

MIGRATION POLICY OF THE EU-COUNTRIES: INTEGRATION VS. ADEQUACY



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Indisputable importance, significance, growing economic value of migration in the European Union put a process of migrants' flows managing in core position both of national policies of the EU countries and of entire association. Due to diversity and multivectorness of migration dynamics in the Old World, a complexity of regional migration policies is non-doubly obvious.

The paper theoretically justifies an adequacy of the EU migration regimes as a condition for effectiveness of national control over transboundary labor movement in Europe. The study proposes an original method for evaluation of migration regimes adequacy in Europe based on assessment of 26 test issues. Results of the author's methodology application led to a number of practical recommendations for the further modernization of European migration policy, as well as theoretical conclusions on scientific comparative analysis of relationships between migration regimes adequacy and national macroeconomic indicators.

Keywords: International labor migration, labor immigration, migration regime, migration policy, adequacy, European Union

Introduction

Since early 2000s migration policies in countries of the Old World has changed fundamentally because previous strategic guidelines for regulating migration did not only lost their own efficiency in XXI century, but also began to stimulate the growth of extremely negative economic and socio-cultural, political consequences (Papademetriou, 2008, p. 283).

An economic slowdown in Europe was typical for almost all European countries (but "new members" of the EU) at the beginning of the XXI century, and did not cause reduction of the labor immigration dynamics. Aggravation of social problems, failures of multiculturalism principle of foreign workers' socialization (as well as socio-economic destabilization in countries of Africa and Middle East) marked relevancy of the labor migration's problems, but still now did not lead to any significant correction of regional migration policy in the Old World (Ushakov, 2015, p. 31).

MIGRATION POLICY OF THE EU-COUNTRIES

Crisis dynamics of 2008-2009 demonstrated economic recession and rapid deterioration of the socio-economic situation even in the world most developed countries and became a starting point for migration laws modernization both in particular EU Member States and in the Union as a whole.

Despite the widespread opinion that European migration policy is extremely rigid and restrictive, migrant workers' flow in the EU is constantly growing (even in conditions of economic recession and rising of domestic unemployment), both in legal and illegal sectors (Ruhs & Anderson, 2010, p. 119-126).

In Southern European countries, which are most strongly affected by the negative consequences of 2008th crisis the foreign migrant workers' flows are also growing!

At the same time an unemployment rate in domestic labor market reaches critical exponents. Forced to optimize an own manufacturing (due to the falling demand, growth of competition with developing countries, higher taxes and reducing social programs, and so on), local entrepreneurs, seek abilities to cut off wages and social insurance payments, taxes (Neugart & Schomann, 2002, p. 91-94). It necessarily increases a demand for migrant labor (for example, in the UK, Spain and Greece). The situation is complicated by non-predictable political processes in countries surrounding the EU, for example, in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Syria, where large population loses earnings and is always ready to move even in the backward states of the EU (labor immigration is growing even in poorest EU members such as Bulgaria and Romania).

The purpose of the study is testing of contemporary migration regimes' adequacy for formation of scientific and methodological justifying principles and directions of the EU migration policy modernization.

Objectives of the study to:

- determine an effectiveness of European modern migration policy, factors and conditions for its growth;
- define an adequacy of contemporary migration regime as a condition for effective migration management in the EU;
- propose an original method for assessing adequacy of the EU contemporary migration regimes counting available statistical data and theoretical justification of the migration regimes' adequacy as a factor of migration policy effectiveness;
- give recommendations for further usage of proposed methods for testing migration regimes' adequacy.

The hypotheses of the study:

H1- effectiveness of the modern states migration policy is identified as relationship between values of economic returns and possible damage and risks of international labor migration development;

H2- adequacy of country's migration policy to priorities of its internal development and global markets' challenges is determined by differentiation and selectivity of national migration regime;

H3- despite achievements in regional migration regulation (also at the supranational level) there are some migration regimes inadequate to the requirements of regional progress and countries socio-economic development in the EU.

Literature review and theoretical basis of the study

The central issue of any migration policy is maximization of foreign labor migration economic benefits and reducing of foreign labor force potential damages (Papademetriou & Sumption, 2011, p. 42-45) in both short and long terms (Fig. 1).

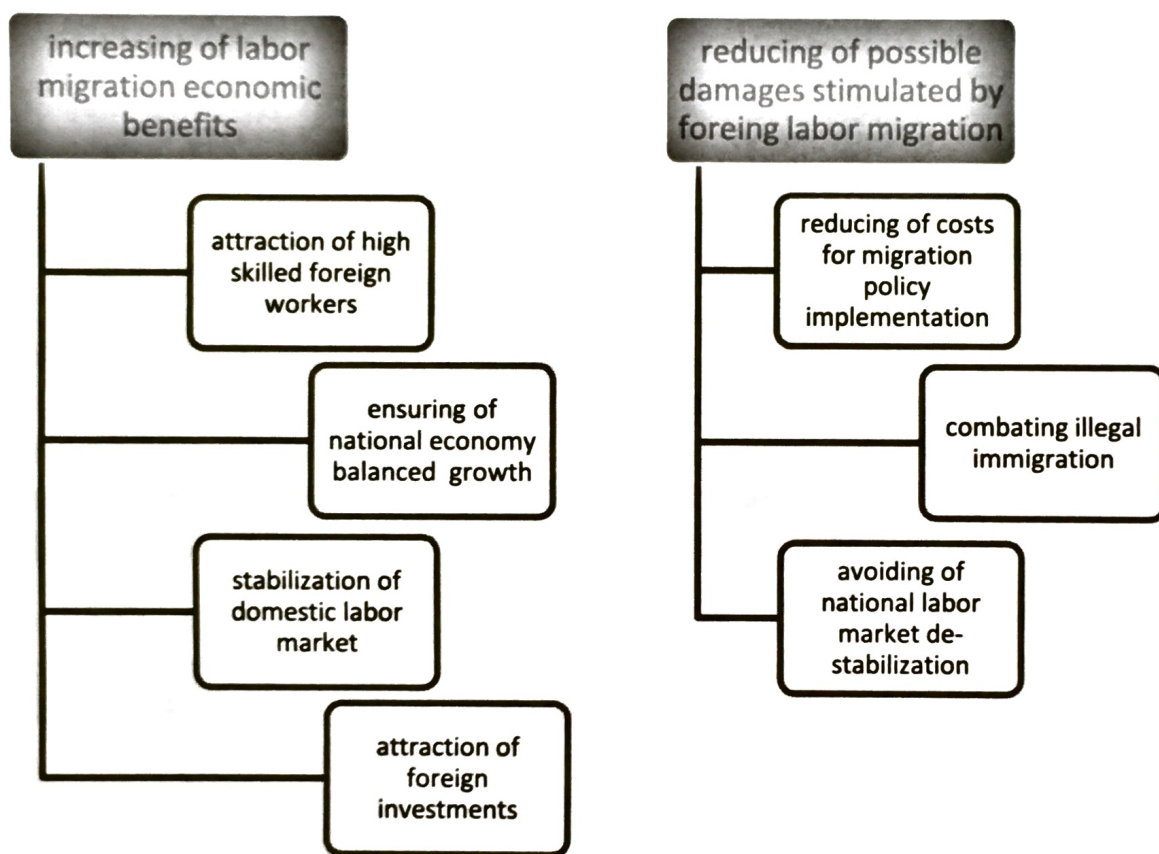


Figure 1 – Efficiency of national migration policy implementation
(by authors)

Taking into account dynamics and trends of labor migration an analysis of migration policy in the European Union demonstrates the following trends of immigration policy modernization: stimulation of intellectual and highskilled migrant workers inflow to the EU (Kahanec & Zimmermann, 2011, p. 11-14), encouraging of business investments and business migration, development of seasonal labor migration, effectivization of the processes of migrant workers' families reunification, as well as restrictions on asylum and combating to illegal employment immigration.