

THE ROAD TO MIGRATION: CIVILIZATION AND SUPPLY BASED CONFLICT

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ABSTRACT

Currently Europe is living through a modern age migration, even though the phenomenon of migration was already present in the 19-20 century economic history. However the size and composition of the current migration differs considerably from those of the past. On the one hand after the Cold War the conflict of nation-states became insignificant, the clash of civilizations characterizes our time. Decrease in population, dissolution of states and fight for provision make the life of the people uncertain. Available supplies are being depleted, and developed countries are needing workforce. No civilization has found an antidote to these problems.

Keywords

the phenomenon of migration, decrease in population, dissolution of states, the clash of civilizations



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I. Economic and Social History

The frames of reference in modern economic history are mostly drawn at the micro, macro and political levels. Our topic, migration, appears at the micro and macro levels of economy – limits of economic growth, population processes. On a macro level approach economic growth and the problem of structural change are at the forefront, other important subjects are employment, finance and capital market, and international economic relations. An investigation carried out from the political perspective leads us to the issues of economic order, state and economy, economic self-management, and industrial connections.

Among the subfields of economic history, business history, international economic relations, regional economic differences, population history, history of agriculture, urban history, mainly the frameworks of the history of banks and money provide the research aspects. (Moderne Wirtschaftsgeschichte: 2006) Social history has emerged in the 50s and 60s of the 20th century deliberately following the patterns of social sciences, its important dimensions include: employment, income structure, distribution, magnitude, and related social prestige. Economy and social history are interconnected in multiple ways. Here are some examples as proofs: business history, history of crisis and prosperity, history of branches of economy (commerce, bank, industry, crafts), social and welfare systems, or economic and social policy. (Gyáni Gábor-Kövér György:2006)

Alongside traditional economic history new schools have emerged, such as, cliometrics for whose application and development Robert W. Fogel and Douglass C. North have received the Noble Prize in 1993. Contemporary schools of economic history also prefer to start from economic calculability, problem solving through the means of exact calculation. (<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/economicHistory/seminars/default.htm> 2017.09.16)

It also matters what kind of impact do nation-states and other actors have on events in the international system, what sort of disruptions and conflicts must they resolve. This way, population explosion in the undeveloped world, running out of food and water resource, and difficulties of the state are causing major disruptions in the development of modern economy, as well as in the solutions to the most basic questions of society. Today conflicts are mostly civilizational, not between nation-states, therefore, these as well as the supply problems may have led to the migration in current era. The present study is concerned with thinking over these issues.

II. Migration

In recent years Europe has been the target of an immigration wave of unprecedented magnitude. Huge population release from undeveloped regions, Europe's labor demand, decreasing supplies may have all contributed to it, which has also been shaped by the changing character of today's conflicts, and several nation-states' favorable opinion about the legalization of migration. The phenomenon significantly differs from past migrations.

In economic history and in the system of international relations, but in many other fields of science the study of population is a basic issue. Since the agents are the ordinary people, independently of their classification based on prestige or revenue. 19th and 20th century economic development and population growth posed a challenge, which in Europe have led to migration in two distinct stages, the „Old Migration” and the „New Migration”. The first was a consequence of Irish famine, and was characterized as emigration from the British isles. (*Livi-Bacci Massimo:1998*)

In the second stage Austro-Hungarian and Italian emigration was dominant. During the 19th century more than 60 million people (of which 38-39 million migrated to America) emigrated from Europe. (Pounds Norman J.G: 1979)

During the 19th century the population of Europe has doubled, but in other parts of the world population growth has barely exceeded 20%. The slow down of population growth in Europe and an unprecedented surge in population growth in other parts of the world is a 20th century phenomenon. Population growth had tendencies: decrease of infant mortality, sudden increase of average age, migration in the 19th century had predominantly economic reasons, in the 20th century it was mostly due to wars and political oppression. European emigration mainly to America reached its peak before the First World War. This prompted legal regulations and restrictions on the American continent, Europe's role changes, it becomes receiving, which is especially true of Jewish migration. (*Cameron, Rondo:1989*)

On the other hand uncontrolled population explosion would deplete the scarce resources, and would also ruin the environment. Humanity needs more resources for food production, whereas global warming can lead to ecological catastrophe. In the developed industrial countries of the world we can witness a population decline instead of population growth, which means fewer young workers, people live longer, sustaining an ever larger number of pensioners causes problems. Undeveloped countries have high birth rates. While in developed industrial countries population is plummeting, which will determine the 21st century. In history population decline meant diminishing power. This will be the case with Europe. The international power is affected by population decline. (*George Friedman: 2010*)

Undoubtedly, one of the main indicator of economic performance is economic growth without which progress is inconceivable. But of course it is also important to keep in mind the depletion of resources. Many people have raised the alarm in the 70s. Forrester was the first, then Meadows followed with his model in his book published under the title “Dynamics of Growth in the Finite World”. Meadows’ model was superior to Forrester’s as it could address more questions. (Meadows, D. et al: 2004)

It is now quite clear that we deplete the resources of our planet much faster than we can reproduce them. Current living standards cannot be sustained for long. In this circumstance it does not help, if we abolish the barriers, it only makes the situation worse. But it would make things even worse if we had to limit the necessary supplies permanently. The faster we act the better the results will be. Unfortunately there is no sign that we have done anything, or even that we have thought about what should be done. The main trends for global concern are the following: accelerated industrialization, fast population growth, wide spread malnutrition, depletion of non-renewable resources, environmental degradation. The race between population and resources raises two problems: the complete depletion of resources, and the traditional energy resources are increasingly scarcer, their price rises, and there is an increasing demand for solar energy research. (American National Intelligence Council (NIC). Global Trends 2025:2008.)

Besides zones of conflict, state failures, the pressure of migration has increased, the number of people involved in migration: 100 million people, which is just a few percent of world population, characterized by regional concentration. In developed countries jobs growth cannot keep pace with population growth. Between 1990 and 2010 the workforce of developing countries is expected to increase by 41,2% (in Africa this value is 75%). The differences in economic development are increasing – the differences between living standards and real wages are ever greater. The development in transportation and telecommunication – the continents are more accessible, countries with the highest average wages import cheap labor to decrease production costs. Several developing countries are supporting labor export, because it is cheaper than economic reform. Violence, local war zones, ethnic tensions also conduce to migration. (Ibid)

III. State dissolution

State dissolution can also cause insecurities, and the migration of people. If we take a look at the great fault-lines of 20th century, we can see that there was a lot of that, if we consider the fate of the biggest integrations only. The dissolution of the Turkish Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy was regulated by the peace treaties ending the First

World War. The matter was different with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, because in their cases the international laws of the Vienna Convention provided the legal clinging.(Ф. Савай:2016)

The 1973 Vienna Convention concerns the succession of previous agreements and settlements. The 1983 Vienna Convention deals with the succession of state property and state debt. The issue over the distribution of properties (archives) and debt, even in the case of a union (integration), the primary rule is that the parties involved must reach an agreement. The 1983 Vienna Convention is not yet in force, and it is quite unlikely that this will change in the foreseeable future. Despite the fact that the agreement is left to the parties, it would be desirable to regulate the process with legal means as well. In it, however, economic indicators must have an important role to play which we can see in the presented examples from 20th century. On the other hand political decisions are also present in the distribution of property and debt, in many cases at the expense of economic means. The regulation of the matter would be a common task, because it would prevent a series of forced decisions and agreements with uncertain (or even contested) outcomes generating disputes just as we can witness their unsettlement even today.(Michael Silagi: 2008)

Different versions of federalism have evolved throughout the 19th and 20th centuries.(Szávai Ferenc: 2008)

Even today it has no uniform theory which could be uniformly applies. Integration and disintegration are inseparable phenomena, they were at once present in Europe in the 20th century with classic cases of state succession. 20th century provides five classic examples of the ways that international law regulated state succession.(Ferenc Szávai. 2016)

Related to the First World War the following cases were regulated by peace treatise: 1. Turkish Empire, 2. Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Regulations by international law: 3. Dissolution of the Soviet Union, 4. Disintegration of Czechoslovakia, 5. Yugoslavia.

The current international regulation of state succession was set down in two Vienna Conventions, its basic principles determined the issues related to state succession of dissolved multinational states. Both UN Convention had been negotiated in Vienna and made important resolutions in connection with state succession. The Convention of 1978 dealt with international treaties, while the Convention of 1983 dealt with the partition of state property, public records and public debt.(*Vienna Convention on Succession of States in respect of Treaties. 1978.*)

Russia proclaimed its sovereignty on June 14 1990, but did not leave the former Soviet Union. The Soviet Union ceased to be on December 25 1991 with the resignation of Gorbachev, and it was replaced by sovereign

federal and nation-states. But the collapse had begun a decade earlier. On December 4 1991 decision was made to divide the foreign state property of the Soviet Union among the 11 CIS republics in accordance with the principles of the Vienna Convention of 1983. With latter admissions succession in the property of the former empire was shared among 15 subjects. As far as movable property was concerned questions arose about the allocations of common railway, civil aviation, naval fleet, commercial fleet, former diamond property.

They have signed an agreement on the railway on January 22 1993, on the commercial fleet on June 22 1992, on the division of the Black Sea fleet in June 1995. In the latter case Russia received 81,7%. Ukraine received 18,3%. (Das Recht der Staatensukzession (The Law of State Succession). *Leipzig April 1995. Heidelberg, 1996.*)

About former public records and cultural wealth provisions were made by the "Agreement on returning cultural and historical values to the states of their origin" on February 14 1992, and the "Agreement on legal succession concerning the Public Records Offices of the former USSR" on July 6 1992, whose basic principle was integrity and indivisibility. (*Ibid*)

Former Czechoslovakia broke up at the end of 1992, on January first 1993 the UN gave membership to the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic as international legal subjects.

The constitution of November 13 1992 besides separation regulated the domestic and foreign movable and immovable property (state actives, passives and foreign currency issues).

In the case of domestic value the ratio of division was 2:1, which was largely determined on the basis of the size of the population. Interestingly, they did not take into consideration as possible criteria gross domestic product or tax revenues. The above ratio prevailed in international organizations as well. Foreign currency reserve was also settled in the ratio of 2:1 within the agreement on July 15 1993. Movable properties were accepted on September 26 1994, based on the 'principle of possession'. In the case of public records offices the agreement of October 29 1992 coming into force on January 1st 1993 has decreed common and shared ownership. (*Szarka László: A 1996*)

Finally, the breakup of the federal state known as Yugoslavia formed in 1929 occurred after a national and war conflict. This process happened between 1988-1992. The international conference on Yugoslavia was held in London on August 26-28 1992. The so-called: 'state succession workgroup' could not achieve meaningful result. The plan of the workgroup on February 23 1993 was to assess the properties and debt of former Yugoslav Socialist Republic as it was on December 31 1990,

and to create a reliable cadastre of them. By May 1994 9000 itemized and comprehensive indicators has been made, but during its making many problems arose. The Badinter Committee made reports and mediated in the arrangement of the matter. Its result was an agreement which divided foreign immovable property in percentage. Criteria were size of population, territorial extension of succession states, contribution to federal budget, share from gross domestic product.

European integration requires a political system which shows flexibility in the division of power between local, regional and central government and thus can function efficiently. Today the basic task lying ahead of Europe expanded to 25-28 is consolidation and maintenance of convergence processes. The Union has entered into a critical period in his development, it depends on the above tasks whether it is capable of further integration, or whether integration comes to a halt.

The new conflict ridden era of mass migration also requires the practical use of researches. That is, the experiences of the dissolution of former state formations and the summation of daily problems lead us to new researches, to filter results, to handle conflict. (Szavai Ferenc: 2008)

The cases of federal state disintegration do not provide a unified methodological solution to succession. Each case is unique, of course there are common traits. Despite the fact that the Unites States of America functions as a federalist union and despite the cooperative successes of the federation and its member states the dysfunctionality of multinational states and their subsequent disintegration in 20th century Europe is a warning sign, which may well be characteristic of the continent. The problems of Europe make us continuously seek an answer to the question: "Quo vadis Europe?", particularly now after Brexit!

IV Clash of civilizations

The other question: what are the chances of nation-states in a fast globalizing and wealth bidding new world. Of course, September 11 2001 has changed a lot of things. Samuel Huntington reacts to it, when he speaks of the clash of civilizations. (Samuel P. Huntington: 2002)

In his view at the end of the Cold War and with the collapse of the communist world the distinguishing marks between peoples are no longer ideological, economic or political, but cultural.

Nation-states remain the actors in world affairs, the main state groups are constituted by seven or eight major civilizations of the world. In this new world the deepest and most dangerous conflicts are unfolding

not between social classes, not even between rich and poor, but between people from different civilizations. The current issue of world politics are reducible to the differences of civilizations. In the world the West who played a leading role for so long has his power vaning, while the power of non-Western civilizations is growing. World politics has become multipolar and multicivilizational. Civilizations do not follow the borders.

Huntington's claims: the rules of the post-Cold War world are set by cultural identities, people use politics not only to promote their own interests, but to determine their own identities, the main players of world politics are still the nation-states, but they are now grouped together by civilization. It is among his basic ideas that civilizations are mortal and subject to change. (*Huntington Samuel P.: 1996*)

There wont be any global civilization, modernization will not lead to westernization. Currently the world is many-sided and multipolar, what is happening now is a change in the balance of power among civilizations. The West is getting into more conflicts with other civilizations. We can observe many clashes, current mass migration might be a part of that, although it could also be prompted by the lack of state authority in the conflict zones or wandering for the short supplies.

According to Huntington, the conditions for the West's survival are the following: the old institutional system must be abolished, the illusion of Western universalism must be given up, the preservation of its uniqueness must be emphasized, self-restraint must be imposed (not to interfere into the inner conflicts of other civilizations), conflict management via common mediation must be sought (with other civilizations), international institutions (such as the UNSC) in accordance with the new order must be reformed. Huntington's short characerization of the post-Cold War world sums up best his view: (*Ibid 34*)

„In the post-Cold War world, states increasingly define their interests in civilizational terms. They cooperate with and ally themselves with states with similar or common culture and are more often in conflict with countries of different culture. States define threats in terms of the intentions of other states, and those intentions and how they are perceived are powerfully shaped by cultural considerations. Publics and statesmen are less likely to see threats emerging from people they feel they understand and can trust because of shared language, religion, values, institutions, and culture. They are much more likely to see threats coming from states whose societies have different cultures and hence which they do not understand and feel they cannot trust.”

For this reason the question of the future for him is quite self-ironic:(*Ibid* 303)

„The overriding lesson of the history of civilizations, however, is that many things are probable but nothing is inevitable. Civilizations can and have reformed and renewed themselves. The central issue for the West is whether, quite apart from any external challenges, it is capable of stopping and reversing the internal processes of decay. Can the West renew itself or will sustained internal rot simply accelerate its end and/or subordination to other economically and demographically more dynamic civilizations?“

V Bleak future

In light of this it is also worth to consider what the world would be like in 2025 according to the Global Trends forecast of the National Intelligence Council. It characterizes the future as crisis after crisis. Specifically, it predicts a decreasing role and power of the US in global politics, permanent terrorist threats, the weakening of democratic states, environmental catastrophes, and shortages of water, food and energy.

The global demand for energy is going to increase in the next 20 years, 1,9% per year (between 1980 and 2000 it was around 1,6%) because of several factors: the population is growing and society is getting older (right now the US population is 303 million, whereas global population reaches the 6,6 billion; which will reach the 8 billion by 2025 according to UN). Population growth in developing countries will be much faster than in developed countries.(*Ibid*)

From 1980 to 2000 the necessary amount of energy grew predictably, approximately by 1,6%. The fear of that the World is running out of oil is not justified. Interestingly, the document provides a comprehensive analysis of water. Physical water shortage: 75% of rivers are reserved for agricultural, industrial and national aims. Shortage is related to availability, that is, irrigation is possible in dry areas where water is rare. Impending physical water shortage: more than 60% of rivers are collected in pools which will lead to physical water shortage in a short run.(*Ibid*)

Economic water shortage: the abundance of water resources is relative, 25% of rivers are used for human purposes but malnutrition still exists. These areas could provide for green and blue investments but the

human and economic resources are limited. The per capita drinking water consumption in developing and developed countries is now an issue. The demand for irrigation water is much bigger than domestic needs. In developing countries the agricultural water consumption is 70%. (*Ferenc Szávai: Growth, Development and Progression Crisis after Crisis?*)

The virtual exchange price of water:

- 1kg of wheat = 1300 l water
- 1 kg beef = 16000 l water
- 1cup of coffee = 140 l water
- 1 cotton shirt = 2500 l water
- 1 bed sheet = 9750 l water
- 1 l gasoline = 2,5 l water
- 1 l bio gasoline = 1000 l water

VI. Conclusion

In 2025 in the middle of different kinds of shortages the limitations of raw-material resources will increase, new participants will emergence, whose effects are to be dealt with by the international system. Accessibility to safe and clean energy resources and managing chronic food and water shortages are going to be key issues for more and more countries in the next 15 to 20 years.

Climate change makes the situation of raw-material resources sector even more complicated – its physical impact is even more serious. In the next 15 years the emission of gases causing greenhouse effect depends on technological advancement and political decisions. The biggest danger is that the different crisis-zones affect each other and thus preserve the situations.

Timing is most important. (*Ibid*) Current technologies are not capable of exchanging traditional energy resources. The new technologies probably will not be commercially viable and widely available until 2025. The current bio-fuel is too expensive, it would increase the food prices and its production would demand the same energy as it produce. The tranformation of non-food based biomass into fuel has a much more promising potential.

The pure coal technology is becoming more relevant. If it becomes cost-effective, it could produce a significant amount of energy by 2025 in a well controlled environment. The creation of a hydrogen-economy needs vast investments. It is estimated that in the next two decades to meet the basic energy needs it will require 3 trillion dollar worth of investment. As it is improbable that new forms of energy would rely on current infrastructure, it to be expected that the production of any new kind of energy would require significant amount of investment. (*Ibid*)

Given the title, we may ask: who else will come? Based on past experience we think that economic and social migrants will come. The African demographic boom, and climate change will also propel many to migrate to Europe, alongside the many war refugees. The current situation is just the beginning of the migration pressure.

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