

Theoretical Aspects of Migration and its Impact on Political Processes

Denis Ivanovich Igonin* and Ruslan Faritovich Garipov

Kazan Federal University, Russia

Abstract: The authors of the paper set the goal of examining the theoretical aspects of migration and showing the relationship between the influence of this social phenomenon on the political processes of the state and state policy in general. The authors highlight the main interdisciplinary approaches to the definition of the term "migration" with the aim of concretizing it in political science within the framework of the study. The study also answers the question of the relationship between "policy" and "politics" within a migration policy by comparing "state migration policy" and "migration policy", concerning which there is a different interpretation. The object of research is migration. The subject is migration policy and state migration policy. The topic is relevant because in the early 2000s migration acquired a new global scale under the influence of many heterogeneous factors often caused by adverse economic, social and socio-psychological conditions, as well as military conflicts of an interreligious and ethno-political nature. The research uses systemic, comparative, institutional, and ethno-political approaches. The systematization of approaches presents the scientific novelty to the definition of migration, as well as by the mutual influence of migration processes and political and administrative decisions.

Keywords: Migration, Migration process, Political process, Political system, State policy.

INTRODUCTION

It is important to consider the main approaches to the concept of "migration", "migration process" from the point of view of their concretization in political science, and to show the relationship of migration with the political reality of the state and political processes in society as part of the study (Toth-Bos, Wisse and Farag 2019; Antoshchuk & Ledeneva, 2019; Brailovskaia, Schönfeld, Kochetkov and Margraf 2019; Koprina, 2019).

Academic and political discussions on migration and refugee crises around the world have not yet thoroughly discussed the role of cross-border population mobility in the diplomatic strategies of states. This article sets out the idea of "migration diplomacy" for scholars and practitioners alike as an object of study, separating it from other types of policies and practices relevant to migration (Adamson & Tsourapas, 2019). Migration is a global phenomenon that has developed with a vengeance in the early 2010s of the 21st century under the influence of many diverse factors. The migration flows of people moving across state borders are influenced by economic, natural-geographical, cultural and general conditions, as well as negative social and socio-psychological conditions generated by internal conflicts and contradictions of an interreligious and ethnic political nature, and also humanitarian disasters. The

complexity of migration processes lies not only in the problem of resettlement of migrants but also in the consequences to which these movements lead. In the scientific literature, there are several dozen definitions of migration that have different semantic meanings.

METHODS

The methodology of the work is based on the conceptual provisions available in the scientific research of foreign and Russian academic experts dealing with migration issues, migration processes and migration policy. The work used research tools of interdisciplinary knowledge and political science. Systemic, structural-functional, institutional, comparative and ethno-political approaches were applied.

RESULTS

A number of interdisciplinary approaches have emerged within the framework of the conducted studies of migration as a phenomenon.

In line with the *demographic approach*, the emphasis is placed on considering the number, gender and age characteristics of migrants; the impact of migration and migration flows on the life of the population of regions and countries of the host society is also analyzed. An important feature of the activities of expert demographers is the question of the impact of migration on the growth of the population size of states and its replacement.

The economic approach is focused on the study of migration as the quintessence of the production of

*Address correspondence to this author at the Kazan Federal University, Russia; E-mail: l.education.3@mail.ru

human potential for the development of the economic environment and the creation of conditions for "healthy" competitiveness in the sphere of services and employment of the population.

The *legal direction* focuses on the nature of the legal status of migrants and on the issues of regulatory support in the process of controlling human movements.

The *psychological direction* proposes to define migration from the point of view of a certain polymotivated phenomenon in society, arising from human mobility, in the process of realizing a person's needs. Migration is a human activity associated with resettlement and carried out in time and space; it is focused on changing the place of residence and acquiring resources in a new environment (Bondyрева and Kolesov 2004; Stepanova, Garnov, Brykin and Jancikova 2019).

The *sociological approach* focuses on the issues of socio-cultural integration, adaptation and "survival" of migrants, on connections between arriving groups of people and the local population, the qualitative composition of migrants and the mechanisms of migration impact on the social system of society.

In line with the study of the impact of migration on political processes, political science focuses on the activities of state institutions of power.

To begin with, it is essential to define what migration is in general terms. Migration is virtually any crossing of borders and territories carried out to find a new place of residence or temporary presence for various short-term purposes (labour, educational, commercial, tourist, religious migration, etc.), regardless of the conditions affecting them (Kononov & Glinskaya, 2019; Fayzullina, 2015; Nesterova, Suslova, Tsyiganov and Kobzeva 2015).

Having a general understanding of migration, it becomes possible to define it from the point of view of political science.

Particular attention should be paid to the definition of migration acting as a change in the political reality of various levels of a state under the influence of migration flows that go beyond the state or administrative boundaries for a fairly long period of time (Viktorovich, Andreevich and Stanislavovna 2019; Dudin, Frolova, Kovalev, Ermakova and Kirsanov 2017).

From the standpoint of political science, all kinds of migration and migration policy are political actions. Migration acts not as something independently separate, but as an instrument of politics (Metelev, 2016; Vinogradova, Kulyamina, Koroleva and Larionova 2015; Gryshova, Kofman and Petrenko 2019).

The result of the above is that the approaches used in political science in the analysis of migration processes place emphasis on the fact that migration has an impact on the political environment of a state.

DISCUSSION

Within the framework of this work, migration acts as a factor influencing the political environment and the political process of the host society. The political process reflects the dynamism of the political life of both the recipient society and the donor society, which contributes to the politicization of migration processes. Politics is that sphere of people's life that affects all areas of human life and the processes taking place within this society. Migration is no exception. Hence the political component of migration processes. Therefore, the active participation of the subjects of the migration process is focused on the activities of realizing their interests within the conditions of the particular political system and in the specific decision-making process.

As a result, the migration process is not only a part of the society but also the political process, which reflects the dynamism of the political life of both the recipient society and the donor society. Besides, migration processes affect the development of all spheres of society. The activity of migrants is quite massive; therefore, it requires the realization of their interests by political measures, in particular by the activities of the state.

During the analysis of this problem, it is proposed to consider a comparison of two significant concepts of the topic as migration policy and state migration policy.

In modern theoretical studies, many scientists put an equal sign to these two concepts.

Migration policy is a combination of factors, methods and measures of control over migration movement. Migration policy is an array of measures necessary to regulate migration flows and the model of migration required within the state (Homra, 1976). Migration policy is a state policy aimed at regulating the number, quality, vector of movement, location and

adaptation of migrants, which are considered part of the national (ethnic) policy and are associated with demographic problems, as they affect the population size and its qualitative composition and are steadily involved in the historical process of the development of society (Shakhbanova, Gafiatulina, Vereshchagina, Samygin and Imgrunt 2016).

When considering the policy in the field of migration, the political science perspective is focused on the regulation of migration with the help of state institutions of power and the activities of other political institutions of society.

We can represent the group of foreign authors studying migration issues in political science by the following names: G. Freeman (Freeman 1995), S. Stetter (Stetter 2000) and A. Zolberg (Zolberg 1989). As the goal of the state policy in the field of migration, they consider the existence of a control regime for the movement of people, a set of criteria for the proximity of a migrant to the host society and the role of political institutions in regulating migration processes and the political system as a whole.

As a result, the approaches to migration policy presented in work are based on the primary role of the state in regulating migration processes.

Let's move on to the consideration of the "state migration policy" itself. Policy in the field of state activity is a strictly directed action in solving various social problems in the field of economy, social environment, defence, etc. reflecting the basic principles and values of the use of power.

Migration policy expresses itself as a complex social phenomenon; it is formed as a complex of connections and interactions between participants in political relations being representatives of the authorities at the national, regional and municipal levels, interest groups, unions of entrepreneurial activity for the hiring of labour, political parties, and national cultural communities. From this perspective, the concept of migration policy is related to the term "politics": the whole complex of political relationships, practices, types of political activity, articulation of public interests carried out by actors of political activity. "Policy" is specific decisions and actions, programs, and concepts adopted, as a rule, by public authorities.

Migration policy of a state nature is perceived as the activity of authorities in the process of regulating the migration mobility of people in the course of the

implementation by them of the tasks to minimize the negative consequences of population movements and create conditions for the effective integration of migrants. In this case, the state migration policy correlates with the concept of "policy" and reflects a complex of state management measures called a strategy. The difference between the concepts of "politics" and "policy" in the West is perceived as the difference between "political" and "politics" itself.

In modern Russian political science, both of these concepts are important in the study of migration. An immigration regime is formed under their influence both as a system of actions by government institutions that establish the procedure for entry, and the possibility of successful integration of migrants into the environment of the host society.

What is special for the state is that it has a monopoly on the use of legalized violence, but, at the same time, it is an organization that ensures the security of the country's population.

Any state policy contains two main components: strategic and tactical. A plan for the implementation of the adopted government decisions is formed based on strategic and tactical considerations. At the moment, the strategic component is present as its goals in the Concept of State Migration Policy approved on June 13, 2012. In addition, consideration of tactical tasks is essential. The tactical component serves as a strategic component and represents the links intended to achieve common goals. The tactics depend on the strategy.

The strategy in the migration policy of the state is a goal-setting basis determined for the implementation of goals in the long term. In turn, tactics represent individual decisions and actions focused on the execution of internal tasks in the strategy. It is crucial here to understand what the fundamental goals of the state are. One of the most important strategic goals is the preservation of the national security of the state due to the management of migration processes.

It is important to note that politics is viewed as integrity. This complex self-regulatory mechanism enters into constant contact with the external environment (being the rest of the public life areas) through the "input" and "output" of the political system. Moreover, the political system itself constantly feels the effect of this environment, that is, migration processes. The political system as a self-regulating mechanism

puts forward responses as a reaction to the impulses of the external environment while adapting to these conditions, i.e. the input of the political system receives the requirements of the subjects of the migration process, and decisions are made, and actions called strategy are carried out at the output (Parsons 1967).

In political science, two environments of the system are distinguished, which we will define as factors of state migration policy: intrasocial (internal) and extra social (external) (Easton 1977). The first includes economics, social life, culture, etc. The second is the sphere of international activity.

Internal factors determine the conditions under which there are formed migration flows, which are related to the political system of society. Hence, the state policy in the field of migration focuses on the development of the economy in the country; strives to preserve the socio- and ethnocultural values of the population, and, therefore, aims to familiarize migrants with the socio-cultural environment of the host society, and solves problems of a demographic nature, i.e. replenishment of the population due to inflow of migrants.

The sphere of international activity in the state policy on migration is characterized by the globalization factor. Importance in the process of globalization is attached to the development of relations at the supranational level between participants from different countries in many spheres of society. This encourages the development of relationships in the area where the world economic activity is implemented and the opportunities for migration mobility of the labour force increase. Then mutual obligations between the countries emerge; acts and agreements aimed at regulating migration are signed. They sufficiently bring together the principles of migration policies of states. This activity contributes to the development of rules and norms, according to which the models of migration regimes in the world are formed.

Participation in global international processes of a country in line with the formation of migration flows largely depends on its potential. International migration flows of different quality have different effects on the variability of the aspects of national economic activity. These impacts may or may not be significant, local, regional, macroeconomic, positive, neutral or negative in their value. They are able to influence the technical and economic sphere, the modernization of the country, the intercultural relations of the population,

their ethnocultural peculiarities, the power of various levels, the range of political institutions, the labour sphere, the market, employment, unemployment, the budget of the state and municipal levels, and also have the opportunity to have access to nationwide resources.

Thus, the political system expresses the interests of the environment, which are defined as requirements at the input of the system in the migration sphere, and resolves them in the form of political decisions taken - at the output of the system, as a state policy in the field of migration.

The state migration policy is based on the following basis (its goal): the preservation of social stability in the country through the regulation of migration processes. The political system responds to impulses coming from the environment, i.e. other areas of society, and strives for sustainable development and functioning through avoiding conflict situations provoked by the external (migration) environment.

Summing up the results, it is important to note that the strategic component of the state's migration policy should be expressed in an adequate response to environmental impulses and should respond to external and internal conditions to maintain the existence of the system as a whole.

The state denotes the dynamism of the general national level of the political process through the adoption of normative legal acts for the purpose of their implementation by the bodies that control and regulate migration. The functions of political life are able to be determined by migration flows, and this leads to the politicization of migration: the formation of strategic concepts in the field of regulation of migration processes is taking place.

There occurs a transfer from the national level to the regional level of the political process in terms of the implementation of strategic goals aimed at preserving the unity of the country through control over migration flows, and adaptation depending on regional conditions.

As noted earlier, migration processes are different in their structure, nature and course. Based on this, it is customary to divide migration into immigration and emigration and divide the state migration policy into immigration, emigration and re-emigration policies. Immigration policy is a state policy, the subjects of which seek to implement the interests of the country in

the process of placing migrants aimed at temporary stay or permanent residence.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be recommended that the following directions can be advantageous: reducing the number of labour migrants, developing the possibilities of returning for compatriots who left the country once, and their maximum adaptation level.

Simultaneously, the tasks of the state policy in the field of emigration are practical measures to reduce the number of unemployed citizens by eliminating unemployment and expelling illegal labour elements from the receiving social environment, stimulating the receipt of means from labour migrants for carrying out activities in the territory of the receiving state.

Overall, the outcomes and applicable recommendations of the study can be summarized as below:

1. Migration and migration processes are a complex array of problems that demand understanding through interdisciplinary efforts. The cognition of migration and migration processes from the political science perspective plays a unique role in studying the place of migration in political processes.
2. Migration is viewed as labour and demographic potential and, at the same time, as a challenge for the socio-political system of the host country. Hence, migration is stated as a phenomenon that is inevitably politicized in virtually any country where, one way or another, migration processes take place.
3. The correlation between migration processes and politics has a multifaceted form: migration acts as a source of problems, which requires the adoption of important political decisions and is conditioned by the activity of political actors, and as an object of influence in the course of making the same decisions.
4. Policy in the field of migration expresses itself a complex social phenomenon and is formed as a complex of connections and interactions between participants in political relations, which are representatives of the authorities at the national, regional and municipal levels, and also

interest groups, unions of entrepreneurial activity for the recruitment of labour, political parties, national and cultural communities.

5. Migration problems that affect the social environment of the host countries affect the interests of many social groups thereby causing conflicts and contradictions; they reflect the essence of their impact on the political process and the political system of society.

Migration as a social phenomenon forms a complex array of problems that require their understanding through interdisciplinary efforts, including in political science. Migration has a significant impact on the political life of society.

Migration policy is the activity of subjects of political relations on migration issues.

State migration policy is the activity of state institutions of power aimed at regulating migration flows and taking measures to prevent contradictions.

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