



The Migratory Movement of the Population from Maramureş Depression

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The Maramureş Depression is situated in the northern part of Romania in the north a region with the same name (in the region call Maramureş). It is 3,200 km². This intramontainous depression concentrates 3 urbane centers of a small dimension - Sighetu Marmaşiei (38,162 inhabitants), Borşa (26,275 inhabitants) and Vişeu de Sus (15,944 inhabitants) - and 88 rural settlements (30 rural centers and 58 afferent villages).

The total population of the depression is 222,200 inhabitants. The urban population represents 37.16% and the rural one 62.84% from the depression population.

In this depression we have detected the following types of movements:

1. Commutation

If till 1989 these 3 urban centers held industrial units which were processing the raw materials of the area (wood, complex ores, salt, fruits, animal products) and were attracting a big percent of the labor, after this year, at the same time with the passing from the centralized economy to the free market economy, the industrial sector regressed with considerable social implications. There fore, the commutation which was specific in the proximity of those 3 cities (the influence zone) declined very much, so that the present it registers an unimportant values.

2. Temporary movements for work

Because the in Depression has a predominant agro-pastoral economy, there is a labor surplus, which migrates to other regions of the country and even to other countries for bigger profits.

The causes of these movements for work are: the poor technical and economical equipment, the insufficiency of the agricultural areas which provide food supply, the increased birth rate which cause the growth of the young segment of the population resulting in labor surplus. To these we can add the young people's desire to work harder and to get bigger profits (Fig. 1).

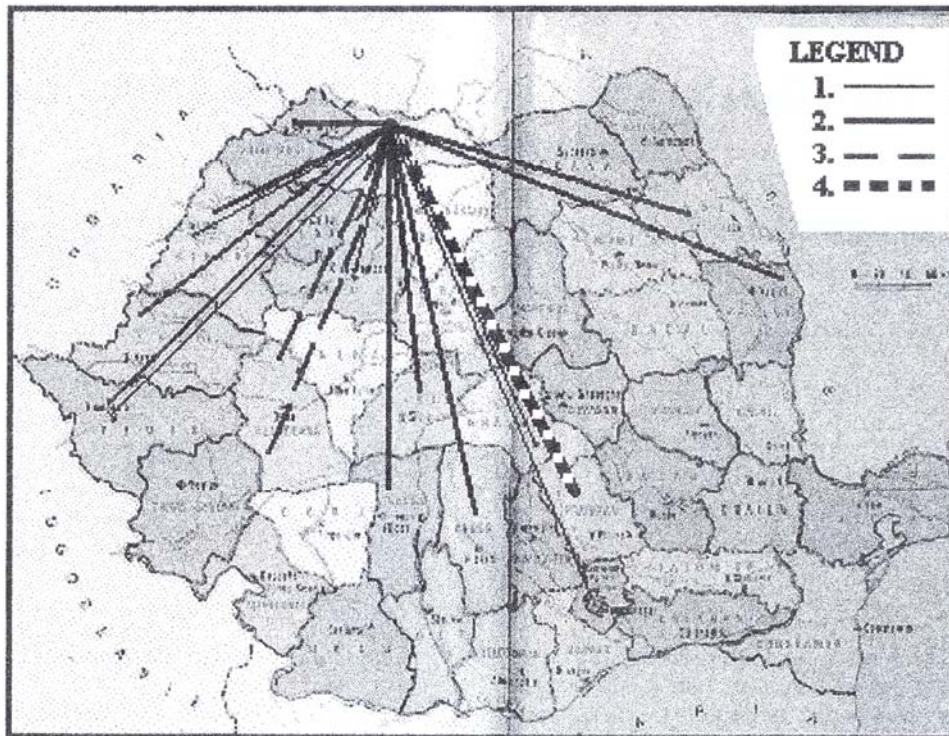
These movements for work outside from Maramureş can be classified as fallow:

2.1. Temporary movements for forest activities

In this case, because of specialization in the area, a big percent of the male population migrates to some areas important for deforestation one timber processing. These areas are: Pădurenilor Province from Poiana Ruscă Mountains, Brad Depression (The Apuseni Mountains) and Banatului Mountains.

The profits in these areas are considerable. During the cold season the activity is interrupted and the population go back to the place of residence.

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1. the movements for studies in university centers; 2. the movements for agricultural activities; 3. the movements for forest activities; 4. the movements for building activities.

Figure 1. Temporary movements for work.

2.2. Temporary movements for agricultural activities

The percentage of the male and female population involved in this type of activity is equal.

Because of the small agricultural areas in the depression people prefer agricultural products (wheat, corn, oat, sugar beet) for their work instead of money.

The areas to which they move, differ according to the specific type activity. Thus, for the haymaking men are moving to the Târnavelor Plateau (in the proximity of Mediaş city where the population is old and where there isn't enough labor force, in Sibiu Depression, in the north of the Getic Plateau and in the Getici Sub-Carpathian.

In these areas the labor deficit is caused by a demographically aging and also by the fact that men are engaged in wining activities.

For the cereals growth and crop (especially corn) but also other crops (sugar beet, potatoes, fruits) several regions are held in view. Thus for corn harvesting there the counties: Timiș, Arad,

Bihor, for strawberries Satu-Mare, for fruits Argeș and Vâlcea and for grapes Huși and Iași vineyards.

In most of the cases the profits are calculated in agricultural products.

2.3. Movements for building activities

In this case the male population, skilled in wood buildings is moving. Thus for the railway maintenance the following counties are mentioned: Argeș and Satu-Mare. For buildings in tourism (rural-tourism-bungalows, chalets) the main touristic areas are Prahova Valley and Brașov Depression.

2.4. Movements of the young population for studies

Maramureș Depression owns a huge "intelligence supply" which is forced to migrate to

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the big university centres of the country: Cluj-Napoca, Braşov, Timişoara, Bucureşti and Oradea.

2.5. Temporary international movements for work

The temporary movement affects a large number of young people from Maramureş Depression. They are financially motivated to work in other countries and the average salary per year is more substantial than the average salary for the same period in Romania.

The main countries offering conditions for work are Germany, France, Austria, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Israel especially for building activities and this kind of activity motivates the male young and adults (Fig 2). The female population has a low rate in this kind of migration because the women are involved in managing their own house holdings in Maramureş Depression.

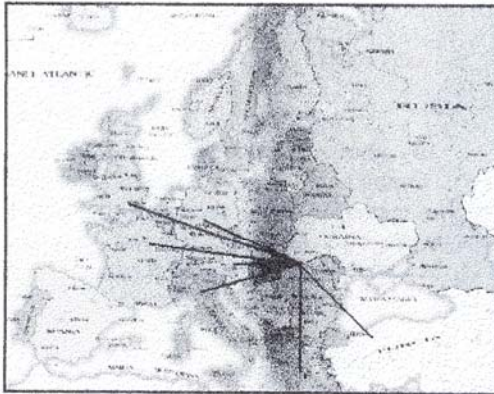


Figure 2. Temporary international movements for work.

Returning to Romania, the temporary emigrants young and adults, use the money earned outside the country in building activities, invest the money in agricultural activities on their own farm lands and in agricultural equipment's as well as small private business.

The main idea at the basis of work migrations is the financial motivation and not the permanent movement. The family is affected during the migration period of the male population to those who do not take advantage of it a family. These higher standards consist of: better technical equipment for the agricultural activity, and improved quality of life.

3. Movements for permanent settlement

It is noticed a localization of these movements in the main agricultural areas where people invest in lots and farms (especially because of swabians departure).

Independent of type of movement the population invests the resources obtained from other regions in their own farms from the depression. As a result of these movements noticed an "import" of ideas is noticed which is reflected in the architecture and management of the resources. Nevertheless the customs, costumes and traditions are preserved. The joy and the zeal, the hospitality of the inhabitants are very well known.

To reduce the migrations for work, big investments are necessary to utilize the young and skilled labor force from this depression, which is isolated from the rest of the country, by its peripheral position.

References

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