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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MIGRATION AS A POSITIVE FACTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Migration has been at the center of much discussion in recent years. But often, both in the media and in society, the valuable contribution migrants make to a country that is new to them is not talked about or highlighted. Therefore, the purpose of this article is to identify the positive aspects of labour migration for the economy.

Labour migration is defined as the movement of persons from their home State to another State for the purpose of employment [3]. According to the latest available estimates, there were around 169 million migrant workers worldwide in 2019, accounting for nearly two-thirds (62%) of the 272 million international migrants. It should be noted that these estimates were made prior to the adoption of COVID-19 preventive measures, that had affected international labour migration processes.

In 2019, 67% of migrant workers – around 113.9 million – lived in high-income countries. Another 49 million migrant workers (29%) lived in middle-income countries and 6.1 million (3.6%) in low-income countries. The concentration of foreign migrant workers in upper-middle and high-income countries remains stable: 86.4% in 2013, 86.5% in 2017 and 86.9% in 2019. However, there have been significant changes in these two categories over time; for example, between 2013 and 2019, the number of migrant workers in high-income countries decreased by 7.3 percentage points (from 74.7% to 67.4%), while the number of migrant workers in upper-middle-income countries increased by 7.8 percentage points (from 11.7% to 19.5%). This apparent shift may be influenced by economic growth in middle-income countries and/or changes in labour immigration rules in high-income countries [4, p. 36].

From a geographical point of view, 102.4 million or almost 61 per cent of all migrant workers reside in three sub-regions: North America; the Arab States; and Northern, Southern and Western Europe. Remarkably, two regions have a striking gender imbalance among migrant workers: South Asia (5.7 million men, compared to 1.4 million women) and the Arab States (19.9 million men, compared to 4.2 million women). The Arab States region is the major destination for migrant workers, where they account for 41.4 per cent of the total working-age population, often dominating in key sectors [4, p. 37].

In terms of economic impact, immigrants in advanced economies increase output and productivity in the short and medium term. A one percentage point increase in immigrant inflows relative to total employment leads to an increase in output of almost one percentage point in the fifth year. This is because native workers and immigrants bring different skills to the labour market that complement each other and increase

productivity. Moreover, even a small increase in productivity due to immigration contributes to an increase in the average income of natives [2].

Labour migration brings more entrepreneurial ideas and new mindsets to the economy. For example, the founders of Google, Yahoo and Intel are migrants, as are many winners of the Nobel Prize. Also migration helps states cope with labour shortages. An example here would be the situation in the OECD countries (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), where about 20% of doctors come from abroad. In Paris, for example, at the moment half of all working doctors are migrants or from migrants' families. Some Gulf Cooperation Council economies are the most dependent on migration because there are nine migrants for every 10 employees [1].

Considering the position of the emigrant, it is worth noting that there are benefits for their countries of origin as well. Focusing on developing countries, meaning countries that labour migrants leave to build better careers, remittances are a positive element here. Migrants send a significant portion of their income in the form of remittances to their families. According to some economists, remittances are the largest source of external financing for developing countries.

Remittances have a positive effect in destination countries, with a direct impact on poverty reduction, which in turn leads to better education and health outcomes. In 2020, low- and middle-income countries received $540 billion in international remittances. In addition, many highly skilled migrants return home and give an impetus to the creation of new industries, attracting social and cultural resources that can influence the business environment and social and political life [4, p. 39].

Thus, labour migration brings great benefits to host countries and offers migrants opportunities for a better life. Obviously, the migration process can also cause problems in income distribution, as local workers may suffer economic losses, at least temporarily, in certain market segments. This problem should be addressed by introducing certain fiscal and labour market policies to support income and retraining of locals who face difficulties in the labour market.

To summarize, it has been found that international labour migration contributes to increased production and productivity, increased purchasing power and money circulation in the host economy. Moreover, increased remittances to countries of migrant origin have a direct impact on reducing poverty and improving education and health systems.

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WORLD TOURISM DAY AS AN INDICATOR OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

World Tourism Day (hereinafter WTD) was established by the General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (The World Tourism Organization, UNWTO) and is celebrated annually on 27 September. This date was chosen due to the fact that on this day in 1970 the Charter of the World Tourism Organization was adopted. In this article the influence of WTD on the development of international tourism is analysed.

The holiday is celebrated in most countries of the world for over 40 years. One of its fundamental traditions is its slogan, which is constantly changing.

At its sixty-sixth session (24 September 2001, Seoul, Republic of Korea), the Executive Council decided that the selection of the host State of WTD should be conducted in rotation among the six regional Commissions in order to respect the principle of equitable geographical rotation. It was decided to establish the following order, starting from 2006: Europe; South Asia; Americas; Africa, East Asia and the Pacific, Middle East. The full cycle should be repeated in the following years.

The number of official WTD celebrations per UNTWO region from 2006 to 2021 is presented in the table 1.

	Africa	Americas	Europe	Middle East	Asia and the Pacific
Number of official celebrations of WTD	3	3	3	2	5

Table 1 - Number of official WTD celebrations by UNTWO regions from 2006 to 2021 Source: Author's elaboration based on sources [1, 3].

According to the data presented in Table 1, the Asia-Pacific region hosted the largest number of official WTD celebrations. There were several reasons for this: the macro-region is large and extremely diverse in terms of forms of tourism development, and it was also the fastest growing tourism industry until 2020. The situation in the Middle East is exactly the opposite, due to the fact that it includes the smallest number of