspirations. [8]

From the perspective of the social causes that lead to the migration of the persons (including the illegal one), there are a) armed conflicts; b) inter-ethnic misunderstandings; c) the lack of stability of the political environment; d) climate changes, natural disasters that force the population to leave their home; e) demographic structure - in the sense that underdevelopment, associated with overcrowding, - characteristics of undeveloped states - favors immigration to developed countries with a low birth rate.

The economic ground can be analyzed from several valences, including: a) the major differences in the states development, b) the employment situation - while in the developed countries the number of people who are not working declined, in the developing countries, the unemployment rate and the insecurity of jobs are still high c) the discovery of new natural resources. From an economic point of view, migration can be seen as a way of balancing labor market shortages, between supply and demand. [9]

Regarding the causes that determine the population to leave their origin country of origin in order to settle for temporary or long term in another state, the first one is the political factor, namely the deficit of democracy found in the states of origin, as well as the economic factor, in this case the desire to move to a country with a higher degree of economic development. In this context, migration has to be seen as a double key factor, a cause of security problems, but also an effect. [7]

The political developments from a number of Asian and Middle East countries,

characterized by totalitarianism and democracy deficiency, have led in the last few years to the emergence of migratory flows accentuated towards Western European countries. Contextually, these were also determined by the leadership strategy of some countries of the old continent to attract migrants on the background of the aging of the native population and of the shortage of the labor force, considering that a European secular society would gradually absorb and legalize any emigrant regardless of its religion. But by having an eye at the rate at which Europe is being colonized with Islamic migrants, it is hard to believe this ...

### 3.Cases of illegal migration at national level

Romania does not face a significant number of illegal migration cases, but the national territory is a preferred transit area for organized crime groups specialized in illegal migration. The phenomenon involves specialized organized crime structures that have created support points on the national territory, to facilitate the transport of migrants in the western and northern European countries, having connections with well organized cross-border illegal migration networks, their components having well-rooted roles established, organizing clandestine transport, purchasing false or guiding documents.

In recent years, three major illegal migration routes have crossed the territory of our country, namely Eastern European land route: Asia - Russia - ex-Soviet states - Romania - Western Europe; Eastern-Mediterranean Terrestrial Route: Asia - Syria / Iraq - Turkey - Bulgaria-Serbia - Romania - Western European countries and Eastern Maritime Route: Turkey - Black Sea - Romania - Western / Northern European states.

The analysis of the activity reports of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police [10], related to the period 2015-2017, highlights the main characteristics of the indicators for evaluating the phenomenon of illegal migration (Tab. no. 1), which are in a continuous dynamics within the analyzed time frame .

Anul	2015		2016		2017		Variatie	Variatie
	<i>intrare</i>	<i>iesire</i>					2017-2015	2017-2016
Persoane depistate in trecere/tentativa de trecere ilegala	<i>intrare</i>	936	1285	2840	303.40%	221%		
	<i>iesire</i>	545	582	3006	551.50%	516.50%		
Persoane fata de care au fost luate masuri preventive/depistate in zona de frontiera cu intentia de migratie ilegala		478	313	8942	1870.70%	2856.80%		
Total		195		1478				
		9	2180	8	754.80%	678.34%		
Numar grupari de persoane identificate		392	531	738	188.30%	138.90%		

**Tab.no. 1**

The following conclusions can be drawn:

- the progressive increase of the number of persons involved in illegal migration on the Romanian territory during 2015-2017, with a maximum variation of 678.34% in 2017 compared to 2015;
- the number of persons detected in actions of illegal crossing of the state border of Romania, both on the entry and exit flow, increased progressively between 2015-2017, registering a

maximum variation of 516,5%;

-in the years 2015 and 2016 the number of persons detected during acts of illegal crossing of the state border was significantly higher than the number of persons against whom preventive measures were taken / detected in the border area with the intention of illegal migration, though, the report has known a substantial reversal in 2017, which highlights a change in the way of approaching the specific problem by institutions with attributions in the field;

- the number of persons against whom preventive measures were taken / detected in the border area with the intention of illegal migration had an increase of 2856.8% in the year 2017 compared to 2015;

- there is known as a progressive annual increase of the number of groups of persons involved in acts of illegal crossing of the state border, the percentage of increase in the analyzed period reaching the maximum of 188,3%.

The analysis of the cause of illegal migration indicates the organization of these networks / groups mainly on ethnic criteria, depending on the migrants' area of origin, with networks of Iraqi, Syrian, Pakistani, Turkish, and mixed-type groups with members of different nationalities. As a rule, the group coordinators are located in the origin country of origin or in the destination countries of the migrants.

#### **4. Conclusions.**

The risk to which Romania is exposed, in the context of the increase in the phenomenon of illegal migration, derives mainly from the security deficit generated by migrants, as there is the possibility that among them can be found persons involved in supporting / carrying out terrorist activities or belonging to transnational organized crime groups [1], and the presence of a large number of migrants in the proximity of Romania amplifies the potential of illegal migration to manifest itself as a security risk to national security.

The recent air raids undertaken by US, British and French military forces against military targets that constitute the Syrian chemical arsenal, as a response to the Syrian regime's use of chemical weapons against its own people may generate a new migration wave towards countries in the Western Europe, which can directly affect Romania's territory, both as a transit country and as a potential destination country.

In order to manage the migration phenomenon, as well as to strengthen the role of Romania as a security zone "exporter", at the level of the state institutions with attributions in the field were adopted measures such as: the elaboration of plans for measures to prevent and combat the migration phenomenon; the creation of staff reserves within the central and territorial operational structures with competences in the field, to supplement if necessary the staff found at work at the border with Serbia and Bulgaria in the event of an influx of migrants; the identification and temporary transfer of technical means of mobility and surveillance techniques to the two borders in order to increase the operative capacity; the assurance of the functionality of the Integrated Border Security System; the active participation of the institution in joint operations organized by the FRONTEX European Agency; the strengthening of the inter - institutional cooperation, both at national level and also with similar structures from other states [10].

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