**Abstract**

**TR-225**

Topic: "Integration Trajectories of the First and Second Generations of Labor Migrants into Russian Society and Recommendations for Improving Human Capital of Migrants"

Heads of the Project:

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**Aim of research**: to investigate the integration trajectories of first and second generation migrants into Russian society and to formulate recommendations for increasing human capital of migrants.

**Methodology**: (a) desk research of Russian and foreign scientific and expert publications, empirical studies on the integration of migrants in Russia and abroad; (b) demographic analysis, descriptive statistics, multivariate statistical analysis; (c) qualitative methods of social and anthropological analysis.

**Empirical base of research**: (a) the results of the 2010 All-Russia Population Census; the results of the 2015 Russian Microcensus; (b) microdata from sample surveys of the population: the Federal Statistical Labor Force Survey (LFS) of Rosstat, the Federal Statistical Survey of Migrant Labor Use of Rosstat (2014, 2019), the 2017 HSE Migrant Survey, The Russia Longitudinal Monitoring Survey (RLMS) - Higher School of Economics (2008-2019); (c) data from a sample online survey of second-generation migrants aged 16 to 30; (d) results of in-depth interviews with first-generation labor migrants and focus groups with second-generation migrants.

**Results of research:**

– The results of a review of foreign publications and the results of empirical studies showed that the topic of the second generation of migrants has taken a leading place in the research agenda of countries of immigration. The development of this topic began in the United States in the 1960s; in European countries this topic began to develop in the 1990s as the number of immigrants increased. The growth of integration problems in the 2000s led to development of international studies, such as the Eurostat Labor Force Survey (EU-LFS), TEIS, CILS4EU, etc. In the programs of different countries, the second generation migrants are highlighted in representative national surveys, population registers, censuses. In Russia, despite the noticeable increasing migration from Central Asia and South Caucasus in the post-Soviet period, such surveys are not common, which makes it difficult to study integration processes at the national level.

– The results of the analysis of Russian LFS and RLMS-HSE data show that migrants are younger and more often represented by men in comparison with non-migrants; this is especially valid in the case of short-term and first-time migrants. The RLMS-HSE data recorded a gradual increase in the age of migrants who enter Russia for the first time. Among first generation migrants, especially those from other ethnic groups, as well as migrants of a half generation, there are more people with a low level of education; in later waves of migration, heterogeneity in educational level increases and a gender gap in educational level is maintained. Migrants are more likely to be employed in jobs with low qualifications, often not in their specialties, in a regime of over-employment. Average per capita incomes are higher for non-migrants and repatriates, which may indicate that repatriates are better integrated than other categories of migrants.

– Interviews with first generation migrants show that labor migrants are focused on low-skilled jobs in Russia; their job search is mostly facilitated by their natives of origin countries. The main sectors in the labor market are construction, housing and utilities, trade, cleaning, work in warehouses and production facilities, and more recently - courier delivery and cab services. As a rule, temporary labor migrants stay in these niches and do not look for better and more skilled jobs. In some cases long-term stay of migrants in Russia can raise their professional status. The main barrier for foreign workers is legalization in the labor market.

– According to the results of the focus groups with second-generation migrants, the children of migrants who grew up in Russia can be described as well integrated. Both migrants and their children see successful schooling as a social elevator in Russian society; in most cases, the educational trajectory of second generation migrants after completing school depends on family income and their social capital. The choice of profession for second generation migrants, related primarily to the opportunity to get a well-paid stable job in Russia in the future (medical specialties and specialties related to applied skills), demonstrates the successful incorporation of second generation migrants into the labor market. Family rules and rituals play an important role in private life issues.

– An online survey of second-generation migrants confirms the results of the focus-groups: compared to their parents, children of migrants are more likely to have a high level of education, study at universities, and occupy high occupational positions in the labor market. Over half of them consider Russian their native language, 70% use it at home (exclusively or in combination with their native language). Almost half of respondents have Russian citizenship, and a third plan to obtain it. However, under current conditions, only a third of second-generation migrants, participated in our survey, plan to stay in the Russian Federation permanently.

– It is necessary to expand existing and discover new sources of information based on mass sample surveys that allow studying migration processes for scientific support of integration and migration policy.

**Level of implementation, recommendations on implementation or outcomes of the implementation of the results**:

The project of scientific and methodological support was carried out in the interests of the Government of the Russian Federation and the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation. The results and formulated recommendations can be used to advise the state authorities and to improve the existing or developed legislation in the field of immigration policy measures.