

**"Migration Flows, Sustainable Development and Neighbourhood Policy
in the New EU Countries"**

Mary V. Maslovich

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Introduction.

Economic prosperity and political stability of the EU are the factors which attract a lot of migrants in the Region. These factors greatly influence on the migration flows.

The specificity of migration policy is that it touches upon the topics concerned with economic policy and at the same time with such phenomenal aspects as culture of the society, its traditions and identity. That is why there is a great necessity of complex studying of the questions concerning the migration policy. While planning the migration policy governors should consider demographic aspects of the society, sufficiency of labour force and cultural situation in the country.

Migration policy becomes one of the most popular aspects of the western science. The reason for this is that the migration problems are the most urgent questions during elections in different European countries.

The European Union is enjoying an unprecedentedly high standard of living, and the longest peace in its history - but what about the states just outside its borders? Just at a time of ending the division of our continent, it is important that the outer perimeter of the EU should not become a new dividing line.

The European Neighbourhood Policy is about working together with those states who share a land or sea border with the EU, to increase their prosperity and stability too.

Neighbours who want to carry out reforms to improve their standards of democracy and human rights, to increase their access to the Union's single market, to improve the environment or to step up their co-operation with the EU on issues like energy, transport or migration, have the chance to work on a joint Action Plan with the EU, and can look forward to substantial assistance: technical help, political support, and more aid money.

I would like to devote this work to deepening the listed questions such as the migration policy and its particularities in the EU, immigration flows, Neighbourhood Policy of the EU and specificity of the EU's enlargement.

Migration Policy.

Migration policy consists of 3 parts:

- A) The immigration policy concerning the questions of giving to person the habitual residence, with the controlling of illegal immigration, with social welfare of immigrants.
- B) The naturalization policy connected with the terms and procedure of granting the civic rights to legal immigrants.
- C) The integration policy concerning the problems of enrolling the immigrants (especially with other ethnic, racial and religious peculiarities) in the social life of the country.

The term “integration” was introduced for European countries not long ago, in 1980s. at the same time there were ousted such terms as “assimilation” and “insertion”. The main difference between assimilation and integration is that the latter allows for immigrants to maintain their ethnic and cultural peculiarities and even connections with the native country. Integration “works” for a long period of time during the whole process of immigrant’s adaptation to the conditions of a new country. Integration is opposed to segregation and to discrimination of people in connection of place of birth and ethnic origin. Thus, the main questions of the immigration policy are guaranteeing of access to the education, health protection, the provision equal working terms, etc.

I would like to consider three main models of naturalization and integration policies in EU countries: German, French and British.

1) The German nationals are those who have any German ancestor. On the other hand, even for residents of Germany (including those who live on the territory of Germany for a long time) the process of naturalization remains to be very complicated. One more Germany peculiarity is the considerable independence of regions while conducting immigration policy. The requirements for immigrants in Bavaria which is governed by the Christian Social Unity are more strict than in the whole country; in Berlin and in regions which are governed by social democrats the requirements are more mild (the same policy conducts Belgium).

2) France traditionally conducts assimilation policy which resists any forms of differentiation on cultural and language principles in the society. This explains the specificity of the naturalization policy in France. Such policy is conducted not as the target, but as an instrument of integration. It is rather easier to be admitted to the citizenship in France for citizens of ex-French colonies. France doesn’t support the policy of guarantying special rights to the national minorities which is widely-spread in the USA, Great Britain and the Netherlands.

French governors suppose such policy to be a threat to the national unity. On the other hand, France conducts rather mild immigration policy.

3) The peculiarities of the British nationalization policy can be explained by its imperial past. On the one hand, British governors try to restrain immigration processes in the country. On the other hand, there were made arrangements which eliminate all forms of ethnic and racial discrimination in the country. A person fired by the ethnic reason can make a complaint to the Race Equity Commission. Thus, strict immigration policy is combined with the tolerant attitude to ethnic and cultural minorities. This is the main difference between British and French policies.

These are the main aspects concerned with the non-EU nationals.

The nationals of the EU countries enjoy the rights which are determined by the special agreements.

With the course of time the EU countries lose their national sovereignty. But at the same time the sovereignty of the EU as a whole is growing. It can be applied to aspects of the immigration and naturalization policies. Though today there is considerable freedom for countries to conduct their policies, it's obvious that further movement to the All-European citizenship will lead to the unified the EU policy in listed spheres.

Immigration Flows.

The problem of mass immigration is considered so much because of another ulterior problem - attitude of the Western World to Islam. Of course, the Western World is also disturbed by other identities. For instance, Europe is troubled with the migration flows from Tropic Africa and Oceania. Anyway, such flows don't represent an immediate danger to the cultural identity of European countries. The problem of identity has seriously emerged after discussing migration flows in consequence of integration problems of Muslim emigrants. The reason of this is that Muslim countries resume the features which Europe tries to get rid. These are such features as liberalized sexual moral, all-embracing religiosity, opposing of individualism, etc. Such collision makes Islam the main opponent of European modernism and postmodernism.

Islam exerts influence on the politic life of the EU. There are three main forms of such influence:

1) Some representatives of the Muslim community actively began to take part in political life of European countries. These processes are complicated and make it difficult to integrate ex-immigrants in the social life of the country and to assimilate them.

2) The movement “Politik Islam” has gained the ground in the European society though it doesn’t actually touch the immigration questions.

3) The problem of Islam radically transforms the political orientations of Western countries, it creates new political identities in the society.

Progress by Means of Enlargement.

The European Commission approved the Strategy Paper and the candidate countries' (Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey) and potential candidate countries' (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244) progress reports on their road towards the EU.

The EU can't refuse of admitting the six countries of the Balkan Peninsula in its members though there is a great flow and “tiredness” because of enlargement of the EU. Balkan countries are a real “powder-barrel of Europe”. There has been no peace in these countries. In 20th century they had some impulses for ethnic strikes in consequence of communist crises. Europe watched how the nation of ex-Yugoslavia defended their independence. Today the question of Kosovo is still opened.

Thus, there is no sense to talk about Europe's stability without safety on the Peninsula. At the same time the best way to “calm” these states is to make them reform the political and economical sphere by the standards of the EU. The main stimulus for this is to open the prospects for membership in the EU.

Enlargement of the EU is one of the most problematic questions of political life which was one of the reasons of the institutional crises of the EU. The population of the EU is not completely satisfied with the Brussels' policy of the enlargement. This has two main reasons:

- 1) A heavy financial burden on the Europeans (especially on France and Germany – financial engines of the EU) in consequence of accepting the new members in the EU;
- 2) Problem of the labour migration.

The second reason complicates the employment situation for native citizens of European countries and promotes social and cultural problems.

As the British Ministry of Social Defense Frank Field declares “For the native British its becoming harder to find a job while the quantity of workplaces is growing”. Actually looking on Great Britain we can see that this country has a specific position in questions of integration in EU. Its enough to remember its refuse to join the Euro Zone and Schengen Visa. At the same time British government kindly treats the new members of the EU. Great Britain doesn’t set quotas on Eastern Europeans who work in Britain. Liberal economy of last 20 years has revived the competitiveness of the British economy and won back the fame of the financial center of the world to its capital – London. Great Britain has always supported the process of enlargement of EU and such position remains till these days.

In connection of enlargement the question of labour migration becomes the most topical in the EU. Thus, the leaders of preelection race in the Netherlands were the Liberals and the Labour Party. Both of them raise a question of strict restrictions in immigration. The members of the Labour Party in their national impulse made the decision to exclude all the ethnic Turks which deny the fact of Armenian genocide in 1915. And the leader of the Liberals Mark Rutt declared that the key factor of success in immigration policy of the Netherlands is the reducing of immigration in the country.

The question of immigration has become the main aspect in the preelection campaign of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs Nicola Sarkosi. On his initiative the National Meeting of France passed the resonant law about “selective immigration” in summer 2006. the aim of this law is to create all the conditions to attract qualified labour force to the country and to cut off those who are not interesting for the country. Germany also has a strict position concerning the labour immigrants. It is known that the rate of unemployment forced the government to close the German labour market for Romanians and Bulgarians for the whole 7 years after Bucharest’s and Sophia’s admitting to the EU. These are the most well-known precedents of “struggle” against immigration flow in the European countries.

Thus, the main task for the EU is to find the compromise which would conciliate “anti-enlargement” attitude of the Europeans with the objective need of integration of the Balkanian countries in the EU. That is why one of the points of the Strategy of enlargement of the EU is a necessity of legitimization of the idea of enlargement for Europeans. Brussels intends to do this by:

- 1) Widely covered information of the enlargement process to make it open and transparent;
- 2) Strong control of the reformation process in Balkanian countries and in Turkey.

At the same time the European Commission insists that admitting of new members in the EU positively influences on the whole economic situation in Europe.

According to the report published in Great Britain this fall 550 thousand people came in the country after the last enlargement of the EU. These immigrants took the positions in which the labour market of Great Britain had shortage. These are positions in such spheres as administration, management, tourism, medicine, agriculture, etc. By such a way the economy got the injection of more than \$500mln.

As a result the economists consider that the enlargement has led to the division of labour and has made the EU more competitive in the global economy.

European Neighborhood Policy.

The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) was developed in 2004, with the objective of avoiding the emergence of new dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its neighbours and instead strengthening the prosperity, stability and security of all concerned.

The EU offers its neighbours a privileged relationship, building upon a mutual commitment to common values (democracy and human rights, rule of law, good governance, market economy principles and sustainable development). The ENP goes beyond existing relationships to offer a deeper political relationship and economic integration. The level of ambition of the relationship will depend on the extent to which these values are effectively shared. The ENP remains distinct from the process of enlargement although it does not prejudge, for European neighbours, how their relationship with the EU may develop in future.

Since the ENP builds upon existing agreements between the EU and the partner in question (Partnership and Cooperation Agreements, or Association Agreements in the framework of the EuroMediterranean Partnership), the ENP is not yet 'activated' for Belarus, Libya or Syria since no such Agreements are yet in force.

In order to realize the vision of building an increasingly closer relationship with its neighbours, and a zone of stability, security and well-being for all, the EU and each ENP partner reach agreement on reform objectives across a wide range of fields within certain “common” areas (from cooperation on political and security issues, to economic and trade matters, common environmental concerns, integration of transport and energy networks, scientific and cultural cooperation). The EU provides financial and technical assistance to support the implementation of these objectives, in support of partners’ own efforts.

Many of the instruments and methods used in the ENP are similar to those used to support transition processes elsewhere.

The European Neighbourhood Policy applies to the EU's immediate neighbours by land or sea – Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine.

Ukraine as One of the EU’s Neighbours.

I would like to draw attention to my native country (Ukraine) which is one of the EU’s neighbours.

The major obstacle for Ukraine to become a member of EU is the level of development of the society, low competitiveness of the economy and low energy efficiency of the economy. For instance, to produce one ton of steel in Ukraine the producers must use much more energy than the EU countries need. This badly influences on the rate of wages in the country, on the rate of government incomes which will be reflected on the social aspects of life in the country. Labour productivity in Ukraine is much lower than in the EU countries.

On May, 23 in Brussels there would be held the next round of negotiations between the EU and Ukraine.

But the chairman of the European Commission is worried about the political situation in the country which impedes the process of negotiations.

Anyway, there is a close cooperation between Ukraine and the EU.

The Action Plan, which has been developed in close consultations with Ukraine throughout 2004, is a political document laying out priority objectives for cooperation between Ukraine and the EU. It is tailor-made to reflect Ukraine's political and economic situation. Intensified cooperation could cover a broad range of areas, including political dialogue, economic and trade relations, people-to-people contacts, cross border co-operation and shared responsibility in conflict prevention and conflict resolution. The Commission has adopted the Action Plan for Ukraine as a demonstration of its full commitment to the country.

The Ukraine Action Plan is one of adopted by the European Commission today. There are also other partner countries for which Action Plans have been adopted. These are such countries as Jordan, Moldova, Tunisia, Morocco, Israel and the Palestinian Authority.

The Action Plans reflect the EU's determination not to allow new dividing lines to develop around the enlarged Union, but rather to export the stability and prosperity that the EU enjoys. The Plans will:

- *offer assistance in bringing legislation or regulations in line with the EU to increase access to the EU internal market

- *offer participation in a number of EU programmes including in the fields of education, research and environment

- *step up co-operation on border management, migration, trafficking in human beings, organised crime, money laundering and financial and economic crimes

- * improve links with the EU in the fields of energy, transport, environment and information technology.

- *increase dialogue and co-operation on counter-terrorism, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, as well as efforts to resolve regional conflict.

Amongst other things, the Ukraine Action Plan foresees co-operation to strengthen the institutions guaranteeing democracy, human rights and the rule of law. It puts a particular focus on the democratic conduct of elections in accordance with OSCE and Council of Europe norms and standards.

In the Action Plan, Ukraine undertakes to ensure full respect for the freedom of the media and expression and for the rights of journalists, including through an improved legal and administrative framework.

Ukraine would also further pursue judicial reform so as to ensure independence, impartiality and efficiency of the judiciary. Taking measures to tackle corruption is also an important objective of the Action Plan.

Furthermore, the Action Plan will provide a basis for intensified EU-Ukraine co-operation on a number of regional and international issues, including on conflict prevention and crisis management.

Conclusions.

This work proves that the migration policy in the country or in the union of countries such as the EU has to be attentively considered. We can see that today there are some problematical questions concerning the migration policy. First of all, it is the question of migration flows from the Muslim countries.

The phenomenon of Muslim immigration activates the contradictions of the liberal and democratic ideas, thus, it affects on the social and cultural kernel of the European World and tries the strength of its moral and politic identity.

Today great attention is paid to the Neighbourhood Policy of the EU.

As to Ukraine, the EU has agreed on the following measures in support of a democratic and reform-oriented country:

- To initiate early consultations on an enhanced agreement between EU and Ukraine.
- To explore possibilities for closer co-operation in the area of foreign and security policy, including European Security Defense policy, particularly with regard to Transnistria. Ukraine will also be invited, on a case by case basis, to align itself with EU positions on regional and international issues.
 - To deepen trade and economic relations between the EU and Ukraine. The review of the existing feasibility study on establishing a Free Trade Area between Ukraine and EU will be accelerated with a view to enable an early start to negotiations once Ukraine has joined the WTO. The EU is also moving quickly on agreements that will provide access to EU markets for Ukraine's steel and textiles exports – which between them make up 30% of Ukraine's exports to the EU.
 - To lend further support to Ukraine's WTO accession and to offer Ukraine continued assistance in meeting the necessary requirements. The EU was one of the first partners to conclude its bilateral protocol with Ukraine in March 2004, whereas negotiations with certain other key WTO members continue.
 - To intensify negotiations regarding visa facilitation, taking into account security aspects.
 - To enhance co-operation in key sectors, including energy, transport, the environment, as well as private sector development. Ukraine is supposed to be treated as a priority country in the ongoing preparations for the extension of Trans-European Networks.

- To step up support for Ukraine's legislative approximation process, including with instruments borrowed from the Enlargement process.
- Efforts in the fields of democracy and rule of law will be an immediate imperative and further targeted assistance including support for strengthening of civil society is envisaged.
- To maximize access to funding from the European Investment Bank and to provide increased financial assistance to Ukraine through the relevant instruments in order to help Ukraine to pursue its reform process.

For each country, the Action Plan is an agenda for work with the EU over the next 3-5 years. The plans do not replace, but build on the existing Association or Co-operation Agreement with each partner.

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