

TENDINȚE MODERNE ÎN MIGRAȚIA INTERNAȚIONALĂ

MODERN TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

KALININA Svitlana,
Mariupol State University
ORCID 0000-0002-2892-0410
E-mail: s.kalinina@mu.edu.ua

Abstract

The article identifies modern trends in international migration, emphasizes that labor resource movements are a system-forming feature of the formation of the international labor market. It is noted that the volume of international migration correlates with the scale of technical and economic transformations in the world. The dominance of economic causes of migration in the structure of migration flows against because of the of developed countries' interest in the foreign labor inflow were emphasized. The priority of intellectual migration in the structure of labor transfers has been established. The conclusion was made that it's need to regulate international labor migration in order to form unified conditions for the use of labor in the global labor resource space.

Key words: migration, international migration, labour migration, labour market, labour forces, labor transfers, intellectual migration, international migration regulation.

The formation of a global labor resource space is the defining feature of the current stage of economic development. It is fundamentally affects the development of the international labor market, forming powerful inter-country labor flows as a manifestation of the internationalization of labor resources.

The importance of the study of international migration is determined by the fact that it has an objective nature, acts as a leading driver of the formation of the world economy labor supply system and plays a decisive role in the globalization processes' development [1]. Migration acts as a driving force for transformational changes in the global labor market, and technological and organizational innovations receive appropriate labor supply through the movement of labor. The simplification of transport and telecommunications, the introduction of labor-saving technologies in developed countries, the transfer of technologies to developing countries have led to the development of integration processes in the world labor market, and also influencing the unification of labor conditions in the world economy [2, c. 172].

International migration in its formation went through a number of stages, starting from the middle of the 15th century, and at all stages labor migration was the driving force of migratory movements. Labor resource flows are a system-forming feature of the international labor market formation. The first signs of the modern idea of international migration date back to the 19th century, when the contract system of hiring foreign workers began being applied. Subsequently, the scale of international migration (Fig. 1) was closely correlated with the scale of technical and economic transformations in the world, which indicates the dominance of economic causes of migration in the structure of migration movements.

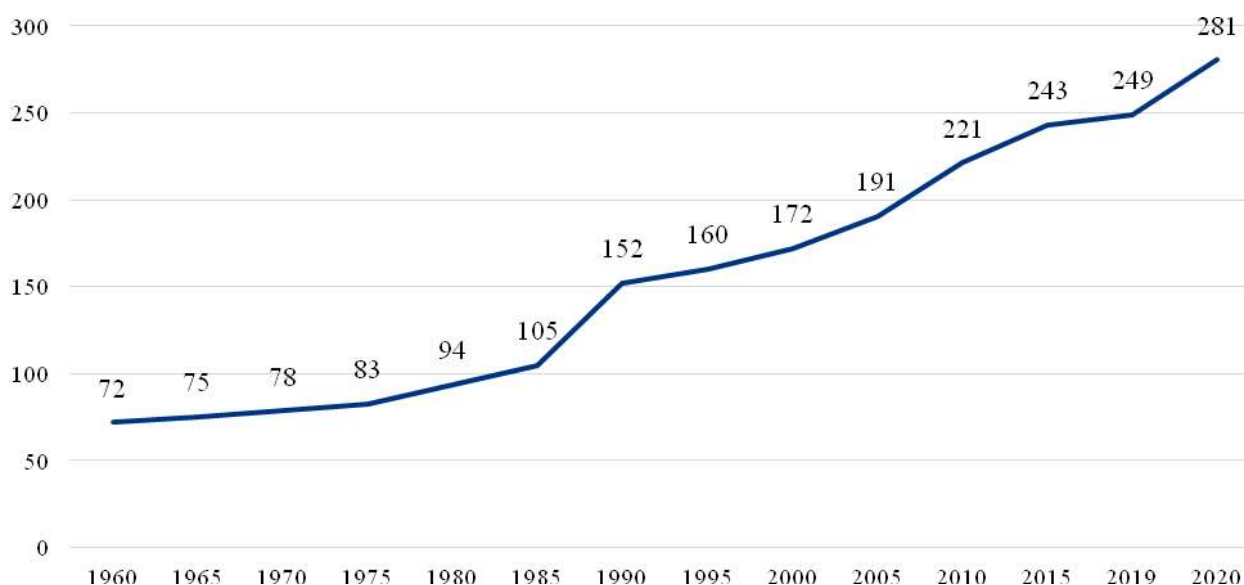


Fig. 1. Number of international migrants in the world, 1960-2020, million people [3]

In particular, migration flows to OECD countries in 2022 reached record levels, showing the highest values over the past three decades (Table 1).

Table 1. Dynamics of migrants to OECD countries in 1990-2020, million people [3]

<i>Country</i>	<i>1990 p.</i>	<i>1995 p.</i>	<i>2000 p.</i>	<i>2005 p.</i>	<i>2010 p.</i>	<i>2015 p.</i>	<i>2020 p.</i>
<i>Australia</i>	3,96	4,15	4,39	4,88	5,88	6,73	7,55
<i>Austria</i>	0,79	0,89	1,00	1,14	1,28	1,49	1,78
<i>Belgium</i>	1,28	1,29	1,27	1,25	1,50	1,78	1,98
<i>About. Kingdom</i>	3,65	4,16	4,73	5,93	7,12	8,41	9,55
<i>Greece</i>	0,62	0,86	1,11	1,19	1,32	1,24	1,21
<i>Denmark</i>	0,24	0,30	0,37	0,44	0,50	0,60	0,72
<i>Estonia</i>	0,38	0,32	0,25	0,23	0,22	0,19	0,19
<i>Israel</i>	1,63	1,79	1,85	1,89	1,95	2,01	1,96
<i>Ireland</i>	0,23	0,23	0,35	0,59	0,73	0,76	0,83
<i>Iceland</i>	0,01	0,01	0,02	0,03	0,04	0,04	0,05
<i>Spain</i>	0,82	1,02	1,66	4,11	6,28	5,89	6,10
<i>Italy</i>	1,43	1,77	2,12	3,95	5,79	5,81	6,27
<i>Canada</i>	4,33	4,86	5,51	6,08	6,76	7,43	7,96
<i>Colombia</i>	0,10	0,11	0,11	0,11	0,12	0,14	1,14
<i>Costa Rica</i>	0,42	0,36	0,31	0,36	0,41	0,41	0,42
<i>Latvia</i>	0,65	0,54	0,43	0,38	0,31	0,27	0,24
<i>Lithuania</i>	0,35	0,27	0,21	0,20	0,16	0,14	0,12
<i>Luxembourg</i>	0,11	0,13	0,14	0,15	0,16	0,25	0,29
<i>Mexico</i>	0,70	0,46	0,54	0,71	0,97	1,03	1,06
<i>N. Zealand</i>	0,52	0,59	0,68	0,84	0,95	1,04	1,07
<i>Netherlands</i>	1,18	1,35	1,56	1,74	1,83	2,00	2,28
<i>Germany</i>	5,94	7,46	8,99	9,40	9,81	10,22	13,13

<i>Norway</i>	0,19	0,23	0,29	0,36	0,53	0,75	0,87
<i>Poland</i>	1,13	0,96	0,83	0,72	0,64	0,62	0,66
<i>Portugal</i>	0,44	0,53	0,65	0,77	0,76	0,86	0,89
<i>R. Korea</i>	0,04	0,12	0,24	0,49	0,92	1,14	1,16
<i>Slovakia</i>	0,04	0,07	0,12	0,13	0,15	0,18	0,19
<i>Slovenia</i>	0,18	0,17	0,21	0,22	0,25	0,24	0,25
<i>USA</i>	23,25	28,45	34,81	39,26	44,18	48,18	50,66
<i>Turkey</i>	1,16	1,22	1,28	1,32	1,37	4,35	5,88
<i>Hungary</i>	0,35	0,32	0,30	0,37	0,44	0,48	0,51
<i>Finland</i>	0,06	0,10	0,14	0,19	0,23	0,31	0,38
<i>France</i>	5,90	6,09	6,28	6,74	7,31	7,87	8,33
<i>Czech Republic</i>	0,11	0,17	0,22	0,32	0,40	0,42	0,51
<i>Chile</i>	0,11	0,14	0,18	0,28	0,38	0,64	0,94
<i>Switzerland</i>	1,39	1,48	1,57	1,81	2,08	2,42	2,57
<i>Sweden</i>	0,79	0,94	1,00	1,13	1,38	1,68	2,01
<i>Japan</i>	1,08	1,36	1,69	2,01	2,13	2,23	2,50
<i>In general, OECD countries</i>	65,55	75,29	87,40	101,69	117,24	130,23	144,23

It is significant that despite the fourfold increase in the migrants' number over the last 60 years (72 million people in 1960 and 281 million in 2020 (see Fig. 1), the share of international migrants increased during the specified period slightly more than 1% and not exceeding 3.5% of the world total population (Fig. 2). This indicates the qualitative nature of international migration, namely the dominance of labor migration in the structure of migration movements.

Today, the world migration circuit includes several main directions of migration flows:

- from low-income countries to high-income countries;
- migration within high-income countries;
- migration between countries with low level of income;
- migration of scientific personnel and highly qualified workers (multidirectional);
- migration within transnational structures (internal corporate labor market).

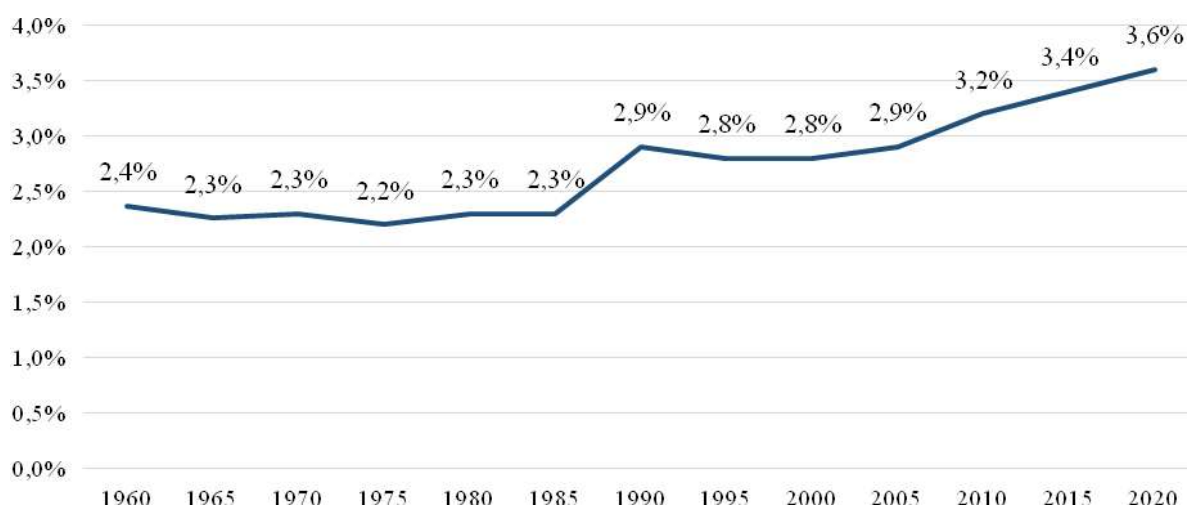


Fig. 2. The share of international migrants in the total population of the world, 1960-2020, % [4]

The direction of migration flows mainly to countries with a high level of income (Fig. 3) confirms the predominance of economic reasons for migration. At the same time, the growth of labor migrants' share in the developed countries labor force structure (Fig. 4) indicates their interest in the inflow of foreign labor. This creates for less economically powerful countries a set of serious challenges related to the actual formation of prerequisites for the outflow of workers (differences in the level of wages, opportunities for professional self-realization, quality of life, etc.) and determines the potential directions of external migration.

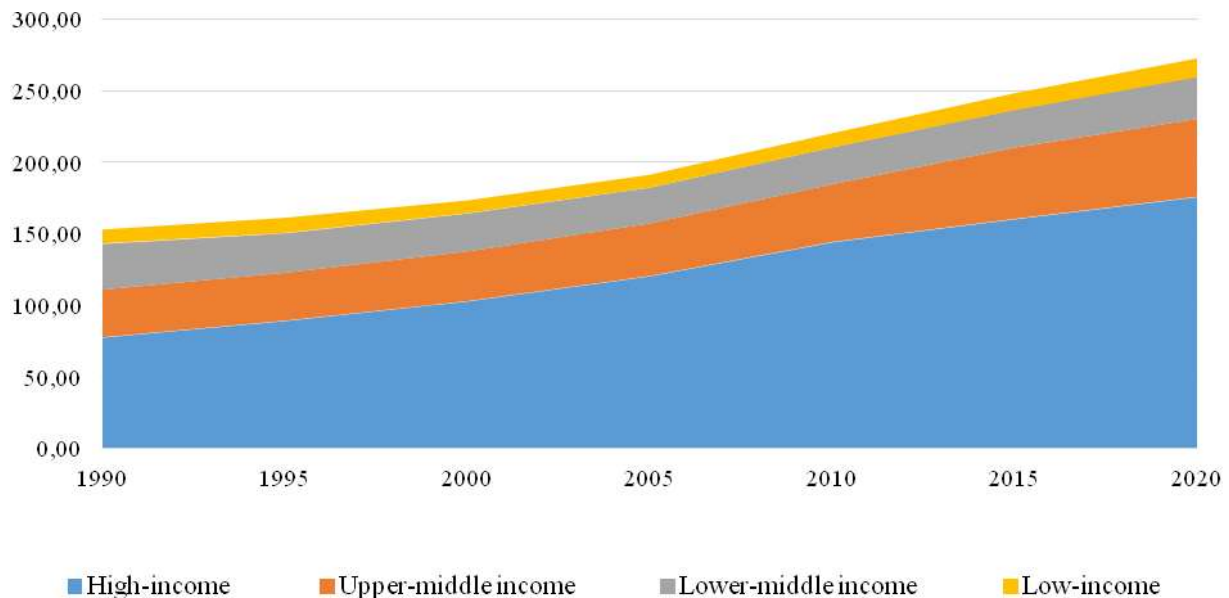


Fig. 3. The number of international migrants in the world by groups of destination countries in 1990-2020, million people [3]

There is an increase in the share of young people in the structure of labor migration. In the case of irreversible migration this could lead to a reduction in the workforce number in countries of origin, an outflow of talent, and as a result - to a negative impact on the prospects of economic growth.

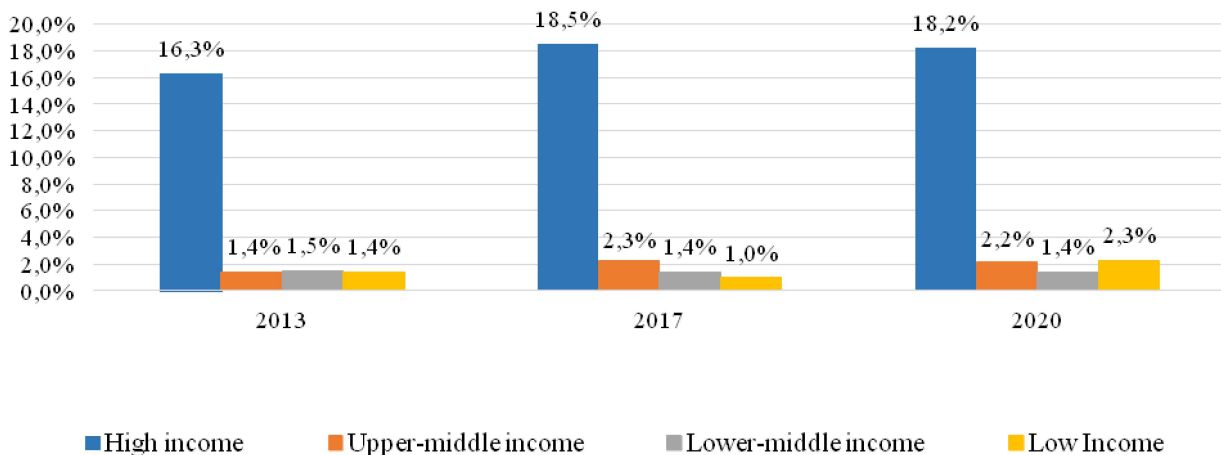


Fig. 4. The share of labor migrants in the total workforce by country groups by income level, 2013-2020, % [5]

Labor migration is closely related to the rate of employment and unemployment. It is significant that in all groups of countries the employment rate of immigrants is higher than among the native population. This gap is especially significant in countries with a high level of income, which indicates their labor resource dependence on workers of foreign origin (Fig. 5). This dependence is especially noticeable in the highly qualified segment due to the shortage of highly qualified labor, due to its role in shaping the development prospects of countries.

According to the OECD almost 80% of migrants belonged to the economically active category, while more than 70% were employed and less than 8% were unemployed in 2022. In more than half of the OECD countries, the level of migrant employment was the highest for more than two decades [6].

Modern trends in the international migration development are the reflection of structural shifts in the system of the global division of labor against the background of the global productivity crisis. Under the influence of scientific and technological progress, population aging and negative demographic trends in the leading countries, the demand for highly qualified labor continues to grow. This causes the intensification of intellectual migration flows from less economically powerful countries to more economically powerful ones. Economically developed countries in order to stable national labor markets, consider the involvement of foreign labor as a basic component of economic development strategies.

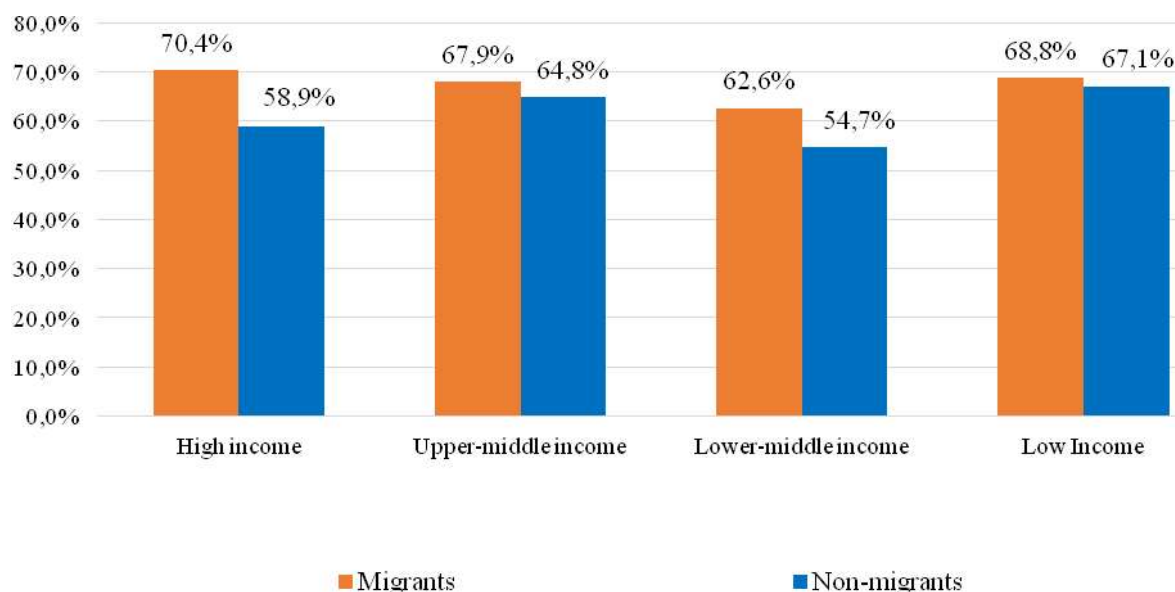


Fig. 5. Labor force participation rate of migrants and non-migrants, distribution by country groups by income level, 2022 (% of population aged 15 and over) [4]

Such countries include, first of all, countries of so-called “permanent immigration” - the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand - as well as Germany and France (Fig. 6), which build preferential migration regimes for intellectual migrants (scientists, teachers, researchers, engineers, doctors, students, graduate students, etc.) as sources of international competitiveness.

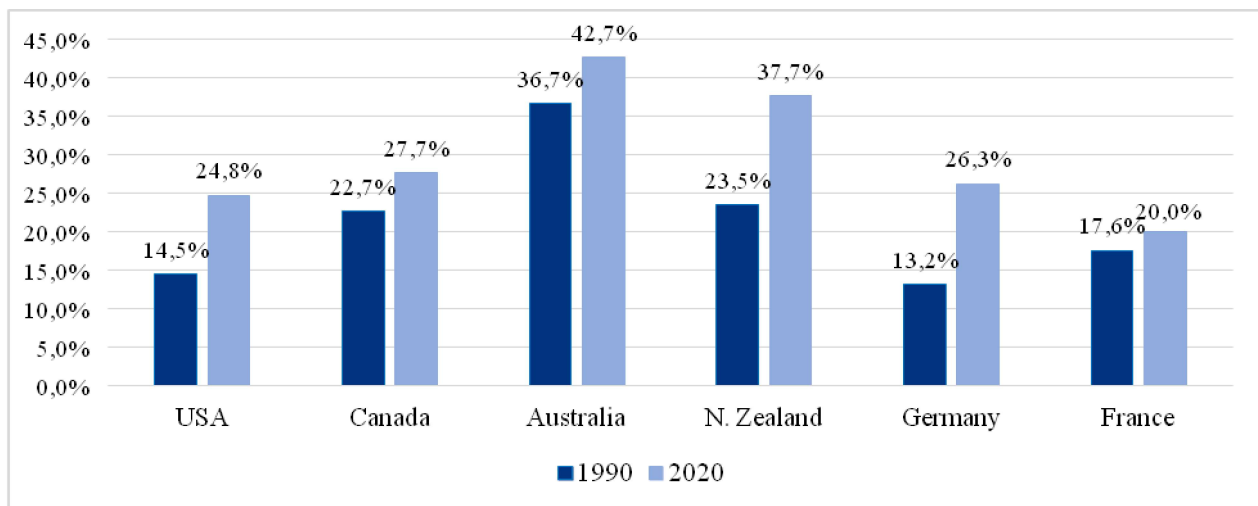


Fig. 6. The share of international migrants aged 15-64 in the labor force, 1990, 2020, % [4]

Today, we can talk about the characteristic content of international labor migration, the leading element of which is the intellectual component ("brain drain") as a result of the formation of a global labor shortage. Although the basic causes of intellectual migration coincide with the causes of general labor migration, the specifics of intellectual migration are related to the motivational factors of economic migration of highly educated labor force: their desire for self-realization, which a priori forms a higher potential mobility of qualified workers.

At the current stage, international migration is primarily an economic phenomenon, as a result of which international labor movements can have multidirectional economic consequences and lead to the emergence of a complex of problems both in the countries of origin and in the host countries. The objective of states to eliminate the negative consequences of labor resource movements causes the intensification of attempts to influence the international labor market with the aim of forming unified conditions for the labor use.

Since the regulation of international migration has a supranational nature, the relevant levers are built at the level of international institutions: the International Labor Organization, the International Organization for Migration, regional economic communities, etc. At the same time, in the conditions of globalization, interrelationships between the supranational and national levels are of crucial importance. Under the conditions of their effectiveness, the prerequisites for controlling the labor resource situation and the corresponding levers of influence are formed.

In addition, the ILO Fair Migration Program emphasizes the importance of interstate cooperation to promote the practice of fair migration, mostly in the case of temporary labor movement or the movement of workers with particularly in-demand skills [7].

There is a need to develop a set of norms and tools aimed at the international labor standards' unification, which are based on the principles of decent work, promulgated by the ILO [8]. In particular, according to the ILO Decent Work Program, decent work is given a primary place in the development of national economic and social policies, a determining role in ensuring balance and social justice.

Conclusions. Thus, at the current stage, the fundamentals of the international labor market functioning are being transformed - international labor migration is the most important link of labor supply. Against the background of population aging and negative demographic trends in the leading countries, the demand for labor is increasing, which causes the intensification of migration flows from less economically powerful countries to more economically powerful ones.

Due to the fact that the formation of competitive advantages is determined by the availability of highly qualified labor force, host countries build preferential migration regimes for intellectual migrants as a source of international competitiveness. At the same time, this actualizes the problem of brain drain and determines the need for regulatory influence on the state of the international labor market in order to form unified conditions for the use of labor in the world labor resource space.

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