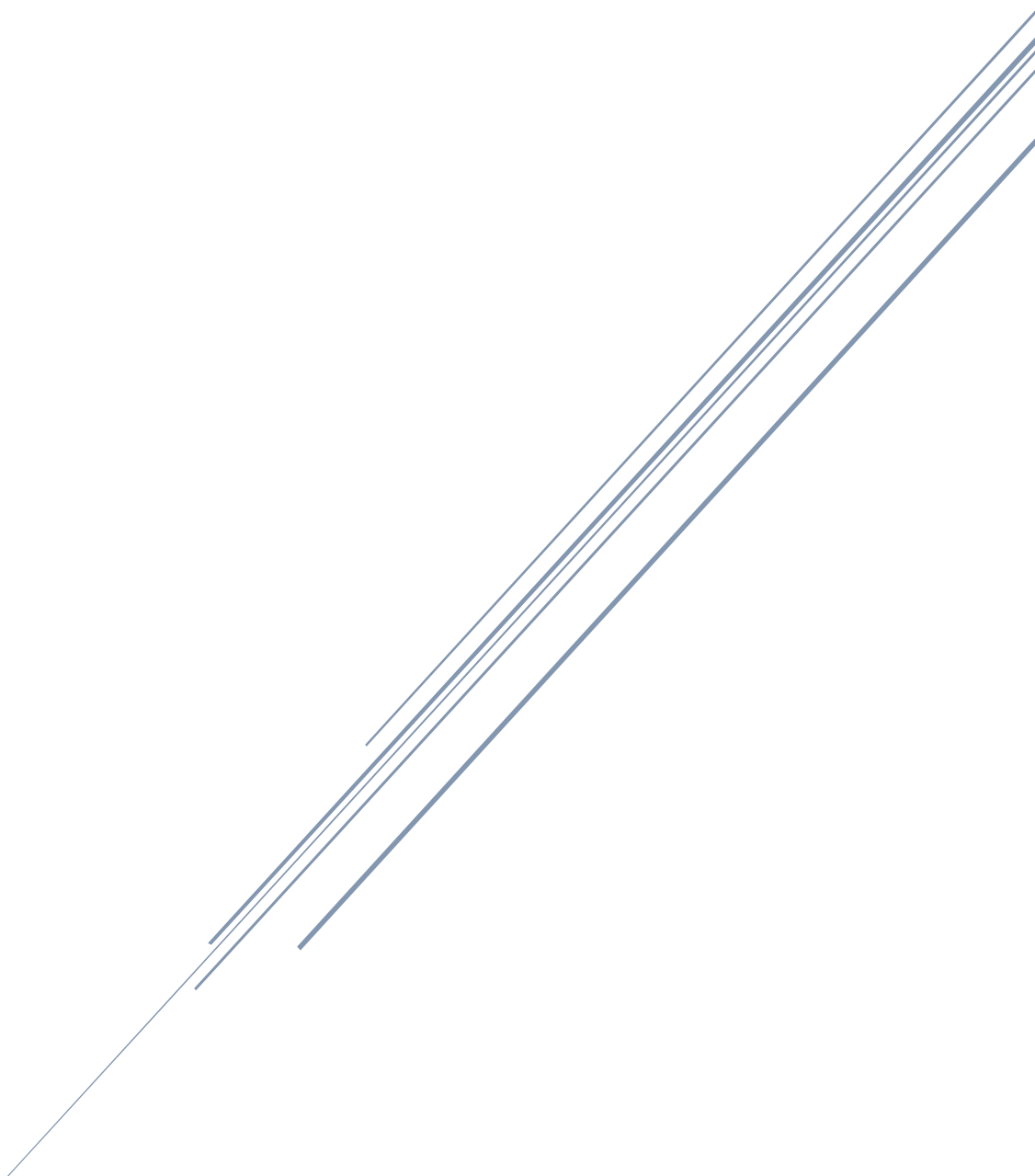


UKRAINIAN MIGRATION IN HUNGARY



Foundation of Subjective Values
Dorottya Kósa

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Introduction

Migration is the temporary or permanent population movement. The potential factors of migration can be very different. The location change may be motivated by employment, political or economic conditions, learning ... etc. Therefore the migration is a movement process which is realized like a border crossing movement in a political or administrative sense.

The report aims to uncover the social, economic, geographical, cultural and labor market conditions of Ukrainian migration in recent years based on relevant and location surveys and statistics.

We would like to map the migration process affecting Hungarian targets, the main specifications of the migration routes and describe the number of Ukrainian citizens living permanently or temporarily in Hungary. We would like to examine the basic demographic characteristics of the migrants, such as gender, age, education, social and economic status in order to clarify the factors affecting the migration potential.

The types of migration, just as its root causes are quite varied. The migration can be examined in terms of the individual's intention, so that migration is voluntary or involuntary. The migration for to change school or job are considered voluntary migration. Forced migrations are usually caused by natural or industrial disasters, political, religious or ethnic reasons.

The migrations are distinguished geographically. We can talk about migration within and between countries as well. The internal migration within the country can be traced back to economic or social reasons in general. Nevertheless often political or environmental factors are responsible for population movements. Generally the migrants come from underdeveloped countries towards developed countries or territories.

Legal Background

Central European countries have become into potential host countries from the mid-90s due to the regime changes. Movement between Ukraine and Hungary started quite early in the beginning of the 90s as a result of visa-free movement and the abolishment of passport restrictions.

A condition of joining the European Union in 2003 Hungary had to install visa requirements again towards citizens of Ukraine. Additionally, there were some implications permitted for the Hungarian minority. For example: recommendation letters from cultural institutions were accepted by the Hungarian consulate.

In 2008, after Hungary joined the Schengen zone, the rules became complicated and fees were introduced. With this connection new border and immigration policy came into effect. Countries participating in the convention, including Hungary, undertook the elimination of internal border controls and fixed the control of common borders. Despite the changes in the border crossing and visa, the Ukrainian migration continued both in legal and illegal forms. Most of the labour and circular migrants from Ukraine come from Transcarpathia which is a Hungarian minority area. A large amount of migrants come from Beregovo/Beregszász.

In 2011 a new law came into effect about citizenship, which resulted many Hungarians beyond the border received dual citizenship. The law on dual citizenship defined that Hungarians abroad can obtain citizenship without having to move to Hungary.

After 2011 large part of Ukrainian migrants are likely to have disappeared forever from registered statistics.

At the levels of law making and implementation of law in line with migration, organizations, and institutions have to cooperate. The different authorities and functions results unequal power relations and it often leads to conflicts between the institutions. Immigration Authority managed by the Ministry of the Interior, the Office of Immigration and Nationality and the Police as well has a significant role in law enforcement.

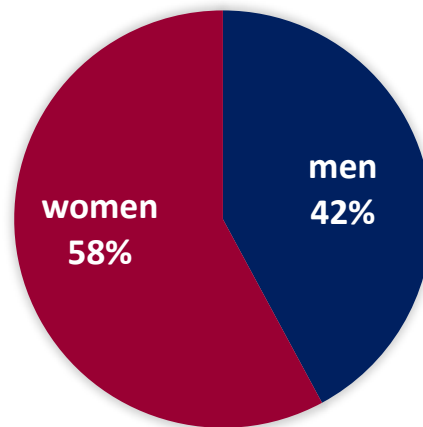
It is also important to mention international and nongovernmental organizations working in the field of migration and asylum. For example such organizations among others the UN, the UNCHR, the ICMPD, or many civil organizations and NGO's.

Ukrainian citizens in Hungary

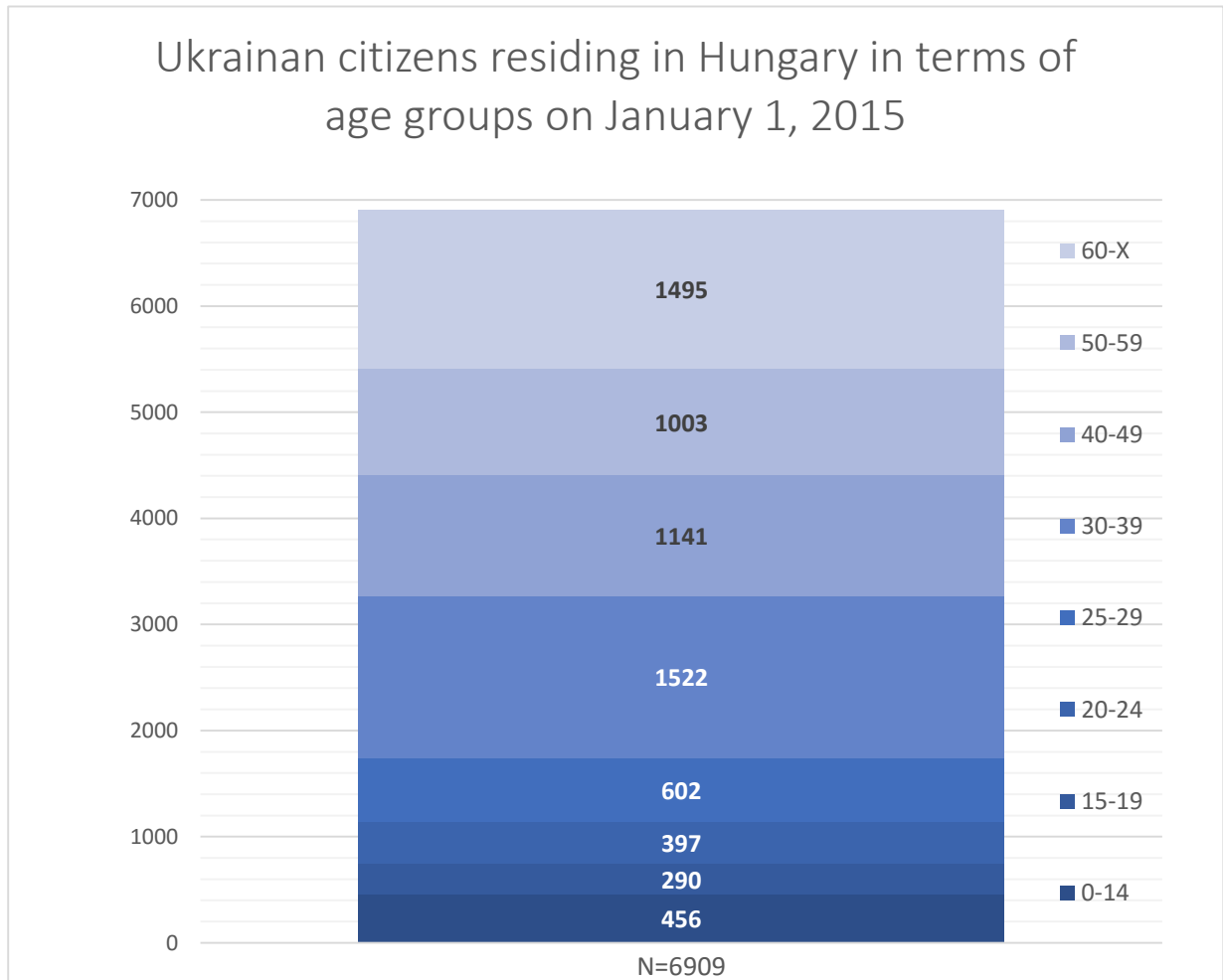
In Hungary people from Ukraine make up the second largest group after Romanians (HALMI et al. 2006 in KARÁCSONYI, 2011). The foreign citizens are persons living in Hungary whose immigration or permanent residence permits were held on 1 January of the current year.

For the analysis the resources of KSH (Központi Statisztikai Hivatal - Central Statistics Office of Hungary) and BÁH (Bevándorlási és Állampolgársági Hivatal – Office of Immigration and Nationality) were used among others. According to the KSH data, on January 1, 2015 the number of Ukrainian citizens was 6906. From this number 3997 were women and 2909 were men.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF CITIZENS RESIDING IN HUNGARY ON JANUARY 1, 2015

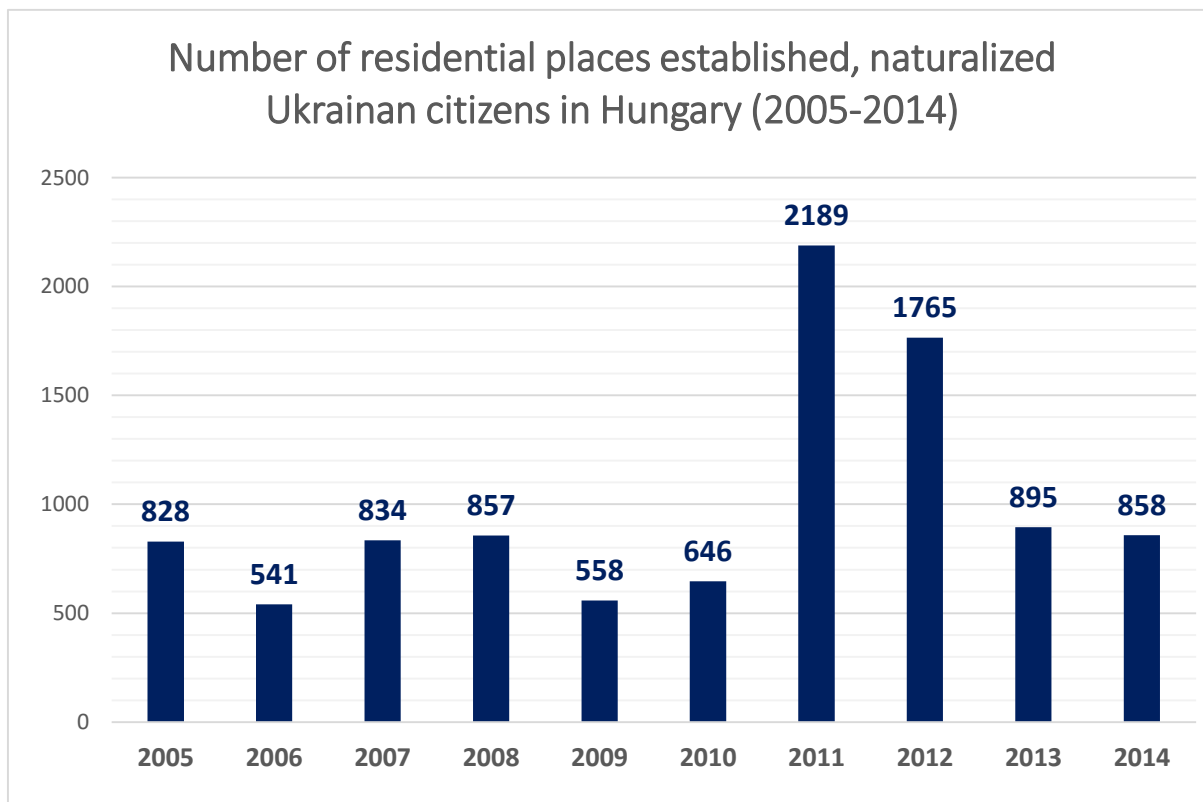


In terms of age groups we can see that the number of those between 30 and 39 years is the highest. Therefore it can be concluded that the highest proportion of those who come to our country, come to work.



Based on KSH statistics we can see the changes in number of residential places established, naturalized citizens of Ukraine between 2005 and 2014. In the diagram we can see that the number of naturalized citizens of Ukraine in 2006 was the lowest and in 2011 and 2012, the highest.

The high volume may be due to a new law on citizenship adopted in 2011, which resulted many Hungarians beyond the border received dual citizenship. The law on dual citizenship defined that Hungarians abroad can obtain citizenship without having to move to Hungary. Even so the acquisition of Hungarian citizenship encouraged many Hungarian living abroad to establish residence within the borders of Hungary (too).



Thanks to the inclusion of data of BÁH we can see the applications for establishment and applications for temporary stays in recent years.

REQUESTING (2013)	TOTAL	Permitted
Application for National Settlement Permit	66	40
Application for Residence Permit	1485	1296
Application for Permanent Residence Card	484	459
Application for visa less than 90 days	153 402	151 109
Application for visa more than 90 days	642	605

It can be observed that between 2013 and 2014 the number of those who seeking residence permits and of those who applied for visa more than 90 days increased, and decreased the number of national applications fell establishment, the number of applicants for permanent residence card, and the number of applications for visas less than 90 days. In addition we can see that around 10% of those who seeking for permission were rejected.

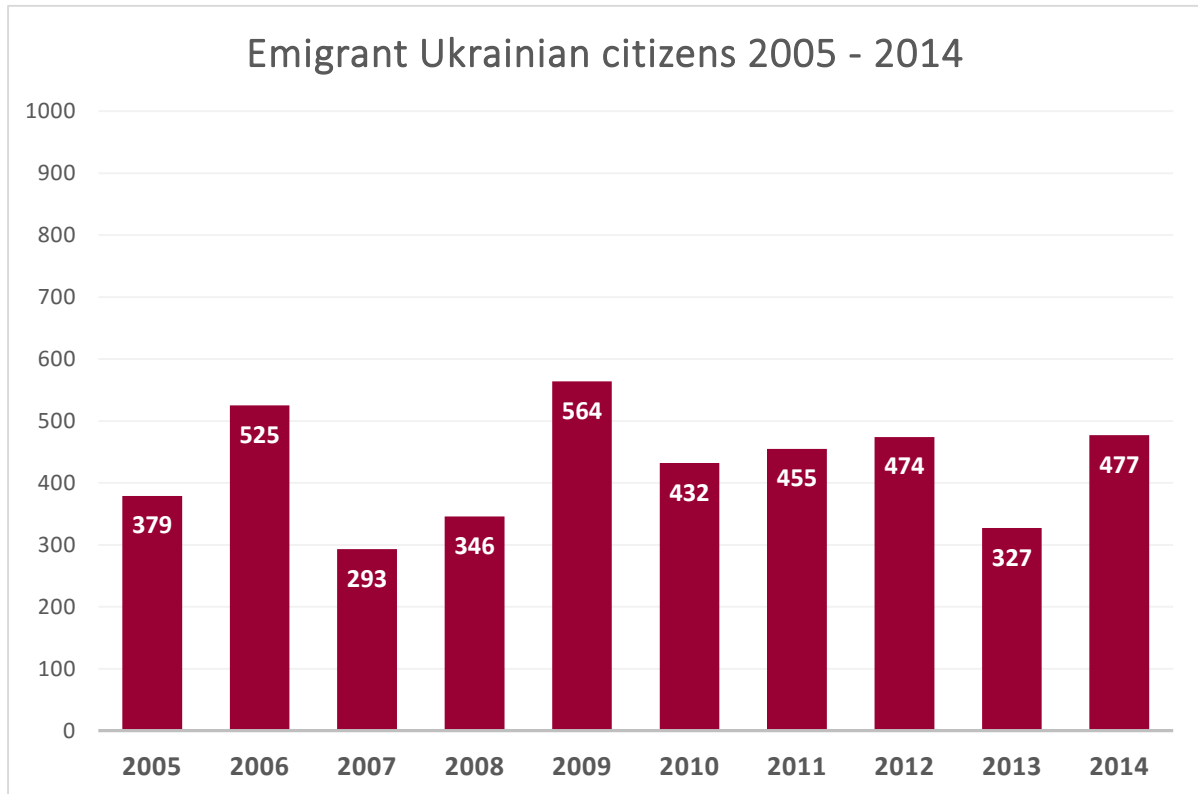
REQUESTING (2014)	TOTAL	Permitted
Application for National Settlement Permit	53	34
Application for Residence Permit	1859	1450
Application for Permanent Residence Card	247	240
Application for visa less than 90 days	119 691	117 603
Application for visa more than 90 days	884	726

The tables are not included in the asylum seekers. Refugees, migrants and asylum seekers can be applicant for international protection as well. In Hungarian law the LXXX. law (made in 2007) and the number 301/2007. governmental regulation dispose of the asylum. The law modulate the content of asylum and the recognition of the refugees, as migrants, refugees or asylum seekers as well as the withdrawal of them. The duty of the asylum authorities is provided by the Immigration and Citizenship Office (BÁH), which was established in 2000. 01.01, as a privy of the Asylum and Migration Office.

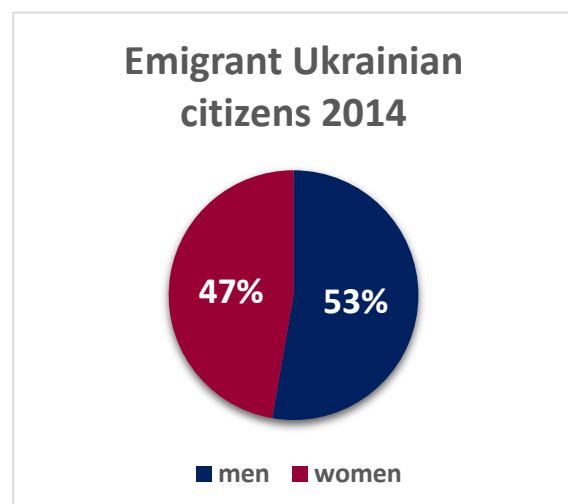
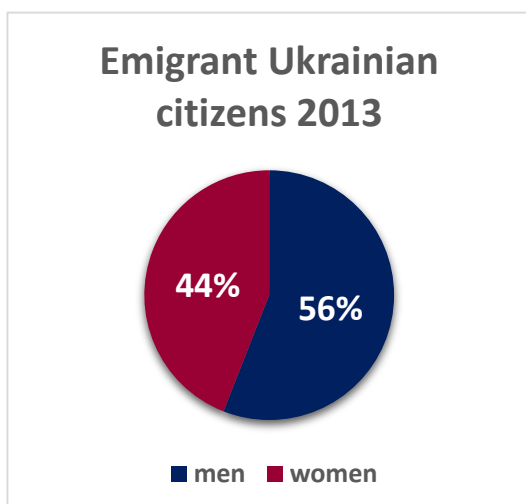
According to the data of KSH the number of Ukrainian asylum seekers was infinitesimal in 2014. It was only 32 people. After 2011 large part of Ukrainian migrants and asylum seekers are likely to have disappeared forever from registered statistics.

The factors influencing the migration potential

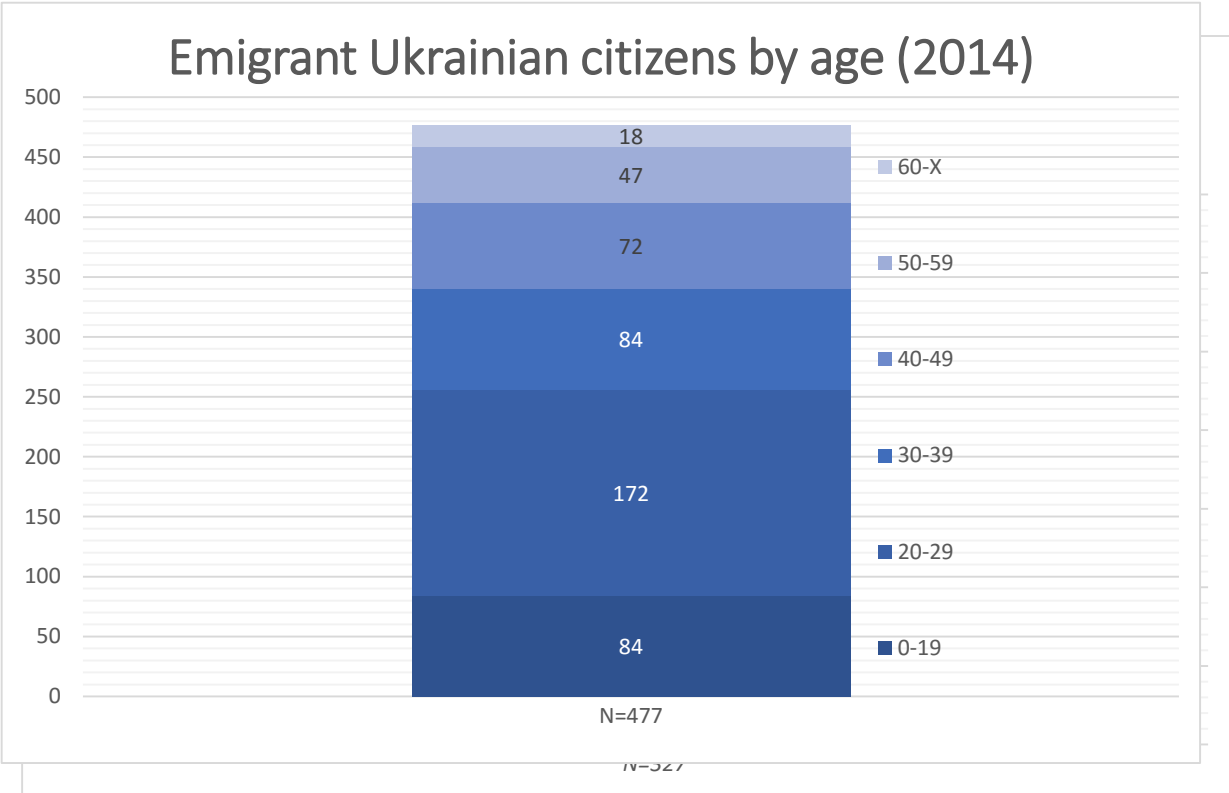
Migration potential is defined as the willingness of someone to take a job or to emigrate abroad. Behind the migration process there is always an underlying cause, factor. Unemployment, poverty or ethnic tensions increase the potential for migration. The poor conditions can motivate people to change, to migrate.



Based on KSH data the emigration rate between 2005 and 2014, was the highest in 2009. In this phenomenon the crisis in 2008 may play a role. For the increase in 2014 the Ukrainian political and economic situation provides a possible explanation.



The KSH researches in 2013 and in 2014 shows that more than half of migrant Ukrainian citizens is male in both years. The reason for this may be that mobility is higher among men, so men are usually characterized by higher migration potential as women. The reason of this can be the basic social norms.



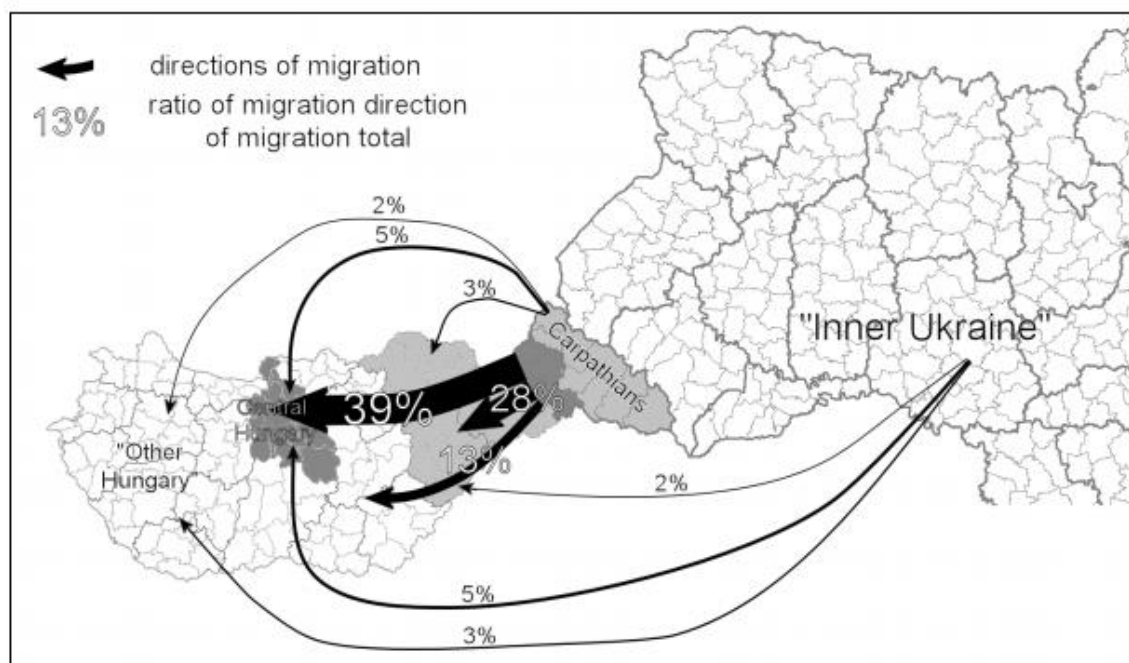
The increasing age decreases the migration potential. According to the statistics the younger you are the higher migration potential you have. This is explained by the fact that young people often arrive to the destination country to study and to work. Young people can be encouraged by the spirit of adventure, appetite for secession from home, the hope of create their own households as well.

Both chart shows that the highest emigration is in the among of young people (20 to 29 years). Compared to the 2013 data, there are significantly more people in almost every category in the data 2014. The high proportion of young people may be explained by the emigration of jobs and further education opportunities.

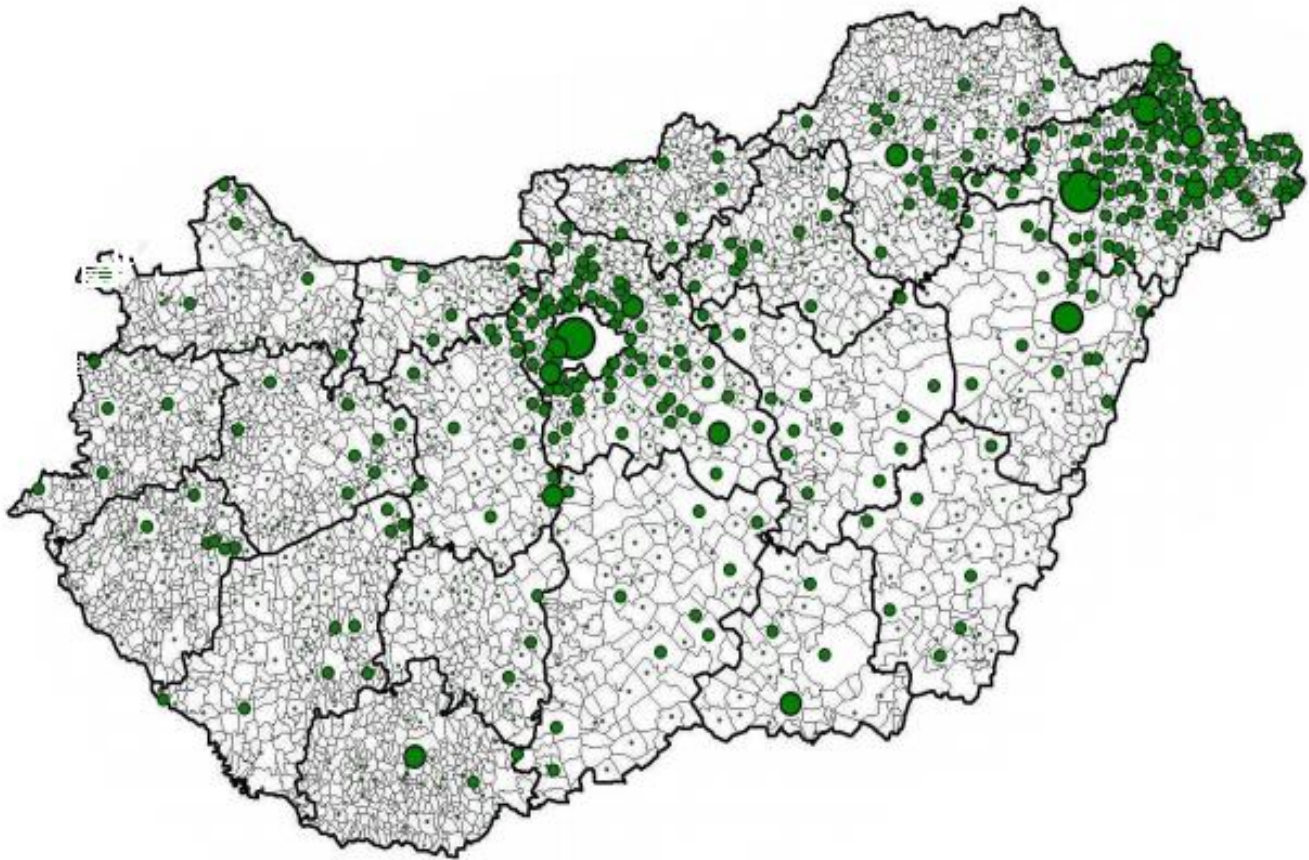
Migration destinations

Economically underdeveloped regions are mostly areas in which the emigration level is high. From these areas, many people migrate because of the hope to better standard of living, better conditions, or because the more employment opportunities.

The primary destination of the Ukrainian ethnic Hungarians is the "mother country", Hungary. For the Transcarpathians Hungary is almost the only country where they want to go. (Sik, 2015). The primary destinations of Ukrainian migrants are the big cities, the capital and the centrum areas. In these areas it the easiest to find a good job, or a school. In addition the cities are culturally and ethnically diverse and varied, therefore the integration can be achieved more easily. In Hungary, the most popular and the most attractive destination is Budapest and Pest county. However, foreigners from neighboring countries prefer more cities nearest to their country of citizenship. This way beside Budapest popular migration destination are Debrecen, Nyíregyháza and Miskolc as well. The most popular counties are Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg, Pest and Hajdú-Bihar, where the 77% of the Ukrainian migrants live (Kincses, 2011). Thus, the Ukrainian migrants mainly settle in the capital agglomeration in Pest County and along the border with Ukraine. Most of the Ukrainian migrants came from Transcarpathia. The most popular destination are Budapest and Pest county and the areas of North-East Hungary.



Edited by: Kincses Áron és Karácsonyi Dávid. (2011)



Ukrainian citizens living in Hungary, according to the current Hungarian towns

Edited by: Kincses Áron és Karácsonyi Dávid. (2011)

The labor market situation of migrants

Most of the migrants coming to work to Hungary, coming from neighboring countries. With the adoption of the law of free movement of persons and labor in 2007, the legal possibilities of employment have changed as well. Based on sources of the Ministry of Human Capacities the number of work permits in the first quarter of 2009 shows us that high number of Ukrainians who were working in our country. The majority of Ukrainian workers was located in Central-Hungary. In the first quarter of 2009 Ukrainian migrants mostly worked in Budapest or in the agglomeration. The second most popular area was Southern Great Plains because this area is very close to the Ukrainian border.

	Central Hungary	Central Transdanubia	Western Transdanubia	South Transdanubia	South Transdanubia	Northern Great Plains	Southern Great Plains	TOTAL
Ukrainian employees	1024	73	41	4	59	52	83	1336

Source: Ministry of National Resources, the first quarterly of 2009

We can distinguish the Ukrainian employees who were worked in Hungary in 2009 based on their professions. The following chart shows the twelve most common occupations among the citizens of Ukraine in 2009.

Job Title	The number of permits issued
construction worker	1547
unskilled workers	572
seasonal agricultural worker	257
semi-skilled construction worker	118
bricklayer	70
cleaning	61
packer	57
kitchen helper	55
assembler	42
gardening worker	37
pilot	35
aircraft mechanic	34
other jobs	1435
TOTAL	4320

Source: Ministry of National Resources, 2009

A large percentage of the Ukrainian employees are physical workers. The biggest working group is made up from construction workers. This category makes up 35% of the total. The important sectors of immigrant work are the agriculture, the construction industry and the hard physical work.

“Illegal work” is also a popular as “migrant work” in Hungary. Many Ukrainian migrant works on the black labor-market. Therefore many migrants do for example seasonal works illegally.

ECONOMIC STATUS	THIRD COUNTRIES	UKRAINE	SERBIAN	RUSSIAN	CHINESE	VIETNAM
Employees	21 316	7957	1514	755	3575	779
Entrepreneurs, private payers' contributions	7339	1229	256	443	2017	679
Unemployment benefits	534	235	24	33	10	2
Other recipients	2021	731	67	102	126	95
Students	1183	364	132	92	38	67
Pensioneers	2580	1837	7	349	4	3
Minors	5193	1224	181	271	1296	525
TOTAL	40116	13577	2181	2045	7066	2150
SARE %	100%	33.8%	5.4%	5.1%	17.6%	5.4%

Source: Hárs Ágnes and Tóth Judit calculations based on National Health Insurance data (in.: “Circular Migration Patterns Migration between Ukraine and Hungary”, Ayse Caglar, Tibor Silló, Ignacy Józwiak, Kornélia, Hires-László, 2011)

The table shows the number and the distribution (%) of migrants from third countries (person) economic status based on OEP-data in 2009. We can see that, overall, the highest migrant-emitting country is Ukraine among the listed third countries. From the examined third countries Ukraine has the biggest proportion (33.8%).

	Ukrainian migrants
Employees	58,6%
Entrepreneurs, private payers' contributions	9.1%
Entrepreneurs: assets ratio	14.5%
Unemployment benefits	1.7%
Other recipients	5.4%
Students	2.7%
Pensioneers	13.5%
Minors	9%

TOTAL	100%
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Source: Hárs Ágnes and Tóth Judit calculations based on National Health Insurance data (in.: "Circular Migration Patterns Migration between Ukraine and Hungary", Ayse Caglar, Tibor Sillo, Ignacy Józwiak, Kornélia, Hires-László, 2011)

Unfortunately, we face the difficulty that distribution of the employment of migrants by gender rarely appears in Hungarian statistics. Information on female Ukrainian migrants in Hungary is very poor.

Third-country nationals mostly come to our country for employment purposes. To start money earning activities in Hungary immigrants need to have work permit. If they receive a work permit, they can seek for residence permit. Currently, only highly skilled workers may apply for combined permit. In their case, the European Union Blue Card is an easy and simple opportunity to get combined permit. According to the law (see in 2007. II. 2. § (f)) the EU Blue Card is a residence permit which is available to highly qualified workers and which entitle to stay in the territory of a Member State and to eligible for employment. It must comply with the uniform format of the decree (2002.06.13. 1030/2002/EK) residence permits for third-country nationals

Thus for the low qualified persons it is more complicated procedure to acquire employment and residence permit. Therefore Blue Card is a good idea, but unfortunately, in practice, very few use its opportunities.

Right of residence based on running a company or a business organization is controlled and checked in order that legal migration channels to be accessed to real and legal immigrants. Analyses of recent years showed that there is no significant presence of foreign labor in the Hungarian labor market. Although there are statistics and information on the Hungarian labor market shortages and demands, the economic potential of migration and labor market benefits in migration do not appear in the Hungarian practice.

ILLEGAL MIGRATION

We can read about an interesting phenomena in a HVG article which was published in the middle of October. The article described the specific situation of Kispalád, which is a small village near to the Ukrainian border. The population of this small village has greatly increased over the past year, so the KSH noticed recently that something has to be happened with Kispalád. At the end of 2014 every square meter had an inhabitant. On the first of January in 2015 the population of Kispalád was 963 people. This means that within a few years the

population more than doubled itself. According to the notary, in the autumn of 2015 the population was well above 1300 people.

Neither the birth nor the internal migration does not cause such an increase, the KSH experts concluded that the majority of new residents – nearly 800 people – are Ukrainian citizens.

There was a question: What resulted, that amount of "immigration"? There are theories that the mayor election may play a crucial role in the increasing number of the Ukrainian citizens in Kispalád. Other theories says that due to the civil war and the conscription of citizens of Ukraine, more and more people choose the migration. Of course, this phenomenon can be explained by the low standard of living in Ukraine and the fact that Ukrainian citizens “move” to Hungary for a better life, a better livelihood.

To explore these issues I made an interview with mayor of a small village near to the Ukrainian border. He told me his impressions and experiences, but he asked me to let him be anonymous in order the open and direct conversation. According to the mayor, the number of Ukrainian citizen settlements logins started to appear in 2011 because of the dual citizenship. The last two years this trend heightened.

Hungarian citizenship can be requested by those who has already Hungarian citizenship in the past or their descendant, who had Hungarian citizenship before 1920 or between 1940 and 1945, speak Hungarian and there is no public security or national security reason to refuse the citizenship.

The mayor believes that Ukrainians “check in” to small villages in our country because of the possibilities of EU, and the better standard of living. He added that this phenomenon definitely not appeared because of smuggling, as it exist anyway. He noted that during the process of Hungarian citizenship oath he faced with the situation that many applicants cannot speak Hungarian.

The mayor claims that relatively large number of high-skilled young people come from Ukraine to small villages in Hungary near to the Ukrainian border. This would be very good for the village, but unfortunately, they all leave after “check in”. They want to go to Budapest, or Western European countries, mainly to Austria or Germany.

According to the mayor one “check in” can cost between 10 and 50 thousand Hungarian forints. Hungarian law system does not regulate by any act the number of people living in the same household, therefore theoretically it is possible that more than hundred people lives together in a small flat, or in a little family house.

Hungarian-citizenship business

HVG announced another article last week about the serious mafia on dual citizenship. There are a lot of company or illegal group what was created to take advantage of people who want to obtain dual citizenship. Tens of thousands of Russian, Ukrainian and Serbian could get falsified citizenship in recent years. There are many Russian and Ukrainian websites as well, where they write down how to obtain Hungarian citizenship without Hungarian ascendants or without speaking Hungarian.

On the one hand it is very difficult to investigate the true origin of a descendant. This would require effective cooperation between Hungarian and Ukrainian authorities. On the other hand, anybody can learn the citizenship oath by heart very easily. In extreme cases an actor can also be used. Usually a false nationality assistance takes between 5-30 thousand euros. In many places, the municipal leaders, mayors, notaries, prosecutors are bribed.

Summary

Overall, we can say that the largest proportion of Ukrainian migrants in Hungary are middle-aged men. They come to our country because of the job opportunities. Also be concluded that in Hungary people from Ukraine makes up the second largest group after Romanians.

In 2011 a new law went into effect about citizenship, which resulted many Hungarians beyond the border received dual citizenship. Thereby from 2011 many Ukrainian migrant disappeared from the migrant statistics.

The primary destination of the Ukrainian ethnic Hungarians is the "mother country", Hungary. For the Transcarpathians Hungary is almost the only country where they want to go. Most of the Ukrainian migrants came from Transcarpathia. The most popular destinations are Budapest and Pest county and the areas of North-East Hungary. This way beside Budapest popular migration destination are Debrecen, Nyíregyháza and Miskolc as well. Southern Great Plains is also a popular area, because this territory is very close to the Ukrainian border.

A large percentage of the Ukrainian employees are physical workers. The biggest working group is made up from construction workers. . The important sectors of immigrant work are the agriculture, the construction industry and the hard physical work.

The most urgent problem and issue with the Ukrainian migration to Hungary is connected to the citizenship questions.

As Hungary is granting its citizenship to ethnic Hungarians living in other countries with an easy process and in many cases it is not controlled well, there is a high number of fake requests (causing corruption, criminality and other problems).

As Ukraine is not accepting dual citizenship while Hungary is giving Hungarian citizenship to many Ukrainian citizens, there is a conflict on local level, because many dual citizens have to hide their real identities.

Recommendations

- To reduce the fake citizenship requests the Hungarian authorities shall strengthen the controlling methods on that procedures
- To avoid fake residents give an acceptable limit the number of persons who can live in the same household – with a special focus on the border regions
- The Blue Card should have facilitation for the Ukrainian citizens (especially from the conflicted regions) in the EU and in Hungary as well
- The Hungarian structures to accept asylum seekers should be trained and prepared for a possible flow from Ukraine
- The situation of dual citizenships should be discussed further with Ukraine, as the ban is creating even higher corruption
- There are not enough opportunities for the newly naturalized citizens from Ukraine to help their integration, they should be involved to the main programs running under the European Migration and Integration Fund
- Hungary shall follow the recommendations which were written into its Migration Strategy, especially the ones which are about the supporting mechanism for the knowledge based migration and revise or refresh their practical usage towards the Ukrainian migration

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