



MIGRATION DYNAMICS AND THE NEW REFORMS IN MANAGING MIGRATION

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Article history:	Abstract:
<p>Received: 7th October 2023 Accepted: 7th November 2023 Published: 11th December 2023</p>	<p>This article discusses the causes and effects of national, international, and global migration at the macro, micro, and meso levels within political analysis. It looks deeply into the theoretical aspects of urbanization and demographics, giving the latest statistics for migration. Lastly, the article examines measures implemented by Uzbekistan's government to regulate migration and presents the country's key concepts for controlling migration in its 2030 development strategy.</p>
<p>Keywords: migration, political dynamics, internal migration, international migration, push and pull factors, economic effects, political implications, global inequalities, migration management, development strategy</p>	

INTRODUCTION

Migration, whether internal or international, represents a crucial issue at regional, national and global levels, generating both opportunities and challenges for individuals and economies involved. If the migrant flow is well managed (supported by appropriate and effective policies and cooperation at the international level), it promotes inclusive and sustainable development in both sending and receiving countries. Therefore, policymakers from all nations should develop policies that harness the benefits and mitigate the downsides that can arise from the migration movements [1, p.76].

The causes and effects of national, international, and global migration are deeply intertwined with political dynamics and have far-reaching implications. At the national level, political factors play a crucial role in shaping migration patterns. Political instability, conflict, and persecution in countries of origin often drive people to flee their homes and seek refuge in other nations. Discrimination, human rights abuses, and lack of economic opportunities can also be significant push factors. On the other hand, political factors in destination countries, such as favorable immigration policies, economic prospects, and social stability, can attract migrants.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In 2022, the number of registered internal migration within Uzbekistan was 214,821 thousand, of which 40 per cent (equal to 85.6 thousand) were men, and 60 per cent (129.2 thousand) were women. In 2022, the internal migrant flows increased by 34.1 per cent compared to 2018.

In 2022, the international migrant flows in Uzbekistan were equal to 2,300 persons decreased by 20.7 per cent compared to 2018: 52 per cent were women, while 48 per cent men. Looking to the territorial distribution, Uzbekistan is currently experiencing a high level of constant internal migration from its rural to its urban areas. The plurality to both internal and international arrivals were living in urban areas (76%, 164,300 thousand, while the remaining, while the remaining 24 per cent (50.5 thousand) were living in rural areas [2, p.5].

The effects of migration are multifaceted and can be both positive and negative. Economically, migrants can contribute to the growth and development of both sending and receiving countries. They often fill labor market gaps, take on low-skilled or undesirable jobs, and contribute to economic productivity. Remittances sent by migrants to their home countries also serve as an important source of income and can contribute to poverty reduction. However, migration can also put pressure on local labor markets, leading to wage suppression and competition for jobs, which can create social tensions and political backlash.

At the international level, migration has significant political implications. It raises issues of sovereignty, border control, and national security. Countries often implement immigration policies to manage the flow of people across their borders and safeguard their national interests. Border disputes, diplomatic tensions, and debates over immigration laws and enforcement are common political challenges associated with international migration. Additionally, the movement of refugees and asylum seekers across borders can strain diplomatic relations and raise



questions about burden-sharing and responsibility among countries.

On a global scale, migration is influenced by structural factors and global inequalities. Economic disparities, political conflicts, environmental degradation, and climate change are key drivers of global migration. Globalization and the expansion of transnational networks and communication have also facilitated migration by reducing barriers and increasing awareness of opportunities in other countries. These factors require global political responses, including international cooperation, policy coordination, and efforts to address root causes such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.

During the last decades, global migration has steadily increased. Currently, the number of global migrants worldwide according to key global migration figures, 2019–2023 is 281 million people at mid-year 2020 were estimated to be international migrants – people that were born abroad and/or held foreign citizenship.

Individuals may have plenty of reasons that determine them to leave one place and settle in another (temporary or permanently). These decisions may have economic, social, political, cultural, or environmental causes. The forces that determine people to migrate are known as drivers of migration (push and pull factors) and operate at a macro-, meso- and micro-level.

Macro-level factors are those factors that people have no control over. Political, demographic, socio-economic and environmental issues are the most common reasons that contribute to forced migration (either internal or international).

Meso-level factors include organizations, social networks, communication technology, diaspora links and peer groups, which persuade people to forsake their homes and move to countries with better living conditions.

Micro-level factors refer to individual characteristics, values and expectancies, such as education level, religious belief, marital status, or attitudes towards migration (3, p.68-69)

One of the categories of internal migration in which people move from rural to urban areas is referred as urbanization. Educational opportunities often trigger migration of students to major academic centers, and employment opportunities often define the relocation paths of graduates and mature workforce. [4, p. 2].

In general, internal and international migration affect not just urban growth, but also the population's age, socioeconomic status, and other characteristics.

For instance, migrants are often younger on average compared to their sending areas or, indeed, their receiving areas. [5, p. 17].

Measures that seek to control rural-to-urban migration are usually ineffective at forestalling city growth and can even result in economic, social and environmental harm" [6. p.4]. Statistics show that over 55 percent of the world's population lived in urban areas in 2018; by 2050, this proportion will grow to two-thirds. The United Nations calls urbanization one of four "demographic mega-trends" [7. p.15] along with population growth, aging, and international migration.

In the last few years the government of Uzbekistan entered new additions on migration regulations. According to the State Statistics of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2021 legal migrants are considered as self-employed, the procedure for compulsory vocational training of those who go to work abroad has been introduced. Language learning centers of the host countries have been opened in order to maximize the compliance of job seekers abroad with the requirements of the employer. A Fund has been established to support and protect the rights and interests of citizens engaged in work abroad. About 10 thousand citizens who found themselves abroad in a difficult financial situation were allocated one-time financial assistance.

Thus, considering that employment is a cross-cutting priority of the socio-economic policy envisaged by the Development Strategy of the new Uzbekistan, as well as in order to solve the problems of employment, regulate labor migration and achieve the desired scale of migration for the country, the implementation of organized migration through bilateral and multilateral intergovernmental agreements is proposed:

1. Creating the right base for outstaffing services.
2. Discussion of the possibility of moving the IOM sub-regional office for Central Asia to the Republic of Uzbekistan (Tashkent).
3. Reorientation of the directions of labor migration and work on pre-departure training of labor migrants.
4. Digitalization of migration services.

Additionally, Uzbekistan's 2030 development strategy involves the following key concepts for controlling migration:

- building a fair and modern state serving the people; guaranteed provision of the sovereignty and security of the country. [8, p. 1].
- Continuing of the implementation of an open, pragmatic, active and good-neighborly foreign policy



against the background of complex processes taking place in the world

- Establishing a balanced and permanent dialogue on regional and global issues with partner countries and within the framework of reputable international organizations.

- Accelerating the development of good-neighborly relations and strategic partnership with all neighboring States, regular and effective conduct of bilateral and multilateral negotiations in political, economic, cultural and humanitarian areas. [8, p. 90].

- Improving the system of external labor migration, providing comprehensive assistance to citizens engaged in labor activities abroad. [8, p. 95].

8. Mirziyoyev Sh.M. Tashkent; Strategy "Uzbekistan-2030" 2023, p.90- 95.

CONCLUSION

The issue of migration control and statistics, rule of law compliance, social protection, security, interstate cooperation, the establishment of a unified information system, and the improvement of migration legislation are all directly related to the current development strategy of Uzbekistan 2023, that unifies integrated territorial development. The implementation of these new strategies will play a great role in managing the migration crisis in the country.

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