

# Situation of immigration in the Republic of Moldova

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Workshop on “Screening practices for infectious diseases among newly arrived  
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and “Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPD): strategies and coverage”

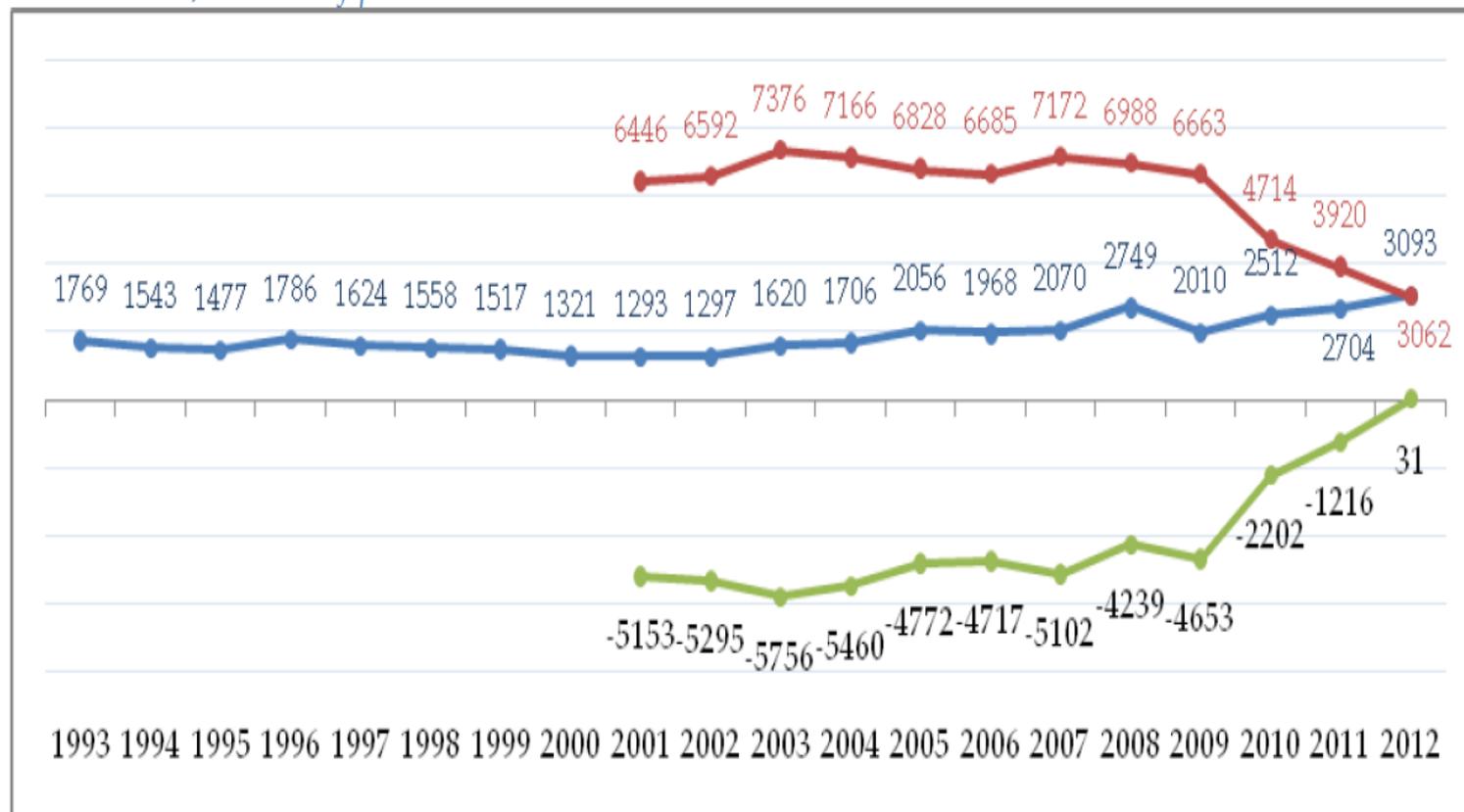
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# Situation in Republic of Moldova of immigration

- The situation of the Republic of Moldova during the independency period is marked by a peculiar aspect of the migration process prevailed by emigration of the citizens for work purposes.
- In 2012, for the first time over the last 20 years, **the number of immigrations has prevailed over the number of emigrations** and liberalization of the visa regime between the Republic of Moldova and EU will attract even more immigration flows to the country.

Figure 1. Number of immigrants (1993–2012), emigrants (2001–2012) and migration growth in the Republic of Moldova, number of persons



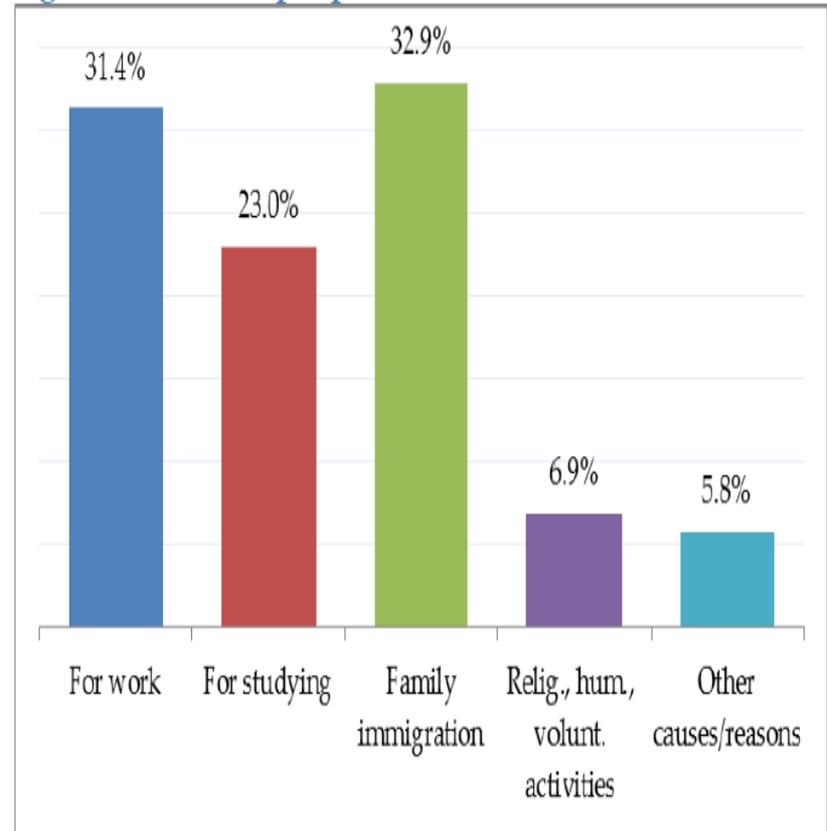
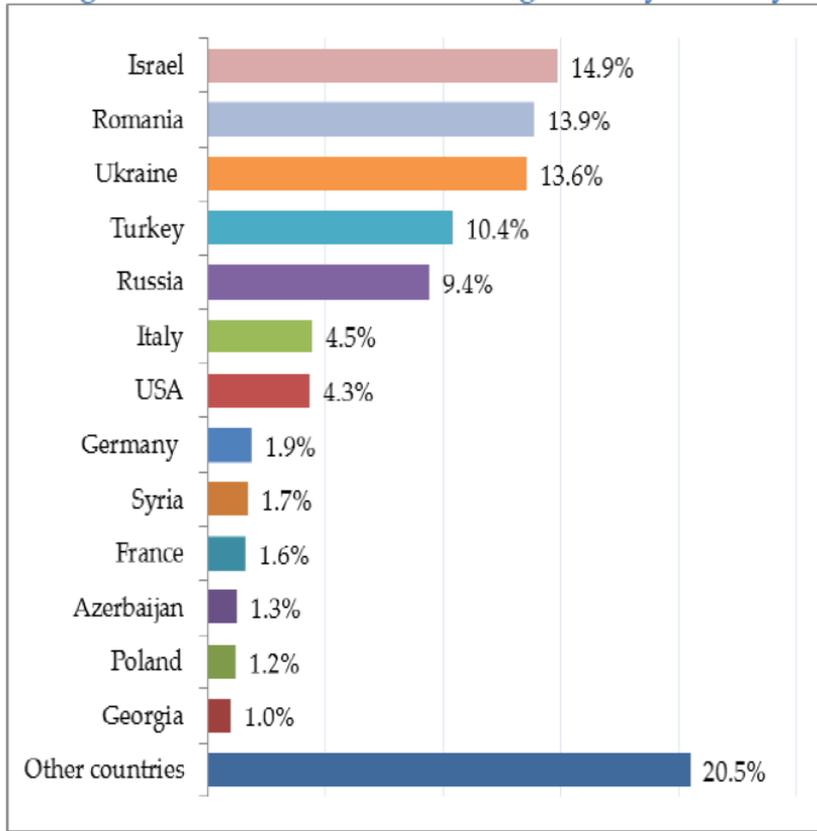
Source: [National Bureau of Statistics](#)

# The purpose of arrival in Republic of Moldova

## Depending on the country of origin:

- immigration from Israel is almost fully for educational reasons
- from Romania and Turkey – the majority of immigrants came for work reasons
- while the immigration from Russia and Ukraine is mainly for family reunification reasons.

Figure 2. Distribution of immigrants by country of origin and arrival purpose (2011–2012)



Source: [National Bureau of Statistics](#)

# Immigrations in Republic of Moldova

- The most recent available data reveal that men prevail (68.2%) over women among immigrants.
- At the same time, it should be noted that in 90% of cases the immigrants are able-bodied persons.
- Only 1.6% of the total number of persons who have immigrated to the Republic of Moldova in 2008 were children under 16 years old, and only 4.0% – pensioners.

# National legal framework (I)

The legal relations in the area of foreigners' and stateless persons' protection are regulated in the Republic of Moldova by the supreme law – **the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova** (adopted on July 29, 1994) and other normative acts adjusted in line with the international standards.

# National legal framework (II)

- During 2008–2010, the Republic of Moldova adopted new legal tools for regulating the regime of foreigners staying in the territory of the country for such purposes as work, education, family reunification, etc., and established the mechanisms for their admission and documentation with permanent or temporary residence permits.
- Currently, the basic legislative acts in the area of migration and asylum are the following:
  - Law No. 180 dated 10.07.2008 on Labour Migration
  - Law No. 270 dated 18.12. 2008 on Asylum in the Republic of Moldova
  - Law No. 200 dated 16.07.2010 on Foreigners' Regime in the Republic of Moldova
  - Law No. 274 dated 27.12.2011 on Foreigners' Integration in the Republic of Moldova

# Rights of foreigners and stateless persons

According to art. 19 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova and art. 5 of the Law on the Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Moldova, **the foreigners and stateless persons have the same rights and duties just like the Moldova citizens**, except for some cases directly provided in the law.

# Health protection

The normative framework regulating the modality for providing healthcare services to foreigners is the following:

- Law on Health Protection No. 411-XIII dated March 28, 1995<sup>64</sup>;
- Law No. 1585-XIII dated February 27, 1998 on Compulsory Health Insurance;
- Law No. 1593-XV dated December 26, 2002 on size, modality, and deadlines for paying the compulsory health insurance premiums.

## Health insurance (I)

The foreigners and stateless persons who were granted the right of temporary residence in the territory of the Republic of Moldova for family reintegration, education, humanitarian or religious activities **have the obligation to insure themselves individually, paying the compulsory health insurance premium** just like the Moldova citizens who pay the insurance premium in a fixed amount.

## **Health insurance (II)**

- Health insurance represents an essential concern for the foreigners arrived in the Republic of Moldova during the process of social integration.
- Frequently, this is manifested immediately after their arrival into the country, the concern being generated not only by the personal needs, but also by the fact that the legislation of the Republic of Moldova obliges them to submit proves of health insurance, both for obtaining the first temporary residence permit, as well as for prolonging the right to stay.

# Health insurance (III)

The foreign citizens holding the right to stay in the Republic of Moldova are automatically insured via the effect of the law and **don't have to pay the health insurance if they fit one of the following situations:**

- has a work contract in the Republic of Moldova or works based on another contractual form, which transfers the monthly contributions to the National Health Insurance Company; may prove his/her status of insurant through an employee card, issued by the employer or by the person with whom another contractual form was concluded, mentioning that health contributions are transferred on monthly basis;
- is pupil in primary, gymnasium, lyceum or general secondary education;
- is full-time student in specialised secondary education (college);
- is full-time student in higher education, including if studying abroad;
- is pensioner;
- is person with severe, accentuated or medium disabilities;
- is pregnant or has recently given birth;
- benefits from unemployment allowance;
- is mother with four and more children;
- is a person from a disadvantaged family, benefiting from social assistance according to the Law No. 133-XVI dated June 13, 2008 on Social Assistance.
- is a foreigner benefiting from a protection form, included in an integration program during the period of its implementation.

# Medical examination of immigrants (I)

- Starting on July 05, 2013, a Central Commission was established in the Republic of Moldova for medical examination of migrants.
- By the Ministry of Health approved the order “On the medical examination of migrants” nr. 833/302/342 of 01.11.2011.

# Medical examination of immigrants (II)

## According to the regulations:

- Whenever a foreigner has all the requested documents, the Commission confirms the submitted medical certificate ( medical certificate issued in the country of origin, indicating the absence of infectious diseases, parasitic diseases and sexually transmitted diseases, blood group and Rh factor).
- If the foreigner has no medical certificate issued by the county of origin, which would conform lack of any infectious, parasitic, or sexually transmitted diseases, or in case when the foreigner immigrates from an area with high endemic risk, the respective foreigner may be subject to a medical examination, based on his/her informed consent.

## Medical examination of immigrants (III)

The alien is subject to the following medical examinations, with informed consent request:

- 1) performing the clinical examination on the member's Commission;
- 2) microradiografia chest;
- 3) investigate the syphilis blood MRS method;
- 4) blood group and Rh factor (required for issuance of residence permit);
- 5) investigations to detect other infectious diseases where the country of immigrating person.

# **Medical examination of immigrants (IV)**

Address the following objectives:

- 1) assess existing pathologies;
- 2) assessing the current health state of the applicant;
- 3) exclusion of diseases that may endanger public health;
- 4) medical and health education to prevent of disease;
- 5) information on the individual health risks and ways of access to healthcare.

# Problem (I)

- The immigrants' peculiarity in case of health services' access would be the fact that many of them go to private medical institutions.
- The recently immigrated persons (one year) and the refugees are the categories with the lowest coverage with health insurance policies.
- Three major causes are pointed out for the uninsured persons
  - In most of the cases, the foreigners refuse health insurance because they do not need healthcare services
  - expensive health insurance policy
  - have a health insurance in another country

## Problem (II)

- According to the study Population health and access to healthcare services in the Republic of Moldova, conducted in 2008 by NBS 75.3% of respondents foreigners declared no problems in accessing healthcare services.
- Out of the stated problems, significant shares would be registered by mistrust for the medical personnel, corruption aspects, inadequate conduct of the personnel, non-qualitative services (treatment).

Thank you for attention!