Demographic Surveys in the Transnistrian region of Moldova

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The self-proclaimed republic

Transnistria is a breakaway territory located mostly on a strip of land between the River Dniester and the eastern Moldovan border with Ukraine.

Since its declaration of independence in 1990, and especially after the War of Transnistria in 1992, it is governed as the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic (PMR, also known as Pridnestrovie), a sovereign state with limited recognition, which claims the territory to the east of the River Dniester, the city of Bender and its surrounding localities located on the west bank.

The Republic of Moldova does not recognise the secession and considers the territories controlled by the PMR to be part of Moldova's autonomous region of Stînga Nistrului ("Left Bank of the Dniester").

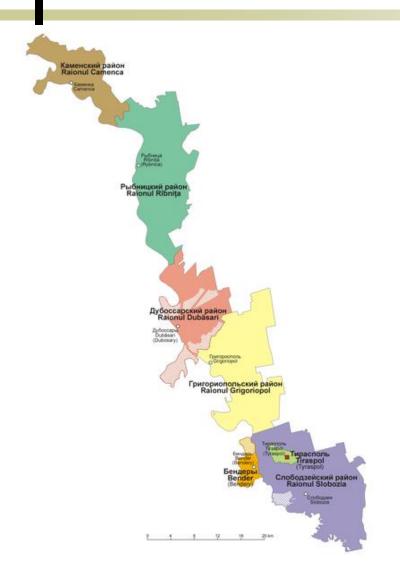


Problem of Transnistria

The Problem of Transnistria since the beginning of the 90th years are in sight of the various countries and the international organizations. The international diplomacy refers the Dniester conflict to the category of "frozen". The process of a solution of the conflict pass slowly and inconsistently.

The phenomenon of Transnistria is multidimensional. The Experience of an economic survival in the conditions of an unsolved political legal status and hard external pressure of the region is represented as unique.

Transnistria region



- Since the beginning of the 90s intensity of economic relations between Transnistria and other parts of Moldova steadily decreased.
- In the recent years the share of Transnistria contractors makes about 5% from the whole volume of the foreign trade communications of Moldova. The share of the contractors of Moldova makes 10-15 % of a foreign trade turnover of the Transnistria region.
- Strengthening of economic and administrative relations between the districts of Transnistria led to formation the isolated economic space where own political, military, administrative, financial institutions have been operating de facto more than 20 years.

Educational policy in Transnistria

- Transnistria has own (separate from Moldova) policy of education, focused on the educational environment of the Russian Federation.
- Structures of the higher professional and postgraduate education in Transnistria are almost identical to that are accepted in the Russian Federation. The same terminology for the name of qualification (degree) and academic statuses is used also. At the same time it differs from structure approved in Bologna Process accepted in Moldova.
- The main curriculum and complex of standard training programs for educational institutions are worked out on the basis accepted in the Russian Federation.

The Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University



The Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University (further as University) is the successor of Tiraspol state teacher training college is the first institution of higher education in Moldova.

All curricula of university were brought into accord with the State Standard of the higher education of the Russian Federation.

The University was admitted to the Association of higher educational institutions of Russia and has became the first foreign member of the Association.

The Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University undergoes procedure of certification by Federal Control service in education and sciences of the Russian Federation every 5 years. According to the decision of the Ministry of Education of Russia, diplomas issued by the University are equivalent to the diplomas issued in Russia admits, since 1999.

The Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University



In summer of 2005 the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation appropriated the Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University the status of a classical university.

For the last years the University has made about 75 cooperation agreements with higher educational institutions in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Bulgaria, USA and other countries, but not any with Moldova.

About 14 thousand of students study at 12 faculties and institutes in the University.

The Sevchenko Pridnestrovian State University contains almost all of the scientific potential of Transnistria.

Researches in Transnistria

- The scientific sector in the region includes organizations makes Natural, Formal, Social and Applied science researches.
- The most part of scientific researches in Transnistria are financed from the state budget.
- The main form of the scientific organizations in the region is scientific laboratories (NIL) or departments.
- 32 departments work now at the University. They makes researches by orders of the regional institutes (the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Control, the Supreme Council of PMR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs etc.).

Department «Regional Research»

- The Department «Regional Research» (has been working since 1993) has gained significant experience of socio-economic and geographic researches in the region. A large database of statistics, maps and local history materials can be used in the further researches.
- The result of the work of the Department over 1993-2006 are analytical reviews reports. Which present the complex of socio-economic and geographical characteristic of Transnistria including population and economy branches of the region.

Atlas of Transnistria

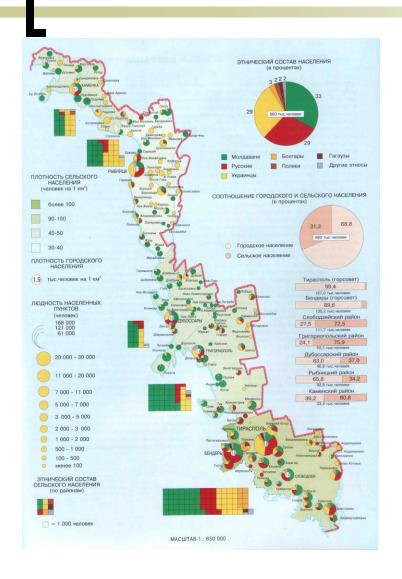


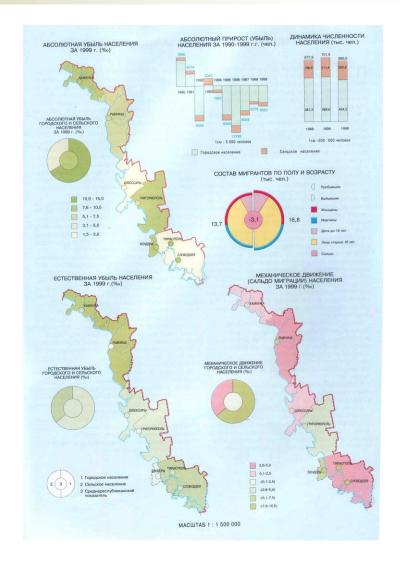
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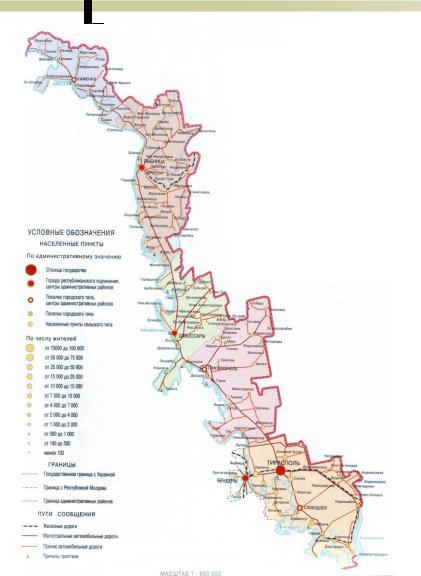
- ■Stuff of our Department has prepared the economic and demographic maps for the "Atlas of PMR" in 1996 and in 2000.
- ■The Atlas contains highly detailed maps with data and statistics on a wide range of subjects related to Transnistria.

Demographic maps of the atlas





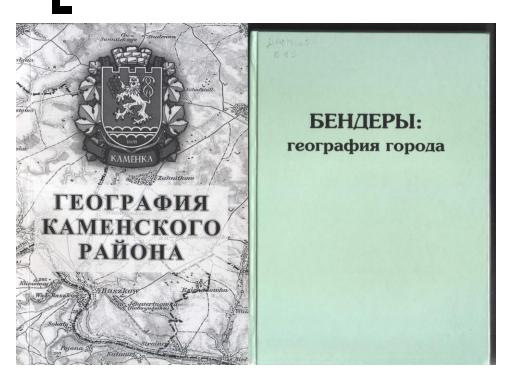
Geographical characteristic of Transnistria' territorial units



The complex of socio-economic and geographical characteristic of administrative and territorial units of PMR was an object of research of our Department over 2007-2011 years.

According to administrative-territorial division of Transnistria region is subdivided into five areas or «raions» (Kamenka, Rybnitsa, Dubossary, Grigoriopol and Slobodzeya) and two municipalities (Tiraspol and Bendery). Similar researches of raions of PMR (and the former MSSR) hadn't made before.

-Geographical characteristic of Transnistria' territorial units



Monographs about geography of the Bendery and Kamenka raion and Dubossary raion were prepared on the materials of researches of the Department.

The results of researches of the Department are used as information base for regional institutions (by drawing up of forecasts of social and economic development of the region on short-term and medium-term prospect, development of model and the concept of social and economic development of PMR, planning of target programs).

Demographic researches in Transnistria region

- The significant part of demography researches in the region is carried out by Department «Regional researches».
- In 1994 and in 2001 the complex characteristic of the population was prepared. In 2000 the labor market and employment of the population of PMR was investigated.
- In November, 2004 population census was carried out in Transnistria region. It was made by local authorities separately from the census which has been carried out of the Republic of Moldova.
- The detailed characteristic of the population of Transnistria raions and all settlements of the region was prepared over 2007-2011 years.
- The results of research are published in the monographs, articles and presented in the conferences which have been carried out in Moldova, Russia, The Ukraine.

Demographic researches in Transnistria region

For the period 2012-2106 the Department was defined the topic of research "Integrated economic-geographic characteristics of the population PMR".

The research has been carrying out in stages:

- in 2012 «The birth rate and mortality rate PMR"
- in 2013 «Migration of the population PMR"
- in 2014 «The ethnic and religious composition of the population PMR".
- in 2015 «Human resources and employment of the PMR."
- 2016 «The long-term population policy. "

Demographic researches in Transnistria region

Research objectives:

- data collection and data processing of dynamics of the demographic development for previous decades. Studying of factors and tendencies of the demographic development;
- analysis of changes in the territorial distribution of the population;
- studying of migratory processes and justification of migratory policy;
- forecast of the evolution of the demographic situation in the region;
- development of practical recommendations for optimizing the demographic situation in Transnistria.

Migration researches in Moldova

Migratory processes and especially problems of labor migration in Moldova were a subject of a large number of researches. There are some of them:

- 2009. Socio-economic impacts of the economic crisis on migration and remittances in Moldova // IOM (The International Organization for Migration).
- Daniela Borodak and Ariane Tichit, 2009. Should we stay or should we go? Irregular migration and duration of stay: the case of Moldovan migrants // CERDI
- CIVIS & IASCI (International Agency for Source Country Information Centre of Sociological, Politological and Psychological Analysis and Investigations), 2010. Strengthening the Link between Migration and Development in Moldova // Prepared for: World Bank within Migration and Remittance Peer-Assisted Learning Network (MIRPAL).
- Michel Poulain, Anne Herm, Maria Vremis and Viorica Craievschi Toarta, 2011. Data assessment report for the Republic of Moldova // IOM Mission to Moldova
- Mosneaga Valeriu, 2012. Sociopolitical influence of labor migration in Moldova. Moldova: emigration and diaspora. Sociopolitical framework of migration // CARIM East - Consortium for Applied Research on International Migration.
- Researchers had to be guided generally by estimated data on the Transnistria region. The state structures of Transnistria not always possess adequate demographic data and reluctantly go on contact to representatives of Moldova and the international organizations.

Data sources and providers

- The previous researchers could use estimated data on the Transnistria region only.
- Obtaining the objective data on migration in Transnistria was complicated.
- The regional instutites of Transnistria (especially Ministry of Internal Affairs) often do not get into interaction with representatives of Moldova and international organizations.
- The migration statistics in Transnistria are not always complete. They are not in compliance with the international and European standards of international migration statistics.

There are significant differences in sources of information on migration in Transnistria and in Moldova

Data sources and providers

Republic of Moldova	Transnistria regoin
National Bureau of Statistics – central statistical authority that manages and organizes the statistical activity in Moldova.	State Statistics Service of the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic (further as PMR) - central statistical authority
Ministry of Information Technology and Communications, SE "SIRC "Registru" - is responsible for providing statistical data. Centre for State Information Resources "Registru" is also the owner State Register of Population.	State service of communication, information and mass media of the PMR. Realization of a state policy in the sphere of information technologies
Border Guard Service - provider of information on state border crossing (entry/exit RM)	Committee for State Security of the PMR. Border Guard Service
Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family - Prevention of Violence and Insurance of Gender Equality Policy Department, Protection of Family and Children's Rights Department, Migration Policy Section, National Coordination Unit of the National Referral System for Assistance and Protection of Victims and Potential Victims of Trafficking (NRS), National Employment Agency	Ministry of Social Protection and Labor of the PMR (since the beginning of 2013). Ministry of Economic Development of the PMR. State service of Social Policy and Labor. The State service of Social Policy and Labor of PMR cooperates with the Russian firm "Rostrudkomplekt" for official employment of inhabitants of PMR in Russia.

Data sources and providers

Republic of Moldova	Transnistria regoin
Ministry of Internal Affairs - Bureau for Migration and Asylum in charge of the SIIAMA and the Centre for Combating Trafficking of Persons	Ministry of Internal Affairs of the PMR. Migration Board. The main objectives of the Migration Board include realization of measures for the prevention and suppression of illegal migration, activization of fight against crime and terrorism in PMR territory, development of short-term and long-term forecasts of internal and external migration in the republic, implementation of registration.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education	Ministry of Education
Ministry of Health	Ministry of Health and Social Protection
Ministry of HealthNational Company for Health Insurance	Is absent in the region
National Social Insurance House	State Social Insurance Fund (since the beginning of 2013)
National Bank of Moldova - Balance of Payments Department	Transnistrian Republican Bank is the central bank of Transnistria. It issues its own currency, the Transnistrian ruble

The compliance of migration statistics

The compliance with the international and European standards on international migration statistics (European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection).

Republic of Moldova	Transnistrian region
Partially complies	Does not complies

The region there are a lot of government institutions concerned with international migration and responsible for solving problems connected with migration. These institutions have different authorities, or sometimes they are parallel to collect the same data without coordinating their actions with each other. As a result, the process of solving the problems of migration are often ineffective.

Migration scale

Republic of Moldova	Transnistrian region
More than 700 thousand of people (about 50 % from economically active population of the country) are involved in processes of temporary labor migration. Migration losses of population are 6-7 thousand people a year. There are more than 240 thousand	Over the last two decades, the Region has left about 200,000 people, or almost one third of the population. Migration losses of population are 2.5-3.5 thousand people a year.
Moldavian citizens legally in the European Union (Moshnyaga, 2012).	

Prospects of researches

- Development of effective management and control of migratory streams.
- Cooperation with the main countries of appointment for migrants.
- Realization of potentially positive influence of migration on economic development

Thanks for attention