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# The Occupation of Migration in Uzbekistan

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#### ABSTRACT

This article analyzes the causes of migration in Uzbekistan. The author discussed the work done to regulate external migration and support migrants.

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Historically, migration processes have always occurred in any period for one reason or another. Migration processes can occur as a result of a number of socio-economic, religious, environmental, occupational factors. Wars, economic crises, or environmental catastrophes may be among the factors contributing to the rapid pace of migration.

Uzbekistan has not been left out of the migration process as a result of a number of tragedies in its history. In its ancient history, the people of Uzbekistan have had to accept military aggression, feudal struggles, civil wars, environmental losses, economic crises, as well as migration flows from outside the country.

The natural climatic conditions of Uzbekistan, its location in the heart of Central Asia, and the fact that the Great Silk Road, which connected the ancient East and the West, passed through the territory of the country, have attracted people from different countries. In the demographic history of the population, the migration process in Uzbekistan can be divided into several major stages.

Mass migration to the territory of the country began in the XIX century as a result of the invasion of the khanates in Central Asia by the Russian Empire. One of the main goals of the

establishment of the Turkestan Governor-General's Office and the introduction of the railway by the Russians in this area was the policy of resettlement of the Russian nation in Central Asia.

Migration flows to Uzbekistan during the emergence and development of the Soviet government can be divided into several groups: the Civil War and the first stage of development of the Soviet government (1917-1935), the period of political repression (1936-1940) and World War II (1941-1945). years).

The last major influx of Europeans into Uzbekistan dates back to the 1960s, when an earthquake in Tashkent in 1966 brought large numbers of builders from different countries to the country.

The local population of Uzbekistan is historically sedentary and does not like to move from one place to another. This feature was further strengthened by the "closed doors" policy pursued during the Soviet era. The migration policy of the Soviet era was like a "one-way street". This policy has been widely used in Central Asia, including Uzbekistan. The policy of relocating mainly Russian-speaking people to these areas and preventing the migration of the population in this area was pursued.

The next migration process in Uzbekistan began in the 70s. The Russian-speaking population began to move from the territory of Uzbekistan to other regions of the Soviet Union, mainly to the regions of origin. In 1990 alone, 215.6 thousand Russian-speaking people left Uzbekistan. Between 1985 and 1990, more than 1 million former migrants moved to their home countries.

In turn, there were a number of reasons for this type of migration. The first reason is the declining level of socio-economic development in Uzbekistan. At that time, Uzbekistan ranked 12th in the former Soviet Union in terms of development.

The second reason was when a bold step towards independence was taken. The status of Uzbek as the state language in 1989 and the introduction of the presidency in 1990 meant that the country was no longer subordinate to the Center. The third factor was the different view of independence, that is, the view that Uzbekistan will now take the form of an Islamic state.

Along with the emigration of Russian-speaking peoples, the first three years of independence saw the return of about 300,000 Uzbeks to their homeland. At the same time, given that in 1991-1999, more than one million people emigrated from the country and about 400,000 people moved to the republic, the migration balance was negative 600,000 people [1].

In the early years of independence, Uzbekistan's external migration was mainly to the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and other neighboring countries in Central Asia. The national composition was led by Russians, Tatars, Jews, and Crimean Tatars, while the Meskhetian Turks, Greeks, and Germans moved mainly to Europe.

By the 2000s, a new perspective on migration in Uzbekistan was emerging. Now the population of the country is temporarily leaving Uzbekistan not to live, but to work abroad. The main direction of this flow was directed to two countries: the Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan. The main reasons for sending migrant workers to these countries are the widespread teaching of Russian in secondary schools and the ease of use of the language in communication, while the government of Kazakhstan is launching large-scale construction in the country with a loan from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Migrants who want to work abroad are more likely to work illegally. A certain part of the

population of Uzbekistan secretly works in foreign companies in foreign countries without any agreement or contract with the state authorities of Uzbekistan. Illegals often travel to foreign countries as guests or on the basis of personal invitations, as tourists. After the expiration of the tourist period, he finds a job there and remains to work in the same country on an illegal basis. Unfortunately, the volume of such employment of the population of the Republic in foreign countries is growing from year to year.

Illegals go to work mainly in the Russian Federation, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, and South Korea.

In recent years, the type of migration from Uzbekistan to the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States for work has been growing. Such migration is mainly directed to Russia, where there is currently a shortage of labor force due to low birth rates. For example, in Russia today, mostly highly skilled builders and workers are leaving in brigades. At the same time, there are a lot of illegally (secretly) unskilled black workers going to Russia, who are willing to do a variety of jobs there, even at a very low price.

They are hired by private firms and government agencies in urban and rural Russia. A new type of illegal employment that is widespread in Uzbekistan today is temporary employment. Such workers are hired on the "black labor" exchange. Such labor exchanges exist in almost all cities of the country.

Doctor of Economics LPMaksakova conducted a targeted sociological study in Tashkent, Kokand, Fergana, Rishtan with people who participated in the "black labor" market. According to him, in 1997-1998, 2.0% of people working in the country were employed in such labor markets [2]. In Tashkent and regional centers, this figure is even higher.

They find themselves temporary jobs in the urban labor market. Builders and plasterers are highly valued in the "black labor" market. They are mainly employed in house-building, garage and country yard construction, while other categories are employed in loading and unloading cars. It should be noted that such temporary workers are hired not only by individuals, but also by heads of enterprises and organizations. They are also involved in temporary work in agriculture. For example, when fruits and vegetables are ripe, they are hired by landowners or company and farm representatives for harvesting and other agricultural activities for a specified period of time.

Russia accounts for more than half of the total external labor migration of the population of Uzbekistan. According to the State Statistics Committee of Russia, in 2010 the number of citizens of Uzbekistan officially working there was 666.2 thousand people. Due to the global financial and economic crisis, the volume of migrants from Uzbekistan to Russia in 2010 decreased by 43%. Citizens of Uzbekistan make up 20% of the total number of migrants entering Russia. In the context of growing labor migration, the Republic has a large amount of foreign wages and remittances. It is very important to use them for the purpose of developing investment potential. In turn, this will have a positive impact on national and regional labor markets.

The emergence of globalization processes is leading countries to integrate in all areas. In turn, this integration will pave the way for the formation and growth of labor migration in the world market. In these processes, Uzbekistan also plays an active role as a supplier of migrant workers. Currently,

emigration is the largest migration flow in Uzbekistan. It is known from surveys conducted by experts that the majority of those who go abroad have expressed a desire to earn money and live in their own homes from time to time or by doing seasonal work.

In Uzbekistan, as in other countries that supply migrant workers, the main factor in external labor migration is the tightness of the labor market and the low assessment of labor.

The rapid growth of the labor force in Uzbekistan, especially in rural areas, is accompanied by a large number of young people, the share of low-income and large families. In this case, the unemployment rate in the country should be around 4-6%, which can be considered normal. Under such conditions, most people seek to work abroad in order to find work and earn high wages.

At the same time as Uzbekistan is a major supplier of migrants to foreign countries, it is also a country that attracts migrants from abroad. But the share of migrants from abroad is not significant. They are mostly professionals and residents of a nearby neighboring country. More and more labor migrants are coming to Uzbekistan from Turkey, South Korea, Afghanistan, China and Central Asia.

There are 3 main streams of emigrants leaving the country: the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan and far abroad countries.

According to experts, the Russian Federation accounts for more than half of the total number of labor migrants. According to the CIS Statistics Committee, more than 800,000 citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan are currently working in the Russian Federation. This is happening as a result of the large capacity of the Russian labor market, high wages, or the government's liberalization of migration legislation in recent years. Uzbek labor migrants are present in almost all regions of the Russian Federation. The main labor activities of migrants are construction (23%), trade (18%), services (19%), agriculture, industry and transport [3].

Although the global financial and economic crisis has significantly reduced the flow of migrants to the Russian Federation, the subsequent Summer Olympics in Sochi in 2014 and the 2018 World Cup in football have led to the return of migrants to this country.

Since the early days of independence, the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation have taken a number of measures to combat illegal migration. In particular, on April 15, 1994, a mutual agreement was signed within the Commonwealth of Independent States on cooperation in the field of labor migration and social protection of migrant workers. Also, on June 16, 2004 "On strategic cooperation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation", November 14, 2005 "On allied relations between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation on combating illegal migration" [4] and "On Readmission between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation [5], "On Protection of Labor Activities and Rights of Labor Migrants between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation in the Republic of Uzbekistan" [6] Agreements have been signed.

In order to further increase the legal status of sending migrants from Uzbekistan to the Russian Federation in 2017, an agreement "On the organization of employment and recruitment of citizens of Uzbekistan for temporary employment in the Russian Federation" was signed at a meeting of Russian leaders on April 4-5. Accordingly, the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated

April 12, 2017 "On measures to further expand bilateral strategic partnership and partnership between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation" [7] No PP-2885 and June 20, 2017 Resolution No. 400 "On measures to organize a comprehensive examination in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan for citizens planning to carry out temporary employment in the territory of the Russian Federation" [7].

The Agency for Employment and Labor, Higher and Secondary Special Education, Public Education, Foreign Affairs, Interior, Health and the Agency for External Labor Migration, the Extrabudgetary Pension Fund under the Ministry of Finance are responsible for the implementation of the above legal framework. The Ministry of Internal Affairs, Labor and Social Protection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Science and Education, the Ministry of Health, and the Federal Service for Labor and Employment.

As part of the implementation of this agreement, the Uzbek National Cultural Autonomy in the Russian Federation has been sent to St. Petersburg. The Agency for External Labor Migration has received inquiries on the admission of migrants from a number of enterprises and organizations, such as Migrant-Partner, Donskoy Tekstil, Dedovskiy Tekstil.

In recent years, along with Russia, the Republic of Kazakhstan has become one of the main recipients of Uzbek migrants. The movement of these emigrants from Uzbekistan is due to the territorial proximity, the sufficient size of the labor market in Kazakhstan, the growing demand for additional labor for the economy of Kazakhstan and high wages.

Kazakhstan is a good place for Uzbek labor migrants to work due to the common identity of the Kazakh and Uzbek nationalities, the closeness of the native language and the presence of common traditions. In these respects, Kazakhstan has a slight advantage over the Russian Federation. Determining the number of migrants working in Kazakhstan is a bit difficult because they are operating illegally. According to experts, in recent years, more than 300,000 Uzbek migrant workers have been working in Kazakhstan. According to Kazakh experts, this figure is close to one million. The reasons for the inaccuracy of these figures are the lack of a visa system between the two countries and the fact that hired workers work mainly in non-state enterprises. Uzbek migrants work mainly in construction and agriculture (tobacco plantations and cotton growing, private farming).

In recent years, the orientation of labor migrants to distant foreign countries is also developing. They are mainly moving towards the United States, Israel, Greece, other European countries, the UAE, Turkey, Iran, South Korea. However, the labor market in these countries is not comprehensive. At the same time, the problems with obtaining visas, competition with migrant workers from Russia, Ukraine, other CIS countries, Eastern European countries, lack of necessary experience, perfect knowledge of a foreign language, the scale of this migration flow is relatively small. The share of this flow in external labor migration in Uzbekistan can be around 15-20% at most.

In this regard, the CIS countries have played a key role in the external labor migration of Uzbekistan. The reasons for this are the lack of a high level of language proficiency, the lack of a visa system, the existence of long-term cooperation, brotherhood and friendship.

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