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Globalization and Youth: Transnational Migration as a Factor of Political Changes

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Abstract. The article defines the role of migration in the development of civil society, in the formation of transnational networks, in changing the priorities of public policy that include the issues of publicity and implementation to global challenges. The aim of the article is defining the causes, changes and factors that influence on youth migration and assessment of its impacts on the enhancement of civil society, democratization and transformation of public policy. The article examines the impact of globalization and the transnational migration of youth on political changes in Kazakhstan. The study examines the links between globalization processes, migration flows of youth and the transformation of political systems in our country and host countries. Particular attention is paid to the development of proposals for optimizing migration and youth policies in Kazakhstan in the context of globalization. Particular attention is also paid to the analysis of the characteristics of youth migration in Kazakhstan, including the causes of migration processes, their socio-economic and political consequences.

The study is based on a comprehensive analysis of theoretical concepts, statistical data and Kazakhstani experience, taking into account the characteristics of the political and socio-economic system of the country. The findings determine the need to develop effective strategies for migration and youth policy aimed at using the potential of young people for the sustainable development of Kazakhstan in the context of globalization. The main factors stimulating transnational migration of Kazakhstani youth were identified as opportunities to obtain education abroad and improve economic conditions, the desire for a higher standard of living and limited career prospects within the country. The practical value of the study lies in the possibility of using the proposals and conclusions collected in the article for the purpose of developing and improving the state youth and migration policy of Kazakhstan.

Keywords: globalization, transnational migration, political change, Kazakhstan youth, migration policy, youth policy, socio-economic development.

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Introduction

Transnational migration is the most noticeable phenomenon of the globalization process, because it affects all aspects of society. In the modern world, globalization has become a key factor in shaping new social, economic, and political conditions. Youth are becoming an important agent of migration processes with their high mobility and adaptability, exerting a significant influence on both sending and host countries. This youth migration problem is particularly relevant to Kazakhstan. Recently, there has been an increase in youth leaving the country in search of professional and educational opportunities. It causes serious changes in the country's socio-economic and political systems. Therefore, host countries are also faced with the issues of integrating and adapting migrant policies to changing conditions.

Kazakhstan has already signed some international contracts on migration policy. These agreements help to regulate labor migration and the provision of social benefits for migrants from other CIS countries. Kazakhstani youth migration affects the change of migration policy. For example, contracts within the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) facilitate the movement of citizens across the territory of Kazakhstan. Our state provides different types of sustaining immigrants adaptation in Kazakhstan, including assistance with housing, financial assistance, medical care and employment. The main laws and regulations concerning youth migration include the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan 'On Migration of the Population' (2011). State laws on regulations of implementation of the migration are focused on creating the positive conditions for youth socialization, protection of rights and stimulation of migration processes within globalization and Kazakhstani integration into the international system. Some issues of internal and external migration are examined that define the legal status of young migrants, their rights and responsibilities. The law covers all migrant categories, including youth, to establish legal mechanisms for their: establishing the rights of migrants to receive education and work; registration and accounting of youth migration flows; developing migration programs aimed at youth, such as exchange programs or student mobility [1].

These provisions and laws create the basis for stable regulation of migration processes, as well as ensuring legal security and protecting the interests of both migrants and citizens of Kazakhstan. As the country earns a strategic geopolitical position in Central Asia, youth migration is becoming an important factor contributing to changes both within the country itself and in the international arena.

Having been located at the crossroads of Central Asia and the wider Eurasian region, Kazakhstan has experienced significant migration strategies recently. Youth migration has gained increasing attention due to its implications for both sending and receiving countries as an important socio-economic phenomenon. It is influenced by factors like political stability, economic opportunities, and social conditions in both home and host countries. The phenomenon of youth migration is influenced by global trends, such as globalization, economic mobility and education opportunities. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), youth migration is often driven by the search for better education, employment, and social conditions, as well as by political and environmental factors that push or pull individuals across borders (IOM, 2023) [2]. The Mobility Tracking Matrix (MTM) reports that young migrants are particularly mobile, as they are in transition periods of life, where educational and professional aspirations significantly impact their decisions (IOM, 2024) [3].

Kazakhstan's youth migration is influenced by a combination of factors, including economic inequality, political transitions, and the desire for higher education and better job prospects. The

country's migration strategies show that most youth tend to migrate to neighboring countries, particularly Russia and Uzbekistan, due to historical, linguistic, and cultural ties (Buchvalova & Zhanibekova, 2021) [4]. According to Jussibaliyeva et al. (2022), in recent years, there has been an increase in migration flows to non-CIS countries, such as China and Turkey, as these countries offer diverse economic opportunities and educational prospects [5].

Let us consider the key issues related to the transnational migration of youth and its impact on political changes in Kazakhstan. Transnational migration of youth is the so-called 'brain drain' for Kazakhstan. It is losing the qualified youth. This phenomenon leads to the following consequences:

- loss of qualified specialists, which limits the country's innovative and economic opportunities.
- reduction of internal potential that could contribute to the modernization of political and social systems.
- reduction in the number of youth who could actively participate in the process of democratization and reforms in the country [6].

Our research aims to identify the process of globalization, youth migration and allows us to consider migration not only as a challenge, but also means of sustainable development. We try to analyze the causes and consequences of migration processes. Therefore, youth transnational migration is one of the important factors that can contribute to political change in Kazakhstan. It also creates new challenges in the integration of youth globalization and strengthens the political issues.

Research methods

We used a set of methods to provide a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between global and transnational youth migration, changes in the policy of Kazakhstani youth migration. Theoretical analysis, generalization of literature review on youth migration, political transformations, and modern approaches of migration on political systems, allow us to distinguish the main factors of transnational youth migration in Kazakhstan. Data collection and processing of the Mobility Tracking Matrix migration flows of Kazakhstani youth and the Migration Situation Report of 2024, and a comparative analysis of the dynamics of migration, assisted in defining its impact on socio-economic indicators, ensuring the reliability and depth of the results obtained, as well as the development of practical recommendations for solving problems related to youth migration.

Results and dissuasion. The process of reintegration of youth migrants who have returned to Kazakhstan is an important task for the state. Many migrants who have returned after studying or working abroad have new experiences and knowledge that can lead to the modernization of the country's political system. However, problems of adaptation, cultural and social return, as well as difficulties in integrating into the existing political system, can lead to:

- disappointment in political processes if state institutions do not offer effective mechanisms for realizing the potential of returned migrants.
- absence of state policy sustaining the return and adaptation of youth can lead to repeated emigration or social isolation of returned citizens.

One of the main problems of Kazakhstan is the insufficient development of a migration policy aimed at youth. Despite the existence of a number of legislative acts, the regulation of youth migration in Kazakhstan requires:

– development of targeted programs and initiatives aimed at sustaining youth migrants and ensuring their rights.

– formation of an effective strategy that would allow using the transnational migration of youth as a resource for the development of civil society and political changes in Kazakhstan.

As a result of the study, the following was established:

– The main factors stimulating transnational migration of Kazakhstani youth are economic and educational opportunities abroad, the desire for higher living standards and limited career prospects within the country.

– Positive aspects are that participation of youth in international educational and professional programs contributes to the improvement of their skills, the formation of transnational networks and the exchange of experience.

– Negative aspects are that brain drain weakens the country's human resources potential, creating an imbalance in the economy and social structure.

2. Political changes of youth migration contribute to the transformation of the political system of Kazakhstan through the development of civil society, strengthening democratic sentiments and influencing state priorities in social and economic policy. Increasing youth mobility influences the perception of global values, increasing the demand for political reforms and inclusive approaches. The Kazakhstan National Border Service has indicated that youth migration strategies are heavily influenced by labor migration, with many young individuals seeking work in countries where the economy provides more opportunities for young adults (National Border Service of Kazakhstan, 2024) [7]. According to Siddiqov (2022), Kazakhstani youth search for educational migration where well-established higher education systems, for instance, the USA, UK, and European Union [8].

Economic factors, such as the search for better job prospects and the desire for higher wages, are among the leading reasons for youth migration. In Kazakhstan, the underemployment of youth in rural areas and limited career advancement opportunities in certain sectors lead many young individuals to migrate (Nurgaziyev, 2021) [9]. The stability and safety in the context of shifting geopolitical dynamics play a crucial role (KISS, 2023) [10].

The educational system in Kazakhstan also influences migration trends, with many youth seeking education abroad to gain better qualifications and exposure to international standards of learning. Kazakhstan has become a key source of international students in China, Russia, and Europe (Shymkentov, 2022) [11, p. 48].

The youth migration can have significant implications for both countries. In Kazakhstan, the youth outflow is often a threat to social cohesion and national economic development. The problem of 'brain drain' leads to a shortage of skilled professionals for the country's political development and stability (Zhanibekov, 2021) [12]. Migrants from Kazakhstan contribute to the development of the local economy. Because it provides impact for both migration sides (Kassenova, 2020) [13, p. 50].

Moreover, youth migration also influences political change in the host countries. Russia and Uzbekistan experienced demographic shifts due to migration, which affected their political and social structures. The migrations often can lead to changes in labor policies, contribute to the diversification of the labor market and education systems (Shymkentov, 2022) [11].

In this connection, Kazakhstan has implemented policies aimed at managing migration, particularly concerning youth. The government's efforts to create more job opportunities, invest in education, and attract foreign investment are key strategies to reduce youth outflow. Additionally, Kazakhstan has worked to foster cooperation with neighboring countries and

international organizations to manage migration more effectively, with a focus on sustaining youth returning from abroad and integrating them into the workforce (Ministry of Internal Affairs, 2024) [7].

Recently, there has been a trend of increasing youth migration in search of better educational opportunities and career prospects. One of the main reasons for migration is the search for work, improved living standards, and more favorable conditions for education (IOM, 2023). Migration of youth from Kazakhstan has a significant impact on the political situation in the country. The most important factors influencing migration processes include economic changes, uneven development of regions, political instability and demand for labor in neighboring countries like Russia, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and China. They also cause a problem for Kazakhstan's economy, because of lead to the loss of skilled professionals. The issues of 'brain drain' can influence on political, social, and economic stability of the state (Nurgaziyev, 2021) [9].

Secondly, transnational migration can affect political change by influencing Kazakhstan's foreign policy and diplomatic relations. For example, migration of Kazakhstani youth to Russia and Central Asian countries can strengthen cultural and economic ties with these states, while migration to distant countries like Turkey and China leads to increased economic interests and intercultural contacts.

One of the most important aspects will be the creation of favorable conditions for the return of qualified specialists and ensuring internal mobility of youth, which will help compensate for the brain drain and stimulate the development of the national economy. Kazakhstan will have to face challenges related to youth migration in the near future. Another important task is implementing policies aimed at improving educational, professional conditions within the country for the youth.

Negative Impact on Civil Society and Political Activity should be mentioned here. Youth migrating abroad are often exposed to an alien political culture, which may influence their perception of democratic processes in Kazakhstan. This, in turn, may:

- create a gap between youth abroad and domestic political processes, making it difficult for migrants to engage in the development of civil society.
- reduce interest in political life in Kazakhstan among youth, which may lead to apathy or insufficient activity in matters of civic responsibility and democracy.
- form youth's perceptions of the country as a less attractive place to realize political and social ambitions.

Transnational migration of youth may also have an impact on the political systems of countries receiving migrants. In the context of globalization, young migrants often become part of the political processes in these countries, which, in turn, may be reflected in the policies of Kazakhstan:

- migrants may actively participate in the political life of host countries, influencing their perception of Kazakhstan and the development of foreign policies towards Kazakhstan.
- potential return of youth who have experience participating in political and social processes in other countries may bring new perspectives to domestic political processes in Kazakhstan, possibly leading to political transformations.

Youth abroad face the challenge of social and cultural adaptation, which may result in isolation or even alienation from the cultural and political traditions of their home country. This impacts:

- A decrease in the sense of identity among youth as part of Kazakhstani society, which, in the long term, may complicate their return and integration into political processes in Kazakhstan.
- The loss of cultural values and traditions, which may weaken the youth's ties to Kazakhstani political and cultural identity.

Transnational migration means moving people across state borders in order to seek better educational or professional opportunities, improve their living conditions. Therefore, transnational migration is an important aspect of globalization and has a significant impact on the political, social, and economic structures of both source and destination countries. In the case of Kazakhstan, migration has acquired particular significance in recent decades in the context of changes in political systems, impact on demographic processes, economy, and social relations. According to data by the IOM (2023), youth migration today is more multilayered and complex, as it involves sustainable networks.

According to the report by Migration Situation in Kazakhstan of MTM conducted a deep research on youth migration and its trends for the previous years. According to the Report (January-March 2024), the data analysis has revealed the basic directions in migrant outflows and issuance of residence permission. This document presents the analysis of youth migration trends in Kazakhstan for the first quarter of 2024, focusing on migrant outflows and residence permits. The data from the Migration Situation Report and Mobility Tracking Matrix (MTM) is used to illustrate the trends. Figure 1 shows the migration outflow from Kazakhstan (during January-March 2024) to both CIS and non-CIS countries in percentages.

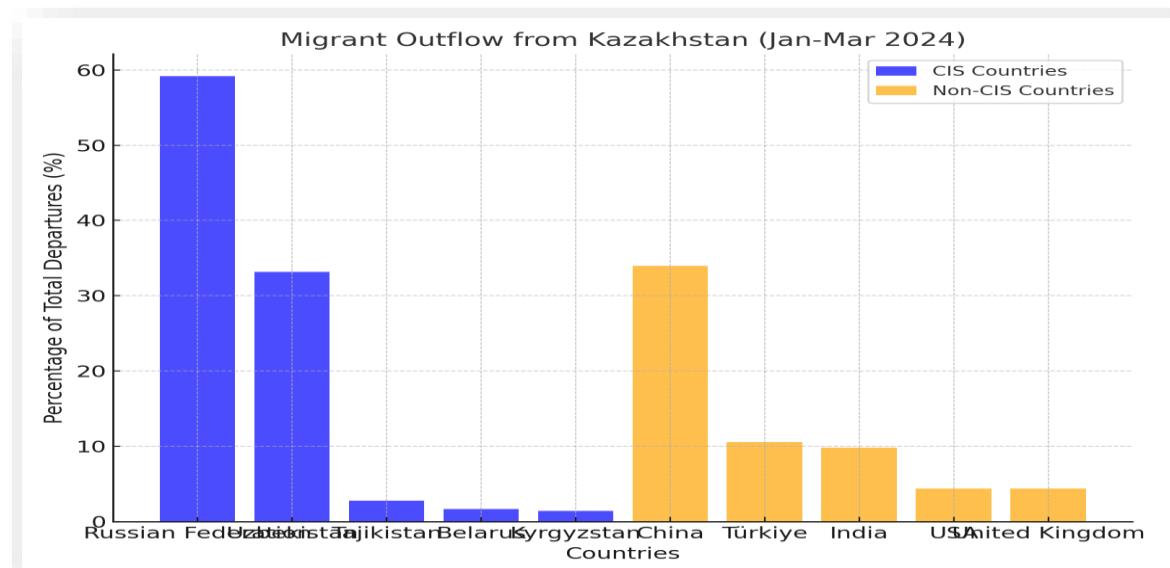


Figure 1: Migration Outflow by Country (Jan-Mar 2024)

The total number of migrant departures from Kazakhstan in the first quarter of 2024 was 2,872,109, a decrease of 11.3% compared to the previous quarter (3,237,044). The largest share of these departures (62.7%) went to CIS countries, with 59.2% going to the Russian Federation and 33.2% to Uzbekistan. For non-CIS countries, 37.3% of departures were directed towards China (34%), Turkey (10.6%), and India (9.8%).

In the first quarter of 2024, more than 104,000 young migrants got temporary residence permits from CIS countries. 7,964 migrants were granted such permits, with the majority originating from CIS countries (e.g., Uzbekistan and Russia) in terms of permanent residence. As we see, the total number of migrant departures from Kazakhstan was 2,872,109 in the first quarter of 2024, which represented 11.3% decrease compared to 3,237,044. previous quarter. This indicated a reduction in migration. As we see, the largest share of these departures was directed towards CIS countries, with 62.7% of the total departures going to neighboring countries

like the Russian Federation (59.2%) and Uzbekistan (33.2%). These two countries remain the primary destinations for youth migration from Kazakhstan. Non-CIS countries accounted for 37.3% of the departures, with China (34%) and Turkey (10.6%) being the major non-CIS destinations. This suggests a growing interest in countries outside of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) for higher education and employment opportunities.

Therefore, in the first decade of 2024, more than 104,000 migrants were allowed temporary residence permits. They were from CIS countries and youth migrants from neighboring states who were looking for temporary shelter in Kazakhstan. Overall 7,964 individuals received permanent residence permits in terms of permanent residence. The majority of migrants came from Uzbekistan (45.2%) and the Russian Federation (39.6%). This highlights Kazakhstan's role as a host country for people seeking long-term residency, primarily from neighboring CIS countries.

Figure 2 helps to compare the total number of temporary and permanent residence permits issued in Kazakhstan during the first quarter of 2024.

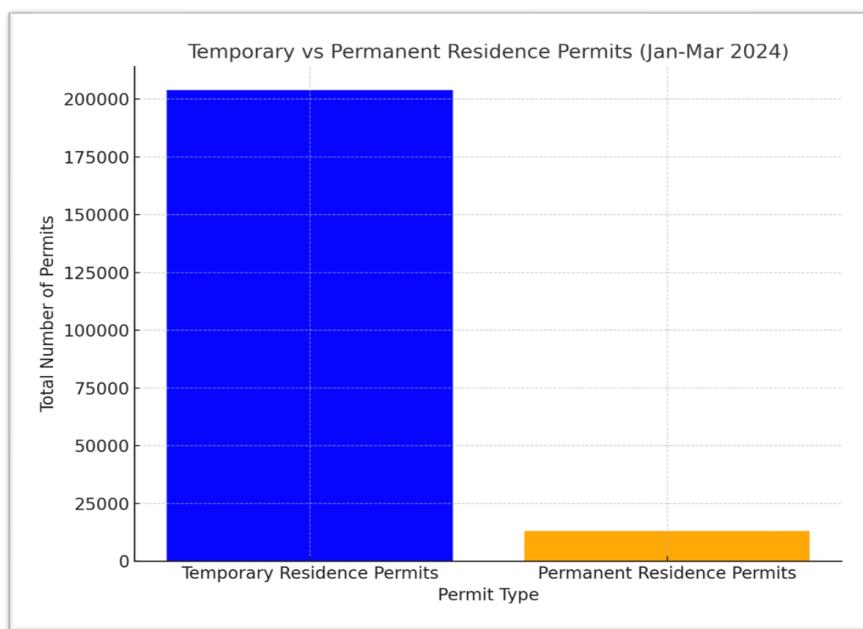


Figure 2 – Temporary vs Permanent Residence Permits (Jan-Mar 2024)

Figure 2 reveals that the temporary residence permits are much higher than the permanent. Having analyzed the data on youth migration International Organization for Migration (2023), it is also evident that predominantly youth migrate to countries like Russia and Uzbekistan in search of economic opportunities, better educational prospects, and the chance to work in more favorable environments. Youth migration strategies are influenced by economic and political conditions both within Kazakhstan and in destination countries [14].

The substantial flow of youth to countries like China, Turkey, and India further highlights the global connections and opportunities emerging for Kazakh youth. This aligns with broader trends in globalization, where youth are increasingly mobile and seeking opportunities beyond their home region.

The data underscores the urgent need for Kazakhstan to focus on retaining its youth population by providing more robust opportunities in education, employment and socio-political stability. Addressing these factors could significantly reduce the rate of outward migration.

Furthermore, the youth migration trends indicate potential areas for policy enhancement in both economic and social sectors, such as strengthening ties with key destinations (Russia, Uzbekistan, China) and improving internal opportunities to prevent a 'brain drain'.

Given the data, it is crucial to monitor these migration trends, particularly as geopolitical and economic shifts continue to impact the region. Migration flows may fluctuate depending on conditions in both Kazakhstan and destination countries. The increasing percentage of youth migrating to non-CIS countries suggests a broader shift in migration strategies, with younger generations becoming more oriented towards globalization and international mobility.

Having analyzed the latest data on youth migration in Kazakhstan and avoiding the negative consequences, we can propose the following implications:

- enhance the educational programs and create positive conditions for young specialists to continue their career opportunities in Kazakhstan.
- Develop programs for the reintegration of youth returning from abroad.
- Enhance international cooperation to facilitate knowledge exchange and promote balanced labor migration.

Thus, the study results emphasize the need for integrated approaches to the youth and migration policies to ensure sustainable development for Kazakhstan. The main aspects of practical applications include the optimization of public policy, which needs special programs on the strategic development to reduce the brain drain, including the creation of favorable conditions for the labor and professional development of youth within the country. Formation of effective programs to sustain Kazakhstani youth abroad and their reintegration upon return. Development of educational programs require implementation of educational initiatives that meet the requirements of the global labor market to increase the competitiveness of Kazakhstani youth. In the previous article, we also emphasized the need to create attractive conditions for living and working in rural areas, including access to education, health care and modern technology. It is also necessary to strengthen state support for youth, including the provision of preferential loans for housing and business development and the strengthening of regional policy to equalize the level of development of different regions of Kazakhstan [15, p. 109].

We emphasize the importance of comprehensive approaches to addressing internal youth migration issues in order to minimize its negative consequences and enhance the positive aspects for the socio-economic development of Kazakhstan. We need to strengthen international cooperation in the field of education, including exchange programs and partnerships. The other aspects strengthening civil society are:

- supporting youth to promote social responsibility and political engagement.
- Develop youth participation in democratization and modernization in the sphere of the political system.

Our analysis suggests a complex study of economic, political, and social factors influencing the external youth migration. The youth migration remains one of the major factors in the Kazakhstani socio-political field.

Conclusion

The present article is connected with youth migration in Kazakhstan and its effect on the transformation of political views and interests of youth. The influence of international human rights standards, political freedoms, and democratic values often becomes a key factor in political change, influencing the views of returning migrants. Youth migration from Kazakhstan

is a multifaceted phenomenon shaped by educational, economic, and political factors. The youth outflow reflects broader trends of globalization, economic migration, and educational aspirations. Understanding the motives behind the youth migration consequences is important for policymakers for both Kazakhstani and host countries' management of migration policy, and to enhance the youth contribution to domestic, international flourishing.

One of the significant consequences of youth migration is its economic impact. Migrants, particularly labor migrants, provide a source of income for many families. However, youth migration and brain drain deplete the country's human resources, hindering development in key sectors of the economy and socio-political sphere. In terms of political consequences, transnational youth migration has a big impact on Kazakhstan's internal dynamics and external relations. Even migration to neighboring countries can strengthen political ties, but may also create tensions in the context of global competition for labor resources.

Generally, the study contributes to youth migration in our country. The study results may be useful for governmental analytical centers and international organizations. It is focused on improving the political and socio-economic systems involving the youth of Kazakhstan.

Contribution of the authors:

Nurlan S. – definition of the goals and objectives of the scientific article, work with the use of research materials and methods.

Kalenova T.S. – collection and analysis of materials, compilation of a scientific article in accordance with the requirements, collection and analysis of theoretical materials;

Yazici H. – work with literature, work on systematization of research materials.

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Жаһандану және жастар: трансұлттық көші-қон саяси өзгерістер факторы ретінде

Анната. Мақалада көші-қонның азаматтық қоғамды дамытудағы, трансұлттық желілерді қалыптастырудың және мемлекеттік саясаттың басымдықтарын өзгертудегі рөлі, оның ішінде демократияландыру және жаһандық сын-қатерлерге бейімделу мәселелері анықталады. Зерттеудің мақсаты – жастар көші-қонына әсер ететін себептер мен факторларды анықтай отырып, оның азаматтық қоғамды дамытуға, мемлекеттік саясатты демократияландыруға және трансформациялауға әсерін бағалау. Мақалада жаһандану мен жастардың трансұлттық көші-қонының Қазақстандағы саяси өзгерістерге әсері қарастырылады. Зерттеуде жаһандану процестері, жастардың көші-қон ағындары және мемлекетіміз бен қабылдаушы елдердегі саяси жүйелердің трансформациясы арасындағы байланыстар қарастырылады. Жаһандану жағдайында Қазақстанның көші-қон және жастар саясатын оңтайландыру бойынша ұсыныстар өзірлеуге ерекше назар аударылады. Қазақстандағы жастар көші-қонының ерекшеліктерін, оның ішінде көші-қон процестерінің себептерін, олардың әлеуметтік-экономикалық және саяси салдарын талдауға ерекше назар аударылады.

Зерттеу еліміздің саяси және әлеуметтік-экономикалық жүйесінің ерекшеліктерін ескере отырып, теориялық тұжырымдамаларды, статистикалық деректерді және қазақстандық тәжірибелі кешенді талдауға негізделген. Қорытындылар жаһандану жағдайында Қазақстанның тұрақты дамуы үшін жастардың әлеуетін пайдалануға бағытталған тиімді көші-қон және жастар саясаты стратегияларын өзірлеу қажеттілігін айқындауды. Қазақстан жастарының трансұлттық көші-қонының таландыратын негізгі факторлар шетелде білім алу мүмкіндіктері мен экономикалық жағдайды жақсарту, өмір сүрудің жоғары деңгейіне үмтүлу және ел ішінде шектеулі мансаптық перспективалар болып анықталды. Зерттеудің практикалық құндылығы мақалада жинақталған ұсыныстар мен тұжырымдарды Қазақстанның мемлекеттік жастар және көші-қон саясатын өзірлеу және жетілдіру мақсатында пайдалану мүмкіндігінің болуында.

Түйін сөздер: жаһандану, трансұлттық көші-қон, саяси өзгерістер, Қазақстан жастары, көші-қон саясаты, жастар саясаты, әлеуметтік-экономикалық даму.

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Глобализация и молодежь: транснациональная миграция как фактор политического изменения

Аннотация. В статье определяется роль миграции в развитии гражданского общества, в формировании транснациональных сетей, в изменении приоритетов государственной политики, включая вопросы демократизации и адаптации к глобальным вызовам. Цель исследования – определить причины и факторы, влияющие на молодежную миграцию, и оценить ее влияние на развитие гражданского общества, демократизацию и трансформацию государственной политики. В статье рассматривается влияние глобализации и транснациональной миграции молодежи на политические изменения в Казахстане. В исследовании рассматриваются связи между процессами глобализации, миграционными потоками молодежи и трансформацией политических систем в нашей стране и принимающих странах. Особое внимание уделено разработке предложений по оптимизации миграционной и молодежной политики Казахстана в условиях глобализации. Особое внимание также уделено анализу особенностей молодежной миграции в Казахстане, в том числе причин миграционных процессов, их социально-экономических и политических последствий.

Исследование основано на комплексном анализе теоретических концепций, статистических данных и казахстанского опыта с учетом особенностей политической и социально-экономической системы страны. Сделанные выводы определяют необходимость разработки эффективных стратегий миграционной и молодежной политики, направленных на использование потенциала молодежи для устойчивого развития Казахстана в условиях глобализации. Основными факторами, стимулирующими транснациональную миграцию казахстанской молодежи, были названы возможности получения образования за рубежом и улучшение экономических условий, стремление к более высокому уровню жизни и ограниченные карьерные перспективы внутри страны. Практическая ценность исследования заключается в возможности использования собранных в статье предложений и выводов в целях развития и совершенствования государственной молодежной и миграционной политики Казахстана.

Ключевые слова: глобализация, транснациональная миграция, политические изменения, молодежь Казахстана, миграционная политика, молодежная политика, социально-экономическое развитие.

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