**Out-migration and Social and Technological Marginalization in Romania. Regional Disparities**

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Migration has been moving and shaping societies while transcending borders, dispersing and/or connecting people, ideas and goods between central and peripheral areas. Migration is one of the drivers of population change in Europe. The European Union human migration in particular is now facing challenges in terms of both intra- and external community movements powered by differences in income and employment opportunities between the old EU member states and the newest ones. Out-migration within the EU is an important social, economic, technological, cultural and political phenomenon both for sending and for host countries, especially for various Central and Eastern European states. Out-migration has become a relatively new phenomenon for Romania, especially after the fall of communism and the accession to the European Union. According to EUROSTAT, Romania ranks fifth in the out-migration hierarchy at EU level.

Over the years, a number of specific social and technological developmental goals have been identified, including eradicating poverty and hunger, improving education and literacy, reducing infant and maternal mortality rates, ending gender discrimination and oppression, enhancing participation in the political process, increasing access to improved sanitation, the development of R&D activities, access to innovation etc.

The present study aims to provide an insight on the influence of social and technological development level on the out-migration flows by computing and correlating the Social and Technological Disadvantage Index (STDI) to Out-migration Rate. The study is conducted based on the statistical data available provided by the National Institute of Statistics and by the Romania’s representative body of clusters. The study is carried out at the level of 42 Romanian counties (NUTS3 level) for the 2021 timeline.

The current study has greatly contributed to the identification of the social and technological profile of the persons subject to migration flows at county level based on the indicators used for STDI. There are two main types of relations between high out-migration flows related to the STDI. On the one hand a group of counties from Southern Romania, less developed socially and technologically, and dominated by agriculture, representing the ‘place’ for the out-migration of people with low qualifications, mainly specialising in construction, agricultural activities and domestic activities. On the other hand, we have the case of some counties from Western and Central Romania Bucharest Municipality and its surroundings, better developed socially and technologically, where emigration is caused by highly-skilled people making up the *brain drain* phenomenon (students and pupils, doctors, computer scientists). A distinct situation is that of the eastern counties less developed socially and technologically, which are not a “pool” for high emigration any longer, compared to the 2002-2007 period.

Key-words: out-migration, social and technological inequalities, regional disparities, Romania

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