NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF POLITICAL STUDIES AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Doctoral School in Political Sciences

PhD Thesis Abstract

Grounds in emerging the Romanian contemporary diaspora.

The case of Spain.

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I. KEY WORDS: Romanian diaspora, European Union, migration, causes of migration, Romania, Spain, public policies, labor force mobility, globalization.

II. SYNTHESIS OF PhD THESIS

The PhD thesis is structured in six chapters that aim to scientifically analyze the complex phenomenon of migration, in general terms and especially in Spain, and its causes. The main purpose of the research thesis is to identify the complex impact of migration between the country of origin (Romania) and the country of destination (Spain), regarding the evolution and consequences of the socio-territorial capital, but also of the local development of this phenomenon. Based on the questioning of some Romanian emigrants from Spain, some conclusions were drawn within a case study. The migration of people is a topic of great interest, given its scale. The topic has been addressed before, but new elements and conclusions constantly appear. Migration to the developed countries of Western Europe (Great Britain, Spain, Italy, France, Germany, etc.) leads to many analyzes and questions.

Chapter I: The research methodology of the migration phenomenon

The migration phenomenon of Romanian citizens to other countries does not represent a new topic, it has been amplified with time. Between 1899 and 1989 (during the 90s) approximately 1.2 million Romanians left Romania either legally or illegally. UN data show that in 2019 (January 1st) there were approximately 4 million Romanian migrants outside the country. It results that in just about three decades (1990-2019), the number of Romanians legally registered in foreign countries has tripled. The number of Romanian migrants who are not registered is unknown, but is estimated to be around 6 million Romanians."

The entire text of the PhD thesis represents the work of four years of research and permanent contact that I had in the community of Romanian migrants in Spain, but also with people who returned to Romania, after a period spent in Spain. Therefore, the whole thesis is based on the approach of both territories (the territory of departure and the territory of arrival).

The methods used for research and data collection were diverse and included desk research, quantitative methods, qualitative methods and social media exploration.

During the research period, we conducted a number of 128 questionnaires (of which we chose 92 relevant ones, 38 men and 54 women). It was noticed that there is no culture of public opinion polling,

¹ file:///C:/Users/Downloads/2017_Tesis_%20Suiu_Adriana%20(3).pdf, pag. 9

therefore, the relevant number to the poll that we applied became 92. In Romania, we applied the questionnaires in various localities. For the destination territory, we applied the questionnaires in different areas of Spain, where the presence of Romanian migrants is numerous.

As a research hypothesis taken into consideration, we started from the fact that, in the last decades, the number of Romanian citizens within the borders of our country has decreased a lot, a very serious phenomenon that generated dramatic changes in the quantitative structure and, above all, quality of the population, with serious demographic, economic and social effects, and the new untimely and even chaotic reconfiguration of the training system, the labor market, the structure of the professions, the occupational needs of the workforce, the educational system and even the security system and defence, are seriously challenged. At the same time, the new Romanian communities established in the destination countries are numerous, but fragile, vulnerable identities, without a culture of migration, which pose substantial challenges both for Romania, the country of origin, and for all other destination countries, where the Romanians communities are very numerous.

As content of the research methodology, we considered:

- Content analysis, as a method, regarding the legal aspects of migration;
- Comparison (Study from chapter six; the particularities of the Romanian diaspora formation in Spain);
- Rational selection and sociological institutionalization;
- Identification of the performing model in public management;
- The SWOT analysis. concerning, on the one hand, the integration into the European Union of the Eastern European states and, on the other hand, the integration of the citizens of these countries, migrants, into the communities of the destination countries.

Chapter II: The migration phenomenon. Theoretical approach

In recent decades, most of the theoretical explanations of migration have brought to the center of attention the increasingly accentuated and chaotic influence of economic development, in a competitive, uneven register, with great differences between countries and regions, which has generated extreme variations in the field of labor demand and supply, both in terms of human potential and, therefore, actual economic performance, as well as living conditions and economic-social security, especially in the initiation and development of the migration process.

The migratory movement has become a complex, but also elaborate process, because it symbolizes more than the simple movement of one space of origin to another of subsequent stability,

involving several aspects of interest and significant elements, having a global scope. In this vein, the European Union represents the best entity for detailed research: it has become a structure of regional coagulation, and on the background of maintaining national borders, ensures the possibility of European citizenship over the national one and, at the same time, uses the rules of the Schengen area for the citizens of some of the member countries². Thus, the present research appeals to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, articles 13, 14 and 15, which provides that: the movement of workers is free³; persecuted people benefit from asylum⁴, and, not least, the fact that people hold citizenship⁵. The articles presented must designate the basis of the integrated migration management process.

Adam Smith (the founder of the classical theory) argued that the free market and free movement were the basis of economic development and the use of resources with increased efficiency. Researching the migration phenomenon makes it necessary to remove barriers between countries, so as to favor the movement of population and capital.

Karl Marx argued that migration involves the movement and development of the population. At the same time, he claimed that emigration from the imperial countries to their colonies contributed to mitigating overproduction crises.

The tendency, at the moment, is to research migration through the vision of theories (laws) that demonstrate the emergence of the process, for example: the dual theory of the labor market, the theory of neoclassical economics, the theory of dependency, the new economy of migration, the theory of world systems. These complement each other, presenting a multitude of clarifications on the process, especially for the theory that the respective points of view address the various levels of reference: micro (individual/family), meso (community) and macro (societal). Ethnic economic enclaves are dense concentrations of immigrant firms that employ a significant proportion of nationals and manifest a distinct physical presence in urban space.

² Din 27 state membre ale UE, 21 sunt membre ale Spațiului Schengen. URL: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/bordersand-visas/schengen/index_en.htm

³ Art. nr. 13 din *Declarația Universală a Drepturilor Omului adoptată de Adunarea Generală a Organizației Națiunilor Unite la 10 decembrie 1948*, URL: http://legislatie.resurse-pentrudemocratie.org/legea/declarațiauniversala-a-drepturilor-omului.php, "orice persoană are dreptul de a circula în mod liber și de a-și alege reședința în interiorul granițelor unui stat, orice persoană are dreptul de a părăsi orice țară, inclusiv a sa, și de reveni în țara sa"

⁴ Art. nr. 14 din același document, "în caz de persecuție, orice persoană are dreptul de a căuta azil și de a beneficia de azil în alte țări"

⁵ Art. nr. 15 din același document, "orice persoană are dreptul la o cetățenie și nimeni nu poate fi lipsit în mod arbitrar de cetățenia sa sau de dreptul de a-și schimba cetățenia".

The German geographer, Ernst Georg Ravenstein (1834-1913), considered the father of migration concepts, was evaluated as the pioneer of migration theorization, due to the fact that he formulated the first laws of migration. He signaled for the first time the situation that migration was defined by the push-pull system, determined by unfavorable conditions ⁶ and still produces migration desires, due to the fact that favorable conditions magnetize people from one area to another. Scientists, for the most part, followed Ravenstein's theses, and the dominant conceptions in science today are, in fact, varieties of his conceptions.

The main cause of migration was presented by the external financial-economic facilities that distinguish citizens from areas with lower economic performances, defined by political, religious or other limitations.

According to the theory of Everett Lee (1917-2007), all countries, provinces and areas have either positive factors that attract or maintain the population, negative factors that lead to the rejection of people, or neutral factors to which the population is ehidistant. Therefore, positive conditions are the situations that operate to keep the labor force within a region or to attract citizens from other areas, negative conditions remove migrants, and neutral conditions occur in areas where there are migrants and are not important. These factors could also be defined as: "white (friendly)", "black (unfriendly)" and "gray (ambiguous)".

Regarding the dimension of migration, he noted that it fluctuates depending on: the variation of the economy, the composition of the population in the area, the multitude of areas included in the region and the level of progress in that area. Except where demanding verifications are imposed, the size and flow of migration tends to increase over time.

Also, the neoclassical theories, disseminated at the beginning of the 70s, established the foundations of the international migration theses, aimed at individuals⁷, the reason for the migration process⁸ and the conditions that influence the decision to migrate (family strategy), the conditions for maintaining migration and the paths of migration⁹.

⁶ Dominance of the economic motive "Bad or oppressive laws, heavy taxation, an unattractive climate, uncongenial social surroundings, and even compulsion (slave trade, transportation), all have produced and are still producing currents of migration..." (Ravenstein, 1889, p. 286), (climat instabil, nivel mare de impozitare, transportul, stare socială neconvențională, legi opresive, comerțul cu sclavi)

⁷ The link between migration and investment in the labor force

⁸ From an economic point of view

⁹ Dual economy: primary and secondary labor market

At the same time, the human capital theory launched by Jacob Mincer, comes from the thesis of neoclassical economics and admits that citizens act, mainly, balanced and with intention in any situation. The notion of human capital was imposed by Theodore William Schultz and is defined by conditions as: practice, training, instruction, capacity and skill of the individual, because the benefits of a citizen with advanced studies have been shown to be greater in situations than of one with an average training. Human capital is characterized by Gary Stanley Becker as the baggage of training, behavior and mandates that can mark the growth of an individual's potential and benefits. Therefore, human capital is appreciated as the amount of knowledge, skills and abilities that can lead to increasing the capabilities and income of a person.

Equally, it should be emphasized that migration in the EU represents a multifaceted subject, due to the fact that, on the one hand, there are very voluminous migration routes between the countries that are part of the EU, under the conditions of the existence of the European citizen status, and on the other hand of ideas, there is a significant flow of citizens in migratory movement coming from areas outside the EU. This state is transposed through the recognition of two migration paths, from outside the EU, namely from the South to the North and from the North to the South. Here, North and South are not geographical representations, but the economic level. According to the UN Department dedicated to economic and social problems, this ranking studies the situation in various geographical areas of the globe ¹⁰. The UN Development Platform proposes another representation of North and South, considering the Human Development Index (HDI): "The expression North refers to countries with a very high HDI score, while the expression South brings into discussion countries with scores high, medium and low IDU" ¹¹.

According to recent research, it is estimated that there are currently 17 million EU citizens living in another member country.

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Organizația Internațională pentru Migrație (IOM), *World Migration Report 2013. Migrant Well-being and Development*, Geneva, 2013, p. 43, "zonele dezvoltate și în curs de dezvoltare: grupul Nord cuprinde SUA, Canada, ¹¹ Teritoriile care au valori foarte mari ale IDU sunt: Andora; Australia; Austria; Bahrain; Barbados; Belgia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Cipru; Rep. Cehă; Danemarca; Estonia; Finlanda; Franța; Germania; Grecia; Hong Kong, China; Ungaria, Islanda; Irlanda; Israel; Italia; Japonia; Liechtenstein; Luxemburg; Malta; Olanda; Noua Zeelandă; Norvegia; Polonia; Portugalia; Qatar; Rep. Coreea; Singapore; Slovacia; Slovenia; Spania; Suedia; Elveția; Emiratele Arabe Unite; Regatul Unit al Marii Britanii și Irlandei de Nord; Statele Unite ale Americii (IOM, op. cit., 2013, p. 44).

The Romanian emigration particularities

In 1990, immediately after the legislation on the free movement of persons, there was an increased emigration of Romanian citizens abroad. So that, "in 1990, 96.929 people decided to emigrate from the country¹²", approximately 4 citizens out of a thousand inhabitants chose to move their residence abroad. It should be noted that the year 1995 is a benchmark in terms of the scale of the emigration phenomenon, because the existing value, until that moment, was not reached. In conclusion, in the last decade, in general, the number of citizens who chose to emigrate is continuously decreasing, fluctuating near the value of 10,000 workers, that is, 0.5 people per thousand inhabitants.

The distribution of those who practice this form of wandering accentuates the situation in which, immediately after it was legislated the free movement of individuals, the population with other ethnicities, especially people of German ethnicity, chose to move their domicile, respectively to leave Romania. "Thus, in 1990, of the almost 97 thousand recorded emigrants, 62.0% were of German ethnicity, and 11.4% of Hungarian ethnicity, while Romanians represented 24.6%; nowadays, the majority of emigrants (99.1%) are of Romanian ethnicity" 13.

Although the Romanian migration, in the way we see it today, is a recent one, it managed to have an increasingly important significance on the current Romanian community, in its entirety. Nowadays, international migration represents a process that presents itself in several forms, causes effects and shapes national societies.

The characteristics of the process in Romania refer to the fact that our country is both the country of origin and destination (see the number of migrants, especially in construction domain) of international migrants, but the status has become a country of categorical emigration. Also, the number of individuals transiting our national territory has increased, Romania gained considerable responsibilities in relation to its position on the eastern border of the EU¹⁴.

¹² http://ier.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/publicatii/spos_1_2012.pdf, pag. 32

¹³ https://insse.ro/cms/files/evenimente/RoCentenar/ROCentenar.pdf, pag. 47

¹⁴ Illegal migration, human trafficking, voluntary migration

Chapter III: People mobility in Europe

Migration, as a rule, is determined to be the movement of an individual or a collective of individuals from one geopolitical area to another, across an administrative or political border, and who aspire to settle permanently or temporarily in an area outside the origin area for various purposes.

The significant element of the beginning of Romanian contemporary migration is the temporary migratory movement of skilled workers in search of a job. But, the main cause of this fast and massive migration is not necessarily the free will of the individual to choose the country and where to work, but the massive loss of jobs in the country of origin, followed by a harsh consequence that he could no longer survive, both as an individual and with his family.

Studying migration from the point of view of the states from which they emigrate has not sufficiently aroused the interest of scientists in recent decades, otherwise it has attracted attention in recent years through the "brain drain" phenomenon, by whatever they try to diminish it. Communities in Europe are struggling with the worrying senescence situation, in which case the pay-as-you-go social security package has been implemented, as a result of some appreciable demographic constraints.

It is noted that the change in the number of individuals in the last decade was subjected to a number of agents, of which it is stated with priority: the freedom of families to decide regarding the number of children they want and the time period in which to conceive children, the high degree of socio-economic expenses undertaken by the inhabitants in the stage of society transformation, the housing shortage and the difficult access of the youth to the purchase of their own home, changes in the manners of individuals regarding the creation and dissolution of a family, social fluctuations, the lack of stable and predictable gainful employment.

The European integration history provides us with the perfect example of what has been clearly labeled as globalization: the creation of a space larger than that of the traditional nation-state for economic activity. The distinction between what we might call, for a better terminology, immigrant minorities and indigenous minorities is analytically interesting, therefore, because it draws attention to the central importance of the nation-state in any aspect of cultural diversity in Europe, but the nation state is in two contrasting positions: in a certain way, as the problem and on the other hand as the solution, regarding the social problems that the migration phenomenon reveals, and in the areas where the migrants come from, but also especially, in the areas where they decide to settle, to build a better life than the one they had in their homeland.

The management of the migration phenomenon in the European Union includes a complex set of measures, but absolutely necessary considering the implications of an economic, social, cultural, civil, religious nature for both destination and departure countries. The need to manage migration also stems from the magnitude of the phenomenon. Thus, on January 1st, 2019, resident people in a country in the European Union with citizenship from another country were at the level of 21.8 million, which represented 4.9 percent of the total population, of which 13.3 million came from the countries of the Union.

The European Council discussed the migration situation on 9 February 2023 aiming to take measures and actions for an effective, humanistic and safer policy.

In recent debates on international migration, both government and private sector representatives have identified the need for an effective global labor market, taking into account that the projections regarding the deficit ratio between the demand and the supply of labor force, for the coming years, indicate an accentuation of them, against the backdrop of demographic aging and population decline in developed countries, in parallel with its increase in less developed countries.

Migration is a multi-faceted, multinational phenomenon that was not, is not and will not be managed only unilaterally or bilaterally, but only through an effective management process that takes into account the benefits of all those involved and the changing characteristics of the migration process. In this context, countries' migration policies change depending on the evolution of the world economy, political situations, the influence of different factors: natural, social, etc.

Europe continues to represent a geographical area with strong migration paths in multiple directions, but it will symbolize a location of stabilization for the future. There is a need to find solutions to reduce the negative consequences of the demographic deficit. In this respect, the reception of the European Union for migrant workers from third countries is made. It is appreciated that a verified migration at the level of the European space is more productive than leaving the migration policy to the will of each member country.

Chapter IV: The influence of labor mobility in the European Union on Romanian society

Our country has shown a particular interest in joining the EU, considering the numerous advantages from an economic point of view, free movement, but also for study and work facilities. It also counted on a greater flow of investments in Romania and on help in the fight against corruption.

Following a study, carried out after joining the EU, namely in 2016, it turns out that 67% ¹⁵ of Romanians had a favorable attitude towards the Union. The Eurobarometer concluded, through a survey, that our country was in the third position among the EU states, based on citizens' optimism. Following a survey by the European Parliament at the end of 2015, it was found that 41% of Romanian citizens believed that, from a financial point of view, their situation would be better in the future, compared to an average of 31% in the EU.

Currently, almost 17 million Europeans live or work in another member country - double the situation ten years ago. The EU has issued a consistent body of legislation that sets out the different types of mobility, including the relocation of citizens and the coordination of social assistance.

In order to solve these problems, the European Labor Authority (EEA) – designed by the Commission in March 2018, had into consideration the following obligations towards the EU member countries:

- to support member states in procuring data and aid to citizens and businesses;
- facilitate collaboration and data exchange between member states and support them through concerted and common controls, to combat abuses, fraud and undeclared work;
- to act as a mediator between member countries in the event of disputes of an economic, legal, political, cultural and perhaps even territorial nature.

The Labor Authority was responsible for supporting the European network of employment services for citizens (EURES which has over 1000 advisers) and received and strengthened the concerns of the European Platform for intensifying cooperation in combating illegal work. Its actions will cover the rules on migration and posting of citizens, coordination of social security and specific legislation in the road transport sector¹⁶. The existence of illegal or undeclared work is the source of the differences between the actual number of migrants and the number of those officially registered with a residence permit.

In the last 50 years, the free movement of people has constantly developed and become more pronounced. This existential freedom, intended in the first instance for the active population, was gradually broadened to include other elements of the population and is currently one of the main personal rights that the EU ensures to its citizens¹⁷.

¹⁵ http://ier.gov.ro/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/SPOS 2017 Studiul-1 FINAL.pdf, accessed on 04.05.2020

¹⁶https://www.prwave.ro/mobilitatea-echitabila-a-fortei-de-munca-comisia-saluta-acordul-privind-autoritatea-europeana-a-muncii/, accessed on 04.05.2020

¹⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=5569&langId=ro, accessed on 06.05.2020

The freedom principle of workers movement is enshrined in art. 45 (former art. 39 CE) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (referred to as TFEU) and was issued through secondary legislation [Regulation (EEC) no. 2454/93). 1612/68 and Directive 2004/38/EC, but also Directive 2005/36/EC]¹⁸ and the jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union (referred to as CJ).

In fact, any EU citizen has the opportunity to work and live in another member country without being discriminated on grounds of nationality, provided that they comply with some internal regulations that are not above the European ones. For example, the speed of movement on public roads, the rules of commuting in some communities, respect for national symbols and others.

An individual could be considered an EU migrant worker in their home Member State if they have exercised their right to free movement and then return to their country of origin¹⁹. The law of the European Union legislates this kind of migrants who return to their places of origin, for this reason to stop them from bringing up the EU law against their country of origin, could demoralize the nationals of a member country to make use of the right of free movement in the same way that migrant workers from other member countries apply it.

EU law in the field of free movement of workers is implemented in EU member countries (Art. 52 of the TEU) and in the areas mentioned in art. 355 of the TFEU²⁰.

The definition of family members includes the husband/wife, in some cases the partner with whom the EU resident has entered into an official partnership, direct descendants up to the age of 21, or who are still dependent, as well as the direct ancestors who are in their care and the direct descendants of the husband/wife or partner²¹.

EU citizens have the possibility to look for a job in another member country and receive the same help from the national employment office there as the nationals of the respective member country. The EURES network provides information, advice and assistance for placement and recruitment, in addition to ranking CVs, in relation to the vacant positions. At the same time, EURES has an active website where individuals can apply for job vacancies online and submit their CVs²².

¹⁸ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/ro/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32004L0038, accessed on 06.05.2020

¹⁹ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/RO/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52010DC0373&from=EN, accessed on 06.05.2020

²⁰ http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=5569&langId=ro, accessed on 06.05.2020

²¹ Idem

²² Idem

The international migration phenomenon is experienced as a shock to the European Union and its member countries. The process of globalization, as well as the various events occurring on an international scale, have contributed to the increase in migratory waves, especially in the last period of time. European policy is built on European customs regarding asylum and migration, taking into account both the application of human rights and humanitarian affairs, as well as the gains of the EU, of migrants and their countries of origin. The absorption of migrants into the European community has as its objective the balance between their rights and the culture of the country of origin.

The phenomenon of migration is an "important condition for the development of European society nowadays" ²³. The phenomenon can also bring some benefits. Facilitating economic integration and inter-cultural discussions at global and regional level; ensuring the need for workers in developed countries and their better use in the countries of origin; the establishment of transfers of cash flows to the less developed countries, the facilitation of the transfer of science and technology to the migrants origin countries, after their repatriation.

Regarding demography, the consequences of migration, both temporary and permanent, are important. The desire to settle irrevocably in the destination states is known and leads to substantial reductions among citizens. This decrease in population has the effect of reducing the level of economic development or even decreasing economic activity in the countries of departure.

For the most part, those who leave their places of birth are young, and their number is constantly increasing, so we can say that emigration affects the age categories with high fertility percentages, decreasing, in this way, the number of newborns on Romania's territory. This fact is the more alarming as the exodus tends to become permanent. The configuration of groups of emigrants by gender shows some changes, so that there are more and more female immigrants in recent years. In 2004, 62% of migrants were women aged 26-40, which means 58% of the group of migrants, and their number is constantly increasing²⁴.

International population migration has always existed, at significant quantitative and qualitative levels, as a result of the influence of a complex of objective and subjective factors that currently directly interfere with the components of the globalization and globalization process. International migration includes more than 175 million people, who come from developed countries,

²³ http://europedirectbucuresti.ier.ro/wp-content/uploads/Brosura-ED-Politica-de-migratie-a-UE.pdf, accessed on 10.05.2020

²⁴ http://www.store.ectap.ro/articole/484_ro.pdf, accessed on 23.05.2020

but also from developing countries, and, according to experts' estimates, in the future the tendency to amplify it will continue²⁵. The evolution of external migration flows is partially explained by a traditional component, people being in permanent search for strategies to reduce risks, by ensuring a higher volume of income. The unprecedented development of fast means of transport and communication is another factor that drives international migration. The in-depth research of the causes, effects, costs and benefits of external migration in the country of origin and destination is a useful approach to identify the most appropriate means and policies to maximize the benefits of this kind of migration.

The global result of migration is very versatile and a broad examination of it admits the knowledge of costs and gains at the individual, local, national and international standards, especially in the case where we are discussing about immigrants with a high level of professional training, who provide the country of destination a significant gain of brains²⁶, and in the origin country, on the contrary, a loss of brains²⁷. Due to external migration, the first and immediate direct loss for the country of origin is related to the loss of funding in the education and professional training of emigrants²⁸, as well as the lack of contributions to the budget, represented by the fees and taxes with which they contributed.

Chapter V: Diaspora and interstate relations

The main roles that the diaspora can play include the following five areas:

a. Diaspora builds bridges between societies and creates transnational communities of mutual development for the benefit of host and home countries. A real virtual bridge is created between the country of departure and the country of destination with economic, political, cultural, scientific, sports, religious and other components.

b. States can engage, enable and empower the diaspora to develop through appropriate communications, outreach and partnership actions, policies and actions at home and abroad. In this sense, education has a special role. For example, Spain offers free and compulsory education from 6 to 16 years.

²⁵ http://www.utgjiu.ro/revista/ec/pdf/2007-01/11_Radulescu%20Dragos%20Lucian.pdf, accessed on 23.05.2020

²⁶ Brain gain

²⁷ Brain loss

²⁸ Investments in the formation of human capital

- c. Diaspora resources, both financial and non-financial, can influence family development efforts, community development, and even national development in host and home countries, if incentives and mechanisms exist to support this. The "Voluntary Return Plan" program encourages unemployed immigrants from non-EU countries to return to their countries of origin, offering some facilities regarding unemployment benefits and social insurance, although it has not produced significant results.
- d. Strategic partnerships between states, international organizations, civil society and the private sector provide a framework for engaging the diaspora and for sharing and transferring their resources. Both in the agreed documents and through concrete actions at different levels, the accumulation of financial resources and their transfer to the countries of origin is encouraged.
- e. Diaspora can play a critical role in crisis situations, applying their knowledge, experience, skills, networks and connections for support and assistance both during and after the crisis. There are many instances where the diaspora has played a catalytic role in reducing tensions between destination countries and home countries when they have arisen between them.

We can consider the diaspora as the community of citizens of a state established outside its borders who preserve and promote the traditions and values of the state of origin.

Migration is the human face of globalization, and the diaspora represents the human connection between countries. The way in which the members of a diaspora interact with each other and with the host and home societies, for example, through family ties, through the hometown, through other associations or clubs, can establish a basis of trust and involvement for different forms of transnational cooperation. As noted in the first GFMD meetings in Brussels and Manila in 2007 and 2008, the diaspora and their community networks can provide local solutions to global challenges.

There is no universally accepted definition of diaspora. Concepts differ widely, but in general the broad working definition proposed in the handbook Developing a Roadmap for Diaspora Engagement in Development: A Handbook for Policymakers and Practitioners in Home and Host Countries, compiled by IOM and the Migration Policy Institute in 2012: Emigrants and their descendants, who live outside the country of birth, either temporarily or permanently, still retain affective (emotional) and material ties with their countries of origin.

The traditional diaspora – which was once seen as extraordinary, often disaffected groups who fled persecution but yearned to return to their original habitat – is today seen as consisting of

all those who live far from their countries of origin, but they continue to identify with them in some form, regardless of whether they are naturalized foreign citizens, expatriate residents, students, migrant workers, exiles or asylum seekers. Most, if not all, countries today are sources and hosts of such diasporas, and the number is increasing.

Migration represents a vital element of progress. There is no doubt that developing economies benefit massively from the mobility given by migrants' resources and oriented towards supporting growth efforts, something that is intensely debated both in academia and in other domains. This is why the international community considers migration as a key policy priority, including it in the Sustainable Development Goals as goal number 10 and also considering it as one of the ways to reduce global disparities.

Thus, a relationship of interdependence is created between the actors of migration, whether we are talking about the individual or the institutional level. The socio-cultural, political, economic realities will be deeply restructured, altered and then remodeled as countries, migrants and their families will go through the stages of transformation through the complex phenomenon of migration.

In the 60s of the last century, migration was valued as supporting economic growth through the transfer of resources from the country of destination to the country of origin²⁹, a phenomenon that led to the modernization of the migrants' areas of origin; ten years later³⁰, the same migration phenomenon is considered to be responsible for increasing global differences, supporting the transfer of poorly paid workers to developed regions, as well as the brain drain, something also emphasized by Haas through the interpretation given to the migration-development relationship.

The decisive role in the migration-development relationship is attributed to the diaspora, as the main actor in international relations, actively participating in the country of origin and destination one. According to M. Esman, there are three elements that effectively contribute from the diaspora to the progress of the country of origin: the presence of material, cultural and organizational resources and their availability; opportunity structures available in the host countries that can be in favor or against the relationship between the diaspora and the country of origin; group solidarity and the tendency to exert influence. Although, the increase in incomes

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²⁹ Financial remittances, knowledge

³⁰ After the oil shock in 1973

achieves a wider range of potential aid in the country of origin, the importance on the dynamics of remittances is complex.

Regarding the Romanian research on the influence of the diaspora in the politics of the states, we have thousands of students, professionals, entrepreneurs and people of culture outside the borders who have to bring a major help for the reconstruction of Romania. Because we want a prosperous country, the involvement of those trained abroad in the political, economic, scientific, social, cultural life of the country is necessary to become a priority objective for our state. PACT considers that Romanian diaspora workers could contribute substantially to the development of Romania, including their involvement in the electoral mechanism.

The Romanian entrepreneurs who left Romania and acquired a reputation in the states that received them, are the ones who know best the conditions in Romania and the opportunities for which this state can grant them or to foreign financiers. They should have the role of "ambassadors of Romania in the world when it comes to foreign financing, to co-opt them in order to create the possibility to positively boost the Romanian economy"³¹.

The Romanian diaspora imposed itself by number and importance, becoming a "transversal priority for the activity of the government and public institutions" The dialogue between Romanian institutions and the diaspora has also evolved, being necessary to move to a participatory model in which organizations, associations and people from the diaspora and historical communities become partners of the government institutions in defining the public policies that target them. A first manifestation of the partnership will materialize through the development of formats for the systematic consultation of exponents of the diaspora.

The effectiveness of communication with the diaspora will be considered, both historical and malleability through a coaching treatment in the concern of non-reimbursable budgeting of programs, projects and activities carried out by Romanian associations abroad.

Chapter VI: Case study: The peculiarities of the Romanian diaspora formation in Spain

This chapter is intended to be more than a case study. It is a support, both analytical, statistical, argumentative and justificatory, specific to the Romanian area in Spain, which presents a reality - a hic et nunc reality - of a phenomenon with so many and so complex causes, of which,

³¹ https://www.pactpentruromania.ro/diaspora, accessed on 18.05.2020

³² http://www.mprp.gov.ro/web/diaspora-partener-pentru-dezvoltarea-romaniei/, accessed on 30.05.2020

as it results from the answers of those surveyed, from realities known to all of us, presented sporadically in the media, especially during elections or on other occasions, as a rule, subjective, casuistic and passionate, following, above all, the point effect of a vortex reality and not the extent, depth and impact of the phenomenon as such.

The sample for our questionnaire is a limited one, according to all the sociological rules of surveys made by specialized institutions, but an ad hoc one, carried out by a man, by an individual researcher and not one commissioned by an institution specialized in public surveys. In this case, the margin of error may be larger. But, as we found, when we analyzed the answers and the results that we considered valid, that is, to the point, the survey is conclusive and, to a very large extent, confirms the working hypothesis.

Through this case study we want to reveal, at the same time, the realities, as they are perceived by those who live them, to identify the methods and means by which the formulas, the means and the necessary actions can be found to improve the lives of Romanian citizens who have gone to Spain, for reasons other than tourism, as well as the return conditions of those who want to return to their home towns. The Romanian diaspora in Spain and beyond, in all its identities and forms, must effectively have a self-awareness, play a constructive role in the host country, in the country in which it is located, preserve its authentic Romanian values, but not in isolation, but in consonance with the Spanish ones, to contribute to the consolidation of Romanian-Spanish relations in a European and Euro-Atlantic context. Because, after all, we are all part of the same great European and Euro-Atlantic community. Of course, these are very big goals that are beyond the competence of a diaspora, but the diaspora must know them, organically acquire them and contribute to their fulfillment.

As a working hypothesis, we determined the reasons why Romanian citizens migrated to Spain and also the reasons why they would return to their native places.

The main objective of the research was to identify and analyze the main characteristics of Romanian migration to Spain, its causality and especially the extensive and complex effects on the country of origin, on the Romanian communities in the country and in Spain, and to reveal some of the mutations that this phenomenon, unique so far in Romania, produced. At the same time, by achieving this objective and, therefore, through a better knowledge of the migration phenomenon in the Spanish relations, we also sought to create supports for identifying more

effective ways to improve the lives of Romanian citizens who have chosen to live in Spain and the methods of reintegration into the communities of origin of those who choose to return to their native places.

As a research tool, we applied a questionnaire with 18 indicators to compete for the determination of conclusions regarding the situation of Romanian citizens in the mentioned situations and for making proposals to improve their lives.

The respondents of this questionnaire are Romanian citizens who chose, or rather were forced by the dramatic state of degradation, alienation and very rapid destruction, in just a few years, of the national economy, to work in Spain, of course, with legal conditions. The population that chose to emigrate to Spain, initially seasonally, then long-term or even permanently, is diversified and practically includes all professions, all categories of Romanian citizens and all levels of education. In our questionnaire, out of 92 respondents, 24 have higher education, which confirms, even at this level of random polling, the truth of the brain drain.

The research was limited by the distance between Romania and Spain, by my real possibilities to contact possible subjects, being reduced to correspondence and, above all, to the periods when Romanian citizens working in Spain returned home on vacation, but especially of their willingness to participate in this type of opinion survey and of my actual possibilities to contact them. The questions in the questionnaire were composed in such a way as not to put in difficulty the person who agreed to answer, nor to influence him in any way, nor to force a certain type of answer, which would necessarily confirm the working hypothesis or hypotheses.

Results

To accomplish the case study, I applied the questionnaire to a number of 128 subjects and chose 92 answers that I found relevant for the present study.

Of the 92 subjects 38 are men and 54 women, aged between 30 and 64.

From the answers to the situations presented in the questionnaire applied to Romanian citizens who chose to live and work in Spain, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The majority do not choose, but are forced to leave Romania in search of a country where political, economic and social stability is found at a higher level. The supports for such a conclusion are numerous. In our country, year after year, vulnerabilities increase, and dangers and threats of all kinds - from economic, political, social, societal, to security and even

defense, although we are part of the strongest economic and security in the world, increase. Romanians, in their vast majority, perceive these realities as extremely strong threats and as vulnerabilities that are difficult to manage.

- 2. Those who leave the country, choose to do so in finding a better life, a job.
- 3. Respondents want to get rid of poverty, improve central and local administration, and live in a country that offers them economic stability and a strong social assistance system.

Conclusions and proposals

The European continent is, was and continues to be, from the praised recipient, a terminal and a satisfied beneficiary of migratory flows from all horizons, but especially from the East and the South, with all the consequences that arise from this. Of course, Western European states are not only a preferred destination for most migrants, a good host, but also a beneficiary of these flows, with all the difficulties that arise from this. Europe was, is and remains a strong and even generous destination of today's migratory flows, grateful to those of yesterday, from which it mostly originates.

After studying the present topic, we consider that the following proposals would be appropriate:

- 1. The Romanian Academy, as a result of its scientific value, to achieve an extensive study on the causes and consequences of Romanian migration.
- 2. The Romanian Academy of Scientists, through its 13 sections, to achieve studies on the respective fields of competence regarding the causes, effects and perspectives of Romanian migration.
- 3. The promotion, by the Romanian state, of a migration charter.
- 4. Drawing up a program for the period 2024-2028 (the duration of the future parliamentary mandates) through which to establish the return home measures of as many Romanians from the diaspora as possible, considering that human beings represent Romania's main and the most important resource.
- 5. Drawing up a statute and an identity card for Romanian migrants valid on the territory of Romania in order to facilitate the realization of some activities in the country, until the definitive return to the Romanian state.

- 6. Establishing a certain number of seats from the diaspora for the Senate, the Chamber of Deputies and the European Parliament, according to the ratio between the size of the diaspora and the number of voters in the country.
- 7. Introducing into the education programs, at different levels, the study of the causes and impact of migration.
- 8. The development of an identity card for Romanians in the diaspora, to be given to people who meet certain conditions (the time they intend to stay in the destination country, attestation of employment abroad and others). The existence of this document can allow the Romanian state to concretely support the employers of our citizens returning to the country.
- 9. Romania to intervene, at the level of the European Union, in order to draw up some regulations that would provide, for the states receiving migrant services, to contribute, depending on the expenses of the state of departure, certain amounts to be allocated to the education budget.
- 10. The Department for Romanians Abroad to organize some activities and the Romanians from the diaspora to be invited to visit the current workplaces, in our country, which have a similar profile and starting from the premise that some progress has been registered in various fields (health, education, industry, agriculture, tourism, IT, construction and others).
- 11. Granting vouchers to Romanians from the diaspora for spending their vacations with tourist facilities in Romania.

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