

## THE PROBLEM OF MIGRATION IN THE ORIENTAL COUNTRIES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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### ABSTRACT

The article presents economic, demographic, political and other factors that contribute to the strengthening of migration interaction between the countries of the region. The authors come to the conclusion that the economic and demographic differences between the countries of Southeast Asia are not only unlikely to be overcome in the coming decades, but may also intensify, which means that in the future a more distinct delimitation of the countries of the region along the line of "donor-recipients" and, accordingly, a clearer distribution of roles within the migration system.

**Keywords:** migration systems, labor migration, regulation of migration, regionalization of migration.

### INTRODUCTION

The development of trends towards deglobalization and regionalization of the world economy, intensified by the current economic and political instability on the planet, entails changes in the sphere of population migration. Among the most important changes in this area is the regionalization of cross-border human movements, i.e. their orientation to countries located in the same region. This process is clearly manifested in the formation of the migration system in Southeast Asia (SEA).

The concept of the migration system was originally defined by the Nigerian geographer A. Mabogunye as a set of places connected by counter flows of people, goods, services and information within countries that facilitate further exchanges between these places, including population migration, was further developed and began to be used to characterize movements between countries population. The international migration system is a group of countries between which there are relatively large-scale and stable migration ties that are the result of the action of historical, cultural, political, economic, demographic factors and lead to structural transformations in the countries of entry and exit of migrants, reproducing the direction of migration flows and giving these flow stability.

Migration processes in Southeast Asia have a long history. In the XIX - early XX centuries. Southeast Asian countries received large contingents of labor migrants from China and India, who formed large diasporas in the recipient societies. For example, about 25% of the population of modern Malaysia is of Chinese origin. From the middle

20th century Southeast Asian states themselves became donors of labor migrants pushed by unemployment and poverty to the rich oil-producing countries of the Persian Gulf.

Only in recent decades, especially with the development of integration processes within the framework of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) created in 1997, which

unites the countries of the region, has there been a trend towards reorientation of migration flows from some countries of Southeast Asia to other countries of the same region. This trend is explained, on the one hand, by the emergence in the region of new centers of economic development and attraction of migrants. On the other hand, it is caused by a decrease at the turn of the 80s - 90s. the demand of oil-producing states for foreign labor, which occurred as a result of the worsening economic situation, as well as the increased instability of the political situation in the Middle East.

The population of Southeast Asia is united by the so-called eastern mentality, which is accompanied by some common cultural traditions, which favors intra-regional migration. At the same time, the countries of the region share significant linguistic differences, which complicate the adaptation of newcomers to life in a new place and their relationship with the local population.

Thus, the formation of migration links between the countries of the region occurs under the influence of a whole range of geographic, demographic, economic, social, political, climatic, historical, cultural and linguistic conditions. The interaction of these factors determines the dominant trajectory in Southeast Asia and the national characteristics of the development of migration processes in the region.

If in 1990 34% of all migrants from Myanmar lived in Southeast Asia, then in 2000 - already 62%, and in 2017 - 74%, i.e. this figure has more than doubled. On the contrary, a similar indicator of the direction of migration flows from the Philippines to Southeast Asia decreased over 1990–2017, and the number of islanders leaving for other regions of the world increased by the same factor (with a relatively unchanged number of migrants from this country living in Southeast Asia).

Due to the lack of adequate border control, a large part of the movement of labor in Southeast Asia is carried out illegally. The high costs associated with the process of legal departure from their countries of origin are compensated by illegal immigrants and intermediaries providing them with employment by bypassing official schemes for the employment of foreign labor.

At the same time, immigration also brings acute social problems to the receiving countries. Illegal migration remains a serious problem for Southeast Asian countries. Spontaneous flows of forced migrants create an increased burden on the local social infrastructure and anthropogenic pressure on the receiving territories. An increase in the number of immigrants, especially in conditions of high unemployment, poverty and limited social services, entails an increase in nationalist and anti-immigrant sentiments, conflicts in the recipient societies, exacerbated by linguistic, confessional and ethnic differences between immigrants and local populations. Disagreements between the indigenous Malays and the Chinese community in Malaysia, between the Chinese, Malay and various Indian communities in Singapore, etc. are very sharp. the forces of the country.

Emigration from Southeast Asian countries, being much larger than immigration to them, has a more noticeable impact on the economy of the donor countries. The outflow of the able-bodied population from the countries of Southeast Asia contributes to a decrease in the level of unemployment there, which is eloquently evidenced by the example of the Philippines. At the same time, as the example of Vietnamese migrants shows, the experience and skills acquired

in more developed, primarily Western countries, upon returning to their homeland, increase their competitiveness in the local labor market.

Thus, the impact of migration on the countries of Southeast Asia, as well as on the countries of the global North, is rather contradictory. At the same time, the forced nature of a significant part of human flows, initially difficult interethnic relations in host societies, and the lower level of education and qualifications of migrants from the region determine there a more modest economic contribution and more acute social consequences of population movements than in the developed regions of the world.

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