

International Migration and its Effects on Family

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***Abstract.** The crises period that still cross Romania explain, between others, the apparition and development of international migration, after 1990. In a world marked by globalization, migration can not disappear, contrary, it grows bigger ant it remains an interesting subject in future.*

A study about migration consequences on family, specially on children's personality left in the country, is justified because migration is a present phenomena in Romanian space at the beginning of the XXIth century.

We try to analyse the effects of this phenomenon on family. Related to these goal we offer the conclusions obtained from a research realized in Campulung Muscel municipality, Arges county, on a lot of pupils that have parents left in foreign countries and the results to the investigation made in Pitesti municipality. The research showed that it is a relationship between children's marks at school and parent's leaving; children's perceptions on parent's leaving; identifies school's interest level in diminution of the low school performance effects caused by this socio-economical phenomena.

Key words: international circulating migration; clandestine migration; school circumstance; family circumstance; school performance.

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1. Migration: definition, meaning, types

A study about migration consequences on family, specially on children's personality left in the country, is justified because migration is a present phenomena in Romanian space at the beginning of the XXIth century. In a world of globalization, migration has no chance to disappear, contrary, it grows bigger and it remains an interesting subject in future.

Any type of migration means the same thing: disappearing on a period (that can be permanently) on a individual in space. At this general level, any type of migration can be associated with any type of effects. International migration is a very complex phenomenon because it has many forms and characteristics with an emphatic dynamic. Defining international migration as a permanent displacement from a state to another is not enough and it covers only a part from this phenomenon. Different process associated with globalization had emerge to accentuate the movement in the international space; as a proof to this fact is the number of persons involved in international displacement, and countries, as a destination or derivation, have appeared on emigration map.

In Romania international circulative migration is a growing phenomenon. In a national test realized in May 2001, 18% from the interviewed persons stated the intention of departures to work in a foreign country (Serban, Grigoras, 2000, p.31).

But, migration is not a hazard. Migration projects are associated with

work projects. This are caused from unemployment and low income (Sandu, 2000).

The job and money are the primary objective of the temporary émigré in a foreign country.

Migration project is always related with family-person life situation, migration experience, community region context and available capital. Related to all this, migration project is internal or external orientated to tourism, work, education or residence changing. Romania entered, after 1989, in international migration circuit "the type of trip has an accentuated dynamic: from ethnic migration at the beginning of the 90's to frequent trips for trades, migration for work arise at the beginning of the 90's as a prevalent type. The limitation constaited by European countries developed surreptitious migration. Same, destinations reareng: from countries to Central Europe to the ones from South Europe". In the year 2000, the facilities related to the acces in Schengen space influence the period of the trip."Romanian state in intensifying the efforts related to managing migration and fighting against surreptitious component " (Constantinescu, 2006, pp. 296-297).

Migration based on work contract, characterized by legally terms of leaving the origin country and living on destination country during the job contract and by sanction in case of infringement from contract terms; permanently migration to traditional states of migration; migration for studies, migration for family reunion, changing

place of a family is made, only legally, surreptitious migration for work, repeated changing place on a short period, for trade in near countries can give some of Romanians migration characteristics.

Surreptitious migration for work develops migration networks concentrated on different territories. If, at a national level, we talk about some migration instalment based on adding changing of places specially in some areas.

As a consequences, in those areas there will be released a number of jobs, diminishing number of unemployee. The fact that are pointed out in different areas with a big rate of migration suggests that it will be employee in other areas or it will appear temporar migration or commutation, or the employer will move his activities where is no pressure of growing the salary (Constantinescu, op. cit.).

In circulated migration there is the possibility that the émigré to be reorientated to native county. Keeping contact with native county they can be informed by the new opportunities.

It can appear new types of migration by changing the values that the émigré gives to the places between he moves. If the temporary destination takes positive valence, not only at economical point, but to socio-cultural, it is possible that if the émigré doesn't have a family to native country, temporary migration, to become permanently migration (Sandu, 2000).

Related to all this, we can talk in areas of migration concentration about a diminution of unemployment on a short and medium perioud, but not about increasing the salary.

Younger men are envolved in international departures, so ageing the labour is obvious.

Request of labour is not a homogeneous: it is marked by polarization of overqualified, top areas/ secondary segment of labour. Surreptitious migration is the one who refers to secondary segment and departures based on a work place on both segments. In Romania it has appeared a deficit in some jobs, for example in construction field.

The offer of jobs wich requires a high qualification has the effect "migration of brains". In this situation is offered support for insertion in new society. From the point of view of native country, this type of departures are a lot because the native country doesn't take advantages from investition in education of those people.

On a long term this type of departures affects the capacity of development to native society "wich is privated by it's capable people".

To analyse a research of the effects in economical aspect generated from money that émigré sends to native country, it is necessary to underline that not any type of migration is associated with behavior of sending money from foreign counties. There are associated with sending money: surreptitious migration for work, migration to a secondary segment of labour. There are not associated with sending money; permanently migration of high qualified, neither migration for study or migration for family reunion.

Semification (positive or negative) to sending money in native country by émigré is connected to economical framework. This can contribute to improvement of currency reserve. This money can be, as well, a source of inflation. All depends of money spending patterns, on a long term and native state's ability to influence it (Constantinescu, op.cit).

In generally, it can be observed that money proceeded from migration are used more for consume than to investments to generate profit. In Romania this kind of money are invested in home reconstruction, or in long terms properties, as cars or electronics. Reorientation of financial resources provided by migration to activities that generates profit can take place after acquisition of all the above properties and it is realized, for example, in acquisition of agricultural instruments in rural areas.

Economical effects on a short term refers to improvement of family life that has emigrated. On a long term, migration can induce economical dependence related to receiving money and migration fluctuation.

There are some opinions which sustain that the ones who benefited from received money from foreign countries are not migrants, but the one who provide services and produces proprieties that migrants are buying. Low percentage of investments in activities that generates profit can be explained with existence in native county of some circumstances that hinders investments development. Another factor refers to the fact that migration for work in secondary

segment with or without contract doesn't allow to accumulate a large sum of money and migrants' tendency to invest money in proprieties that are considered secure (homes, cars).

Going to a legal status in destination country, associated with a more secure position and bigger income, can generate favorable conditions for family migration.

Above economical implications, migration generates another effects category: at family level. "Growth of migration can be a factor which can generate an increasing of divorce, specially when migration is accompanied with low social control of behaviors and produces social unbalance" (Mihailescu, 1999, p. 108)

Migration encourage divorce on many ways generating family disfunctions and conflicts when a husband is missing long period from home, by cultural shocks that appear in families where husbands are coming from different family mediums, by difficulties to adapt of some migrants to new residential conditions, by lower local social control on family behaviors. Departures of one of family member for a period in a foreign country can bring some new rols and functions in family; one of the member that remains home takes head's family role. "Family members to fullfil obligations of the departed one is often felt in a negative manner" (Serban, Grigoras, 2000, p. 52).

Although, migration's effects are always interacting, we can caught some categories: effects on individual who migrates, effects on family, effect above communities, effects above native county.

2. Migration influence on family and children's school performance

In modern society, families' functions, structure and role acquire new valencies. During family history, significant changes have occurred in economical function, almost in every dimension of it.

Present day society, based on work zone between its members and on their specialisation, drives onto a lot of changes in economical sector, diminishing its traditional components (Constantinescu, 2004, p. 44).

The XXth century and XXIth century, by their industrialisation, modernisation, social, mobility, migration process have changed individuality's work place, translocating him from inner part of family to external part of family.

Working outside residence makes difficult communication between husbands, parents and children.

Lack of communications (a simple exchange of ordinary informations), generates family breaches and misunderstandings, including conflict between generation.

Some problems have been surprised in a study that investigated migration influence on family (one or both parent departure) and children's school performance cast-off into the country.

To analyse factors which influence school performance is revealed D. Potolea's typology (1989). The subject who is at school to study is in permanent interaction with a school teacher and with different conditions of pedagogical process. There are three types of factors

which influence pupil's school performance: school medium where pupils are and the way they reports to this (didactic strategy characteristics, teacher's pedagogical ethos, pupil's motivation for learning, anterior school screw plate, pupil's personal characteristics-age); social medium assimilated pedagogical in school (didactical-material school base, socio-moral climate in class, relation pupil-pupil, relation pupil-teacher), social media individually introvuted.

Every person has a social position defined by the provenience medium and the way he interacts to with others. We take into consideration pupil's social provenience medium, pupil's familial provenience medium, parent's interest about school.

The three types of factors influence in different ways pupil's school performance. Their effects are cumulative because factors we've talked about works together. The measure of control is changeable. Some of them can be controlled by teacher (didactic strategy, educational style), other less or not at all (provenience media or anterior school channel). In this conditions when they are analysed, school performance is invocated as a determinant of school performance, the control practiced on instructive factors, and as a source of success of uncontrollable factors. That's why, one of the request of growing school performance is extending the control over as many factors as it is possible. For this, it is necessary to know all those factors. School performance is quantified by marks.

The research was realized during 1.02.2006-28.02.2006 and have the hypothesis that parents departure for work in a foreign country generates a diminution of children's school performance during period they are in a foreign country.

Investigation's objective are: to identify the influence that family's departure to work in a foreign country has on children's school performance; to analyse children's perceptions on parent's departures; identifying rate of interest that school has for diminution the effects that this socio-economical phenomena has on pupil.

Investigated population it is represented by a group of 35 pupils from grade school (Vth-VIIIth grades) from Campulung Muscel, Arges County. It has been used the simple fortuitous sampling method. From the investigated subjects, 12 are in grandparent's care, 7 in parent's care who stayed home, one child in ant's care; in 12 cases just father is left, in 4 only mother and in 4 cases both parents left.

Parents departure in foreign country has as a goal professional obligations in the next field: constructions – 4 persons, agriculture – 11 persons, health care, house keeping – 7 persons. One person works as a designer and another one as a doctor. Countries for destination are: Spain, France, Italy, Czech Republic.

Investigation was made based on a questionnaire split in 3 dimensions: first dimension analyses pupil's perceptions to this phenomenon, the second dimension reflects the influence of family's departure on children's school

performance, and the third dimension analyses the interest that school gives to pupils in this situation.

It has been analysed school records to compare pupil's school markets before and after their family departure. In this comparative analyse we've took into consideration the fact that modification of this medium, as a progress or regress, is determined by the notified factors and other ones. At the VIIIth classroom, for 51% subjects, results has grown considerable, for 37% the result diminish and for 12% remains unalterable (constant). At VIIth grade school results have diminish for all investigated pupil and at VIth grade for 95,3% subjects the results remains unalterable, in generally.

Analysing the average for the education discipline for VIth grade school and VIIth, we found that an influencing element is the appearance of new discipline, chemistry and physical science, where averages are low, for most of the subjects, generating a diminishing of general average.

At Vth grade school results are unalterable and have grown very little.

As a hole, we can say that for 29% pupils, school results remains unalterable or have grown very little, and for 71% school results diminish more or less significantly besides results they had before parent's departure. Only for 8% results have diminish significantly.

Analysing the result from those two different situations for subjects that had a regress in this period, we found that 51% are children that had low markets, only 20% from them are pupils with good marks.

First dimension of investigation realized with questionnaire refers to pupil's perception on migration phenomena. 60% pupils said that their parent should live the country only if it is strictly necessary, 23% said that they would agree with parents departures only for a short period, 13% don't agree with parents departure, 4% are completely in agreement with their parents departure.

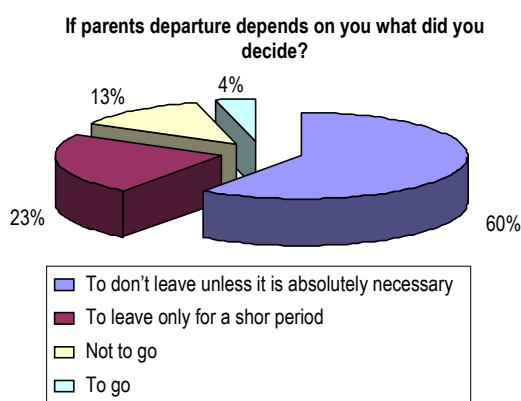


Figure 1. Children attitude to parents departure

Pupils who agrees parents departure consider this thing an advantage to parents and to whole family, for the next reasons: “they travel throw many countries”, “it’s a better life in a foreign county”, “they are more peacefull without parents”, “have a bigger income”. Those who doesn’t agree with parents departure brings emottionaly answers: “becose I miss them”, “becose I’m worried about them”, “it’s hard for them and for me, too”, “becose we have no one who takes care of us”.

Being asked what should they do if they were in parents place, 70% subjects would't leave county, letting their children with other persons, 14% said that they should leave, 2% should leave only if is necessary, 14% should leave with children.

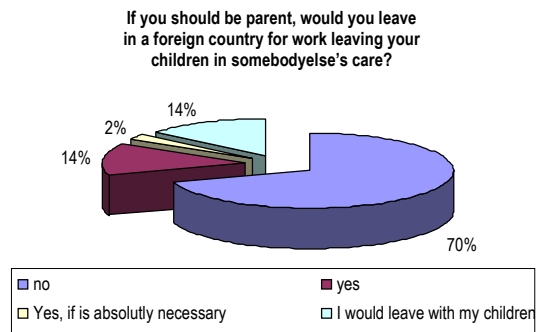


Figure 2. Parents attitude towards leaving children when ging to work abroad

Among reasons that would sustain departures by students are: more money, visiting foreign countries, educational reasons, a new career.

58% subjects agreed with parents decision of leaving country and letting children home, becose, if they would leave too, they'll have to interrupt school, 20% of them said that it is more adequate to be next to theirs parents even if that means to interrupt school in native country and start it in a foreign country.

All investigated students sustain that it's acceptable leaving kids in relative's care.

Second dimension shows influence that parents's departure has on children's school performance.

Subject's school behavior, in theirs view, hasn't modified because they present permanently theirs markets to parents, as before (90% from subjects), 10% admit that they present only good marks because is no possibility for directly checking from parents.

Subjects perception on quality school performances during time are't into the country in comparison with the time when parents were home, shows that

students consider that they learn and have good marks as before (60%), learn and have better marks since parents aren't home (30%) learn and have worse results than before (10%).

Subjects which appreciated that their results are worse said that: "grandparents don't know how to help me", "I don't study that more", "I feel neglected, nobody helps me".

The ones who have better marks says: "I want to become somebody", "I am appreciating effort that my parents have made and I want to give them a reward".

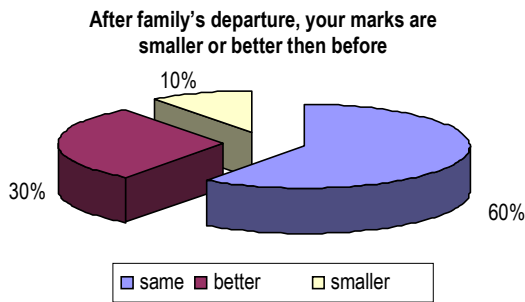


Figure 3. School evolution of children whose parents leaved abroad

Further on, is investigated the support that school gives to children in this situation. Communicating to student's family marks by school is appreciated as very important by 85% students, 10% considers that communicating results to their parents is so and so necessary, and the rest appreciates that this has small importance.

Being asked "How is appreciating your master and your schoolmates the fact that your parents are in a foreign

country?" subjects says that "they treat me like before", "many of them are in my situation", "they give me advices", "some of them think is cool being without parents", "they felt sorry for me".

Investigated subjects appreciates school's interest above students-meetings with family; parents that has stayed home, grandparents- informing them about school situation; organizational problems; behavioral problems.

Bigger changes of families that leave country is in subject's personality, which brings emotional answers "I miss them". Student understand this phenomenon with its financial dimension involved and the moral one: parents's obligation to raise and educate their children.

As a connection between individual and society, between public space and private space, family is the place where different tensions are tendencies of society, met.

External changes are influencing by family in adaptation process. Between family adjustment and individual adjustment are symmetry and crossing. Family history and families essential features will mark the way it will react above changes.

3. Migration's aspects in Pitesti Municipality, Arges County

In Pitesti Municipality have been investigated 26.927 subjects, students from 32 educational units from municipality, 18 elementary schools and 32 high schools between November 10-December, 1, 2007. As a procedure, it has been used analysis of school documents.

School documents study was realised based on records that includes: student's identity, parent left to work in

a foreign country, person who takes care about student. The goal of this research is to establish dimensions of phenomem in Pitesti Municipality.

Person/persons that live with students from elementary school in Pitești

Table 1
(N = 11525)

	Students which has a parent left and are in second parent care	Students who have both parents left and nobody's taking care of them	Students who have both parents left and are in somebody else's care	Students who don't have both parents left	TOTAL
SCHOOL No. 1	3 0,52%	-	20 3,44%	559 96,05%	582 100,00%
SCHOOL No.2	37 3,69%	-	11 1,10%	956 95,22%	1004 100,00%
SCHOOL No.4	16 2,53%	-	15 2,37%	601 95,09%	632 100,00%
SCHOOL No. 5	9 1,61%	-	4 0,72%	546 97,67%	559 100,00%
SCHOOL No. 6	19 3,19%	-	18 3,03%	558 93,78%	595 1,00%
SCHOOL No. 7	30 5,01%	-	27 4,51%	542 90,48%	599 1,00%
SCHOOL No. 8	6 2,53%	-	4 1,69%	227 95,78%	237 1,00%
SCHOOL No. 9	11 4,00%	-	5 1,82%	259 94,18%	275 100,00%
SCHOOL No. 10	15 2,53%	-	10 1,69%	567 95,78%	592 100,00%
SCHOOL No. 11	29 2,53%	-	20 1,75%	1097 95,72%	1146 100,00%
SCHOOL No.12	22 4,62%	-	11 2,31%	443 93,07%	476 100,00%
SCHOOL No.13	42 3,55%	-	15 1,27%	1126 95,18%	1183 100,00%
SCHOOL No.14	33 3,99%	-	22 2,66%	772 93,35%	827 100,00%
SCHOOL No. 15	35 6,17%	-	21 3,70%	511 90,12%	567 100,00%
SCHOOL No.16	12 2,03%	-	10 1,69%	570 96,28%	592 1,00%
SCHOOL No. 17	14 3,46%	1 0,25%	11 2,72%	379 93,58%	405 100,00%
SCHOOL No.19	28 3,11%	-	19 2,11%	852 94,77%	899 100,00%
SCHOOL No.20	15 4,23%	-	9 2,54%	331 93,24%	355 100,00%
TOTAL	376 3,26%	1 0,01%	252 2,19%	10896 94,54%	11525 100,00%

At students from elementary school, grades I-VIII, we found that 5.46% (629 students) have parents in a foreign country. Most of them, 376 students (3,26%) live with one parent, 252 (2.19%) are in relative's care or family friend's care, and only one student takes care alone by himself.

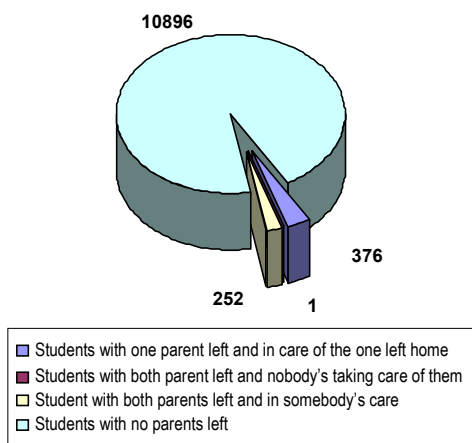


Figure 4. Pitești – students from primary school

From a population of 15402, 96.58% (14876 students) don't have parents in a foreign county, 3.42% students (526) have least one parent left in a foreign country, 2.04% (314) students live with relatives, family friends and 0.8% (28) live alone or with minor brothers.

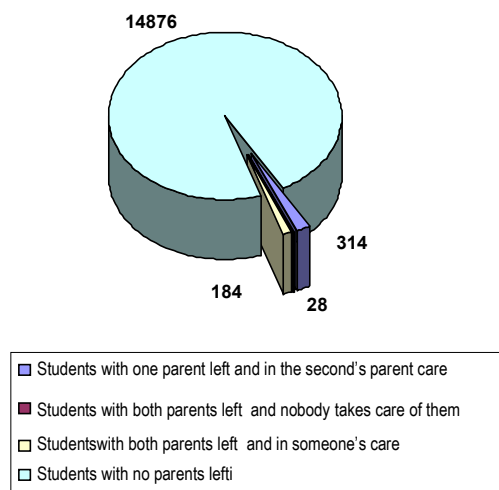


Figure 5. Pitești – high school students

Person/persons that live with students from high schools in Pitești

Table 2
(N = 15402)

	Students wich has a parent left and are in second parent care	Students who have both parents left and nobody's taking care of them	Students who have both parents left and are in somebody else's care	Students who don't have both parents left	TOTAL
DACIA HIGH SCHOOL	24 2,25%	-	6 0,56%	1039 97,19%	1069 100,00%
MIHAI VITEAZU HIGH SCHOOL	30 2,87%	4 0,38%	27 2,58%	985 94,17%	1046 100,00%
DIMITRIE DIMA HIGH SCHOOL	22 2,17%	-	22 2,17%	972 95,67%	1016 100,00%
INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY HIGH SCHOOL	29 2,76%	-	13 1,24%	1007 96,00%	1049 100,00%
ION BARBU HIGH SCHOOL	27 2,77%	-	21 2,15%	928 95,08%	976 100,00%
CAR CONSTRUCTIONS NO. 2 HIGH SCHOOL	32 3,05%	7 0,67%	19 1,81%	992 94,48%	1050 100,00%
ECONOMICAL COLLEGE M. TEIULEANU	10 0,69%	-	1 0,07%	1433 99,24%	1444 100,00%
N. I. C. BRĂTIANU COLLEGE	27 2,09%	4 0,31%	6 0,46%	1254 97,13%	1291 100,00%
AL. ODOBESCU COLLEGE	16 1,56%	-	6 0,59%	1003 97,85%	1025 100,00%

	Students wich has a parent left and are in second parent care	Students who have both parents left and nobody's taking care of them	Students who have both parents left and are in somebody else's care	Students who don't have both parents left	TOTAL
ART HIGH SCHOOL D. LIPATTI	10 1,75%	-	3 0,53%	557 97,72%	570 100,00%
ARMAND CĂLINECU HIGH SCHOOL	13 1,41%	-	16 1,73%	896 96,86%	925 100,00%
CANTACUZINO HIGH SCHOOL	13 1,70%	1 0,13%	13 1,70%	737 96,47%	764 100,00%
WOOD INDUSTRIALISTION HIGH SCHOOL	23 1,84%	7 0,56%	11 0,88%	1206 96,71%	1247 100,00%
ASTRA HIGH SCHOOL	38 1,97%	5 0,26%	20 1,04%	1867 96,74%	1930 100,00%
TOTAL	314 2,04%	28 0,18%	184 1,19%	14876 96,58%	15402 100,00%

In Pitesti municipality, from a investigated population of 26.927 subjects, 1155 students-that represents 4.29%- have unleast one parent left in a foreign country for work. From total of students, 0.11% take care alone by themselves, 1.62% are in relative's care or family friend's care, and 2.56% are in parent's care wich staid home.

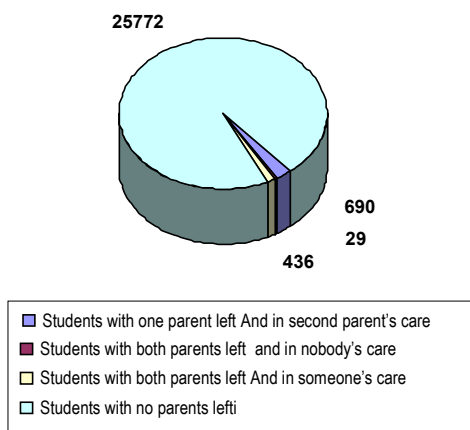


Figure 6. *Situation of the students in Pitesti municipality*

Relatated situation demands special care to those students, at school's level, at social care level. In Romania, children that have parents left in a foreign county have been neglected by social care sistem.

New types of trauncy appear, children trauncy and we have to act rapidly because children don't wait, they grow every day!

Some solutations for students who's parents are temporary left in a foreign country are: school counseling, help in learning process, alternatives of spending spare time with other children, call on their home. Family counseling in other countries are very important that has developed in private sector, started to develop and in public sector. Counseling can be orientated on couple problems, children's problems or other aspects. A special form of family counseling is complex supervision service: medical, psychological, social.

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