

*D. A. Mikolaychuk*

## **THE MAIN DIRECTIONS OF MIGRATION POLICY IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS**

*This article is devoted to the main directions of the migration policy of the Republic of Belarus. Migration policy determines the direction of migration processes and the formation of migration links, taking into account economic, political and demographic features. The article presents the main statistical data on migration in the Republic of Belarus for 2018, and also considers the priority directions of the policy in the field of labor, forced and illegal migration.*

Migration of population is a complex social process that is closely associated with changes in the economic structure and allocation of productive forces, as well as with the growth of social and labor mobility of the population.

The migration policy of the Republic of Belarus is aimed at regulating migration flows in the interests of the socio-economic and demographic development of our country, protecting the national labor market from an uncontrolled influx of foreign labor, encouraging a reduction in emigration outflow of scientific, technical, intellectual and creative potential of the Republic of Belarus, integration of migrants into Belarusian society, overcoming the negative effects of illegal migration.

Migration policies are closely interrelated with demographic security. So, according to Article 5 of the Law of the Republic of Belarus «On demographic security of the Republic of Belarus», the main tasks of ensuring demographic security in the field of migration are:

1. Optimization of external and internal migration flows of population;
2. Countering illegal migration;
3. Promoting the voluntary return of Belarusians to their ethnic homeland (by place of birth) [1].

Labor and forced migration have a significant impact on the migration processes taking place in the Republic of Belarus.

The migration policy of the Republic of Belarus in the field of external labor migration is aimed at improving the regulation of export and import of labor, protecting the national labor market from an uncontrolled influx of foreign labor and alleviating the situation on the internal labor market by employing Belarusian citizens abroad.

The Republic of Belarus still remains attractive for labor migrants, despite a slight decrease in the number of foreigners arriving to work in the country. The decrease in the total number of foreign citizens is due, primarily, to a decrease in the flow of labor migrants arriving in the country from Ukraine.

In 2018, the internal affairs agencies of the Republic of Belarus issued (extended) 12,439 special permits for the right to engage in labor activities in the Republic of Belarus, including in Minsk 5 972, Brest region – 946, Vitebsk – 431, Gomel – 691, Grodno – 1 968, Minsk – 2 143, Mogilev – 283 [2].

A significant number of foreigners who entered Belarus to work were citizens of Ukraine (4,060), China (2,789), Uzbekistan (1,223). The overwhelming majority of immigrant workers arrived in workers' occupations (4,033).

Among the problems of migration policy in the Republic of Belarus, a lot of attention is drawn to the issues of labor migration management within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union. Being an integral and organic part of the economy, external migration processes require regulation by state authorities in the form of specific measures, primarily in the area of normative legal regulation. This requires:

- a certain system of guarantees provided by the employment services of their country ;
- legal support of labor relations;

- normal working conditions;
- to provide the possibility of retraining and advanced training.

Prospects for the development of external labor migration and its regulation in the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union are seen in the following:

1. Unification of the conceptual apparatus, development and creation of a harmonious system of migration legislation.

2. Development of the Strategy for Migration Policy of the countries – participants of the Eurasian Economic Union and the Road Map of the Eurasian Integration regarding the formation of a unified migration policy of the states – participants of the new integration association.

3. Creation within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union of a special supranational body in the field of immigration control and regulation of labor migration with a single automated information database.

4. Strengthening the integration potential of migrant workers in terms of teaching them the Russian language, familiarizing themselves with the basics of migration legislation, as well as the traditions and culture of the state of employment, etc.

Thus, in the conditions of transition of the economy to the innovative development path, the development of procedures that encourage migrants to enter the Republic of Belarus and restrict access to the domestic labor market to those who are not needed is becoming particularly relevant.

The Republic of Belarus pays considerable attention to the problems of forced migration. A national asylum system based on the internationally recognized concept of asylum has been created in the Republic of Belarus. In particular, state bodies responsible for managing forced migration have been identified, the necessary legislative framework has been developed and adopted in line with current trends in the development of international legal protection of asylum seekers, and the necessary infrastructure has been created for receiving forced migrants.

All foreigners arriving to the territory of our country and having concerns related to returning to the state of citizenship or former habitual residence are guaranteed access to the territory of the country and the procedure for granting refugee status, subsidiary protection or asylum in the Republic of Belarus.

In 2018, the number of foreigners who applied to the authorities applications for protection was 895 people (2017 – 752 people). The flow of forced migrants remained high, compared with the previous year, the number of foreigners who applied for protection increased by 19 % [2].

Applications for protection in the Republic of Belarus were submitted by immigrants from 28 states. In 2018, the applicants from Ukraine (761 people or 85.0 %) are the largest group of forced migrants. Applicants for protection from Afghanistan amounted to 35 people or 3.9 % of the total number of applicants for protection, Syria – 19 people or 2.1 %, Iraq – 13 people or 1.5 % , Russia – 9 people or 1.0 % of the total number of applicants for protection and a number of other states [2].

A significant percentage of positive decisions on applications for protection is due to the fact that most of the applicants are foreigners arriving from regions involved in armed conflicts (Donetsk and Lugansk regions of Ukraine, Syria, Yemen and Afghanistan). There is unstable situation in a number of states from which forced migrants arrive in Belarus. that why that the number of asylum seekers in the Republic of Belarus will not decrease in the coming period. The Republic of Belarus has created favorable conditions for the social integration of refugees. The main priorities of the policy in the field of forced migration include the following:

- developing national plans to promote refugee integration;
- assessment of the prospects for the development of a national asylum system within the framework of the common economic space;
- intensification of efforts of local government organizations to work with refugees.

The number of asylum-seekers in the Republic of Belarus is not expected to decrease in the near future. It is connected from an unstable situation in many states from which displaced persons arrive in Belarus.

Currently, for the Republic of Belarus, problematic issues of illegal migration are quite relevant. Illegal migration affects the state of law and order in the country and its national security.

The results of the migration control measures in the country indicate that the territory of the Republic of Belarus is still used by illegal migrants as a transit corridor to the states of the European Union.

In 2017, the internal affairs agencies of the Republic of Belarus identified 12 organized groups of illegal migrants with a total of 56 people. In the past 2018, 18 such groups were detained [2].

The largest number of countries of illegal transit to the countries of the European Union from 2014 to 2018 are citizens of Afghanistan, Vietnam, Egypt, India, Jordan, Iraq, Iran, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria.

In the Republic of Belarus forecasting is constantly carried out, taking into account the international situation, migration processes to identify new channels of illegal migration from third countries, which is used in special operations and preventive measures.

In order to ensure migration security and effective migration control in the Republic of Belarus, a number of legal and practical measures have been implemented:

1. In 2018, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus submitted a draft Law of the Republic of Belarus «On introducing amendments to the Law of the Republic of Belarus on the legal status of foreign citizens and stateless persons in the Republic of Belarus». The draft law provides for additional migration control mechanisms, optimization of coercive measures applicable to foreigners who violate immigration laws.

2. The annual holding in the format of the Collective Security Treaty Organization of a permanent operational and preventive measure to counteract illegal migration;

3. In 2018 the decision on reduction of terms of stay in the relation more than 8 thousand foreigners in connection with numerous violations of the law was made;

4. For certain violations of the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, foreigners are deported and expelled from the republic (2,839 foreigners);

5. According to materials of the internal affairs bodies and petitions of state bodies foreigners are included in the list of persons whose entry into the Republic of Belarus is prohibited or undesirable (more than 8.6 thousand foreigners);

6. In order to strengthen the control over the migration of citizens of states with increased extremist and terrorist activity to the countries of the European Union through the territory of the Republic of Belarus, as well as to prevent the commission of terrorist acts in the Republic of Belarus, the Ministry of Interior has developed and implemented appropriate preventive measures.

Based on analysis of the migration legislation of the Republic of Belarus, it can be concluded that the state should pursue a migration policy aimed at attracting immigrants and their successful integration into Belarusian society, leveling the negative consequences of this phenomenon. Migration of the population was and will occur in the conditions of the population and labor resources of the republic. In this regard, there is a need for an in-depth and integrated approach to the study of patterns and the identification of modern migration processes, their diagnosis and forecasting, and on this basis – in the formation and implementation of public policy. In its turn, it is necessary to pay attention to the development of state programs on the cultural and social adaptation of migrants in the country, in order to exclude the interethnic intense relations and division of society.

## **Bibliography**

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*Е. А. Пеўнева*

## **ПРАВОВОЕ РЕГУЛЯВАННЕ САЦЫЯЛЬНАЙ РЭКЛАМЫ Ў РЭСПУБЛІЦЫ БЕЛАРУСЬ І РАСІЙСКОЙ ФЕДЭРАЦЫІ**

*У артыкуле разгледжана прававое рэгуляванне сацыяльнай рэкламы ў Рэспубліцы Беларусь і Расійскай Федэрацыі. Праведзены параўнальны аналіз прававых палажэнняў аб сацыяльнай рэкламе, замацаваных у актах заканадаўства Рэспублікі Беларусь і Расійскай Федэрацыі. Артыкул раскрывае ключавыя адрозненні паміж заканадаўствам аб рэкламе Рэспублікі Беларусь і Расійскай Федэрацыі.*

У адпаведнасці з артыкулам 2 Закона Рэспублікі Беларусь «Аб рэкламе» [1] (далей – Закон) сацыяльная рэклама – гэта рэклама правоў, ахованых законам інтарэсаў або абавязкаў арганізацый або грамадзян, здаровага ладу жыцця, мер па ахове здароўя, бяспецы насельніцтва, сацыяльнай абароне, прафілактыцы правапарушэнняў, ахове навакольнага асяроддзя, рацыянальным выкарыстанні прыродных рэсурсаў, развіцці беларускай культуры і мастацтва, міжнароднага культурнага супрацоўніцтва, праграм па пытаннях развіцці адукацыі, дзяржаўных праграм у сферах аховы здароўя, культуры і спорту альбо іншых з'яў (мерапрыемстваў) сацыяльнага характару, якая накіравана на абарону або задавальненне грамадскіх або дзяржаўных інтарэсаў, не носіць камерцыйнага характару і рэкламадаўцамі якой з'яўляюцца дзяржаўныя органы.

У сваю чаргу, у Федэральным законе «Аб рэкламе» (далей – Федэральны закон) дадзена больш простае вызначэнне. Сацыяльная рэклама – інфармацыя, распаўсюджаная любым спосабам, у любой форме і з выкарыстаннем любых сродкаў, адрасаваная нявызначанаму колу асоб і накіраваная на дасягненне дабрачынных і іншых грамадска карысных мэтаў, а таксама забеспячэнне інтарэсаў дзяржавы [2].

Пераходзячы да больш дэталёвай характарыстыцы прававога рэгулявання сацыяльнай рэкламы ў Рэспубліцы Беларусь, варта вылучыць, што, у адпаведнасці з часткай 1 артыкула 24 Закона Рэспублікі Беларусь «Аб рэкламе», дзейнасць арганізацый або грамадзян па размяшчэнні (распаўсюджванні) сацыяльнай рэкламы, а таксама перадачы сваёй маёмасці іншым арганізацыям або грамадзянам для размяшчэння (распаўсюджвання) сацыяльнай рэкламы ажыццяўляецца на бязвыплатнай аснове [1]. Паводле ж часткі 2 артыкула 10 Федэральнага закона, органы дзяржаўнай улады, іншыя дзяржаўныя органы і органы мясцовага самакіравання, а таксама муніцыпальныя органы, якія не ўваходзяць у структуру органаў мясцовага самакіравання, ажыццяўляюць закупкі работ, паслуг на вытворчасць і распаўсюджванне сацыяльнай рэкламы ў адпаведнасці з заканадаўствам Расійскай Федэрацыі аб кантрактнай сістэме ў сферы закупаў тавараў, работ, паслуг для забеспячэння дзяржаўных і муніцыпальных патрэб. У прыватнасці, у мэтах рэалізацыі гэтай нормы названым у ёй катэгорыям рэкламадаўцаў сацыяльнай рэкламы неабходна выконваць палажэнні Федэральнага закона ад 05.04.2013 «Аб кантрактнай сістэме ў сферы закупаў тавараў, работ, паслуг для забеспячэння дзяржаўных і муніцыпальных патрэб» [3].