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C O N T E N T S

**INTEGRATING ROMA IN MODERN EUROPEAN SOCIETY. NEW CHALLENGES,
NEW OPPORTUNITIES. AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
IN THE LIGHT OF AN ENLARGED EUROPE**

Silviu COSTACHIE
(Art#192101-313) 63

**THE POLISH SEJM ELECTIONS OF 2015: SPACE VARIABILITY
OF THE RESULTS BASED ON SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES SIMULATION**

Oskar SKOMSKI, Bartosz KORINTH, Tomasz WISKULSKI, Dominik WILK
(Art#192102-310) 78

**THE UNEMPLOYMENT. EVOLUTION AND STRUCTURE DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL
OF EDUCATION OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
IN THE PERIOD 2002-2011. CASE STUDY: DEPRESSION OF BEIUȘ**

Mădălina ROPA, Lucian ROPA
(Art#192103-311) 92

GLOBAL COMPETITION BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

Luca DIACONESCU
(Art#192104-312) 103

* * * * *

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NEW CHALLENGES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES.
AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
IN THE LIGHT OF AN ENLARGED EUROPE**

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Abstract: The Roma population, with approximately 10 million people, is the largest minority of Europe. Since the end of the communist era in Eastern Europe, mass emigration has occurred, mainly to Western Europe. Today across Western Europe the Roma still face huge problems in regard of discrimination and exclusion. A general change in the way they are perceived is necessary. In the last years, the European Union have put the Roma questions on the forefront of their discussions. Nevertheless, the situation of the minority is still very precarious and demands more concrete research and action.

Key words: Roma, immigration, education, employment, human rights, discrimination, exclusion

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INTRODUCTION

Why study the roma of Western Europe?

In early 2017, the European Union still can count upon 28 members. Of these, 10 countries, mainly Eastern and Central European ones, joined in 2004. The last to join were Romania and Bulgaria in 2007, and Croatia in 2013. Many of the criteria to enter this Union have been on technical matters, such as fishing regulations, telecommunications or agriculture. Nevertheless, the protection of minority rights has been a very important issue as well. And seeing as the Roma population is the largest minority in Europe, with approximately 10 million people, a population comparable to the one of Belgium for example, it has been on the forefront of many discussions.

Since the ex-socialist states of Eastern Europe have entered their capitalist era, in 1989, many Roma populations have migrated to Western Europe. This population has been much more visible in the general community, and hence, their issues regarding integration, anti-discrimination, and poverty have been all the more talked about.

But why are minority rights so important in the enlarged Europe? We could answer this question in four different points. Firstly, we could remind ourselves of the atrocities Europe's ethnic minorities have suffered in the first part of the 20th century. The Holocaust, and genocides that happened to numerous populations during World War II, were the stepping stones to the creation of many treaties to prevent these events from happening ever again. The United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the European Convention of Human Rights are the most important ones. In these last two, discrimination on grounds of "race", "color", and "national or social origin" are specifically prohibited.

The second reason would be the desire for stability. Indeed, ethnic hatred was the main reason that inspired the violent disintegration of Yugoslavia. So long as minority rights are ignored, there is no stopping the same events from recurring.

The next reason would be regarding Europe's future. Anti-immigrant and anti-minority political messages have been growing more and more popular over the last few years. The successes of Jorg Haider's Freedom Party in Austria, or the increased support towards Marine Le Pen's Front National in France are some of them. This xenophobic trend has been present in Belgium, Denmark, Norway and Switzerland also. In the year 2000 the EU tried to impose sanctions against Austria, but their later retraction only leads to show the absence of a permanent mechanism for monitoring these trends, and forcing EU members to adhere to equality norms.

Last but not least, we need not forget that Europe itself is simply the unison of many different minorities. No State comes close to containing half the population of the EU, and no first tongue constitutes a majority, although English is predominantly the universal second language. It is interesting to note that the EU's diverse population is also shown in its political structure. Through the Union's ruling Council of Ministers, the complex process of making decisions, known as the "qualified majority voting" (Goldston, 2002) works as such: a blocking minority of any member State can veto any action by the majority that threatens their own interest.

So long as the EU keeps on growing, it shall become more and more heterogeneous, with an even bigger agglomeration of diverse political, linguistic, and religious aspirations. When Romano Prodi, as European Commission's president, proclaimed on a visit to Budapest in 2001 that "the equal treatment of minorities is a cornerstone of the new united Europe" (Wright, 2001) he was just stating the most basic and obvious principle of the Union.

What is the difference between the terms Roma, Gypsy and Traveler?

The term Roma, meaning 'head of the family', is the main term the gypsies, travelers, and other communities, have wished to be called. This demand occurred on the 8 April 1971¹, at the first Roma international congress, at the same time as when they chose themselves a flag and an anthem. The term Roma englobes the different subdivisions:

- *The Kalderashes*; Romas from central, oriental Europe, and the Balkans. This is the numerically most important group;
- *The Gypsies, Kales or Gitanos*, mainly from the south of France, Spain and Portugal;

¹ <http://www.nouvelle-europe.eu/cultures/cultures-europeennes/les-rroms--un-peuple-europeen-aux-racines-indiennes.html>

- *The Sintis*; mainly in the north and east of France and Germany;
- *The Tinkers* or *British gypsies*.

We can add two categories to these ones. They are not ethnically Roma but face similar day to day issues. These are the *Irish travelers*, in Ireland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. And the *Yenishes*, present mainly in Germany, Switzerland and Austria.

In this paper we shall mainly use the term Roma, as it is more widely recognized and more politically correct, but we shall use Gypsy as a synonym for it, too.

HISTORY

People originating in India

The key date in Roma history is the year 1417². From then on, historians have been able to trace the different trips and reasons of the migrations. Before this date, all remains myth, and debatable among specialists, some of which dating the penetration of Eastern Europe as early as the 9th century³.

However, it is possible to guess at the probable roots of the Gypsies from India, considered their land of origin, towards Europe. Starting in India, the Roma passed through Iran, Afghanistan and Armenia. It is at this moment in time when they would have split into two main groups. Half of them going towards Egypt and Palestine, while the rest would have settled in the Byzantine Empire; Serbia, Bulgaria, Wallachia (at that time a province of Romania), and Moldova. Gradually some tribes continued onwards towards Western and Central Europe in the 16th and 17th century⁴. At this period many Gypsies would have settled permanently in Eastern Europe.

The very few archeological proofs are somehow compensated by linguistic proofs. Linguists have analyzed the different layers in Romani language as being similar to Persian, Armenian, Greek, Germanic and Slavic languages. These similarities lead to the conclusions about the different migrations the Roma populations would have undergone. Regarding the reasons of these migrations, all is hypothesis.

Before leaving India, the Roma served different princes. They looked after the domestic organization of the palaces and controlled the different craftsmen. The ongoing rivalries between these principalities, and their economical difficulties pushed the Gypsies to keep on traveling and to change their protectors often. This is how we can deduce that the Roma have always traveled, and that the development of their community helped extend their emigrational space.

General oppression

Across the centuries, the Roma in Europe have been systematically stigmatized, and persecuted. How did this situation arise? Through the ages, their people have been able to adapt to the different economical situations they have crossed, working as independent tradesmen, artists and craftspeople. They were somehow masters of their own time, doing on-the-spot jobs, with enough skills to meet the demands of their clients. No doubt many Europeans did not appreciate this way of working. The way they trusted their luck and the

² <http://www.nouvelle-europe.eu/geographie/balkans/rroms-les-chemins-de-la-dispersion.html>

³ <http://212.72.210.78/sr-www/files/Virtual%20library/Kosovo.pdf>

⁴ <http://212.72.210.78/sr-www/files/Virtual%20library/Gypsies...pdf>

spontaneous way their approached strangers caused many conflicts between the nomads and the farmers, even though they both depended on each other. The Gypsies provided tools, veterinary care, music, or temporary manpower, whilst the farmers would provide them with food or other goods in exchange.

The Roma managed to make a living for a long time this way. They would be nomadic, but also stay in one place depending on the different opportunities. In the Ottoman Empire and in Central Europe, the Roma even served in the armies of the invaders. It is then clear that the Gypsies have not been excluded by an inability to adapt to the local economical conditions, contrary to generalized opinion. In fact, it seems that the main reason for the systematic exclusion of this population comes from the way the governments and officials have portrayed the Roma. Firstly in Western Europe, especially in Spain, and then across the rest of the continent, they have sometimes gone to great deal to show the Roma as foreigners, having no culture of their own, and as dangerous, antisocial people. The point being to forge the national identity of the peoples belonging to specific territories with proper borders. This technique was very much used in the 19th century when many nationalist struggles aroused⁵.

Up until the 18th century, the leaders of many western countries tried to eradicate the Roma populations. Under the rule of Pope Pius V, many were shipped to Africa or America as slaves, in order to expel them from the domain of the Catholic Church. And in many parts of Eastern Europe, they were enslaved by princes and monasteries, until they obtained freedom in the 1860s.

When slavery in Wallachia and Moldova was abolished a new migratory wave from East to West, known as the “great Kelderara invasion” started and lasted approximately from the second half of the 19th century to the first half of the 20th century⁶.

After this situation, the governments put their efforts into forced assimilation and eradication of the Romany languages and identity. The measures remained brutal; such as the forced settlement of nomadic populations, the seizure of children by the State (only abolished in Switzerland in 1973), or imprisonment simply for being gypsy (Brearily, 2001).

Germany was one of the worst cases of persecution. In 1899, the Central Office for Fighting the Gypsy Nuisance was opened in Munich and it only closed in 1970. The summon of Roma oppression is by far the genocide they suffered during the Nazi-dominated Europe of World War II. It is said that more than 500,000 Roma (Goldstone, 2002) perished between 1939 and 1945, in concentration camps in Auschwitz and Treblinka or in their home countries (Brearily, 2001). It is called the Porajmos, a somewhat controversial term that is the Romani analogue of the Shoah⁷.

After 1945, and the beginning of the communist era in Central and Eastern Europe, the Roma were forced to settle and discouraged in expressing their identity. The governments wanted to suppress the notion of ethnic difference and create national homogeneity. In general, ethnic minorities were unwanted and encouraged to assimilate to the dominating population. In some cases, segregated education or sterilization of Roma women was instored. The idea being that degenerate people had to be either forcefully dragged into modernity.

⁵ http://www.unesco.org/courier/2000_06/uk/ethique.htm

⁶ <http://212.72.210.78/sr-www/files/Virtual%20library/Gypsies...pdf>

⁷ <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=1844>

Recent emigration

When Tito's former Yugoslavian borders were opened in the 1960's and 1970's a new emigration wave started. It is called the "Yugoslavian wave". Most recently, the dislocation of the former socialist States of Eastern Europe generally brought great suffering and violence to the Roma⁸. The level of unemployment increased, and attacks towards their people were numerous. This new marginalization produced emigration movements towards the new 'El Dorado', in this case: Western Europe. Because of the crisis in Eastern Europe at that time, these States transiting towards a market economy, prosperity was sought elsewhere, and in general a better standard of living sent many people abroad. Around the same time, the war in ex-Yugoslavia also sent many Roma refugees, mainly from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, to the West.

Livia Járóka, Hungarian politician of Roma ethnicity and member of the European Parliament said in 2008: "The appearance of large migrant groups in Western Europe is the complete failure of the States that they have left. Roma and also non-Roma migrants leave their countries, because of the terrible situation they have to face, namely segregated living conditions and segregated education-systems as well as poverty and social exclusion"⁹.

All in all, the Roma people emigrating from Eastern Europe couldn't necessarily enter Western Europe easily. This is somehow paradoxical because of the way Western States have portrayed communism, and openly received political refugees in the past. For instance during the Cold War, when the Occidental States would grant political refugee status to anybody fleeing the USSR or his allies. But since 1989, the political position of the West hasn't been so inviting. All the more because, since the collapse of the Wall, political refugees coming from the East have quadrupled. They have sought asylum exactly when the Occident doesn't want to accept them anymore¹⁰.

Many Gypsies coming from non-EU countries trying to enter the EU have faced immigration problems. For example, the departure from Romania because of the deteriorating economic opportunities and exclusion. The same thing in Slovakia where two main emigration waves occurred, first in 1997 to the United Kingdom, and then in 1999 to Finland. Similarly, the Roma population in Greece has increased since the beginning of the 1990s since many fled from Albania and former Yugoslavia¹¹.

Estimates of the Roma population today

It is estimated that there are overall 10 million or more Roma in Europe as a whole, and that around one and a half million joined the EU when the 10 new member States joined the EU in 2004¹². Precise demographic data is not available because many States do not recognize the Roma as a separate ethnic category, such as in France or in Greece. For example, in February 2002, in Greece, a man was convicted of the crime of "disseminating false information" for distributing a leaflet that acknowledged the presence of minority languages in the country. The court reasoned that the leaflet could "incite anxiety among citizens and create the impression that in Greece minorities exist" (Goldstone, 2002).

⁸ http://www.unesco.org/courier/2000_06/uk/ethique.htm

⁹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+IM-PRESS+20080125STO19645+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>

¹⁰ http://www.intermag.be/images/pdf/etude_roms.pdf

¹¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=22&type=2&furtherPubs=yes>

¹² *ibid*

Moreover, many Roma do not want to identify themselves as such in official papers because of a widespread feeling of distrust towards national governments. This is due to their general experience of persecution, discrimination, and racism. Therefore widespread under-counting is common.

Table 1. Estimated number of Roma in Europe, 2011

(Source: *Gender inequalities in the risks of poverty and social exclusion for disadvantaged groups in thirty European countries*, EU report, 2006)

Country	Estimated number of Roma
Austria	15,000 to 20,000
Belgium	10,000 to 15,000 (0.1% of the total national population)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6,000-9,000
Cyprus	700
Czech Republic	160,000 to 200,000 (between 1.5% and 1.9% of the total national population). However, other estimates say that in the mid-1990s 2.7% of the population where Roma.
Germany	85,000 to 120,000
Denmark	2,000 (0.0003% of the total national population) but there are higher estimates for the mid-1990s ranging from 2,500 to 4,500.
Estonia	No data provided
Greece	250,000 to 300,000. This would be an increase since it was estimated at 140,000 to 200,000 in the mid-1990s.
Spain	90,000 to 100,000 (2.2 to 2.4% of the total national population). Earlier estimates put the figure as high as 500,000 to 600,000 in the 1990s.
Finland	5,000 to 8,000 in the mid-1990s
France	250,000 to 300,000
Hungary	570,000 (6% of the total national population)
Ireland	20,000 to 27,000 in the mid-1990s
Italy	85,000 to 120,000 in the mid-1990s
Lithuania	2,571 (0.07% of the total national population)
Luxembourg	200 to 500 in 1994 (0.05 to 0.12% of the total national population)
Latvia	No data provided
Montenegro	No data provided
Netherlands	30,000 to 40,000 in the mid-1990s
Poland	19,000 to 20,000 (both less than 0.5% of the total national population)
Portugal	40,000 (a decrease since it was estimated at from 50,000 to 100,000 in the mid-1990s)
Serbia	147,604 (according with the 2011 census), but The Council of Europe estimates up to 400,000-800,000
Slovenia	3,246 in 2002, but some estimates go from 7,000 to 10,000.
Slovakia	90,000 in 2001, but some estimates go up to 350,000 (four times higher).
Sweden	15,000 to 20,000
Ukraine	200,000 to 300,000 (less than 0.005% of the total national population) but some estimates went down to 100,000 in the 1990s
Lichtenstein	No data provided
Bulgaria	371,356 – meaning that 4.5% of all women in Bulgaria are Roma- it was estimated from 500,000 to 800,000
Island	No data provided
Norway	No data provided
Romania	By self-identification; 2.5% of the total national population. Others estimate it up to 6.7% It was later estimated in 2004 from 1.8 million to 2.5 million. It is the second minority of the country after the Hungarian minority (6.6% of the total national population).

The figures that follow come from the EU report: *Gender inequalities in the risks of poverty and social exclusion for disadvantaged groups in thirty European*

countries, published in 2006¹³. Their estimations come from national reports supplemented by data from Machiels (2002) or Barany (1998)¹⁴.

The largest Roma populations are in Central and Eastern Europe, and most particularly in Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovenia. In some countries the population has grown, like in Greece, through immigration. In Hungary, the Roma are growing in absolute and relative terms because of a general decline of the non-Roma population even though the birth rate is declining in both situations.

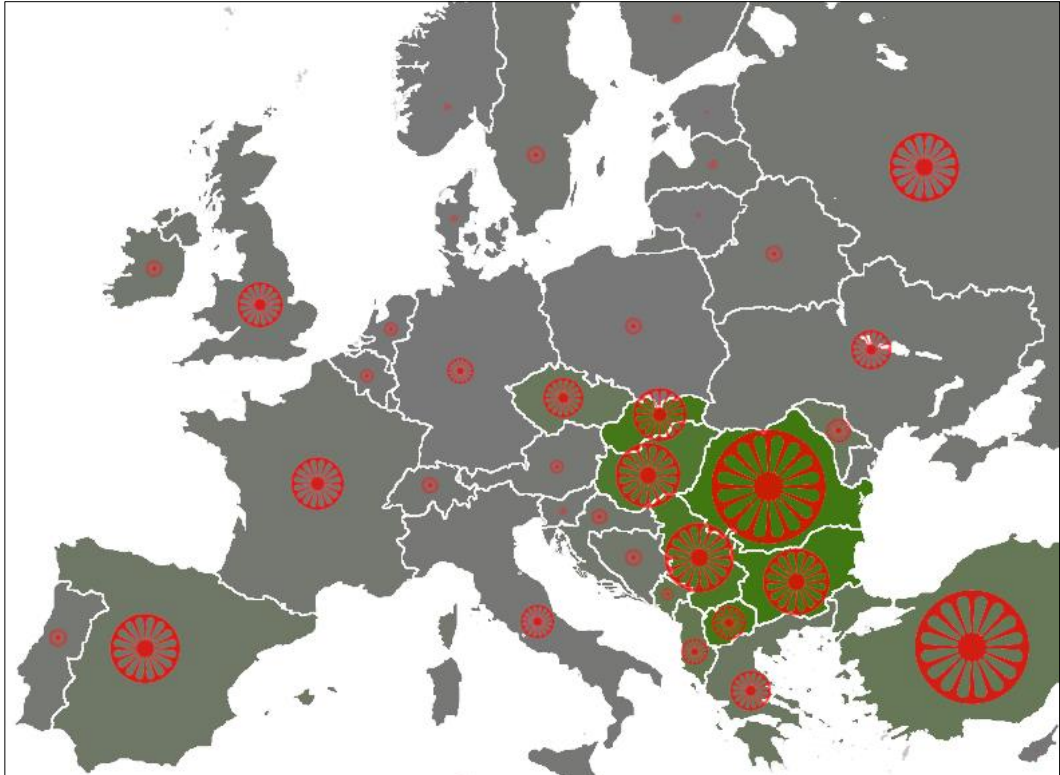


Figure 1. The territorial spread of Roma population in Europe, 2011
(the size of the wheel symbols reflects absolute population size)
(Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romani_diaspora)

POOR LIVING CONDITIONS

Housed on marginal land

All over Europe, and especially in Western Europe, where the Roma have only recently started to settle on a more long term basis, the new-coming Roma have been forced to live on marginal land or in ghettoized areas. In many countries, the State has been put under pressure from various Non-Governmental Organizations to create special areas for the Roma.

Sadly, these special spaces are very generally out of town, on destitute land, with little or no access to fresh water, near rubbish tips, and most importantly out of sight from the general population. This segregation has been pushed to the

¹³ <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=22&type=2&furtherPubs=yes>

¹⁴ http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/journal_of_democracy/v009/9.3barany_tab01.html

extreme in Madrid, where in 1994 the town built street walls to separate the Roma part of town from their neighbors (Brearly, 2001).

In France, the housing grounds situation is absurd. There are two contradicting laws: the Besson law, and the Sarkozy law. The first obliges every town of more than 5,000 inhabitants to create a space on their territory for the travelers and the Roma. The problem is that to this day, only one out of four towns has respected this law. This means that 80% of the gypsies, or 4/5, find themselves in a situation where they have no legal space to settle. The second law is repressive. It states that any Roma that has settled on land that is not legally prepared for them can be prosecuted and sent to prison. All in all, it is as if you played a game of musical chairs, with 1 chair for 5 people, and all 4 that stay standing up risk 6 months of prison¹⁵.

Ghettoized communities

One of the largest ghettoized Roma communities in Western Europe is on the outskirts of Florence, in Italy. The last figures date back to 2000, when it housed around 200 families, meaning up to 1,000 people¹⁶. Most of this population has arrived gradually from Kosovo and Macedonia, fleeing the economical crisis and the war in their region. They have been parked in “nomad campgrounds” -essentially, reserves for newcomers. Originally this was supposed to be a temporary situation but since then, they have not been put into question. The living conditions are very poor, with a low number of sanitary facilities, and a very high risk of fire. On several occasions, children have died in fires unable to be helped by their parents.

Because of the deterioration of the living conditions, and social relations due to this proximity and necessity to share the facilities, drug abuse and fights have been current. Therefore, the authorities have started to control the area. There are even police controls at the entry of the ghetto, for Roma and non-Roma alike.

The main problem with these “Gypsy camps” is that they create exclusion and marginalization. There is no integration possible when the populations do not live on the same territory, do not go to the same schools, do not cohabit. The fact that so many live in these camps, also makes searching for a job difficult. Even if some Roma are not dark-skinned, it might be written on their identity papers, if they have any, that they live in a gypsy camp- thus it would be very hard to get employed¹⁷.

Very low level of education

The key to Roma future lies undoubtedly in their education. Unfortunately, the minority suffers from a very low level of education. It is said that a third of Europe's Gypsy children never attend school. In Greece 80% of the Roma are illiterate¹⁸. Many Roma children are either sent straight to “special schools” for the mentally retarded, or else drop out of school very early on.

The “special schools” system has been reported mainly in Central Europe, but also in the West. As an example, in Germany, 50% of the Roma children attend school and of these, in some regions, 80% go to institutions for under-achievers.

¹⁵ <http://www.errc.org/db/01/A6/m000001A6.pdf>

¹⁶ http://www.unesco.org/courier/2000_06/uk/ethique2.htm

¹⁷ <http://www.scribd.com/doc/30112547/ANTI-TSIGANISME-ET-POSSIBILITE-DE-%C2%AB-VIVRE-ENSEMBLE-%C2%BB>

¹⁸ *Europe: Go to school—and stay there; Gypsy children*, 2001, The Economist

This educational segregation is pronounced and said to be increasing in Spain, Denmark, France, and the United Kingdom¹⁹.

In many classrooms of Europe, Roma children suffer from discrimination. Even if they are lucky enough to attend a regular school, in many cases they do not receive the attention they require. This situation has been monitored in the United Kingdom (Myers, Bhopal, 2009), as in other countries of Western Europe. They are either picked on by other pupils, or by the teachers themselves.

The fact that many misconceptions such as "Roma parents frequently do not regard education as necessary and do not encourage their children to stay in school" (Stiftung, 2002) are still common does not help their educational situation. Indeed, as long as this idea persists, government officials along with the schools, and the general population, will not put enough effort into integration²⁰.

Some recent pre-school programs, where the main language of the country is being taught to young children, have been put into place²¹. This is one solution to saving these children from being put into "special schools". But their implementation is difficult. These programs have been set up in some Central European countries such as Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

The recruitment of teachers with Roma backgrounds has been a very successful experience. They generally cajole the children, and the kids can see them as role models of educated gypsies, which they often lack. Unfortunately, the most famous figures of Gypsy origin (such as Ava Gardner, Yul Brynner and Charlie Chaplin) (Brearly, 2001) rarely have their roots portrayed in the media, so many are unaware of their Gypsy origins. There is also undoubtedly a need for the development of a Gypsy intelligentsia. Only when more Roma youth will accede to university will this happen, and more youngsters will be able to look up at them, as models of success.

SYSTEMATIC EXCLUSION AND PERSECUTION

Mutual distrust leads to exclusion

The persecution suffered by the Roma across history has helped them forge a common identity as an excluded group. This ultimately lead to a culture of mistrust and resistance towards *gadjes* (anybody who is not Roma). Aside this, the frequent reference to a generalized "other" in opposition to an "us", is very common. And it isn't found in any other insider ethnic discourse²².

The way the Roma are portrayed in the media, and in the public opinion is mostly based on misconceptions, and untruths. The most widespread misconceptions would be about nomadism, and their level of criminality²³.

Firstly, only a small part of the Roma in Western Europe are still nomadic (France, Ireland, Netherlands, the United Kingdom). The vast majority (95%)²⁴ of Gypsies across the world have been settled for decades or even centuries. This idea of nomadism is linked with the one of freedom, carelessness, and irresponsibility.

Secondly, the fact that Roma populations stay linked to the idea of a high level of criminality, is due to different factors. The statistics of some countries

¹⁹ http://www.libertysecurity.org/IMG/pdf_Gender_inequalities.pdf

²⁰ <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=1844>

²¹ *Europe: Go to school—and stay there; Gypsy children*, 2001, The Economist

²² <http://www.errc.org/cikk.php?cikk=1844>

²³ *ibid*

²⁴ <http://www.nouvelle-europe.eu/cultures/cultures-europeennes/les-rroms--un-peuple-europeen-aux-racines-indiennes.html>

show the over-representation of Roma in some types of crime, notably petty stealing. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that these statistics contain distortions. For one they are based on reported crime, and theft is very often reported, unlike corruption, financial fraud, or domestic violence for example. Robbery usually only affects one person, unlike fraud which could leave hundreds affected. Parallel to this, every time a crime is reported, the Roma suspects are the ones who are most likely to reach the court room, and the most likely to be convicted. They generally receive longer prison terms, and so are over-represented in jail too.

The role of the government and the media

The officials in both local and national governments like in the media, are largely responsible for inflaming hatred towards the Roma. In 1993, in Slovakia, the Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar described Roma as “antisocial, mentally backward, inassimilable and socially unacceptable”. He demanded a reduction in family welfare payments to lower the reproduction of these “mentally retarded” people (Fakete, Webber, 1994). In Italy in 1994, a Northern League member of Parliament described Roma camps outside Florence as “a gathering of thieves and prostitutes, muggers and rapists” and encouraged Roma to be prevented from entering Florence (Fakete, Webber, 1994).

The media also have their role to play in this systematic discrimination. In 1992, two leading German newspapers described the Roma as “pure disease” and “a serious plague”. This language is typical of anti-Semitism (Brearily, 2001). Whilst in Bulgaria the media has portrayed the Roma on numerous occasions as inherently deviant, naming them as “villains”, “incorrigible perpetrators”, and “apt to commit crimes”.

The consequences of this constant stigmatization in the media are strong. Indeed, at a conference in 1996 on the media and Roma in contemporary Europe, a delegate from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe argued that according to the OSCE, “anti-Roma violence was the result of racial discrimination in the media, which then became institutionalized in people's minds”²⁵.

Labor market disadvantage

All over Europe, it is very hard for people of Roma origin to find employment. They are faced with numerous discriminatory problems and prejudice. These can be on the basis of physical characteristics or their living place, for example if their address is written on their identification papers such as in Italy²⁶ for example. Indeed, if they live in a special allotment for the Gypsy communities, or in one of the well known ghettos of a town, a future employer might not want to employ him or her, regardless of their ethnic origin. In the same manor, if a Romani does not declare himself as such when meeting a future employer, and it is later discovered, it could just aggravate the situation, and lead *gadjes* to think that all Gypsies are liars.

The Roma have also faced problems of exploitation by other older immigrant communities. This is a social problem described by Erving Goffman as the “Renegade hierarchy”²⁷. Indeed, within different stigmatized communities, the

²⁵ *ibid*

²⁶ <http://www.scribd.com/doc/30112547/ANTI-TSIGANISME-ET-POSSIBILITE-DE-%C2%AB-VIVRE-ENSEMBLE-%C2%BB>

²⁷ http://www.intermag.be/images/pdf/etude_roms.pdf

older ones, such as the Turks in Belgium for example, exploit other recently arrived communities, judging them as inferior.

Aside the exploitation and discrimination the Roma suffer from, their level of qualifications is generally very low. They are often constraint to undeclared work, and then their experience would not be proven.

Because it is so hard to find employment, social aide is often used. Unfortunately this is not a solution. It is generally thought that Roma populations resort to social help instead of searching for work, and abuse the system. In the long run, obviously it does not help the outsiders view of the Roma.

POLITICAL PLANS OF ACTION UNDER THE EU

Action at a European Level

In the last few years there have been more and more European projects and programs destined to defend Roma rights²⁸. One for example is an initiative called Equal²⁹, which has been put up by the European Social Fund (ESF). Its mission is to promote a better model for working life by fighting against discrimination and exclusion on the basis of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The European Union created in 1997 the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia based in Vienna. In 2007 it was reestablished as the European Fundamental Rights Agency³⁰. It regularly publishes reports, on domains such as homophobia and discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation, anti-Semitism, islamaphobia, or Roma issues. Its reports are based on precise data collected in the Member States. This agency also publishes the magazine Equal Voices³¹.

In 2000, the EU signed the Charter of Fundamental Rights³², which guarantees the respect of six basic principles: dignity, freedom, equality, solidarity, citizenship and justice. It aims to create a space of freedom, security, and equality in the EU. The equality principle for example offers the Roma respect of non-discrimination and the right to cultural, religious, and linguistic diversity.

The Council of Europe has also been engaged since 1993 in the struggle for equality of Roma, especially during the conflicts in ex-Yugoslavia. It has created a special structure for the respect of ethnic and cultural contribution of Roma populations in the Member States. The team is based in Strasbourg and coordinates all activities, including partnerships with various associations and NGOs. Their program of action is to protect minorities, combat racism and intolerance as well as social exclusion. The European Convention on Human Rights³³ offers a clear framework for the implementation of concrete action.

In 1995, a group of experts³⁴ was established under the Council of Europe to monitor and assess the situation of the Roma. These specialists, permanent or not, have been appointed by their Member States to advice the Council of Ministers on Roma issues. They study, analyze and evaluate the implementation

²⁸ <http://www.nouvelle-europe.eu/politiques/politiques-europeennes/que-fait-l-europe-pour-les-roms-et-les-gens-du-voyage.html>

²⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/equal/index_en.cfm

³⁰ http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/home/home_en.htm

³¹ http://fra.europa.eu/fraWebsite/research/publications/magazine/magazine_en.htm

³² http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charter/default_en.htm

³³ <http://conventions.coe.int/treaty/en/Treaties/Html/005.htm>

³⁴ http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/romatravellers/mgsrom_en.asp

of current policies and practices of Member States regarding the Roma, they draw up guidelines for new policies, and they thoroughly keep under review, the evolution of the Roma situation. This Committee meets twice a year.

In 2001 the idea of a European Roma Forum³⁵ was launched by the Finnish president, Tarja Halonen. The point of this forum is to allow various associations and NGOs to make their voices heard at an international level, and most specifically within the Council of Europe. The first forum was held in 2005 in Strasbourg.

The first EU Roma summit was held in 2008 in Brussels and the second one was held very recently this year under the Spanish presidency of the EU, in Cordoba on the 8th and 9th of April³⁶, the 8th of April being the International Roma Day.

Another very concrete action been put up by the EU is the possibility for young Roma graduates to have an internship in their services. This enables them to discover the way the EU works and to have a practical understanding of the idea of European integration.

All in all, there are two major levels of support in Europe for the Roma. Firstly the EU, and secondly the Council of Europe. In some cases joint actions are put into place such as awareness campaigns like *Dosta!* (Enough! in Romani language).

The Dosta! campaign for Roma Awareness

The political campaign *Dosta!* it is an awareness raising campaign which aims at bringing non-Roma closer to Roma citizens. The main objective is it break prejudices and stereotypes. In a 19 page leaflet³⁷, they have developed a tool for fighting stereotypes towards Roma. There are 16 stereotypes developed, such as the financial situation, education, Roma society, customs, nomadism, and music.

Television spots for all 46 Council of Europe States have been made, as well as radio campaigns. Different events are to be held all over Europe all through 2010.

Non-Governmental Organizations working for the protection of Roma

The main Non-Governmental Organization in the protection of Roma rights is the European Roma Rights Centre (ERRC)³⁸ was created in 1997 and is based in Hungary. It is an international public interest law organization that works to combat anti-Romani racism and human rights abuse of Roma. The approach of the ERRC involves, in particular, strategic litigation, international advocacy, research and policy development, and training of Romani activists. The ERRC published the report *Roma in an Enlarged European Union* under the Directorate General of Employment and Social Affairs of the EU. It is one of the most influential policy documents on Roma to date. The ERRC has influenced the European Union enlargement by pressuring candidate countries to comply with the Copenhagen criteria³⁹ and ensuring that the Roma situation is a priority issue. The political obligations for accession to the EU State that “human rights and respect for and protection of minorities” must be met.

³⁵ http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/romatravellers/ertf_en.asp

³⁶ http://www.coe.int/T/DG3/RomaTravellers/source/documents/Cordoba_Decl.pdf

³⁷ <http://www.coe.int/t/dg3/romatravellers/JP3/arc/toolstereotypesEN.pdf>

³⁸ <http://www.errc.org>

³⁹ http://europa.eu/scadplus/glossary/accession_criteria_copenhagen_en.htm

CONCLUSIONS

Since the fall of the communist regimes in Eastern Europe, and the end of the conflicts in ex-Yugoslavia, there have been more and more Roma arriving in the Western part of the continent. As we have seen through this study, the Roma population in Western Europe is still very vulnerable. The living conditions are poor, their education level is one of the lowest of all Europeans, and the access to employment is very difficult.

These three main points are intimately linked to the history of oppression and exclusion towards the Roma. Indeed, across time the minority has been dominated by the main populations that they have been in contact with. The role of the governments as well as the media in the propagation of stereotypes and hatred towards the Roma, has been highly important in the mainstream view of gypsies today.

In the last 27 years the European Union and the Council of Europe have made many efforts towards the respect of minorities across Europe. The Roma being the largest, and maybe the most visible one, they have been on the forefront of many discussions. NGOs as well as local associations have been very active as well. Nevertheless, a lot of work remains to be done. Action at a European level is important, but so long as local governments do not make inclusion and acceptance of this population a high priority on their agenda things can only get so much better. Senior officials should declare racism unacceptable and promote equality for all populations in regard of housing, education, and employment. Only when the general population gets rid of the old embedded stereotypes and moves towards more inclusion and antidiscrimination will the future of the Roma look brighter.

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THE POLISH SEJM ELECTIONS OF 2015: SPACE VARIABILITY OF THE RESULTS BASED ON SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES SIMULATION

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Abstract: The main assumption of this paper is to analyse the Sejm elections of 2015 results. The authors conducted a simulation study regarding the single-member constituencies in the election to the Polish Parliament, basing the research on the election results facilitated by National Electoral Commission as well as the specific data provided by Central Statistical Office. The division of Poland into 460 single-member constituencies was mapped by the authors (those maps do not include the district divisions in the cities, as the agglomerations' division is problematic). Obtained results indicate to the marginalization of the Polish political scene – plural voting would preclude the election victories of the secondary political parties and civil rights movements.

Key words: parliament election, Sejm, parliamentary election of 2015, single-member constituencies, FPTP, electoral geography, political geography

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INTRODUCTION

The main assumption of this paper is to present the spatial variability of the civil activity in the parliament elections of 2015, as well as the differences which

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would have occurred if the elections had taken place using single-member constituencies electoral system. It certainly is a topical issue. In June 2015 the Paweł Kukiz's movement, Kukiz '15, was created, and its main postulate was to include single-member constituencies in the parliamentary elections. In May 2015 Bronisław Komorowski, the President of the Republic of Poland, announced a nationwide referendum concerning the FPTP (single member constituency plurality). It was not of a binding nature, however the Polish people espoused the FPTP.

The election is a celebration of democracy, as it allows the citizens to express their opinions concerning the governing party and to extend or withdraw their support. "An election is coming. Universal peace is declared, and the foxes have a sincere interest in prolonging the lives of the poultry" – this statement by George Eliot accurately describes the nature of election. According to the rules of the plurality voting, the parliamentary candidates are obliged to conduct a political campaign throughout the whole period of their tenure. After their tenure is over, parliament members have to account for all of their campaign promises. However, in the case of proportional representation system, which is currently operating in Poland, the situation is different – a political campaign is in progress only before the election starts, with the parliament members ignoring their promises soon afterwards as they do not have to account for them in any way. Therefore, in the proportional representation system one does not vote for the man, but for the political party. Single-member constituency electoral system has its advantages and disadvantages. It aims at forming a two-party system, which eventually would lead to one-party government, as it is "more consistent and, as a consequence, its actions can be more effective and determined than those of the coalition government, because it does not spend time or money for settlements between coalition partners, who simultaneously are each other's competitors for the voters' ballots during next elections" (J. Haman, *Single-member constituency electoral system: expectations, barriers, alternative solutions*, 2004). The main political parties are constantly under the voters' control, and the minimal change of social support during the elections with two leading political parties can cause a shift of a ruling party. This electoral system enables identifying with the voters. A completely different situation is noticeable in the case of proportional representation electoral system, in which even vast changes of support do not necessarily entail the shift of the ruling coalition, for example Polish People's Party or Christian Demographic grouping in the Netherlands. In the plurality voting system the main political parties strive for support even of the most extreme nationalists, as every vote matters and has an impact on the elections' results. In single-member constituency system people support and vote for a particular candidate, whereas in the electoral system currently operating in Poland we vote for a particular candidate as well as for a party. Political parties frequently field famous people during the elections, as they function as the so-called electoral engine, gaining the political support for the whole register. In the majority of such cases random candidates gain seats in the Parliament despite little social support.

The recognition of the candidates in constituencies has a big impact on the results of elections conducted in the plurality voting system, as well as "studying the changes of reach and impact of particular political parties' field structures, which has its reflection in the survey of electoral preferences and political attitudes" (J. Wendt, *The Geography of Power*, 2001). Polish people are amenable to Catholic Church, which has always had a strong influence over the election

results. "The territorial structure of Roman Catholic church has changed, the church which has always wielded nonofficial but significant political and economic power" (J. Wendt, *The Geography of Power*, 2001). Since 2005, one can observe strong influence and support of Radio Maryja for PiS (Law and Justice party) during elections. "Catholic Church, as a sign of opposition, won the battle with real socialism, reasserted its position in the society, autonomised itself from the country, simultaneously reasserting its influence over the nation and gained support of various communities. As a result of this conflict with the totalitarian country, Catholic Church extended the reach of its influence and convicted the majority of people to believe in its social doctrine and system of values by connecting them to national values" (J. Baniak, *The prestige of institutional church in Poland and social change: sociological study*, 2002).

Various factors have an impact on the voter turnout, for instance the level of education or material standing of the people – higher educated people more eagerly take part in voting than the residents of villages (P. Krzeminski, *Electoral behaviours in parliamentary and presidential elections in Poland over the period 2005-2007 – models of spatial divisions*, 2009). People living in the villages or small towns have a constricted access to polling stations, as sometimes there are several km to the nearest one, whereas in the cities the access is better (P. Krzeminski, *Electoral behaviours in parliamentary and presidential elections in Poland over the period 2005-2007 – models of spatial divisions*, 2009). Furthermore, the weather, Catholic Church, socioeconomic situation also have an impact on the turnout.

The author of this paper took into consideration the data concerning counties (NUTS 4) provided by Central Statistical Office, as well as the website of National Electoral Committee. The data gathered in the constituencies abroad and on the ship voting was omitted, as it was impossible to adopt for the applied division into single-member constituencies in Poland.

Currently the parliament election in Poland is operated using the proportional representation system. Poland is divided into 41 districts¹, each of them choosing parliamentary deputies. In order to enter the Parliament, a political party must cross the election threshold - 5% of the total vote, with 8% for an electoral alliance². Ethnic and national minorities have been exempt from crossing the election threshold³. In the case of FTPT there is no obligation to cross any threshold – the person who gains the majority of votes in a given district, wins. This system undoubtedly has plenty of advantages as well as drawbacks, which are to be discussed in the following part of this paper. It is worth noting that the single-member constituency plurality system is used in Poland during the Senate (the upper house of the legislature) election. The study conducted after October 25 indicates that Pawel Kukiz, who demands introducing single-member constituencies in Poland, would not enter the Lower Chamber of the Parliament. The results of the study also reveal that the representatives of only three of all political parties would gain seats in the Parliament.

Figure 1 presents the division of Poland into districts in proportional representation electoral system, and figure 2 the division of Poland in the simulation of FTPT electoral system.

¹ The act issued on 5 January 2011, Electoral Code, appx. 1

² The act issued on 5 January 2011, Electoral Code

³ The act issued on 5 January 2011, Electoral Code



Figure 1. The division of Poland into 41 districts in the proportional representation electoral system

(Source: https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Okr%C4%99gi_wyborcze_do_Sejmu_Rzeczypospolitej_Polskiej#/media/File:Sejm_RP_okr%C4%99gi.svg)

Legenda

□ Okręgi jednomandatowe

Województwa

■ dolnośląskie

■ kujawsko-pomorskie

■ lubelskie

■ lubuskie

■ łódzkie

■ małopolskie

■ mazowieckie

■ opolskie

■ podkarpackie

■ podlaskie

■ pomorskie

■ śląskie

■ świętokrzyskie

■ warmińsko-mazurskie

■ wielkopolskie

■ zachodniopomorskie

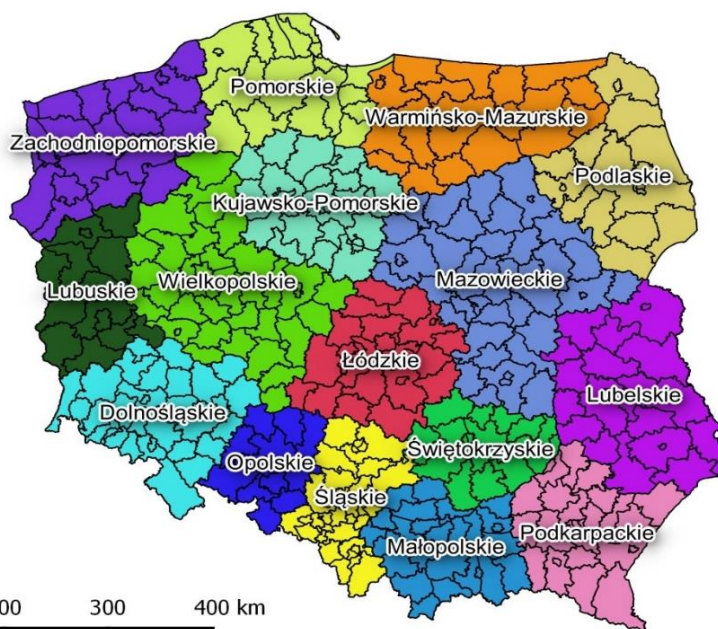


Figure 2. The division of Poland into 460 single-member constituencies in the FPTT electoral system; mapped for the paper

(Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by National Electoral Commission)

The majority of people authorized to vote in the election of the 2015 were the residents of District 19 (Warsaw) – 1,561,289, in was also the district in which the majority of parliamentary deputies were being chosen – 20. For comparison, in District 9 (Lodz) only 642 203 of all the residents were authorized to vote, with 10 parliamentary deputies. In the Northern Poland, District 25 (Gdansk, Sopot and neighbouring counties) noted 830,798 residents authorized to vote in the election taking place on 25 October 2015, and choosing 12 deputies. The smallest (taking into consideration its population) district was District 28 with the headquarters in a city with county rights, Czestochowa. Only 486,784 people were authorized to vote there.

Table 1. The amount of parliamentary mandates in Polish provinces.
(Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by National Electoral Commission)

Province	The number of mandates
Lower Silesia	36
Kuyavia-Pomerania	27
Lublin	26
Lubusz	14
Lodz	30
Malopolska	35
Mazovia	60
Opole	13
Sub-Carpathia	26
Podlasie	18
Pomerania	27
Silesia	45
Swietokrzyskie	15
Warmia-Masuria	21
Wielkopolska	43
West Pomerania	24

The map presenting the division of Poland into 460 single-member constituencies was necessary for conducting a simulation of the election of 25 October 2015 results. The data provided by Central Statistical Office was used to map the division⁴. The majority of the single-member constituencies is composed by single counties. As some of them were sparsely populated, the authors interconnected them. The main rule governing the division was to map the counties with at least one mandate. Plenty of factors were taken into account, the most prominent of them being the size of the county, its population and nature. Only 13 of all counties are to be considered as exceptions: brzezinski and skierniewicki (Lodz province), zwolenski and lipski (Mazovia province), parczewski and wlodawski (Lublin province), bieszczadzki and leski (sub-Carpathia province), sejnenski and suwalski (Podlasie province), kazimierski and pinczowski (Swietokrzyskie province), as well as goldapski and wegorzewski (Warmia-Masuria province). The counties bigger in proportion to others were divided into 2, 3, 4, 5 or more districts, with the biggest amount of mandates in Warsaw (18 districts coinciding with the capital city's quarters). The assumptive results are diametrically opposed to those of the proportional representation electoral system. As a consequence of introducing FTPT system in Poland, its political scene would be entirely dissimilar. All of the biggest cities have lost on the proportional representation system; for instance, Warsaw has only 18 deputies now, having

⁴ <http://stat.gov.pl/> (02.12.2015)

had over 20 in FTPT system. The division of such cities as Gdansk and Poznan is not included on the map, which naturally affects the results. Nevertheless, in FTPT electoral system further mandates are allocated to the cities, also to the largest political grouping in a given city. Chart 1 presents the amount of mandates in FTPT electoral system at the level of provinces.

The number of candidates being chosen is the greatest in Opole, Lubusz and Swietokrzyskie provinces, as they are characterized by the proportionally low number of people authorized to vote. The biggest amount of districts has been noted in Mazovia province, as it is the biggest province in terms of its city area and population; furthermore, Warsaw had been divided taking into consideration the following pattern: one district = one mandate. For the paper, the simplest rule was applied: the winner in the district gains a mandate.

The election of 25 October 2015 results

The election had been called by the outgoing President Bronislaw Komorowski⁵ on the date of 25 October 2015 under the Act of 17 July 2015. The election was a result of two-year political campaign, which commenced in May 2014 with the elections to the European Parliament, followed by municipal elections in November 2014 and presidential elections in May 2015. 30 534 948⁶ people were authorized to vote and 15 595 335⁷ took part in the voting. The voters had the option of casting their votes in 27 859 districts⁸, almost two times the number of districts in the elections of 2011. The success of Andrzej Duda in application of the position of the President of Poland undoubtedly had a tremendous effect on the results of the election. The exit polls after the presidential elections unanimously indicated on the victory of PiS (Law and Justice Party) - the support oscillated between 27 and 37%. PO (Civic Platform) got into the second position with 24,4% and was followed by Kukiz '15 with 23,7%. The exit polls results are presented on Chart 2.

Table 2. The results of exit polls from the presidential election

(Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by the following website:
<http://polska.newsweek.pl/wybory-parlamentarne-2015-analiza-sondazywyborczych,artykuly,364902,1.html>)

The company conducting a survey	Estimator	CBOS	Ibris	TNS	Milword Brown	Avg.
	10-11 VI	26 V - 3 VI	5-6 VI	8-9 VI	11 VI	
PiS	33	35	27	37	31	32,5
PO	19	33	23	28	20	24,4
Kukiz'15	29	15	27	23	25	23,7
Nowoczesna	3	3	9	3	7	5,2
SLD	4	4	4	2	5	3,9
PSL	4	1	4	3	3	3,1
KORWIN	2	2	4	2	4	2,8
Twoj Ruch	2	1	1	0	3	1,5

The chart clearly indicates on PO winning with Kukiz '15 only according to CBOS and TNS polls. The exit polls show that only four of the parties would gain

⁵ On 24 May Bronislaw Komorowski had lost the run for reelection to Andrzej Duda (55,5% of the votes)

⁶ Detailed information: http://parlament2015.pkw.gov.pl/349_Wyniki_Sejm/0/0

⁷ http://parlament2015.pkw.gov.pl/349_Wyniki_Sejm/0/0

⁸ http://parlament2015.pkw.gov.pl/349_Wyniki_Sejm/0/0

seats in the eighth term of the Parliament, with SLD and PSL (the parties which have always had their representatives in the Parliament) not crossing the 5% electoral threshold, similarly to KORWIN and Twoj Ruch. The polls from June for the first time included new formations of Ryszard Petru and Pawel Kukiz, which would enter the Parliament. Comparing those results with the results of the polls conducted before the presidential elections, the loss of PO is visible, as the party counted on 40% support. This collapse in support was caused by the defeat of Bronislaw Komorowski, the elections favourite. The pre-election poll conducted by the Ibris for Onet company indicates on the victory of PiS (37%), with PO (23%) placing second and Nowoczesna (12-13%) third. The remaining parties, namely Zjednoczona Lewica, Kukiz '15 and PSL would languish on the edge of crossing the threshold (5% for political parties, 8% for electoral alliances).

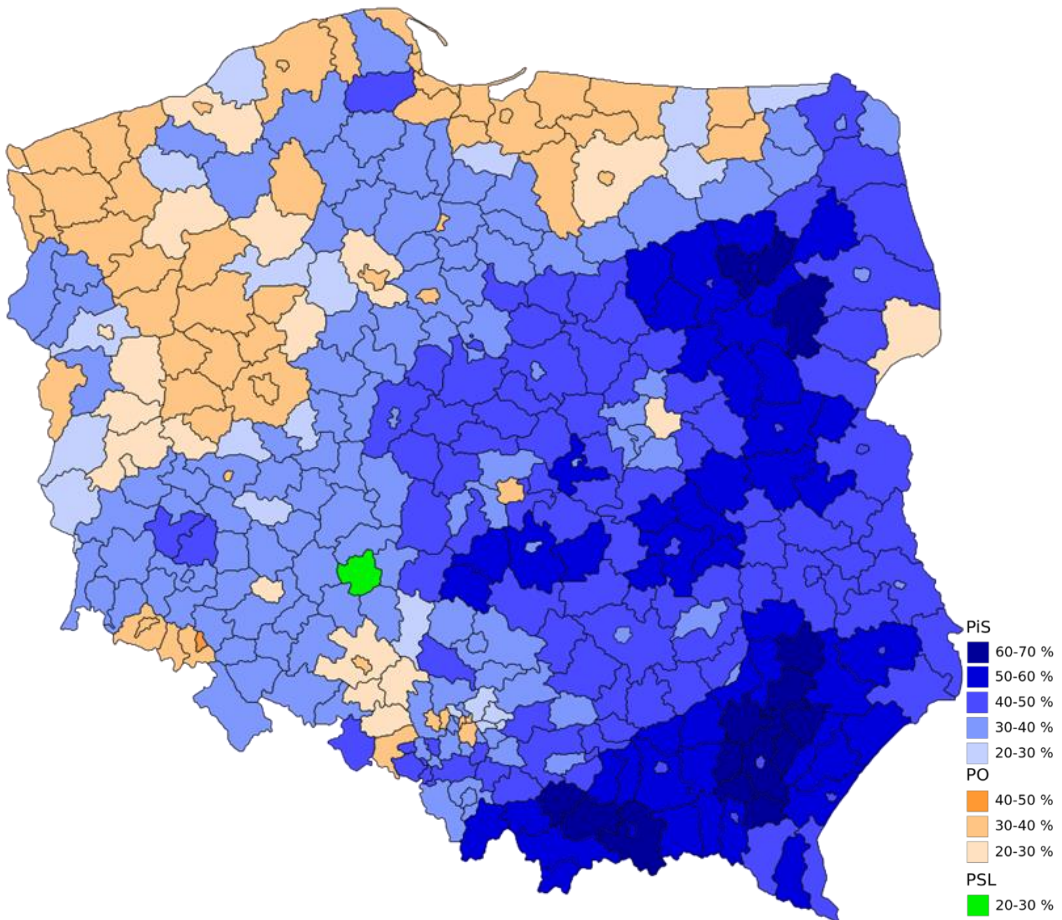


Figure 3. Spatial variability of the parliamentary elections results in Polish counties
(Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polish_parliamentary_election,_2015)

The data provided by National Electoral Commission claim 50,92% to be the voter turnout which for the fourth time after 1989 exceeded 50%. The Republic of Poland is divided into 41 districts, noted in the Act of 5 January 2011. The highest turnout was noted in District 19 (it exceeded 71%) and the lowest one in the Elblag District (41,30%). The voter turnout in 19 of the districts exceeded 50%.

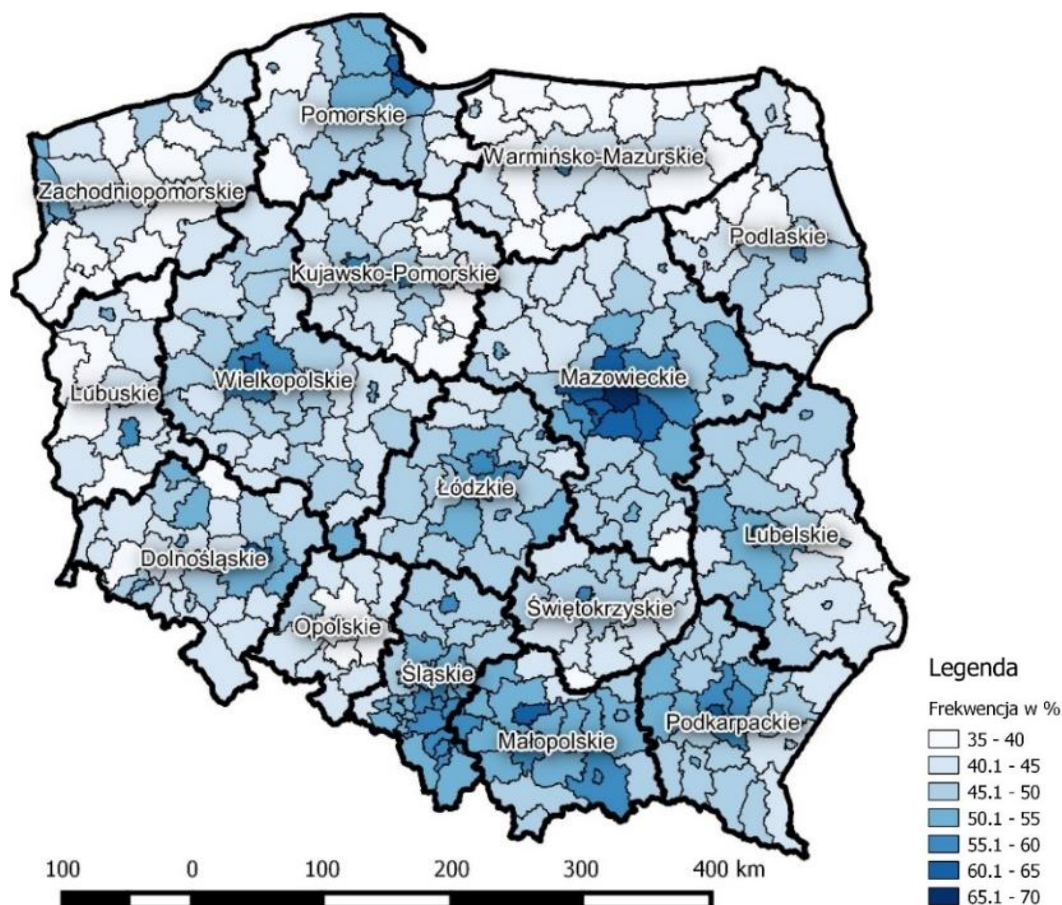


Figure 4. The voter turnout in counties during the parliamentary elections of 25 October 2015 (Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by National Electoral Commission)

The map above shows the voter turnout in all of the counties in Poland. It is highly diversified, especially in the largest Polish cities such as Warsaw, Cracow, Gdansk, Gdynia, Poznan and Wroclaw. The following part of the paper presents the turnout in specific provinces.

Lower Silesia province noted a 49.42% turnout, which was lower than the average turnout noted in the country. The highest turnout in Lower Silesia was observed in the provincial capital, Wroclaw (60.6%). In glogowskie, lubinskie, olawskie, wroclawskie counties as well as the cities with county rights: Jelenia Gora and Walbrzych, over 50% turnout was noted (higher than the average for the whole province). The turnout in Walbrzych (the city with county laws) was low – 42.26%. The lowest turnout was observed in gorowoskie county in the northern part of the province – 37.97% and in south-easterly lowieckie county – 39.72%.

Kuyavia-Pomerania province noted the turnout lower than the country's average – 46.36%. Only two of the magistrate districts noted the voter turnout higher than 50% - Torun (55.90% - the highest percentage in the whole province) and Bydgoszcz (55.55%). The other cities with county laws, Wloclawek and Grudziadz, noted 47.18% and 46.69% respectively. A turnout lower than 40% was

observed in the following counties: wloclawskie – 37.57%; grudziadzkie – 37.58%; rypinskie – 37.94%; radziejowskie – 38.27%; wabrzeskie – 38.38% and lipnowskie county – 38.53%.

In Lublin province, 49.02% of the people authorized to vote cast their ballots, with the highest turnout in Lublin (58.64%). A turnout lower than 50% was noted in the following counties: swidnickie – 51.07%; lubelskie – 51.25%; janowskie – 52.70%; pulawskie – 52.86% and in magistrate district Biala Podlaska – 53.08%. In Zamosc and Chelm almost 50% of the authorized turned up to vote – respectively 49.66% and 49.30%. The lowest turnout was noted in the southern-easterly part of the province, in chelmskie (37.91%) and hrubieszowskie (39.38%) county.

Lubusz province noted a comparatively small total number of voters who participated, as it was smaller than 45%. Two cities with the magistrate district rights, Gorzow Wielkopolski and Zielona Gora, noted the highest in the province turnout – 50.84% and 56.97% respectively. The voter turnout in the other counties did not exceed 44%. The lowest number of people cast their votes in the following counties: strzelecko-drezdeneckie – 38.83%; krosnienskie – 38.92%; sulcinskie – 39.47%; zaganskie – 39.64% and slubickie county – 39.82%.

Lodz province noted 51.63% turnout and it is one of few provinces, in which the turnout was higher than the country's average. None of the provinces noted a turnout lower than 40%. The cities with county rights: Lodz, Piotrkow Trybunalski and Skierniewice noted the turnout of 57.21%, 54% and 56.18% respectively. More than 50% of people authorized to vote cast the ballots in 8 counties of the province. The lowest number of people decided to vote in northwest part of the grounds of Lodz, leczycki county – 41%. The central part of the province noted a relatively high voter turnout.

In Malopolska province, comparatively high number of people turned up to cast their ballots – 54.90%, which constitutes almost four percentage point more than the country's average. Cracow, Nowy Sacz and Tarnow welcomed the highest number of voters (62.21%, 59.07% and 54.63% respectively). As much as 16 out of 22 counties in Malopolska province noted the turnout higher than 50%, including 13 counties with the turnout percentage higher than the country's average. Fewest people voted in proszowskie county (43.65%).

The highest voter turnout took place in Mazovia province (58.71%). As much as 70.80% of all people authorized to vote cast their ballots, even though it was not a record (NEC provides the data indicating on the parliamentary elections of 2007 to be record-breaking in this matter). The most people voted in the central part of the province, in the counties near and in Warsaw: grodziskie – 59.54%, legionowskie – 61.73%, otwockie – 60.69%, piaseczynskie – 62.19%, pruszkowskie – 63.93%, warszawskie – zachodni 61.21% and wolominski – 57.63%. The lowest turnout in Mazovia province was noted in its northern and north-western part, as well as in south-eastern part in lipskie county (38.56%). High turnout was observed in Plock (54.78%), Radom (54.87%), Ostroleka (52.15%) and Siedlce (57.23%). The Sokolowskie county in the eastern part of the province excelled in terms of the voter turnout (52.52%).

Opole province noted one of the lowest turnouts – 43.12%. Only one of the counties exceeded 50% in terms of the voter turnout, and it was higher than the country's average – Opole, the provincial capital. Analysing the voter turnouts in this province and its space variability, one can notice the especially low turnout

in the counties neighbouring with Opole: opolskiej – 39.26%, strzeleckie – 37.89% and krapkowickie – 37.02%.

The voter turnout in Sub-Carpathia province totalled 50.43%. The highest percentage of people voted in Rzeszów, which is a city with county rights – 60.52%. The other cities with county rights noted: 53.22% in Krosno, 48.92% in Przemyśl and 44.49% in Tarnobrzeg. The lowest turnout was noted in the southern part of Sub-Carpathia province, in the counties lubaczowski – 43.23%, przemyski – 43.90% and bieszczadzki county – only 40.62%.

Podlasie province noted a voter turnout of 47.10%. In the northeastern Poland, the most people decided to vote in the following counties: sejneński – 37.46%, moniecki – 38.83%, grajewski – 39.61% and kolneński – 39.85%. 56.61% of the people authorized to vote cast their polls in the provincial capital. In the county with Białystok, almost 50% of the authorized residents decided to vote. Łomża and Suwałki noted the similar turnout, 47.86% and 46.87%, respectively.

In Pomerania province, 916,859 (51.88%) people authorized to vote cast their ballots. The highest turnout was noted in Gdańsk, Gdynia and Sopot (61.21%, 62.27% and 64.40% respectively). All of the counties' cities noted the turnout higher than 50%. The lowest voter turnout was noted in sztumski county – only 35.54% of the authorized people voted.

Silesia province noted a voter turnout of 52.25%, with the highest percentage in Bielsko Biala (59.41%). 25 out of 36 counties noted a turnout higher than 50%. Every of the counties' turnouts exceeded 40%, and the lowest percentage of people voting was noted in raciborski county – 41.59%. Most of the counties noted a turnout around 50% with only Zabrze, where less than 45% of the authorized people cast their polls.

482,794 people voted in Świętokrzyskie province, which equals a 46.82% turnout. Only the provincial capital, Kielce, noted the voter turnout higher than 50% (58.44% specifically). The turnout there was 22.02 percentage points higher than the turnout noted in kazimierski county, where the percentage of the people voting was the lowest in the province. The other counties noted the turnout of 40-50% in average.

Warmia-Mazuria province noted the lowest turnout of the election, namely 42.32%. The highest turnout in the province was noted in Olsztyn (56.64%) and Elbląg (48.33%). The lowest percentage of people who voted was noted in elbląski county (36.19%) and the following counties: bartoszycki, braniewski, działdowski, elcki, goldapski, ketrzyński, lidzbarski, nidzicki, olecki, ostrodzki, piski and wegorzewski. Only one land district, nowomiejski county, noted a turnout higher than the province's average – 43.33%.

In Wielkopolska province 2,717,872 were authorized to vote, but only 2,717,872 voted, which equals a 50.16% turnout. The most people cast their ballots in Poznań – 257,689 (61.33%). All of the cities with county rights managed to exceed 50% in their turnouts: Konin – 53.64%, Kalisz – 53.98% and Leszno – 53.17%. None of the counties noted a voter turnout lower than 40%. The lowest turnout was noted in złotowski county (42.14%, only 0.18 percentage point lower than the turnout of Warmia-Mazuria province). The counties of Wielkopolska province noted a similar approximate turnout.

West-Pomerania province noted the high turnout in the counties: policki – 53.4%, Szczecin – 54.85%, Swinoujście – 50.59% and in Koszalin – 55.11%. Those counties noted a turnout higher than the province's average, which amounts only

to 45.88%. The lowest turnout was noted in the counties lobeskie – 35.04% and choszczenskie – 35.22%. As much as 8 of the province’s counties noted a turnout lower than 40%.

Table 3. The voter turnout in Poland’s 41 districts during the parliamentary election of 2011 and 2015 (Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by NEC)

District's number	District's name	Voter turnout (2011) [%]	Voter turnout (2015) [%]	The difference between 2015 and 2011 [%]
1	Legnica	45,25	46,71	1,46
2	Walbrzych	42,76	44,83	2,07
3	Wroclaw	52,49	54,08	1,59
4	Bydgoszcz	42,77	47,87	5,10
5	Torun	43,87	44,90	1,03
6	Lublin	49,31	52,01	2,70
7	Chelm	42,89	45,30	2,41
8	Zielona Gora	43,67	44,63	0,96
9	Lodz	55,54	56,74	1,20
10	Piotrkow Trybunalski	46,78	50,26	3,48
11	Sieradz	45,31	48,47	3,16
12	Cracow A	49,33	54,46	5,13
13	Cracow B	55,75	58,81	3,06
14	Nowy Sacz	48,75	52,18	3,43
15	Tarnow	47,96	51,85	3,89
16	Plock	43,32	46,22	2,90
17	Radom	46,71	49,38	2,67
18	Siedlce	47,33	50,56	3,23
19	Warsaw A	69,44	70,80	1,36
20	Warsaw B	57,88	60,00	2,12
21	Opole	40,95	43,12	2,17
22	Krosno	44,18	47,47	3,29
23	Rzeszow	48,75	52,56	3,81
24	Bialystok	46,57	47,10	0,53
25	Gdansk	52,25	52,55	0,30
26	Gdynia	51,22	51,28	0,06
27	Bielsko – Biala	53,32	56,35	3,03
28	Czestochowa	47,52	49,83	2,31
29	Gliwice	46,19	49,12	2,93
30	Rybnik	47,49	51,82	4,33
31	Katowice	51,75	53,92	2,17
32	Sosnowiec	49,73	51,41	1,68
33	Kielce	43,74	46,82	3,08
34	Elblag	41,24	41,30	0,06
35	Olsztyn	43,27	43,13	-0,14
36	Kalisz	45,27	47,27	2,00
37	Konin	45,44	46,64	1,20
38	Pila	45,74	46,07	0,33
39	Poznan	60,20	60,23	0,03
40	Koszalin	43,94	43,63	-0,31
41	Szczecin	47,69	47,27	-0,42
	POLAND	48,92	50,92	2,00

Chart 3 shows the results of the 2011 and 2015 parliamentary elections observed in 41 districts. The analysis of the data allows one to conclude that most of the districts are characterized by the increasing voter turnout, with the exceptions of districts: 35 – Olsztyn, 40 – Koszalin and 41 – Szczecin. Ewa Kopacz's political party, PO, was a winning candidate in the districts which noted the decreasing (when comparing it to the election of 2011) voter turnout. The remaining 38 districts noted an increasing turnout, which was the most visible in Cracow – 5.13%, Bydgoszcz – 5.10% and Rybnik – 4.13%. Jaroslaw Kaczynski's PiS was a winning candidate in those three districts. The lowest growth in the number of voting people was noted in Poznan (0.03%), Elblag (0.06%), Gdansk (0.30%), Pila (0.3%), Bialystok (0.53%) and in Zielona Gora (0.96%). In the election of 2015 as much as 19 of the districts noted the voter turnout higher than 50% (for comparison, only 10 districts noted such a turnout in the election of 2011). PO won in 8 of the districts, and PiS in 33 remaining ones.

After Poland had been divided into single-member constituencies, each of them was ascribed a winning party. The results on the level of provinces clearly show the division of Poland into its conservative and liberal part. Eastern regions are dominated by conservatism, with the residents being very religious, ecclesiastical. Comparing the eastern and northern people, one is able to conclude that the first ones are relatively impecunious. They count on the government's help and lead a life conforming with the laws of nature. For the comparison, western parts of Poland are inhabited mostly by the people open to modern technologies, co-operation with their neighbours and the so-called rat race. This differentiation is less visible in the case of single-member constituencies electoral system than in the proportional representation one, what can be observed clearly in West-Pomerania, Pomerania, Wielkopolskie, Lubusz and Lower Silesia provinces. The results of the study show that Polish people vote most eagerly for centre and left-wing political parties. In comparison to the elections of 2011⁹, this difference is still noticeable, however less visible than it was then, which was most likely caused by eight years of Donald Tusk and Ewa Kopacz's governing. The majority of the Polish people was in a need of a change, and consequently the boundary between the liberal and conservative Poland is now blurred. The chart below presents the Sejm elections of 2015 in single-member constituencies simulation, as they would have looked like with and without the election threshold.

Table 4. The results of the Sejm elections of 2015, counted in various ways
(Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by NEC*,
5% for political parties and 8% for electoral alliances)

The simulation assumptions	PIS	PO	Kukiz' 15	Nowoczesna	ZL	PSL	KOR-WIN	Partia Razem	MMN	Total
5% or 8% election threshold*	235	138	42	28	00	16	0	0	11	460
No election threshold	173	111	41	36	35	24	22	17	11	460
Single-member constituencies	333	126	0	0	0	1	0	0	00	460

⁹ More data available on: <http://wybory2011.pkw.gov.pl/wsw/pl/000000.html>

The biggest political parties would lose the most on the elimination of election threshold, as then they would be obliged to share their mandates with smaller parties. There is an ongoing for several years discussion on whether to cut or eliminate the threshold. The complete elimination would hamper the establishment of government, as it was in 1992, when 29 campaign committees sat in the Parliament, but almost 1/3 of them had only one representative. Nevertheless, cutting or eliminating the election threshold has its advantages as well – it reinforces the parties' cooperation and work for the common good.

PO was a winning candidate in most of the big cities of western Poland, it won the most votes in West-Pomerania, Pomerania, Lubusz and Warmia-Masuria provinces. The most votes at national level were won by PiS, which was the party's biggest success since 2001. The election of 2015 showed the diminished support for PO in every of the Polish provinces, it lost support of the counties, where PO has always been a winning party. Also the results in magistrate districts were striking, as 39 out of 66 of them supported PiS. The greatest support for PiS in history came from Warsaw¹⁰, despite the fact that it went down with PO by 0.04%. Comparing 2015 and 2011 elections, Kaczynski's party gained two more mandates, with PO losing four. PiS is a winning candidate in 10 of the single-member constituencies, with the remaining 8 voting for Ewa Kopacz's party. The detailed data noted in the capital city are presented in the chart below.

The districts with PiS as a winning party are marked by purple colours, and those with PO are coloured orange. The darker the colour, the greater support for the party. After counting the votes into single-member constituencies, there appeared cities with PiS representatives only, mainly in southeast parts of Poland (Lublin, Rzeszow, Bialystok, Kielce). PO gained only one mandate in Malopolska province's Cracow. The similar situation was observed in cities, where only Ewa Kopacz's party gained a seat: Opole, Gorzow Wielkopolski, Zielona Gora, Poznan, Szczecin, Gdansk, Bydgoszcz, Torun and Olsztyn. In the remaining province's cities two of the parties gained seats in the Parliament.

Table 5. The division of Warsaw into districts and winning parties
(Source: own elaboration based on the data provided by NEC)

Warsaw's districts	The winning party
Bemowo	PO
Bialoelka	PO
Bielany	PIS
Mokotow	PO
Ochota	PO
Praga - Poludnie	PIS
Praga - Polnoc	PIS
Rembertow	PIS
Srodmiescie	PO
Targowek	PIS
Ursus	PIS
Ursynow	PO
Wawer	PIS
Wesola	PIS
Wilanow	PO
Wlochy	PIS
Wola	PIS
Zoliborz	PO

¹⁰ Detailed data available on: http://parlament2015.pkw.gov.pl/349_Wyniki_Sejm/0/0/19/1465

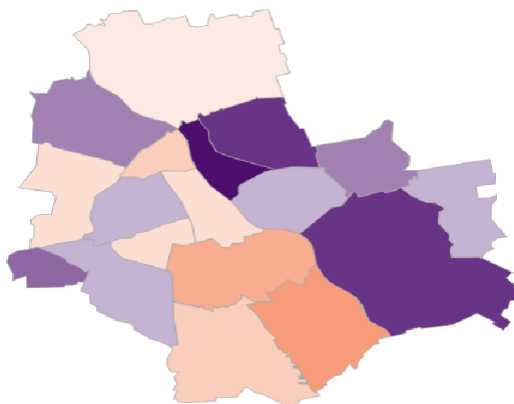


Figure 5. The division of Warsaw into single-member constituencies
(Source: http://parlament2015.pkw.gov.pl/349_Wyniki_Sejm/0/0/19/1465)

CONCLUSIONS

To sum up, single-member plurality electoral system is beneficial only to two main political parties in Poland. The remaining parties would not have their representatives in the Parliament in such a system, with the exception of PSL (a party which managed to gain one seat in Wielkopolska province). For the present, a change of electoral system is impossible, as none of the parties has yet managed to win the constitutional majority. Also the problem of regional parties, which are unable to cross 5% electoral threshold in the current electoral system, is worth noting. The simulation prepared for this paper proved the unavoidable changes of the Polish Parliament, whose policy will soon be free of small political groupings. The policymakers should consider the change of electoral system, taking into consideration the politicians and citizens' viewpoints. All of the maps used in the paper clearly show that the voters most frequently cast their ballots for two biggest political parties. In the elections of 2015 only in kepinskie county PSL was a winning candidate, whereas in the elections of 2011 there were counties with SLD as a winning candidate.

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**THE UNEMPLOYMENT. EVOLUTION AND STRUCTURE
DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION
OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
IN THE PERIOD 2002-2011.
CASE STUDY: DEPRESSION OF BEIUȘ**

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Abstract: The present study is considering a comparing analysis of the values of unemployment from the years 2002, 2011, respectively, from the Depression of Beiuș, the accent being placed on the structuring of the unemployed persons depending on the level of the graduated educational institution. The results registered following the comparing analysis of the data presents an accentuation of the values of unemployment on the graduates of the institutions of higher education, of high school, and in case of those that didn't graduate any kind of education. These ascendant evolutions of the percentage of unemployed from the mentioned categories are accomplished against the others (graduates of postgraduate education and of overmen, vocational and technical school, gymnasium and primary school), which, thus, are reducing of the specific unemployment manpower.

Keywords: structure of unemployment, levels of education, dwelling environments, administrative units, Depression of Beiuș

* * * * *

INTRODUCTION

Space of reference, to which is made the report, is represented by the Depression of Beiuș which occupies the South-Eastern part of Bihor county, being situated on the western facade of Apuseni Mountains (Filimon, 2012; Herman and Benchiș, 2017; Pop, 2005; Berindei et al., 1977). This depression area includes 23 administrative units, four belonging to urban, and the difference, of 19, to the rural. From the demographic point of view, the analyzed areal is confronted with a general regression of the number of population, whose causes are the negative values registered in the natural audit, but also by the migratory one, especially in the post <http://rrgp.uoradea.ro/>

communist period (Morar, 2012; Mureşan, 2014; Sandu, 1999; Zamfir et al., 2011). Regarding the fluctuations registered by the specific values of the unemployment, is observed the tendency of constant increase of them between the years 2002-2011. A viable solution for the diminishing of the rate of unemployment is represented by the development of tourism in Depression of Beiuş, in the conditions when the natural and anthropogenic potential is high, which can generate an important number of jobs (Morar, 2013).

METHODOLOGY

The elaboration of this study had as basis the consulting of a bibliography of specialty (Băcănaru et al., 2007; Ianoş and Tălângă, 1994; Ilieş and Staşac, 2000; Ilinca, 2009; Neğuţ, 2011; Nicoară, 1999; Popescu, 2003; Ungureanu et al., 2002; Vert, 2001), and afterwards was used the processing and interpreting of the data registered by the Census of the population and houses from 2011, which were supplied by the County department of Statistics Bihor, based on a methodology specific to geography (Armaş, 2006).

The unemployed population registered by this census was structured also depending on the level of education of the graduated educational institution, fact that allows an analysis more profound and complex. The six levels of education included in this census are the following: higher education (this including also the graduates of master and PhD programs), postgraduate and overmen education, high school education, vocational and technical education, the gymnasium and the primary school, to whom are added the persons that didn't graduate any form of education.

The percentage values calculated in case of the unemployed population resulted from the reporting of the effective number of unemployed to the active population. In case of the repartition of this type of population on educational levels of the graduated educational institutions was proceeded to the division of the number of unemployed persons attributed to the respective level to the total number of unemployed persons, resulting, thus, to a number that expresses the percentage of unemployed persons on educational levels in the total unemployment.

For a better underlining of the of the particularities of the unemployed population, the analysis was performed in a first stage on the level of the entire depression area, then on the level of the two dwelling environments, so that finally to be identified the aspects specific to the administrative units.

THE STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYED DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ON THE GENERAL LEVEL OF THE DEPRESSION OF BEIUŞ

The social economic conditions from the Depression of Beiuş in the beginning of the second millennium determines the development in this space, especially of two types of unemployment, the structural and the frictional (Bădulescu, 2006). This study will underline the discrepancy existent on the level of year 2002, accentuated in 2011, between the number of graduates of different levels of education (especially, the higher education) and their real possibilities of employment, according to the specialization they have. The presence of some higher values in some categories of unemployed persons is the direct result of the process of economic and social restructuring from the democratic period, that affects this area, but also other areals (Pop and Benedek, 1996; Wendt et al., 2011; Filimon and Nemeş, 2013).

Thus, the rate of unemployment on the level of the analyzed area registers an ascendant evolution in the period of time 2002-2011, so, from 7.3% in 2002 goes to 7.7% in 2011. Even if this augmentation is not spectacular, an analysis of the evolutions specific to the percentage of unemployed persons inside each education level presents some important transformations in the distribution of their percentage value. Thus, if the graduates of higher education had only a number of 5.5% of the total number of unemployed in 2002, in 2011 they reach the value of 18.4%, registering, thus, the highest rhythm of evolution for the entire period, of 275%, from all the seven categories of persons viewed (figure 1).

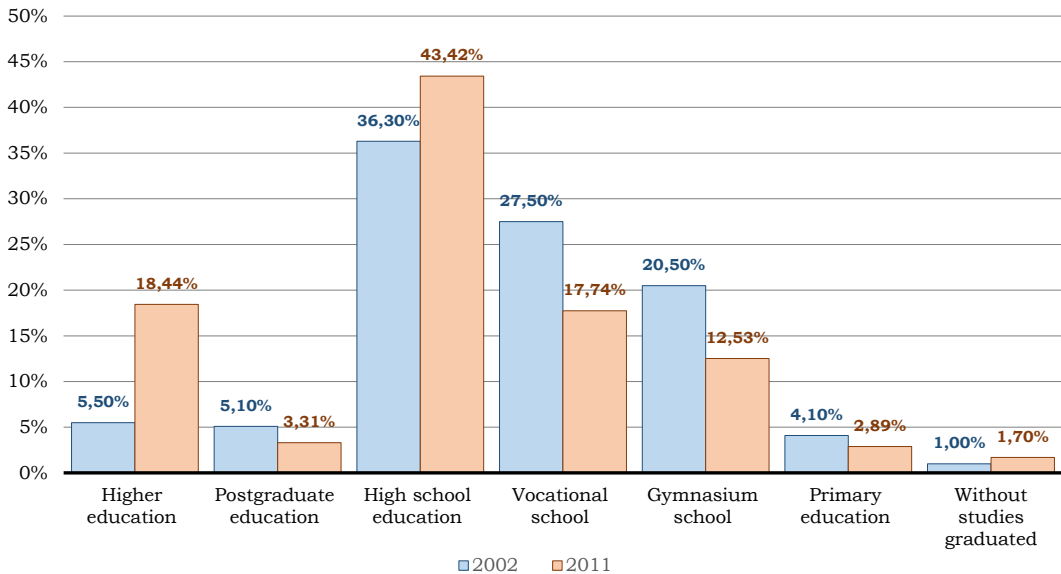


Figure 1. Evolution of the number of unemployed depending on the level of education graduated, inside the Depression of Beiuș, for the years 2002, 2011
(Source: The census of the population from 2002, 2011, DJS Bihor)

Another category that is increasing the manpower of unemployed in their total number is represented by that of the graduates of high school education, from the value, very high, of 36.3% to 43.4%, with a rhythm of evolution of the entire period of 33%. An ascendant evolution of the percentage of unemployed persons is registered only on the level of the persons without studies, where from only one percent is reached to 1.7% in 2011, with a rhythm of evolution of 86%.

The number of unemployed on the level of the graduates of primary, gymnasium education, and that of the postgraduate and of overmen, vocational and technical school registers a regression in the total number of unemployed persons. Thus, the most accentuated rebound is specific to the unemployed graduates of gymnasium education, where from a percentage of 20.5% is reached 12.5%, with a negative rhythm of -32%. Also, the unemployed persons are reducing from the numerical volume also on the level of the vocational education, with 10% (from 27.5% to 17.7%), of the postgraduate and of overmen with approximately 2% (from 5.1% to 3.3%) and the primary one with a bit over a percent (from 4.1% to 2.9%).

THE STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYED DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ON THE LEVEL OF THE DWELLING ENVIRONMENTS FROM THE DEPRESSION OF BEIUȘ

Analyzing the data specific to the urban environment, we can observe the presence of a higher value of the unemployment rate that the general average of the depression, in 2002, when is registered 8.2% of the unemployed population in the active population, and in 2011, when the ascendant movement of the percentage of unemployed is stopped at 10%.

Regarding the distribution of the number of unemployed on the levels of education, are identified very high values of them among the graduates of high school studies, with a mild rebound, from 45.5% in 2002, to 44.4% in 2011, thus almost half of the urban unemployed population falls to this level of education. Also a reduction of the number of unemployed is specific also among the graduates of postgraduate studies and of overmen, of the primary and gymnasium schools, but the decreases are estimated with values of up to two percent.

The unemployed graduates of university studies mark an ascendant evolution of the specific percentage in this period of nine years, thus, from less than 10% from the total of unemployed from the urban environment, they reach to a percentage of almost a quarter, in conditions when the total number of graduates of this level of education has increased significantly. A progressive movement is registered only by those that didn't graduate any form of education, thus, in the urban they hold 1.8% compared to only 0.4% in 2002 (figure 2a).

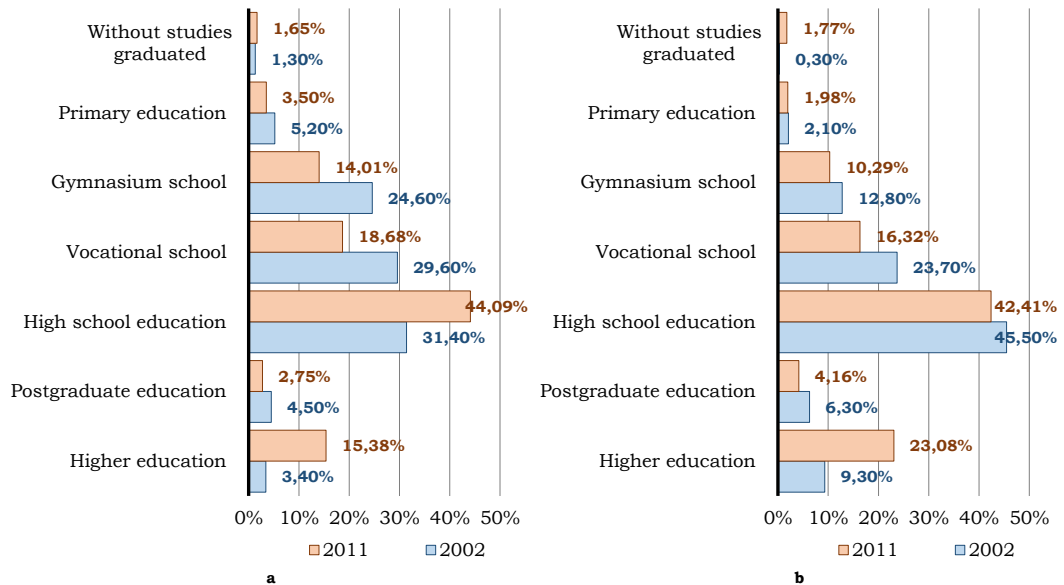


Figure 2. Evolution of the number of unemployed depending on the level of education graduated, for the years 2002, 2011 in the rural (a) and urban (b) environment (Source: The census of the population from 2002, 2011, DJS Bihor)

The rural by the specific values of the unemployment rate, is placed under the average of the depression, in 2002, when it registers a number of 6.9%, and in 2011, when it is reduced with 0.2%, reaching to 6.7% (Palicica and Palicica 2005).

The particular evolution registered in the distribution of the unemployed depending on the level of graduated education is manifested by the increase of the

percentage of unemployed graduates of higher education studies, from only 3.5% to over 15%, the same evolution being specific also to the unemployed graduates of high school education, which from 31.4% reach to 44.1%, so that a mild increase would be registered only for those that didn't graduate any form of education, up to the value of 1.6%.

The augmentation of the percentage of unemployed from the these types of graduates was accomplished based on the reducing of those from the postgraduate and overmen schools, primary schools, but especially the gymnasium school and the vocational school. Thus, the unemployed from the gymnasium education register a rebound of over 10%, (falling up to the number of 14%), the same evolution being specific also to the other unemployed recalled previously, their percentage being of 18.7% of the total unemployed persons (figure 2b).

From a comparative analysis of the values registered on the level of the two dwelling environment we can see some particularities, being observed first of all in the rate of unemployment, higher than in the urban, than in the rural, the difference from the two dwelling environments reaching to even over 3%, in 2011. Secondly, in both dwelling environments the most numerous unemployed are attributed to the graduates of high school education, with numbers of over 40% but with the observation that if the tendency in urban is of reducing, in the rural on the contrary they increased their manpower in the total number of unemployed. This type of unemployed is seconded by those who graduated higher education studies in the urban environment, by those that are graduates of vocational school in the rural, respectively, according to the total percentage of the graduates of these types of education. The most reduced percentage of unemployed are registered for the graduates of primary education, more numerous still in the rural environment, and for those who didn't graduate any institution of education, present in proportions approximately equal in both dwelling environments (figure 3a, 3b).

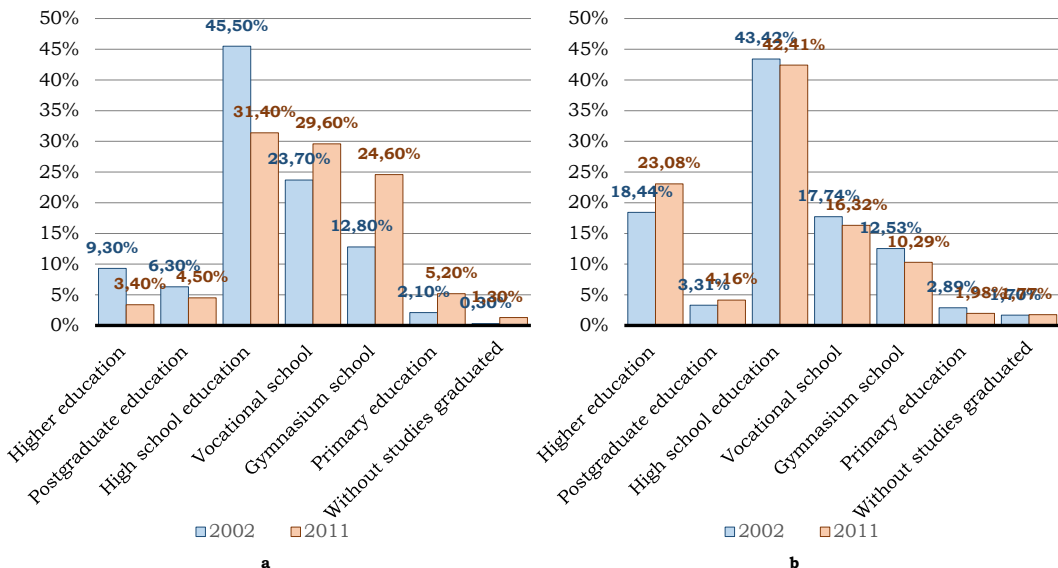


Figure 3. Comparative evolution of the number of unemployed depending on the level of education graduated, in the dwelling environments from the Depression of Beiuș, for the years 2002(a) and 2011 (b), (Source: The census of the population from 2002, 2011, DJS Bihor)

THE STRUCTURE OF UNEMPLOYED DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL OF EDUCATION OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION ON THE LEVEL OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS FROM THE DEPRESSION OF BEIUȘ

The comparative analysis of the data, on the level of the administrative units from the Depression of Beiuș, was accomplished for the years 2002 (figure 4) and 2011 (figure 5), being considered the territorial distribution of unemployed depending on the level of education graduated.

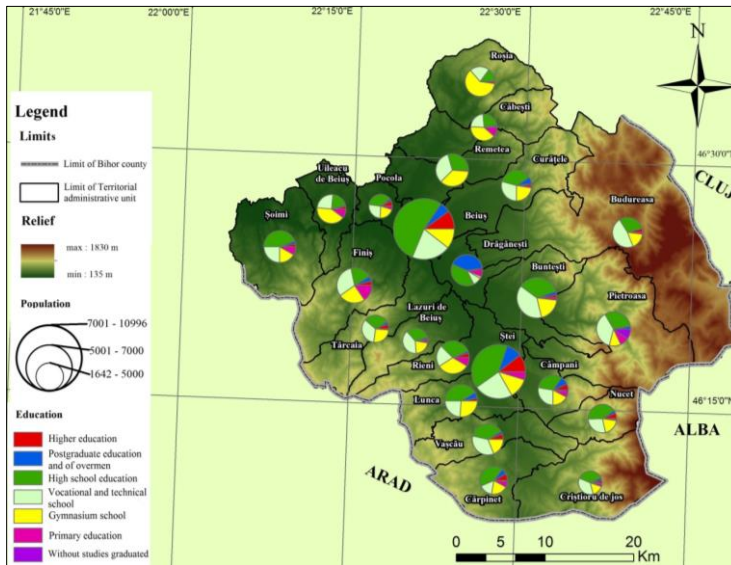


Figure 4. Distribution of unemployed, depending on the level of education graduated, in the administrative units from the Depression of Beiuș, in 2002 (Source: The census of the population and houses from 2002, DJS Bihor)

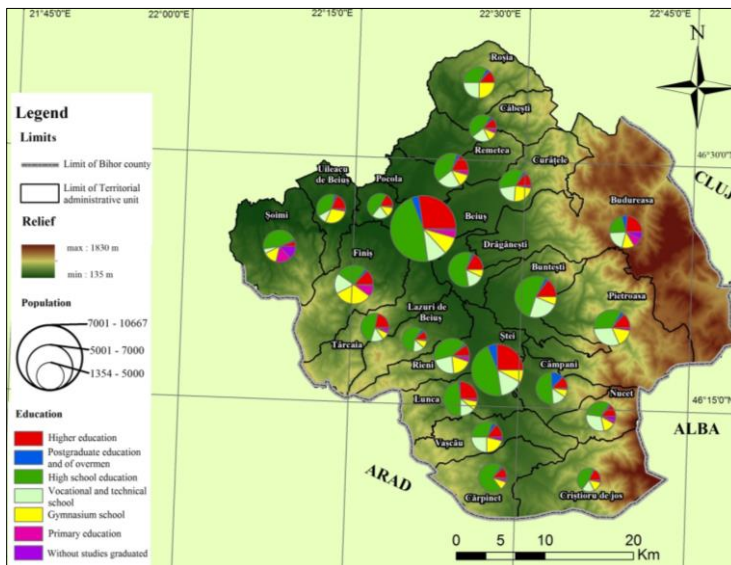


Figure 5. Distribution of unemployed, depending on the level of education graduated, in the administrative units from the Depression of Beiuș, in 2011 (Source: The census of the population and houses from 2011, DJS Bihor)

A. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the university level on the level of the administrative units

From this perspective, the inequalities present on the level of this depression areas are multiple, being directly influenced by the dwelling environment, by the local social economic particularities, by the specific traditions, which, finally determine a certain number of graduates from the university level, that can be transformed either in employed persons or in unemployed persons – those concerned directly by the present study. There is, thus, a close coalescence between the percentage of graduates of university studies and the unemployed population that holds such studies, connections that will be observed especially by an evolutive analysis of the two categories of population in the years 2002, 2011, respectively.

The percentage of this type of unemployed population has increased significantly, in the analyzed period of time, thus, from only 5.5% in 2002, in 2011 will reach a fifth of the total number of unemployed to be attributed to the graduates of university studies.

On the level of the year 2002, the highest percentage of this type of unemployed persons were identified in the towns Stei, with 10.5% and Beiuș, with 9.8%. The causes that determined a more visible presence of the unemployed graduates of university studies in these towns are related in a great measure of the higher number of graduates of this level of education in the urban environment, but also of the economic restructuring that these towns are registering, which can't offer jobs and conditions of work similar with the previous period of economic development. The more reduced average values calculated for Vașcău, of 5.8%, and Nucet, of 6.5%, are due to a more reduced number of graduates of the higher education from them, in the conditions when the population attributed to the villages from their constituency is relatively numerous, being known that the village, generally, offers much less student than the town.

Among the communes from this depression area, the highest values of the unemployed graduates of higher education studies is registered in Carpinet, with 7.9%, Pocola, with 7.7% and Târcaia, with 5.7%, and in Roșia and Pietroasa would not be identified any unemployed person of this type.

In 2011, the situation is changed very much, first of all by the augmentation of the percentage specific to the unemployed graduates of higher education studies. Thus, in Beiuș and Ștei over a quarter of the total number of unemployed falls back to the persons with higher education, being observed, thus, more than a doubling of this type of population manpower, compared to 2002. The same ascendant way of the values is registered also in the other two towns, Nucet reaching the number of 13.5% unemployed with higher education, and Vașcău, by the percentage of 15% is almost triple for this type of unemployed persons.

If in 2002 the difference between the towns and communes regarding the percentage attributed to the unemployed population with higher education was clear, with much higher values registered by the first, in 2011 the situation is changing. Thus, the percentage of unemployed graduates of university studies knows a high rhythm of growth also on the level of communes, in the conditions when the total number of graduate persons from this type grows, and the economic situation from the depression area doesn't know an improvement, but is confronting with the same economic crisis specific to the entire national area

and not only. For example, in communes as Budureasa, Lunca and Târcaia, the unemployed graduates of higher education register percentages over 20% of the total number of unemployed, and in Uileacu de Beiuș, Criștioru de Jos and Drăgănești the values would be close to this limit. In exchange the most reduced average values fall back to the communes Șoimi, with 5.1%, Rieni, with 10.6%, Lazuri de Beiuș, with 11.7% etc.

B. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the post graduate and overmen level

The postgraduate education and of overmen register a descendent trend of the number of graduates in the Depression of Beiuș, in the period 2002-2011, fact that is reflected also in a mild regression of the unemployed graduates of these studies.

On the level of 2002 we can't speak of a concentration of some higher values or more reduced in case of this type of unemployed persons, for a certain type of dwelling environment. Thus, high number are localized also in towns as Ștei, with 9.4%, but also in communes as: Drăgănești, with 41.3%, Câmpani, with 8.8%, Cărpinet, with 6.6% etc. Of the same distribution benefit also the most reduced percentages of unemployed graduates of postgraduate and overmen schools, thus, in Vascau there is a percentage of 2.9%, and in the communes Budureasa, Remetea and Roșia they are not present.

Comparatively, for year 2011 is remarked the valoric regression of the percentages specific to the administrative units from the Depression of Beiuș for this type of unemployment, maximum values being localized in Câmpani, with 12.7%, Ștei, with 5.8% and Vașcău, with 3.8%. There are communes where this type of unemployed persons is absent, as are Tarcaia and Pocola, or where the values are very reduced: Șoimi (1.7%), Lunca (1.6%), Rieni (1.5%) etc.

C. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the high school level

This type of education has increased the number of graduates, also increasing and percentage of unemployed persons graduates of this level of education, in the analyzed period of time.

If it examined summarily the specific data of year 2002, are identified a series of particularities, among which, first of all is remarked the fact that the highest percentage of this category of unemployed persons falls on the towns, Beiuș being far ahead with a value of over 52%. Also high number of this type of unemployed in the total unemployment are localized in Șoimi (44.4%), Cărpinet (42.1%), Lunca (41.3%) etc. The most reduced values correspond to some communes as: Roșia (14.9%), Uileacu de Beiuș (19.1%) and Finiș (19.6%).

The values correspondent to year 2011, held by unemployed graduates of high school level, are maintaining high percentages in the total unemployed population, but is remarked the rebound that this type of unemployed is marking on the level of towns, comparing to the strong ascendant trend developed on the level of communes. It can be exemplified by maximum numbers specific to the communes: Cărpinet with 70%, Lazuri de Beiuș with 58.3%, Drăgănești with 57.7% etc., while the values attributed to the towns Beiuș, with 46.2%, and Ștei, with 46% (that are the maximum for urban), remain more behind. The most reduced percentages appear in: Budureasa, with 21.8%, Finiș, with 25.3%, Vașcău, with 31.3% etc.

D. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the vocational and technical school level

Even if this form of education knows a certain stability among the number of graduates reported to the years taken into consideration, regarding the numbers calculated for the unemployed population that achieved these studies the situation is modified significantly, in the way of reducing the values registered with over 10%. Thus, in 2002 the unemployed with vocational studies or technical studies were more numerous in the urban environment, where they held even 35% of the total unemployed population in Vascau, and in rest of the towns the percentages would not fall under the limit of 20%. In exchange, in the rural the gap between the maximum and minimum numbers is considerably larger, in the conditions when in Budureasa this type of unemployed is over the percentage of 47%, and in Drăgănești is only coming to near 9%. On the level of year 2011, in the urban environment the maximum value comes to Nucet, with 30.4%, thus replacing Vascau, which is reducing the percentage of these unemployed up to 25%. Stei registers an average of 14.7%, and Beiuș by the number of 9.6% would be placed in the category of administrative units with a reduced unemployment among the graduates of vocational and technical schools. Are subscribed also to the same specific also the communes Carpinet, which don't hold any unemployed person of this type, Uileacu de Beiuș, with 10.5% and Lunca, with 13.9%.

E. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the gymnasium school level

The gymnasium level is reducing easily the percentage of graduates, this being a normal phenomenon, in the conditions when the number of graduates from the higher education studies is increasing. Regarding the evolution of the values registered by the unemployed that hold such studies, is found a rebound on the level of year 2011, compared to 2002, especially in case of the rural environment. Thus, in 2002 the highest percentages of unemployed graduates of gymnasium were placed in Drăgănești (2.2%), Beiuș (10.4%), Pietroasa (11.1%) etc., and on the opposite pole would be the placed the communes Roșia (61%), Uileacu de Beiuș (41.2%), Căbești (39.3%). In exchange, in 2011 the maximum number falls to Finis, with 32.3%, followed by Uileacu de Beiuș, with 28.9%, and in communes as: Târcaia, Lunca, Drăgănești etc., and in the towns Beiuș and Stei the percentage of unemployed persons in the total unemployed population would not be over the limit of 10%.

F. The distribution of the unemployed graduates of educational institutions specific to the primary school level

This type of education registers, also, a reduction of the number of graduates, marking simultaneously also a descendent trend of the percentage of unemployed that graduated only this level of education. Thus, in 2002 only in three administrative units was crossed the limit of 10% in this type of unemployed: Finiș (15.2%), Căbești and Uileacu de Beiuș, and in Vașcău and Lunca would not be registered, and in Beiuș, Remetea and Nucet the specific values would be situated around only one percent. In 2011, is found that only in Soimi is reached the number of 15%, the rest of the administrative units having values of under 10% of unemployed with primary studies, and the number of communes and towns that had no unemployment persons of this type would increase to four (Ștei, Vașcău, Curățele and Roșia).

G. The distribution of the unemployed that did not graduate any educational level from the Depression of Beiuș presents a certain concentration on the level of some administrative units

Thus, for year 2011, in commune Șoimi is registered the largest percentage of this type of unemployed, with the number of 13.6% from the total of unemployed, followed by Budureasa, with 7.3%, Nucet, with 4.7% and Vașcău, with 3.8%. Is observed thus, the presence of these values in those administrative units where also the degree of school attending is more reduced, complementary being added also their ethnic structure, characterized by important Rroma ethnic communities. In a series of eight communes is not registered the presence of this type of unemployed persons.

CONCLUSIONS

For the period included between the years 2002-2011, on the level of the Depression of Beiuș is found a slow tendency of growth of the general rate of unemployment, especially in the urban environment.

The distribution of the unemployed in the six levels of graduated educational institutions, to which is added the seventh, corresponding to those that did not graduate any type of studies, knows important developments, reported to the two moments taken into consideration.

The most obvious modifications of quantity are present among the unemployed graduates of higher education studies, which in nine years mark more than a triple of the percentage in the total unemployed population. The main causes reside in the increase of the number of graduates of this level of education that can't be absorbed by the economy that is restructuring. An increase of the unemployed manpower is registered also for the persons graduates of high school studies, but in more reduced proportions than the graduates of higher education studies. The last category of unemployed that is increasing the percentage is that attributed to those that did not graduate any level of education, phenomenon attributed to the values visibly high from some administrative units, that hold in their constituency important contingents of Rroma ethnic.

These increases of the percentage of unemployed in the levels of mentioned educational levels is accomplished against the other, which, thus, are reducing from the specific percentages.

From the quantity point of view, the modifications that appeared among the graduates of postgraduate studies, vocational, gymnasium and primary school are more balanced, but also more reduced, compared to the evolutions registered by those with university studies. Still the most accentuated regression falls on the unemployed with gymnasium school, followed by those with post graduate studies.

Regarding the distinct evolutions specific to the dwelling environments is identified a path similar to that registered on the general level, a discordant note being that specific to the unemployed with high school studies from the rural that manifest an ascendant tendency of values.

On the level of the administrative units appears a great diversity of situations, the discrepancies being met even among the administrative units from the same environment or even on the level of the neighborhood.

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GLOBAL COMPETITION BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

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Abstract: The human-geographic regionalization is a landmark in the demarcation of territories that include populations of the same demographic, cultural or economic background. A defining boundary for human characteristics across the planet can be made simple, between the North and the South. The north, though advanced economically, militarily, technologically, united, well-urbanized and landscaped, dominates the world for just 500 years before the South was in power. After a long period of stagnation, the South escapes the colonialist chains until the 1950s, after which begins a vast process of revival in which emerging new powers are emerging as well as a series of economic unions that can rival with the old powers in the North. Analyzing the number of inhabitants in the two regions, it is noted that demographic size is a priority in the slope of the power balance, so when one of the regions exceeded 50% of the total population of the Globe, it attracted wealth by exporting populations and culture that colonized the other half. After 1950, the South holds for the first time 400 years, over 50% of the total population, and in 2017 it reaches 62%, reaching 71% in 2050 and 81% of the world's population by 2100. understands that the economic difficulties in the North, financial crises, the limitation of global influence or the issue of immigrants is only at the beginning, and the transformation of the North into the southern vassal is just a matter of time.

Key words: population, evolution, economy, power, events, migration, period

* * * * *

INTRODUCTION

Of the total surface area of 510 millions km² of the Earth, the land area is only 149 millions km². Of this area, 67% is concentrated in the northern hemisphere, and 90% of the world's population is also concentrated here.

For these reasons, from the point of view of the population of the planet, of economy and of geopolitics, the boundary between the North and the South is not in the Equator, and much to the north, being a line of demarcation which approximately accompanies the parallel of 30 northern latitude. The two human-geographic regions rather belong to the mental criterion, that is to say, man's belonging to a space or a part of the Planet (Neguț, 2011, p. 159).

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The surface of the North overlaps with the great empires and advanced economical and technological states that have dominated the world over the past 500 years, writing the history of the Earth and hosting all the major events. It includes the regions: North America, Europe, Asia Minor, ex-USSR and East Asia.

The South is equivalent to economic instability, poverty and colonialism, a place of migration for populations and culture in the North, and a raw material base for developed countries. The South includes Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, West, South and South East Asia as well as Oceania.

Of the total dry land, with the exception of the Antarctic continent, which is an unpopulated territory, the North has about 60 million km², representing 44% of the planet's dry land, and the South about 76 million km², accounting for 56% of the land.

The South and the North have been in a continuous competition throughout history. Until 1500, the developed world, empires, culture, major cities, trade and technological progress was dominated by the South where most of history was written. After this period, the North became dominant, its empires and culture capturing the whole of the South. Basically, between the years 1500 and 1950, South was considered the territory of the North, being wiped off the face of the Earth, empires, states, culture, and a part of its population.

After the year 1800, the states of Africa and southern, western and southeast Asia, the states of Oceania and Latin America are emerging, market economies, sovereign economic and military powers, atomic powers, and even luxury cities. Agriculture, tourism, financial markets, electricity production, or industrial processing are becoming available for the first time in the South, reaching today the North in more and more areas and the GDP (PPP) of US \$ 40 trillion, almost half of the 92 trillions that the North has.

All these developments actually coincide with the number of inhabitants of the two regions, so by the year 1500, the South owned over 50% of the world's population when it was overwhelmed by the North, which remained above that threshold until 1950. In the 1700s 1800, the North reaches even 62% of the total population of the Planet. With a East in knees and a split South, the world becomes a three-star star in Europe, Japan and North America, transforming it into 5 corners, so Japan will join South Korea and China, a corner will be represented by India and a corner to be represented by Sub-Saharan Africa headed by Nigeria (Toffler, 1995, pp. 420-421).

In 2017, the South reached for the first time in the past 2000 years, holding more than 60% of the population of the Planet, then in 2050 it would exceed 70% and 2100 to 80% of the world's population, while the North will only 20% of the total number of people.

Current migrations after 1950 and accentuated after 2000 are just the beginning of a massive exodus of the southern population to the north. The North will change its ethnic, religious and cultural structure and will be economically overtaken by the South, which will attract the northern financial potential, making it a raw material field.

In Latin America, the population grows each year with 6.5 millions inhabitants, while in the US and Canada only 2.7 millions. East Asia grows with 6 millions people, most of it taking place in China. In contrast, Southeast Asia is growing by 7 millions, and South Asia by 24 million. India exceeds China each year with 10 millions people, with a total increase of 16 millions.

If the population in Asian Russia is declining and Central Asia, which is North, is growing by 1 million, Western Asia is growing by 4.5 millions people. In each region belonging to the North, its equivalent to the south of the demarcation line, increases by more than doubled. The difference between Europe and Oceania or Africa is even greater, while the Old Continent is growing by only 0.4 million people a year, the Pacific Ocean islands are growing by 1 million, and the Black Continent rising by 30 millions.

The number of immigrants arriving in Europe is only 0.9 million each year. The main countries they come from are: Yemen, Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Palestine, where the annual population growth is almost 4.5 million. Only in Iraq, Sudan and Afghanistan the population grows with about 1 million inhabitants for each.

If in the northern states the population decreases steadily every year, as in: Germany with - 50 thousand inhabitants, Romania - 100 thousand people, Ukraine with - 200 thousand and Japan with - 250 thousand in the South the population grows: 1.7 million in Tanzania, 2.5 millions in the Congo, 3 millions in Indonesia, 4 millions in Pakistan and 5 millions in Nigeria each year.

With an increase of 16 millions people added each year to India, Europe needs 35 years to reach this growth, the US 16 years and China over 2.5 years. Only in the state of Uttar Pradesh, which has a smaller area than the surface of Romania, has a population 11 times higher. From its 60 millions inhabitants in 1950, the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh has in 2017 224 million, and in the year 2050 it will exceed 340 million and in the year 2100 it will reach 500 million. That will mean about 2500 places/km², while in Romania the population density will drop to only 50 places/km².

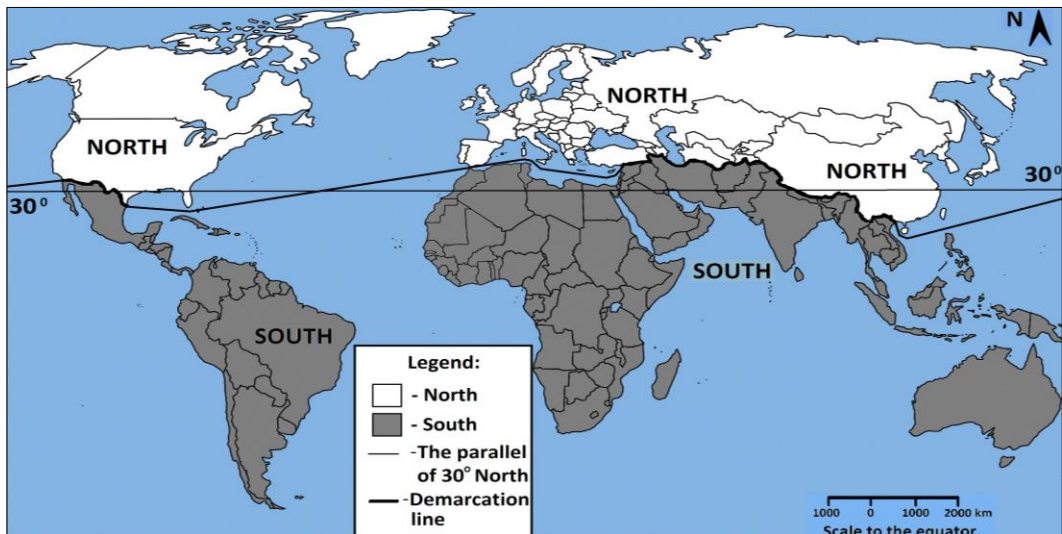


Figure 1. Map of the two main economic and demographic regions of the Terra

DEMOGRAPHIC BALANCE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

Force ratio up to year 0

By year 0, the South has made the greatest contribution to the main historical events, where the most traces of mankind have been discovered. After populating the Great African Rift, the populations migrated northwards creating

Egypt that built the Great Pyramids, and the peoples of West Asia where the first cities developed, the writing, the city of Babylon and the Israeli people.

Also in the fertile plains of West Asia and on the island of New Guinea in Oceania there appears agriculture (Duby, 2015, p. 17). In South Asia the Indus civilization develops with the cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, and the Buddha is born, in the Levant there is a growing maritime culture of the Phoenicians who build in North Africa the city of Carthage, in South America the Nazca culture begins, and in Mexico the civilization of the patrons the Teotihuacan fortress is being built.

The origins of domesticated animals are mainly represented in the South. Thus, the turkeys were growing in Mexico, the Indochina cow and the pig in Indochina and New Guinea, and the main cultures were: corn, cotton, potato and pineapple of Latin America, African sorghum, rice and wheat from West Asia; and bananas and sugar cane from Asia to the SE (Duby, 2015, pp. 16-17).

The north was dominated by East Asia and Europe. In China fire is discovered, Confucius is born and the Great Wall of China is being built, following a series of dynasties to the leadership of the provinces of the country. In Europe, the Minoan civilization appears on the island of Crete and the Greek civilization that gives the world a series of scholars who set the foundations of science. The city of Rome and the Roman Empire, and the famous town of Pompei, at the foot of the Vesuvius volcano, appear.

In China, soya, rice and cabbage are cultivated, oats and rye are grown in Europe, and in Central Asia domesticated: cow, pig, sheep and goat (Duby, 2015, pp. 16-17).

The evolution of the events between 0 and 1500

In Year 0, the North and the South had 50% of the population of the Planet. Of the southern populations, the largest share was represented by the Indians with 33% of the total population of the world, Africans and especially the Egyptians with 10%, West Asia with Mesopotamia 8% and Latin America 3%.

In the North, the Chinese accounted for over 30% of the total population, followed by Europeans mostly concentrated on the Mediterranean coast by 17%.

After year 0, the South advances to the North, reaching 58% of the population of Planete until the year 1000, and 54% in 1500.

In the South, Jesus Christ is born, creating the world's greatest religion, and in Latin America the Mayan civilization develops. In the North, Christian religion is accepted by signing the 317th Edict of Milan. Also from the South comes Buddhism, which is introduced in China in Year 6 (Delumeau, 2014).

Later, in eastern Europe the city of Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire are developing, and in East Asia, the Chinese provinces unite.

After 476 with the beginning of the Middle Ages, the South gives the world the third great religion through the life of the Prophet Muhammad between 570 and 604 in the cities of Mecca and Medina. The Arab empire is developing to conquer and Islamize the Christian territories of northern Africa and to penetrate the North, conquering southern Europe. After 877, the Angkor and Pagan empires in Indochina are developing in the South, the Incas dominates the Cuzco Valley, and the Aztecs found the great city of Tenochtitlan, rivaling in size and wealth with the city of Rome. Africa is developing the Mali Empire, whose explorers cross the Atlantic Ocean and discover the mouth of the Amazon, discovering America before Columbus Genoese.

Orthodoxy in Eastern Europe and Asia Minor is developing in North, followed by Protestants in Northwest Europe after 1500. The city of Kiev appears, laying the foundations of the Russian Empire, and Europe is becoming stronger, the Arabs in southern Europe being chased away, and in 1099, Europeans release the Holy Land of Jerusalem from the Muslims.

The imperialist ambitions of Europeans to send Marco Polo explorer to China in 1254-1324 are quickly overcome by Mongolian invasion, followed by the Black Plague epidemic of 1347-1349, which depopulate and weaken Europe. Meanwhile, another power in the North reaches for a short while to conquer the territories of the South, the Mongol Empire in Central Asia escapes to the South, to India and West Asia.

In Europe, education was developed and in 1208 Cambridge University was founded, and in Guatemart, Gutemberg set up a printing house. Explorations are resumed this time on Atlantic waters, and in 1432 the Portuguese discover the Azores, Bartolomeu Dias arrives in southern Africa, Vasco da Gama arrives in India at Cochin in 1524, and Italian Cristofor Columbus discovers America on behalf of Spain on 12 October 1492 (Neguț, 2011, p. 54-60). The new discoveries lead to a rapid advance of the North against the South, and in 1494, the Treaty of Tordesillas, in which the South is divided colonially between Spain and Portugal (Duby, 2015, pp. 156-157), is signed.

The North, though only 46% of the world's population in 1500, with a strong technological advance and a high demographic growth, becomes the empire transforming the South into its own colony.

Table 1. The occupied percentage of the total population of the World, in different regions, between 0 and 1500

(Source: Creeaza Professional: www.creeaza.com)

Year	0	1000	1500
Globe	100%	100%	100%
North	50%	42%	46%
South	50%	58%	54%
Europe	17%	15%	19%
East Asia	31%	27%	25%
South Asia	33%	28%	25%
Africa	10%	12%	11%

North, an indisputable leader between 1500 and 1950

After 1500, the North became more and more populated, reaching 46% to 53% of the world's total population by 1600, 51% in 1700 and 62% in 1800. North populations are becoming safer with superiority of the breed and even the Chinese consider them in other peoples to be barbarians (Lynch, 2009, p. 14). The consequences of this change in population ratios are devastating for the South, where the empires are destroyed: Inca, Maya and Aztec in America, the empires of West, South and East Asia, and the Borouin Empires in Africa in 1609 and Mali in 1660, the North Colony.

Europeans conquer the new territories they colonize, imposing their religions, culture and languages. Spaniards dominate most of America, the Philippines and parts of Africa, the Portuguese conquer parts of Africa, Brazil and America, and the Asian seaside in Arabia, India, Southeast Asia and China, the Dutch conquer southern Africa and Indonesia, Japan, the Australian island of Tasmania, Brazil, New Amsterdam (current New York) and India, and the Turks

dominate the Arab world. The Russians are moving more and more to North and Central Asia, Belgium takes over the African Congo, and the English and French build empires that dominate the whole of the South beyond the other colonial powers of Europe. The British strengthen their global prestige after 1610 when they arrive in India, where they drove the Portuguese arrived here for a century, then the Dutch and the French, and created South Asia with the 300 million people they owned at that time, the pearl of the British crown Farndon, 2008, p. 189). Between 500 and 1500, Western Europe crosses 1,000 years of stagnation, and nothing predicts the economic advance that has followed, nor colonialism that has flourished in the small states on the western side of Eurasia, especially since southern civilizations have already been adventurous in colonizing other Territories (Ferguson, 2014, p. 33).

The whole of the South is subjugated by a small number of northern states, dividing the new lands conquered without regard to the old frontiers, and the southern populations lose their right to liberty, with the slave trade being widespread. Negrians in Africa are used on American plantations and Jews are banished from Portuguese America in 1759 and from American America in 1767.

Migration of the North-South population has intensified, and in the 1820s and 1930s there have been 4 million Europeans in Brazil and 6 million in Argentina, especially Spanish, Portuguese and Italian. Nearly 17 million Europeans migrated to the US, 17 million Europeans, dominating the English, Irish, German, French and Scandinavian populations, and between 1900 and 1930 14 million, mainly Italian, Austrian, Hungarian, Russian and Polish migrated (Bărbulescu and Bordeianu, 2008, pp. 90-91).

After 1800, the population of the French Empire exceeded the population of every empire in Continental Europe, and Napoleon began conquering Europe, reaching Vienna and Moscow, being finally stopped by the English Empire. Europe becomes more developed and incomprehensible, 7 of the world's top 10 empires being found here. The Turks move the capital to Constantinople even though most of the empire extends to Asia and Africa, and in 1703, the Russians set up the new capital of St. Petersburg, located closer to the economic core of the Old Continent. More and more powerful states appear to the interior of the continent dominated by the Germans. The Germans reunite in the Roman-German Empire, in the Empire of Austria and Prussia. Thus Europe evolves from 21% of the world's population in 1800 to 28% in the year 1900, even though there is also a strong population migration to the South.

Also in the North, on July 4, 1776, the United States, helped by the powers of Western Europe, especially France, gave the 100th anniversary of independence, in 1886, the Statue of Liberty in New York. The US extends westward to the Pacific Ocean, following the takeover of British, French, Spanish, Dutch, and Russian Territories. With the abolition of slavery in the English territories in 1834, it forced the change into the US in 1864. Canada emerged as an independent state in 1867, consolidating power in North America, and the opening of Japan's borders to foreign trade led to the establishment of the three centers economic world, in Europe, North America and East Asia, which dominates the power of decision so far.

In Europe, decades Turkey, both demographically falling from 6th place in 1800, to 12th place in 1900, and economic emerging from Greece. Spain and Portugal demographically decline from Seventh and 10th respectively in 1800 on 13 and 15 respectively, Portugal being overtaken by the population of its former

colony Brazil. Independent States of Latin America appear, so Venezuela and Paraguay become free in 1811, Colombia in 1813 followed by Argentina, Chile, Mexico and all the other states in South America, and the weakening of the English empire leads to increased rights for the colonies: Australia, New Zealand, the South African Union, or Singapore. All of these countries gain economic advance over the territories that are maintained as colonies, and are now part of the developed or developing countries.

Even though the South has only 38% of the world's population in 1900, it is becoming more and more free from the wars between colonial powers that weaken the North, leading to the demographic explosion, after which the South equals the population of the North until 1950.

Population growth in the German states of Central Europe and Turkey's weakening will provoke the alliance that will attack the old powers: France, Great Britain and Russia. After the war to weaken Europe, the Austrian Empire is dismantled, Turkey chooses the way of democracy through the reforms of President Kemal Ataturk and two new powers assert in the North, the US opens the Panama Canal in 1914 becoming the leader of America, and Japan artificially forms the state of Manchuria as the new empire of the yellow breed.

World War II puts all the great powers of the North into battle. Germany along with Italy in Europe and Japan in East Asia form an axis and launch an ample war. Decad: Europe, North Africa, eastern half of Asia, Oceania and the western Pacific islands. Russia, Poland and France are leading the war in Europe, and in Asia, China and Korea are being devastated. Intervening later, the United States defends Britain from the German invasion, shifting from the English as a warfare, economic power and imperial influence. At the end of the war, Europe and East Asia become a ruin, Germany and its capital Berlin being divided by the Iron Curtain, which will symbolize the dividing line between the new powers of the world, the US and the USSR. There are no more neutral territories on Earth than formal, Central and Western Europe as well as East Asia becoming the semi-colonies of new masters. The US becomes a net superior to Russia, and the population of the two states is changing in favor of the Americans, which evolves from 76 million inhabitants in 1900 to 150 million in 1950, and Russia after the two great wars decreases to 136 million, to just 100 million.

Table 2. The occupied percentage of the total population of the World, in different regions, between 1500 and 1950

(Source: Neguț, 2009, pp. 19-24)

Year	1500	1600	1700	1800	1900	1950
Globe	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
North	46%	53%	51%	62%	62%	50%
South	54%	47%	49%	38%	38%	50%
Europe	19%	20%	21%	21%	28%	20%
East Asia	25%	33%	30%	40%	28%	21%
South Asia	25%	24%	27%	21%	18%	20%
Africa	11%	10%	10%	8%	7%	8%

The new era begins after 1950. The South is preparing to take the lead

In 1950, the South's population became equal with the North, but the long period of colonialism in which industry, medicine, infrastructure, education and even food were severely restricted, as well as the chaotic division of territories and the creation of artificial borders, made the South not yet able to take over the North.

Between 1930 and 1971 in the North, the population grew in Europe from 355 to 466 million, in North America from 134 to 230 million, and in the USSR from 179 to 245 million. In the same period in the South, Latin America rises from 108 to 290 million, South East Asia from 127 to 295 million, Oceania from 10 to 20 million, and Africa from 164 to 357 million inhabitants (Cucu, 1974, p. 89).

The share of Europe's population drops from 28% of the world's total population in 1900, 20% in 1950, 13% in 2000 and only 10% in 2017. New North powers fail to maintain territorial colonialism over the South, but instead they succeed in setting up international organizations, with which they maintain their influence on the southern states. The US is the emblem of a market-led political party, and the USSR promotes communism and centralized management.

Although the North continues to write the history of the world, the problem of population decline in relation to the South has gradually reduced its influence. By the 1970s, the US reached 210 million inhabitants, making massive investments in the Asian states: Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Thailand, as well as in Western Europe by sending financial aid through the Marshall Plan and setting up in the year 1955, NATO. As a great power, feeling invincible and ignoring the growth of the South, the US is trying to conquer the state of Vietnam.

Russia is rebuilding after the war, forming the USSR with 245 million people and becoming the dominant power before the US. It propagates communism in China and Eastern Europe, having allies all over the South, Cuba, South Yemen, India, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Egypt, etc. Becoming the first power of the world, the USSR becomes an economic model for the southern states adopting the planned economy, sending arms to Vietnam by preventing the US from conquering that country, triggering the Cuban missile crisis by targeting US invasion, and helping oil-exporting states form OPEC, which results in the oil price explosion and the 1971-73 crisis, causing a heavy blow to the West. The economic advance of some southern states such as Libya, Algeria, Venezuela, Kuwait, Qatar or the United Arab Emirates with the famous emirate Dubai is due to the Russians' actions that have led to the rise in oil prices that spurred the economy of the southern states. In 1980, the USSR triggered the war in Afghanistan, with the ultimate goal of Russia's centuries-old ambition of reaching the warm waters of the Indian Ocean.

The common geopolitical movements of Third World countries intensify with the demographic explosion, and in 1961, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries is being created in Bandung to make the new states debase the Cold War that emerged between the US and the USSR. The joint action has the ultimate goal of rejecting the Nordic influence on the South.

The US is being constrained by the new situation, undergoing economic reforms, and releasing large corporations from the state's authority, taking on multinationals. Japan becomes the world's second economic power as a result of economic agreements with the Americans, and Western European states are speeding up European integration. The USSR is becoming more demographically disadvantaged in relation to the subjugated territories and loses the war in Afghanistan against Muslims armed by the United States and the United Kingdom. China becoming three times more populous than the Soviet Union, feels the taste of independent power, debases the Russians and opens the borders of trade with the US. The new changes weaken the economy and the influence of the USSR, delaying the introduction of reforms, and losing allies and, in 1991, it is dismantled in 15 states.

By the year 2000, the South has strengthened in relation to the North, reaching 55% of the population of the Planet, which has the consequences of decolonising the south where new states are emerging, South-South migration begins and industry, agriculture and exploitation of own resources intensifies. Only in Africa, in 1960, 17 states became independent, and by the end of 1975, the Portuguese were the last Europeans to leave the continent (Pusderca, 2009, p. 58). By 2008, the South already owns 45% of uranium production, 50% of iron production, 70% of oil production, exploits almost half of wood production and more than half of fish caught. Also, on the agricultural level, it accounts for almost 60% of the cattle herd, half of the herd of sheep and over half of the goats and horses, and crops, plantations and food dominate with over half the sugar, soybeans, rice and citrus and all the coffee produced on Earth (World Atlas of Geography, 2008).

After 1990, the United States became the sole superpower of the World, starting a series of wars across the planet, transforming the European Union with NATO, into a semicolonium and weapon against Russia, and in Asia, the 1997 economic crisis triggered, the fall of Japan and the Asian dragons, who had become enemies of American industrialists, invading the US market with Asian products. The South becomes so populated that any North power that ventures into the South ends in economic decline and loses its influence in the World. It is the US situation in Vietnam and the USSR in Afghanistan, and now the US war in Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria has weakened US forces against the powers of East Asia, and France and the United Kingdom through the war with the US, turned them into vassals to Germany. Even the current war in Syria will have the same consequences for the nations involved in the north, and Russia will decay economically becoming a semicolonium of China, and the Near East will be divided between the powers of the South, such as Iran, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the new state will appear in the near future, Kurdistan.

With the reintegration of the former Hong Kong colonies into the Chinese borders, as well as the economic rapprochement between East Asian states, they lead to the avoidance of an economic catastrophe and industrial rebound. China becomes the third largest power of the world in 2017, after the US and the EU, with 500 million more than both Atlantic powers combined. If in the past 300 years, a Chinese was better than a North American, in 1978 the American was 22 times richer than the Chinese, and in 2017 6 times (Ferguson, 2014, p. 31).

The second economic crisis in the West, started in September 2008, is above all a consequence of the economic decline in the North. The Euro-American side, anticipating the economic collapse that followed, provoked the Asian crisis in 1997, and in 2008-2012, rescuing, sacrificed the weakest economic side of Eastern and Southern Europe. Thus: Greece, Spain, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, etc., became news subjects announcing the economic downturn and Western restriction.

After the crisis that affected Eastern Europe, the EU was economically overtaken by the US, and the states that refuse to become the subjects of Germany seek allies outside the continent. Turkey is moving towards the Orient, Russia is moving closer to China in the BRICs, Britain is leaving the EU and becoming a North American ally, and Eastern European states become US military allies, China's economic allies, and Russia is increasing its influence. Spain is starting its dismantling process, and northern European countries are launching more and more joint actions, sheltering from the crisis that is damaging the EU.

China has advanced westward by occupying Heartland economically, including Central Asia and Russia. Due to the demographic problems that Russia faces, it tends to become only a Chinese lance against the Western population. The Russian population was one third of the Chinese population in 1970, and in 2017 it is only 10%. China is Russia's economic and military one, which, along with Turkey and Iran, succeeds in winning the war in Syria and increasing its influence throughout the Middle East and Middle East, removing the American power that dominated the region after 27 years.

The third major economic crisis in the West will affect the core of the EU, followed by a fall in the US and Canada, announcing the global pre-eminence of East Asia, as well as declining the ultimate preference for India and other powers from the South. In the post-crisis crisis, Paul Dobrescu demonstrates that it is inevitable that other economic crises will come to weaken even more the world economic influence of developed countries. The West is stagnant, not just in economic terms, and those who have invested in the West since 2000 have had nothing to gain, and the world's economic center of gravity has shifted from North America to the East of Ural (Ferguson, 2014, pp. 11-12).

In 2017, the South already owns 62% of the world's population, similar to the value held by the North in the 1800s and 1900s. By the year 2030, the South will reach 66% of the population of the Planet, 71% by 2050, and 81% until 2100.

The European Union loses the chances of enlargement, Turkey and Russia are no longer attractive to integration by taking the east. Within the union, the eastern states are postponed full integration of the adoption of the Schengen dream and the euro. In the West, the UK opts out of the Union in favor of an ever closer economic alliance with the US and the Commonwealth members.

The migration of the South, to Europe, is just beginning. The relationship between Europe's population and neighboring regions is worrying. If in 1900 Europe had four times more population than Africa, the black continent has now reached and surpassed the population of Europeans by nearly 500 million, and by the year 2100 it would have surpassed the population of Europe seven times. Greatly, the US faces the same fears, already talking about leaving the federation by Texas and California, populated by more and more Latin Americans in the South. American dream and culture, international institutions such as the IMF and the World Bank, the US dollar, the top industry and the armed power are gradually being replaced by East Asia where new financial markets in Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou or Seoul are developing, skyscrapers are everywhere in big cities, km of motorway tends to overcome all the highways in North America and Europe soon, and the BRICS-based bank in Shanghai is the replacement of the IMF.

The problems of the decline of Europe and North America are direct consequences of the decline of their population relative to the total population of the World. If Europe as a whole, Russia, Canada and the US together hold less than 1,200 million people, China alone currently has nearly 1,400 million inhabitants. But the population of East Asia in relation to the total population of the Planet is also declining. If in 2000 East Asia owned 26% of the total population, in 2017 it still has only 21%, falling to 16% of the world's population in 2050 and only 11% in 2100. The main rival of the Chinese population is the population of South Asian Indians. It increased from 23% of the total population in 2000 to 25% in 2017, surpassing East Asia by 4%. By 2050, it will reach 27%, and in 2100 to 22%, which will mean double the population of East Asia.

At the 2008 level, 57% of the world's population lived on the 15.6% of the Planet area occupied by: Europe, East Asia and South Asia (Erdeli and Dumitrache, 2009, p. 53).

Overcrowding of the South and the demographic decline of the North will lead to the explosion of South-North immigration, which will change the structure of the North population. India will overtake China's population by 2022 and India's industrial and industrial output will overtake the Chinese by 2070. India will become the world's first power, and the Indian Ocean will rival commercial and economic primacy with the Pacific Ocean. Indonesia's economy will overcome Japan's economy and the Nigerian or Brazilian economy will overtake any European country. Southeast Asian tourism will overcome tourism in Europe, and Asian investments in Latin America will boost agricultural activities, which will outpost North American agricultural production. Southern mega-markets will become increasingly populated and large financial and economic markets that will replace the old centers in the North.

Until 2100, as China is now more populated, it is taking power from the EU and the US in the North, so India will take power from China, and Sub-Saharan Africa will take power from South Asia. Africa, which has held between 0 and 8% of the population of the planet, reached 13% in 2000, 20% to 15% in 2017 and 19% in 2030. In the year 2050, Africa will reach 27% of the total population, being equal to the percentage held by the South Asian Indians. Until 2100, the African population is expected to grow to nearly 40% of the population of the Planet, and only Nigeria alone will outnumber the population of Europe. According to estimates, in 2100, Africa alone would have twice as many people as the whole of the North.

Table 3. Estimated occupancy percentage of the total population of the World, in different regions, between 1950 and 2100

(Source: processed by data Worldometer, www.worldometers.info)

Year	1950	2000	2017	2030	2050	2100
Globe	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
North	50%	45%	38%	34%	29%	19%
South	50%	55%	62%	66%	71%	81%
Europe	20%	13%	10%	9%	7%	6%
East Asia	21%	26%	21%	20%	16%	11%
South Asia	20%	23%	25%	25%	27%	22%
Africa	8%	13%	15%	19%	27%	39%

CONCLUSIONS

Throughout history, there have been major developments in the movement of power on Earth. It includes territories that are at their peak in certain periods, followed by their decline and replacement with other new territories that take over power.

Calculating the number of people in different periods of history and making a direct relationship between them and the main territories that have written history as the place of the largest and most decisive events, find that the most populated territories had the hardest word to say. Thus, when the South had over 50% of the population of the Planet, it also held economic precedence and was the basis for progress, and the southern populations migrated by conquering and changing the ethnic and religious structure of the North. A diametrically opposed situation was when the North owned over 50% of the total population, becoming the world's first economy and turning South into the colony.

By the year 1500, the South had more than the North, so the languages and ethnicities of the North are mostly from the South, the religions of Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, or Islam that are found in the North, have appeared in the South and migrated north with populations. Democracy, cities, laws, trade, writing, Arabic figures, agriculture, and more are taken from the South.

After 1500, when the North becomes more populous, it gives the world all great empires such as the empire: Portuguese, Spanish, French, English, Dutch, Belgian, German, Austrian, Turkish, Russian, Japanese or Chinese, US, USSR, Canada and especially the European Union. Populations, culture and trends take the southern path, and South goods migrate to the North. Firearms, large-scale colonialism, slavery, industrial revolution, commercial, financial, resource-ridden, Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant or Confucian religions, world wars, communism, capitalism, American culture, Japanese robotics, multi-state and all other major changes since 1500, are developed in the North and imposed on the South.

After 1950, the South became more populous than the North, and in 2017 it already has 62% of the world's total population, and by 2050 it will have to exceed 70% of the total population, and by the year 2100 it will have over 80 % of the population, which means that the South will be four times more populous than the North.

Under the new circumstances, history is repeated, the South is capturing wealth from the North and sending instead an increasing number of immigrants who will economically weaken the North and will change their ethnic, religious and lifestyle structure.

Currently, the world's economic power is shifting to the North, Europe and North America, to East Asia, where nearly half of the North's population lives. China alone owns more than 200 million, more people than the US, Canada, the European Union, Russia and Japan together.

But the South Asian population is in an accelerated growth, with 24 million people adding each year. Currently, populations in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh already have 1,700 million inhabitants, with more than 100 million more than China, Japan and South Korea combined, and by the year 2100 they will be twice as densely populated. The new economic power of Chindia, which attracts resources from all over the world and has developed an industry capable of rivaling with American and European industries (Pusderca, 2009, p. 63), tends to change until the end of the 21st century in India.

Also, Africa was overtaken by the people of Europe four times at the level of 1900, in 1995 their populations are roughly equal, and now Africans are almost twice as numerous as the Europeans, and by 2100 they will be 7 times more.

The fact is that the North loses economic precedence in the South, as well as the power of influence and decision. The South will impose culture on the North but also religions, way of life and new economic milestones. The economic crises that will hit the North will intensify, hordes of immigrants will assault the developed northern states, and investors and multinationals will reduce their investment in the North in favor of the South. And the population of the North will migrate all the way to the north, so US populations will reach Canada, southern Europe will travel to Northern Europe, Central Asia will migrate to Kazakhstan and European Russia, and the Chinese will migrate to Siberia.

The takeover of power by the South is inevitable and the changes are more and more present. In Africa, there are already twice as many mobile phones as in the US (Burrows, 2016, p. 29), and the percentage of those who know to read

increased from 40% to 63% between 1986 and 2006 Algeria, from 33% to 64% in Nigeria, from 27% to 47% in Côte d'Ivoire and from 40% to 67% in Rwanda (Attali, 2016, p. 109). As in history, the more populous region takes over riches and sends emigrants to the less populated region. If the North dominated the World after the year 1500 until 1950, now the South ranks. The economic advance of some southern regions such as Mexico, southern Brazil, South Africa, the Indian seaside, the Persian Gulf coast or the major urban centers of Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa were inconceivable until 1950. But this is only the beginning a major change, with the largest contribution being the number of inhabitants.

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C O N T E N T S

**INTEGRATING ROMA IN MODERN EUROPEAN SOCIETY. NEW CHALLENGES,
NEW OPPORTUNITIES. AN OVERVIEW OF THEIR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
IN THE LIGHT OF AN ENLARGED EUROPE**

Silviu COSTACHIE
(Art#192101-313) 63

**THE POLISH SEJM ELECTIONS OF 2015: SPACE VARIABILITY
OF THE RESULTS BASED ON SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES SIMULATION**

Oskar SKOMSKI, Bartosz KORINTH, Tomasz WISKULSKI, Dominik WILK
(Art#192102-310) 78

**THE UNEMPLOYMENT. EVOLUTION AND STRUCTURE DEPENDING ON THE LEVEL
OF EDUCATION OF THE GRADUATED EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
IN THE PERIOD 2002-2011. CASE STUDY: DEPRESSION OF BEIUȘ**

Mădălina ROPA, Lucian ROPA
(Art#192103-311) 92

GLOBAL COMPETITION BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH

Luca DIACONESCU
(Art#192104-312) 103

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