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FROM THE "THIRD WORLD" TO EUROPE: PARTICULAR CHARACTERISTICS OF CONTEMPORARY MIGRATION FROM AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST

The article unfolds basic theoretical and practical aspects of contemporary migration to Europe since the early XXth century till today (case study – Africa and Middle East). An analysis of historic and current migration driving forces for Africans entering Europe is given by counties of origin and host countries respectively. The sociological and geographical image of contemporary African migrant to Europe is being shaped. The routes used by African and Middle Eastern migrants moving towards the EU, as well as the correlation between the counties of origin and host countries' historical background, are being outlined. Basic hub countries on the way from Africa and Middle East are being investigated. A number of expats' local initiatives aimed at providing migrants' interests and rights by countries of origin are being presented. Thus, the activities of both humanitarian initiatives of the expats, exiled political parties operating in the host countries and local political forces of the diasporas are being emphasized.

Keywords: migration, the EU, Africa, Middle East, expat communities, sociology.

Introduction. The processes of migration in contemporary world represent an integral part of social and economic trends of international relations. During the XXth and in the early XXIst centuries, the migration phenomenon in Europe has been dictated by different conditions which were in general shaped by political and economic prerequisites: thus, the migration within the continent has been caused by the outcomes of World War Two. In the middle of the XXth century, migration flows have been brought to life by the economic growth. In this respect, the need to accept workers from the outside grew dramatically, for the existing human resources turned out to be unable to embrace the demand of the époque. What is more, the number of migrants from Asia and Africa in these decades rose due to the family reunification of employees from the third countries which had come to West Europe to seek work opportunities. In the late XXth century, the dramatic rise of migrants from Central and East Europe has become the result of collapse of the USSR and Yugoslavia. Migrants from the newly independent states arrived in the West Europe either to seek asylum or to partake in the labor processes. Today's migration to and within the European Union is mostly characterized by the mixed migration – those are the flows of foreign citizens who integrate in the European labor market and the refugees moving to the EU states to escape political oppression in their home states and (or) to get asylum from military actions. Most of these migrants arrive to the EU from the countries of Africa and Middle East who come through the Mediterranean. In general, the following routes of arrival from these regions can be specified:

1) Western – from North African with destination in Spain, Italy and France.

2) Eastern – from Maghreb with destination in Turkey, Cyprus, Greece and Bulgaria.

3) Central – from Somalia, Ethiopia and Libya with destination in Malta and Italy.

Strategic Aims. The migration itself today is both the source of globalization and opportunities and, at the same time, the reason of ethnic reconstruction in Europe and a potential threat to the regional stability. To this end, understanding migration – its nature, causes, and ways of control and management is of great importance for the societies of Europe. Therefore, the following working paper aims to embrace the following issues:

1) Describe and learn the theoretical aspect of such phenomenon as migration and underline the most important stages thereof.

2) Analyze the reasons that force African citizens to live their homeland for good and take an overview of ways that exist to make the process of arrival in Europe happen, legally or illegally.

3) Provide a sociological and geographical image of migrants entering Europe.

4) Observe the local initiatives undertaken by the members of expat communities of migrants in Europe to promote interests of the vulnerable members of the community in the spheres of cultural and social adaptation, participation in political life of the host country etc.

Recent Publications and Overviews. The issues of contemporary migration trends have been subject to observation for numerous scholars worldwide. However, the presented research relies heavily on the works of the academics and journalists from the EU, Africa, South America, the USA and Ukraine. Thus, the issues of migrants' motivations to flee to Europe have been investigated by R. Black [1], G. Carbone [2], A. Chepelenko [3], C. Cummings [4], T. Hnatiuk [5] and K. Kuschminder [6] in recent years. Such element of existing in the microcosm of the host culture as expat communities is represented by the works of M. Aman [7] and J. Ho [8]. This element, however, needs further academic development in order to embrace the full image of issues and needs of migrants dwelling in contemporary Europe, as well as of the mechanisms existing for "self-help" provided by the communities to the fellow-countrymen.

Study Material Delivery. First of all, understanding migration starts with the disambiguation of the term and of its elements. One can summarize the phenomenon of migration as an umbrella term which implies the territorial displacement of human beings weather within the borders of the country of origin or beyond with the purpose to partake in educational and / or labor process. To classify migration based on its shapes, the following features may be used:

1) duration feature – which includes such types of migration as irreversible migration (i.e. emigration, immigration and matrimonial migration), long-term migration (i.e. labor and / or educational migration), short-term migration (i.e. that conducted for economic purposes) and season migration (by its reasons quite similar to the short-term migration;

2) motivation feature – which includes forced migration (caused by danger to life – ecological disasters, warfare, harassment by government agencies and therefore covers such groups as asylum seekers and refugees) and voluntary migration (the result of free will which may be led by economic, psychological and / or family reasons);

3) legal feature – which includes legal migration (documentary approved and confirmed by visa) and illegal migration (entering the country without the respective documents) [9, p. 21].

Today, international migration encompasses the largest diversity of ethnic and cultural groups than ever before in the history of mankind. Together with the USA, Europe now concentrates about 64,2% of immigrants from the third countries [3, p. 215]. The number of illegally unemployed foreigners is rising, so does the number of migrants seek-

ing family reunification. Also, both places of origin and destination keep undergoing changes in comparison with the previous époques.

When it comes to migration phenomenon, it is important to understand that today migrants have become an important factor of both European and African policies. Intensifying the process of international migration is a result and a driving force of globalization at the same time, and, when it comes do discovering migration issues in Europe, both sides get pretty clear-cut. Thus, according to the International Migration Report 2013, about 72, 4 million of migrants lived in Europe by the early 2010s [10]. Among them, approximately 33,5 million of immigrants came from the third countries. According to Olena Malynovska, this trend brings about the cultural and ethnic diversification within Europe and pushes the general image of the continent towards such "classic" immigrant states as Canada, Australia and the USA [11, p. 3]. Perhaps, the most important achievement of social developments of today which also creates strong ties between the countries of origin and destination countries is the rise of the social media phenomenon, which additionally creates a term of "transmigrant", which stands for developing cultural, social, economic, political, family and religious relations that, in its turn, contributes to the process of globalization [12, p. 140]. Thus learning migration processes and issues encompasses unfolding a wide spectrum of relations in the abovementioned spheres of life which contribute to shaping the global image of contemporary society.

Since the XIXth century which marked the process of mass emigration from Europe till today, the ways and forms of migration from and to Europe have been changing dramatically. Between 1914 and 1945, the speed of globalization narrowed due to the economic outcomes of the two world wars, rising inflation, economic depression and political instability [13, p. 214]. However, in the late 1940-s the situation has undergone a 180-degree term when the vibrant economics of West and North Europe started to demand numbers and numbers of new workers, including those arriving from European non-member states and beyond – from Lebanon, Turkey, Jordan, Maghreb and North Africa. In fact, these migrants were supposed to have been a temporary measure to develop industry and economy in general, the ended up being permanent migrants in the end of the day. Also, the arrival of family members of recruits to Europe promoted the process of migration from Africa and Turkey. Therefore, West Europe has become a recipient of human resources from the outside and a destination for foreigners. In its turn, due to the rise of immigrants recruited within the labor markets of the West, these countries managed to have restored and ameliorated the national productions. Since 1960s, labor migrants became an integral part of economic life in many developed countries of the EU, such as France, Austria, Germany, etc. Besides economic opportunities, the migration process in the middle of XXth century has been fed by the emergence of newly independent states in the territories of the former imperial colonies and warfare which led to the political changes therein (exemplified by Vietnam, Afghanistan and Ethiopia).

However, after the petroleum crisis broke in 1973, the governments of West European countries reduced the number of human resources from the outside and from the ex-colonies in the first place. This led to the sharpening of the European migration policy and procedures of return of the immigrants to their countries of origin. Nevertheless, already in 1980s need for family reunification and receiving education and qualification revived the migration processes to the former metropolis [14, p. 63].

The following wave of migration that rose in 1990s has led to another portion of changes in the process, namely – the emergence of new types of migration (on the one hand,

highly qualified personnel in search of opportunities and, on the other hand, of asylum seekers, refugees, illegal and transit migrants), role changes of certain formerly states of origin to the destination states (Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece, later also accompanied by the formerly socialist Slovakia, Hungary, Czech Republic and Poland), forced migration etc. During this decade, about 60 % of immigrants in Italy came from the third countries, 27 % of them originated from Africa – most of them from Morocco, Tunisia and Senegal. The similar situation could be observed in Spain, where the percentage of immigrants from the third countries comprised about 53 %, with, again, the majority coming from African continent, with the predominant part of Moroccans arriving [5, p. 108].

In the late XXth and in early XXIst centuries, the most principal reason of arrival to the EU is seeking asylum for the dwellers of Africa and Middle East, whose countries of origin (namely Libya, Syria, Iraq etc.) are suffering from warfare, political instability and economic crises. 1992 and 2001 were the top years of asylum seekers' flows to Europe, which also tends to reenergize in 2010s and in early 2020s. Escaping from persecutions on the different levels, from ideological to ethnic, numbers and numbers of people are still forced to leave their countries of origin and settle in Europe known for its respect to human rights and economic opportunities.

Another trend of contemporary migration is the feminization of the process worldwide. The general number of female immigrants, mainly from Africa and Middle East, to Europe today comprises about 51 % of all newcomers from the outside [5, p. 245]. First of all, it is strongly connected with the rise of the demand of females in specific spheres of national labor markets, family reunification and general emancipation. Feminization opens a wide range of opportunities in the sphere of international business, obtaining independent income and keeping families. If talking about the migration of females from third countries, the following types of migrants shall be distinguished:

1) those migrating from rural areas for purpose of family reunification;

2) those migrating from urban areas and having low labor qualification for personal reasons (i. e. poverty, divorce etc.);

3) those who have obtained secondary-level and/or higher education in search of job opportunities and not being able to get work in their countries of origin;

4) those escaping from insurgence and / or warfare in their countries of origin [5, p. 107].

However, it is also important to note that feminization of international migration as well has a dark side, which stands for menace of finding female migrants themselves in sexually isolated, low qualified spheres of economy. In these conditions, female migrants may become victims of labor market discrimination and fail to receive descent social guarantees.

The African continent today is the biggest supplier of migrants worldwide. In 1960s – 1980s, first major increase of Africans from Maghreb took place. In 2000s and 2010s, the number of Africans living outside their home countries rose from 21, 6 million of people to 32, 6 million respectively [2, p. 34]. Among North Africans, Europe is the most preferred destination, when for Central, East, West and Southern parts of the continent it is a runner-up to the internal African migration. The North has the higher level of extra-continental migration as well (besides Europe, other destinations like Gulf countries prevail among the migrants from this part of Africa). A large number of West African migrants (mainly from Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone) are oriented towards Europe, in particular towards Great Britain. The West is also more into emigration sentiments than the rest of the continent: in the late XXth century, this region is reported to have produced 415 000 migrants to

Europe by 1993 with the top four destination countries of France (128 000), the UK (82 000), Germany (74 000) and Italy (63 000) [1, p. 20].

The general image of African – European migration has been massively influenced by the metropolis – colonial status of the relations existing between the two continents for centuries. Back in times of colonial rule over Africa, the European superpowers and their respective colonies of the continent have created the inextricable connection that continues to influence contemporary relations between Africa and Europe till now. Thus, migrants from Sierra Leone, Gambia, Nigeria and Ghana are traditionally more adherent to enter the UK (with Italy and Germany as runner-ups); those arriving from Angola, Cape-Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe choose Portugal for the same reason. Migrants of Congo still prefer Belgium, although the UK and France also appeared among top destination states from this country. In the case of Senegal and Mali; France as a former metropolis is still attractive, and Italy and Spain became popular among Senegalese as well and even topped the metropolis country [2, p. 34]. Such priority changes through decades may be explained by the implementation of the restrictive policies by the metropolis countries.

It is, however, important to admit that along with benefits that European immigration may bring to Africa (such as remittances sent by immigrants back home, strengthening connections between the continents with the help of expat communities), it is also accompanied by negative trends for the countries of origin such as brain drain. For example, the academia leaving for good from Nigeria resulted in dramatic decline of quality and standards of higher education in the country. Together with this trend, students also tend to emigrate because of limiting numbers of places in the local universities. Same can be said about Ethiopia, where about three quarters of scholars and students who travelled abroad for educational purposes, internship etc. haven't returned home [1, p. 51], and so do Kenyans, in particular those studying and practicing medicine and biology. According to Richard Black, about 30000 Kenyans study abroad – in Europe, Asia and North America, having faced serious difficulties in getting into the academia back home [1, p. 58].

The trend of brain drain is not that new for Africa though. For instance, Uganda was the major victim of this phenomenon back in 1970s and 1980s when dozens of medical workers, engineers and scholars were forced to leave their home country to seek opportunities overseas, mainly to the Anglo-Saxon countries. Today, about 30 % of professionals per year in the sphere of medicine emigrate for the same reason from Uganda [15, p. 4]. In 1980s, Uganda has been losing about 75000 high-skilled professionals per year [1, p. 67].

To reach Europe and continue their path within new opportunities, migrants from Africa use different routes and choose different destination countries. The Eastern Mediterranean Route whose popularity gained momentum in 2008 passes through Turkey, Cyprus or Bulgaria with the destination in Greece, namely Samos, Chios and Lesbos and is mostly popular among Syrians, Somalians and Congolese. The Greek – Turkish path goes through Evros River and proved to be a costly affair. According to the information which came both from authorities and migrants themselves, the crossing from Turkey to Greece costed from 1000 to 3000 euro per person depending on the level of safety of the vehicles used to transport Africans and Middle Easterns through the route [6, p. 46]. In 2015, this was the very path to let dozens of Lebanese and Jordanians into South Europe being less dangerous that other ways via Mediterranean. Among all those arriving through this route, the majority comes from Middle East, namely from Syria, who rather proceed through Balkans, whereas only a part of migrants asks for asylum in Greece [4, p. 19].

Western Balkan Route proceeds from Turkey to Bulgaria and Greece and then forwards via former Yugoslavian states to Hungary and Austria, way to the North and is used mainly by the migrants from Middle East and East Africa. When the floods of migrants reached for the EU in 2015, thousands of people from Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa passed through the territories of Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia and North Macedonia, mainly with the aim to further reach Germany. In Hungary, the majority of asylum seekers coming through Montenegro and Serbia arrived from Eritrea and Somalia. That year, it was the Western Balkan Route that gained maximum media attention worldwide in the course of migration crisis. Among other routes, this particular one is the most sensitive to illegal activities such as drug trafficking and smuggling, inter alia the biggest issue is human trafficking from Africa [16, p. 295].

The Central Mediterranean Route (also known as Northern or Western) is the most popular channel for migration to Europe from East and Horn of Africa via Libya as a transit country and Mediterranean with destination to Italy. However, before arriving in Libya, the immigrants also use a number of so-called semi-transit countries. In the case of migrants from Ethiopia and Somaliland, they use the territory of Sudan to move further. Already in Sudan, three alternative routes to Libya are available: those of Darfur, Northern Sudan and Chad. The capital of Sudan remains an important hub for migrants where they can stay for a year or two in order to get money to continue their journey to Europe and to provide themselves for the start. Later on, the route goes on through Sahara via Kurfa in Libya. After arriving in Libya, migrants take boats to cross the sea and arrive in Italy or Malta. However, out of these two countries it is Italy that is more preferred by the migrants with its geographical proximity to further destinations such as Germany or France.

Besides Libya, which sank into the exhaustive civil war in the mid-2010s, it is Egypt that has lately become a popular transit country within the Central Mediterranean Route. Thus, in 2016 a great amount of migrants from Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Ethiopia chose this country as a transit hub before departing to Europe, along with Nigeriens who have been staying in Libya shortly before the fall of Gaddafi. Also, huge numbers of detentions on the route have been fixed, mainly from Nigeria, Guinea and Eritrea [17, p. 26]. In general, the route remains extremely popular, in particular, among the migrants from West Africa. Thus, 82, 897 people used this channel to leave the continent and move to Europe [17, p. 26].

Also, regardless of sharp situation which erupted with a Tuareg insurgency in 2012 and followed by international intervention the following year and potential threat for neighboring Burkina Faso and Nigeria, Mali nevertheless remained another hub for migrants to Europe and hosted 384 000 refugees and displaced persons in 2017 [18, p. 107]. Mali has gained the title of a transit hub from West Africa to Europe (namely to Italy) back in 1990s which, although, did face serious competition with Libya. It is, though, pretty clear-cut that Mali is definitely also contributing to the number of states of origin, again, due to the security situation which basically remains as turbulent as it was back in 2012 (see the charts of routes). Besides the representatives of local population itself, the migration flows from Mali as well include citizens of Nigeria, Senegal, Guinea, Gambia and Ivory Coast. Thus, Senegalese prevailed in this category especially between 2015 and 2017.

Three destination countries – Portugal, Spain and Italy – have been mostly flooded with migrants as of 2017. During 2017 and 2018, Italy and Spain have been contending for a title of the most popular destination for African immi-

grants. In sum, Italy and Spain host the biggest portion of African migrants in South Europe. In both countries, the number of male immigrants outweighs that of females (175/100 in Spain and 148/100 in Italy). In Portugal, the smallest portion of Africans is hosted, but, on the other hand, this state has the highest proportion of foreigners on its territory (27 %). Also, here the gender balance is almost harmonized with the ratio of males and females in 108/100 respectively [14, p. 19].

In North Europe, the popularity of destination countries such as the UK, Germany, Belgium and Netherlands is strongly connected with the previously mentioned issues of demand of labor forces in the middle of the XXth century and industrial development, as well as with the colonial relations between the former metropolis and the colonies. Even now, Belgium remains the attractive destination for many Africans for reasons of historical past and for sharing common linguistic culture: when arriving to these countries, French speaking Africans prefer to settle in Brussels and Walloina region. In particular, since 1958 when the World exhibition took place in Brussels, Belgium started to shape as an attractive destination for Congolese (although to some extent it was regarded like that in the early XXth century by the elites of Congo). During the XXth century, numbers and numbers of students from DR Congo stayed in Belgium permanently seeking stability and further job opportunities. 1990s have become a crucial point for Congolese to rush into Belgium from the collapsing state. Today, Belgium hosts about 1 million of Congolese (although the state of origin argues this figure to be underreported and gives the number of 7 million of people) [19, p. 5]. Beside Congolese, Rwandans and Moroccans are among top African nations hosted by this state. Generally, Africans arriving to Belgium have gender balance, as figures of 1990s showed, with the strict feminization of the process in 2000s and in early 2010s [14, p. 70].

If taking Germany, the history of African immigrants therein is dating back to the XIVth century and is connected with the arrival of Africans to serve in households. During centuries, African immigration to Germany was inspired mainly by the expansion of the German power to East Africa, Tanzania, Namibia and Togo. However, it was again the industrial development of the middle of the XXth century that revived African migration to Germany, and reached its height in the late 1970s and early 1980s, being caused by the political and economic stagnation of the countries of origin [20, p. 4]. In 2000s, African – German migration was in the groove, bringing thousands of newcomers from the continent, among which – those from Nigeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Cameroon, Morocco, South Africa and Kenya. Today, a large number of Syrian refugees also create a general image of the African community in Germany.

In Netherlands, Egyptians and Moroccans represent the essential part of African immigrants. The biggest part of Egyptians here are Copts and therefore were primarily motivated to arrive in Europe due to religious oppression back home in 1960s. Financial and academic opportunities also served as motivation for the Egyptians to emigrate elsewhere. In 1980s, another massive portion of Egyptians arrived in Netherlands to work in cooking business like their predecessors in previous decades [8, p. 143]. However, the majority of Egyptians here are also illegal immigrants, and restricting migration policies by the government in 1990s lowered the popularity of Netherlands among the newcomers from Egypt. Among Moroccans, the biggest part of those arrived back in 1960s and in 1970s were labor migrants, mostly low-educated and low-skilled. Their arrival furtherly contributed to the process of family reunification. As most of Egyptians, the Moroccans normally arrived illegally, with the help of friends and / or family members. Today, Netherlands host about 160000 Moroccans (including descendants of immigrants of previous waves). Beside Moroccans, the ethnic groups of South Africans, Congolese, Algerians and Cameroonians contribute to the migrant diversity in Netherlands. As in the case of Belgium, immigration from Africa to Netherlands felt the impact of feminization of the process.

During early XXIst century, the biggest immigration increment has been observed in Germany, France, Italy, Netherlands, Croatia, Denmark and the UK. Thus, in the first years of the century Italy hosted the majority of African immigrants from Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal, while France and the UK followed Portugal in the receipt of citizens from Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde. Lastly, Germany became the top host state for DRC and Nigeria. At the same time, the internal attitude towards immigration within the UK, France, Denmark, Croatia and Netherlands is likely to admit the overly high level of immigration. Viktor Yevdokymov and Kateryna Shymanska argue that such increment together with the attitude towards thereof might arise from the readiness of the European states to accept foreigners on multiple levels – social, economic, ecological, infrastructural etc. Also, it is the public attitude towards the immigrants' matters in this respect, so does the density of their expansion in the country, risks of xenophobia explosions and potential threats of extremism [21, p. 57].

Generalizing the reception of immigrants from Africa to Europe on the political level, it is important to outline some specific features that mark the procedure of legal entering the destination country and further settlement therein (case study – South Europe). Thus, Portugal is more adherent to accept migrants from its former colonies when it comes to acquiring nationality of the destination state. Also Portugal has signed a number of treaties with the Portuguese-speaking states of Africa concerning regulation of illegal migration processes [14, p. 20].

If talking about the most principal reason that forces the citizens from the third countries to leave their homeland and migrate, the most influential factor is warfare, either within the framework of "frozen" or renewed internal conflicts. The latter brings a series of crises, including economic downfall, descending of the GDP, extensive agrarian sector, low salaries and high unemployment, as well as poverty and low life standards [22, p. 91]. Due to military conflicts, over 79% of immigrants worldwide originated from Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, DRC, CAR, Eritrea and Burundi [23, p. 33]. Also, 1,3 million of citizens from Sierra Leone alone have been displaced as a result of long nerve-racking civil war [1, p. 38], and so were thousands of Rwandans escaping from genocide of 1990s. Last but not least, the collapse of Somalia provoked the exodus of citizens to Europe and North America.

The events of "Arab Spring" and war in Syria brought about another huge flow of migrants – refugees to Europe. During 2012 and 3013, the formerly reduced number of applications for asylum rose to the figure of 335 895 and 434 160 respectively, which was the maximal quantity as for the early XXIst century [11, p. 8]. The 50,5 thousands of applications came from Syria, the majority of which have been allowed either through granting refugee status or additional forms of assistance, or through the approval of stay on humanitarian purposes. The biggest number of asylum seekers during this time has been accepted by Germany, France and Sweden.

Speaking about the motivation of African migrants to enter Europe, job opportunities are mostly as crucial as military actions back home. In the case of Nigeria, emigration is strongly connected with the labor itself being underrated in comparison with the land's and capital's value. The surveys held among Africans show that the migrants (mostly youth) are motivated to leave for good to escape poverty and unemployment and get working opportunities. Also, it

is the social group possessing property and resources to provide themselves (as shown by Senegal and Congo) which is more likely to live the continent [2, p. 40]. Say, regardless of a much bigger economic potential of Nigeria above its West African neighbors, its government fails to deliver basic goods for the people of its own country, or to focus on most potentially profitable spheres of economy. The country did possess the financial resources to invest in and to develop agrarian sector back in 1970s, but the government preferred to concentrate on the industrial sector instead, but failed to have completed the difficult task of putting the Nigerian economy on the industrial rails. This issue therefore created all the prerequisites for internal migration in Nigeria first, and for the European migration furtherly. In the urban areas which to some extent absorbed migrants from the rural parts of the country, the culture of emigration abroad has been cultivating for decades. Promises for better life and jobs flourishing within the framework of the urban culture promoted emigration from Nigeria (mostly from its southern part) to Europe which provides good economy and therefore plenty of opportunities for business [24, p. 18]. To this end, underestimation of labor and lack of adequate economic management combined with emigration aspirations in the urban area contribute to shaping all necessary conditions for flows of job seekers to Europe.

Like in Nigeria, in Mali the reason to migrate has also been shaped during the middle of the XXth century by the economic downfall, growing population and shortage of supplies, basically food. Besides typical for Africa rural-to-urban transitions, Malians largely moved abroad, to France in the first place. In 2000s, the country faced a serious fiscal crisis which badly affected working places and social stability in general. Together with the closure of opportunities to migrate within the region with the civil war in Ivory Coast, the Malians rushed to Europe.

Obviously, that general idea of ameliorating personal economic and living standards also goes hand in hand with the governmental inability to provide its own citizens with basic economic goods, i.e. electricity and infrastructure, social guarantees etc. In this respect, the vast majority of potential migrants to Europe (case study – Nigeria) have obtained post-secondary education, are younger than 35 and normally live in urban areas [25, p. 2]. According to Afrobarometer data, the division of contemplators may be shown in dependence of the education level of potential emigrants. Thus, educated youth of Africa is way more into migration, and is driven normally by career opportunities. This trend has been relevant since 1980s, when the vast majority of migrants from Africa to Europe were students (case study – Nigeria and Congo to the UK and Belgium, respectively) [26, p.182]. This group, however, is not always able to succeed in this via official immigrant channels, therefore being forced to use alternative routes of getting access to Europe with the help of calling for asylum of even moving illegally [27, p. 247]. Today, about 18 % of Nigerians live in Europe, who normally arrive to the continent via Libya with further destination in Italy. Since 2018,

however, the numbers of those arriving from Nigeria to Italy has fallen dramatically (the drop took place from 37551 as of 2016 to 1300 persons in 2018) [24, p. 17]. But his trend has nothing to do with the drop of those motivated to change their living conditions for better; it is rather dictated by the implementation of restrictive policy in Italy – the "portal to Europe" for Nigeria.

Although no small amount of immigrants from Africa are young students and scholars with qualification required to succeed in their craft abroad, thousands of migrants are mostly involved in specific spheres of labor in the lowest levels of market. Typically, this rises from the low level of education of the immigrants and / or from low skills in their occupation. If taking immigrants from Portugal, one can see a descent number of Africans in the non- or low-qualified job segments. For example, over 90 % of female immigrants from Cape Verde in Portugal are occupied in the sphere of service which doesn't require high qualification, and also in elementary occupations, when the majority of males are engaged in construction activities. What is more, the representatives of both sexes show mainly low level of education. In Italy, about 72,6 % of female Cape Verdeans are officially employed, again in the specific low-qualified spheres of work – domestic service, hotel and restaurant services etc. In Sicily, Africans are largely presented in the agricultural sector – Tunisians are quite popular in fishing and gardening [14, p. 25].

If talking about general level of education of immigrants from Africa in South Europe, the Maghrebi show the poorest standards in this respect: low levels show up among Moroccans in Spain and among Tunisians living in Italy. As a result of low education and likewise low qualification standards, Maghrebi often turn to be poorly integrated into the European labor market. With the doors to high salaries and high qualified job being closed, immigrants from this particular part of Africa mostly find themselves working in low paid, non-prestigious and even dangerous spheres of working. For males, elementary occupations, machine operations and crafts are most spread types of occupation given their poor school and professional portfolio. For females, everything regularly narrows down to service work or sales works for the same reason.

Beside warfare and business, third portion of moving forces for immigrants from Africa and Middle East was family reunification. Back in XXth century, this was the very reason to promote female migration flows, however, things changed in time, so did the gender image of African and Middle Eastern migrants. If the regular immigrant from the continent in the early XXth was considered as single and male, later on the rise of access to education of women together with the general female emancipation. Speaking about the Maghreb countries, the situation varies with dependence of a status of a woman in society (which, according to the data available, is better in Morocco and Tunisia, whose top destination countries are Spain and Italy). The general trend of female migration by African regions and in Maghreb is shown in the following tables and charts:

**Female Migration from Africa Worldwide (Percentage from 1990 to 2013)**

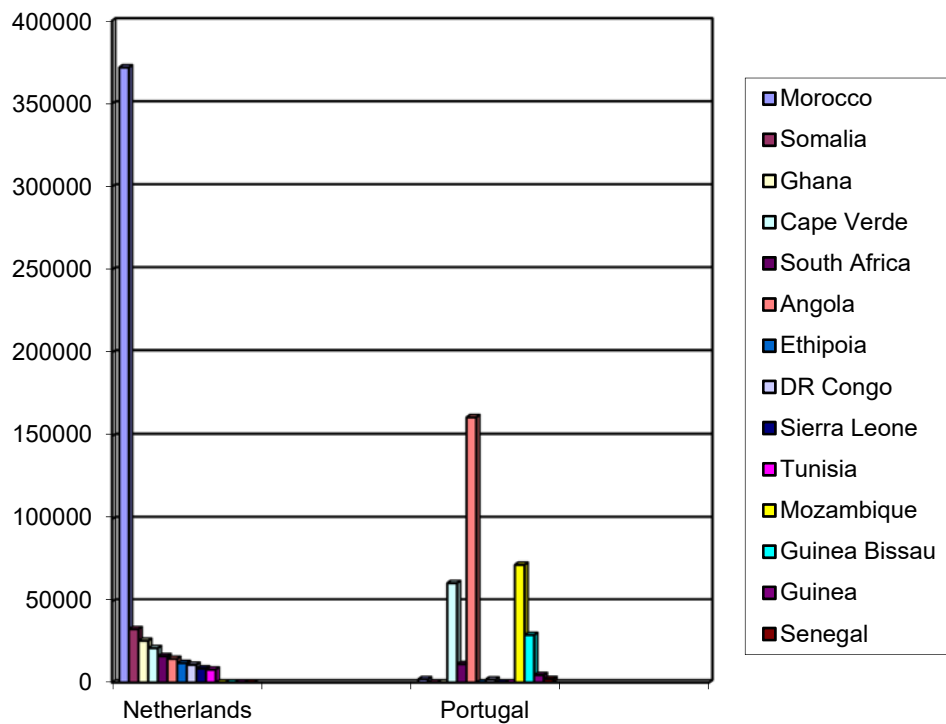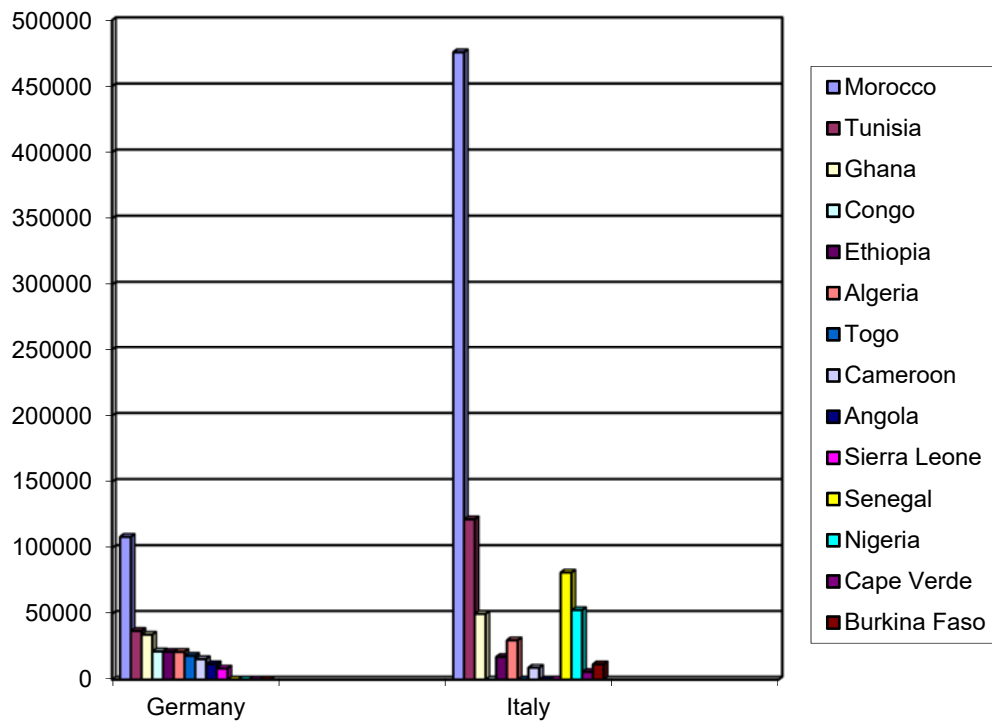| Region	1990	2000	2010	2013
Sub-Saharan Africa	47	47,6	46,6	46,3
Eastern Africa	48,5	49	48,6	47,8
Middle Africa	49	48,8	47,1	46,7
Northern Africa	46,7	44,6	42,5	41,5
Southern Africa	38,7	40,9	42	42,3
Western Africa	46,3	47,4	46,7	46,7

Source: 28, p. 4.
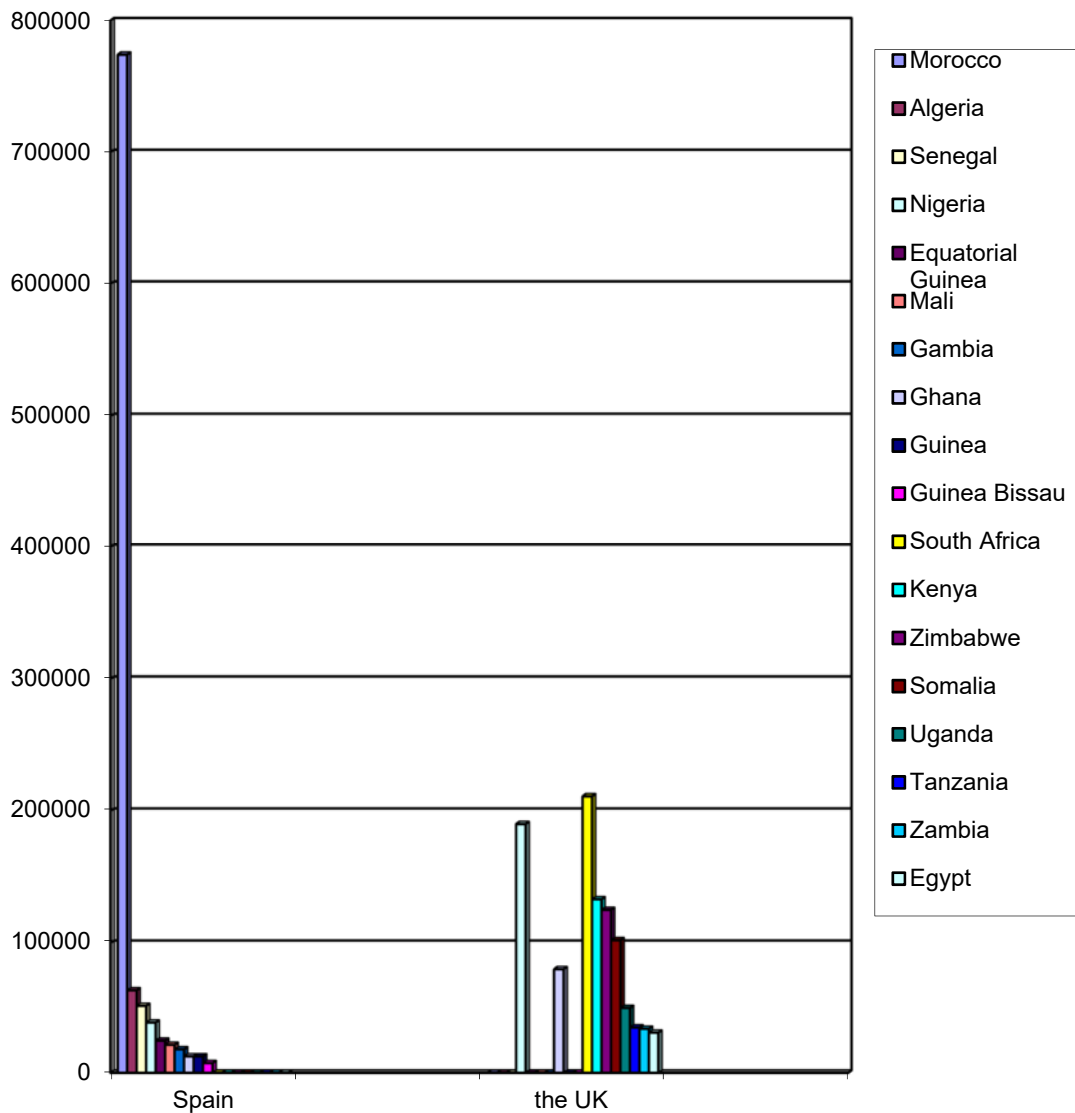
Female Emigration from Maghreb
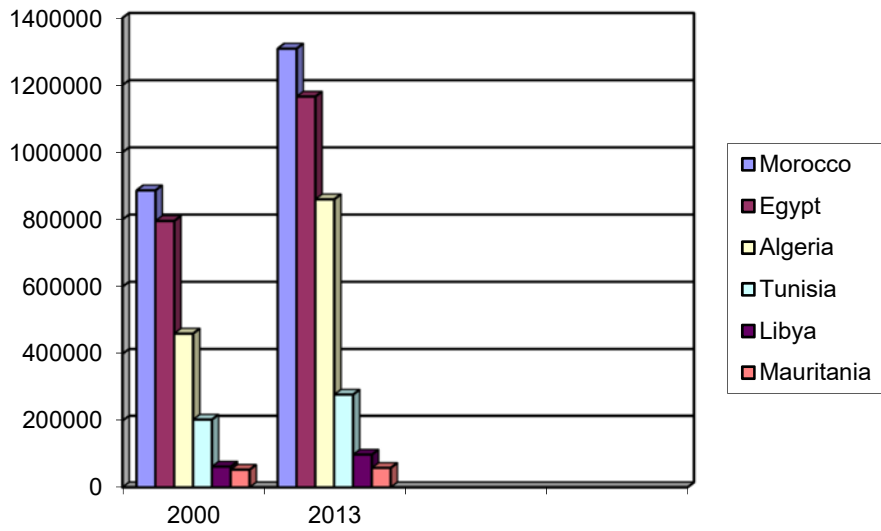
Source: 29, p. 5.

Top Communities of Africans in the EU
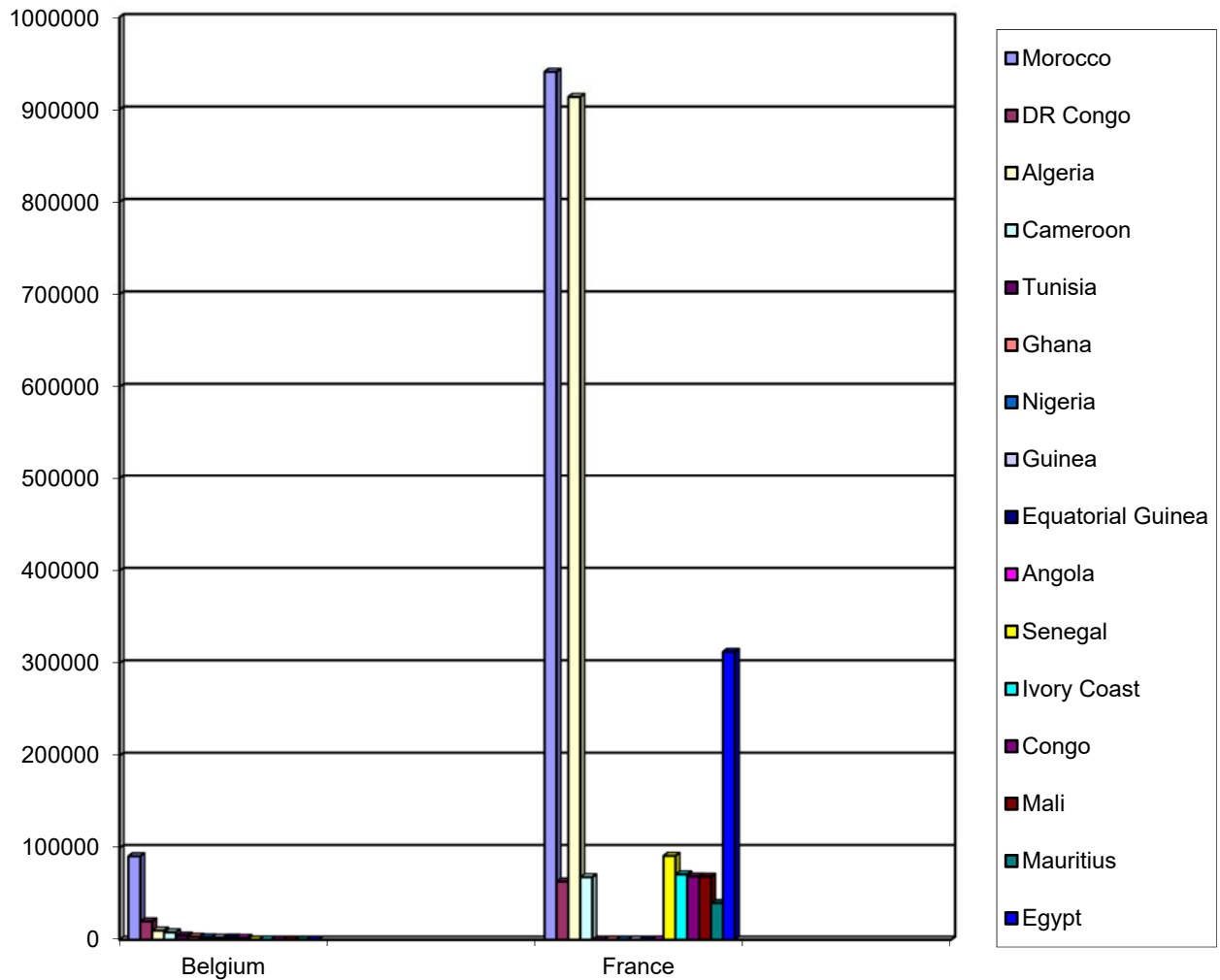
Source: 7, p. 53, 67, 69, 76, 90, 98, 104.

Speaking about the basic forms of legal activity of the expat communities of immigrants from Africa and Middle East, one can distinguish the following ways of expressing and protecting their interests:

1) organizing protests and demonstrations;

2) holding the community-based political activities;

3) lobbying ethnic issues in policy of the destination countries, inter alia on the parliamentary level (exemplified by France, the UK and Germany).

These activities result in simplification the process of adaptation and naturalization of immigrants in destination states, contribute to giving vote on local elections thereto and creating advisory bodies which give support to the immigrants on numerous issues, including religious and political [12, p. 147]. With the rise of means of electronic communications, the process of organizing activities aimed at lobbying and advocacy simplified and intensified at the same time. Today, about 80 sites, social networks and discussion platforms operate to support, inform and promote the interests of immigrants in the EU and deliver information about the situation in the countries of origin. Also, the activity of expat communities highly contributes to development in the countries of origin on multiple levels, i.e. economic, educational, communication and image etc. Thus, the following different groups of expat alliances can be outlined based on their sphere of interest in the major destination countries of Europe:

Expat Communities' Spheres of Interest in Host Countries
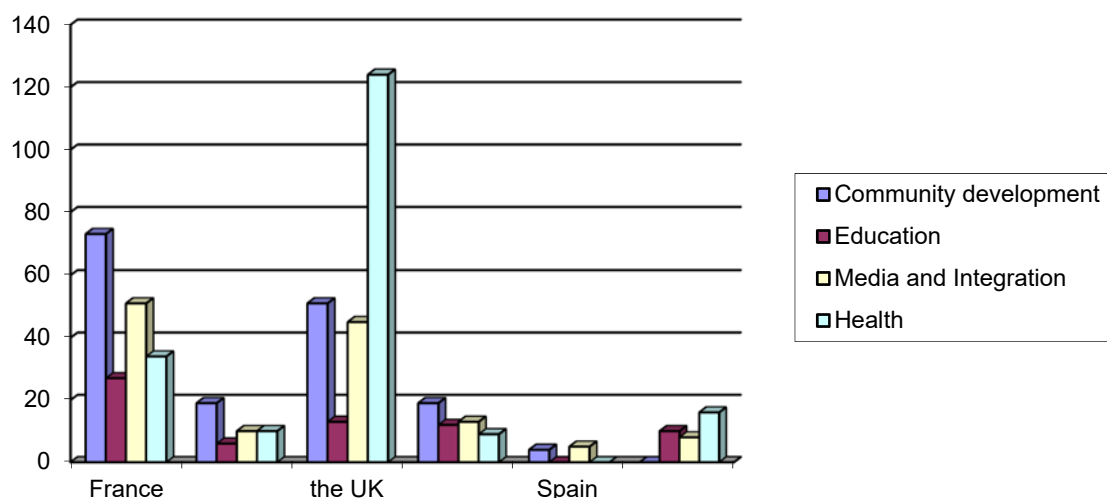
Source: 7, p.10, 18, 26, 31.

In the sphere of community development and rural issues, it is France that possesses the leading role among the countries of the EU when it comes to the diversity and activism of the expats: here, communities from Senegal, Nigeria, Mali, Ghana, Maghreb, Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde and DRC act to integrate numerous programs of development aimed at promoting economic and social life of the countries of origin via strategies being funded by the government of France itself [7, p. 10].

In a number of states of the EU, namely in France, Germany, the UK, Belgium and Netherlands, the level of political conscience of Muslim community keeps augmenting. The Muslims of Europe tend to fight their corners through partaking in different ethnic and Muslim associations and social groups, as well as via entering present and operating European political parties. Thus, some parties shaped by the Muslim community even succeed in gaining substantial public support during the local elections. For example, one can mention Spanish Coalicion por Melilla which managed to have gained 8 out of 25 seats in Melilla during the election process of 2019, therefore being eligible to shape a coalition government. Another party, Movement for Dignity and Citizenship, also partook in the race in Ceuta [30]. In general, both Ceuta and Melilla are the cities representative from the viewpoint of holding interests of the Muslim community, as far as both cities share land borders with Morocco [31, p. 11]. First representative of the Muslim community was registered to take part in the election race in Melilla back in 1993. In Granada, a Maghreb – Spanish public activist and journalist founded The Partido Renacimeinto y Unión España (The Party of Revival and Union) in 2009 and proclaimed the aim of supporting interests of the Muslim minority in the country. This party as well took part in the election race municipal elections the following year [32].

In the Netherlands, the political party Denk founded by the Turkish immigrants in 2014 also encompasses the members of Maghreb stock and stands on fundamentalist positions when it comes to integration and counteracting with European culture [33, p. 2]. In France, The Equality and Justice Party and Union of Muslim Democrats are the voice of the Islamic community. The latter, founded in 2012, does have ideological divergences from the regular political platforms of the Muslim parties: this, UMD spoke against the rise of Muslim extremism and sounded adherent to the principles of secularity of France [34].

It also makes sense to outline the impact of the exiled and undesired political parties who left their home countries after being heavily oppressed by the government. During the first years of the XXIst century a monarchic union consisting of representatives of Rwanda Pour Tous, Rwanda Est Notre Avenir and Imboni was created in Belgium, and later on, Rwandan Permanent Concentration of the Democratic Opposition of Rwanda was founded by the opposition in 2000s, again, in Belgium [35, p. 191]. All these unions that existed in exile stand for the "voice of reason" for the expat communities of Rwandans in Europe and for 'voice of freedom" for Rwanda itself, although being more popular among expat communities, but not having received feedback from the people of country of origin.

Besides political parties consisting of Muslims from Middle East and Maghreb which contribute to representing the interests of immigrants in Europe, the expat communities' liaisons with the country of origin is also an important aspect of European life of the immigrants. As an example, one can name the Ministry of Malians Abroad which arose in Mali in 2004. Having huge amount of remittances as a contribution to the domestic economy, Mali created a separate organ that stands for cooperation with the expats. In its turn, the Ministry provides and motivates the financial and cultural relations between the country of origin and destination countries, offering a number of services for the expats in return (i.e. migration projects support etc.) [24, p. 25]. Such liaison is extremely essential for the countries of origin, as soon as remittances represent a serious financial power and support of the home countries which suffer from economic decline. Beside Mali, it is Ghana who gets benefits with the help of expat communities. Having a big diaspora in the Netherlands, Ghana receives substantial economic help through remittances and contributes to the general needs of the community [1, p. 34].

In addition, African expat communities create public organizations to promote their interests in the destination countries and protect the rights of representatives of the community. In this, the expats of Sierra Leone prove to be one of the most organized and motivated. For instance, in

Great Britain the organization called Sierra Leonean Women's Forum was created to provide assistance, information for the Sierra Leonean female population of Great Britain, and also raise funds for necessary products to be sent to the country [1, p. 41].

Last but not least, those are the expats who bridge the societies of countries of origin and destination countries, in particular in the sphere of education. Within the trends of globalization, diaspora represents a specific driver which crates the possibility to transmit the knowledge, opportunities and heritage between kin and host societies. The more the expat community is integrated into the society of the destination country, the more it can do to protect and promote the interests of Africans in Europe. Therefore, the success of individual integration of immigrants is strongly connected with the operational activities of the diaspora in the spheres of politics, economics, culture and in social life in general. Finally, it is globalization and access to media that contributes to adaptation and general receipt of the immigrants in Europe. With the help of diaspora's effort combined with the access to media at large, it is way more convenient to promote objective image of Africa in Europe, and, therefore, ameliorate the general aspirations of the host societies towards immigrants and, in prospective, create more space for general tolerance among reluctant citizens of Europe [7, p. 26]. In this sphere, a number of communities operate in the most popular destination countries such as the UK, France, Belgium and Spain, with some portion thereof in Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Conclusion. International migration has become a major issue in the economic sphere of international relations in the first place due to globalization and technological modernization. With the emergence of media opportunities and information diffusion worldwide, the citizens of developing countries obtained the possibility to learn more about the living conditions and jobs available in the modern days' superpowers. Therefore, the desire to change their lives for better has stimulated the processes of migration to the EU from the third countries, mostly from Africa and Middle East. Also, being strongly tied on the mental level with their former metropolis, the migrants from Africa get an exact image of what and where exactly they want to reach. Combined with the reasons beyond the control of the citizens of the third countries such as warfare, political oppression, climatic disasters etc., the process of migration has become even more complex and requiring deep analysis. Thus, understanding contemporary migration from Africa and Middle East encompasses a large volume of elements that create an image of a European immigrant, i.e. takes into account the level of education and labor potential, age, gender, religious beliefs, region of origin to provide a comprehensive view on migratory processes in Europe. The institute of immigrants' communities aimed at adapting the newcomers to the microcosm of destination states and at promoting their rights and potential as well plays an important role in shaping perception of the "aliens" in the host societies and, prospectively, reduce the pressure of suspicion within the latter.

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ИЗ "СТРАН ТРЕТЬЕГО МИРА" В ЕВРОПУ: СПЕЦИФИКА СОВРЕМЕННОЙ МИГРАЦИИ ИЗ АФРИКИ И БЛИЖНЕГО ВОСТОКА

Раскрыты основные теоретические и практические аспекты современной миграции в Европу с начала XX века до нынешнего времени на примере стран Африки и Ближнего Востока. Представлен анализ исторических и современных сил, побуждающих жителей Африканского континента к миграции в Европу, основанный на информации о странах происхождения мигрантов и странах, в которых они проживают. Сформирован общий социологический и географический образ мигранта из Африки в Европу. Определены пути, которые используют жители Африки и Ближнего Востока для миграции в Европу, а также отмечена взаимосвязь между исторической общностью стран происхождения и стран проживания. Рассмотрены основные транзитные страны на пути из Африки и с Ближнего Востока. Представлен ряд местных инициатив представителей диаспоры, направленных на представление интересов и прав мигрантов, инициативы сформированы по принципу стран происхождения. Так, особое внимание уделено как гуманитарным инициативам представителей диаспор, так и деятельности политических сил в изгнании в странах проживания и местным политическим объединениям представителей диаспор.

Ключевые слова: миграция, ЕС, Африка, Ближний Восток, диаспора, социология.

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Розкрито основні теоретичні та практичні аспекти сучасної міграції до Європи від початку XX ст. до сьогодення на прикладі країн Африки та Близького Сходу. Подано аналіз історичних і сучасних рушійних сил, що спонукають жителів Африканського континенту мігрувати до Європи, заснований на інформації про країни походження мігрантів і країн, у яких вони проживають. Сформовано загальний соціологічний і географічний образ мігранта з Африки до Європи. Визначено шляхи, якими користуються мешканці Африканського континенту для міграції до Європи, а також виявлено взаємозв'язок між історичною взаємопов'язаністю країн походження та країн проживання. Розглянуто основні транзитні країни на шляху з Африки та Близького Сходу. Представлено низку місцевих ініціатив представників діаспори, спрямованих на представлення інтересів та прав мігрантів, та сформовано їх за принципом країн походження. Зокрема, особливу увагу приділено як гуманітарним ініціативам представників діаспор, так і діяльності політичних сил в екзилі в країнах проживання та місцевим політичним об'єднанням представників діаспор.

Ключові слова: міграція, ЄС, Африка, Близький Схід, діаспора, соціологія.

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THE EU'S BLACK SEA POLICY PRIORITIES FOR THE UPCOMING DECADE

The European Union's interest in the Black Sea region, which has never been at the forefront of the EU's foreign policy agenda, is dynamic demonstrated by the policy of a new, more powerful Union after Lisbon. Despite the urgency of the Black Sea's hard security issues stipulated by militarization of the region by Russia, the European Union is focusing on connectivity, sustainable development, the blue economy and energy. It is this agenda that will determine the EU's policy in the region for the next decade. Understanding these priorities is important for shaping Ukraine's foreign policy, security, energy and environmental agendas.

Keywords: European Union, Black Sea region, Russia, agenda for Ukraine.

Problem statement. The significance of the Black Sea region in the EU's foreign policy is stipulated by the accession to the Union in 2007 of the two Black Sea states – Romania and Bulgaria. This implied gaining the access by the EU to the region and the need emerged to develop its own position and political priorities in the direction of the Black Sea region. Factors of the second row for the shaping and maintenance of the foreign policy agenda for the region are the following: the policies of the EU's neighbors and traditional rivals in the Black Sea (Russia and Turkey); the desire of other littoral states (Ukraine and Georgia) to join the Union. A number of important sea trade ports, the largest of which is located in the EU Member State (Constanta, Romania); the inflow of the Danube, the most important waterway in Central and Eastern European countries, into the Black Sea; the construction of energy pipelines and cables via the Black Sea region.

The European Union perceives the region as a space for cooperation to respond to the challenges of sustainable development and a norm-based international order. The Global Strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy 2016 [1] calls for the development of such a cooperative regional order. As one of the most powerful global leaders, trade and investment centers, the Union exploits regional cooperation platforms both to strengthen the social stability of the regions themselves and to build their own capacity. The Black Sea format of regional cooperation complements other formats, such as the Northern Dimension, cooperation around the Adriatic, Ionian, Baltic, Mediterranean Seas and Atlantic Ocean.

These and other issues shape the priorities of the EU policy towards the region. Understanding the perception of the region by the EU, the priorities of its policy gives an opportunity for the littoral states (including Ukraine) to con-