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**SOME MIGRATION ASPECTS, TRENDS AND ISSUES
IN THE NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA: CASE OF KAZAKHSTAN**

Migration and mobility in the post-Soviet space are part of the global process for more than a quarter of a century. Possessing almost all the main characteristics of the global process, migrations in this space have their own characteristics and specifics that require special attention and understanding. To analyze the mobility of this space, the definitions and approaches that determine the potential systems and subsystems that cover this process are important. Kazakhstan is one of the states in this space for which migration issues and demographic development are a strategic direction, including within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union. An important issue remains the choice of the approach that defines the given space not only geographically, but also geo-economically, and geo-politically. One of the effective in this approach can be the use of the UN definition of "North and Central Asia", covering the main participants of the migration process. The main purpose of this article is a review of some of the main national and regional aspects of the migration processes in the Republic of Kazakhstan at the present stage. Since the beginning of the 21st century, Kazakhstan has positioned itself as a host country for migrants, being simultaneously a major transit corridor. Recently there has been a tendency of an active outflow of the population, which is a definite challenge that requires due attention and evaluation. The methodological basis of the study is a systematic approach that allows a comprehensive assessment of migration processes, as well as the theory of "pull-push factors." This study may be important in the context of the analysis of common Central Asian processes of cooperation and integration, and from the point of view of developing a theoretical component of the migration processes.

Key words: International Relations, Migration, Kazakhstan, Labor Migration, Eurasian Economic Union.

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**Солтүстік және Орталық Азиядағы кейбір көші-қон аспектілері,
үрдістері мен мәселелері: Қазақстан мысалында**

Көші-қон және ұтқырлық посткеңестік кеңістікте ғасырлардан астам уақыттан бері әлемдік үдерістің бір бөлігі болып табылады. Ғаламдық процестің барлық негізгі сипаттамаларына ие болғандықтан, осы кеңістіктегі қоныс аударудың мүмкіндіктері мен ерекшеліктері бар, олар ерекше назар аударуды талап етеді. Бұл кеңістіктің ұтқырлығын талдау үшін осы процесті қамтитын әлеуетті жүйелер мен кіші жүйелерді анықтайтын анықтамалар мен тәсілдер маңызды. Қазақстан бұл кеңістіктегі көші-қон және демографиялық дамудың стратегиялық бағыты болып табылатын мемлекеттердің бірі болып саналады, оның ішінде Еуразиялық экономикалық одақ шеңберінде де. Бұл кеңістікті географиялық тұрғыдан ғана емес геоэкономикалық және геосаяси тұрғыдан айқындайтын тәсілдерді таңдау маңызды мәселе болып қала береді. Мұндай көзқарасты тиімді етудің бірі «Көшу үдерісінің негізгі қатысушыларын қамтитын «Солтүстік және Орталық Азия» БҰҰ ұғымын пайдалану болып табылады. Осы мақаланың негізгі мақсаты қазіргі кезеңде Қазақстан Республикасының көші-қон процестерінің негізгі ұлттық және өңірлік аспектілерінің кейбіріне шолуды талдау болып табылады. ХХІ ғасырдың басынан бастап Қазақстан ірі транзиттік коридор

болып табылатын, сонымен қатар бір мезгілде өзін мигранттар қабылдаушы ел ретінде танытты. Соңғы уақытта халықтың белсенді ағып кету үрдісі байқалды, ол тиісті назар мен бағалауды талап ететін белгілі бір мәселе болып табылады. Зерттеудің әдіснамалық негізі көші-қон процестерін жан-жақты бағалауға мүмкіндік беретін жүйелі тәсіл, сондай-ақ «тарту-шығаратын факторлар» теориясы болып табылады. Бұл зерттеу ортақ Орталық Азиядағы ынтымақтастық пен интеграция үрдістерін талдау тұрғысынан және көші-қон процестерін зерттеудің теориялық компонентін дамыту тұрғысынан маңызды болуы мүмкін.

Түйін сөздер: халықаралық қатынастар, көші-қон, Қазақстан, еңбек көші-қон, Еуразиялық экономикалық одақ.

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Некоторые миграционные аспекты, тенденции и проблемы в Северной и Центральной Азии: на примере Казахстана

Миграция и мобильность на постсоветском пространстве являются частью глобального процесса уже более четверти века. Обладая практически всеми основными характеристиками глобального процесса, миграции на данном пространстве имеют и свои особенности, специфику, требующие особенного внимания и осмысления. Для анализа мобильности данного пространства важны дефиниции и подходы, определяющие потенциальные системы и подсистемы, охватывающие данный процесс. Казахстан является одним из государств данного пространства, для которого миграционная проблематика и демографическое развитие являются стратегическим направлением, в том числе и в рамках деятельности Евразийского экономического союза. Важным вопросом остается выбор подхода, определяющего данное пространство не только географически, но и геоэкономически, и геополитически. Одним из эффективных в данном подходе может быть использование определения ООН «Северной и Центральной Азии», охватывающее основных участников миграционного процесса. Основной целью данной статьи является обзорный анализ некоторых основных национальных и региональных аспектов миграционных процессов Республики Казахстан на современном этапе. С начала 21 века Казахстан позиционирует себя в качестве страны приема мигрантов, являясь одновременно и крупным транзитным коридором. В последнее время наблюдается тенденция активного оттока населения, что является определенным вызовом, требующим должного внимания и оценивания. Методологической основой исследования является системный подход, позволяющий комплексно оценить миграционные процессы, а также теория «притягивающих-выталкивающих факторов». Данное исследование может быть важно как в контексте анализа общих центральноазиатских процессов сотрудничества и интеграции, так и с точки зрения развития теоретической составляющей изучения миграционных процессов.

Ключевые слова: международные отношения, миграция, Казахстан, трудовая миграция, Евразийский экономический союз.

Introduction, concepts and definitions

Global mobility impacts social, economic, political and cultural dimensions of the current system of international relations. Economic drivers remain as the essential but forced migrations are alarming and long-lasting challenges. Post-soviet space became one the important area in term of mobility since mid-1990s. Despite the fact that the most scholars* agreed to call five Post-soviet countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) as Central Asia (CA) based on the countries governments' decisions of

1993 by "Almaty Agreement", this approach can't reflect the current realities of mobility and different types of movement on the space. Understanding or vision of the space as Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) includes all of the participants and legal base of active migration process but it is too broad. Last decade it is more suitable to discuss and describe migration on the Eurasian space both in terms of volumes, directions and geo-economical importance. Beginning functioning of the Eurasian Economic Union since January, 2015, started formation of common labor market and free movement of people, capital and goods covering some countries. This makes relevant to use definition "North and Central Asia" offered by United

* Here it means scholars of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan who will be mentioned further

Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific. It includes nine countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan (UN ESCAP, 2017). This definition reflects current mobility trends and situation in the space more precisely.

In all three approaches Russia as a biggest and primer destination in the post-Soviet space (UN, 2015) and remains the key actor of the migration systems and sub-systems. At the same time Kazakhstan plays an important role in these processes and in the 21st century it is more associated as a recipient country for migrants, being both a major transit corridor and a sending country. According to the UN institution's data, there were about 3.5 million migrants in Kazakhstan (World Bank, 2013) in the beginning of the second decade of the century. The importance of mobility to Kazakhstan and across its borders is becoming increasingly important due to various geopolitical and geo-economic aspects. It makes relevant to analyze demographic potential, migration policy and situation of Kazakhstan.

Literature review

Migration issues of Kazakhstan are not fully reflected in the regional and global context. Along with this, it is necessary to note a number of studies. Various theoretical and practical aspects of migration, the impact of this phenomenon on the post-Soviet space, including Central Asia, are covered in a number of studies. First of all, it's should be noticed, that a major role in the study of theoretical aspects is assigned to Western researchers who have developed fundamental approaches to migration issues in the context of globalization. Thus, it is necessary to note the works of S. Castles (Castles, 2000), Castles S., Miller J.M. (Castles, Miller, 2009), I. Meyers (Meyers, 2000), D. Massey (Massey, 1998) and Sh. Glick (Glick, 2000), in which the main migration trends and new theoretical approaches to them are analyzed. Some theoretical aspects of forced migration are covered in the works of such researchers as E. Haddad (Haddad, 2008) and A. Betts, G. Loscher (Betts, Loescher, 2011).

A series of research works is devoted to various aspects of migration in the post-Soviet space, covering Central Asia, published in the West, in particular the United States. The peculiarity of these studies is that their authors are mostly representatives of former Soviet republics. It is necessary to single out the works of such authors as E. Marat (Marat,

2009), D. Abdurazakova (Abdurazakova, 2011) and A. Korobkov (Korobkov, 2007). These researchers have been consistently working on the analysis of migration processes within the Eurasian space for several years, conducting comprehensive studies on the assessment of the extent of migration, the impact of migration on the development of the Central Asian region, the situation of migrants, and assessing the potential of cooperation between the countries of the region in regulating migration processes.

A huge contribution to the research of migration processes in the post-Soviet space, including Central Asia, was made by the Russian school of migrationists, represented by such researchers as L.L. Rybakovsky (Rybakovsky, 2001), I.V. Ivakhnyuk (Ivakhnyuk, 2008), V.A. Iontsev (Iontsev, Ivakhnyuk, 2012), J.A. Zaionchkovskaya (Zaionchkovskaya, 2012), V.I. Mukomel (Mukomel, 2005), S.V. Ryazantsev (Ryazantsev, 2013), I.A. Aleshkovsky (Aleshkovsky, 2008: 77-87). Within the framework of this school, comprehensive studies are conducted on various aspects of migration in Russia and the post-Soviet space, covering theoretical and practical aspects. Focusing on Russia as the main migration hub for all post-Soviet countries, researchers consider the various consequences of migration processes and sending countries, considering Central Asia as the main source of labor for Russia. Kazakhstan, as a new and active actor of migration processes, is also represented in these studies.

Thus, the problems of migration in the CA region have been analyzed in the work of a number of experts. However, the presented studies require the use of a regional approach, which today is hardly possible. Another weak point of research is the lack of a common data bank on migrants, reliable statistics and document circulation in this area.

Analyzing the work of national Kazakhstani experts devoted to migration issues, in particular in the study of labor migration in the region and in Kazakhstan, it is necessary to highlight Y. Sadovskaya (Sadovskaya, 2010, 2013). The works of this researcher are pioneering in the domestic research. In the works of this expert, various aspects of the migration problems of modern Kazakhstan are reflected, including part of the Soviet period. Another authoritative expert in the field is G. M. Mendikulova (2006, 2008), who is the founder of diasporology in Kazakhstan. G. Mendikulova studied the processes associated with the historical and ethno-cultural aspects of the Kazakh diaspora, the problems of returnees, their return to their homeland. In particular, the researcher's work is devoted to the problems of returnees returning from China.

The problems of Chinese migration to Central Asia and Kazakhstan are also covered in the works of S. Kozhirova (Kozhirova, 2009) and Y. Sadovskaya (Sadovskaya, 2007: 147-170; 2014). Other aspects of migration are the subject of research by different authors in Kazakhstan. The legal aspects of migration processes, including refugee status, are covered in the works of M.A. Sarsenbayev (Sarsenbayev, 2005) and Ya. D. Fedotov (Fedotov, 2008). Economic, social and ethno political aspects of labor migration are presented in the works of T. Marmontova (Marmontova, 2008), N. Mustafaev (Mustafaev, 2005), R.S. Elmurzaeva (Elmurzaeva, 2008) and Mukhametkhan (Mukhametkhan, 2012). Despite the fact that the topic of external labor migration is widely represented in the works of Western researchers and increasingly covered in the writings of representatives of Kazakhstani scholars, there are still no comprehensive works devoted to the migration problems. Moreover, the urgency of working out proposals for more effective regulation of migration processes in region is very relevant. Thus, labor migrations, which were developed immediately after the disintegration of the USSR, have experienced a lot of transformations today, which need rethinking and deep analysis. Forced migrations and newly emerged trends having different genesis are becoming an increasingly important factors for a number of socio-economic and political processes that require rapid reflection and research on the part of the academic community. Moreover, today there is no conceptual, interdisciplinary and predictive vision of the ongoing migration processes, both in Kazakhstan itself and along the perimeter of its borders.

Methodology

A multidisciplinary approach based on applying some methods of sociology is provided methodological basis for this study. Moreover, the system approach examining migration process as a functioning system is effective for this study. The migration system includes countries exporting and importing workforce, and many factors that have an effect on this system. The author will also apply “pull-push” factors theory proposed by I. Lee in the middle of the XX century (Lee, 1966). The most popular theory for migration studies as “pull-push” factors enables to analyze the various economic, political, environmental and demographic factors that force migrants to leave countries of origin and seek to find a shelter in destination countries. This model quite clearly defines the nature of migration

processes through the analysis of a number of various factors.

Discussion

An analysis of migration processes in the modern Kazakhstan and across it can be done by studying some aspects of the conceptual and legal support of migration processes, demographic development and the current status of migration flows including migration dynamics in the Eurasian Economic Union.

Some conceptual and legal aspects of migration processes in modern Kazakhstan

Demographic aspect and migration issues are a strategic direction for Kazakhstan, both in the context of internal development, and in the context of regional, international cooperation and the promotion of international stability and security.

Priority directions of the migration policy are fixed by the basic Law, Law about migration of the population (Law on Migration of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2016) and within the framework of the development strategy “Kazakhstan-2050”, which determines the global demographic imbalance as the second of the Ten Global Challenges of the 21st Century and actualizes the problem of the stability of migration processes (Strategy “Kazakhstan-2050”, 2013). Along with this, in September this year, the Concept of the Migration Policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2017 – 2021 was approved (Zakon. kz, 2017). The concept defines the strategic goals, objectives and directions of the migration policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in conjunction with the expected prospects for economic, social and demographic development of the Republic of Kazakhstan, foreign policy, integration processes within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and global trends of globalization. According to the concept, the Republic of Kazakhstan adheres to the strategy of temporary migration on the involvement of foreign workers, the optimal resettlement of the population throughout the country, as well as long-term permanent migration towards ethnic returnees “oralmans” arriving in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In general, the Concept defines three strategic directions: temporary migration to attract foreign workers to certain sectors of the economy or specific priority projects; long-term migration to attract qualified foreign workers to long-term projects aimed at introducing new innovations, increasing entrepreneurship and

developing human capital; implementation of a nationwide program of professional development.

These directions are recognized as interrelated and their implementation will occur, ensuring the systematic nature of migration policy (Zakon.kz, 2017). It is noteworthy that in the definition of the further development of the migration policy, it is planned to use the experience of the OECD countries, where long-term migration of highly skilled migrants is predominantly applied.

It should be noted that the adoption of the Concept and reorganization of the work of two Ministries – the Ministry of National Economy and the Ministry of Health and Social Development, the establishment of the Migration Service Committee under the Ministry of Internal Affairs is a significant advance in the formation of an integrated and coordinated migration politicians. At the same time, a number of factors as demographic situation, volumes and quality of migration flows and realities of the migration process itself are not taken into account both within the country and at the regional level. These aspects are important both in theoretical and practical sense. The brief summary of the conceptual base it is necessary to mention that migration policy is on the agenda of the national policy of Kazakhstan and it will make possible to work out the proper approaches.

Some features of demographic development and migration situation

Demographic development of Kazakhstan is an important component of the overall policy of the state. According to the World Bank, the population of Kazakhstan was 17.8 million in 2016 (World Bank, 2017). Referring to the national data, Ministry of National Economy of the RK, states, that population of the country in June 1, 2017 was 18 014 200 (and by the September, 1 of the current year, the population of the Republic of Kazakhstan was 18 074 100), including urban population – 10 358 000 people (57.5%), rural – 7 656 200 people (42.5 percent). Compared with June 1, 2016, the population increased by 239,200 people, or 1.3 percent (Ministry of National Economy of Kazakhstan, 2017). In general, Kazakhstan has a steady trend towards an increase in the population. So, if for two decades (from 1989 to 2009) the population of the republic increased by 1,028,316 people and amounted to 16,009,597 people in 2009, then in 2013 (17 million) (Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Statistics, 2009), and in 2017 – 18 million as mentioned above (Ministry of National

Economy of Kazakhstan, 2017). Population growth is going and shows positive dynamics due to 2 aspects – natural increase and repatriation policy. It is also noted that as a result of the processing of information provided by the migration service authorities, the number of migrants registered in the country in January-May 2017 increased by 36.3 percent and amounted to 7204 people compared to the corresponding period in 2016. At the same time, the number of migrants leaving the country increased by 4 percent and amounted to 10,975 people, the balance of migration -3 771 people (Ministry of National Economy of Kazakhstan, 2017). It is explained that the main migration exchange of the country occurs with the CIS countries (Tengrinews.kz, 2017). According to the International Organization for Migration, by 2016, Kazakhstan has recorded 1,265,000 migrants with temporary registration from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (IOM, 2017).

Analyzing the migration situation as a whole, for twenty-five years, it can be noted that the balance in external migration has changed from negative, in the first years of independence to positive, and in recent years again, it has become negative. According to the data of the responsible agencies, in the period from 1991 to 2003 the outflow of the population from the country averaged 225.5 thousand people per year (Kapital.kz, 2017). From 2004 to 2011, the balance was consistently positive (an increase of 11,700 people per year). Along with this, the volume of labor migration constantly increased. In the last five-year period, the migration balance again entered the negative zone.

In 2012 (January-September), the number of arrivals and departures equaled, and in subsequent years the rate of outflow of population only increased, while the number of people wishing to live and work in the Republic of Kazakhstan decreased significantly (Forbes.kz, 2017).

A newly appeared trend connected with the outflow of qualified population from Kazakhstan is a serious challenge for both the demographic potential and development in general. According to the data of Ministry of National economy of Kazakhstan, in September 2017, 28.200 people left Kazakhstan (Forbes.kz, 2017). According to this data, strong outflow goes to the most mobile groups – professionals of technical, economic, pedagogical and medical specialties. This year, for one reason or another, more than 4,800 technicians, 2.7 thousand economists, and 1,7 thousand representatives of pedagogical specialties left the country for one reason or another. Officially, the majority of those

who leave the country make their choice in favor of the CIS countries but some observations of the author point Russia, some European states and UAE as main destinations.

The results of ethnic migration are indicative. Since 1991, the number of ethnic returnees has exceeded 1 million. Due to the demographic contribution of the arriving repatriates-oralmans for 26 years, it was possible to reduce the level of the negative balance of migration by 28% (Zakon.kz, 2017).

In general, migration processes in Kazakhstan have different dynamics. Thus, in the 21st century, Kazakhstan is confidently positioning itself as the destination country for migrants from Central Asian countries – Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The role of Kazakhstan is growing as a transit hub. The interregional, multidirectional migration, which covers the Eurasian space, South-East Asia, Europe and North America, is gaining in increasing dynamics.

A separate and important direction of migration processes for Kazakhstan we understand the mobility within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union.

Migration flows within the EEU include several important aspects for Kazakhstan as a destination and sending country.

It should be noted that within the framework of the EEU, Kazakhstan is both a recipient and sending country of labor migrants. At the beginning of 2015 the year in Kazakhstan there was an increase in the number of workers from the Republic of Belarus 1.6 times and of workers of the Russian Federation by 22% (Delovarova, 2015). The labor migration of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the Russian Federation is conditioned both by long-term cross-border cooperation and by a number of other factors. According to expert assessments of Kazakhstani researchers, the volume of migration in the EEU has increased by 17% in the first half of the year (Delovarova, 2015). Along with the positive dynamics of legal migration in the RK, it is also necessary to take into account illegal flows that do not have accurate data. The statistics on 2016 is not offered by the Union's responsible bodies. But as it is mentioned above the number of Kyrgyz citizens were about 150 000 in Kazakhstan (IOM, 2017). At the same time the important trend in 2017 is external mobility from Kazakhstan which shows potential risk to lose qualified part of the population. It makes necessary to strengthen measures to protect the domestic labor market. Along with it, it is stated that in September 2017 about 11.900 people have arrived

in the country for permanent residence, study or work (Forbes, 2017). Most of the arrivals are represented by citizens of the CIS countries including Russia, Belarus and Armenia. Such data do not allow us to speak of any significant increase in the dynamics of migration processes within the Union. Along with this, there is an increase in the number of labor migrants from the countries of Southeast Asia. The signing of the Free Trade Agreement with Vietnam and the introduction of a visa-free regime, as well as the signing of a memorandum with Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Singapore, can significantly increase migration flows within the Union, including Kazakhstan.

Another important aspect is the coordination of departments at various levels both within Kazakhstan and within the Union to form an efficient and flexible labor market, taking into account the main trends, problems and prospects for all members. There is a need for cooperation around the perimeter of the issues identified by its members including harmonization of common approaches and principles, exchange of regulatory legal acts, information, experience, implementation of measures aimed at preventing the dissemination of inaccurate information, internships and seminars, Cooperation in advisory bodies. At the national level, the Department of Migration Police of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Statistics Agency are also involved. There are also problems with coordination here. Despite certain difficulties, all the issues identified in articles 96-98 of the treaty (Agreement on EEU, 2014). One of the persistent problems remains the problem of collecting and processing reliable statistical data. Different departmental coordination, causes incompatibility or a difference in the criteria for the selection of data, doubts about the validity and reliability of qualitative and quantitative data, which leads to difficulties in providing qualitative analytics. At the same time, work in this direction is ongoing. So, in our opinion, the above-mentioned reorganization of the work of the two Ministries of Kazakhstan, as well as the formation of the Migration Service Committee under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is a significant contribution. Its functions include ensuring the implementation of the state policy in the field of citizenship, migration of the population and refugees, the committee performs a number of other functions important for the coordinated work

of Kazakhstan in the EEU (Ministry of Internal Affairs of The Republic Kazakhstan, 2017).

It seems that systematic and constant work in this direction will make a significant contribution to the regulating of migration policy not only at the national level, but also in the whole in the Union itself. It also affects the development and harmonization of legislation in general, including with respect to pensions, certain aspects of education, law and health. One of the strategic directions, in our opinion, is the development of the international (including migration) cooperation of the Union with the active participation of Kazakhstan, taking into account the main trends of regional and global levels.

The EEU has an international legal personality (paragraph 2, Article 1 of the EAEC Treaty), which implies the development of international cooperation with states, international organizations, integration associations and conclude international treaties with them (art. 7, clause 7 of the EEU Treaty) in order to promote main directions of the Organization (Agreement on EEU, 2014). The need for international cooperation is also due to the fact that the provision of sustainable, secure migration flows based on respect for the rights of migrants and their families is important not only within the Union, but also along the perimeter of its borders, where the situation is aggravated by a change in geopolitical realities and aggravation of conflicts. A serious step in this direction is the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation with IOM, other UN agencies and the CIS. Kazakhstan is an active participant in many international organizations, projects and initiatives, including in the field of migration. One of them is the Almaty Process, which is a permanent dialogue platform initiated by Kazakhstan in 2011. The Almaty Process is aimed to jointly solve the most urgent issues of refugees and international migration, both in the regional format and in the global perspective. The Almaty Process plays an important role in developing mechanisms aimed at meeting the key national interests of the countries of the region, such as border control and security. For the EEU, this can be a valuable experience, taking into account the scale of the organization's activities.

International cooperation and geography of the EEU partners has a global scale. Thus, in the Asia-Pacific Region and Southeast Asia, all of the key countries are covered. Vietnam has already become an active partner since 2016, China is covered in the framework of the "Economic belt of the Silk Road" project and negotiations are under

way. Active negotiations are being held with India. A memorandum was signed with Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Singapore, an agreement with the Republic of Bangladesh has been practically approved. Cooperation with APEC and ASEAN is of exceptional importance and potential. The Middle East is currently negotiating with Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Morocco. In Latin America, memorandums of understanding have already been signed with Chile and Peru. Active negotiations are under way in the framework of MERCOSUR, CARICOM. Within the European Union, these are business contacts in a bilateral format with the Slovak Republic, the Czech Republic, the Italian Republic and the Greek Republic.

Thus, partnership within the framework of the Union has a comprehensive cooperation in terms of fields and global geographical coverage. This, in turn, means that migration processes can be developed in all these vectors, and accordingly, an adequate, balanced and multi-level approach is needed.

Coordinated cooperation within the Union, with international organizations and partners is an important component of the effective functioning of the EEU. The importance of migration processes within the framework of the EEU is determined for Kazakhstan by a number of factors, including the volume and geography of migration, as well as effective coordinated cooperation, both within the Organization and with the partners of the organization. The formation of a flexible and balanced migration policy, taking into account the specifics of the demographic potential and the development of priority sectors of Kazakhstan's economy with emphasis on highly skilled labor, and the preservation of its own intellectual potential, is a prerequisite for successful development. The diversification, systemic, security and regulatory nature of migration flows, based on a more integrated cooperation of all member states, both within the EEU and across its borders, and, taking into account the geography of international partners, is an important aspect of improving activity and integration in the Eurasian space, as well as the confident positioning of the Union at the global level.

Conclusion

Mobility of the population plays an increasingly important role in the post-Soviet space, including Kazakhstan, which has become an important actor in the migration process. The complex dynamics of

migration processes towards and from Kazakhstan calls for more attention and study. While studying the migration processes in the post-Soviet space with the participation of Kazakhstan and a number of countries the use of “North and Central Asia” definition, which encompasses all active and potential participants, is becoming increasingly relevant. This definition also covers Central Asia, in the sense in which five post-Soviet countries are included, and Russia, which is the main hub for migrants throughout the post-Soviet space, and the Eurasian space, within which the integration process is taking place and formed the institutional design of the general labor market.

The adoption by Kazakhstan of a new conceptual document and the implementation of certain reforms, the establishment of the Migration Service Committee, shows a new stage in understanding the importance of migration processes for Kazakhstan as one of the key participants in modern regional and interregional migration processes.

It is necessary to form a flexible and balanced migration policy, taking into account the specifics of the demographic potential and the development of priority sectors of the economy within the Union. Sustainability, security and regulation of migration flows, based on a more integrated cooperation of all member states both within the EEU and across

the entire perimeter responds the prospective vision and understanding of Kazakhstan’s position in the Union. In order to mitigate negative effects, it seems important to develop a multi-level and flexible approach to regulating migration flows. The status of Kazakhstan as a confident center of migrants’ destination at the same time does not exclude its role as a country of exodus of migrants. This is clearly seen in the example of the Eurasian Economic Union, in which Kazakhstan is an active member and initiator.

Migration processes to and from Kazakhstan a different and changing dynamics, which requires constant monitoring and comprehensive analysis.

It is necessary to evaluate the role of Kazakhstan as a transit corridor in a new way. Strengthening of multidirectional migration from Kazakhstan, diversification of flows requires additional research in terms of prospects and consequences. More attention should be paid to the process of the outflow of qualified force within the changing geo-economic realities and political processes, including the EEU and political processes in the neighboring regions. Balanced approaches, deepening of cooperation in the field of migration and development of effective mechanisms of interaction will allow enhancing the positive effects of migration, which can contribute to successful mobility coordination and regulation in the North and Central Asia.

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