

DISCOVERING MIGRATION BETWEEN VISEGRAD COUNTRIES AND EASTERN PARTNERS
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Migration Profile of Ukraine: stable outflow and changing nature

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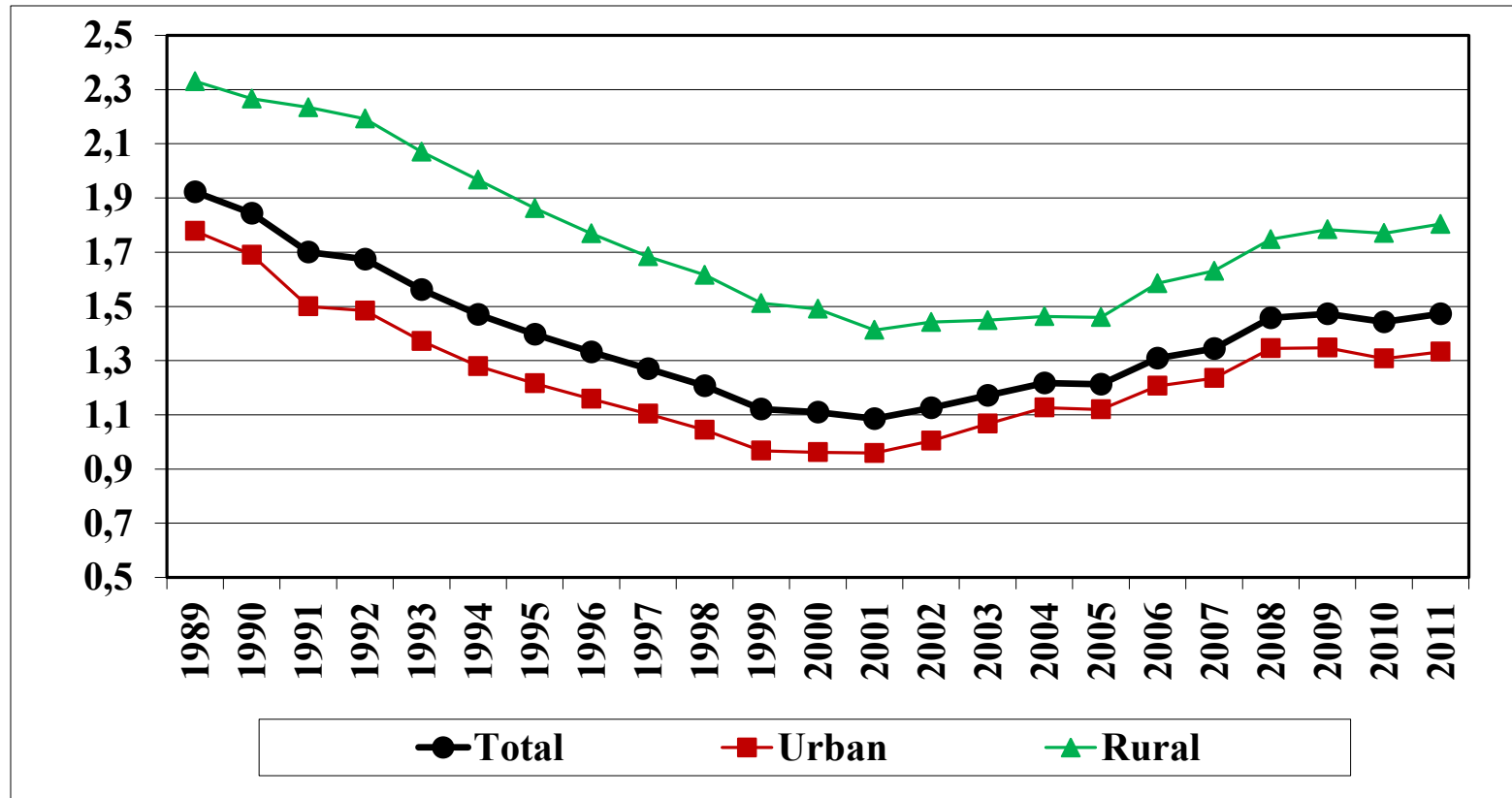
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Demographic Preconditions

- natural decline in population;
- relatively high CDR (14.5‰);
- ageing

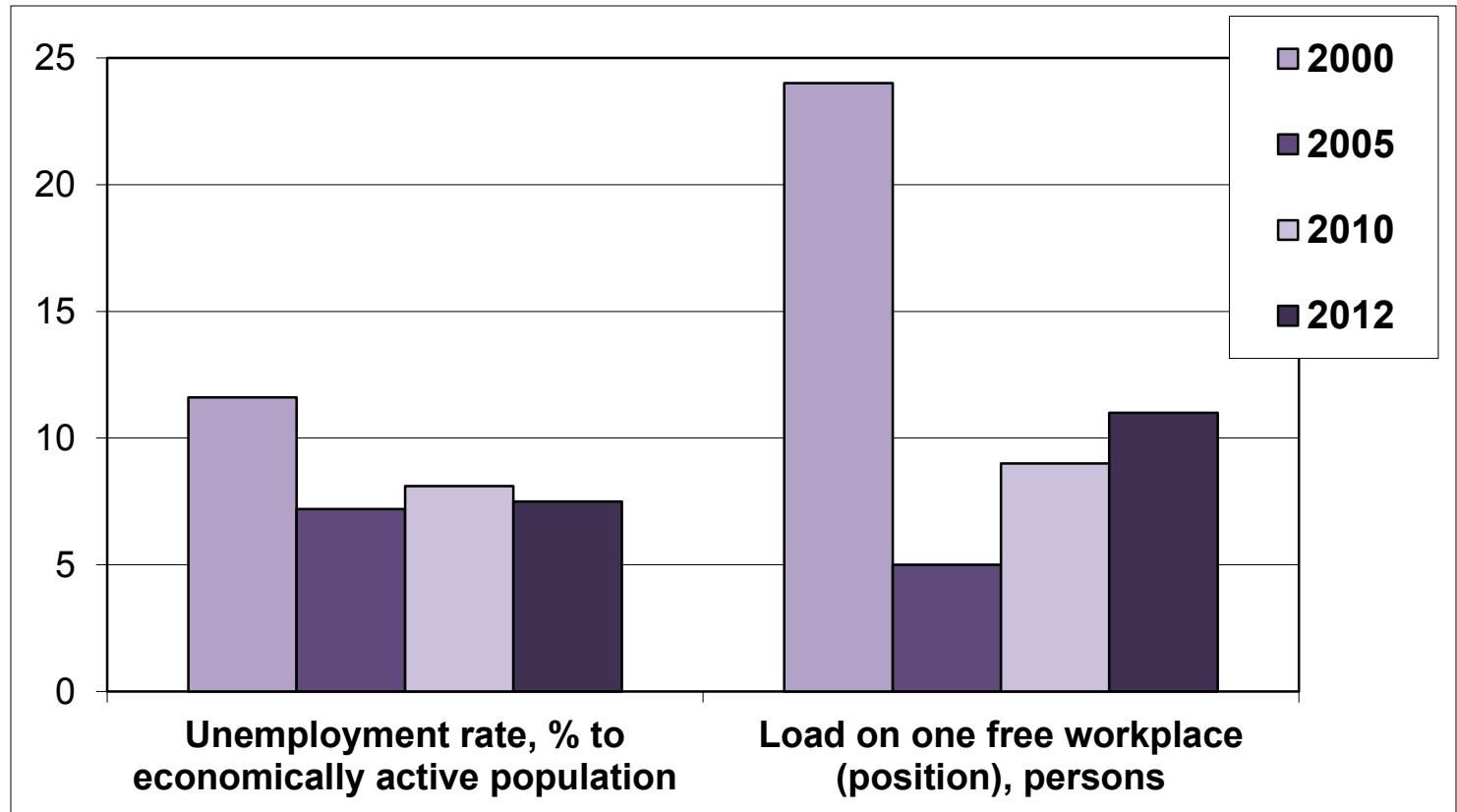


During the period from 1991 to 2012, the population of Ukraine declined by 6.4 million people and now it is 45.553 million.

Since 1993, the average annual population decline has been 335 thousand

Economic Preconditions

- ☐ unemployment;
- ☐ lower wages in Ukraine, the underestimation of the cost of labor;
- ☐ underdevelopment of small businesses in Ukraine;
- ☐ underdevelopment of the middle class;
- ☐ corruption



According to the calculation of the experts of the Institute of Demography and Social Studies of NAS of Ukraine, if labor migration did not exist in Ukraine, the unemployment rate would be 1.6 times higher than the actual level

Social and Political Preconditions

- ❑ discomfort from the political and economic instability in Ukraine;
- ❑ „social fashion” on migration;
- ❑ ineffective migration policy;
- ❑ new threat – Russian occupation!



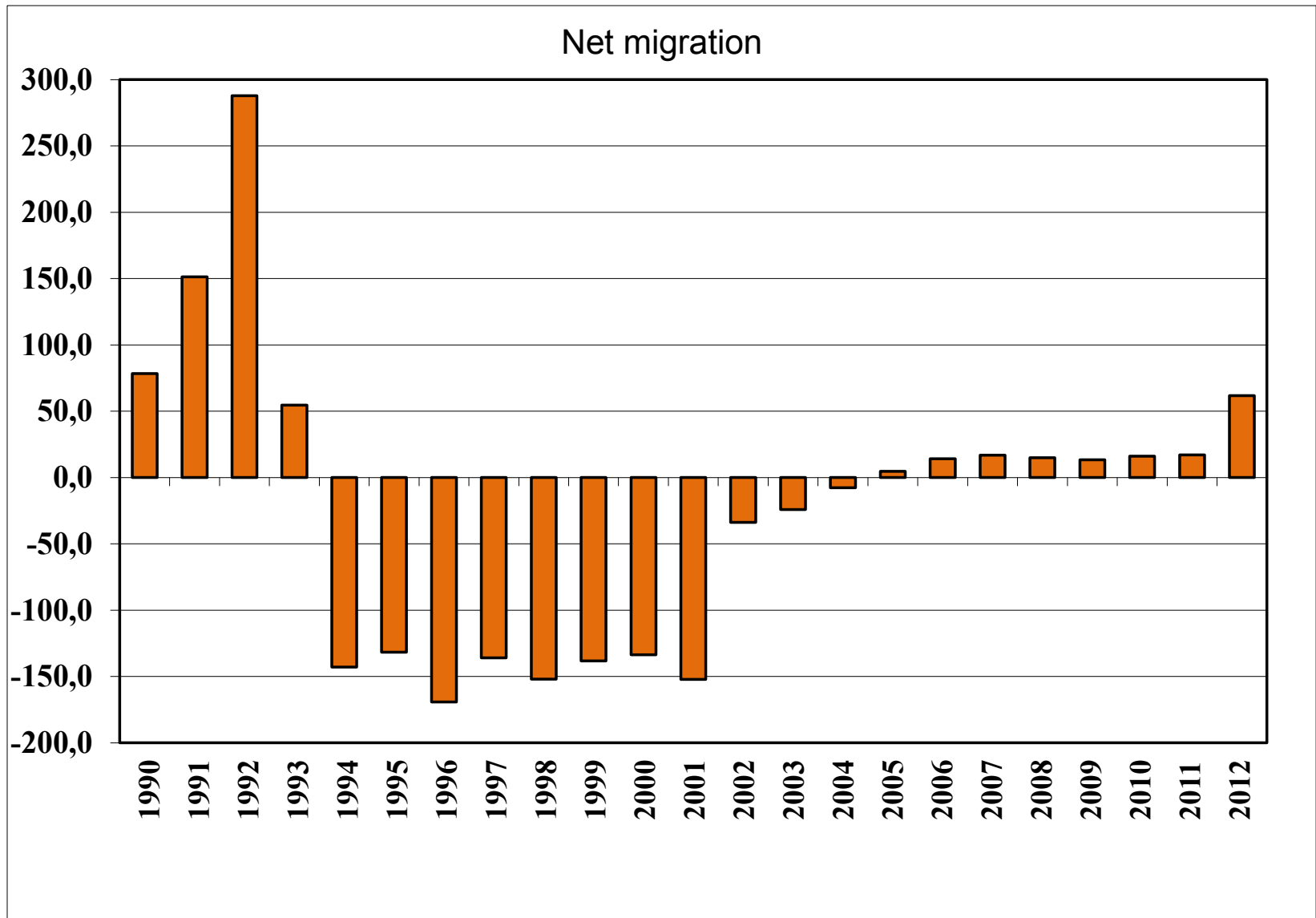
Stable Outflow

- From 1994 to 2004: more than **1.2 million** people emigrated from Ukraine for permanent residence
- From the beginning of 2005 till the middle of 2008: **1.5 million** Ukrainians worked abroad (*National sample survey on migration*)
- From 2010 to mid-2012: **1.2 million** people worked or looked for work abroad (*Modular sample household survey on labor migration in Ukraine*)

Changes in the nature of international migration

- permanent migration – ethnic
- circular migration – “shuttle”
- circular migration – labor
- circular migration – educational

Permanent Migration from Ukraine



Labor Migration from Ukraine: Geographical Structure

Country	1,000 persons	Share in total, %
Russia	1 226.1	53.3
Italy	218	9.5
Germany	175	7.6
Spain	161	7.0
<i>Czech Republic</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>6.2</i>
USA	90	3.9
<i>Poland</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>3.3</i>
Portugal	48.5	2.1
Canada	30	1.3
<i>... Hungary</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>0.4</i>
<i>Slovakia</i>	<i>2.4</i>	<i>0.1</i>

Source: MALYNOVSKA, O.A. 2011. Trudova mihratsiia: socialni naslidky ta shliakhy reahivannia. Analytical Report. Kyiv, National Institute for Strategic Research.

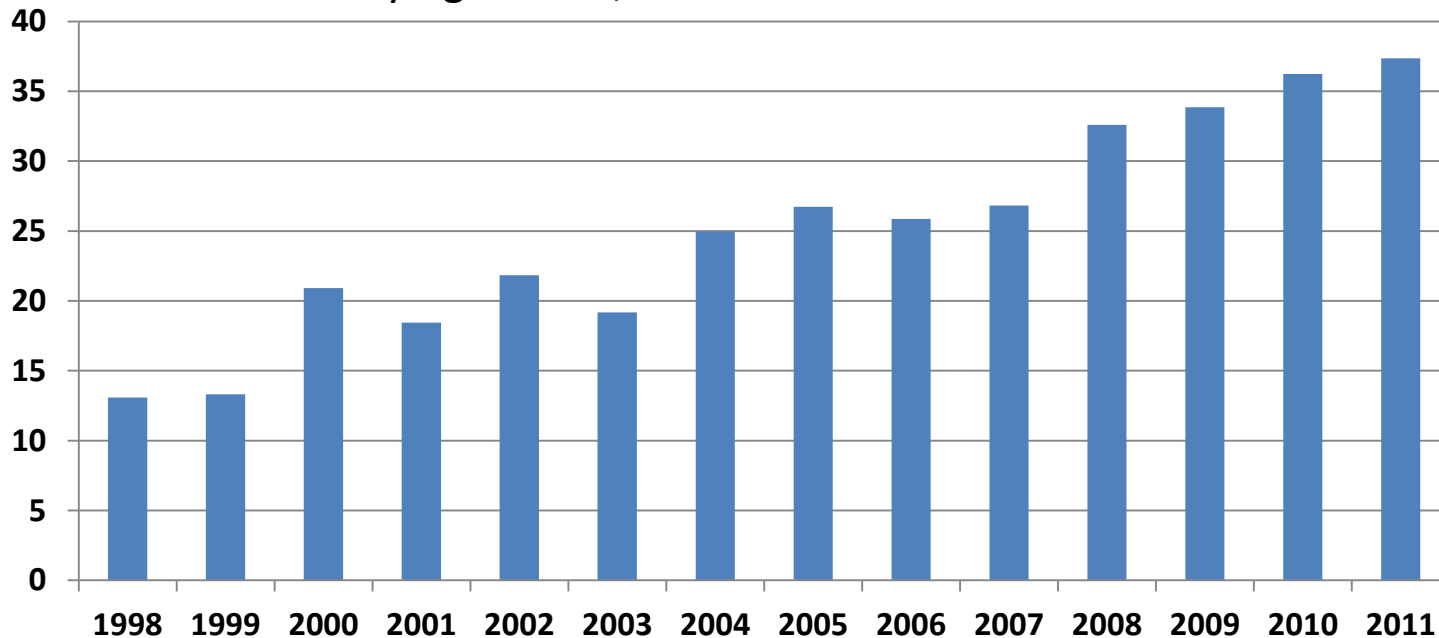
Labor and Educational Migration of the Youth

- 567 thousand (>43%) of Ukrainian labor migrants abroad are young people – under 35 years of age (*National sample survey “Foreign Labor Migration in Ukraine”, 2008*)
- 37.4 thousand Ukrainians studying abroad (*UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2011*)

The main reasons for the labor and educational migration of the youth are:

- an ineffective Ukrainian youth policy (79% of youth aged 15-34 did not perceive the implementation of the national youth policies /*Socio-demographic survey “Youth of Ukraine, 2010”*),
- a high level of youth unemployment (unemployed youth (under 35) accounted for 41.8% of the registered unemployment in Ukraine ,
- impossibility to find professional work (up to 40% of employees with high qualifications are not working in their profession, because the education system in the country does not focus on the needs of the labor market),
- young people’s aim to acquire a degree of European standard

Dynamics of the number of Ukrainian students studying abroad, in thousands



Almost 20% - in the Visegrad countries

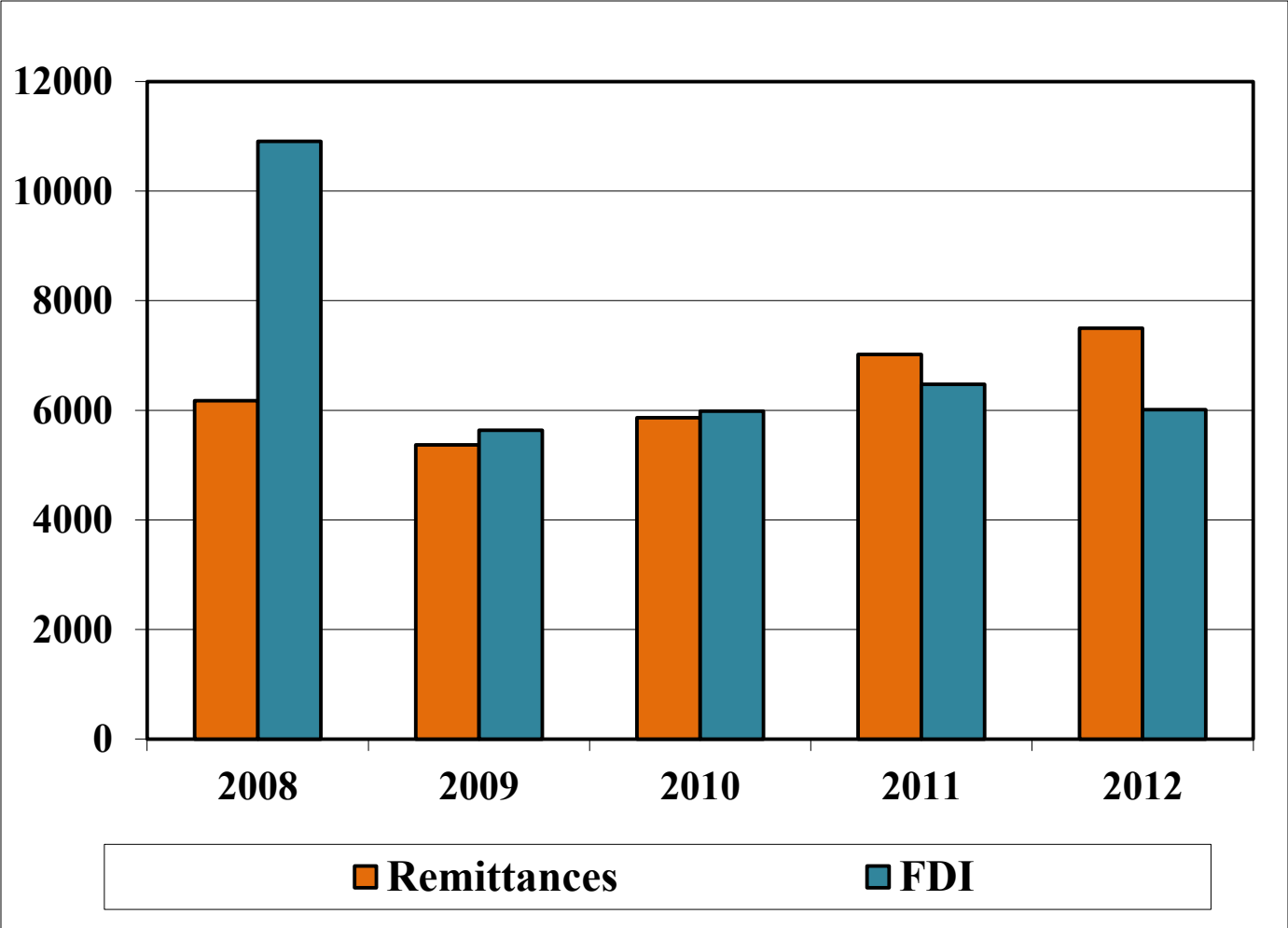


Ukrainian migrants:

Integration into the host society, Return and Reintegration, and Social networks

- Ukrainians labor migrants are rather poorly integrated into the host society, haven't close links with the local Ukrainian Diaspora (because of the predominantly temporary and partly illegal nature of the migration)
- Over 80% of Ukrainian migrants want to return home, about 70% have families in Ukraine and maintain close relationships with loved ones at home while staying abroad, 90% forge plans for the future in Ukraine (*Research project "Circular Migration: new approaches to the old concept"*)
- Social networks accelerate the development of chain migration of Ukrainians in certain countries and regions and simultaneously contribute to their return to Ukraine
- Role of Church (Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church) – support of cultural and educational activities abroad and legal, financial, informational, psychological assistance to migrants who have returned to Ukraine

Remittances of Ukrainian migrants



Contradictions regarding the international labour migration

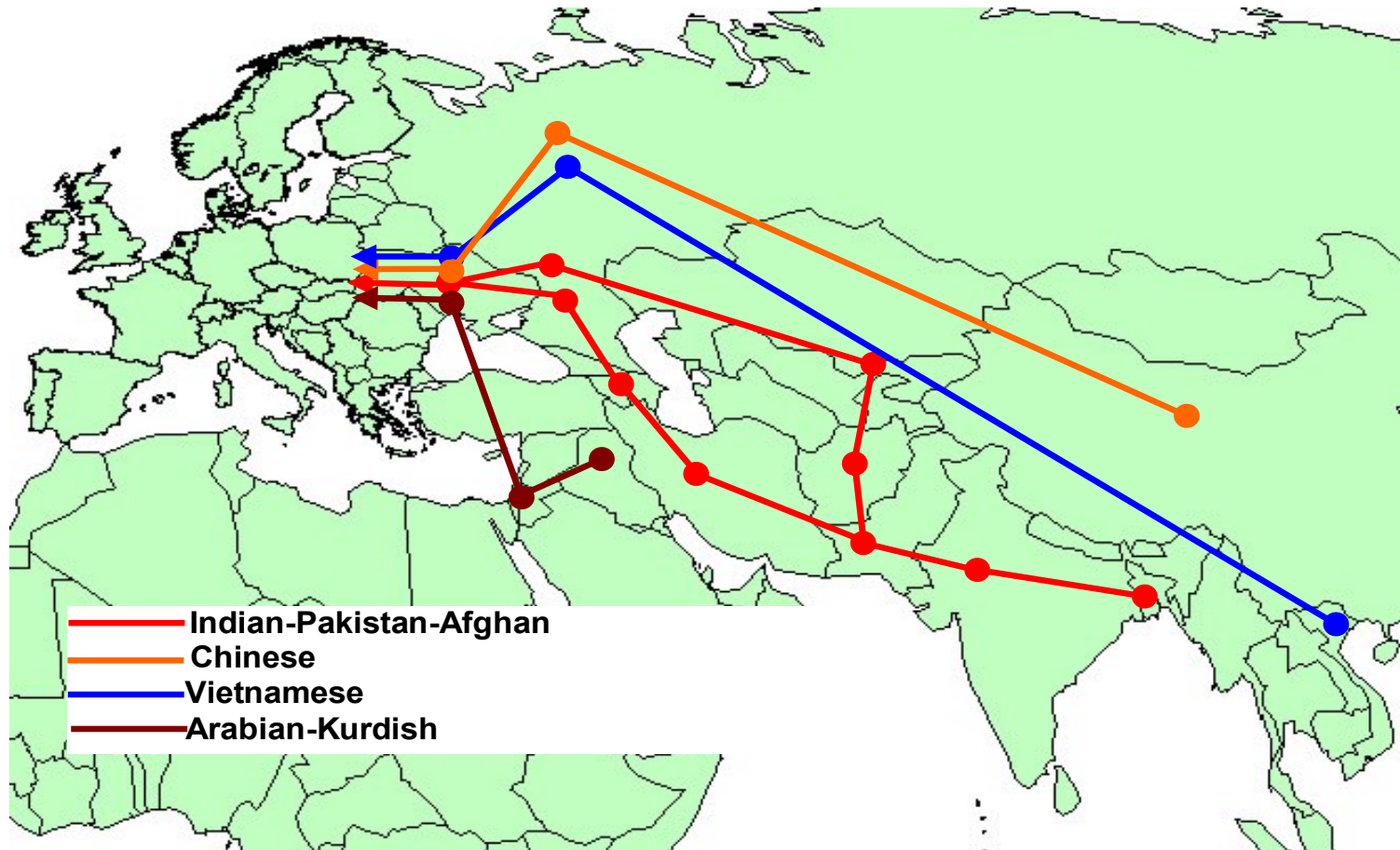
- ❑ *encouragement of return migration vs migrants' remittances that are comparable with foreign direct investments providing stable currency inflow;*
- ❑ *outflow of economically active population, the loss of human, labor and intellectual capital vs outflow of active social elements, which reduces the threat of further social tension;*
- ❑ *encouragement of legalization of illegal migration vs the complexity, bureaucracy and high cost of legal employment*

On the one hand, the scale of Ukrainian external labor migration threatens the sustainable socio-economic development of the country,

on the other hand, it contributes to the growth of the welfare of the migrants and their families.

Ukraine can be regarded as a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants, simultaneously

Transit migration



Migration into Ukraine

Immigrants, who possess a temporary or permanent permit
for residence in Ukraine

Country	1,000 persons	Share in total, %
Russia	123,8	59,0
Moldova	12,3	5,9
Armenia	9,3	4,4
Azerbaijan	8,1	3,9
Georgia	7,8	3,7
Uzbekistan	7,2	3,4
Belarus	5,9	2,8
Vietnam	4,2	2,0
Kazakhstan	3,2	1,5

Source: Ukraina. Migrantsiinyi profil', 2013.

Development of the State Migration Policy: a series of experiments

- Last three steps (2010-2011): 1) the establishment of the State Migration Service of Ukraine as the central executive body in the field of migration; 2) adoption of newly revised acts “On the Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons”, “On Refugees and Persons in need of Complementary or Temporary Protection”; 3) approval of the Concept of State Migration Policy and the Action Plan for the implementation of this concept
- The governing of migration has become more effective but the optimization of the migration policy is still just beginning
- The migration policy should overcome the causes rather than the consequences of migration, however, that requires radical reforms of the economic and social security system, pension legislation, educational, medical spheres, real (not only declarative) fight against corruption, shadow economy and insecurity due to abuse of power. Otherwise, “cosmetic measures” only mitigate, but not solve the problem of labor migration

EASTmig

Migration between
Eastern partners (Belarus, Georgia,
Ukraine, Moldova) and the Visegrad Countries



Thank you for your attention!

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- Visegrad Fund
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