

MIGRATIONS, CRISES AND RECENT CONFLICTS IN THE BALKANS

International Scientific Conference

Institut društvenih nauka (Beograd) / Laboratoire d' Analyses Démographiques et Sociales (Volos)

General information:

The conference is initiated by DemoBalk Network, The Association of Demographers of Serbia and The International Association of French-speaking Demographers (AIDELF).

Date: October 27-29, 2005 .

Place: Belgrade

Deadline for submission:
June 15, 2005.

Contact:

Laboratoire d' Analyses
Démographiques et Sociales (LADS),
Université de Thessalie,
Pédion Areos, 38334 Volos, Grèce;
Phone: + 30 / 24210 / 74430;
Fax: + 30 / 24210 / 74394;
E-Mail: demobalk@prd.uth.gr;
Homepage:
<http://www.demobalk.org>

Institut društvenih nauka (IDN),
Kraljice Natalije 45, 11000 Belgrade,
Serbia and Montenegro;
Phone: + 38 / 11 / 3613856;
E-Mail: idn@eunet.yu;
Homepage: <http://www.idn.org.yu>

Application process:

The papers, written in English or French, should not exceed 12 pages (see guidelines for authors) and should be submitted electronically to: demobalk@prd.uth.gr no later than 15 June, 2005.

Both the printed and the electronic version of the report (in the required formats) should be sent to the following address:
DemoBalk, University of Thessaly,
LADS, Pédion Areos,
Volos 38334, Greece.

The purpose of this scientific meeting is to give a versatile and complete balance mainly of demographic consequences of migrations caused by the socio-economic and political crises and armed conflicts that took place in the Balkans during the 1990's. Both the external migrations (from the countries within the Balkans to the countries outside of the Balkans, as well as among the countries within the Balkans) and the internal migrations will be considered. The consequences (short-term, mid-term, and long-term) for the total population growth, spatial distribution, and structures of the population (by age, sex, ethnicity, etc.) are to be considered both from the aspect of the countries and the regions of origin and from the aspect of the countries and the regions of destination. Also to be studied are the consequences of the policies of the Balkan countries that concern the refugees and the internally displaced persons as well as the consequences of the immigration policies of the countries of destination (outside of the Balkans). Attention will also be given to the changes in the method of collecting of the relevant statistical data. The Conference will be divided into four sessions.

Session One: Migrations in the Balkans and their Consequences for the Countries in the Region

The crises and armed conflicts that occurred in the Balkans after the ›revolutionary‹ over- turns in the 1980's and the 1990's and the post-communist era, provoked migrations of an intensity previously unknown in the region. The intensity and the features of these migrations (internal, as well as external) have so far not been sufficiently analysed, especially in spite of the fact that they differ significantly from country to country. An example of this type is Albania a country isolated until the end of the 1980's – where demographic changes caused by emigration were just as relevant as those caused by the mass migration from the villages to the cities. At the same time, Romania was seized by external and internal migrations characterized by massive return from cities to villages. The countries formed after the breakdown of former Yugoslavia are characterized by significantly different migrations (international migrations, internal and forced migrations...) that completely altered the demographic map of the territory, especially the spatial distribution of certain ethnic groups, in just ten years.

The papers prepared for this session will deal with the range and features of emigration, as well as with the consequences of emigration for the countries of the region.

Session Two: Migrations in the Balkans and Consequences to Third Countries

This session will focus on the consequences of the migrations from the Balkans for other countries.

With the assistance of the available statistical data on migration flows, as well on the basis of the information on the current presence of foreign citizens in these countries, efforts will be made to establish tendencies of emigration from the Balkans, to establish their basic features (country of origin, modalities of stay and types of accommodation, geographical distribution, structure by age and sex...), as well as to estimate the socio-economic consequences of these migrations and their impact on the population dynamics of the countries of arrival. Consequences will be considered on national and regional levels in an attempt to answer the following question: What demographic structure would the observed areas have if the immi- grations from the Balkans had not happened?

Especially desirable are papers that take a comparative approach (e.g. the consequences of immigration from different Balkan countries into a single other country, or the consequences of immigration from a single Balkan country into two different countries). Also very welcome are papers that elaborate on possible changes in the legal regulations and in immigration policies of third countries, initiated by the immigration from the Balkans, as well as on the changes in the domain of gathering of statistical data related to monitoring of migration movements.

Session three: Forced Migrations

Wars that struck former Yugoslavia during the 1990's caused migrations that would not have occurred at a time of peace. This session will examine the displacement of population that was directly conditioned by armed conflicts (and should be compared with earlier migration movements). Special attention should also be given to internally displaced persons, and refugees in the countries of the region.

A particular consideration will be given to demographic features and spatial aspects of forced migrations, as well as to their impact to on the population dynamics of the areas of immigration and emigration. The degree and the characteristics of the repatriation of the refugees and of the internally displaced persons will also be analysed.

Session Four: Problems of Migration Measurement

This session will be fully dedicated to the examination of the problems of migration measurement: their definition and their monitoring in time and space. Most welcome are papers presenting the results obtained by an indirect method of estimates of the volume of migrations.

Papers pointing out the differences between different statistical sources' estimates concerning the same migration flows and analysing the reasons for such uncertainties are also expected.

Guidelines for Authors

Papers should not exceed 12 pages (36 000 type characters, spaces included) including footnotes, bibliographies, and illustrations (maps, charts, etc).

Illustrations should be ready for print and submitted both; on paper and on a disk or a CD. The illustrations (maps, charts, graphics, etc.) should be such that their legibility is preserved after the reduction to the format of the publication (16 x 24 cm).

Papers should be submitted in Word format, in French or in English, with title, summaries and key-words in both languages, on paper and either on a disk or as an attachment by e-mail. Authors should also send a PDF version for reproducing in Belgrade.

Illustrations (figures, charts, maps, etc.) should be submitted as separate files. Only their position should be indicated in the paper. Instructions for illustrations (maps, charts, graphs, etc.) Illustrations should be:

- In black and white,
- In printing format, i.e.: full page: 13 x 20,5 cm, half page: 13 x 10 cm
Reminder: After reduction, the font size of the letters and digits must not be smaller than 6.
- Authors should submit a printed copy of the illustrations, in addition to the electronic version.
- Authors should ensure that graphic material be legible in the printing format. It is advised not to use more than 5 shades (from black to white).
- Each illustration (map, chart, or graph) should have a title and a number.
- Data ex-change format: Files should be submitted in the Word, Excel, EPS, Illustrator, Photoshop, or Mapinfo format.

The number of papers to be presented at the meeting is deliberately restricted in order to leave enough time for discussion. Papers selected by the Scientific Committee, but not presented at the Conference, will appear in a publication whose form is yet to be determined.