

ANALYSIS OF MIGRATION AS THE ELEMENT OF DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION CONTEXT

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Abstract

According to the demographic tendencies of the last decade the growth of population in the EU is mostly influenced by migration processes. Recently some publications have appeared dealing with the problems of the migration process and deviation from the demographic balance emphasizing some demographic development contravention. Considering that today's developed countries face with a new demographic problem – ageing of society as well as a higher living standard which determined unexplained phenomenon – decreasing birthrate, migration phenomenon can be analysed as the inevitable element of demographic changes because from the demographic aspect birthrate only increases population number whereas death rate only decreases it, consequently, migration will increase or will decrease population number in a particular place depending on the factors influencing it.

Keywords: migration, tendencies, historical paradigms, demographic changes, ageing of population.

Introduction

The international migration phenomenon has always been influenced by history formation and country development, however, today more often than usually, this flow growth is considered to be a difficult phenomenon. Some worldwide known analysts emphasize that we live in “a new migration era”. This era is defined by two events. The first points out a big migration wave, which appeared when the border between East and West was opened, the second one is growing illegal immigration. This topic has been analysed, but is still unending.

The population of the EU makes up 8% per cent of all population. Migration processes cause some different problems and discussions at the EU level, where mainly negative aspects of this phenomenon have been emphasized. Therefore, a negative opinion sometimes obscures the benefit of these processes. According to Petrokaitė, labour market can even become more efficient because employees-foreigners usually react more actively to differences of regional economic possibilities. So, apart from clear negative consequences of these phenomena, inevitability of them can be discussed too, especially nowadays

when birthrate in Europe has been decreasing. This aspect – ageing of the European population – can be seen clearest and usage of migration can be evaluated as one of problem solution ways.

Migration has been discussed more often, which undoubtedly is a relevant problem in our society. Immigration as another phenomenon has been mentioned more often, too. But mobility flows from new to old EU countries are not big enough to influence the EU labour market. More important phenomenon, causing some different consequences, can be not population mobility among the EU countries, but immigration from the countries which are not the members of the Europe Union. Considering relevance of the discussed problem, the research goal has been developed – to identify how immigration processes influence on the demographic situation in the EU countries.

The research object: migration.

The research objectives: 1. To analyse theoretical aspects of migration as the element of demographic change. 2. To carry out analysis of migration as the element of demographic change in the European Union context.

The research methodology: analysis of the scientific literature, analysis of the statistic data, comparative analysis.

Theoretical evaluations of migration as a demographic change element

The term ‘migration’ developed from the Latin word ‘migratio’ which means travelling. International migration defines people’s movement from one country to another and has some forms: immigration – people arrival to a country with the purpose to settle down there, and emigration – departure from a country with the purpose to settle down in another country. Together they make up global migration models which join native and destination countries. The concept of migration defines people’s any movement – in one country or entering another, for a long time or short period, voluntary or constrained, seeking for another job or influenced by unemployment, legal or illegal migration, seeking to change political, social, cultural, economical or other environment (Sipavičienė, 2006). In the scientific literature this term defines any different population movement forms.

Migration as a process can be described as a powerful force which changes society and is one of global changes results. This force deals with and creates some different economical, social and demographic problems. It changes the structure of population age, the proportion of men and women age, the development of the economy. For people migration is a possibility to improve their living conditions changing the living place and work place, for the countries – it is a new source of work force. Migration in its essence and content is much more complex. the third demographic change element after birthrate and death-rate (Turrión, 2005), and its complexity is expressed by the following points:

- migration in its essence is dual, related to the conditions of two areas, their attraction zones and repudiated forces;
- individual motivation, which depends on needs, interests, attitudes and values (Stankūnienė, 2003).

Migration theories have been discussed in different papers, therefore factors can be pointed out that attract immigrants to the developed countries, it is world systems (Castles, Miler, 2003), segment labour markets and segment labour markets and neoclassic macro-economical theories (Massey, 1999).

International migration has a reversible effect on social and economical structures, as the theory of cumulating causality claims (Stark, 1991). All the theories explain why and where people migrate, what factors influence such processes. It is true that immigration can be on explained phenomenon, initiated by economical, social or political reasons and as most of the scientists and emigration and immigration experts claim, it is the result of ‘push’ and ‘attraction’ factors (Okolsky, 2008). An individual’s decision to migrate is influenced by the pushing factors from his native country and attractions of the country where he decided to move. The influence of these factors is selective. Massive migration begins when difference of economical or work possibilities becomes very big. It is understandable that it influences on the growing potential. However, a much more important with much more consequences and requiring more attention phenomenon can be not mobility of population among the countries members, but immigration from the coun-

tries which are not the members of the EU. Therefore. the main work force reproduction sources are natural population increase and population migration.

The developing EU economical system, socially organized labour force have the biggest influence on it. However it is changing, as in any other system, because natural processes of births, growths and deaths are happening all the time. Today’s developed countries face with a new demographic problem – ageing of society. Higher living standards determined unexplained phenomenon – decreasing birthrate. It is forecasted that in 2017 in Europe more people will die than will be born, and in all prospering countries will be 500 thousand deaths a year. In such situation the number of young employees able to occupy free work places in Europe will decrease and the average population number will increase (Junevičius, 2002). It shows that social – demographic problems in the developed countries should be strongly considered creating conditions for birthrate increase. The solution alternative is the processes of labour force migration (Martinkus et al, 2006).

Nowadays migration level is determined by labour market laws of supply and demand as well as the juridical system, regulating migration possibilities (Martinkus et al, 2006). In the economical aspect migration is a response to possibilities of better life, which are changing dependently on the conditions in labour market (for example, differences in wages).

Recently migration flows have become more different and complex. Countries face with migrants of different categories and to control their flow becomes more and more difficult. As Rašimaitė (2007) claims, the Europe an Union countries have to resign to the fact that society is getting older and its place will be occupied by immigrants. Some time ago Germany understood that after the war it was impossible to recover without outside work force and nowadays it has about two million Turkish in the country. The same story can be told by any Europe an Union country because this price was paid fro their prosperity. So it is worth to remember migration formation history process in Europe. Okolsky (1998) divides it into five stages, which were influenced by political and economical aspects:

Table 1

Time paradigms influenced by migration processes in Europe

Time periods	Time paradigms		
	North – West region	South (Mediterranean) region	Central Europe region
1. Postwar migration (1945–1947)	Postwar migration, political and ethnic motives dominate (Germany) (Greece) (all countries)		
2. Labour force recruitment / two-sided contract (1948–1973)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deficit of labour force in the construction sector; - recruitment of foreigners; - „mind outfall“; - typical immigration decrease tendency; - Finland and Iceland characterize most. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deficit of qualified labour force in the construction sector; - different troubles in labour market; - typical strong emigration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international movement is banned; - political and economical events in the Check Republic, Yugoslavia.
3. The beginning of the new global era (1974–1988)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recruitment of labour force was over; - labour force from foreign countries decreased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deficit of labour force in the construction sectors; - low emigration rates; - typical immigration decrease tendency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inside mobility; - mass emigration from Poland; - appearance of ethnic migration motives; - appearance of first emigration features.
4. Communism fall (1989–2004)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - segmentation of labour market (harder jobs for foreigners); - mass legal and illegal immigration; - work permissions for high qualification specialists from foreign countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mass migration; - interregional mobility; - typical immigration decrease tendency. 	
5. Europe an Union / integrated migration space (after 07/2004)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - because of population ageing migration flows have been regulated inside the EU; - big labour market segmentation; - need of highly qualified labour force inside the EU; - low mobility rate inside the EU to the new country-members (Bulgaria, Romania, Poland, Baltic States). 		

(Marek Okolski, 2008. Europa en movimiento. La migracion desde y hacia Europa Central y del Este. 12–13 p. *Fundacio CIDOB*. ISSN 1133-6595).

All this historical transformation shows clear differences formed in different periods among the Europe an countries and classical factors, which influenced an the tendencies of emigration and immigration inside Europe and generated migration flows to the developed countries.

Castlesas and Mileris (1995) pointed out some trends of new globalization, which are typical for nowadays international migration:

1. Acceleration. Migration becomes more mass crossing borders;
2. Variety. Immigrants of many types come to different countries;
3. Globalization. Migration becomes more global, involving more and more countries;
4. Feminism. More women start to migrate.

In the last decades of the XX century fast population growth in the developed European regions stimulated new research on the demographic development consequences. Europe reacts to a growing labour force deficit renewing and coordinating migration policies in all Europe members (Kanopienė, 2008). Today it is relevant to analyse migration trends, flows, sizes as well as its types. Legal, official long-term migration changes into illegal and short-term migration (Stankūnienė, 2003).

The research object of demographic science is population, population number and structure. The statistical research of the dynamic lines, indexes, etc, is used for these analyses. The main demographic elements are considered as following:

Table 2

Elements of demography

Elements of demography	Description
Population	Resident population of the country
Natural change of population	Changes of population, structure, associated with birthrate and death rate. Natural population increase – difference of number of people and death
Population migration	Movement to live from one place to another
Population age	Age of people
Population of employable age	In Lithuania men from 16 to 62, women from 16 to 60 years old
Population ageing	Population ageing is characterized with one rate which is evaluated in some ways. The organization of United Nations recommends defining this rate by number of people over 65.

(made by the authots)

In some countries natural population increase (difference between birthrate and death-rate) is a more important element of population change comparing with migration. Therefore there are some countries where migration is more important than natural population increase. And such situation, according to the specialists, is more typical for developed countries. How is migration nature different from birthrate and death-rate? According to Kasnauskienė (2006):

1. births and deaths are biological events, and migration is not because it does not depend on physiological changes;
2. through the demographical aspect birthrate increases the number of population, death-rate decreases it, and migration both, in some places increases and in some - decreases, according to the factors influenced.
3. birthrate is a process, which is necessary for population survival, deaths are inevitable, whereas people can not migrate and survive.

From all these three processes migration is the most difficult to analyse. Statistics in this area is not reliable. However, more often it is mentioned that demographic pressure, typical for less developed countries, makes bigger need to migrate. And the USA, Europe Union, Australia, New Zealand still remain as the main attraction centers (Stilwell, 2004).

Having analysed the theoretical aspects of the scientific literature it can be claimed that migration is explained as a phenomenon, initiated by economical, social or political reasons. People do not migrate incidentally. Any different possibilities stimulate it, when the main one is that economically strong countries create higher labour and social status perspectives. Consequently migration is the result of global changes which influences different economical, social and

demographic problems, and today's developed countries face with one more demographic problem – society ageing, as well as with unexplained phenomenon of birthrate decrease. Does migration compensate these rates?

To prove the theoretical statements analysis of migration as the element of demographic change has been carried out.

Practical aspects of migration as a demographic change element

Analysing the scientific literature it was noticed that demographic science uses some different demographic modeling methods and while the research object of this science is population, and people's age is one of the main demographic elements, estimating the aspects of migration as a demographic change element in the Europe an Union, it is necessary to analyse tendencies of demographic changes during the last decade.

Many quality of life researchers emphasize that population ageing is a social phenomenon. It is thought that immigration slows down population ageing, because immigrants usually are younger and have more children and emigration increses population ageing. This is especially important for smaller countries. Lithuanian case is the best example of population ageing – when young Lithuanian citizens spread out all over the world, a relative population structure has radically changed.

Assessing demographic tendencies in the EU itself, a noticeable aging of population can be observed and, as depicted in Figure 1. aging of people older than 65 gathers speed. In other words population in the EU countries becomes smaller in number and older.

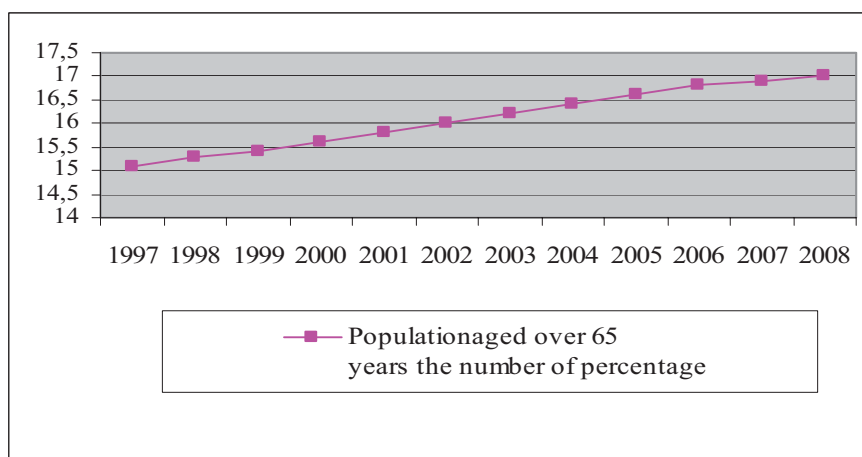


Figure 1. Number of people over 65 years old, in per cent

Source: Eurostat data base.

According to the scientific literature, people born after the war nowadays retire on a pension and must be financially supported by working people which number has been decreasing. Therefore, comparing data on population, ageing and birthrate decrease in the EU countries was already noticed from 1960 and in 2003 it reached 0,2 per cent. It is supposed that labour force deficit in the EU will reach its maximum in about 2050, when 25 million Europeans will retire and every third of them will be over 65 years old (Kirsnyte, 2009). Two forces change population number and structure in the EU: decreasing birthrate and lengthening lifetime. Analyzing birthrate in a retrospective aspect, general growth was 85 per cent during the last five years, the highest growth was noticed in

2005–2006 time period. Analyzing lifetime of people over 85 during the last five years, growth was noticed, which made 101, 78 per cent in 2004–2008 time period. General growth of population in 2004–2008 time period made 102,2 per cent. It can be claimed that while the number of elderly people is growing up, the part of the employable population will decrease. Statisticians forecast that till 2025 only three employable people will fall to one person over 65.

As the EU statistic service states, currently the flows of migration have become more diverse and complicated. Countries face migrants who belong to different categories. Management of migration flows becomes more problematic as the number of immigrants due to economic reasons increased (Figure 2).

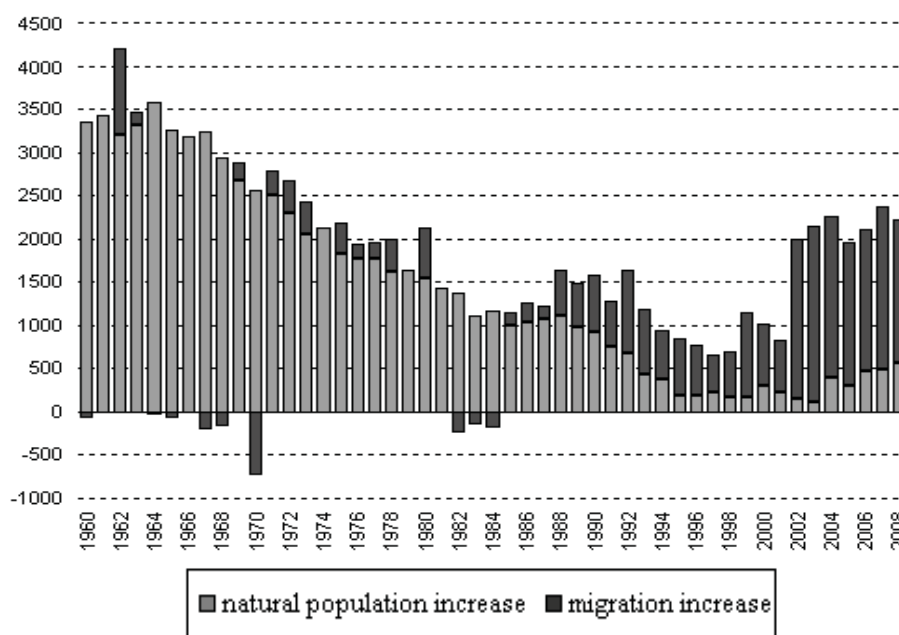


Figure 2. Components of population increase in the European Union in 1960–2008, (in thousands)

Source: Eurostat data base.

During the last five years a growing tendency of migration has been noticed, which in 2008 reached even 1,1 per cent. Europe meets a big amount of immigrants from the third countries. Migration coefficient was highest in 2003 (4,2 per cent). Later in 2006 it fell down to 3,3 per cent and in 2007 it grew up again to 3,8 per cent and in 2008 it fell down again to 3,3 per cent. It is typical that natural population increase in the EU countries in 2005 grew up by 0,4 mln people and because of a positive balance of migration – 1,9 mln of people

During data analysis it was noticed that migration coefficient in the European Union outpaced natural population growth in 1993 and was at the same level during the period till the year 2000 when it soared. In 2008 in fifteen EU countries (from 27) natural population increase grew up and migration rates decreased,

however, it still has bigger influence on population increase, except some countries. Only Latvia, Lithuania and Bulgaria had population decrease tendencies determined by natural population decrease as well as migration process decrease. In Poland natural population increase rate is almost the same as migration rate increase, however, as seen in Fig. 4, in Hungary, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Estonia and other European Union countries only migration compensated natural population increase rate. According to the statistics of the EU countries, migration rates today are higher than natural population increase. Only in four EU countries – Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia and Slovenia – in 2008 this number had minus migration rates. The most intensive population increase is typical for Iceland (12 per cent), France (4,5 per cent), Luxembourg (4,3 per cent). In the other countries, where birth-

hrate is higher than death-rate, it makes up only 4 per cent (Figure 3).

As shown in Figure 3, migration processes in Europe determine population increase. In 2008 the biggest increase because of migration was in Italy, and, according to analysts, made up 485 thousand people,

in Spain (464 thousand people), in Great Britain (294 thousand people). In other countries it was less than 81 thousand, for example, in France – 67 thousand people, in Sweden – 58 thousand people, in Germany, which usually has had a high rate of immigrants, in 2008 was only 5 thousand people.

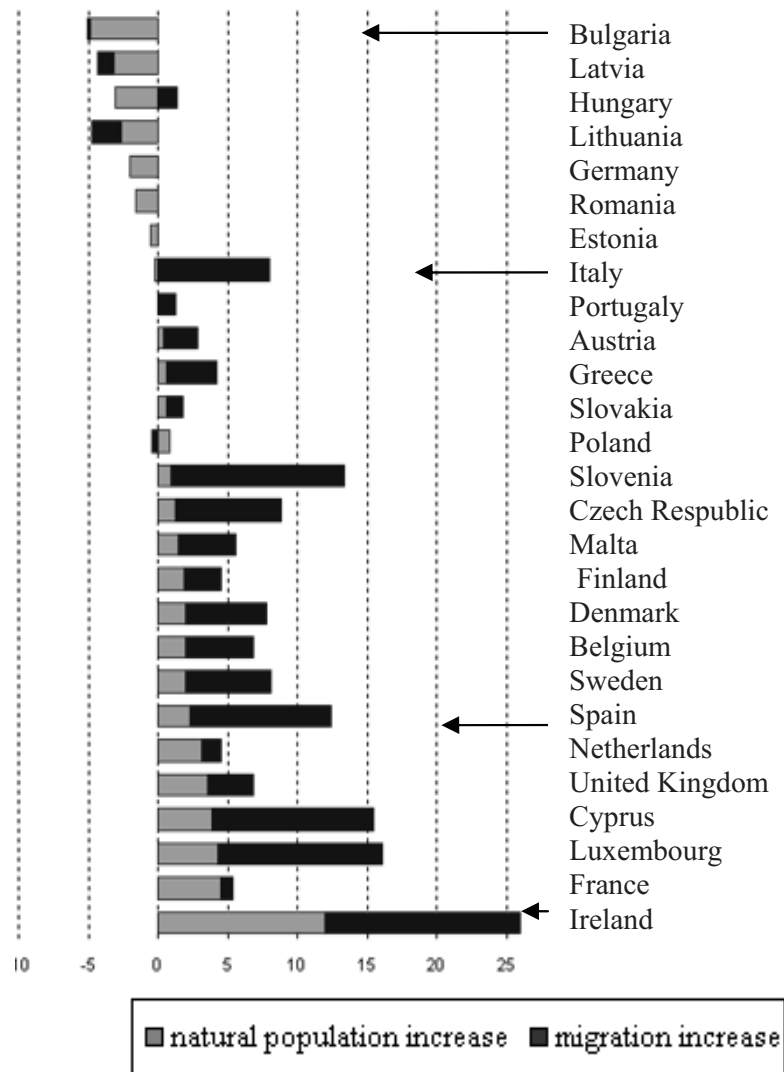


Figure 3. Scale of population increase components in the Europe an Union in 2008, (per cent)

Source: <http://demoscope.ru/weekly/2009/0359/barom01.php>

Analyzing birthrate in the retrospective aspect, general growth was 85 per cent during the last five years, highest growth was noticed in 2005–2006 time period. Analyzing lifetime of people over 85 during the last five years, growth was noticed, which made up 101, 78 per cent in 2004–2008 time period. It can be claimed that while the number of elderly people is growing up, the part of employable population will decrease. After performed demographic indicator analysis it can be claimed that while the natural birthrate is decreasing, demographic rates in many Europe an

Union countries have been compensated by the number of immigrants. General migration increase in all 27 EU countries was almost 80 per cent in 2007, and 78 per cent in 2006. According to the report of the Europe an commission, immigrants from new EU members have a positive influence on labour market rates and economical growth in every country. The EU members seek to attract educated migrants and in this way to compensate a low birthrate level and to solve population ageing problems.

Conclusions

1. Having analysed the theoretical aspects of the scientific literature it can be claimed that migration is explained as a phenomenon, initiated by economical, social or political reasons. People do not migrate incidentally. Any different possibilities stimulate it, when the main one is that economically strong countries create higher labour and social status perspectives. Consequently, migration is a result of global changes which influence different economical, social and demographic problems.
2. The research object of demographic science is population, population number and structure. The structure is influenced by different demographic elements where migration is one of them. In the scientific literature it is claimed that birthrate only increases population number, and death rate only decreases it, consequently, migration will increase or will decrease population number in a particular place dependently on the factors influencing it.
3. Estimating the demographic tendencies in the EU, marked population ageing has been noticed. Two forces change population number and its structure: decreasing birthrate and lengthening lifetime. Analyzing birthrate in the retrospective aspect, general growth was 100 per cent during the last five years, highest growth was noticed in 2005–2006 time period. Analyzing lifetime of people over 85 during the last five years, growth was noticed, which made up 101, 78 per cent in 2004–2008 time period. General growth of population in 2004–2008 time period made up 102,2 per cent. It can be claimed that while the number of elderly people is growing up, the part of employable population will decrease.
4. Considering population ageing in the European Union, the practice of migration could be estimated as one of problem solving ways. When natural population increase is falling down, demographic rates in the EU have been compensated only by the number of immigrants. It can be claimed that well regulated immigration flows from the third countries to the EU and general policies can benefit, because Eurostat forecast for 2010–2030 claims that even immigration flows would stay the same, EU will lose about 20 million of working people because of population decrease and ageing.
5. Migration as an element of demographic change and scenario should remain active in the future, too. Trends, flows, sizes and even migration structure are being changed and now it does not match its classical conception, but becomes a phenomenon of population mobility.

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Migracijos kaip demografinio pokyčio elemento Europos Sąjungos kontekste analizė

Santrauka

Tarptautinis migracijos reiškinys visada turėjo didelės įtakos istorijos formavimuisi, šalies raidai, tačiau šiandien, dažniau nei bet kada, šių srautų augimas vadinamas sudėtingu fenomenu. Kai kurie pasaulio analitikai pabrėžia, kad gyvename „naujoje migracijos eroje“. **Straipsnio aktualumas:** migracijos procesai sukelia įvairių problemų ir diskusijas ES, dažnai kalbama vien tik apie neigiamus šių reiškinų aspektus, tačiau kartais išankstinės nuomonės nustelbia ir galimą šių procesų naudą. Tačiau nekalbant apie neigiamas šių reiškinų pasekmes, galima padiskutuoti apie neišvengiamus, ypač šiuo metu, kai krinta Europos gimstamumo rodikliai. Būtent šis aspektas – Europos gyventojų senėjimas – yra akivaizdžiausias. Galbūt pasinaudojimas migracija gali būti vertinamas kaip vienas problemos sprendimo būdų.

Dabar daug ir dažnai diskutuojama apie emigraciją, kuri yra gana aktuali mūsų visuomenės problema. Ne taip gausiai, bet vis dažniau prabylama ir apie kitą reiškinį – imigraciją. Mobilumo srautai iš naujųjų į senąsias ES valstybes nėra dideli, kad galėtų iš esmės paveikti ES darbo rinką. Daug svarbesniu, sukeliančiu įvairių pasekmių ir dėmesio reikalaujančiu reiškiniumi gali būti ne gyventojų mobilumas tarp valstybių narių, o imigracija iš ES valstybėms nepriklausančių šalių. Atsižvelgiant į šios problemos aktualumą, formuojamas **tyrimo tikslas** – nustatyti, kiek imigracijos procesai sąlygoja demografinę ES šalių padėtį. **Tyrimo objektas** – migracija. Iškelti **uždaviniai:** išanalizuoti teorinius migracijos kaip demografinio pokyčio elemento aspektus ir atlikti migracijos kaip demografinio pokyčio elemento ES kontekste analizę. Tyrimui atlikti naudojama mokslinės literatūros analizės, statistinių duomenų analizės, lyginamosios analizės metodai.

Išanalizavus mokslinės literatūros teorinius aspektus galima teigti, kad migracija aiškinama kaip fenomenas,

inicijuotas ekonominių, socialinių ar politinių priežasčių. Žmonės nemigruoja atsitiktinai, tai paskatina įvairios galimybės. Viena pagrindinių ta, kad ekonomiškai stiprios valstybės sudaro gerokai palankesnes darbo, socialinio statuso įgijimo perspektyvas. Vadinasi, migracija yra globalinių pokyčių rezultatas, kuris sąlygoja ir sukelia įvairių ekonominių, socialinių ar demografinių problemų.

Šiuolaikinės išsivysčiusios valstybės susiduria su dar viena nauja demografinė problema – visuomenės senėjimu. Apžvelgus teorinius migracijos kaip demografinio pokyčio elemento aspektus, galima teigti, kad iš visų trijų procesų (gimimo, mirimo ir migracijos pokyčių), pastarąją analizuoti yra sudėtingiausia. Ankstesnių laikų migracija buvo labiau sąlygojama ekonominių ir politinių veiksnių, šiandien jie įgauna kitokią atspalvį. Pastaruoju metu migracijos srautai tapo dar įvairesni ir sudėtingesni. Europa į nuolat susidarantį darbo jėgos trūkumą ketina reaguoti, atnaujindama ir suderindama visų ES valstybių narių migracijos politiką.

Įvertinant demografines tendencijas pačioje ES, pastebimas ryškus gyventojų senėjimas. Gyventojų skaičių ir amžiaus struktūrą keičia dvi jėgos: mažėjantis gimstamumas ir ilgėjanti gyvenimo trukmė. Atlikus pasirinktų demografinių rodiklių analizę, galima teigti, kad mažėjant natūraliam gyventojų prieaugiui, demografiniai ES valstybių rodikliai daugelyje šalių kompensuojami tik dėl migracijos. 27 ES valstybių migracijos prieaugis 2007 m. sudarė beveik 80 proc., kai 2006 m. buvo 78 proc. Įvertinant demografinių tendencijų ir gyventojų senėjimo pokyčius ES, pasinaudojimas migracija galėtų būti vertinamas kaip vienas būdų šiai problemai spręsti.

Pagrindiniai žodžiai: migracijos tendencijos, istorinės paradigos, demografiniai pokyčiai, gyventojų senėjimas.