

regulations on the Hi-tech Park describe the range of future park's residents: juridical entities and individual entrepreneurs, a list of necessary documents, the order and time of the registration. Apart from designing IT and software for domestic and foreign users, the Park will be also involved in 12 high-tech fields — from creating materials for the micro and nanoelectronics to missile-aviation machinery.

Still this initiative is a subject to lengthy and sharp discussion. Following in steps of other countries, we may face unforeseen obstacles, especially regarding our domestic peculiarities. The credit system in Belarus can not afford investing in such risky projects, there are no banks specializing on venture capital and no companies that will hedge capital risks of such scale. It limits opportunities to attract private and foreign investment shifting the burden of putting up the capital on government shoulders.

Despite numerous doubts Silicon Valley is seen as a solution to many problems that our society has: unemployment, lack of investments, slow update of production. Hi-tech Park in Belarus is designed to stimulate development of innovative technologies and ensure sustainable economic grows.

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## **THE PROBLEM OF "BRAIN DRAIN" FROM THE ECONOMIC POINT OF VIEW ПРОБЛЕМА «УТЕЧКИ МОЗГОВ» С ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОЙ ТОЧКИ ЗРЕНИЯ**

В работе рассматривается проблема «утечки мозгов»: причины, современное состояние в различных странах; намечаются направления возможного решения проблемы применительно к развивающимся странам.

Perhaps the oldest question in economics is why some countries are rich while others are poor. Economic theory has emphasized that differences in the educational levels of the population are an important part of the answer and that improved schooling opportunities should raise incomes in developing countries. But growing gaps between the rich and the poor, economic globalization, wars and ecological disasters have had a profound impact on people and their desire to leave their homeland. Their motivation is rather simple — they want a better life for themselves and their families. Whether they are fleeing poverty, a degraded environment, conflict or human rights violations, they see migration as a hopeful way to change their lives for the better. This sometimes takes the form of the

so-called «brain-drain» — an emigration of trained and talented individuals («Human capital») to other nations due to conflicts or lack of opportunity where they are living.

Brain drain can occur either when individuals who study abroad and complete their education do not return to their home country, or when individuals educated in their home country emigrate to seek higher wages or better opportunities. This phenomenon is perhaps most problematic for developing nations.

Over the last 50 years, the number of international migrants in the world has more than doubled and amounted to 200 million. Today more people live outside their home country than at any other time in history. Despite this, migration can contribute to the important global agenda of reducing poverty and bringing people closer. It is becoming increasingly clear that the remittances sent back home play a big role in reducing poverty as they are used in funding the start of small businesses and keeping children in school.

Brain drain is a social index that is difficult to measure. Unfortunately, there is no uniform system of statistics on the number and characteristics of international migrants. Also, source countries typically do not keep track of emigrants' characteristics, and, although some receiving countries do, their definitions of immigration differ.

More than 50 % of the university educated professionals from many countries in Central America and the Caribbean are reported to live abroad. The former Soviet Union and today's Russia and Belarus continue to experience a brain drain in science, business, and culture, as many of their citizens leave for the USA, Israel, Europe, Japan, China and Latin America. Lithuania for example, has lost about 100,000 citizens since 2003, many of them young and well-educated, to emigration to Ireland in particular. The same has happened in Poland after its entry to the European Union. At least 1 million Poles (90 % of them under the age of 35) emigrated to the Western European countries, mostly to the United Kingdom and Ireland.

As it is hardly possible to forbid emigration what, then, are the solutions to the brain drain? The governments of developing countries should:

- 1) work with their countries' mass-media in order to draw public attention to professions, where there is a lack of workforce;
- 2) hold all sort of events directed at raising patriotic spirit of the people so that they have a desire to work for their native country;
- 3) create favourable conditions for living and doing business;
- 4) stimulate employers of highly skilled citizens (especially interns);
- 5) intensify the process of creating new training programs and institutions for special areas of labour market, where there's a shortage of workers;
- 6) cut taxes to simplify the process of filling-in forms, to give more freedom to foreign investors;

7) control the quantity of places for students in higher educational establishments, especially in the areas, where there's already a great number of educated personnel.

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## **WOMEN'S MOVEMENT IN BELARUS** **ЖЕНСКОЕ ДВИЖЕНИЕ В БЕЛАРУСИ**

В работе дается всесторонняя характеристика женского движения в Беларуси как ответной реакции на дискриминацию и ущемление прав женщин. Описаны история его становления, специфика деятельности, дан анализ современного состояния движения и вскрыты объективные причины, которые препятствуют его развитию. Также показаны перспектива и стратегии успешного развития женского движения в будущем.

During the years of social-economic transformation and long-term crisis in Belarus there has been a considerable decline in the professional and social status of women, and a sharp reduction of their actual participation in decision making at all levels and in all spheres. Belarusian women are the least protected social group in the job market: they face discrimination when being employed and dismissed, in the remuneration of their labor. The share of women among unemployed amounts to 65 %, and the process of poverty feminization is going on. In these rapidly changing socio-economic and political conditions, it is now time to rethink the position of women in society.

The appearance of the first civic initiatives and beginning of the independent women's movement became possible thanks to abatement of the control from state's side and thanks to political liberalization in the early 90s. First women's organizing board consisted of women from the movements with national-democratic orientation, people who worried about ecological problems; democratization of the society and women's state and of mothers of died soldiers. Great role in further development of women's movement in Belarus was played by the IV World Conference on Women's State that was carried out in Beijing in 1995. Promotion and popularization of the ideas of the Beijing Platform for Action have lead to the movement's activation. After 1995 in Belarus the considerable growth of the number of women's organizations has been observed: new women's organizations in the structures of the independent professional unions that have appeared, the process of organizing of women's groups in political parties has continued, a number of organizations-analogs adequate to the international structures have come into existence.

Today about two tens of women's organizations act in Belarus. They have republican status and are registered by the Ministry of Justice.