



Pedagogická  
fakulta  
Faculty  
of Education

Jihočeská univerzita  
v Českých Budějovicích  
University of South Bohemia  
in České Budějovice

Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích  
Joint Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations

Master Thesis

The Main Obstacles in the Integration  
Process of the Third-Country Nationals in the  
Czech Republic – Case Study: České  
Budějovice, South Bohemian Region

Vypracovala: Bc. Markéta Benešová  
Vedoucí práce: Salim Murad, PhDr. Ph.D.

České Budějovice 2013

## **Prohlášení**

Prohlašuji, že jsem svoji diplomovou práci vypracoval(a) samostatně pouze s použitím pramenů a literatury uvedených v seznamu citované literatury.

Prohlašuji, že v souladu s § 47b zákona č. 111/1998 Sb. v platném znění souhlasím se zveřejněním své bakalářské práce, a to v nezkrácené podobě, fakultou elektronickou cestou ve veřejně přístupné části databáze STAG provozované Jihočeskou univerzitou v Českých Budějovicích na jejích internetových stránkách, a to se zachováním mého autorského práva k odevzdanému textu této kvalifikační práce. Souhlasím dále s tím, aby toutéž elektronickou cestou byly v souladu s uvedeným ustanovením zákona č. 111/1998 Sb. zveřejněny posudky školitele a oponentů práce i záznam o průběhu a výsledku obhajoby kvalifikační práce. Rovněž souhlasím s porovnáním textu mé kvalifikační práce s databází kvalifikačních prací Theses.cz provozovanou Národním registrem vysokoškolských kvalifikačních prací a systémem na odhalování plagiátů.

30. 3. 2013

Bc. Markéta Benešová

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

*I would like to thank to everyone who has kindly provided me with valuable information that enabled me to write this paper. I am particularly grateful to the head of my master thesis Mr. Salim Murad, PhD. Ph.D., whose patience, guidance and valuable advices helped me to conclude this thesis.*

*In addition, I would also like to thank to my friends and family for their bountiful support throughout the study period.*

## ABSTRACT

This master thesis focuses on the actual problematic of contemporary migration phenomenon and its consequences for the Czech Republic. The aim of the theoretical part is to outline migration patterns in the Czech Republic since the end of the World War II up to the present-day situation, summarize the legislative framework which encompasses the legal stay of the foreigners in the Czech Republic and overview the actual integration Policy and its application. The paper examines in particular the conditions for the non EU nationals, in particular the people with Vietnamese or Ukrainian origin. The aim of the research part is to explore closely the above mentioned nationalities, their integration mechanisms and life conditions in the Czech Republic. It further introduces the research, which was conducted with the Vietnamese and Ukrainian nationals in České Budějovice.

I learned throughout the preparation of this thesis that the government of the Czech Republic has adopted necessary legislative framework to ensure that legally living foreign nationals are ensured of their rights, while they decide to live, work and reside in the Czech Republic, whether it was the Policy for the Integration of Foreigners, the creation of Integration Centers, active cooperation with non-profit organizations or many others. On the other hand, this paper wishes to explore the actual situation from the foreigners' perspective. It is clear that if the presented framework stays isolated from the practical exercise, it will not help the foreigners to facilitate their integration into society, yet rather complicate it and detent it.

**Key words:** Migration, Immigrant, Integration Policy, Third-Country Nationals, Integration of Foreigners

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Abstract.....</b>  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b>Table of Contents .....</b>  | <b>4</b>  |
| <b>List of Tables .....</b>   | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Introduction.....</b>  | <b>10</b> |
| <b>KEY MIGRATION TERMS .....</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| <b>I Theoretical Part.....</b>  | <b>18</b> |
| <b>1 PHENOMENON OF MIGRATION.....</b>   | <b>18</b> |
| <b>1.1 The Development of Migration Patterns.....</b>                             | <b>18</b> |
| <b>1.1.1 The Classification of Migration.....</b>                                 | <b>19</b> |
| <b>1.1.2 The Main Reasons Leading to Migration .....</b>                          | <b>21</b> |
| <b>1.1.3 The Positive Aspects of Migration.....</b>                               | <b>22</b> |
| <b>1.1.4 The Negative Aspects of Migration .....</b>                              | <b>23</b> |
| <b>1.2 The Major Theories of Migration .....</b>                                  | <b>24</b> |
| <b>1.3 Conclusions .....</b>  | <b>27</b> |
| <b>2 THE HISTORY OF MIGRATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC.....</b>          | <b>28</b> |
| <b>2.1 The Development of Migration Patterns in between Years 1945-1989.....</b>  | <b>28</b> |
| <b>2.1.1 The Migration Patterns after the Second World War.....</b>               | <b>29</b> |
| <b>2.1.2 The Immigration from Vietnam.....</b>                                    | <b>30</b> |
| <b>2.1.3 The Characteristics of Migration during the Communistic Regime .....</b> | <b>31</b> |
| <b>2.2 The Development of Migration Patterns after 1989.....</b>                  | <b>32</b> |
| <b>2.2.1 The Main Immigration Patterns .....</b>                                  | <b>32</b> |
| <b>2.2.2 The Main Immigration Groups.....</b>                                     | <b>33</b> |
| <b>2.2.3 The Initiation of the Policy for the Integration of Foreigners .....</b> | <b>34</b> |
| <b>2.2.4 The Joining of the European Union .....</b>                              | <b>36</b> |
| <b>2.3 The Developments of Migration as Member of the European Union .....</b>    | <b>37</b> |
| <b>2.3.1 The Cooperation in the Scope of International Migration.....</b>         | <b>38</b> |
| <b>2.3.2 The Asylum and Refugee Issues in the Context of European Union.....</b>  | <b>38</b> |
| <b>2.3.3 The Migration Procedure between the EU Member States .....</b>           | <b>40</b> |
| <b>2.3.4 The Joining of the Schengen Area.....</b>                                | <b>41</b> |
| <b>2.4 The Contemporary Situation in the Czech Republic .....</b>                 | <b>42</b> |
| <b>2.4.1 The Outline of Contemporary Immigration Patterns .....</b>               | <b>43</b> |
| <b>2.4.2 The Most Influential Contemporary Immigration Groups .....</b>           | <b>46</b> |
| <b>2.4.2.1 The Vietnamese Immigrants .....</b>                                    | <b>49</b> |
| <b>2.4.2.2 The Ukrainian Immigrants .....</b>                                     | <b>52</b> |
| <b>2.4.3 The Contemporary Demographic Situation .....</b>                         | <b>54</b> |
| <b>2.4.4 The Consequences of Immigration into the Czech Republic .....</b>        | <b>57</b> |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 2.5 Conclusions .....   | 59        |
| <b>3 LEGISLATION FRAMEWORKS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC</b> | <b>61</b> |
| 3.1 The Organization Structure .....  | 61        |
| 3.2 The Policy for Integration of Foreigners .....                                      | 62        |
| 3.2.1 The Regional Integration Centers .....  | 63        |
| 3.2.1.1 The Integration Support Centers for Foreigners .....                            | 63        |
| 3.2.1.2 The Center for Support of the Integration of Foreigners (CPIC) .....            | 64        |
| 3.3 The Legislative Framework.....  | 65        |
| 3.3.1 The Major Laws Regarding the Immigration and Asylum Policy .....                  | 65        |
| 3.3.2 The Act on Residence of Aliens in the Czech Republic .....                        | 66        |
| 3.3.3 The Czech Citizenship.....  | 67        |
| 3.3.4 The Residential Conditions.....   | 69        |
| 3.4 The International Cooperation .....   | 70        |
| 3.4.1 The Support of the Migrants from the European Union .....                         | 71        |
| 3.4.2 The Support of Skilled Migrants from Third Countries.....                         | 71        |
| 3.4.3 The Support of Other Migrants from Third Countries .....                          | 71        |
| 3.4.4 The Support of Specific Migration Groups .....                                    | 72        |
| 3.4.5 The Asylum Cooperation .....  | 72        |
| 3.4.6 The Protection for National Minorities .....                                      | 72        |
| 3.5 The Czech Non-Government Organizations for Foreigners.....                          | 73        |
| 3.6 The International Organizations for Migration .....                                 | 73        |
| 3.7 Conclusions .....   | 74        |
| <b>4 THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC.....</b>                       | <b>75</b> |
| 4.1 Introduction .....  | 75        |
| 4.2 The Equitable Approach towards the Foreigners .....                                 | 76        |
| 4.3 The Aim of the Policy for Integration of Foreigners .....                           | 77        |
| 4.4 The Key Conditions for Successful Integration .....                                 | 78        |
| 4.4.1 The Knowledge of the Czech Language.....  | 78        |
| 4.4.2 The Foreigners' Knowledge of the Society .....                                    | 80        |
| 4.4.3 The Economical Sufficiency of the Foreigner .....                                 | 81        |
| 4.4.4 The Integration into the Hosting Society .....                                    | 83        |
| 4.5 Conclusions .....   | 84        |
| <b>II Research part .....</b>   | <b>86</b> |
| <b>1 INTRODUCTION.....</b>  | <b>86</b> |
| 1.1 The Research Objectives.....  | 86        |
| 1.2 The Research Sample.....  | 87        |
| 1.2.1 The General Characteristic of the Research Sample.....                            | 88        |
| 1.3 The Research Questions.....   | 89        |
| 1.4 The Portrayal of the Research Area .....  | 91        |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>1.5 Conclusions .....</b>  | <b>93</b>  |
| <b>2 METHODOLOGIES.....</b>   | <b>94</b>  |
| <b>2.1 The Research Design .....</b>                                    | <b>94</b>  |
| <b>2.2 The Choice of Research Questions.....</b>                        | <b>94</b>  |
| <b>2.3 The Determination of the Research Objectives .....</b>           | <b>95</b>  |
| <b>2.4 The Methodology of Data Collection .....</b>                     | <b>96</b>  |
| <b>2.4.1 The Choice of Method .....</b>                                 | <b>96</b>  |
| 2.4.1.1 Quantitative Method .....                                       | 96         |
| 2.4.1.2 Qualitative Method .....  | 97         |
| <b>2.4.2 The Procedure of the Data Collection.....</b>                  | <b>97</b>  |
| <b>2.5 The Analysis of the Data Collection.....</b>                     | <b>98</b>  |
| <b>2.6 The Ethical Dimension of the Research.....</b>                   | <b>98</b>  |
| <b>2.7 Conclusions .....</b>  | <b>99</b>  |
| <b>3 THE RESEARCH SUMMARY.....</b>                                      | <b>100</b> |
| <b>3. A QUESTIONNAIRES.....</b>   | <b>100</b> |
| <b>3.1 The Organization of the Questionnaire .....</b>                  | <b>100</b> |
| <b>3.2 The Evaluation of the Questionnaire .....</b>                    | <b>101</b> |
| <b>3.2.1 Personal Data .....</b>  | <b>101</b> |
| 3.2.1.1 Nationality .....   | 101        |
| 3.2.1.2 Age Structure .....   | 101        |
| 3.2.1.3 The Gender Stratification.....                                  | 102        |
| 3.2.1.4 Education .....   | 102        |
| 3.2.1.5 Family Status .....   | 102        |
| <b>3.2.2 Residence in the Czech Republic.....</b>                       | <b>104</b> |
| 3.2.2.1 Length of stay in the Czech Republic .....                      | 104        |
| 3.2.2.2 Residential Status.....   | 105        |
| 3.2.2.3 The reasons to come to the Czech Republic .....                 | 105        |
| 3.2.2.4 The choice of Region.....                                       | 105        |
| 3.2.2.5 In what type of housing do you live and with whom? .....        | 105        |
| 3.2.2.6 The interest about a permanent stay in the Czech Republic ..... | 106        |
| <b>3.2.3 The Employment Situation .....</b>                             | <b>107</b> |
| 3.2.3.1 The field of work .....   | 107        |
| 3.2.3.2 Work positions during the stay in the Czech Republic .....      | 107        |
| 3.2.3.3 The income satisfaction .....                                   | 107        |
| 3.2.3.4 The past work experiences.....                                  | 108        |
| 3.2.3.5 Do you work under the same conditions as Czech workers? .....   | 108        |
| 3.2.3.6 The satisfaction with the work .....                            | 109        |
| 3.2.3.7 Free Time & Hobbies .....                                       | 109        |
| <b>3.2.4 The Integration Issues .....</b>                               | <b>110</b> |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| 3.2.4.1 Are you satisfied with your life conditions in the Czech Republic? .....                          | 110        |
| 3.2.4.2 Do you visit any institution for Foreigners' integration? .....                                   | 110        |
| 3.2.4.3 The Discrimination Issues.....  | 111        |
| 3.2.4.4 Do you understand Czech? .....  | 112        |
| 3.2.4.5 Do you meet with Czech people? .....  | 113        |
| 3.2.4.6 What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic?.....                             | 113        |
| 3.2.4.7 Would you like to attend social events?.....  | 118        |
| <b>3. B THE EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS.....</b>   | <b>119</b> |
| <b>4 Conclusions.....</b>   | <b>122</b> |
| <b>Bibliography .....</b>   | <b>125</b> |
| <b>Appendices.....</b>  | <b>130</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX I – THE QUESTIONNAIRE.....</b>  | <b>130</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX II - THE STATISTIC OF ASYLUM INTEGRATION.....</b>   | <b>133</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX III – THE STATISTIC OF POPULATION GROWTH .....</b>  | <b>135</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX IV – THE CZECH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR FOREIGNERS' INTEGRATION</b><br><b>.....</b> | <b>136</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX V – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR MIGRATION .....</b>                                       | <b>139</b> |
| <b>APPENDIX VI – THE INTERVIEW - IMMIGRANTS' STORIES .....</b>  | <b>140</b> |



# LIST OF TABLES

## THEORETICAL PART

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Figure 1 – Number of foreigners in the Czech Republic by 2012 .....  | 13 |
| Figure 2 – Number of foreigners in the Czech Republic between years 1994 – 2009.....                                   | 33 |
| Figure 3 – Development of number of foreigners with long-term and permanent resident statuses in the Czech Republic .. | 36 |
| Figure 4 – Number of asylum applications.....  | 40 |
| Figure 5 – Ratio of foreigners in correspondence to overall population in the Czech Republic .....                     | 43 |
| Figure 6 – Foreigners age stratification in year 2009 .....  | 45 |
| Figure 7 – Purpose of stay of foreigners in the Czech Republic (data for 2007) .....                                   | 46 |
| Figure 8 – Number of foreigners in the Czech Republic in 2010 – by nationality .....                                   | 48 |
| Figure 9 – Vietnamese age stratification in year 2009.....   | 51 |
| Figure 10 – Ukrainian age stratification in year 2009.....   | 53 |
| Figure 11 – Life expectancy of the Czech population during 1950-2011.....  | 54 |
| Figure 12 – Birth rate in the Czech Republic during 1950- 2011 .....   | 56 |
| Figure 13 – Comparison of Czech population birth rate with the birth rate of foreigners (‰) .....                      | 57 |
| Figure 14 – The public opinion about the selected nations (2011).....  | 58 |
| Figure 15 – The progress in numbers of foreigners with acquired Czech citizenship.....                                 | 68 |

## RESEARCH PART

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Figure 1 – Third-country nationals with residential permits in South Bohemian Region by 30. 6. 2012 ..... | 87  |
| Figure 2 – Foreigners in South Bohemian Region in 2009 .....  | 93  |
| Figure 3 – Age structure.....   | 101 |
| Figure 4 – Level of education .....   | 102 |
| Figure 5 – Family status .....  | 103 |
| Figure 6 – Length of the stay in the Czech Republic .....   | 104 |
| Figure 7 – Do you want to stay in the Czech Republic permanently?.....                                    | 106 |
| Figure 8 – Are you satisfied with your income?.....   | 108 |
| Figure 9 – Do you have the same working conditions as Czech workers? .....                                | 109 |
| Figure 10 – Are you satisfied with your work? .....   | 109 |
| Figure 11 – Are you satisfied with your life conditions in the Czech Republic?.....                       | 110 |
| Figure 12 – Do you visit any institution for foreigners' integration? .....                               | 111 |
| Figure 13 – Have you experienced discrimination behavior in the Czech Republic? .....                     | 112 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Figure 14 – Passive knowledge of Czech language (Do you understand Czech?).....                        | 112 |
| Figure 15 – What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic? – total numbers .....     | 114 |
| Figure 16 – What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic? – by nation and sex.....  | 116 |
| Figure 17 – How do the major obstacles change in correlation to the respondents' length of stay? ..... | 117 |

## **APPENDICES**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Figure I – Statistic of the asylum integration in the Czech Republic - overview ..... | 133 |
| Figure II – Statistic of the asylum integration in the Czech Republic.....            | 134 |
| Figure III – The overview of the population growth in the Czech Republic.....         | 135 |

## INTRODUCTION

Migration became a consistent part of nowadays contemporary civilization for the past decades, yet the history of migration is old as the humanity itself. Europe, together with the rest of the world has been experiencing the increase and alteration of the migration flows as never before. The contemporary migration has been facilitated by the enhanced traffic infrastructure, internet, social networks and globalization movement. Today's migration still creates ambivalent feeling, while on one side it is prized for its positive economical and demographical aspects, on the other hand it is neglected due to creation of social tensions between the migrants and the hosting societies. Hence, more than ever, the ability of intercultural acceptance and mutual coexistence of various nations, ethnics, and minorities is crucial for our future cohabitation.

The interrelation between the economical development and migration is indisputable. The open European approach towards the economical migrants in the 1950s and 1960s brought vast cultural diversity to Europe.<sup>1</sup> The problematic of ethnic minorities<sup>2</sup> and their following integration within the hosting countries during the 1970s commenced a beginning of a restriction era, in which the governments sought to cope with the increasing legal, but also the illegal migration inflows. Though, the democratic states can hardly control the migratory flows exclusively.<sup>3</sup> The full control of immigration is in fact feasible only at the countries with totalitarian system.<sup>4</sup>

It is only logical, that the Czech Republic observed the raise and development of the migratory patterns with an increased attention. Especially after being closed for more than half Century to the rest of the world as a direct consequence of the oppressive communistic regime's policy, which caused that Czechoslovakia was mainly country of emigration. Since the Velvet revolution in 1989 and the foundation of the sovereign Czech Republic in 1993, the general situation in the field of migration underwent substantial

---

<sup>1</sup> See for example Baganha, M.I.B. (2003). From Closed to Open Doors: Portuguese Emigration under the Corporation Regime, p. 2. E-Journal of Portuguese History, Volume 1, University of Coimbra.

<sup>2</sup> By definition it is a group within a community which has different national or cultural traditions from the main population. Oxford Dictionary. See on-line at <http://oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/ethnic%2Bminority> [October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012]. Often the minorities face social isolation from the majority and do not have access to the politic power.

<sup>3</sup> Čechovský, M. (2010). Fenomén (i)migrace a imigrační politika Evropské unie, p. 18. Masarykova universita, Katedra sociálních studií, Brno.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. p. 19.

changes. After a period of a large inflow of applicants for international protection and transiting foreign nationals at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, the Czech Republic became no merely the transiting country, but a destination place for many foreign nationals.<sup>5</sup> Today, there are almost 440,000 foreign nationals living in the Czech Republic. The following *Figure 1* brings in detail the foreign nationalities on the territory of the Czech Republic in 2012.<sup>6</sup>

As a result of the situation, the government of the Czech Republic included the migratory issues into its agenda already in 1999 and the official national concept for migration issues called *The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners* came in effect the next year (2000).<sup>7</sup> While addressing the issue, it is important to acknowledge the fact, that absolute integration of immigrants, who may come from entirely different cultural, social and economical environment, is very difficult, if not impossible.<sup>8</sup> On the other hand, if the integration is not going ahead or it stops at some stage of the integration process, the foreigner is left on the edge of the society, where he/she remains connected only with its own community.<sup>9</sup>

Although there has been significant progress about the incorporation of foreigners into the Czech society, and to provide more adequate information to Czech citizens about the migration issues, still many of the native Czechs act reluctantly towards the immigration flows. Most common and perpetuating believe is that immigration constitutes

---

<sup>5</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. On-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09MQ%3d%3d> [Accessed on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011]. See also Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4.

<sup>6</sup> However, the indicated figures must be viewed as partially underestimated, since a considerable number of immigrants reside illegally in the Czech Republic. As a result, the actual number of immigrants is still difficult to estimate. See Drbohlav, D. (2010). Migrace a (i) migranti v Česku: kdo jsme, odkud přicházíme, kam jdeme? pp. 44-45. Sociologické nakladatelství: Praha. This happens to be frequently mentioned deficiency of most of the researches and projects dedicated to this problematic, that there is no comprehensive conception of mapping the number of immigrants in the Czech Republic. On the other hand, this is not just problem of the Czech Republic; this has been pungent shortage in most of the hosting countries. See more in Drbohlav, D. – Janská, E. – Šelepová, P. (2003). Ukrajinská komunita v České republice (Výsledky dotazníkového šetření), p. 63. On-line at [http://aa.ecn.cz/img\\_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci\\_Drbohlav\\_1.pdf](http://aa.ecn.cz/img_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci_Drbohlav_1.pdf). [Accessed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>7</sup> The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners was adopted by Czech Government Resolution No. 1266 of 11 December 2000.

<sup>8</sup> Sartori, G. (2005). Pluralismus, multikulturalismus a přistěhovalci : esej o multietnické společnosti. Dokořán: Praha, p. 10.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, p. 103.

an immense threat to the national (or social) integrity or that it leads to job scarcity.<sup>10</sup> Such attitude of course creates xenophobic feelings on both sides.

This presented master thesis focuses on the problematic of contemporary migration phenomenon and its consequences for the Czech Republic. Primarily it is directed at the third-country nationals.<sup>11</sup> In the *Chapter 1* of the theoretical part, I focus to outline the characteristic of the migration phenomenon and outdraw major migration theories, which provide the necessary base for understanding the motivations and decision-making factors of the migrants. The *Chapter 2* of the theoretical part summarizes, from the chronological point of view, the migratory patterns and integration policies on the territory of the Czech Republic (and formerly Czechoslovakia) from the second half of 20<sup>th</sup> Century up to recent years. The *Chapter 3* of the theoretical part introduces current legislative framework, in which the Czech government controls, institutes and supports the immigration issues, describes the contemporary integration methodology and includes short list of the main non-governmental organizations related with this field. The *Chapter 4* explores the main issues and areas of integration, the Policy for Integration of Foreigners, jointly with the description of major obstacles in the successful integration process.

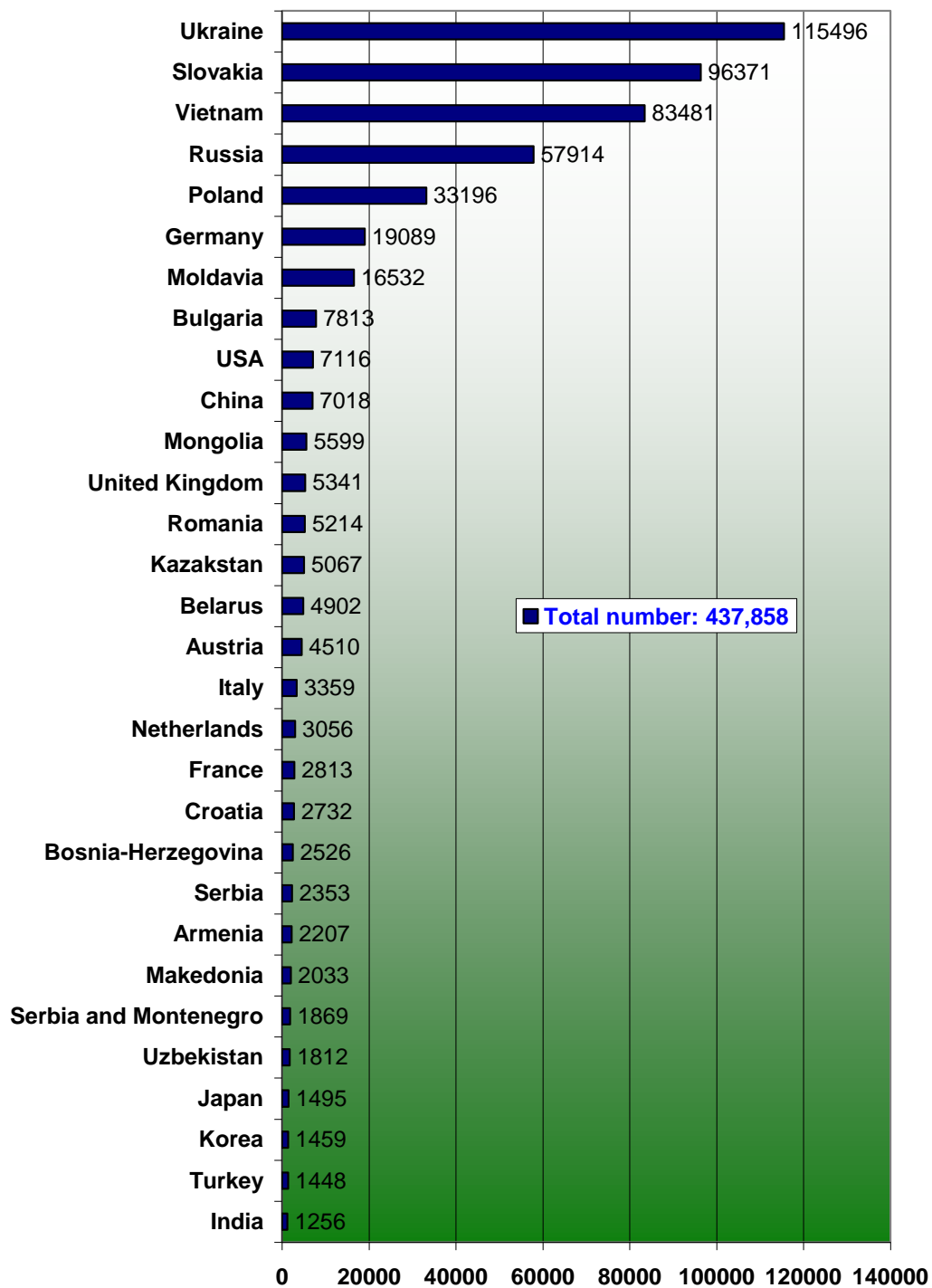
The research part introduces the research questions, research area, research objectives, and the description of research methodology, and as last it summarizes the results of the research which was carried out with the immigrants with Vietnamese and Ukrainian origin in České Budějovice. The aim of the research is to compare the integration process of these two major foreign groups, since they show many commonalities in the process of integration into Czech society (e.g., difficulty in dealing with the authorities, financial issues), nevertheless also great differences (e.g. different work position and lifestyle, contact with the majority, etc.).

---

<sup>10</sup> Drbohlav, D. (ed.) (2008). Nelegální ekonomické activity migrantů: Česko v evropském kontextu, p. 11. Karolinum: Praha.

<sup>11</sup> By definition, third country national is neither a citizen of a state that is not member of the EU nor a citizen of Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland. See on-line at websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic <http://www.mvcr.cz/docDetail.aspx?docid=21669151&doctype=ART> [Accessed on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012].

Figure 1 – Number of foreigners in the Czech Republic by 2012



Note: Only nationalities with minimum of 1000 members are included in the survey.

Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at <http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky>. [Accessed on 23<sup>th</sup> September 2011].

The idea to carry out the research on the local level was rational. Integration is a process, which comes into realization especially in the areas of the foreigners' residence or work activities, i.e. on the regional and local levels. Therefore, the knowledge from local community and their experience with their local municipalities or surroundings play an important role. Providing central bodies of the state administration with feedback, as regards the functioning of the integration policy, the situation and the position of foreigners in a given territory and the problems that need to be solved in the process of the foreigners' integration should help to bring solution to the pending issues. Therefore, from the standpoint of efficient functioning of integration, the involvement of the local level in the creation and realization of the policy for the integration of foreigners is indispensable.<sup>13</sup>

With this paper I would like to contribute to the wider debate and awareness of the situation of immigrants and especially third-country nationals in the Czech Republic. In the same time I am fully aware of the limitations of this paper. The migration phenomenon can be viewed from various perspectives, which need to be carefully taken in account before drawing any conclusion. The research itself has been restricted by the small number of participants as well as the fact that it was my first research.

## KEY MIGRATION TERMS

The following listing aims to bring summarizing description about the main migration terms<sup>14</sup>, which appear in the text. The list below covers the most relevant terms to this presented master thesis.

*Assimilation* – A process by which foreigner assimilates, i.e. blends into the society. This is policy of some of the hosting countries, e.g. France.<sup>15</sup>

*Asylum* – A protective stay, which the state provides to a third-country national or stateless person in connection with the persecution usually for political reasons. The grounds for granting asylum in the Czech Republic are specified in the Act on Asylum.

---

<sup>13</sup> Integration of Foreigners within the Territory of the Czech Republic, Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. On-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/integration-of-foreigners-within-the-territory-of-the-czech-republic.aspx>. [Accessed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>14</sup> According to the dictionary of the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic. Available on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/terminologicky-slovník.aspx>. [Accessed on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>15</sup> Šišková, T. (ed.) (2001). Menšiny a migranti v České republice, p. 74. Portál: Praha.

*Asylum seeker* – A foreigner, who has been granted asylum in the Czech Republic, he/she has the right to stay as long as the permit is valid.

*Dublin Regulation* – A mechanism, by which one state is responsible for examining of alien's application for asylum within the framework of EU Member States, Norway, Iceland and Switzerland. Council Regulation (EC) No. 343/2003 (so called Dublin II Regulation, previously Dublin Convention) currently constitutes the legal base of the Dublin system. The system was accepted in order to prevent “multiple asylum applications” in several countries at time or successively.

*Emigration* – It is a change of settlement form the homeland towards foreign country.

*Ethnicity* – There is no single theory or definition of ethnicity. In the recent colonial and immigrant history, the term “ethnic” corresponded with the dichotomy of “us” and “them.” The “us,” the majority, were viewed as non-ethnics and the “them,” new immigrants or minorities, as ethnic. Newest theories see ethnicity as “individualistic strategy”, which allows people to “move from one identity to another in order to maximize their profit” or it is viewed as “a constant state of change and reproduction within different social contexts”.<sup>16</sup> The most common characteristics distinguishing various ethnic groups are ancestry, a sense of history, language, religion, and forms of dress. Ethnic differences are not inherited; they are learned.

*Foreigner* – Every person, who is not a citizen of the Czech Republic. It applies also to citizens of European Union, as long as they are not citizens of the Czech Republic, persons with multiple citizenships, excluding the Czech citizenship or person without any citizenship.

*Immigrant* – A person who comes to the foreign country with intention of a long-term stay.

*Immigration* – It is a change of a settlement towards a foreign country for the purpose of settlement.

---

<sup>16</sup> See more in Baumann, T. (2004). Defining Ethnicity. IN: The SAA Archaeological Record, p. 12-14. Indiana University: Indiana. About definition of ethnic group see for example Houžvička, V. (2005). Návraty sudetské otázky, Karolinum, Praha, p. 398.



*Integration of foreigners* – Integration is a process, by which the foreigners (immigrants) slowly incorporate into the social, cultural and political structure of the hosting society. It is a direct and natural result of migration, which has its political, legal, economic, social, cultural, psychological and religious aspects.

*Internally Displaced Person (IDP)* – A person who has moved in order to escape situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who has not crossed an internationally recognized State border (Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, UN Doc E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2.). Usually such situation threatens large parts of the population in a certain region or country.

*Migration* – It is a population movement, encompassing any kind of movement of people, whatever its length, composition and causes are; it includes migration of refugees, displaced persons, economic migrants, forced migration or persons moving for other purposes, including family reunification.

*Migration balance* (sometimes called *net migration*) – It is calculated upon the difference between the number of immigrants and emigrants in the examined territorial unit. Together with the natural population growth is the basic statistics for the overall evaluation of the population.

*Minority group* – The existence of national minorities in the legal sense is primarily a combination of objective signs (the number of minority members, non-dominant position in the State, particular nationality and certain ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristics) and subjective (feeling of solidarity within the minority and seeking to maintain their own identity).<sup>17</sup> Often they may be subject of differential and unequal treatment (because of their physical or cultural characteristics), they may be singled out from the society, and who therefore regard themselves as objects of collective discrimination.<sup>18</sup>

*Nationality* – It can be understood from two different perspectives – as the status of belonging to a particular nation or from a cultural (ethnic) point of view.<sup>19</sup> In scope of

---

<sup>17</sup> Houžvička, V. (2012). Právo menšin v proměnách času a souvislost. IN: The Revue Politika, see on-line at <http://www.revuepolitika.cz/clanky/1618/> [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>18</sup> Wirth, L. (1945). The Problem of Minority Groups. In Ralph Linton (ed.), *The Science of Man in the World Crisis*. New York: Columbia University Press, p. 347.

<sup>19</sup> Šrubař, M. (2002). Současná definice národnosti a pojetí národnostních statistik ve Střední a Jihovýchodné Evropě, Masarykova univerzita v Brně, pp. 8-9.

this work, the term we use in this master thesis expresses the belonging to foreign nationality.

*Racism* – A prejudice based on socially significant physical features.<sup>20</sup>

*Refugee* – A person who is persecuted on account of its race, religion, ethnic group or political conviction. Person whose freedom or live is threatened in this sense have a right to protection by foreign countries on the basis of international conventions.

*Remittance* – Money send back home by the immigrants. It provides important support to their families and countries' economy. In 2011, remittances to developing countries were estimated to reach \$372 billion. This financial amount represents three times the size of official development assistance.<sup>21</sup>

*The Geneva Conventions* – The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols are at the core of international humanitarian law, the body of international law that regulates the conduct of armed conflict and seeks to limit its effects. The Geneva Conventions were finalized and declared August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1949 at the end of Geneva Diplomatic Conference. They have been gradually ratified (in whole or conditionally) by virtually all States.

*Third-country national* – Is a citizen of a state that is not member of the European Union, nor a citizen of Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway or Switzerland.

---

<sup>20</sup> More about the issue see on-line at <http://www.globalissues.org/article/165/racism> [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>21</sup> The World Bank Data – Migration and Remittances. The top recipients of officially recorded remittances in 2011 were India (\$64 billion), China (\$62 billion), Mexico (\$24 billion), and the Philippines (\$23 billion). Other large recipients included Egypt, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Vietnam, and Lebanon. However, as a share of GDP, remittances are largest in smaller and lower income countries: top recipients include Tajikistan (31 %), Lesotho (29 %), Samoa (23 %), Kyrgyz Republic (21 %), and Nepal and Tonga (20 % each). See more on-line at <http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/0,,contentMDK:21924020~pagePK:5105988~piPK:360975~theSitePK:214971,00.html> [Accessed on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

# I THEORETICAL PART

## 1 PHENOMENON OF MIGRATION

This chapter aims to outline, with limitations, the migration phenomenon, its classification, characteristics and developments.<sup>22</sup> It also presents major migration theories, which have been projected to expound the migration patterns, factors and decision-making aspect of the migrants.

### 1.1 The Development of Migration Patterns

The phenomenon of migration is old as the humanity itself. People started to move to sustain their basic needs (food, water, shelter), then to find better living conditions, broader working possibilities, even to find a spouse/husband. Big exploration journeys, which started during the 15-16<sup>th</sup> Century, were replaced by the economic and social factors in late 18<sup>th</sup>, early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The industrial era brought completely new possibilities, with new working potentials in the developing cities. Another major movement, the transatlantic migration brought millions people to settle in the USA and Canada especially thanks to the low immigration restrictions. Moreover, people also migrate in order to protect themselves from areas affected by natural diseases, as well as from politically oppressed regimes. Besides, wars and territory expansions caused migration since the very beginning of humankind.

In the past decades scientists believed, that migration is just a short-term phenomenon. There were no previous indications or studies, which could point out that migration is going to grow. In his study, Castles points out that “the main blinkering factor has probably been the influence of national models based on distinct historical experiences of migration and nation-building.”<sup>23</sup> And yet, the enhanced traffic infrastructures and the

---

<sup>22</sup> I am fully aware that the problematic of migration and its characteristics cannot be entirely described here as the space and scope of this paper is limited; therefore the following chapters cover only small part of the topic.

<sup>23</sup> Castles, S. (2002). Migration and Community Formation under Conditions of Globalization, p. 1145. Centre for Migration Studies of New York. On-line at

various means of transportation (airways, railways, etc.), fast data transfers such as internet or fax enabled the phenomenon to expand forcefully and to touch virtually all countries and levels of society. Therefore, the end of 20<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> Century is often called “Age of Migration”.<sup>24</sup> Surveys, which were carried out by various international organizations concluded that currently over 175 million people live far away from their native countries, while 19, 2 million people are considered to be *refugees* or *displaced persons*.<sup>25</sup>

The way migration changes ethnic composition of the population, it influences behavior of individuals as well as the society, it affects local economic activities, urban development and many other areas. Furthermore it has intensifying international impact. The migration flows represent potential social pressure on the hosting societies as well as on the immigrants themselves. Foreigners who intend to stay in the host country for a long time or permanently, must somehow adapt to the new environment. This adaptation can be done in different ways depending on the immigration policy of the country, on the effort of foreign communities and individual migrants themselves to cohabit with the majority, and lastly but not least on the majority approach. The chosen path is indeed largely dependent on historical context and cultural proximity of both parties.<sup>26</sup>

### 1.1.1 The Classification of Migration

Jandourek defines migration as “the movement of people across a specified boundary for the purpose of establishing a new permanent or semi-permanent residence”.<sup>27</sup> From the geographical point of view it can be divide to either *domestic* (internal) or

---

[http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sociology/notes07/Level5/SO5512/Week%2010%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sociology/notes07/Level5/SO5512/Week%2010%20(2).pdf). [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>24</sup> Ibid, p. 1145.

<sup>25</sup> Federal Office for Migration in Switzerland. On-line at

[http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/migration\\_analysen/weltweite\\_migration/migrations\\_gruende.html](http://www.bfm.admin.ch/content/bfm/en/home/themen/migration_analysen/weltweite_migration/migrations_gruende.html) [Accessed on August 1<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>26</sup> Liedermanová, I. (2010). Aktuální výzvy v oblasti integrace cizinců. Sborník z konference. Pardubice: Magistrát města Pardubic, p. 7.

<sup>27</sup> Jandourek, J. (2007). Sociologický slovník. Portál: Praha, p. 159.

*international* migration.<sup>28</sup> Internal migration<sup>29</sup> is important almost everywhere and in some countries (such as India, China or Vietnam) is far greater than international migration.<sup>30</sup>

The term *migration* does not include forms of spatial mobility, which are temporary or periodic, such as commuting to work, tourism, study visit, but also nomads. The decisive factor regarding the integration of the movement into the official migratory movements is usually time residence or legal status. UN recommends one year of residence outside the state as the limit for inclusion in the category of migration movements, nevertheless most Western and developing countries are in terms of time and commitment to moving even more liberal.<sup>31</sup>

Major division corresponds to distinction between *voluntary* and *forced* migration, although often it is difficult to establish a solid dividing line between the two types.<sup>32</sup> The concept of voluntary migration can be subsumed in particular to those cases, in which people have left their homeland for study purposes, family reunification, employment, or for other reasons of a personal nature. Forced migration is then regarded as expression of efforts to avoid persecution, repression, armed conflict, natural or other disasters or other situations that pose a threat to life, liberty and livelihood of the individual.

Another related issue is *re-emigration*. Re-emigration or *return migration* implies in case the earlier emigrants return back to their home country or in other words time-delayed migration counter flow. If the re-emigration is organized by the State authorities, it is described as *repatriation*.<sup>33</sup>

Nowadays patterns outweigh the linear movement of migrants, such as was the case of transatlantic migration in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Today we often talk about *circular migration*, which can be defined as “the fluid movement of people between countries,

---

<sup>28</sup> Uhrek, Z. - Korecká, Z. - Pojarová, T. (2008). Cizinecké komunity z antropologické perspektivy: vybrané případy významných imigračních skupin v České republice. Etnologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha, p. 5.

<sup>29</sup> Despite overwhelming evidence that internal migration can lead to the accumulation of household wealth as well as positive changes in both sending and receiving areas, it continues to be viewed as an economically, socially and politically destabilizing process by policy makers, bureaucrats, academics and even NGOs. See more in Deshingkar, P – Grimm (2005). S. Internal Migration and Development: a Global Perspective. IOM Research Paper, No. 19, Geneva, p. 6.

<sup>30</sup> Deshingkar, P – Grimm, S. 2005, p. 10.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> In many cases, especially in labor migration, voluntary migration coincides with the category of forced migration. See for example Deshingkar, P – Grimm, S. 2005, p. 9.

<sup>33</sup> Drbohlav, D. (1995). Hlavní trendy mezinárodní migrace. IN: Demografie, roč. 37, č. 4, p. 280.

including temporary or long-term movement which may be beneficial to all involved, if occurring voluntarily and linked to the labor needs of countries of origin and destination.” Circular migration patterns are often categorized by time: temporary and seasonal work migration; and by the skills-level of the workers: low, semi and high skilled migration.<sup>34</sup>

### 1.1.2 The Main Reasons Leading to Migration

The migration is widely contingent process, which is often influenced by the particular complex of external and internal factors.<sup>35</sup> The contemporary concept argues that migration cannot be seen any longer independent of the other stages of the familial and economic life cycle. It must be seen in the context of much wider processes of social changes.<sup>36</sup> Among the *push and pull factors*, which lead to migration (either internal or international) we often find the following categories:

- Economic factors
- Environmental factors
- Political factors
- Cultural factors (forced migration)<sup>37</sup>

As we see the motives to migrate may not include only the economic benefits which the migrant hope to obtain in the receiving country (*pull factor*), it may also include scarcity of employment, poor medical care or inadequate wages in the place of origin (*push factors*). In many other cases the decision-making can be based on the environmental issues, such as nature or human disasters, lack of basic supplies, etc. Migration may be in direct relation to the social status and position of the migrant in the society (e.g. women in the country of origin may possess inferior positions, in contrast to the developed countries where the women’s position/role is far more equal to the men, existence of certain

---

<sup>34</sup> World migration 2008: managing labour mobility in the evolving global economy. (2009). International Organization for Migration: Geneva. <http://www.radio1812.net/circular-migration---new-form-temporary-labour-migration> [Accessed September 18th, 2012].

<sup>35</sup> Drbohlav, D. – Uherek, Z. (2008). Reflexe migračních teorií. IN: Geografie – Sborník České geografické společnosti, Vol. 112, No. 2, pp. 125-141.

<sup>36</sup> Lucassen, J. – Lucassen, L. (2005). Migration, Migration History, History. Old Paradigms and New Perspectives, p. 28.

<sup>37</sup> See more in Migration Push and Pull Factors - Global Migration Patterns II (2010), on-line at [http://www.lewishistoricalsociety.com/wiki/tiki-read\\_article.php?articleId=37](http://www.lewishistoricalsociety.com/wiki/tiki-read_article.php?articleId=37) [Accessed on July 1<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

hierarchy in the homeland society, etc.). Another important role in a decision-making plays whereas there is an extended support network of kinship ties or established communities in the receiving country.<sup>38</sup> One of the other motives present political persecutions or military conflicts in the area.<sup>39</sup>

### 1.1.3 The Positive Aspects of Migration

In the middle of 20<sup>th</sup> Century, migration was considered as beneficial to the highly developed countries where the migrants filled the labor demand, mostly in the areas of the low-paid jobs. Having in mind the demographic deficit, which started to preoccupy most of the European countries in the same time period, migration was considered as a welcomed contribution and became a part of the governmental policies.<sup>40</sup> Most of the Western European governments decided to support the integration of foreigner into the society and to their domestic labor market.<sup>41</sup> Unfortunately some studies pointed out that the States' attempt to free the migration movement has been inefficient and that unnecessary barriers were still "restricting the import of foreign workers".<sup>42</sup>

Although, these factors represent advantages in the social sphere, more importantly they were seen in the future financial contribution, i.e. in the form of remittances.<sup>43</sup> In 2006 the United Nations estimated that the annual figure of official global remittances represents approximately \$232 billion; the amount of unofficial flows still estimated to be much higher.<sup>44</sup> Such numbers prompted the policy-makers to look into the migration issues as

---

<sup>38</sup> Portes, A. – DeWind, J. (2007). Rethinking migration: new theoretical and empirical perspectives, p. 7.

<sup>39</sup> Lucassen, J. – Lucassen, L. (2005). Migration, Migration History, History. Old Paradigms and New Perspectives, p. 15. International and Comparative Social History - Volume 4. Oxford.

<sup>40</sup> Sanjay, J. – Majumdar, S. – Mukand, S. (2008). Workers without Borders? Culture, Migration and the Political Limits to Globalization, p. 1. Department of Economy, Queen's University.

<sup>41</sup> Kostrhounová, P. (2009). Vliv cizinců na trh práce v Jihočeském kraji a okolních krajích, p. 26. Diplomová práce, Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budejovicích.

<sup>42</sup> Sanjay, J. – Majumdar, S. – Mukand, S. 2008, p. 3. See also Peneda da Silva, J.A. (2011). The Case of Immigration policies. IN: Integration and inclusion: Have integration policies failed? What role for the EU? Seminar of European Ideas Network and centre-right Think Tanks and Political Foundations in Europe, 26 January 2011, p. 5. See more on-line at [www.europeanideasnetwork.com](http://www.europeanideasnetwork.com) [Accessed on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>43</sup> According to Hollified, IN: Portes, A. – DeWind, J. 2007, p. 6.

<sup>44</sup> Vertovec, S. (2007). Circular migration: the way forward in global policy? Working paper, p. 2. International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, [www.imi.ox.ac.uk](http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk).

never before. Yet, precisely from this point of view, the sending countries had no intention to closely cooperate on lowering the potential migration flow.<sup>45</sup>

As Portes analyzes in his paper, a dual citizenship has been promoted by the sending countries in an attempt to sustain the loyalty for the country. This model has been increasingly recognized also by the host countries in spite of the old rules, which allowed just one nationality and citizenship.<sup>46</sup> This has allowed migrants to nourish their national identities and maintain close relationships with their countries of origin, while at the same time contribute to their new homeland. It also allowed the establishment of new, transnational links between the sending and host countries.<sup>47</sup>

#### **1.1.4 The Negative Aspects of Migration**

The increasing migration flow started to represent potential social pressure on the hosting societies as well as on the immigrants themselves. The societies' xenophobic attitudes also began to complicate the open approach of the receiving countries. Regardless of the nation, governments slowly started to imply various restrictive policies towards the immigration processes. This situation commented Mojca Vah and Marina Lukšič- Hacin in their study pointing out that "immigrants, members of national minorities and indigenous peoples are all considered potentially problematic".<sup>48</sup> On the other hand, Peter Schaeffer demonstrated in his study, that some of the sending countries started to worry about the impact on their economic and long-term development by rapid loss of large number of citizens.<sup>49</sup>

More the migration grew up, the number of restrictions increased. Opposing to these tendencies, many studies argue that migration has become an important livelihood strategy for many poor groups across the world. The tendencies to restrain mobility or to

---

<sup>45</sup> Ibid, p. 6.

<sup>46</sup> Portes, A. – DeWind, J. 2007, p. 7.

<sup>47</sup> Schmitter, B. (2000). *The Sociology of Immigration. From Assimilation to Segmented Integration, from the American Experience to the Global Arena*, p. 90. IN: *Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines*, pp. 77-96. Routledge: New York.

<sup>48</sup> Vah, M. – Hacin-Lukšič, M. (2008). *Contemporary implications of multiculturalism policies for European welfare states*, p. 11. IN: *Two Homelands – Migration Studies* 28, pp. 7-22. The Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies: Ljubljana. On-line at [http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD\\_TH\\_28.pdf](http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD_TH_28.pdf). [Accessed on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>49</sup> Schaeffer, P. V. (1993). *A Definition of Migration Pressure Based on Demand Theory*. *International Migration*, 31: 43–72. doi: 10.1111/j.1468-2435.1993.tb00718.x, p. 43.



provide incentives for people to stay on their land would, in the long run, lead to unmanageable situations.<sup>50</sup> Furthermore, the ongoing demand for a protection of human rights was responsible for a contra productive effect, so called “liberal paradox”, which limits the nation’s power on controlling the unwanted migration.<sup>51</sup>

At the same time another danger arose from a highly symbolic political discourse; the terms immigrant and immigration are used as a negative symbol not only for specific socio-economic problems (crime, unemployment or unsatisfactory housing policy), but also as a threat to the institutional stability of a nationally liberal state, towards the cultural and social cohesion of the majority society and, after the terrorist attacks in 2001, as well as an unprecedented security risk. Immigration policy is becoming currently one of the most sensitive themes, which is also currently in the context of the debate on the protection of national interests, from the existent and symbolic reasons, strongly politicized.<sup>52</sup>

## 1.2 The Major Theories of Migration

Migration theories are an important element in understanding the migration process, identifying its causes and necessary tools for predicting future migration flows. Migration for its complexity and given extent is studied by numerous scientists, such as sociologists and geographers, economists, historians, and also demographers. There is actually no one, consistent theory of international migration.<sup>53</sup>

Current trends demonstrate that in order to understand the complex migration processes a multidisciplinary, sophisticated approach is needed.<sup>54</sup> Brettell and Hollifield in

---

<sup>50</sup> Deshingkar, P – Grimm, S. 2005, p. 8.

<sup>51</sup> Hollifield in Portes, A. – DeWind, J. 2007, p. 7. See also Hollifield, F. J. – Hunt, F. V. – Tichenor, J. D. (2008). Immigrants, Markets, and Rights: The United States as an Emerging Migration State, pp. 6-7, Washington University Journal of Law & Policy, Vol. 27:7. On-line at <http://digitalcommons.law.wustl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1135&context=wujlp>. [Accessed on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>52</sup> Čechovsky M. 2010, p. 18.

<sup>53</sup> Massey, D. et al. (1993). Theories of International Migration: a Review and Appraisal, p. 432. IN: Population and Development Review, Vol. 19, No. 3 (Sep., 1993), pp. 431-466. On-line at [http://cis.uchicago.edu/outreach/summerinstitute/2011/documents/sti2011-parks-theories\\_of\\_international\\_migration.pdf](http://cis.uchicago.edu/outreach/summerinstitute/2011/documents/sti2011-parks-theories_of_international_migration.pdf). [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012]. See also Vah, M. – Hacin-Lukšič, M. (2008). Contemporary implications of multiculturalism policies for European welfare states, p. 11. IN: Two Homelands – Migration Studies 28, pp. 7-22. The Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies: Ljubljana. On-line at [http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD\\_TH\\_28.pdf](http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD_TH_28.pdf). [Accessed on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>54</sup> Massey, D. et al. 1993, p. 432.

their work stressed out the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in order to grasp the diversity, accenting the need of the holistic approach.<sup>55</sup>

The beginning of migration theory dates back to the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, and yet many of them are used until the present time. One of the key figures who stood at the beginning of efforts to formulate theories of migration, was E.G. Ravenstein, a statistic who developed the first comprehensive set of migration patterns in between 1885 to 1889.<sup>56</sup>

The main theories which are explaining the migration phenomenon are as follows:

- *Neoclassical economics* with their micro/macro level, where the main decision to migrate is based on the wages and employment conditions,<sup>57</sup>
- *New economics of migration*, which focuses on the variety of markets, emphasizing that migration decisions are made by larger units (e.g. families, households), not mere individuals,<sup>58</sup>
- *Dual labor market theory* is based on the labor demand and brings four major characteristics – structural inflation, motivational problems, economic dualism, and the demography of labor supply,<sup>59</sup>
- *World system theory* states that undeveloped countries are penetrated by capitalist's enterprises in search of profitable commodities (e.g. land, raw materials, cheap labor etc.), also where the population from is willing to migrate abroad; it depends on the global economy and market dynamics,<sup>60</sup>
- *Network theory* uses the connection of kinship, friendship or community between the country of origin and the receiving country,<sup>61</sup>

---

<sup>55</sup> Schmitter, B. 2000, p. 90.

<sup>56</sup> The main thesis of Ravenstein's patterns of migration: people migrate only a short distances, people migrate less from towns than people from rural areas, women migrate significantly less than men, the main reason for the growth of the already growing cities growth is precisely the phenomenon of migration. Migration increases with the existence of the industry, the main reason for migration are economical incentives. See Massey, S. 1993, p. 431.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid, pp. 433-435.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid, pp. 436-439.

<sup>59</sup> Ibid, pp. 440-443.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid, pp. 444-447.

<sup>61</sup> Ibid, pp. 448-449.

- *Institutional theory* based on organizations' support and promotion (either private or public as NGOs) when migrants apply for the limited amount of visa entries,<sup>62</sup>
- *Cumulative causation* – denominated by Myrdal in 1997, this theory focuses on revises of the social context by migration; social scientist have brought up six socioeconomic factors connected to such a behavior: the distribution of income, the distribution of land, the organization of agriculture, the regional distribution of human capital and social meaning of work (this theory is still undeveloped),<sup>63</sup>
- *Migration systems theory* usually operates within a specific receiving region (could be a country or a group of countries), which is associated with certain sending countries by “unusually large flows of immigrants”,<sup>64</sup>
- *Push and Pull theory* is based on the principle of the existence of two forces – one, which expulses a person from the place where he/she lives (push), and the second, which attracts him/her to another place (pull). The migration process starts at the moment, when these two forces are misbalanced and with certain intensity.<sup>65</sup>

Each of the introduced theories offers different analysis, concepts and approaches but they do not necessarily contradict themselves. These theories emanated in order to understand the contemporary processes of international migration. By using these theories, social scientist may advise on multiple topics connected with the migration phenomenon. The findings support regulation of international migration through applying certain economic incentives, such as promoting economic growth in the countries of origin, diminish the wage inequalities or creating social benefit programs.<sup>66</sup>

---

<sup>62</sup> Ibid, p. 450.

<sup>63</sup> Ibid, p. 462.

<sup>64</sup> Ibid, p. 454.

<sup>65</sup> Šišková, T. 2001, p.24.

<sup>66</sup> Massey, S. 1993, p. 463.

### **1.3 Conclusions**

Migration became a coherent part of contemporary societies. Its global dimension but few people anticipated. Migration offers benefits, but also negatives both for the hosting and the sending country. Linked to this is the need to study closely this topic in order to understand its causes and participate in an open exchange of ideas. In particular this is the task of the existing migration theories, which seek to categorize and explore the migration phenomenon. Due to the fact that migration affects multiple areas, it should be approached comprehensively and interdisciplinary. Such approach is actively supported by various migration scientists.

## 2 THE HISTORY OF MIGRATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

This chapter, which covers the period from the Second World War until the present days, overlooks the historical development of immigration and emigration within the territory of the Czech Republic (formerly Czechoslovakia). Acknowledging that migration is closely connected and influenced by the major historical events, the chapter aims to portray the development, which occurred in the migratory patterns since the end of the World War II. It overlooks briefly the communistic period which lasted until the 1989, then the situation after the establishment of the sovereign Czech Republic in 1993 and subsequently the situation following the accession to the European Union in 2004, and the participation in Schengen Area in 2007.

### 2.1 The Development of Migration Patterns in between Years 1945-1989

Although the Czechoslovakia is positioned in the middle of Europe, which in fact has been inhabited by various foreign nations and ethnic groups during the past centuries, from the immigration perspective it has never been distinguished as a traditional country of immigration. Even though it was inhabited with a diverse ethnic population after the First World War, the country became more or less ethnically homogeneous after the World War II.<sup>67</sup>

Several foreign communities managed to remain in great numbers also after the fall of the communistic regime. The understanding of their roots at the territory of former Czechoslovakia is essential for the understanding of the contemporary foreigners' stratification in the Czech Republic.<sup>68</sup>

The following part covers the most important patterns and migration characteristic of the time period.

---

<sup>67</sup> This was mainly caused by the physical liquidation of Jewish and Roma population during the World War II, expulsion of German's after the World War II and the detachment of Carpathian Ruthenia and it's becoming a part of the USSR (if we regard for the purpose of this work the Czechs and Moravians as one nation, then the territory of today's Czech Republic was mainly inhabited by Czech citizens and Slovakia by Slovak ones). See Richtermocová, T. (2010). Migrace České republice, její klady a zápory, p. 4. Oberig, občanské sdružení: Ústí nad Labem. On-line at [http://www.oberig.cz/\\_ftp/pdf/Migrace%20v%20CR.pdf](http://www.oberig.cz/_ftp/pdf/Migrace%20v%20CR.pdf) [Accessed on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011].

<sup>68</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 27.

### 2.1.1 The Migration Patterns after the Second World War

The end of the Second World War brought expulsion of people with German origin. It is estimated that around 3 millions of people left that time Czechoslovakia. This also caused that the Czech board lands became vacated and deserted. The government was forced to find new habitants for this area. Therefore, Czechoslovak emigrants who were coming back from abroad were offered the opportunity to obtain houses or land in the badlands for free or for very low cost.<sup>69</sup>

During 1945 to 1949 arrived around 130,000 re-emigrants back to the Czechoslovakia, predominantly Volonsk Czechs, followed by Slovaks, who lived in Romania, and partly Hungarians and Roma minority. Roma minority from Slovakia formed another group, which settled in these vacated areas. Among the most outstanding foreign groups which settled the Czech boar lands in these times were Greek and Macedonian migrants (these two groups embraced more than 14,000 members), who have escaped from their countries because of the civil war during the years 1948- 1950. They searched for asylum<sup>70</sup> among all socialistic countries of Europe. In the Czechoslovakia, they settled mostly in the northern Moravia.<sup>71</sup>

Bulgarian farmers, whose numbers have reached up to 12,000 workers, came following the signature of cooperation between the Czechoslovakia and Bulgarian. They arrived to the Czechoslovakia in two major waves, in 1946-1947 and in 1954 and represented one of the other main immigrant groups.<sup>72</sup> They worked mainly in the agrarian sector, where the work was often just seasonal. That designated that once they finished with it, they returned to Bulgaria. However, with the time many of them opted to stay here

---

<sup>69</sup> Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4. See also Bělohradská, K. (2008). Postmigrační procesy: imigranti z jihokrajinské Novgorodkivky v České republice, p. 149. IN: Uherek, Z. - Korecká, Z. - Pojarová, T. (2008). Cizinecké komunity z antropologické perspektivy: vybrané případy významných imigračních skupin v České republice. Etnologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha, pp. 149-166.

<sup>70</sup> Asylum in this context is not the Asylum protection as stipulated by the Geneva Conventions.

<sup>71</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 23. See also Černík, J. – Uherek, Z. (2004). Výzkumné zprávy a studie o integraci cizinců na území České republiky. Ministerstvo školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy ČR: Praha, p. 2. On-line at <http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/100/vyzkum.pdf> [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>72</sup> See more in Avramová, L. (2009). Imigrace Bulharů do Čech. Katedra antropologických a historických věd, FF ZCU: Plzeň. On-line at [http://antropologie.zcu.cz/media/webzin/WEBZIN\\_2-3\\_2009/Avramova\\_\\_L.pdf](http://antropologie.zcu.cz/media/webzin/WEBZIN_2-3_2009/Avramova__L.pdf). [Accessed on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

permanently. These workers had often higher education and usually they found, after some time, new work in their field of study.<sup>73</sup>

### **2.1.2 The Immigration from Vietnam**

Vietnamese immigrants formed one of the most largest and specific foreign groups in Czechoslovakia during this time period. The first group of Vietnamese<sup>74</sup> immigrants came to Czechoslovakia in 1950's and was the case of several hundred-child war refugees.<sup>75</sup> The next group arrived after 1967. Czechoslovakia and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam signed Treaty of international assistance. This treaty allowed many Vietnamese guest workers, but also students and trainees to come to the Czechoslovakia. Annually this number reached up to several thousand Vietnamese immigrants.<sup>76</sup>

The immigrant inflow intensified after 1973, when the Vietnamese government began to push European socialist countries to integrate more Vietnamese workers, who could not get employed in Vietnam, as a result of the economic destabilization during the war period. The greatest pressure was exerted on Czechoslovakia, as it was in a relatively best economic situation from the rest of the Eastern bloc.<sup>77</sup>

In 1983, the number of Vietnamese immigrants reached 30,000 people. In most cases the incoming migrants were men, whom arrived without their families. Due to the distances and due to the insufficient incomes (i.e. not enough money to pay for the flight tickets), the contact with the rest of the family was limited only to exchanging of letters.<sup>78</sup>

Since the late 1980s, their number has been gradually declining. Progressively, the Czechoslovak government found it convenient to use the Vietnamese immigrants as cheap

---

<sup>73</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 23.

<sup>74</sup> The community of Vietnamese people we habitually label Vietnamese. In fact, the population of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is composed by more then 60 ethnics. See Kocourek, J. (2003). Vietnamci v ČR, p. 1. On-line at <http://www.socioweb.cz/index.php?disp=temata&shw=199&lst=108> [Accessed on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011].

<sup>75</sup> Brouček, S. (2003). Aktuální problémy adaptace vietnamského etnika v ČR. Etnologický ústav AV ČR: Praha, p. 6.

<sup>76</sup> Ibid, p. 15.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid, p. 6.

<sup>78</sup> Menšínová problematika v ČR: komunitní život a reprezentace kolektivních zájmů. (2006). Sociologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha, p. 36. On-line at [http://studie.soc.cas.cz/upl/texty/files/247\\_SS\\_06\\_10.pdf](http://studie.soc.cas.cz/upl/texty/files/247_SS_06_10.pdf). [Accessed on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011].

labor force to be employed in the fields that native Czechs found unattractive, especially in the factories of a mass production. The International Treaty was cancelled in 1990.<sup>79</sup>

### **2.1.3 The Characteristics of Migration during the Communistic Regime**

During the communistic epoch, Czechoslovakia was accepting foreigners mainly from other socialistic countries. Most commonly, they were invited in correspondence to various bilateral agreements among the socialistic countries. Czechoslovakia also provided a safe place for fellow socialistic citizens in need of a refugee,<sup>80</sup> if having a turbulent situation in their homeland. At that time, Czechoslovakia looked redundant towards the needs of the particular foreign groups living on its territory. The number of immigrants was relatively low and essentially limited to several specific groups from other socialist countries. Mainly foreigners arrived from Cuba, Angola, Vietnam, Mongolia or Poland. They either were invited to study or to get professional experience.<sup>81</sup>

Once the situation after the World War II stabilized, the immigration flow became very low. This attitude was enhanced with the ideological impel of the communistic doctrine. The cultural diversity was tolerated only by certain national ethnicities that were approved by the State.<sup>82</sup> The only significant minority with its own national consciousness, culture and specific lifestyle were the Roma people.<sup>83</sup> Nevertheless, as a minority, they were forced to accept the mainstream culture and habits.

It is also important to mention that during the communist regime the Czech society faced a quite large emigration, especially for political reasons. Either on their own or with their whole families, many people left the country in order to escape the shackles of the totalitarian communistic regime, and settled in the Western Europe or elsewhere. It is estimated that around 500,000 political emigrants left for Western Europe during the years 1948- 1989.<sup>84</sup>

---

<sup>79</sup> Brouček, S. 2003, p. 7, p. 15.

<sup>80</sup> Refugee in this context is not the Refugee protection as it is stipulated by the Geneva Conventions.

<sup>81</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 27.

<sup>82</sup> Horáková, M. – Bareš, P. 2010, p. 6.

<sup>83</sup> Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4.

<sup>84</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 25.



## 2.2 The Development of Migration Patterns after 1989

In 1989, the Velvet Revolution helped to end the totalitarian communistic regime. The establishment of the democratic system allowed major political, social and economic changes for the Czechoslovak nation. In regard of the migration, the gained freedom followed opening the borders again in both directions. That situation led to both: to the wave of remigration, when former refugees from the communist regime returned to their homeland, but also to an inflow of immigrants from different parts of the world.<sup>85</sup>

Disintegration of Czechoslovakia in 1993<sup>86</sup> became another important milestone in the history of the Czech society. Newly established sovereign Czech Republic initiated important transition steps that increasingly led to a stable economic and social development. Another step forward represented the integration into the European Community. Such developments made Czech Republic more attractive to foreigners, especially for the third-country nationals.<sup>87</sup>

### 2.2.1 The Main Immigration Patterns

In 1994, some 100,000 foreigners lived in the Czech Republic, but by 1999, their number already doubled. At that time Czech Republic was not at all prepared for such a phenomenon, it had no experience with such issues. Even with the relatively liberal attitudes towards foreigners, there was no effort at helping them to integrate into the Czech society.<sup>88</sup> In 1999 the government decided to start regulating the number of immigrants, mainly due to growing unemployment. As a result, immigration laws became stricter

---

<sup>85</sup> Horáková, M. (2005). *Cizinci na trhu práce v České republice v letech 1994-2004*. VÚPSV: Praha, p. 4.

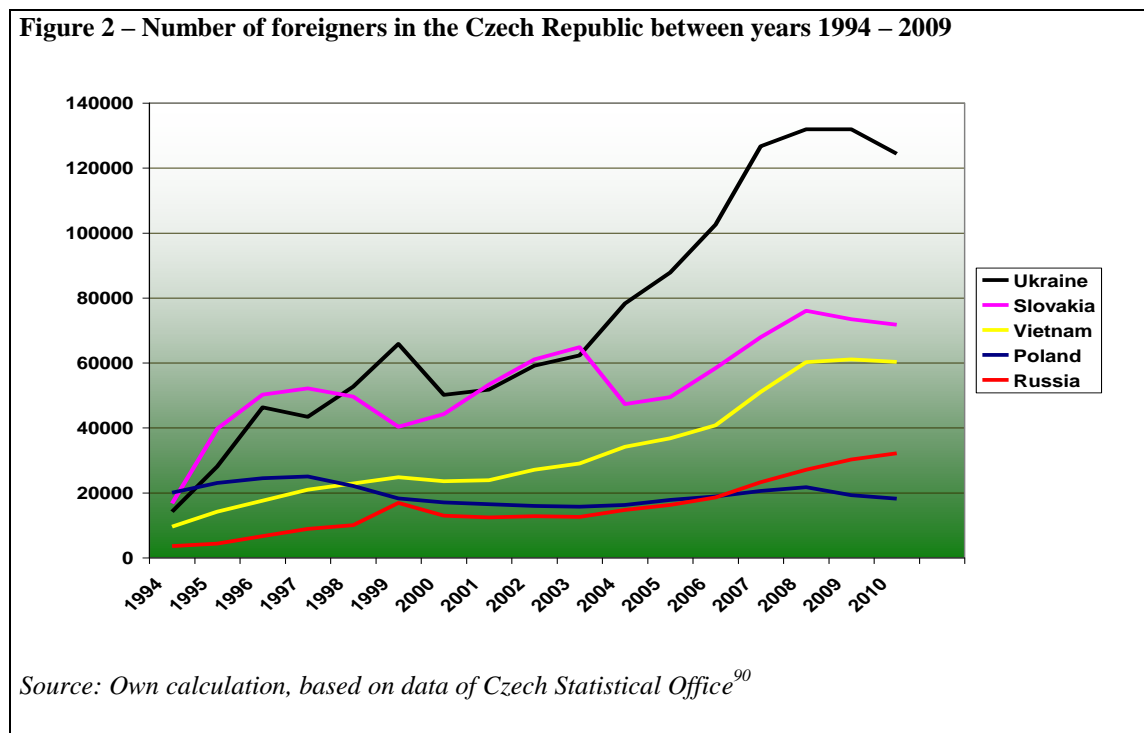
<sup>86</sup> In 1993 (1.1.) the Czechoslovakia divided into two independent state formations – the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The Slovaks, who were living at the territory of the newly formed Czech Republic and those who have had a permanent residence there for at least 2 years (which was approximately 350.000 people) could ask for a Czech citizenship. However, such transition represented a difficult administration process, including an administration fee. The required fee caused difficulty especially for the socially weaker families. Apart from the permanent living condition, there was also a necessary to have a clear criminal record. Such condition could also be viewed as discriminatory. As a result of this arrangement, the Czech society accommodated fairly lot of native Slovaks by this act. See Rychlík, J. (1998). *Češi a Slováci ve 20. století: česko-slovenské vztahy 1945-1992*, p. 355. Academic Electronic Press: Bratislava.

<sup>87</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 26.

<sup>88</sup> Drbohlav, D. – Janská, E. – Šelepová, P. (2003). *Ukrajinská komunita v České republice (Výsledky dotazníkového šetření)*, p. 58. On-line at [http://aa.ecn.cz/img\\_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci\\_Drbohlav\\_1.pdf](http://aa.ecn.cz/img_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci_Drbohlav_1.pdf) [Accessed on July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

which caused a significant drop down in the numbers of immigrants by approximately 30,000 people. Nevertheless, as some researches point out, the number of illegal immigrants increased.<sup>89</sup>

In the following *Figure 2* we can see a development of the five most common immigrant nationalities in the Czech Republic in the timeline of years 1994-2009.



## 2.2.2 The Main Immigration Groups

Along with the Ukrainian migrants, Vietnamese immigrants represented one of the most significant nationalities in the Czech Republic at that time. After 1989, many Vietnamese obtained a trade license and established a long-term stay permits. They continued to sell sparse consumer goods (jeans, down jackets, digital clock, etc.) and formed large communities in Brno, Praha, but also near the frontier in Železná Ruda or Aš.<sup>91</sup> The composition of the community however changed, instead of the privileged

<sup>89</sup> Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4.

<sup>90</sup> Czech Statistical Office, Statistical surveys. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-006](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-006). [Accessed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>91</sup> Vietnamese community sought business opportunity not only in major cities but also near the boarder line, where they had opportunity to sell to visitors from the richer neighbourhood countries. See more Martínková, V. Sociabilita vietnamského etnika v Praze, p.167. IN: Uherek, Z. - Korecká, Z. - Pojarová, T. (2008).

people, whom arrived to the Czech Republic during the communistic era, the newcomers often came from poor provinces of Vietnam. The previously regulated and temporary migration of Vietnamese citizens to enhance their qualifications turned spontaneously into a standard economic migration motivated by the vision to improve the standard of living.<sup>92</sup>

During these years, many Vietnamese migrants arrived to the Czech Republic also from Germany. It was indeed a result of a strict immigration policy in Germany,<sup>93</sup> which came in affect in the early 1990s. Germany followed the same pattern, which manifested other Western Europe governments at that time; while in the 1950s and 1960s they were in favor to immigration and work permits for foreigners, since the second decade of 1970s they started to reduce the inflows quite abruptly.<sup>94</sup>

Nevertheless, large part of the total number of immigrants in the Czech Republic was constituted by illegal immigrants directly from Vietnam.<sup>95</sup>

### **2.2.3 The Initiation of the Policy for the Integration of Foreigners**

With the increasing number of foreigners living on the Czech territory, the society as well as the public bodies was forced to focus more on the existing developments of the migration phenomenon in the Czech Republic. Regarding the integration policy, the government of the Czech Republic did not set up any concrete concept prior the year 1999. The only existing concept mainly concentrated on the assistance to asylum seekers and refugees, which was definitely needed, yet in correspondence with the total number of asylum seekers and refugees quite marginal issue.<sup>96</sup> The concept proposed, in a limited

---

Cizinecké komunity z antropologické perspektivy: vybrané případy významných imigračních skupin v České republice. Etnologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha, pp. 167-210.

<sup>92</sup> Martínková, Š. (2009). Situation of the Vietnamese Workers in 2009, p. 11. IN: Kerbs, M. Stop Labour Exploitation. La Strada Czech Republic, pp. 11-13. On-line at [http://www.strada.cz/images/Publikace/English/analysis\\_of\\_the\\_agency\\_employment\\_of\\_the\\_vietnamese\\_in\\_the\\_czech\\_republic.pdf](http://www.strada.cz/images/Publikace/English/analysis_of_the_agency_employment_of_the_vietnamese_in_the_czech_republic.pdf). [Accessed on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>93</sup> After 1993, German government did not extend the existing working contracts, which were contracted historically by the German Democratic Republic (known as East Germany) and with financial settlement they forced the Vietnamese workers to leave. See Brouček, S. 2003, p. 16.

<sup>94</sup> Faini, R. – Zimmerman, K. F. – Melo, De J (ed.) (1999). Migration - The controversies and the evidence, p. 6. Cambridge University Press.

<sup>95</sup> Brouček, S. 2003, p. 6.

<sup>96</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, pp. 83-85. See also Aktualizovaná Koncepce integrace cizinců. Společné soužití. (2011). Usnesení Vlády České republiky. On-line at [http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni\\_vlady\\_09022011.pdf](http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni_vlady_09022011.pdf). [Accessed on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

way, assistance in obtaining housing and learning the Czech language. The other exercised concept during this time was the *repatriation programs* for the returned Czech citizens.<sup>97</sup>

In 2000<sup>98</sup> came in effect an official national concept for migration issues named *The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners* (hereinafter the Policy). The Policy stipulates cooperation between a broad number of departments such as Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Local Development and Ministry of Culture as well as other partners (regions, non-governmental, non-profit organizations including foreigners' organizations, social partners, etc.). The large platform of participants acknowledged the fact that "integration of foreigners is a complex problem concerning a number of areas".<sup>99</sup>

The Policy included not just by then existing concept for asylum seekers and refugees, but more importantly specified the rights for legally living and working foreigners within the Czech State. The Policy further highlighted the fact that the integration of foreigners into the Czech society is a two-sided process, therefore it is indispensable to raise awareness about this problematic not only by the foreigners but importantly also by the Czech majority. It included that it is necessary to prevent acts such as intolerance, xenophobia, racism in regard of foreigners or minority groups, and that it shall guarantee social and legal counseling for them.

However, the Policy offered "Integration" mainly on the level of maintaining the rights for foreigners on the Czech territory, it did not concentrate on the actual integration of the foreigners into the society; it only touched this issue superficially. The second imperfection of this document was that in truth the actual implementing of the determinate targets of the Policy has been sleeked mainly by the non-governmental and non-profit organizations.<sup>100</sup>

---

<sup>97</sup> Hnilicová, H. - Dobiášová, K. (2009). Zpráva o stavu zdraví a zdravotní péči pro migranty v ČR, p. 4. Ústav veřejného zdravotnictví a medicínského práva, 1. lékařská fakulta Univerzity Karlovy: Praha.

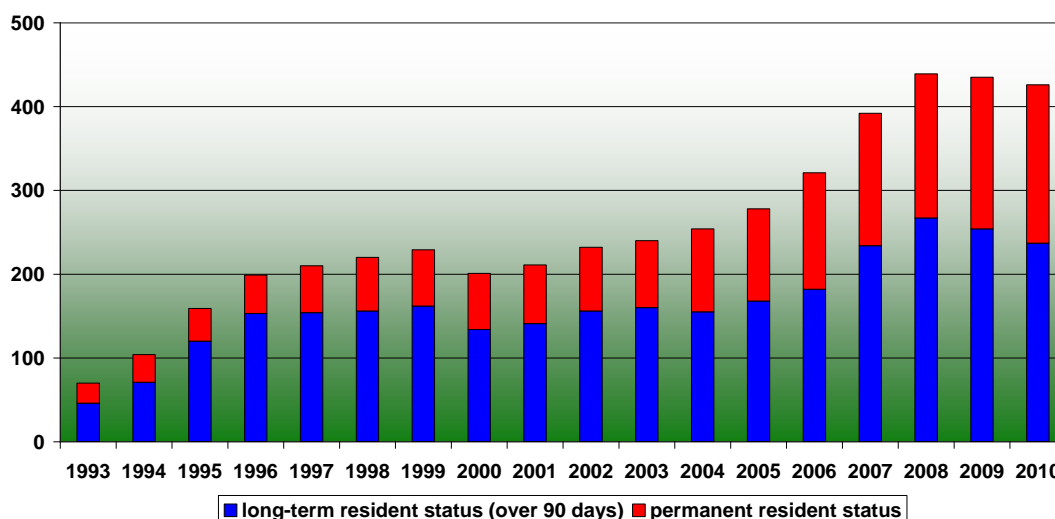
<sup>98</sup> The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners was adopted by Czech Government Resolution No. 1266 of 11 December 2000.

<sup>99</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. On-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/integration-of-foreigners-within-the-territory-of-the-czech-republic.aspx> [Accessed on July 12<sup>th</sup> 2011].

<sup>100</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 83.

The Policy predestined a tightening of immigration conditions or acquiring permanent and long-term stays for foreigners, which caused short-term decline in the numbers of foreigners entering the Czech Republic. For more information, see *Figure 3*.

**Figure 3 – Development of number of foreigners with long-term and permanent resident statuses in the Czech Republic (in thousands)**



*Note: The number of foreigners decreased in 2000, after significant changes in the immigration laws. Otherwise, during the whole monitored years the numbers were quickly growing to almost the present day, when there was again a slight decrease, probably due to the global economic crisis.*

*Source: Own calculation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>101</sup>*

## 2.2.4 The Joining of the European Union

The Czech Republic began to prepare for the accession to the European Union. That required harmonization of Czech and European migration laws, for example, the controls on the Czech borders become more serious.<sup>102</sup> The concept of borders challenges the relationship between the state and the international migration. The challenge of the sovereignty lies in clarifying who can enter and under what conditions.<sup>103</sup>

As early as in 2003, in the Resolution No. 55 of 13 January 2003, the Government of the Czech Republic approved an essential, strategic material for migration, entitled *The*

<sup>101</sup> Czech Statistical Office – Number of Foreigners. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz_pocet_cizincu). [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>102</sup> Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4. Hnilicová, H. – Dobiášová, K. 2009, p. 4.

<sup>103</sup> Sanjay, J. – Majumdar, S. – Mukand, S. 2008, p. 1.

*Czech Government's Migration Policy Principles*. In six fundamental points, see below, these principles defined the direction of the migration policy of the Czech Republic for the future:

- The Czech Republic fosters government control in the field of migration in cooperation with European Union.
- The migration policy is based on the coordinated approach of all state administration bodies and local governments.
- The migration policy aims to eliminate all forms of illegal immigration and other illicit activities connected to migration.
- The migration policy supports legal migration and the benefits it brings.
- The implementation of the country's migration policy involves non-governmental and other organizations of the civic society.
- The Czech Republic and European communities cooperate in the field of migration-related outcomes of humanitarian crises.<sup>104</sup>

### **2.3 The Developments of Migration as Member of the European Union**

Once member of the European Union (EU), which the Czech Republic became in May 2004,<sup>105</sup> the overall concept of the official national concept for migration issues (approved Policy in 2000) started to progress significantly. Although the integration policies of the EU State Members varied due to the different historical developments, economic backgrounds, etc., in certain aspects and areas they showed many common characteristics. The Czech government accepted the importance of the immigration processes and their positive impact on the economic life of the country. The Ministry of the

---

<sup>104</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. See on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/docDetail.aspx?docid=21199335&docType=ART> [Accessed on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>105</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 enlargement of the European Union was the largest single expansion of the European Union (EU), in terms of territory, number of states and population. The accessions concerned the following countries: Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. Seven of these were part of the former Eastern Bloc, with one from the former Yugoslavia and the remaining two being Mediterranean islands. Part of the same wave of enlargement was the accession of Bulgaria and Romania in 2007, which were unable to join in 2004 but constitute according to the Commission part of the fifth enlargement.

Interior stated in regard about this matter that “in a modern society, it is necessary to approach migration as one of the tools for economic development of the country”.<sup>106</sup>

### **2.3.1 The Cooperation in the Scope of International Migration**

The effort of each and single European country to cooperate on the matter of international migration was supported by the European Union Council. The Council started to promote new implementation of the integration policies, which would help to carry on an equal approach towards the citizens of the Third Countries. The implementations further accentuated the need to secure comparable conditions, legal rights and obligations as the European Union citizens’ possess. Thanks to the Council’s effort, there was a major shift from the individual integration policies of the sovereign European Union States towards a mutual integration policy, which cooperates on the international scale and can be employed by any of the European Union State Member.<sup>107</sup>

### **2.3.2 The Asylum and Refugee Issues in the Context of European Union**

As a member state of the European Union, the Czech Republic moreover committed itself to cooperate in the area of asylum and refugee issues under the terms of international protection. Although providing asylum is an important procedure, it is a marginal issue from the statistical point of view, in terms of the total number of foreigners in the Czech Republic.<sup>108</sup> The highest number of asylum applications has been initiated by Ukrainians, followed by Russians and Afghans. The last two nationalities, Russians and Afghans, together with Belarus, belong to the three most approved applicants for the

---

<sup>106</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/> [Accessed on-line at September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>107</sup> Baštýř, I. - Vavrečková, J. (2010). Metodika sledování a hodnocení integrace cizinců z třetích zemí v České republice, p. 8. VÚPSV: Praha.

<sup>108</sup> The Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the Czech Republic (2008), p. 25. Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. On-line at <http://emn.intrasoft-intl.com/Downloads/download.do;jsessionid=8C2099C569169049D9373F7F1BFA6458?fileID=710> [Accessed on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012]. Drbohlav, D.- Janská - E., Šelepová, P. 2003, p. 62.

asylum in the Czech Republic, in opposite to Ukrainian applicants, which applications are the most ones rejected.<sup>109</sup>

The number of applicants fell dramatically down after the Czech Republic's accession to the European Union, when Czech Republic joined the Dublin regulation. The Dublin regulation stipulates that asylum seeker may apply for asylum only in one of the European Union State. Prior to becoming a member of the European Union, the Czech Republic used to deal with a staggering number of asylum seekers of about 10,000 per year.<sup>110</sup> On the other hand, while the number of applications dismissed, the total percentage of applications, which were approved increased.<sup>111</sup>

See the following *Figure 4* for more details.

---

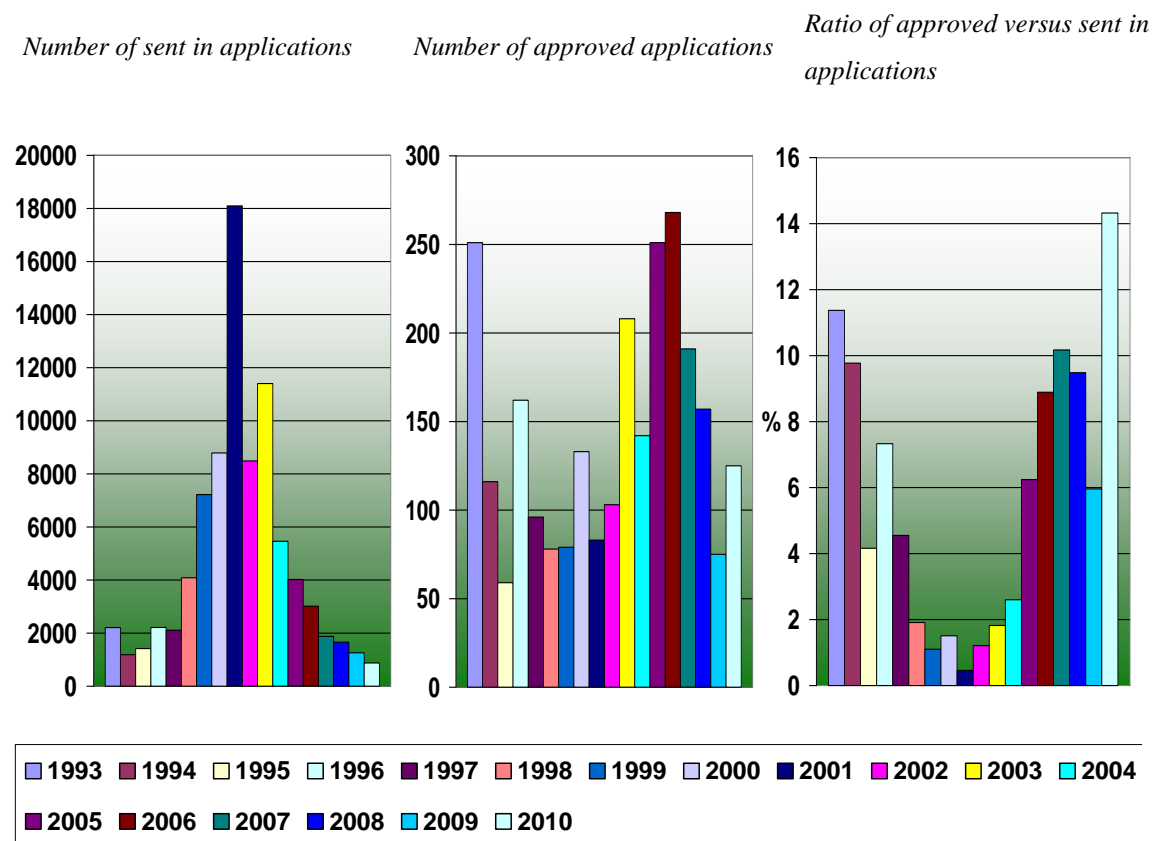
<sup>109</sup> In between 1993-2007 Ukrainian migrants submitted 13,066 applications of asylum, Russians 9,280 and Afgans 5,787. Up to 329 Russian applications were admitted, which represents 3,55 % of success. The following were Afgans, whom succeeded with 241 applications, i.e. 4,16 %. However, only 99 Ukrainian applications became proceeded, i.e. 0,76 %. Source: Czech Statistical Office. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz\\_rizeni\\_azyl](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz_rizeni_azyl) [Accessed on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>110</sup> Zpráva o situaci v oblasti migrace a integrace cizinců na území České republiky v roce 2009. (2010). Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky: Praha, p. 3.

<sup>111</sup> Czech Statistical Office – Mezinárodní ochrana. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz\\_rizeni\\_azyl](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/kapitola/ciz_rizeni_azyl). [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].



**Figure 4 – Number of asylum applications**



Source: Own calculation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>112</sup>

### 2.3.3 The Migration Procedure between the EU Member States

As members of the European Union, the migration policy between the Czech Republic and the EU Member States simplified. Citizens of the EU Member States could freely enter the Czech Republic, while the Czech citizens could freely enter the other member States. The Czech Republic also opened its job market for all the EU State Members without any restrictions right away in 2004 and also applied no restriction for the subsequent EU members, whom entered the EU in 2007, Rumania and Bulgaria.<sup>113</sup>

<sup>112</sup> Ibid.

<sup>113</sup> Volný pohyb pracovníků v rozšířené EU. (2008). Euroactiv. On-line at <http://www.euractiv.cz/rozsirovani-eu/link-dossier/voln-pohyb-pracovnk-v-rozen-eu>. [Accessed on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

That was quite opposite to the situation, which occurred at the time when the Czech Republic joined EU in 2004. Only three preceding EU members opened their job markets, in particular Ireland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Nevertheless, in the United Kingdom the possibility to work there was conditioned by registration. In 2006 opened their job markets Finland, Portugal, Greece and Spain, afterwards Italy, Belgian and France. The last two countries also conditioned the opening with some specific conditions. The rest of the countries opened their job market in 2009, with the exception of Germany and Austria, which used their rights to maintain their job markets closed for the entire transition period, and opened their job markets for the Czech citizens in 2011.<sup>114</sup>

These job market restrictions were conditional for the accession to the European Union. Behind the restriction was fear, that the citizens of the brand new Member States would start massive migration to the preceding EU Member States.<sup>115</sup> In spite of these expectations, Czechs were (together with Slovenians and Hungarians) the least willing nationals to leave their country for work purposes. In the research, in which they were asked why would they not leave their country of origin, the respondents declared simultaneously that the following factor held them back from moving away – longtime of isolation, language barrier and high cost of living.<sup>116</sup>

### 2.3.4 The Joining of the Schengen Area

As a next step, the Czech Republic joined the Schengen area in 2007.<sup>117</sup> The increase of the number of the Schengen area<sup>118</sup> particularized subsequent change of the

---

<sup>114</sup> Ibid.

<sup>115</sup> See for example paper from Zhang, B. (2009). The Migration in the post-enlargement European Union. Analysis of the Migration from the Eastern European Countries to the EU-15 after the enlargement in 2004. Lund University, pp.12-13. On-line at <http://lup.lub.lu.se/student-papers/record/1397263>. [Accessed June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>116</sup> Hruška, B. (2012). Češi za práci do European Union: Omezení už jen do 5 zemí. On-line at <http://aktualne.centrum.cz/eurorubrika/clanek.phtml?id=512669> [Accessed on April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>117</sup> The Schengen area represents a territory, where there is a guarantee of a free movement of persons. The signatory states have abolished all internal borders in lieu of a single external border. That means that common rules and procedures are applied with regard to visas for short stays, asylum requests and border controls. Simultaneously, to guarantee security within the Schengen area, cooperation and coordination between police services and judicial authorities have been gradually forstened. For more details, see on-line at [http://europa.eu/legislation\\_summaries/justice\\_freedom\\_security/free\\_movement\\_of\\_persons\\_asylum\\_immigration/133020\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/133020_en.htm) [Accessed July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

scope of the co-operation. Even as the beginnings of the Schengen co-operation were largely of an intergovernmental nature, the development of the European integration process was subsequently moved under the auspices of the European Communities. The Schengen co-operation definitely relocated under the European Union's legal framework in 1999. Therefore, all legal acts issued after this date became legal instruments of the Union and valid for all the Member States.<sup>119</sup>

## 2.4 The Contemporary Situation in the Czech Republic

Since the Velvet revolution in 1989 and the foundation of the sovereign Czech Republic, the general situation in the field of migration underwent substantial changes. From a source country prior 1989, through a period of a large inflow of applicants for international protection and transiting foreign nationals at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, the Czech Republic became no merely the transiting country, but a destination place for many foreign nationals.<sup>120</sup>

From this point of view, it is comprehensible that international migration turned to be one of the most important issues for the Czech society and for that reason it started to be vigilantly addressed.<sup>121</sup> The demographic situation in the Czech Republic with its long-term decline in natural population growth caused that the Czech Republic was more open for the entry and residence of the foreigners. For more detail see *Appendix III*.

---

<sup>118</sup> The beginning of the Schengen co-operation dates to the year 1985, when representatives of the five founding countries - Germany, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands founded the Schengen area. The Schengen gradually expanded to include nearly every other Member State. Italy signed the agreements on 27 November 1990, Spain and Portugal joined on 25 June 1991, Greece followed on 6 November 1992, then Austria on 28 April 1995 and Denmark, Finland and Sweden on 19 December 1996. The Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia joined on 21 December 2007 and the associated country Switzerland on 12 December 2008. See more on-line at [http://europa.eu/legislation\\_summaries/justice\\_freedom\\_security/free\\_movement\\_of\\_persons\\_asylum\\_immigration/133020\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/justice_freedom_security/free_movement_of_persons_asylum_immigration/133020_en.htm) [Accessed July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>119</sup> Ibid.

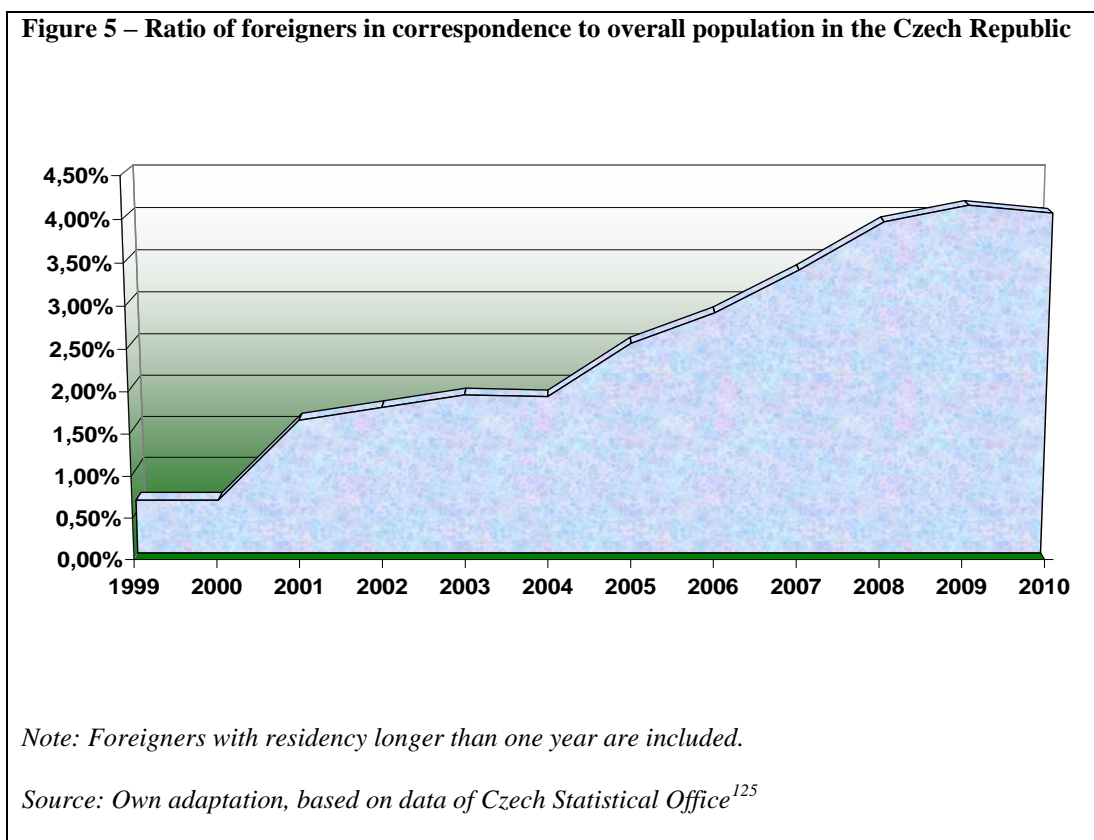
<sup>120</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. On-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09MQ%3d%3d> [Accessed on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011]. See also Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4.

<sup>121</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 30.

## 2.4.1 The Outline of Contemporary Immigration Patterns

The ratio of foreigners in the Czech society grew more rapidly since the access to the European Union, in part also thanks to the sharing of the Schengen area; while in 1993 it represented about 0.75 %, and in 1999 it reached 1 %, in 2008 it rose up already to 4 %.<sup>122</sup> Roughly, half of the foreigners were coming from the European Union<sup>123</sup>, while the second half was formed by the third-countries nationals.<sup>124</sup>

The inflow of foreigners during the years 1999-2010 is demonstrated in the following *Figure 5*.



<sup>122</sup> Ibid, p. 17.

<sup>123</sup> It is important to notice that precise number of migrants is hard to estimate nowadays, especially in regard to the Schengen Agreement, which grants free movement for the citizens of the EU Member States and other specific countries in the Schengen area. Even the EU Commission is not able to hand out exact number of the immigration. All the statistics are now mostly an approximation. Furthermore, as different measurements are used by the researchers, the numbers estimated by different procedures may vary significantly. Zhang, Bi 2009, pp.11-12.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid, p. 11.

<sup>125</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-006](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-006). [Accessed on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

The key reasons for the immigration inflow to the Czech Republic remained economic factors. The *pull factors* were in particular:

- Increasing country's GDP and positive economic growth
- Demographical stratification of the Czech population (aging, low fertility level)
- The general development of the job opportunities<sup>126</sup>

According to Drbohlav, in the Czech Republic, foreigners are mostly employed in low-end jobs, which actually the Czech workers find not attractive.<sup>127</sup> This makes the existing widespread belief that foreigners take jobs from the Czech citizens somewhat controversial and rather perplexing. The fact that foreigners are willing to work for lower wages, slightly lowers the overall level of wages, but on the other hand it leads to reduction of overall product prices. In the end, such provision brings benefits exactly to the target consumer.<sup>128</sup> And regarding the issue of illegal employment, oddly enough, even though foreigners work illegally in the Czech Republic, the average percentage of illegally working foreigners is still lower than that of illegally working Czechs.<sup>129</sup>

The age structure followed the economical purpose of the foreigners' stay in the Czech Republic and as such differs significantly from the Czech Republic's age stratification, which will be discussed in greater detail in the next section.<sup>130</sup> Approximately 60 % of all foreigners were men with an average age of about 30 years.<sup>131</sup>

See in detail in the following *Figure 6*.

---

<sup>126</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09MQ%3d%3d> [Accessed on July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011]. See also Richtermocová, T. 2010, p. 4.

<sup>127</sup> Drbohlav, D. (ed.) 2008, p. 11.

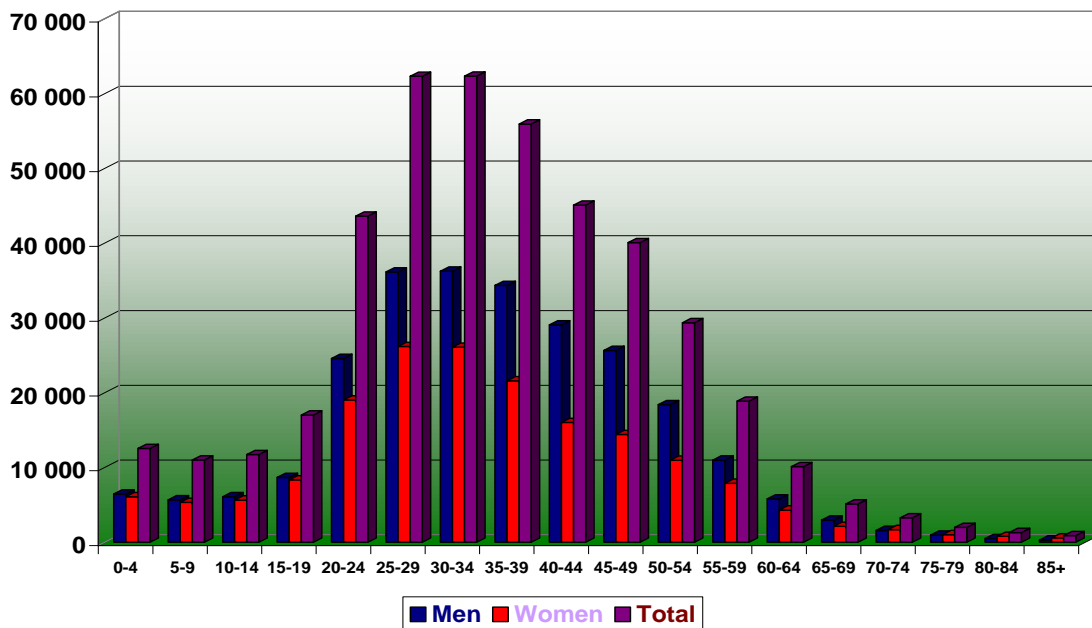
<sup>128</sup> Fassmann, M. 2008, Charakter trhu práce načerno a situace v Česku, p. 81. IN: Drbohlav, D., Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů: Česko v evropském kontextu. Karolinum: Praha.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid.

<sup>130</sup> The proportion of retiree is very small, as well as the proportion of children in correspondence to the Czech population. There is predominant proportion of economically active persons in age between 18- 64 years old. See more on-line at [http://www.demografie.info/?cz\\_detail\\_clanku&artclID=277](http://www.demografie.info/?cz_detail_clanku&artclID=277) [Accessed on August 23<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>131</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 11.

**Figure 6 – Foreigners age stratification in year 2009**



Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>132</sup>

Apart from the economic incentives, almost 28 % of all visa applications constituted the family reunion cases.<sup>133</sup> Particularly, the reason to migrate under family reunion purpose was predominant in case of women-immigrants. To receive this permission, applicant had to have a permanently living relative in the Czech Republic.<sup>134</sup> On the other hand, there has been growing number of foreigners, whom decided to choose the Czech Republic for study purposes. This demand and purpose was actively supported by the Czech immigration policy.<sup>135</sup>

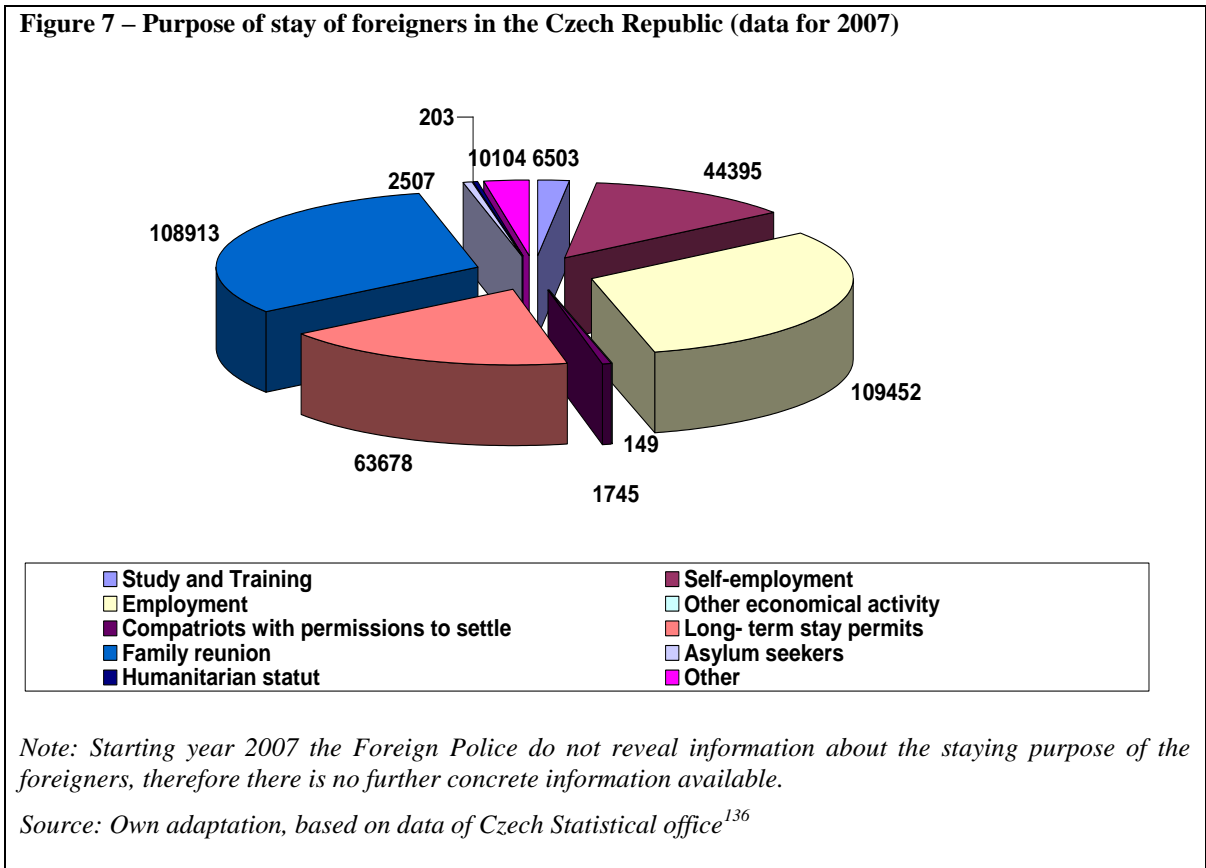
<sup>132</sup> Czech Statistical Office - Demographical analysis 2009. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-001](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-001). [Accessed on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012]. The detail with the age stratification of foreigners with Vietnamese origin can be found in the following *Figure 9*, for foreigners with Ukrainian origin in *Figure 10*.

<sup>133</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 11.

<sup>134</sup> A foreign national applying for this permit as a minor child or adult dependent on a foreign national who is staying in the Czech Republic on the basis of a permanent residence permit, if the reason for the application is family unification, then he/she may apply for permanent residence for reasons of special consideration pursuant to §66/1/d of the Act on the Residence of Foreign Nationals, without meeting the condition of previous continuous residence in the Czech Republic. Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/third-country-nationals-permanent-residence.aspx?q=Y2hudW09Nw%3d%3d> [Accessed on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>135</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 30.

Figure 7 gives more insight into the diversification of stay purposes of the foreigners in the Czech Republic.



## 2.4.2 The Most Influential Contemporary Immigration Groups

In 2010 already nearly 420,000 foreign nationals lived with various types of residence permits in the Czech Republic. See more in detail in the following *Figure 8*.<sup>137</sup> The *Figure 8* indicates, that the historically largest and most influential migrants' groups continue to be the largest ones also in the contemporary period – with the total number for Ukrainians (115,496), Slovaks (78,977), Vietnamese (57,779), Russians (30,282), and

<sup>136</sup> Czech Statistical Office – Purpose of stay of foreigners in the Czech Republic. On-line at [http://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo/tabparam.jsp?voa=tabulka&cislota=DEM0270UU&&kapitola\\_id=743](http://vdb.czso.cz/vdbvo/tabparam.jsp?voa=tabulka&cislota=DEM0270UU&&kapitola_id=743) [Accessed on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>137</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-001](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-001) [Accessed on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011].

Poles (18,852).<sup>138</sup> Meanwhile Slovaks and Poles, as EU Member State citizens, have relative no obstacles with job finding or integration into the society, the other foreign groups face difficulties from the demanding legislative procedures, inadequate integration mechanisms or xenophobic attitudes from the hosting society. One of the most common stereotypes is the belief that foreigners take jobs or that they are illegally employed.<sup>139</sup>

In scope of the purpose of this paper, the next two sub-chapters present a brief portrayal of the two largest third-country nationals' networks in the Czech Republic - the Vietnamese and Ukrainian community.

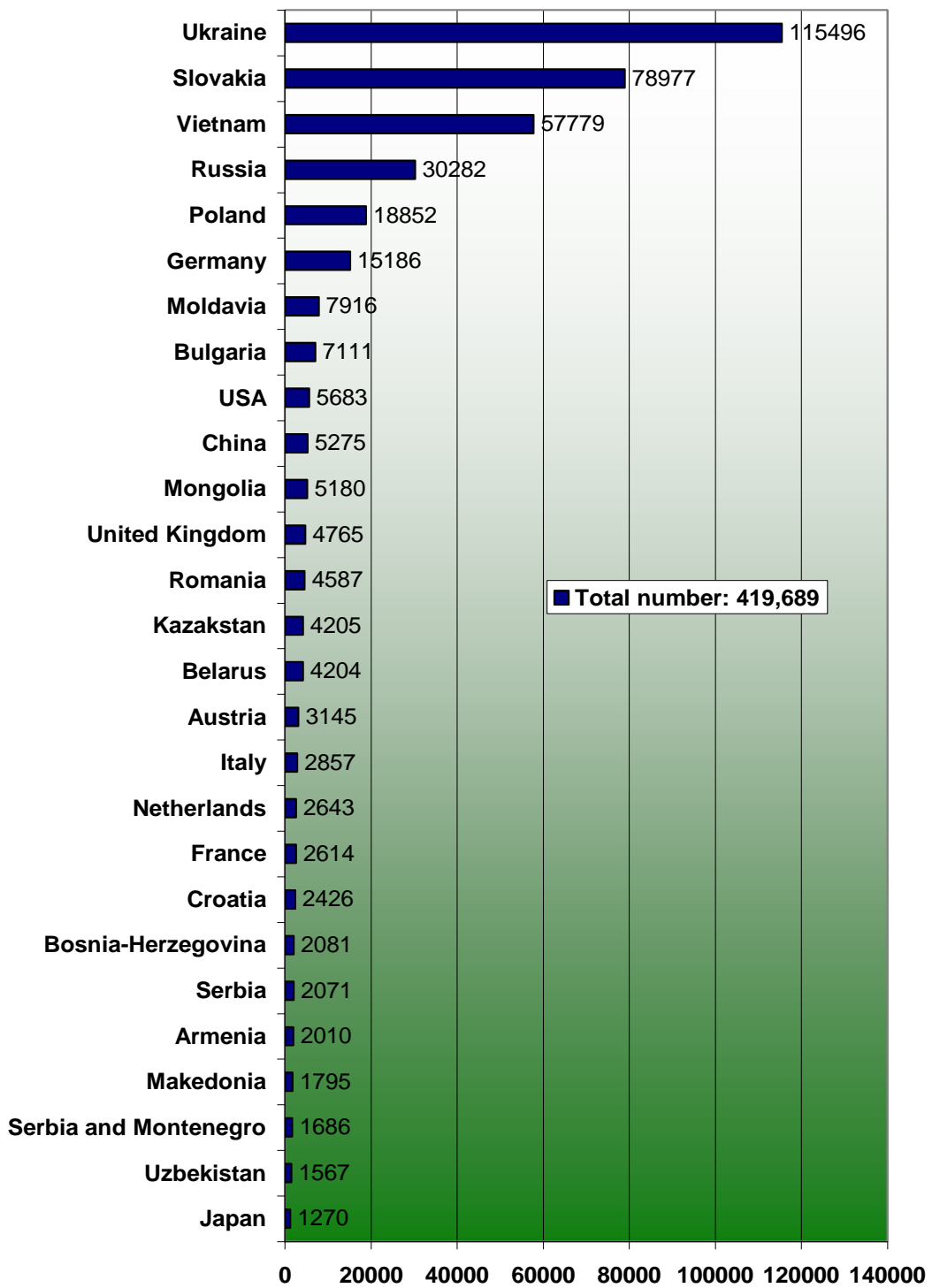
---

<sup>138</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-001](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-001) [Accessed on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011].

<sup>139</sup> Drbohlav, D. (ed.) 2008, p. 11. See also Čaněk, M. (2012). Když chybí politický zájem o rovnoprávné postavení pracovních migrantů a migrantek. Přístupy odborů a inspekce práce v České republice. On-line at <http://www.migraceon-line.cz/e-knihovna/?x=2324750>. [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].



Figure 8 – Number of foreigners in the Czech Republic in 2010 – by nationality



Note: Only nationalities with minimum of 1000 members are included in the survey.

Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>140</sup>

<sup>140</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at <http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky>. [Accessed on 23<sup>th</sup> September 2011].

### 2.4.2.1 The Vietnamese Immigrants

The first Vietnamese generation living in the Czech Republic creates a rather closed community, whose motivation for closer contact with the Czech majority except work duties is quite low. Therefore, an ordinary Czech person cannot visit, for example, a Vietnamese concert, an exhibition etc. Even though there are organizations gathering Vietnamese citizens, (e.g. Union of the Vietnamese in the Czech Republic, Union of Vietnamese entrepreneurs) their activity is not very widespread and they primarily focus on providing help to Vietnamese immigrants rather than intensifying Czech-Vietnamese relations. Some Vietnamese even consider the closeness of their community as a strategic advantage, which eases their businesses.<sup>141</sup> A different situation appears with the generation of Vietnamese who were already born in the Czech Republic and who are presently studying at elementary or secondary schools. These usually have friends among Czech children and do not want to be isolated.<sup>142</sup>

The bad economic situation is one of the reasons for continuous migration from Vietnam to the Czech Republic. In Vietnam, there are diminutive job opportunities, which are often underpaid and harsh work conditions. Similarly, health care and access to education are difficult, approximately 17 % of the Vietnamese population lives below the poverty line. Due to historical contacts with the Czech Republic, many Vietnamese attempt to find job in the Czech Republic. There are many agencies both in the Czech Republic as well as in Vietnam, which specialize in arranging employment in the Czech Republic.

However, migration to the Czech Republic is not cheap – the work arrangement frequently costs up to 7,000 USD and the vast majority of emigration applicants are thus forced to get into debts. On the other hand, majority of Vietnamese immigrants does not come from the poorest classes, but rather represents people who want to improve their living standards, and believe that they will be able to repay their loan very quickly.<sup>143</sup>

---

<sup>141</sup> Menšinová problematika v ČR, 2006.

<sup>142</sup> Kocourek, J. 2008, p. 234.

<sup>143</sup> Krebs, M. (2009). Vietnamští dělníci a dělnice v českých továrnách. La Strada Česká republika. Closing report from the project: Vietnamští dělníci a dělnice v českých továrnách (2008) is part of a project „Pomoc a podpora osobám obchodovaným a vykořisťovaným na trhu práce“, which was financed from the Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic’s grant program called „Prevence obchodování s lidmi a pomoc obětem“. The project was co-financed by organizations Open Society Institute and Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe, p. 11. See also Kocourek, J. (2008). Podmíněnosti současné migrace Vietnamců do Česka, pp. 233 – 245. IN: Drbohlav, D., Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů: Česko v evropském kontextu. Karolinum: Praha.

Unfortunately, the Vietnamese get information about the situation in the Czech Republic mainly from their relatives and friends who live here or had lived here in the past before they returned to Vietnam. Some of them acknowledge that they usual “boast” to others back in Vietnam about the situation in the Czech Republic. According to Broucek, this behavior is likewise typical of the Vietnamese in the Czech Republic.<sup>144</sup>

The immigrants are ashamed that they are not doing as well as they expected. Besides, they do not want their family to worry about them. As it has been already mentioned, the main reason for migration is the economic situation of the family, which is sometimes totally dependent on the migrant. This starts a vicious circle.<sup>145</sup> The given information is not accurate and expectations of migrating Vietnamese are usually overestimated and idealized – the majority of them imagine the Czech Republic as a paradise, where it is easy to get rich, and they think that after few years they will return home financially secure for the rest of their lives.<sup>146</sup>

However, the reality is different. The majority of Vietnamese living in the Czech Republic starts to prosper later than they have expected, on the average after eight years of residence. Yet, some of them never reach the economic growth.<sup>147</sup> The situation is critical especially in Prague where the concentration of Vietnamese is the highest.<sup>148</sup> The project report „Vietnamští dělníci a dělnice v českých továrnách“ indicates that due to economic stagnation and workers’ dismissal (especially those employed through agencies) many Vietnamese find themselves without work and any possibility to repay their high debts.<sup>149</sup>

---

<sup>144</sup> Ibid, p. 11

<sup>145</sup> In the movie *I Broke My Future - Paradise Europe*, which I saw during our first Intensive semester in Oldenburg (Germany), one of the interviewed immigrants stated that he had decided to leave Africa for Europe, because he wanted to have better life and in Europe everything is great. Even he has realized, that Europe is not the paradise he expected, as he is confronted with the restrictive asylum laws in Germany, he keeps telling to his parents that he is ok and that he lives in paradise. See more info on-line at [http://www.german-films.de/film-archive/browse-archive/?cHash=73734d235e9d6d69c57da1d0c47ff296&film\\_id=1723&mode=filmarchive&tx\\_moviedb\\_pi2%5Bview%5D=detail&redirect=yes](http://www.german-films.de/film-archive/browse-archive/?cHash=73734d235e9d6d69c57da1d0c47ff296&film_id=1723&mode=filmarchive&tx_moviedb_pi2%5Bview%5D=detail&redirect=yes) [Accessed August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012].

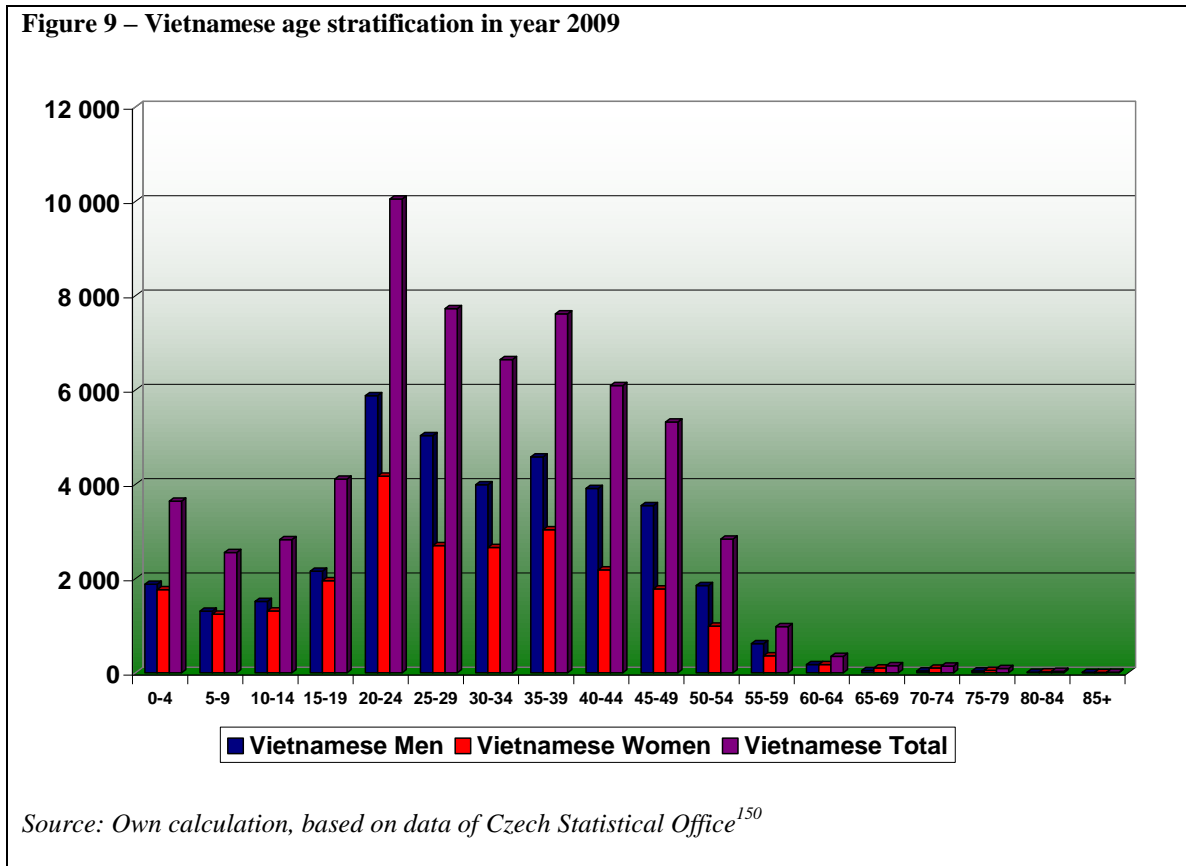
<sup>146</sup> Kocourek, J. 2008, p. 234.

<sup>147</sup> Ibid.

<sup>148</sup> Janská E. - Drbohlav, D. (2008). *The Czech Republic*, p. 48. IN: *Permanent Or Circular Migration? - Policy Choices to Address Demographic Decline and Labour Shortages in Europe*, pp. 35-72. International Organization for Migration: Budapest. On-line at [http://www.iom.hu/PDF/ARGO\\_permanent%20or%20circular%20migration.pdf](http://www.iom.hu/PDF/ARGO_permanent%20or%20circular%20migration.pdf). [Accessed on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>149</sup> Krebs, M. 2009, pp. 12-13.

The following *Figure 9* details the age stratification of foreigners with Vietnamese origin in the Czech Republic.



The largest group consists of young people 20 to 24 years, but the overall numbers of Vietnamese between 20 and 50 years are relatively steady (compared for example to Ukrainians as we shall see in the next *Figure 10*). This is related to the historical development of the Czech-Vietnamese relations, already discussed above, which resulted in the fact that Vietnamese constituted the strongest immigration group in the late 1980s and early 1990s. From the figure, we also see a general trend that in the Czech Republic are more men than women.

<sup>150</sup> Czech Statistical Office - Demographical analysis 2009. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-001](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-001). [Accessed on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

### 2.4.2.2 The Ukrainian Immigrants

Ukrainian workers come to the Czech Republic mainly for economic reasons. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Ukraine quickly got into state crisis, with state property looted, state offices at all levels corrupted and industrial production decreased. All these factors led rapidly to high level of inflation and for many inhabitants resulted in existential crisis, frustration, poorly evaluated work and inability of self-realization. In order to cope with this impasse, many of them chose to leave to work abroad.<sup>151</sup> Most Ukrainians come to the Czech Republic from Carpathian Ruthenia, where the economic situation is the worst. Approximately two thirds of Ukrainians coming to the Czech Republic have at least secondary education. Major part of them does not come to our country with the intention of permanent residence, but with the idea that they will go back home once they earn enough money. However, during their residence a certain part of them changes their values therefore a number of them decide to stay in the Czech Republic.<sup>152</sup>

In the response to growing number of Ukrainian workers a so called “client system”<sup>153</sup>, which serves to arranging jobs for semi-legal or illegal Ukrainian workers, was established in the Czech Republic. The origins of this system date back to the 1990s. Until that time, there were only few Ukrainian immigrants in the Czech Republic and their recruitment was unorganized, based on neighborly recommendations. Some of these early immigrants got used to the Czech environment quickly, learnt some Czech and then started to arrange jobs for Ukrainian newcomers. These newcomers then work for “client’s” agency, through which they are hired by Czech entrepreneurs. This system is very profitable for the Czechs because they can get cheap work force “legally” and without personal responsibility. Furthermore, they do not have to employ the workers permanently, but they can adjust their number as needed.<sup>154</sup>

---

<sup>151</sup> Lupták, M. (2008), Push faktory pracovní migrace do zahraničí z území dnešní Ukrajiny, pp. 225-232. IN: Drbohlav, D., Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů : Česko v evropském kontextu. Karolinum: Praha.

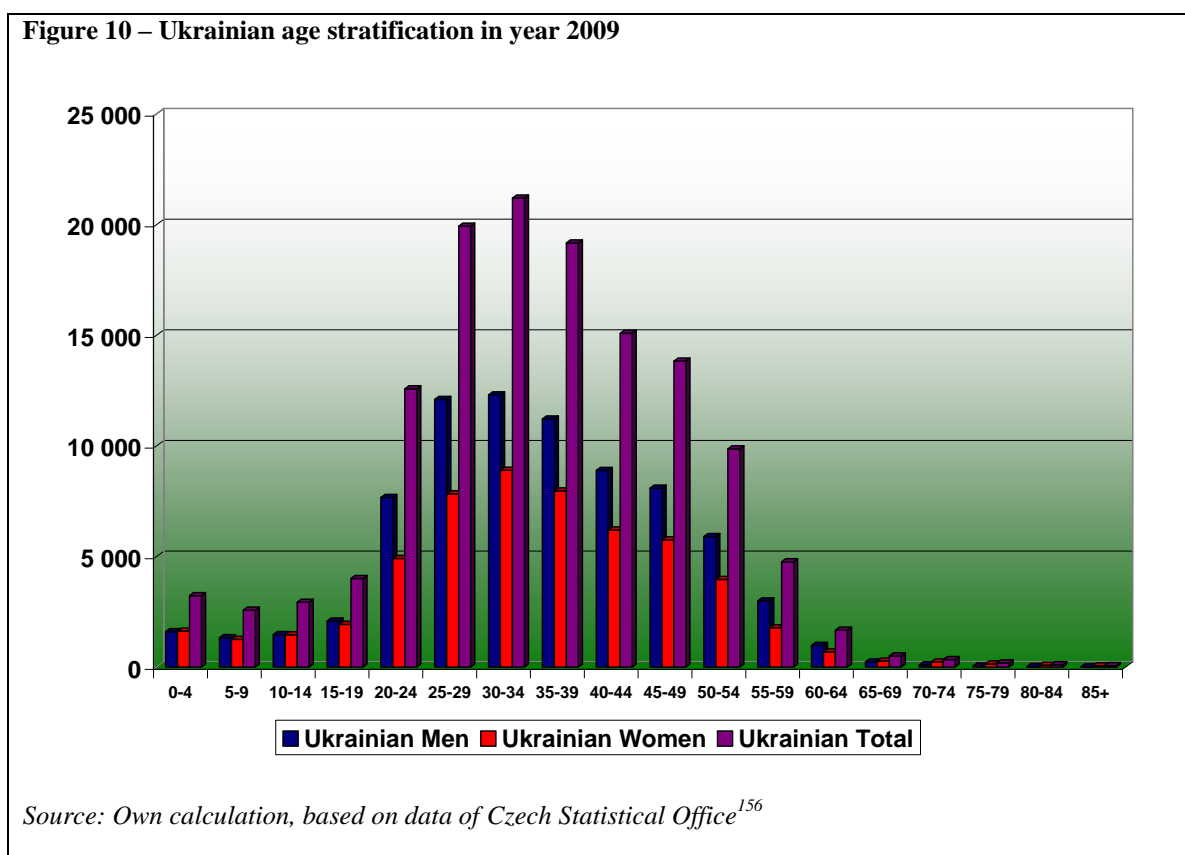
<sup>152</sup> Šišková, T. 2001, p. 85.

<sup>153</sup> This system, in such a large extent, is unique from the global prospective. Similar semi-legal systems for employing immigrants can be found, for instance, in Portugal or the United States but have largely marginal character – workers are not so dependant on their bosses. They get provided some job and accommodation for a fee. Besides, they are helped to find their way in this environment. However, at this point their cooperation ends. On the other hand, in the Czech Republic, where this system is used approximately by a half of all Ukrainian immigrants, the worker is in contact with the client throughout his/her whole residence. See more in Čermáková D. 2008, pp. 168-169.

<sup>154</sup> Čermáková D. (2008). Klientský systém a jeho specifika, pp. 167-175. IN: Drbohlav, D., Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů : Česko v evropském kontextu. Karolinum: Praha.

The client system even widespread at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century when crime among Ukrainians increased – workers often lost their earned money, for example, they were robbed when trying to send the money to their families. As Czech authorities have not been interested in this issue, Ukrainians entrusted themselves to clients, to whom they have to give a part of earned money, however, this system is quite safe for them. Out of the Ukrainians who use this system, 75 % consider it smooth, remaining 25 % consider the relation with their client as conflicting.<sup>155</sup>

The following *Figure 10* details the age stratification of foreigners with Ukrainian origin.



Contrary to the Vietnamese citizens, the peak of the age stratification is more towards right, i.e. the strongest group of Ukrainians in the Czech Republic is around age 30, while there are lower numbers of younger or older immigrants in per cent.

<sup>155</sup> Ibid, p. 172.

<sup>156</sup> Czech Statistical Office - Demographical analysis 2009. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz\\_pocet\\_cizincu-001](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/tabulky/ciz_pocet_cizincu-001). [Accessed on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

### 2.4.3 The Contemporary Demographic Situation

The Czech Republic faces the consequence of the population aging<sup>157</sup>, mutually with the rest of the Western Europe. Dilapidated labor force and changes in its structures became a high concern of the public authorities. Some studies even prognoses that Central Europe will experience this difficulty in higher measure than the Western European countries, partly due to initial younger age structures in the former, partly due to emigration flows towards Western Europe.<sup>158</sup> Some studies, however, do not see these forecasts as an insuperable problem, because they say that changes are not made "out of nowhere", it is a gradual process which it is possible to prepare for or influence, for example, a broader involvement of seniors, etc.<sup>159</sup>

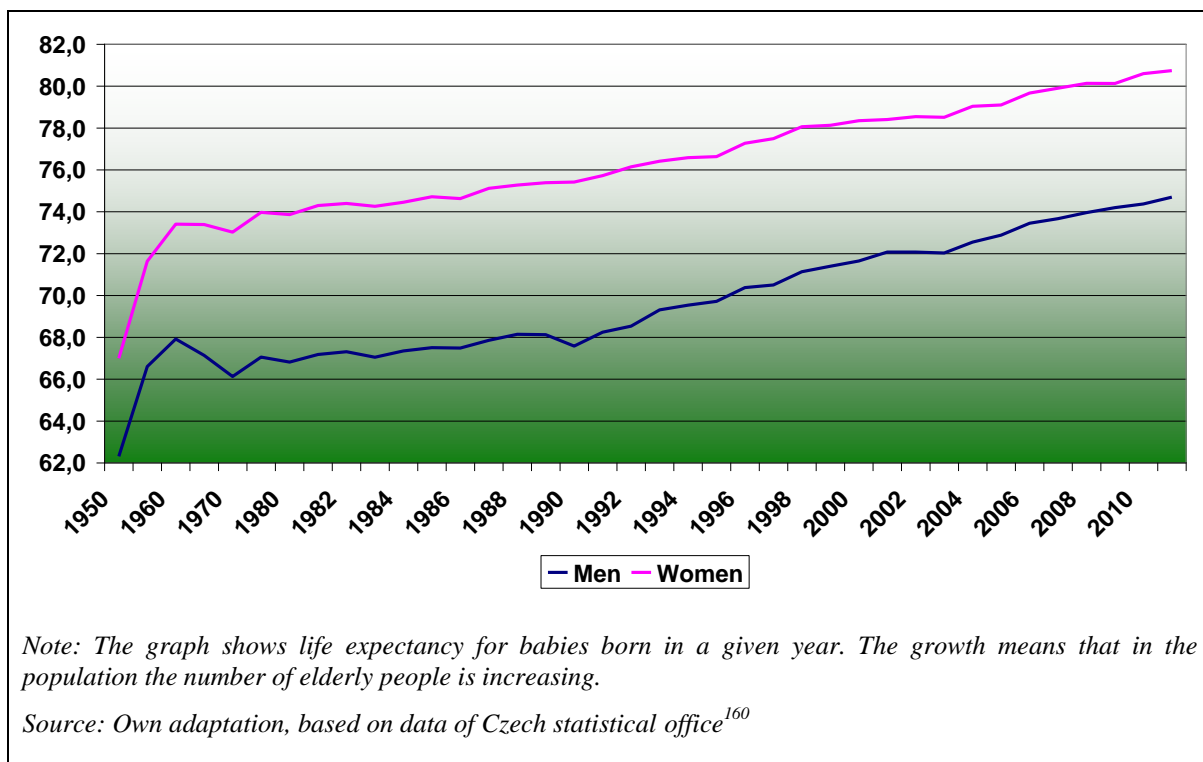
**Figure 11 – Life expectancy of the Czech population during 1950-2011**

---

<sup>157</sup> Aging is composed of two aspects, the increasing longevity of the population, which is achieved thanks to the better living conditions and a declining birth rate, i.e. low fertility level of the population. Birth rate represents number of childer born per 1,000 inhabitants. The rate needed for simple reproduction is considered 15 ‰. Fertility rate refers to the number of children born per 1,000 women. The rate needed for simple reproduction is considered 21 ‰. The following Figure 11 and Figure 12 show the trends of the Czech population.

<sup>158</sup> Janská E. - Drbohlav, D. 2008, p. 37.

<sup>159</sup> Burcin, B. – Drbohlav, D. – Kučera, T. (2008). Migration as a Possible Solution to the Future Population Deficits and Demographic Aging in the Czech Republic, pp. 658-659. IN: Czech Sociological Review, Vol. 44, No. 4, pp. 653-682. See also Bijak, J., Kupiszewska, D., Kupiszewski, M. (2008). Replacement Migration Revisited: Simulations of the Effects of Selected Population and LaborMarket Strategies for the Aging Europe, 2002-2052. IN: Population Research and Policy Review, Vol. 27, No. 3, pp. 321-342, where they come to similar conclusinos.



In that context the Czech migration policy has been rather forthcoming towards the foreigners' employment and residency in the Czech Republic.<sup>161</sup> Nevertheless, immigration cannot fully reverse the demographic decline.<sup>162</sup> As Drbohlav and Uherek pointed out in their Reflection on Migration Theories "migration itself cannot in any case be the only solution to the increasing pungent problematic of the low fertility rates and the population aging in the economically advanced countries".<sup>163</sup> It should be noted that even foreigners themselves, if they settle in the country, became to age together with the rest of the population, so for a stable demographic development would be necessary a constant influx of new young foreigners, which is unrealistic.<sup>164</sup>

<sup>160</sup> Czech Statistical Office. – Obyvatelstvo – Roční časové řady. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo\\_hu](http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_hu) [Accessed July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>161</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 12.

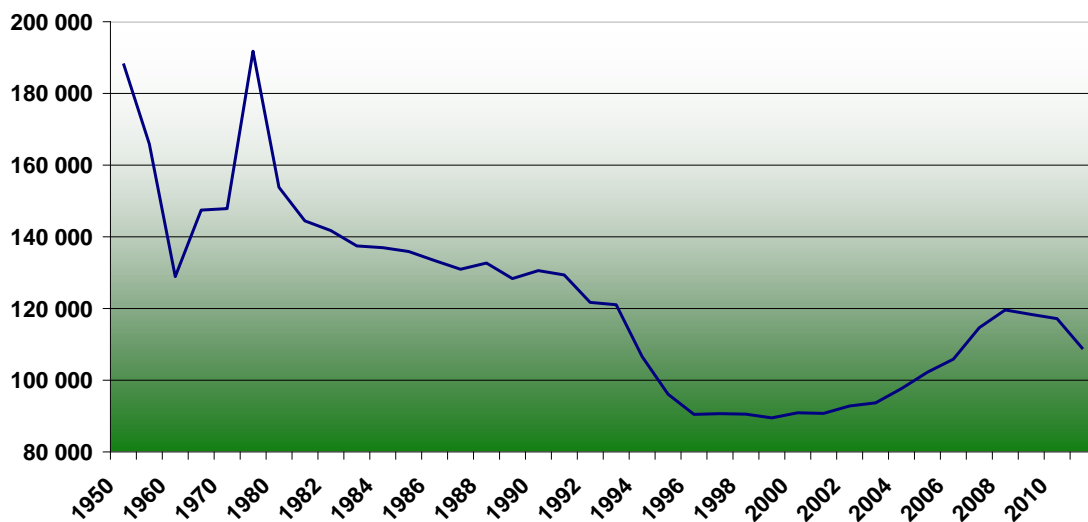
<sup>162</sup> Drbohlav, D. – Uherek, Z. 2008, p. 126.

<sup>163</sup> Ibid, pp. 125-141.

<sup>164</sup> Burcin, B. – Drbohlav, D. – Kučera, T. 2008, pp. 658-659.



**Figure 12 – Birth rate in the Czech Republic during 1950- 2011**



*Note: The graph shows number of live births in a given year. The birth rate was decreasing during 1980-2000, only in the last decade began to grow up slightly.*

*Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>165</sup>*

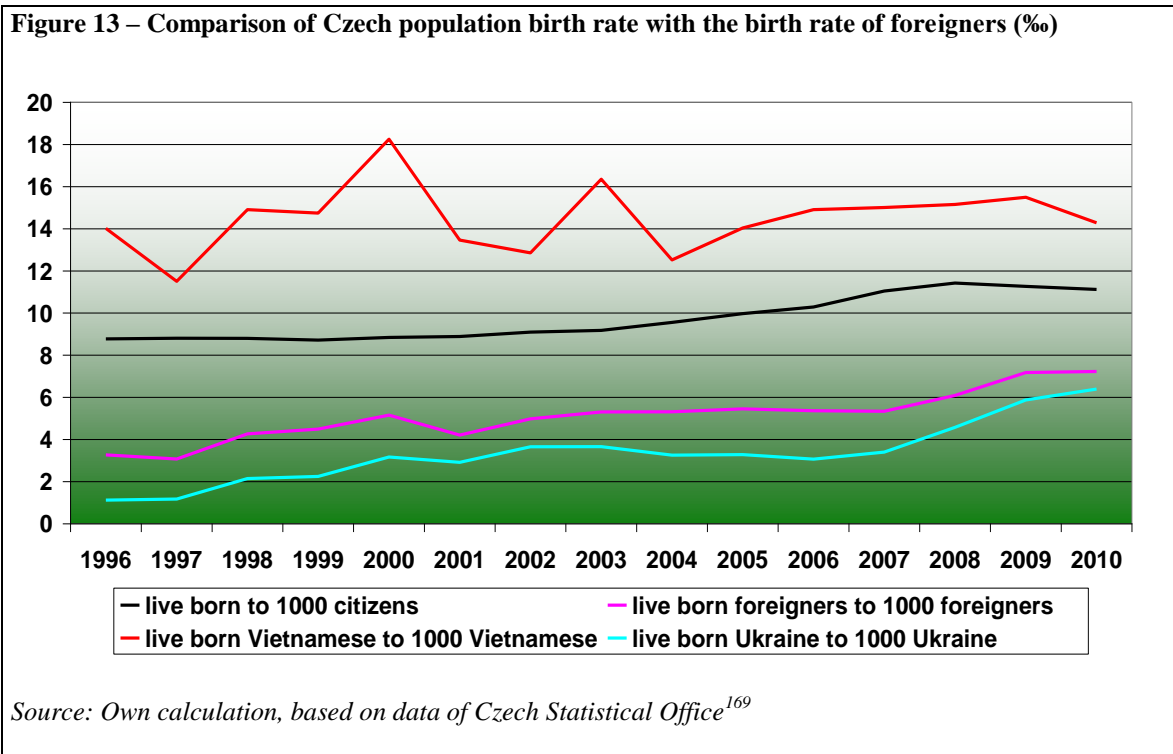
Contrary to widespread believe, that immigrants have lot of children, studies have shown, that most of the immigrants are coming from the countries with the same fertility level. Total fertility of women from Ukraine, Slovenia, and Russia has similarly low figures as of the Czech women (or even lower). The only slight exception among the immigration groups constitutes Vietnamese migrants. It might be due to the fact that Vietnamese migrants happen to arrive with whole families, contrary to the Eastern migrants, whom seem to come often alone and do not attempt to start families.<sup>166</sup>

Following *Figure 13* compares birth rate of Czechs and the foreigners living in the Czech Republic, with a detail about Ukrainian and Vietnamese birth rate levels. The graph shows that the birth rate of Ukrainian migrants reduces the overall average, as their birth rates are even lower than the Czech birth rate level. On the contrary, the Vietnamese are one of the few minorities living in the Czech Republic, whose birth rate is higher than the

<sup>165</sup> Czech Statistical Office. – Obyvatelstvo – Roční časové řady. See on-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo\\_hu](http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_hu) [Accessed July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>166</sup> For more detailed information, see on-line at [http://www.demografie.info/?cz\\_detail\\_clanku&artclID=277](http://www.demografie.info/?cz_detail_clanku&artclID=277) [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

birth rate of the Czech population - though also quite variable.<sup>167</sup> Even so, the Vietnamese birth rate does not highly exceed 15 ‰.<sup>168</sup>



#### 2.4.4 The Consequences of Immigration into the Czech Republic

Current migration patterns signify enormous force, which may fundamentally transform the characteristic of the hosting society, proviso that certain conditions are present.<sup>170</sup> The consequences, which arise from the contemporary migration influx to the Czech Republic, have both positive and negative effect on the economic and social situation of the Czech society. The migration flows stand for feasible social pressure on the hosting societies as well as on the foreigners themselves. The most common problems, which the society faces, include high level of social exclusion of the immigrants, inadequate integration policies, insufficient legal framework to protect the immigrants’

<sup>167</sup> The conclusion, that there is higher percentage of Vietnamese children than the Ukrainians confirm also Figure 9 and Figure 10.

<sup>168</sup> Czech Statistical Office. See on-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo\\_hu](http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_hu) [Accessed July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>169</sup> Czech Statistical Office. – Obyvatelstvo – Roční časové řady. [http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo\\_hu](http://www.czso.cz/csu/redakce.nsf/i/obyvatelstvo_hu) [Accessed July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>170</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 11.

rights and their incorporation into the society, xenophobic and contemptuous approach from the hosting society, and many others.<sup>171</sup>

Just to demonstrate the level of negative approach of the Czech majority, the following *Figure 14* presents results of the STEM conducted survey about the public opinion towards foreigner´ nationals in the Czech Republic.

**Figure 14 – The public opinion about the selected nations (2011)**

*Response to the research question: How would you accept the selected nationalities for your neighbor?*

|            | Without problem | It would be unpleasant | It would not be good at all | It is totally unacceptable |
|------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Slovaks    | 88              | 10                     | 2                           | 0                          |
| Polish     | 77              | 18                     | 4                           | 1                          |
| Germans    | 74              | 20                     | 5                           | 1                          |
| Vietnamese | 39              | 40                     | 16                          | 5                          |
| Russians   | 38              | 38                     | 18                          | 6                          |
| Ukrainians | 34              | 38                     | 20                          | 8                          |
| Roma       | 14              | 25                     | 31                          | 30                         |

*Source: Own adaptation, based on data of STEM<sup>172</sup>*

The figure indicates that majority of native Czechs consider the Roma people for the most problematic group.<sup>173</sup> The other surveyed nationalities ended up viewed quite similar - although the preferences for Ukrainians are not high at all, the difference with Vietnamese is not very significant, unlike the Slovaks or Poles, whom have received the highest score and whose presents is viewed as highly positive.

<sup>171</sup> Gabal, I. (2004). *Analýza postavení cizinců dlouhodobě žijících v ČR a návrh optimalizačních kroků*, pp. 4-6. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. On-line at [http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/511/postaveni\\_cizincu.pdf](http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/511/postaveni_cizincu.pdf). [Accessed on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>172</sup> STEM. On-line at: <http://www.stem.cz/clanek/2195>. [Accessed on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>173</sup> However, Roma nationals are not regarded as immigrants and thus it is not quite relevant to this research purposes.

This confirms that it is necessary to increase the level of acceptance of the foreign nationals, create and support suitable conditions for their integration and harmonious coexistence within the majority. Often the problem arises, because foreigners are coming to the Czech Republic to increase their socio-economic stability, but often just simply to escape the poverty in their homelands. The priority of the foreigners is to find stable job as soon as possible and it may give impression that they have no interest to mix within the host society. The majority seems to perceive, even if unwillingly, the migrants as “socially passive” and therefore act reluctantly and with distance towards them. Hence, the integration process does not continue successfully, it becomes rather blocked by both parties - the majority and the minority, at the same time.<sup>174</sup>

In the following section 3 and 4 we shall look more in detail, what legislative steps and integration procedures were adapted by the Czech government in order to protect and equal the immigrants' rights, hitherto what legal framework stipulates their stay in the Czech Republic.

## 2.5 Conclusions

This chapter briefly introduced the development of migration strategies and foreigners inflow since the end of the Second World War until the present days into the Czech Republic (and previously Czechoslovakia). During the communistic regime, for more than four decades, the country has been closed to the rest of the Western Europe, with hardly any migration flows, i.e. the incomers were almost exclusively specific migrants from allied countries. Thanks to the oppressive politics the country experienced high level of emigration.

It is almost irrelevant to make correlation between the immigration diversity today and the period before the Velvet Revolution in 1989, as the cultural diversity was tolerated only by certain national ethnicities that were approved by the State authorities. However, many of contemporary foreign ethnicities and communities living in the Czech Republic

---

<sup>174</sup> Uherek, Z. (2005). *Integrace cizinců z hlediska emického a etického*, p3. Etnologický ústav AV ČR: Praha. On-line at [http://www.inkluzivniskola.cz/sites/default/files/uploaded/ZUherek\\_Integrace\\_cizincu.pdf](http://www.inkluzivniskola.cz/sites/default/files/uploaded/ZUherek_Integrace_cizincu.pdf) [Accessed on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011].

today have established themselves in the country especially during the socialistic period, hence to understand their perspective today, it is necessary to dip into the past.

After the disintegration of the Czechoslovakia and the founding of sovereign State, the Czech Republic in 1993 the newly established country with strong economic incentives, faced quickly high increase of immigration flows into the country. The growing number of foreigners, especially from the third world countries, was the driving force behind the preparation of suitable legislative framework, which would help to stabilize the state of affairs and prevent any potential adverse and undesired behavior between the foreigners and the hosting society.

Besides that, the ongoing arrangements for the accession to the European Union demanded an acceptance of a strategically framework for the subject of migration. As an outcome of the accession to the European Union, the national migration policy was prepared, to a considerable extent, in consensus with the partner countries and contained application of the instruments of European law.

The age of globalization helped migration to become one of the most influential forces, which can change significantly the characteristic of the today's societies. The demographic changes and demand for labor force in most of the Europe, including the Czech Republic, turned to be among the key factors in the welcoming attitude towards the foreigners. In context of that, the societies realized the need for a comprehensible legislative framework in order to battle the negative outcomes of the migration (illegal migration, illegal work, etc.).

### 3 LEGISLATION FRAMEWORKS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

This chapter deals with organizational and legal structure, which relates to migration, introduces main jurisdictional structure, laws and integration concepts. Also present the most significant Czech and international non-profit organization, which are connected with the issue of migration. Since the integration of migrants is most important to capture at the regional level, i.e. in the place where the foreigner lives and integrates into society, in this context, the government has established several integration centers, where foreigners can find help during their integration process. An important component of the integration of foreigners represents a support from the European funds in the forms of grants.

#### 3.1 The Organization Structure

Migration and asylum policy controls and monitors the Ministry of the Interior, specifically the Department of Asylum and Migration Policy, which falls under the responsibility of the deputy interior minister for internal security. Department for Asylum and Migration Policy is a department of the Ministry of the Interior for the exercise of jurisdiction defined by the Ministry in the field of international protection of refugees, entry and residence of foreigners, the concept of integration of foreigners, the state integration program and the Schengen cooperation. The Department is at the same time in charge of the department of Refugee Facilities Administration Ministry of the Interior. Starting January 2011 the Department for Asylum and Migration Policy of the Ministry of the Interior took over the agenda of long term visas and long-term stays to the already converted agenda of the permanent stays.<sup>175</sup>

The Department is divided into a total of twenty departments that cover separated tasks and competences, e.g. the Department of the Coordination of the Section of Aliens administrative proceeding, the Department of permanent residence for each region<sup>176</sup>, The

---

<sup>175</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/odbor-azylove-a-migracni-politiky.aspx> [Accessed on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>176</sup> Their structure does not correspond with the actual regional division (Czech Republic has 14 Regions), but from the structure of regional jurisdiction (which are actually only 8). The City of Prague is separately

Dublin Centre, Department of International Protection, Department of integration of foreigners and asylum seekers, and others.<sup>177</sup> At the regional level, these competences are carried out by special Integration Centers, established by the Ministry.

The work of the Centers will introduce in more detail in the subsequent chapter.

### **3.2 The Policy for Integration of Foreigners**

The fundamental base for the integration mechanism constitutes the Policy for Integration of Foreigners, which was adopted in 2000. In 2006, the Policy was updated to a new version. The main objective of this updated version is to maintain social cohesion in the society, enabling harmonious conflict-free coexistence between foreigners and the majority. It shall prevent the creation of closed immigrant communities, social isolation and social exclusion of foreigners as well as prevent potential problems in the area of immigrant communities. Integration obviously goes off spontaneously, state and regional organizations, however, can actively contribute.

The updated Policy understands integration as "a process during which there is a unifying of the native population and immigrants in one society." Also acknowledges the fact that integration is a complex process, which affects many areas. The Policy primarily focuses on foreigners, who live in the Czech Republic legally, with long-term or permanent residential statuses, because those are the most important to be included into the Czech society and start participating in it. It does not address citizens of the European Union, but foreigners of so-called third-countries.<sup>178</sup>

The Policy and its amendments express the positive attitude in the direction of the foreigners' integration on the Czech territory and as such allow a systematical approach towards the elimination of obstacles of the integration process. The integration of foreigners, especially from the non- European Union countries, is supported in various projects. Many of them primary focus on the identification of assorted obstacles, which

---

monitored by the Department of Methodology, and the 7 Departments of Permanent Residence are namely for Regions: South Bohemia, Hradec Kralove, Silesian, South Moravia, Pilsen, Usti nad Labem and Zlin, while some of the Departments also govern the neighboring counties, which do not have their own jurisdiction.

<sup>177</sup> See more on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/odbor-azylove-a-migracni-politiky.aspx> [Accessed September 12th, 2012].

<sup>178</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, pp. 83-85.

impose a satisfactory integration or at the activities, which on the other hand help to smooth the integration process.<sup>179</sup>

The successful development of integration options is undoubtedly supported by the fact that it was recently supported with the highest sources of funding for this area. In 2009 the Czech Republic, for the first time, used the European Fund for Integration of Third-Country Nationals.<sup>180</sup> This fund is budgeted until 2013, and for the year 2011 the Czech Republic obtained 61,593,000 CZK, which together with co-financing allowed implementing projects of up to 82,124,000 CZK. The Czech administration can also use other funds of the European Union. It is important that EU resources are fully used, because as part of cost cutting measures in the State financing, a reduction in the volume of financial resources for the means of the integration of foreigners from the state budget must be expected.<sup>181</sup>

### **3.2.1 The Regional Integration Centers**

As it was already mentioned, the efforts of the Ministry of the Interior to transfer specific measures concerning integration of foreigners to the level of the regions are reflected in its support of the establishment of regional integration centers.

#### **3.2.1.1 The Integration Support Centers for Foreigners**

The Integration Support Centers for Foreigners (Integration Centers) serve as information centers for foreigners and as a tool for the setup and realization of the integration policies in the regions. The Integration Centers have close partnership with the regions and NGOs. They are partially funded by the European Fund for Integration.

They provide the following services:

- Advisory services

---

<sup>179</sup> For example the research study „Migrující osoby v České republice“ (Rákoczyová, M. - Trbola, R. - Vyhlídal, J., 2011), which was conducted in between years 2006-2010; or researches conducted by Drbohlav, Kocourek or by Uherek. See more in Baštýř, I. - Vavrečková, J. 2010, pp.12-13.

<sup>180</sup> European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals (EIF), See more on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/funds-and-programmes-in-the-field-of-migration.aspx> [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>181</sup> Aktuální výzvy v oblasti integrace cizinců, p. 7. Most pro lidská práva: Pardubice.



- Language courses
- Cooperation with the civil society
- Monitoring of the migratory situation

The following six Integration Centers - Plzeň Region, Pardubice Region, Moravskoslezský Region, Zlín Region, Jihomoravský Region, and Ústí nad Labem Region opened in 2009. Additional four Integration Centers - South Moravian Region, Liberec Region, Karlovy Vary Region, and Olomouc Region were established in 2010. Similar Integration Centers should be gradually opened in all regions of the Czech Republic.<sup>182</sup>

### **3.2.1.2 The Center for Support of the Integration of Foreigners (CPIC)<sup>183</sup>**

It is a project organized specially by the Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior (RFA).<sup>184</sup> CPIC were established within the frame of projects financed by the European Fund for Integration of Third Country Nationals (EIF) and they are primary directed to support non-EU immigrants. The scope of each CPIC is not limited to the county town, but they aim to spread its activities throughout the county. All services are provided free of charge.

The first CPIC opened in Moravian – Silesian Region, Pardubice Region, Plzeň Region and Zlín Region in 2009. The additional four Centers opened in the South Bohemian Region Karlovy Vary Region, Liberec Region, and Olomouc Region in 2010.

They provide the following services:

- Advisory and information activities
- Czech language courses
- Legal counseling
- Socio-cultural courses

---

<sup>182</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. See on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/myczen/article/integration-of-foreigners-within-the-territory-of-the-czech-republic.aspx> [Accessed on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>183</sup> See more about the organization on-line at <http://www.integracnicentra.cz/en/>. [Accessed on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>184</sup> Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of the Interior (RFA).

- Internet point and library

Similar organizations operate in Ústí nad Labem Region (Counseling Center for Integration o.s.) and South Moravia Region (South Moravian Regional Centre for the support of the integration of foreigners).

### **3.3 The Legislative Framework**

In order to adjust to the migration influxes, the need of legal framework, which would systematize, manage and regulate the migration influx to the Czech Republic, emerged. The government authorities ratified series of regulations, which confine general settings for immigration issues in the Czech Republic, such as major laws, acquisition of the Czech citizenship, main residential statuses, etc.

#### **3.3.1 The Major Laws Regarding the Immigration and Asylum Policy**

The major set of laws and regulations regarding the asylum policy, entry and residence of foreigners are outlined in the following section:<sup>185</sup>

- *The Act on Residence of Aliens in the Czech Republic (Act No. 326/1999 Coll.)* is a legal standard that governs the conditions of entry and residence of foreigners in the Czech Republic, including his/her departure from the territory; defines the scope of power of the Police, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the field of public administration.
- *Asylum Act (Act No. 325/1999 Coll.)* is a legal standard governing the issues of international protection in the Czech Republic in accordance with international documents, especially entry and stay of foreigners who request Czech Republic for protection, procedures for granting international protection, rights and obligations of applicants for asylum, refugees and persons under international protection, care of the applicants for granting international protection, the state integration program.

---

<sup>185</sup> According to “Zpráva o situaci v oblasti migrace a integrace cizinců na území České republiky v roce 2009” (2010). Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky: Praha. pp. 21-22. On-line at [www.mvcr.cz](http://www.mvcr.cz). [Accessed on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

- *The Law on Police of the Czech Republic (Act No. 283/1991 Coll.)* defines the organization of the police and its powers, procedures, etc. In relation to immigration defines protection of state borders and the conditions of detention and deportation of aliens.
- *The Law on Temporary Protection of Foreigners (Act No. 221/2003 Coll.)* determines the conditions for entry and residence of aliens for temporary protection.
- *Act on protection of state borders of the Czech Republic (Act No. 216/2002 Coll.)* determines protection of state borders against illegal crossing and ensures compliance with the conditions arising from the Schengen Agreement.
- *The Labor Code (Act No. 262/2006 Coll.)* *Employment Act (Act No. 435/2004 Coll.)* stipulates the basic system of employment of foreigners.
- *Act on the Acquisition and Loss of Citizenship of the Czech Republic (Act No. 40/1993 Coll.)* regulates acquisition of the Czech citizenship.
- *Minority Act (Act No. 273/2001)* defines the rights of the national minorities in the Czech Republic, together with the Czech Constitution (Act No. 1/1993 Coll.), and the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms (Act No. 2/1993 Coll.).

### **3.3.2 The Act on Residence of Aliens in the Czech Republic**

Until recently, the Aliens Act had very restrictive character, which basically did not allow foreigners easy integration procedures. Foreigners rather posed into a legally precarious position, significantly inferior to the immigration police. The immigration policy on the other side had great discretion in administrative account. Another problem was seen in the disproportionately long process applications. In addition there was no possibility to appeal against a negative decision.<sup>186</sup>

On December 21, 2010 the Parliament of the Czech Republic passed amendment to the Act on Residence of Aliens in the Territory of the Czech Republic (Act No. 326/1999

---

<sup>186</sup> Gabal, I. 2004, p. 4.

Coll., as amended). The amendment came into force on January 1, 2011. The amendment introduced a number of important changes related to offices dealing with matters concerning stay of foreign nationals on the territory of the Czech Republic as well as conditions for the entry and stay on the Czech territory.<sup>187</sup>

### 3.3.3 The Czech Citizenship

The Czech citizenship can be acquired by the following options:<sup>188</sup>

- Birth
- Adoption
- The determination of paternity
- Finding in the Czech Republic
- Granting
- Affidavit

The path to citizenship for foreigners is, regarding to some experts, quite too long and inconsistent with the commitments of the Czech Republic towards the simplification of the obstacles in the integration process. At the moment, there is no possibility to have Czech citizenship as a second citizenship. The deficiency in an acceleration of naturalization of immigrants within the second and third generation also presents significant obstacles.<sup>189</sup>

In 2014 should enter into force an amendment to this Act. The new law on citizenship, according to experts certainly does not contribute to increase the foreigners' interest for the Czech citizenship. Quite contrary, the amendment tightens conditions for obtaining the Czech citizenship, adding statutory requirements, which the applicant must fulfill. Newly it shall require knowledge of the constitutional system of the Czech Republic

---

<sup>187</sup> Zpráva o situaci v oblasti migrace a integrace cizinců na území České republiky v roce 2009, 2010, p. 79.

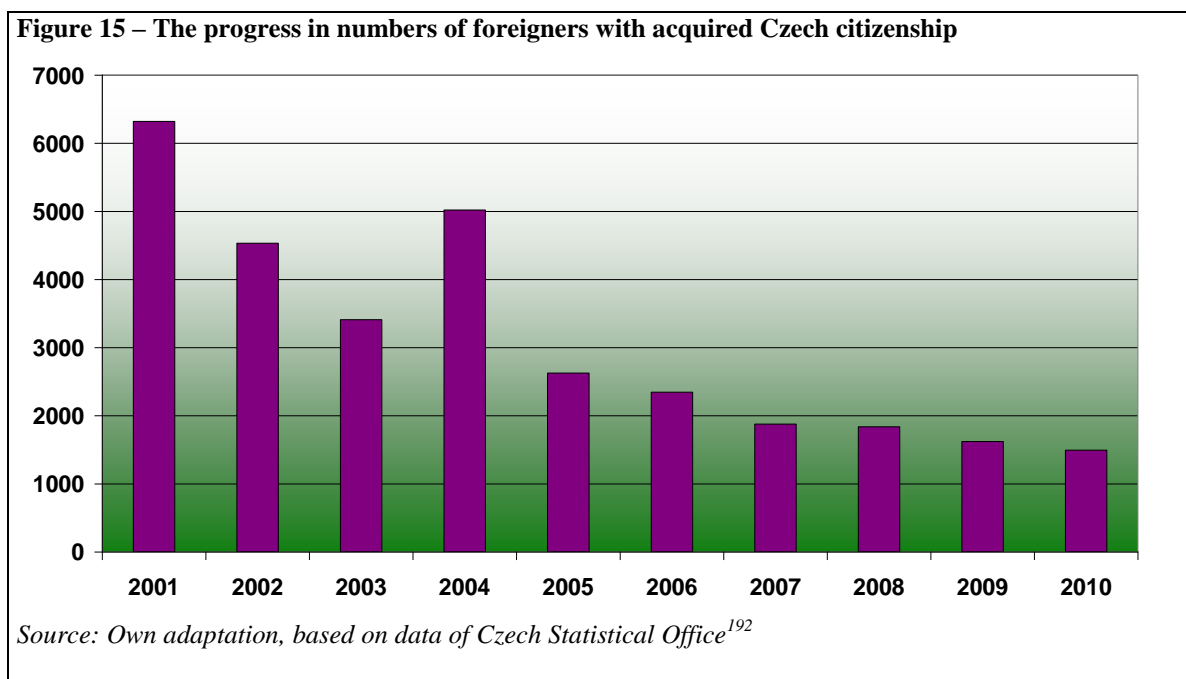
<sup>188</sup> Ibid.

<sup>189</sup> Gabal, I. 2004, p. 4.

and the basic orientation in the cultural-social, geographical and historical facts. Applicants must also prove that they are not “a burden to the State social support system or a system of assistance in material need”.<sup>190</sup> Further they must also provide confirmation that they owe nothing in taxes.

The only positive change, as seems for now, if compared to the current legislation, is the introduction of dual citizenship, which will also apply for Czech citizens. Chances to change the existing practice of granting citizenship may with the new amendment remain lost. All in the same time when the Czech Republic continues to grant less citizenships from year to year and has one of the lowest numbers of newly acquired citizenship in comparison with all the EU countries.<sup>191</sup>

For illustration, see the following *Figure 15*, which exemplifies this trend.



---

<sup>190</sup> Program Migrace. See on-line at <http://migration4media.net/2012/10/22/novy-zakon-o-statnim-obcanstvi-prinasi-zpriseni-podminek-a-vetsi-nejistotu-zadatelum/> [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>191</sup> Ibid.

<sup>192</sup> Czech Statistical Office. On-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/t/B9003347F1/\\$File/c01r01.xls](http://www.czso.cz/csu/cizinci.nsf/t/B9003347F1/$File/c01r01.xls). [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

### 3.3.4 The Residential Conditions

The existing forms of residence statuses, under which the third-country nationals can stay legally in the Czech Republic, are the following:

- *Short-term* (less than 90 days) - either without a visa or with a visa, depending on the fact whether the Czech Republic has visa-free agreement with the concerned country.
- *Long-term* - with a visa for long-term stay, the validity of which is one year and can be arbitrarily extended. Generally, long-term visas are granted to third-country nationals who have permanent residence and employment in the Czech Republic. However, there are also further common purposes on which behalf can the foreigner also obtain the long-term residence permit, such as study reasons, business, family reunion, and scientific research.
- *Permanently* - permanent residence application may be filed in case that an alien (foreigner) has lived in the Czech Republic for 5 consecutive years without interruption; in exceptional cases the application may be filed earlier (e.g., scientist, researchers, students, family reunion, etc.). Since 2009, it is compulsory to submit the certificate of successful completion of the Czech language examination.
- *Asylum permissions* - refugees, i.e. persons who have been granted the asylum.<sup>193</sup>
- *EU Blue cards* – are granted for a long-term stay, which is connected with the performance of highly qualified employment<sup>194</sup> for a period longer than three months. It is awarded to citizens of states that are not members of the European Union. The Blue Card is a project of the European Union, and its aim is to attract highly skilled workers from abroad.

---

<sup>193</sup> According to Horáková, M. 2008, p. 113.

<sup>194</sup> Person must have completed University education or higher vocational education, with duration at least for 3 years. According to official website of Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NQ%3d%3d> [Accessed on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012]

- *Green cards* – are awarded to foreigners, who are not citizens of any state of the European Union and are citizens of selected countries<sup>195</sup>, in addition they must possess professional qualifications for which there is a demand in the Czech Republic. The Green Cards aim to provide maximum possible openness towards foreign applicants for jobs, whilst maintaining elements of protection of security, public order and strict punishment of violations of current law and efforts to avoid or abuse set rules.<sup>196</sup> Job offers jobs are published on the Portal of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.<sup>197</sup>

### 3.4 The International Cooperation

The Czech Republic concentrates on cooperation with international organizations, EU and Schengen Member States in order to implement its priorities pertaining to the area of migration, national border protection and asylum.<sup>198</sup>

Accepting economic migrants is the basis of the policy of legal migration and it is essential to deal with this issue on European level, in order to achieve a significant development of the EU immigration policy. The legal migration has been monitored under the Policy Plan on Legal Migration, which was accepted in Haag in 2004 for the period of 2004-2009. The European Commission in cooperation with Member States agreed to undertake, in a coordinated manner, a set of requirements, which would help to control the issue. The Commission proposed such measures, which would lead a gradual harmonization of the area of economic migration.<sup>199</sup>

At the global scale the issue is addressed also very carefully. The Global Commission on International Migration (GCIM) was established in December 2003 with

---

<sup>195</sup> Selected countries are Australia, Montenegro, Croatia, Japan, Canada, New Zealand, Bosnia and Hercegovina, Macedonia, USA, Serbia, and Ukraine.

<sup>196</sup> Official websites of Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09NA%3d%3d> [Accessed on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012]

<sup>197</sup> Official websites of Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, see on-line at [http://portal.mpsv.cz/sz/zahr\\_zam/zelka](http://portal.mpsv.cz/sz/zahr_zam/zelka) [Accessed on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012]

<sup>198</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. See on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/international-cooperation-and-the-czech-foreign-development-cooperation.aspx> [Accessed on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>199</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic. See on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/migration.aspx?q=Y2hudW09Mg%3d%3d> [Accessed on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

the aim to provide the framework for the formulation of a coherent, comprehensive and global response to the issue of international migration. Their report, which was published in 2005, offers comparative outlook at the migration issues.<sup>200</sup>

### **3.4.1 The Support of the Migrants from the European Union**

Within the European conventions framework on free labor market, European Union citizens can move freely between the member states and work without any restrictions.<sup>201</sup>

### **3.4.2 The Support of Skilled Migrants from Third Countries**

This trend started approximately in year 2000, when changes were introduced in the Czech immigration policy and it was decided that it was desirable to employ trained, qualified staff, who have interest in working in the Czech Republic.<sup>202</sup>

### **3.4.3 The Support of Other Migrants from Third Countries**

It is directed to migrants, who are willing to work in positions that cannot be filled from internal or European sources. Generally, immigrants are welcome in the Czech Republic if they are willing to work. In case they lose work and do not try to get a new one, they are required to leave. In case an employer creates a job position which he fails to fill from domestic sources, he can submit an application to the Labor Office so that the position can be opened for foreigners. If the application is granted, the employer can give the position to a worker from a third country, so the employee gets a work permit in the

---

<sup>200</sup> Haas, De, H. (2006). Engaging Diasporas. How governments and development agencies can support diaspora involvement in the development of origin countries, p. 27. International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, [www.imi.ox.ac.uk](http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk).

<sup>201</sup> Precisely due to the European Union legislation of free movement, it is hard to establish the actual numbers especially for the citizens of Slovakia and Poland, whom are among the highest represented foreign nations in the Czech Republic. Most likely their numbers are higher than indicated by the official statistics. See more in Horáková, M. 2008, p. 8.

<sup>202</sup> Hnilicová, H. 2009, p. 4.



Czech Republic and can legally work until he/she decides to leave or until the job position is cancelled.<sup>203</sup>

### **3.4.4 The Support of Specific Migration Groups**

It is a support to immigrants, who require special health and social help. Even if this does not concern large numbers of immigrant, their support has long-term support and tradition from the Czech Republic government.<sup>204</sup>

### **3.4.5 The Asylum Cooperation**

As a member state of the European Union, the Czech Republic cooperates in the area of asylum and refugee issues with other EU member states. The European Union aims to bring in a united asylum system, which could be applied by all its members. In case of the Czech Republic the legal framework for the refugee and asylum protection is embedded in Article 43 of its Charter of Fundamental Rights and Basic Freedoms.<sup>205</sup>

For more information about the number of asylum support in the Czech Republic see *Appendix II*.

### **3.4.6 The Protection for National Minorities**

The basic rights and Czech Republic has ratified the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM)<sup>206</sup> on 28 April 1995, the Convention entered

---

<sup>203</sup> The problem is that the decision of the Labor Office is valid for only one year, so both, the employer and employee must request the permit to be renewed annually. The system of foreigners' integration into employment should have been facilitated by the introduction of green cards in the year 2009. The green card operates as one document that includes both: a work permit and residency permit. It is worth mentioning that in 2009 only 300 green card applications were filed and only 50 of them have been granted. See more Richtermocová T. 2010, pp. 4-5; or Horáková, M. 2010, p. 57.

<sup>204</sup> Trombík, P. (2008). *Integrace specifických skupin imigrantů v České republice*, p. 1. Ministry of the Interior. On-line at <http://aplikace.mvcr.cz/archiv2008/azyl/integrace2/nks01/prispevek7.pdf>. [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>205</sup> The official website of Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic, se on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/asylum-migration-integration-asylum.aspx> [Accessed on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>206</sup> The Council of Europe. See the full text on-line at [http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/minorities/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/minorities/default_en.asp) [Accessed on September 12<sup>th</sup> 2012].

into force on 1 April 1998.<sup>207</sup> The Czech translation of the document is published in the Collection of Laws of the Czech Republic under No. 96/1998 Coll. The Czech Republic also committed to submitting regular monitoring reports on the implementation.<sup>208</sup>

Yet critics point out that the protection of minorities in European Union law is not fully guaranteed and only contains indications of the rights. In regard to the reservations of some Member States, there are not incorporated explicit provisions for the protection of minorities in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU. Thus the main instrument of solving eventual disputes and ethnic conflicts within the EU is the consistent application of the principle of non-discrimination.<sup>209</sup>

### **3.5 The Czech Non-Government Organizations for Foreigners**

Non-governmental non-profit organizations (NGOs) play an irreplaceable role in the area of the integration of foreigners. The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners provides the framework for supporting such organizations in their establishment, activity and development and creates conditions for their active participation in the integration of foreigners. The major NGOs, which focus on the immigration and integration problematic, are presented in the *Appendix III*.

### **3.6 The International Organizations for Migration**

International organizations help to monitor the situation of migrants in the Czech Republic as well as exercise various activities and services for them. The advantage is their long experience and involvement in this issue from the other States. The major International organizations are presented in the *Appendix IV*.

---

<sup>207</sup> The Council of Europe. See on-line at <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/Commun/ChercheSig.asp?NT=157&CM=2&DF=18/04/02&CL=ENG> [Accessed on September 12<sup>th</sup> 2012].

<sup>208</sup> Rámcová úmluva o ochraně národnostních menšin. See on-line at <http://www.vlada.cz/cz/ppov/rnm/dokumenty/mezinarodni-dokumenty/ramcova-umluva-o-ochrane-narodnostnich-mensin-6912/> [Accessed on September 12<sup>th</sup> 2012]. You can find further information in *Zpráva o situaci národnostních menšin v České republice za rok 2011*, Úřad vlády České republiky, Sekretariát Rady vlády pro národnostní menšiny, Praha 2012.

<sup>209</sup> Houžvička, V. (2012). Právo menšin v proměnách času a souvislost. IN: *The Revue Politika*, see on-line at <http://www.revuepolitika.cz/clanky/1618/> [Accessed on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

### **3.7 Conclusions**

The Policy and its amendments express the positive attitude in the direction of the foreigners' integration on the Czech territory. The legislative framework allows systematic approach towards the elimination of obstacles of the integration process. The integration of foreigners, especially from the non- European Union countries, is supported in various projects. The international cooperation with the EU and Schengen Member States, together with the non-governmental organizations plays important role in the integration of foreigners.

## 4 THE INTEGRATION OF FOREIGNERS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

This chapter discusses the integration of foreigners, is deals with the main objectives of the contemporary integration policy of the Czech Republic, and explores the key conditions in successfully integration process of the foreigners in the Czech Republic.

### 4.1 Introduction

According to Barša, integration is a process, by which the foreigners slowly incorporate into the social, cultural and political structure of the hosting society. It is a direct and natural result of migration, which has its political, legal, economic, social, cultural, psychological and religious aspects.<sup>210</sup> In addition, Divinský defines integration as “a multidimensional, dynamic and two-sided process, which is based on the reciprocity of rights and obligations of the migrant the majority”.<sup>211</sup>

Usually, we talk about the integration of foreigners, but it is important to realize that integration is, as mentioned above a two-sided process in which both, the foreigners and fundamentally also the majority, take place. The task of the majority society is, with the help of integration policies for foreigners, to create conditions for their integration into society and to help them promote their active participation in social life. Furthermore the society must provide protection against discrimination and other negative aspects guarantee respect for their rights and universally create conditions for conflict-free co-existence in the society.<sup>212</sup>

Foreigners, who wish to maintain in the hosting country permanently, should receive a full support from the hosting society. There should be a clear vision from the governmental and non-governmental officials about their prospect integration into the society, because as their living standards improve over the time, they will naturally integrate into the society – they or their children.<sup>213</sup>

---

<sup>210</sup> Barša, P. (1999). Politická teorie multikulturalismu. Brno: Centrum pro studium demokracie a kultury. See also Terminologický slovník Ministerstva vnitra České republiky. Available on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/terminologicky-slovník.aspx>. [Accessed on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>211</sup> Baštýř, I. – Vavrečková, J., 2010, p. 8.

<sup>212</sup> Horáková, M. – Bareš, P., 2010, p. 6.

<sup>213</sup> Sartori, G. 2005, p. 103.

Besides that, we shall not forget that the motivation of foreigners changes during their stay in the hosting country. That means longer they stay, more their values and motivation may alter accordingly to their new situation; they gradually become interested not only in the socio-economic security or higher income benefits as on the beginning, they are willing to participate actively also on the social level.<sup>214</sup>

## **4.2 The Equitable Approach towards the Foreigners**

To support the integration of foreigners (and not their assimilation), various integration policies and concepts developed within a short period of time. The successful integration process represents a key component in maintaining social cohesion of the hosting society.<sup>215</sup> The insufficient integration processes lead to further social difficulties, as illustrated by the European Union funding States' experience. Non-integrated immigrants tend to live in segregation and separation; they can experience lower standards of education, but importantly problems with low income, even unemployment or poverty, lower standards of education and low protection of their rights. The impact of such events is most likely passed on their children and therefore remains as a problem for the next generation as well.<sup>216</sup>

The Czech majority must be continually and systematically informed by the public bodies. Otherwise the integration process of the foreigners' turns to be problematic as none of the parties understands the motives of the other party. Most commonly the integration is understood as "integration of foreigners", where all the obligations are summoned upon the foreigner, yet the integration is two-sided process, in which the active participation of the hosting society is required. However, on the side of foreigners, the integration calls for individual responsibility and willingness for the integration itself. It requires the respect for values of the hosting country, and the European Union as well.<sup>217</sup>

In addition, the 2008 Czech Republic received much criticism from the European Union Agency for Human Rights concerning the problematic of racism and xenophobia. The reason for this is the lack of anti-discrimination law, which is absent among the

---

<sup>214</sup> Uherek, Z. 2005, p. 3

<sup>215</sup> Baštýř, I. – Vavrečková, J, 2010, p.8.

<sup>216</sup> Ibid.

<sup>217</sup> Uherek, Z. 2005, p. 3

member countries only by the Czech Republic. It has also established an independent body to oversee the observance of equality. Another major shortcoming is insufficient statistical data, which would monitor the xenophobic attitudes and its consequences, also lack of information concerning the life of ethnic minorities.<sup>218</sup>

### **4.3 The Aim of the Policy for Integration of Foreigners**

The Policy of Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic aims to ensure that foreigners know their rights and are able to meet its obligations, having enough information about where, if necessary, find help and support. It aims to ensure that they are acquainted with the new environment, habits and way of life in the host country, which they chose for their new, whether temporary or permanent home. It further stresses the importance of understanding and being able to communicate in English, and being independent and self-sufficient in terms of social and economic.

In the area of co-existence, the integration policy builds up on sharing of information about the culture and circumstances in the country of origin of foreigners as well as informing about the conditions of their existence in the Czech Republic, it stresses the importance of the development of mutual knowledge and understanding between foreigners and the majority.<sup>219</sup>

More close ideas, how the Czech Republic fulfills the Aims of Policy for Integration of Foreigners at international scales provides MIPEX (Migrant Integration Policy Index). The 2010 report indicates that the Czech Republic integration criteria's are below average, however mostly the highest among the countries from Central and Eastern Europe.<sup>220</sup>

---

<sup>218</sup> Rasismus a Xenofobie. On-line at <http://www.multikulturazlin.cz/l.php?id=26> [Accessed on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2012].

<sup>219</sup> Aktualizovaná Koncepce integrace cizinců. Společné soužití. (2011). Usnesení Vlády České republiky. On-line at [http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni\\_vlady\\_09022011.pdf](http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni_vlady_09022011.pdf). [Accessed on July 10<sup>th</sup> 2012].

<sup>220</sup> MIPEX (Migrant Integration Policy Index) is a tool to compare and improve integration policy, which include the European Economic Community (EEC), but also Canada and the USA. MIPEX evaluates from versatile point of view the individual policies towards the immigrants and assesses, to what extent they are assigned equal rights, obligations and opportunities. Huddleston, T. – Niessen, J. – Ni Chaoimh, E. – White, E. (2011). Migrant Integration Policy Index III. British Council: Brusel. On-line at

## 4.4 The Key Conditions for Successful Integration

According to the Policy for Integration of Foreigners, the key conditions for successful integration of foreigners in the Czech Republic are considered to be:

- knowledge of the Czech language on the foreigners' part
- economic self-sufficiency of the foreigner
- foreigners' knowledge of the society
- mutual relations between foreigners and the majority society<sup>221</sup>

By accepting these assumptions as the relevant conditions for successful integration, simply by negating them, we get a hold of general idea, what major barriers stand up against the integration process of the foreigners in the Czech Republic. It indicates language barriers, which may then correlate with problems to find adequate work and ability to sustain economic independency; it is followed by the lack of knowledge of the Czech legislation, and we cannot forget the negative aspects caused by the detachment of the foreigners upon the hosting society, the approach of the hosting society itself, with its possible prejudiced and intolerant behavior, etc.

The next part discusses therefore the individual aspects and integration barriers from a broader perspective.

### 4.4.1 The Knowledge of the Czech Language

The level of the Czech language of some foreigners is very low. This applies especially to those foreigners who have been living in the Czech Republic shortly or those who are not frequently in contact with the majority (housewives, some professions). Often a language barrier develops between children and their parents. The children learn Czech and start to forget their native language whereas their parents do not manage Czech.<sup>222</sup>

---

[http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/ceska\\_republika\\_abridged\\_migrant\\_integration\\_policy\\_in\\_dex\\_mipexiii\\_2011\\_bybccczechrepublic\\_cz.pdf](http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/ceska_republika_abridged_migrant_integration_policy_in_dex_mipexiii_2011_bybccczechrepublic_cz.pdf). [Accessed on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>221</sup> Hnilicová, H. 2009, pp. 4-5.

<sup>222</sup> Rákoczyová, M. – Trbola, R. – Vyhlídal, J. 2011, pp. 26 – 27.

Thus, language integration contributes to cultural estrangement, which is unfortunately inevitable.<sup>223</sup>

Although a whole range of non-governmental organizations offers lessons of the Czech language, providing of Czech classes for foreigners is still insufficient. The classes are not available in the area of immigrant's residence, often accompanied by technical problems (e.g. inadequately educated tutors, poor continuity of courses) or they might take place at unsuitable time – a great number of foreigners have extremely long working hours, especially at the beginning of their stay. It is also necessary to provide classes of higher level so that they gain more than only basic language knowledge, which helps them when performing work but does not lead to further development. Thus the process of their integration is stuck. Furthermore, foreigners often do not know about the possibility of attending Czech courses. In addition, they might not be interested to learn with other people.<sup>224</sup>

In 2009, an examination from the Czech language came in affect as a compulsory condition for obtaining permanent residence in the Czech Republic. Certainly, this is a step in the right direction, however, there are problems associated with it (for example this rule contributes to homogenization of the society). Moreover, even after passing the examination the foreigners do not know Czech well enough (it has been found that the system has not worked smoothly as it has been often evaded – e.g. someone else does the examination instead of the immigrant, the examiners are bribed etc.).<sup>225</sup> Next to that, some foreigners do not apply for permanent residence, so they can live in the Czech Republic for many years without learning the language. This leads to permanent isolation from the society.

Czech lessons for children represent another big problem. Even though it is obvious that children's knowledge of Czech is a prerequisite for their integration, free Czech tuitions for children out of the European Union are not nationwide offered. At the same time, the portion of immigrants' offspring at schools steadily increases (in some locations it is close to 10 %). However, the integration of such children is the easiest if these

---

<sup>223</sup> Horáková, M. – Bareš, P. 2010, p. 6.

<sup>224</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, pp. 83-85. Aktualizovaná Koncepce 2011. See also Horáková, M. – Bareš, P. 2010 or Baštýř, I. – Vavrečková, J. 2010, p. 15.

<sup>225</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 113.



children attend school from first grade. Older children adapt to new conditions harder and thus they usually attend a lower grade than corresponds to their age. Apparently, children of foreigners who struggle with the Czech language when being taught need to be placed among pupils with special educational needs. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports has been asked to create a legislative framework for this issue.<sup>226</sup>

MIPEX evaluates the education of children of foreigners in the Czech Republic as average (15. place from 31 evaluated countries), which is the best position among the countries from Central and Eastern Europe (together with Austria).<sup>227</sup>

It is clear that without the adequate knowledge of Czech language foreigners cannot overcome other obstacles, which than prevent their further integration. Such obstacles include difficulties when applying for skilled jobs, dealing with authorities, when claiming rights, problems with adaptation to Czech society, finding Czech friends and participation in public life.<sup>228</sup>

#### **4.4.2 The Foreigners' Knowledge of the Society**

Understanding of the cultural background, knowledge of laws, obligations, local conditions and customs, social self-sufficiency – all these are prerequisites for successful integration into society. One of the key issues preventing foreigners from integration is the fact that those who come to work to the Czech Republic have usually very little knowledge about local living conditions and society. Their ideas about the life here are misrepresented and expectations unreal. As a result, a great number of foreigners in this country fail in settling down, as they face financial crisis, they may get into semi-legal or illegal living conditions or activities, which can lead to further distancing from the Czech majority, even to an expulsion from the legal authorities. For foreigners coming from a very different cultural background even everyday matters, such as obtaining a driving license, may present big obstacles.

---

<sup>226</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 84.

<sup>227</sup> Huddleston, T. – Niessen, J. – Ni Chaoimh, E. – White, E. 2011, p. 13.

<sup>228</sup> Rákoczyová, M. – Trbola, R. – Vyhliđal, J. (2011). Lokální strategie integrace cizinců v ČR II. VÚPSV: Praha. p. 33.

Another problem, which affects the foreigners most, is the bureaucracy and administration processes. In general, foreigners complain mostly about filling a huge number of forms, which are complicated (not only for them but sometimes also for Czechs or even clerks). Besides, these forms are unintelligible and the foreigners do not usually know what each form serves for, they consider them useless and annoying.<sup>229</sup>

The approach of clerks is an associated issue. The clerks tend to be not very helpful—they often treat the foreigners dismissively or even arrogantly. Most of them do not speak any foreign languages and it seems that they lack endeavor to adjust to new conditions (which means to an increasing number of foreigners living in the Czech Republic). For these reasons, e.g. the Vietnamese use the services of their “fellow citizens”, who can speak Czech relatively well, with knowledge of the Czech background and who help others with dealing with authorities. Other difficulties are caused by slow procedure of authorities such as access to social benefits.<sup>230</sup>

Although a whole range of information publications (prepared by governmental as well as by non-governmental organizations) has been prepared in various languages (and thus understandable for foreigners), the awareness is still very low. Many foreigners do not get to these documents at all or they do not consider them important. Similarly, socio-cultural courses for foreigners organized e.g. by Centers for integration of foreigners are often faced with a lack of interest from the immigrants themselves. Present experience indicates that prevention in this area is necessary. It is important to inform foreigners before their arrival to the Czech Republic, so that they have the opportunity to consider their decisions about emigration and their possibilities to succeed within the Czech society.

231

#### **4.4.3 The Economical Sufficiency of the Foreigner**

In regard of the fact that foreigners generally come to the Czech Republic in order to better their economic situation, they already usually have a clear idea of how they will

---

<sup>229</sup> Menšinová problematika v ČR, 2006.

<sup>230</sup> Uherek, Z. – Korecká, Z. – Pojarová, T. (2008). Cizinecké komunity z antropologické perspektivy: vybrané případy významných imigračních skupin v České republice, p. 185. Etnologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha.

<sup>231</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 11.

make a living. They often arranged a job in advance or they have somebody who will help them when they start looking for a job relatives and friend for Vietnamese and “clients” for Ukrainians).<sup>232</sup>

From the international point of view the access to the job market in the Czech Republic is evaluated as average. According to MIPEX, the Czech Republic ranked 15<sup>th</sup> place in this criterion, the best among the Central and Eastern countries (except of Romania, which stands 11<sup>th</sup>).<sup>233</sup>

The actual obtaining of employment is for that reason not the most relevant issue. Most foreigners from Third Countries represent cheap and flexible work force for Czech employers. They are employed in positions which do not require high qualification such as manual work, assembly line production etc. The fact that foreigners do not usually perform work, which matches their qualification, causes that their real potential is partially unused. It is also common that employers do not care about the professional development of foreign workers. Another issue is that such positions are for foreigners an uncertain and temporary source of income, which fluctuates according to economic prosperity of individual companies, or more precisely general economic situation of the country.

Furthermore, these positions often bring foreigner other disadvantages. When they find employment through job agencies, their actual employer does not have to provide them with paid holiday; he does not pay their social and health insurance. Some disrespectful employers can mistreat immigrants in other ways. Hence, it is important to reduce administrative difficulty for both foreigners applying for stable and legal positions as well as for employers who offer such positions. At the same time, it is necessary to ensure that foreigners will not increase unemployment of the majority.<sup>234</sup>

Fundamental problems arise when foreigner lose their jobs. Czech laws allow foreigners on the territory of the Czech Republic under strict conditions, and it means that if the foreigner loses his/her job, they usually have only the following options: find some

---

<sup>232</sup> Uherek, Z. - Korecká, Z. - Pojarová, T. 2008 p. 113.

<sup>233</sup> Huddleston, T. – Niessen. J. – Ni Chaoimh, E. – White, E. 2011, p. 11.

<sup>234</sup> Drbohlav, D. 2010, p. 11.

job as soon as possible, leave the country or to become illegal immigrant. This is one of the reasons, why it is very hard for the Ukrainians to get out of the client system.<sup>235</sup>

#### **4.4.4 The Integration into the Hosting Society**

One of the aims of the integration policy is to support peaceful coexistence of foreigners and local society. Well-informed civil society is of particular importance in the process of integration. Important role can play media, which can provide public with objective and adequate information about foreigners. It is necessary to support the development of relations between foreigners and Czech society and thus prevent formation of closed ethical communities. Czech xenophobia proves to be rather reluctance or even indifference towards them, who thus find themselves in social isolation. One of the problems is a small number of cultural and social activities during which Czechs and foreigners could meet and get to know each other better.<sup>236</sup>

Foreigners, who wish to maintain in the hosting country permanently, should receive a full support from the society. Acquiring of citizenship can be in a sense considered as completion of the process of integration into society even though the reality can be different. Nevertheless, it is important that foreigners not only get to know Czech society and its functions but also accept and respect its rules. Integration from the side of foreigners expects their personal responsibility, initiative and will to be involved in society, law knowledge, following duties and respecting values of the recipient country as well as the European Union.<sup>237</sup>

Regarding the society on the other hand, it is important to guarantee respect of the rights and liberty of the foreigners. Even though the Czech Republic is a country with the least number of conflicts between foreign community and local inhabitants, the situation must be monitored, because with increasing number of foreigners have been observed also higher figure of racist crime, xenophobic attitudes or hostility between local inhabitants and foreigners.<sup>238</sup>

---

<sup>235</sup> Ibid.

<sup>236</sup> Janská E. - Drbohlav, D. 2008, p. 65.

<sup>237</sup> Rákoczyová, M. – Trbola, R. – Vyhlídal, J. 2011, p. 29.

<sup>238</sup> Ibid.

The MIPEX surveys indicated that the Czech Republic shows considerable reserves in this area. Only the possibility of obtaining permanent residence is assessed positively - the Czech Republic ranked 10<sup>th</sup> site (along with Poland), better than, for example United Kingdom, Germany or Canada. But in terms of protection against discrimination, the Czech Republic ranked as the 25<sup>th</sup> and in terms of immigrant participation in political life, even the 30<sup>th</sup> position, second last before Romania. Alarming is the fact that, unlike the older researches, there has been almost no progress in these areas in the Czech Republic so far.<sup>239</sup>

Different situation occurs with the younger Czech generation as many young Czechs have travelled abroad because of work or tourism and thus they have richer experience with foreigners. Besides, a great number of them speak at least partially a foreign language (especially English), which gives them a better opportunity to communicate with some foreigners.<sup>240</sup>

## **4.5 Conclusions**

The successful integration process represents a key component in maintaining social cohesion of the hosting society. One of the aims of the Czech integration policy is to support peaceful coexistence of foreigners and the Czech society. The integration Policy builds up on sharing of information about the culture and circumstances in the country of origin of foreigners as well as informing about the conditions of their existence in the Czech Republic, it stresses the importance of the development of mutual knowledge and understanding between foreigners and the majority.

Is important to realize that integration is, a two-sided process in which both, the foreigners and fundamentally also the majority, take place. Well-informed civil society is therefore of particular importance in the process of integration. The task of the majority society is, with the help of integration mechanisms, to create conditions for their integration into society and to open dialogue with them. Furthermore the society must provide protection against discrimination and other negative aspects guarantee respect for their rights and universally create conditions for conflict-free co-existence in the society.

---

<sup>239</sup> Huddleston, T. – Niessen, J. – Ni Chaoimh, E. – White, E. 2011, pp. 15-23.

<sup>240</sup> Rákoczyová, M. - Trbola, R. - Vyhlídal, J. 2011, p. 29.

On the other hand, the integration process involves active participation from the side of the foreigners. In order to achieve successful co-existence, they must demonstrate respect for the values of the recipient country, personal initiative and will to be involved in the hosting society.

Although there has been significant progress in regards of an attempt to incorporate foreigners into the society, and to inform adequately Czech citizens about the migratory phenomenon, many of the native Czechs act reluctantly towards foreigners. Such attitude creates xenophobic feelings on both sides. The incorporation of the foreigners into the society becomes slow and rather incomplete, which supports high level of social exclusion and low protection of their rights. The insufficient integration processes may therefore lead to further social difficulties.

## II RESEARCH PART

### 1 INTRODUCTION

The research itself centers at the immigrants with Vietnamese and Ukrainian origin in the South Bohemian Region, particularly in České Budějovice. I decided to compare the problematic of integration and coexistence within the Czech society of these two communities. The first chapter of the research part introduces the main objectives of the research, presents the research questions and the cluster of the respondents with general characteristic of the researched communities. It also briefly outlines the research area's socio-economical background.

I would like to note right at the beginning that I am conscious of all the shortcomings that such firstborn research contains. Nevertheless, I hope that despite these limitations, this work will bring benefit both for the general public as well as for the professionals.

#### 1.1 The Research Objectives

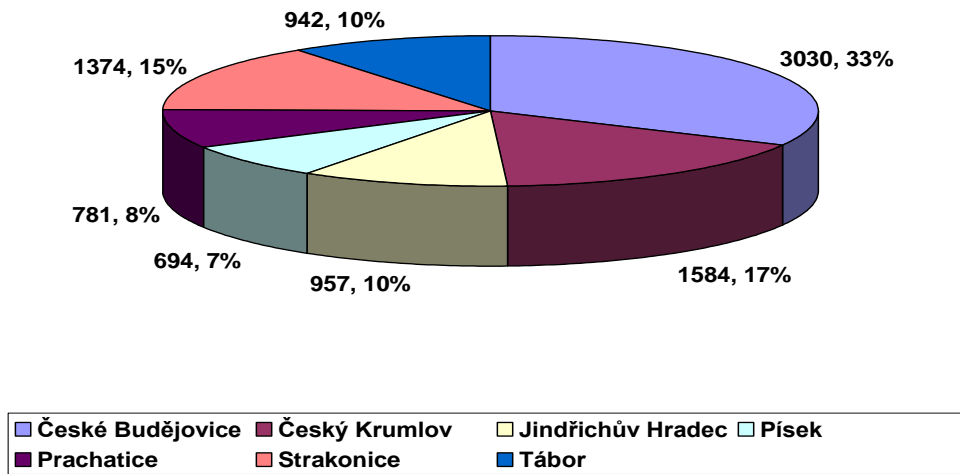
The main objective of the research itself was to identify the major obstacles in the integration process of the third-country nationals in the Czech Republic and also the attitude of the immigrants towards the integration process and their perception of the major obstacles, which directly affect their life conditions in the Czech Republic.

As already pointed out, the research concerns only the legally living foreigners in the Czech Republic. The issue of integration of illegally living foreigners is certainly also very interesting, but the research of that group would be much more demanding in terms of preparation of the research and the subsequent analysis of its results.<sup>241</sup>

---

<sup>241</sup> It can be expected that the responses on certain sensitive issues by illegal immigrants might be significantly distorted than by the legal living foreigners. The research of illegal immigrants studies for example Drbohlav, D. – Janská, E. – Šelepová, P. 2003.

Figure 1 – Third-country nationals with residential permits in South Bohemian Region by 30. 6. 2012



Source: Own adaptation, based on data of The Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic<sup>242</sup>

## 1.2 The Research Sample

The research was conducted with the third-country nationals of Vietnamese and Ukrainian origin, whom legally reside and work (or study in case of two students) in South Bohemian Region, particularly in České Budějovice. The reason I chose these two nationalities and the area is precisely because they constitute the highest number of third-country immigrants in this area. Furthermore, as České Budějovice resident, I was keen on exploring this phenomenon within my immediate neighborhood. See more about the foreigners' stratification in the South Bohemian Region in the *Figure 1*.

At the same time the choice of the immigrants with Vietnamese and Ukrainian origin was a logical step, in terms of availability of primary and secondary data (statistics, literature and the possibility to draw information from already published researches). Furthermore, its role played also the different living conditions of the two nationalities. Historical, linguistic and geographical proximity on one hand, while on the other hand -

<sup>242</sup> Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky. On-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/cizinci-s-povolenym-pobytem.aspx>. [Accessed on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012].



despite the geographical distance, significant ties with the Vietnamese community thanks to the communist era.

Since the selection of respondents was largely random, the representation of both nationalities is not fully proportional to their actual numbers in České Budějovice. It is important to understand that the sample is not and cannot be representative in regard to the definition that “a group of foreigners is substantially closed, fluid and diverse”.<sup>243</sup> The results of my research were, however, compared with the general facts, some of which are presented in the theoretical part of this work. Based on the correlation, I am able to draw conclusions from "multiple established facts".<sup>244</sup>

### **1.2.1 The General Characteristic of the Research Sample**

The Ukrainian and the Vietnamese communities encompass the largest number of the third-country immigrants in the Czech Republic. Both groups have many features in common. They may have arrived on their own or as part of an established transnational network. Primarily they are economic immigrants, who spend many hours at work and are left with minimal free time. A considerable number of them do not speak Czech, which leads to the formation of a relatively closed community, which keeps interaction with Czech majority to the minimum. The degree of their integration into Czech society can be in some cases extremely low.<sup>245</sup> Most of them have been living in the Czech Republic for many years, yet somehow “temporarily” (even with permanent residential statuses), it seems they never know whether in the near future they will move back, either on their own decision or in correlation to the socio-economic transformation, such as disruption of economy, country’s democratic instability, disparity in immigration laws, etc.<sup>246</sup>

As already mentioned earlier, it seems that most third-country nationals work in fields where their full potential (education) is not being used to the maximum. This fact can further enhance the lack of involvement with the majority. Many Ukrainians and

---

<sup>243</sup> See for example Šišková, T. (ed.) (2001). *Menšiny a migranti v České republice*, pp. 90-93. Portál: Praha or Drbohlav, whose research possibilities of Ukrainian immigrants in the Czech Republic are undoubtedly far broader than mine - also stated that his examined sample is not representative in a general sense.

<sup>244</sup> Šišková, T. 2001, pp. 90-93.

<sup>245</sup> Brouček, S. 2003, p. 7, p. 20.

<sup>246</sup> Ibid.

Vietnamese have high school or university degrees, but they end up working in positions absolutely inadequate to their actual education, e.g. which require only basic education, and consequently they receive financial reward accordingly to such positions. It is even more striking when it comes to female immigrants. In highly qualified professional fields work about 8 % of all immigrants, whereas immigrants from the European Union comprise 10 %, non-European Union nationals' only 6 %.<sup>247</sup> The majority of Ukrainians work in construction (men), while women usually take a cleaning job. The Vietnamese immigrants used to work as shop assistants in open markets, but nowadays we find them more in regular "brick and mortar" shops (food stores, nail stores, clothes stores), but they also work at factories.<sup>248</sup>

### 1.3 The Research Questions

In order to achieve valid and accurate research, I established several research questions, which are presented in this section. I selected the research questions in the context of the four primary areas for successful integration of foreigner, as outlined by the Policy for the Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic, which I presented in the theoretical part of this thesis.<sup>249</sup> Shortly, the four integration areas are:

- Knowledge of the Czech language on the foreigners' part
- Economic self-sufficiency of the foreigner
- Foreigners' knowledge of the society
- Mutual relations between foreigners and the majority society.

By accepting these assumptions as the relevant conditions for successful integration, simply by opposing them, we may come to a general understanding, what major barriers stand up against the successful integration process of the foreigners in the Czech Republic. It points out that language barriers can be associate with problems to find adequate work, which further affects the ability to sustain economic independency; poor knowledge of the Czech legislation leads to vulnerability and potential risky situation in

---

<sup>247</sup> Horáková, M. 2008, p. 64, p. 82.

<sup>248</sup> Ibid, p. 48.

<sup>249</sup> Aktualizovaná Koncepce integrace cizinců. Společné soužití. (2011). Usnesení Vlády České republiky. On-line at [http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni\\_vlady\\_09022011.pdf](http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni_vlady_09022011.pdf).

areas of employment, housing situation or security; and if the mutual relations between the foreigners and the majority are not rightly developed, it may cause a detachment of the foreigners from the hosting society, while the society may respond with prejudice, xenophobic feelings and intolerance.

The following research questions are in close connotation with the above outlined integration areas.

- **Does the degree of integration of third-country nationals deepen in correspondence to the length of stay in the Czech Republic?**

The idea is to find out whether a third-country national, who lives in the Czech Republic for a certain time and he/she gets accustomed to local conditions, even, learns partially the language, if he/ she continues gradually to progress in the integration process in relevance to the length of stay or whether this process gradually weakens until it terminates. I presume that longer the foreigner stay in the Czech Republic, his/hers degree of integration deepens. I suppose that the respondents will show diversity in the process of integration and coexistence with the Czech society in relation to their age, gender, education level, future plans, etc.

- **Do the third-country nationals change their jobs frequently?**

The question refers to difficulties with work permits and work in general. In correspondence with the actual working policy, if the immigrant loses the job, he/she has to find quickly another one or to leave the country. That leads to a hypothesis that for this reason, most foreigners try to keep the same job. Also I suppose that with inadequate knowledge of Czech language, they are not able to negotiate well their working conditions.

- **Do the third-country nationals perceive discrimination from the Czech majority?**

My hypothesis is that longer the foreigners stay in the Czech Republic, more they develop favorable relations with the majority. The practical part of this paper investigates, if third-country nationals feel discriminated in the Czech Republic; it is not the aim of this thesis to answer the question what is the attitude of Czech society towards the foreigners.

## **1.4 The Portrayal of the Research Area**

South Bohemian Region (hereinafter “Region”) constitutes of 17 administrative districts of municipalities with extended competence and 37 administrative districts of municipalities with commissioned local authority as of January 1, 2003. The Region had about 637,600 inhabitants at the end of 2009, which represents the lowest density of population in the Czech Republic. The highest density of population has the České Budějovice District with practically 30 % of the inhabitants living in this District. The town of České Budějovice itself has almost 98,000 permanent residents, other major towns include Tábor (35,500 inhabitants), Písek (29,900), Strakonice (23,100) and Jindřichův Hradec (22,500).<sup>250</sup>

The Region does not rank among key industrial areas - its 2009 share in sales of industrial enterprises accounted for 4.2 % of the Czech Republic total. Manufacturing (mainly manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers and manufacture of food products) prevails over the other industries. Activities in construction account for 4.7 % of the Czech Republic total construction output. According to labor force sample surveys there is more than 300,000 employees in the Region, one third of which accounts for industry sector, 12 % for trade and repair of personal and household goods and 10 % for construction. In the statistical Business Register almost 152,000 enterprises, organizations and entrepreneurs were registered in the end of 2009.

The network of educational establishments comprises 294 nursery schools, 254 basic schools and 97 secondary schools, including 26 grammar schools. University education can be obtained at some of public universities - in the town of České Budějovice

---

<sup>250</sup> Kostrhounová, P. 2009, p. 28.

where is the seat of the University of South Bohemia with 8 faculties or Institute of Technology and Business, or in Jindřichův Hradec, which hosts the Management Faculty of the University of Economics, Prague. Besides, there are also 3 private colleges, namely the College of European and Regional Studies or College of Applied Economic Studies in České Budějovice or the Film Academy of Miroslav Ondříček in Písek. Together, almost 16,000 students are receiving their university education in the Region.<sup>251</sup>

The Region nowadays benefits from its proximity to Austria and Germany. This position along the border offers favorable conditions for effective cross-border cooperation in many fields, such as manufacturing, tourism, or services. The Region has always had a recreational rather than developed industrial character; it offers unspoiled countryside and many national heritage buildings and monuments. The historical centers of the following towns have been voted urban conservation areas: České Budějovice, Český Krumlov (inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List), Jindřichův Hradec, Prachatic, Slavonice, Tábor and Třeboň.<sup>252</sup> In 2009, there were reported more than 917,000 guests, from which almost one third was constituted of foreigners, above all coming from Germany, the Netherlands and the Austria.<sup>253</sup>

As regards the proportion of foreigners, the Region does not represent any significant exception compared to the rest of the country - the proportion of foreigners in the Region consists of 2 %, only in terms of České Budějovice 3 %. The five most widely represented nationalities of foreigners are the same as in the whole Czech Republic. Their actual numbers for 2009 is presented in *Figure 2*.

---

<sup>251</sup> Czech statistical office, Statistická ročenka 2010. On-line at <http://www.czso.cz/csu/2010edicniplan.nsf/publ/0001-10->. [Accessed on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012].

<sup>252</sup> Ibid.

<sup>253</sup> Ibid.

| <b>Figure 2 – Foreigners in South Bohemian Region in 2009</b>            |                   |                |                   |                 |               |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|  | <b>Ukrainians</b> | <b>Slovaks</b> | <b>Vietnamese</b> | <b>Russians</b> | <b>Polish</b> |
| South Bohemian Region  | 4575              | 2610           | 2483              | 533             | 307           |
| České Budějovice   | 1503              | 956            | 487               | 295             | 39            |
| Český Krumlov  | 620               | 331            | 512               | 113             | 71            |
| Jindřichův Hradec  | 246               | 288            | 553               | 36              | 56            |
| Písek  | 326               | 222            | 108               | 27              | 29            |
| Prachatice   | 256               | 146            | 464               | 25              | 26            |
| Strakonice   | 1080              | 326            | 241               | 9               | 47            |
| Tábor  | 544               | 341            | 118               | 28              | 39            |
| <i>Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office</i> |                   |                |                   |                 |               |

## **1.5 Conclusions**

The presented research objectives, research area and research sample compose a fundamental background for a successful research. The research questions help to focus on the relevant issues and problematic, which I tend to explore, construct and categorize in my empirical research.

## 2 METHODOLOGIES

This chapter introduces the methodological framework of the research. It describes the actual methodological steps such as research design, determination of research objectives and of research questions, data collection, the consequent analyzes of the data, which are imperative for the research procedure and need to be taken in account prior the own empirical research.

### 2.1 The Research Design

I chose to employ a case study framework for the research. A case study in social sciences is an empirical method which purpose, by definition, is a very detailed research of one or a few cases.<sup>254</sup> The adjective “empirical” indicates key characteristic of this framework, where the basis of a research is a collection of real data. All available sources and methods of data collection such as observation, interviews, document analysis etc. are used to gain relevant data

To conduct a research through a case study framework literally means to be in the place of direct action, to be in the center of events, to collect data and evidence at first hand. The research takes place in real context under as natural conditions as possible.

From this perspective, case study is a real research strategy, not only a single technique.<sup>255</sup>

### 2.2 The Choice of Research Questions

The research questions forms the core of my research project. They have three main functions:

- Help me to keep the research in accordance with the research objectives
- Show the way, how to lead the research
- Present another narrowing specification of the research problematic

---

<sup>254</sup> Šed'ová, K. – Švaříček, R. et al (2007). Kvalitativní výzkum v pedagogických vědách. Portál: Praha, p. 97.

<sup>255</sup> Ibid, p.98.

Even though the features of a qualitative study are openness and reliance on improvisation, it is important to define the research questions clearly, so that at the end I am able to identify whether the thesis answered my questions or not. In accordance with the circular character of the qualitative study, the research questions were again examined once I was collecting the data and also during the following analysis. In more complex studies only one question is hardly sufficient.<sup>256</sup>

### **2.3 The Determination of the Research Objectives**

It should be noted that the significance of goals (results of any research) is not universal, but it is always related to a specific group of people. It is therefore necessary that the researcher must be clear about who will benefit from the presented thesis, to whom it will be relevant, or who might be inspired from it, etc.

There are usually distinguished three types of goals:

- Intellectual - how the project will contribute to the expansion of professional knowledge
- Practical - whether the results can be used in some practical way
- Personnel - how work on the project enrich the researcher himself

Research objectives, together with the research questions represent an imaginary compass which is essential during the whole research process in order to monitor whether the researcher is meeting his research objectives or not. Professional community-oriented goals and objectives oriented to application in practice are by no means exclusive.<sup>257</sup>

---

<sup>256</sup> Ibid, pp. 69-70.

<sup>257</sup> Ibid, p. 64.



## 2.4 The Methodology of Data Collection

### 2.4.1 The Choice of Method

The research itself consists of quantitative and qualitative part. The sample construction in the qualitative design differs from the sample in the quantitative design. Its construction (choice) is therefore not casual but theoretical - it is intentionally created with regard to the research problem. It also implies close correlation with the research questions.<sup>258</sup>

#### 2.4.1.1 Quantitative Method

I have chosen the method of questionnaires for the quantitative part. Regarding the amount of collected data, this method is fast and effective. Since the questionnaire is anonymous, respondents usually provide veritable answers. Moreover, they can leave out uncomfortable or unclear questions. On the other hand, a disadvantage of this method is the fact that very few questionnaires get back to the researcher. Some respondents do not return the questionnaires and even part of those returned ones is incomplete or imprecisely filled in. The problem is that the questionnaire loss is “systematic”. This means that people who decline to hand in the questionnaires can have specific social features, which are crucial for the results. In this particular case, e.g. immigrants who have bad experience with Czech majority and low integration degree will probably not be willing to participate in the research.<sup>259</sup>

Another disadvantage of the questionnaire is that respondents (even though assured of anonymity) can hesitate to share some sensitive information and thus increase the risk that the results will be not accurate. This risk I hoped to reduce by the interviews, which followed up usually after the questionnaires had been filled. The structure of the interview was similar to that one of the questionnaire; however, it was possible to discuss the issues in broad context.<sup>260</sup>

---

<sup>258</sup> Ibid, pp. 72-73.

<sup>259</sup> For the methodology comparison see Disman, M. (1993). *Jak se vyrábí sociologická znalost*. Karolinum: Praha, pp. 127-141.

<sup>260</sup> Ibid, p. 162.

In order to be sure that the questionnaire is clear and brings valid results, I did a preliminary study in advance. Five respondents were required to fill in the questionnaire. As the questionnaire needed to be slightly corrected afterwards, the results of the preliminary study were not included in the overall results.

#### **2.4.1.2 Qualitative Method**

The purpose of the second – qualitative – part was to learn about life stories of particular respondents and to find out more personal approach and information about their life in the Czech Republic. The qualitative part of the research was in the form of a structured interview. This method brings several important advantages. These include closer identification of respondents' opinions. I was able to gain detailed information and thus get to know the respondents better in places where I had received only brief and one-word answers. Besides that, this method allows to get full answers to all (or almost all) questions. The respondents do not try to avoid the answers.

However, the main disadvantage of this method is that it is time-consuming and technically challenging. For that reason, I decided to carry on a further interview only with several respondents. The selection of these participants was random; though it was based on their enthusiasm to cooperate profoundly within the research.<sup>261</sup>

#### **2.4.2 The Procedure of the Data Collection**

Data collection (questionnaires and interviews) took place in the second half of 2011. I contacted both foreigner nationals in my neighborhood, but for the Vietnamese community the contact was mainly with the help of CPIC. Although I was eager to include people of Vietnamese origin working in local shops or restaurants, it was more or less impossible talking to them without the mediator. In cases of Ukrainian respondents it is far easier to contact them directly. I was able to contact Ukrainian nationals outside CPIC.

The presented questionnaires were submitted to the respondents in Czech language. In case of the Vietnamese respondents I used the help of one Vietnamese translator, who cooperates closely with CPIC, who partly translated the questionnaire into Vietnamese

---

<sup>261</sup> Ibid.

language, while anything else was explained to the respondents out loud. In case the Ukrainian respondents needed explanation with the questionnaire, I used my knowledge of Russian, eventually they along had sufficient level of the Czech language.

Interviews usually followed after the questionnaire was filled out. Interviews were conducted in an open, friendly atmosphere, either in the workplace of the respondent, at the Center for support of the integration of foreigners (CPIC)<sup>262</sup> or in the cafeteria. The interviews were recorded in writing. Results of the interviews I transcribed into form of narrative stories, which I present in the *Appendix VI*.

All questioned respondents reported that they are legally residing in the Czech Republic. Minimum period of residence has not been assigned, since one of the researched issues is the time influence in the integration procedure. The illegal foreigners living in the Czech Republic were precluded from the survey, since their life conditions are very hard to investigate without a trusted intermediary.<sup>263</sup>

## **2.5 The Analysis of the Data Collection**

Analysis of the empirical data processing was conducted in such way that it can answer to the research questions. Analysis and interpretation of data are closely linked with the objectives of the research. There are not specific analytical procedures designed purely for case studies. That produces situation in which almost every study represents a somewhat original analytical and interpretative approach.<sup>264</sup>

## **2.6 The Ethical Dimension of the Research**

Since a survey, which includes any group of people, is always a sensitive issue, I naturally respected ethic code associated with the field research. All participants were acquainted with the purpose of the questionnaires. It was explained that the results will be

---

<sup>262</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.integracnicentra.cz/en/>. [Accessed on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>263</sup> Šišková, T. 2001, p. 92.

<sup>264</sup> Šed'ová, K. 2007, pp. 108-110.

used exclusively for my thesis. In order to preserve anonymity I assured them that no quotations will be provided with any name or identification features of the respondents.

## **2.7 Conclusions**

The research methodology represents an imperative and vital part of my research. Only with the understanding what are the compulsory steps of any scientific research, it is possible to execute a consistent and purposeful research. I opted for the case study framework which allowed me to focus on the real data in real time.

## 3 THE RESEARCH SUMMARY

### 3. A QUESTIONNAIRES

This chapter evaluates the returned questionnaires. The respondents' answers were transcribed and summarized into tables, graphs and short commentaries. As mentioned earlier, some questions might have been intentionally omitted, because the respondents were not comfortable with the questions and might have feared stalking. Alternatively, they might have just simply not fully understood the question.

#### 3.1 The Organization of the Questionnaire

I have handed out a total of 50 questionnaires, of which 30 returned back. I therefore processed a total of 30 questionnaires. The questionnaire itself consists of a total of 26 questions. The questions were divided into four central parts, according to the major topics:

- Personal data
- Residence in the Czech Republic
- Work environment
- Integration issues

The personal data present first five questions, which relate to the personal facts, such as age, ethnicity, gender, educational level and family status. The second set of questions is directed towards the residence conditions in the Czech Republic, such as circumstances of entering the Czech Republic, why did they choose the Czech Republic, if they intend to stay here permanently, etc. The third group of questions is heading for the work environment of the respondents - work and income satisfaction, type of work, etc. The last six questions deal with the Integration issues, which form the core part of this research, what are the major obstacles in the integration of the third-country nationals in the Czech Republic, discrimination issues, language barriers, etc.

The questionnaire forms part of the *Appendix I*.

## 3.2 The Evaluation of the Questionnaire

### 3.2.1 Personal Data

This section presents personal facts, such as nationality, age, gender, the highest accomplished education, and the family status of the respondents.

#### 3.2.1.1 Nationality

From the total of 30 respondents, 18 respondents were of Vietnamese origin and 12 respondents were of Ukrainian origin.

#### 3.2.1.2 Age Structure

The researched sample included respondents from age 17 to 64 years old. See in detail in the *Figure 3*.

| <b>Figure 3 – Age structure</b> |                         |                           |                         |                           |                          |                          |                       |                         |              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|                                 | <b>Vietnam<br/>Male</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Female</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Male</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Female</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Total</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Total</b> | <b>Male<br/>Total</b> | <b>Female<br/>Total</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| 17-25                           | 1                       | 1                         | 1                       | 0                         | 2                        | 1                        | 2                     | 1                       | 3            |
| 26-30                           | 1                       | 0                         | 0                       | 1                         | 1                        | 1                        | 1                     | 1                       | 2            |
| 31-35                           | 1                       | 0                         | 1                       | 0                         | 1                        | 1                        | 2                     | 0                       | 2            |
| 36-40                           | 4                       | 2                         | 2                       | 3                         | 6                        | 5                        | 6                     | 5                       | 11           |
| 41-45                           | 2                       | 1                         | 1                       | 1                         | 3                        | 2                        | 3                     | 2                       | 5            |
| 46-50                           | 3                       | 0                         | 0                       | 0                         | 3                        | 0                        | 3                     | 0                       | 3            |
| 51+                             | 2                       | 0                         | 1                       | 1                         | 2                        | 2                        | 3                     | 1                       | 4            |

*Source: Own research*

### 3.2.1.3 The Gender Stratification

The research sample consisted of 10 women (4 Vietnamese women, 6 Ukrainian women) and 20 men (14 Vietnamese men, 6 Ukrainian men).

### 3.2.1.4 Education

Most of the respondents have secondary education, as can be seen in *Figure 4*.

| <b>Figure 4 – Level of education</b> |                         |                           |                         |                           |                          |                          |                       |                         |              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|                                      | <b>Vietnam<br/>Male</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Female</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Male</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Female</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Total</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Total</b> | <b>Male<br/>Total</b> | <b>Female<br/>Total</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| EE                                   | 2                       | 1                         | 0                       | 1                         | 3                        | 1                        | 2                     | 2                       | 4            |
| HS                                   | 10                      | 3                         | 5                       | 4                         | 13                       | 9                        | 15                    | 7                       | 22           |
| UD                                   | 2                       | 0                         | 1                       | 1                         | 2                        | 2                        | 3                     | 1                       | 4            |

*Note: 1 Vietnamese male and 1 Vietnamese female are high school students.*

*Source: Own research, EE=Elementary Education, HS=High school degree, UD= University degree*

### 3.2.1.5 Family Status

The greater parts of the respondents have family; only 8 respondents have no wife/husband and no children. Of the remaining 22 respondents, 11 immigrants are married, the other 11 has also children (or a child). While 15 of the respondents live in the Czech Republic with their family, the remaining 7 has their family in their native country. All 7 respondents reported that they regularly send money back home. Detailed stratification family in relation to nationality is presented in *Figure 5*.

| <b>Figure 5 – Family status</b>         |                |                |              |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|   | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Single                                  | 5              | 3              | 8            |
| Spouse/Husband                          | 5              | 6              | 11           |
| Spouse/Husband and children             | 8              | 3              | 11           |
| Lives with Family in the Czech Republic | 9              | 6              | 15           |
| Family back in Ukraine/Vietnam          | 4              | 3              | 7            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>             |                |                |              |

The table shows that Vietnamese have proportionally higher number of spouse/husband and child/children than the Ukrainian respondents, either having the family in the Czech Republic or at their homeland. In case of Ukrainian men, they arrive often as single workers and if they marry, they choose to marry Ukrainian girls, whom they have met during their stay in the Czech Republic or someone back at home, while the Ukrainian women often marry Czech men and stay in the Czech Republic.<sup>265</sup> The difference can be also given in relation to the respondents' age – most of the Vietnamese respondents were older than the Ukrainians as well as to the geographical distance - married and bring their family with them. Unfortunately the undertaken research has too small sample of respondents in order to confirm such assumptions.

We can see that Vietnamese respondent indicated marriage often than Ukrainian respondents, also that more Vietnamese live with their families in the Czech Republic. We can relate that to the average age, presuming that older person already has settled and has family, also to the geographical location , i.e. as Vietnamese country of origin is much further and therefore less accessible, they may opt to bring their family with them right away or sooner than Ukrainian nationals. However to prove such presumption, the sample of respondents is too small.

---

<sup>265</sup> Information from the interviews.



### 3.2.2 Residence in the Czech Republic

This section details the circumstances of the arrival, their residential status, their interest about permanent stay on the territory of the Czech Republic, and housing situation of the respondents.

#### 3.2.2.1 Length of stay in the Czech Republic

The largest number of respondents lives about 5 years in the Czech Republic; though among the Vietnamese community we find numbers of those, who have been living here for much longer - often more than 11 years. See more in the following *Figure 6*.

Taken in account that the number of foreigners in the Czech Republic was gradually increasing during the past decades it suggests that large number of foreigners lives in the Czech Republic only for a short time. But most of the respondents I met were at CPIC at the language courses. These courses often attend foreigners with a long-term residential status, who are interested in improving their level of Czech language for the purposes of passing the language exam, which is the compulsory requirement for the acquirement of the Czech citizenship.

| <b>Figure 6 – Length of the stay in the Czech Republic</b> |                |                |              |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Years</b>   | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| 0-2  | 0              | 4              | 4            |
| 3-4  | 2              | 1              | 3            |
| 5-6  | 7              | 6              | 13           |
| 7-8  | 3              | 0              | 3            |
| 9-10   | 1              | 1              | 2            |
| 11+  | 5              | 0              | 5            |

*Note: To the group of 11+ belong family (parents and two their children), who has been living in the Czech Republic for more than 19 years.*

*Source: Own research*

### **3.2.2.2 Residential Status**

Regrettably, many of the respondents omitted to answer this question; therefore I did not include the results into table. However, 9 of the respondents answered that they have long-term permit (2 Ukrainian women, 3 Ukrainian men, 4 Vietnamese men), 10 respondents indicated a permanent status (1 Ukrainian woman, 3 Vietnamese women, 2 Ukrainian men, 5 Vietnamese men).

### **3.2.2.3 The reasons to come to the Czech Republic**

When asked why they choose for their immigration the Czech Republic, the vast majority answered that it was their own decision (14) or that they had recommendation of a relative or friend (13).

### **3.2.2.4 The choice of Region**

Similarly, to the question why they choose the South region, the immigrants usually responded that it was basically spontaneous, either they had here some friends or relatives, or they moved here for job purposes, usually brought them here jobs. One Ukrainian, however, stated that she moved here with her husband to be close to their daughters, whom married into the Austria, close to the border with the Region.

### **3.2.2.5 In what type of housing do you live and with whom?**

In the questionnaire these two questions are listed as separated but for the purpose of the research I connected them. Half of the respondent indicated that they live with their family (5 Ukrainian women, 4 Vietnamese women, 5 Vietnamese men, 1 Ukrainian men), rest of them lives with relatives (9 Vietnamese men, 1 Ukrainian woman) or with co-workers (5 Ukrainian men).

The majority of respondents live in own flats (rented flats are usually the case of younger generation), in houses 5 Vietnamese respondents and 3 Ukrainian respondents.

### 3.2.2.6 The interest about a permanent stay in the Czech Republic

A total of 16 respondents, just over half of the respondents, said that they would like to stay in the Czech Republic permanently, if they managed to get the appropriate permits. This number quite exceeded my expectations. However, due to the small number of respondents, it is necessary to be careful with some more general conclusions. But it is necessary to bear in mind when we talk about the integration of foreigners into the Czech society - a significant number of them are people who came here not just to earn money, but they really want to live in the Czech Republic and therefore must find a suitable "modus Vivendi", which will be beneficial for both parties - or at least acceptable.

Of the remaining 14 respondents are 7 decided (at least in its current situation) to return to their homeland. Another 6 respondents replied that they "do not know", and 1 Ukrainian respondent said that after sometime in the Czech Republic, he would like to travel and find new work in some other country. Graphically, it can be seen in *Figure 7*.

| <b>Figure 7 – Do you want to stay in the Czech Republic permanently?</b> |                |                |              |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|  | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Yes  | 8              | 8              | 16           |
| No, I want to return home  | 6              | 1              | 7            |
| No, but I want to go to other country                                    | 0              | 1              | 1            |
| I don't know yet   | 4              | 2              | 6            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>  |                |                |              |

The answers also follow the intuitive conclusion that the intention to remain in the Czech Republic permanently is related to the respondent's family circumstances - of the 15 respondents, who live in the Czech Republic with their families, 10 of them intend to stay in the Czech Republic permanently.

In contrast to that, it is worth noting that during this research the intention to remain permanently in the Czech Republic had nothing to do with the length of stay - all 6

Vietnamese respondents, who said that they want to return home, lived in Czech Republic for 5 or more years.

### **3.2.3 The Employment Situation**

This chapter summarizes the work conditions, the income satisfaction, satisfaction with work itself, as well as the respondents' field of work. It also tries to answer the question about free time and hobbies.

#### **3.2.3.1 The field of work**

Most of the Vietnamese respondents work as entrepreneurs (either owners of the shops, 5 men indicated that they work as financial advisers), 2 men work in Tesco. 2 Ukrainian men work in the construction field, 1 is a businessman, 1 works in a factory, 1 Ukrainian woman is a shop-keeper, and the others are cleaners. The obtained data support the facts, which were outlined in the theoretical part that many foreigners seem to have higher education than they actually need in their actual employment.

#### **3.2.3.2 Work positions during the stay in the Czech Republic**

The majority of the respondents answered that they work in the same position since their arrival. The only modification represents change of employer, which indicated 4 Ukrainian women and 5 Ukrainian men. Vietnamese men changed employment in 5 cases (from just shop-keeper job, 2 became translators and more socially active in the community, helping now their fellow citizens with the Czech authorities, further 3 are now working as financial consultants).

#### **3.2.3.3 The income satisfaction**

The majority of respondents indicated that they are neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied. In the second place they are mostly satisfied. Only one respondent indicated that he is very dissatisfied. This may be the result of his overwhelming and unrealistic

ideas about the life in the Czech Republic, as presented earlier in the theoretical part. See in detail in the following *Figure 8*.

| <b>Figure 8 – Are you satisfied with your income?</b> |                |                |              |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|   | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Very satisfied  | 0              | 0              | 0            |
| Satisfied   | 6              | 3              | 9            |
| Neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied                   | 8              | 5              | 13           |
| Dissatisfied  | 3              | 4              | 7            |
| Very dissatisfied                                     | 1              | 0              | 1            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>                           |                |                |              |

### **3.2.3.4 The past work experiences**

Most of the respondents indicated that they worked something else but often without further specification. One Ukrainian man indicated that he was a carpenter, another miner. One Vietnamese man worked as an electrician, another was an engineer, and three Vietnamese men were farmers. One Vietnamese man replied that he was unemployed for quite a long time period.

### **3.2.3.5 Do you work under the same conditions as Czech workers?**

This question was not fully answered. From the total of 30 respondents only 10 replied that they work with Czechs, but nearly half of them responded that they “do not know”. It is obvious that even if they work with Czech people (especially Ukrainian men), either they do not discuss these matters together or stay disconnected to them. See more in the following *Figure 9*.

| <b>Figure 9 – Do you have the same working conditions as Czech workers?</b> |                |                |              |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|   | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Yes   | 0              | 1              | 1            |
| No  | 2              | 3              | 5            |
| I do not know   | 2              | 2              | 4            |
| I do not work with Czech workers  | 14             | 6              | 20           |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>   |                |                |              |

### 3.2.3.6 The satisfaction with the work

Most of the respondents are satisfied with their work. If they are not satisfied, it is often because they cannot rely on the job lasting. Given their often problematic conditions of having adequate working positions, this issue should be addressed very carefully.

| <b>Figure 10 – Are you satisfied with your work?</b> |                |                |              |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|  | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Very satisfied                                       | 0              | 0              | 0            |
| Satisfied  | 8              | 4              | 12           |
| Neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied                  | 5              | 5              | 10           |
| Dissatisfied   | 4              | 3              | 7            |
| Very dissatisfied                                    | 1              | 0              | 1            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>                          |                |                |              |

### 3.2.3.7 Free Time & Hobbies

The majority of the respondents indicated not having much of free time. Thus also did not indicate their hobbies. It is relevant to the fact, that most of them works long hours and after work they must care for the family. Nevertheless, 2 Ukrainian women indicated sewing, 1 Ukrainian women likes to cook, 2 Ukrainian men like traveling, 1 likes playing football, 1skiing and fishing, 3 Vietnamese men like to spend time with family, 2 Vietnamese men mention sports without closer specification.

### 3.2.4 The Integration Issues

This chapter presents the problematic of integration of the foreigners in the Czech Republic. It discusses their satisfaction with life in the Czech Republic; they level of understanding to the Czech language and the major obstacles in the integration process. It also targets the issue of discrimination and active utilization of any authorized support (e.g. from the existing Integration Centers or any other agency). It further explores their willingness to participate on social events, where they would be able to meet Czechs.

#### 3.2.4.1 Are you satisfied with your life conditions in the Czech Republic?

Almost half of the respondents indicated that they are *satisfied* with their life conditions; 3 respondents said that they are *very satisfied*. The rest of the respondents are neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied. 2 Ukrainian men and 1 Ukrainian woman indicated *dissatisfied*. (See in detail the following *Figure 11*.)

| <b>Figure 11 – Are you satisfied with your life conditions in the Czech Republic?</b> |                |                |              |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|   | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Very satisfied  | 2              | 1              | 3            |
| Satisfied   | 10             | 4              | 14           |
| Neither satisfied, nor dissatisfied   | 6              | 4              | 10           |
| Dissatisfied  | 0              | 3              | 3            |
| Very dissatisfied   | 0              | 0              | 0            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>   |                |                |              |

#### 3.2.4.2 Do you visit any institution for Foreigners' integration?

Most of the respondents are active participants in the language courses at the CPIC, so they were all well acquainted with the services of CPIC. Among the mostly used

services, except of the language courses, they also use library, attend social events or advisory meetings, and some use the legal services.

| Figure 12 – Do you visit any institution for foreigners’ integration? |                           |         |         |       |
|---|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------|
|   |                           | Vietnam | Ukraine | Total |
| CPIC  | Language course           | 11      | 4       | 15    |
|   | Library                   | 5       | 2       | 7     |
|   | Social Events Meetings    | 3       | 1       | 4     |
|   | Advisory & Legal Services | 1       | 1       | 2     |
| Diecézní charita  | Language course           | 3       | 0       | 3     |
| None  |                           | 5       | 6       | 11    |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>   |                           |         |         |       |

### 3.2.4.3 The Discrimination Issues

The respondents differentiate the discrimination attitude of the majority in correspondence to the length of stay. Most of them replied that they did not feel any discrimination at the beginning.<sup>266</sup> However, longer they stayed, more discriminatory they felt. It seems that the research findings correspond with the theoretical part, which indicated that at the beginning the immigrants’ main interest is to find, maintain and secure their job position. They may also not be very well acquainted with the term “discrimination”, i.e. what it involves, what forms it can take, etc. the behavior of the Czech majority is discriminatory towards them. The issue will be discussed more in detail under the next section. However, the primary answers of the respondents to the question: “Have you experienced discrimination behavior in the Czech Republic?” are indicated in the following *Figure 13*.

---

<sup>266</sup> Information from the interviews.



| <b>Figure 13 – Have you experienced discrimination behavior in the Czech Republic?</b> |                |                |              |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|  | <b>Vietnam</b> | <b>Ukraine</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Very often   | 0              | 0              | 0            |
| Often  | 3              | 3              | 6            |
| Sometimes  | 6              | 3              | 9            |
| Only occasionally  | 3              | 5              | 8            |
| Never  | 6              | 1              | 7            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>  |                |                |              |

### 3.2.4.4 Do you understand Czech?

Answers to the question of passive knowledge of the Czech language summarize *Figure 14*. We see that the knowledge of Czech is better by the Ukrainians. It is not surprising because both languages have same language background; also they work more often with Czech workers and talk Czech with them. Particularly in this research Ukrainian women are slightly better than Ukrainian men, which correspond in 2 cases with their marriage to the Czech men. The Vietnamese men on the other hand understand (and speak) more Czech than the Vietnamese women. It is due to the different lifestyle – women may often stay at home with children, even if they work, they know just basic words to use with customers. Vietnamese men, in most cases, are more active as business persons than women; they must deal more often with the public authorities, etc.

| <b>Figure 14 – Passive knowledge of Czech language (Do you understand Czech?)</b> |                         |                           |                         |                           |                          |                          |                       |                         |              |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|   | <b>Vietnam<br/>Male</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Female</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Male</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Female</b> | <b>Vietnam<br/>Total</b> | <b>Ukraine<br/>Total</b> | <b>Male<br/>Total</b> | <b>Female<br/>Total</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Good  | 2                       | 1                         | 2                       | 1                         | 3                        | 3                        | 4                     | 2                       | 6            |
| Little  | 9                       | 2                         | 2                       | 4                         | 11                       | 6                        | 11                    | 6                       | 17           |
| No  | 3                       | 1                         | 2                       | 1                         | 4                        | 3                        | 5                     | 2                       | 7            |
| <i>Source: Own research</i>   |                         |                           |                         |                           |                          |                          |                       |                         |              |

The research indicated that knowledge of Czech increases with time. Still, the knowledge of language is not proportional to the length of stay. It is caused by number of foreigners, especially among Vietnamese population, who have been living in the Czech Republic for many years, but who's knowledge of Czech language remain limited, low, if any. On this issue, however, it would be interesting to obtain significantly larger size of sample.<sup>267</sup>

#### **3.2.4.5 Do you meet with Czech people?**

Most of the respondents indicated that they only meet with Czechs at their work. Otherwise, they do not look for opportunity or there is no possibility to meet with Czechs outside the work.

#### **3.2.4.6 What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic?**

The respondents were asked to number various obstacles according to how seriously they complicate their life in the Czech Republic. Upward sequence of obstacles, namely the number 1 means "least complicated", number 5 means "most difficult".

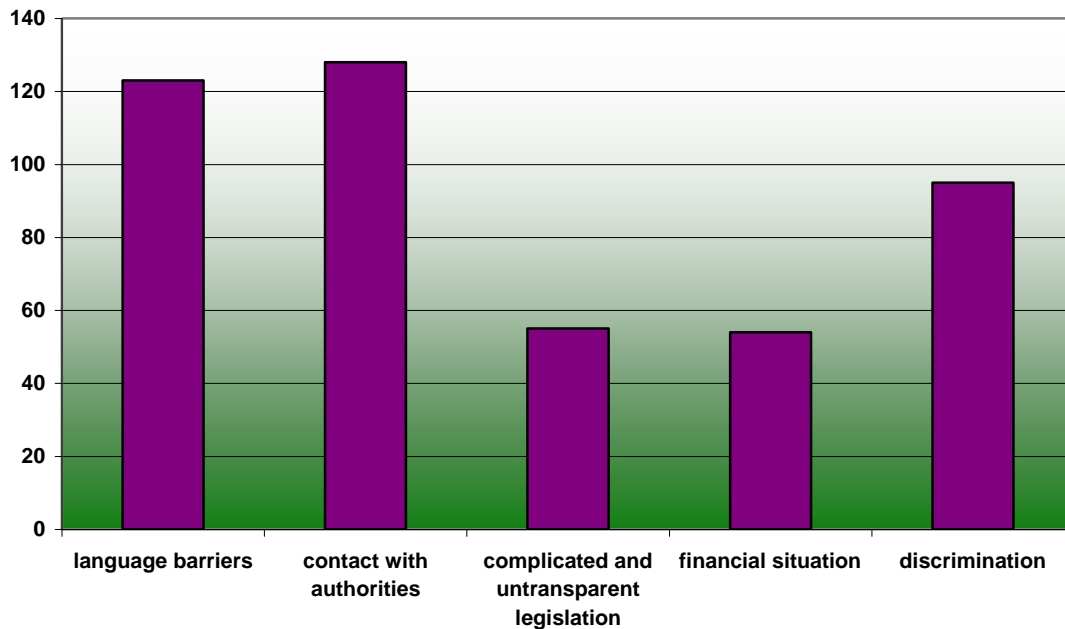
From the *Figure 15* we can see that the most significant problems for the respondents are, with almost identical score, *language barriers* and the *contact with authorities*. On the contrary, the respondents designated *financial difficulties* and *complicated laws* for the smallest complications. It is obvious that the particular barriers of integration are closely related, for example, a foreigner who does not speak Czech language faces in the same time difficulties in dealing with the authorities or can easily become victim of discrimination, etc.

---

<sup>267</sup> See more Kocourek, J. (2008). Podmíněnosti současné migrace Vietnamců do Česka, p. 235, IN: Drbohlav, D., 2008, or Brouček., 2003, p. 44. They reached similar conclusions, after they have unanimously reported that knowledge of the Czech language, especially among Vietnamese women, is even after many years of residence in the Czech Republic still very low.

**Figure 15 – What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic? – total numbers**

Respondents were asked to number each aspect 1 to 5 (1 - "least complicated", 5 - "most difficult"). The sum of these values indicates which obstacles are considered by respondents as most relevant.



Source: Own calculations

The fact that they do not consider their financial situation as problematic is not too surprising, since all the respondents are legally living and working in the Czech Republic. Even if their salary might not be ideal, it is usually better than it was in their country of origin. Secondly, many surveyed third-country nationals are entrepreneurs, with relatively good financial situation. However, Ukrainian respondents complained about the financial situation more than Vietnamese respondents. Vietnamese men on the other hand complained more about the complicated laws, which is understandable, given to the fact that majority of them are entrepreneurs and must follow the legislative requirements.

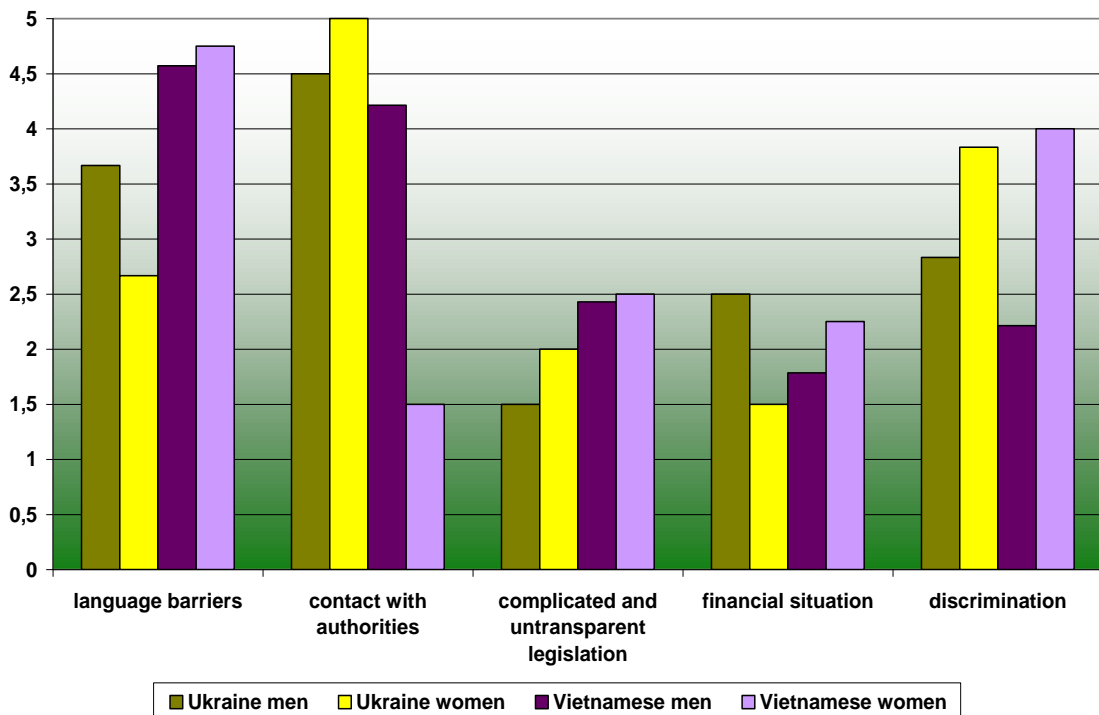
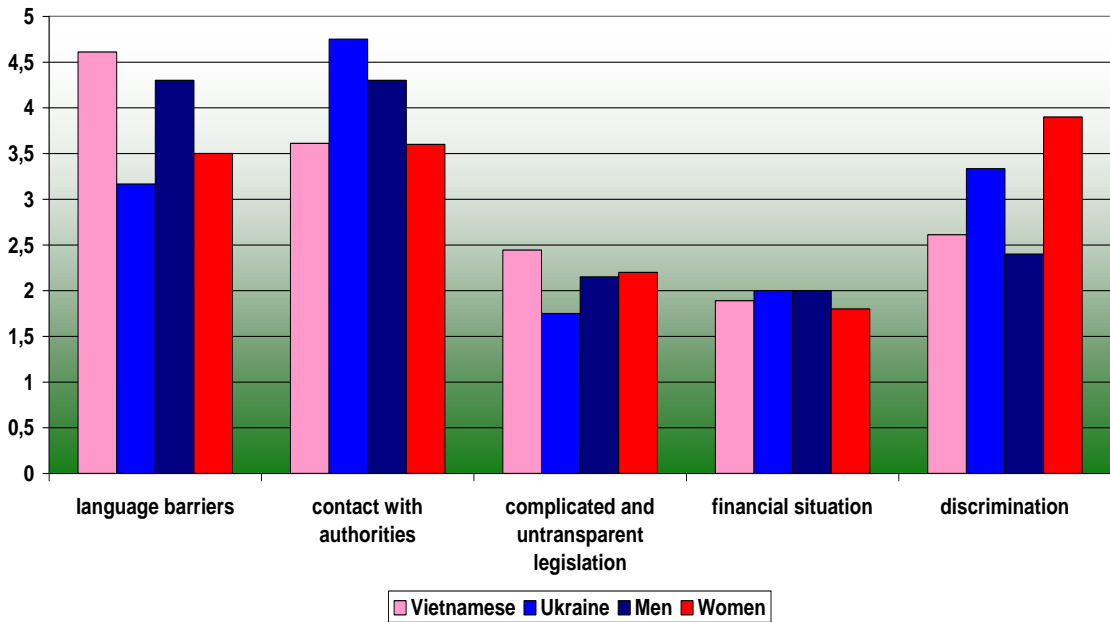
The following *Figure 16* presents the results according to the nationality and gender. Language barriers are greater for Vietnamese respondents, however also Ukrainian respondents designated that the language represents a major problem for them, which was not quite expected. Astonishing also appeared the fact that the contact with the authorities presents a bigger problem for Ukrainians than for Vietnamese. Maybe this is due to the fact that Ukrainians often deal with the authorities personally, while Vietnamese use the

services of their mediator (translator) or another person from the community, whose level of Czech language is much higher, what's more they are most likely well acquainted with the Czech laws and legislations. The difference between the sexes appeared as expected - most of Vietnamese respondents were men, whom are traditionally more active within the hosting society, therefore involved with the authorities, while Vietnamese women usually take care of the domestic work and family matters, so as they do not get involved with the authorities, it does not represents a problem for them.

Finally, the last obstacle, discrimination, is positioned in the middle, but here it represents the most significant differences between the two groups. Ukrainian men ranked this problematic higher than the Vietnamese men; also women see it as greater obstacle than men. It's most likely thanks to their different life styles - Ukrainians are far more often involved with the Czech majority than the Vietnamese community; working with Czechs and language resemblance constitute higher level of interaction, with elevated possibility for disputes. Oppositely, Vietnamese nationals form closed community, which is in general not in a deeper contact with the Czech majority.

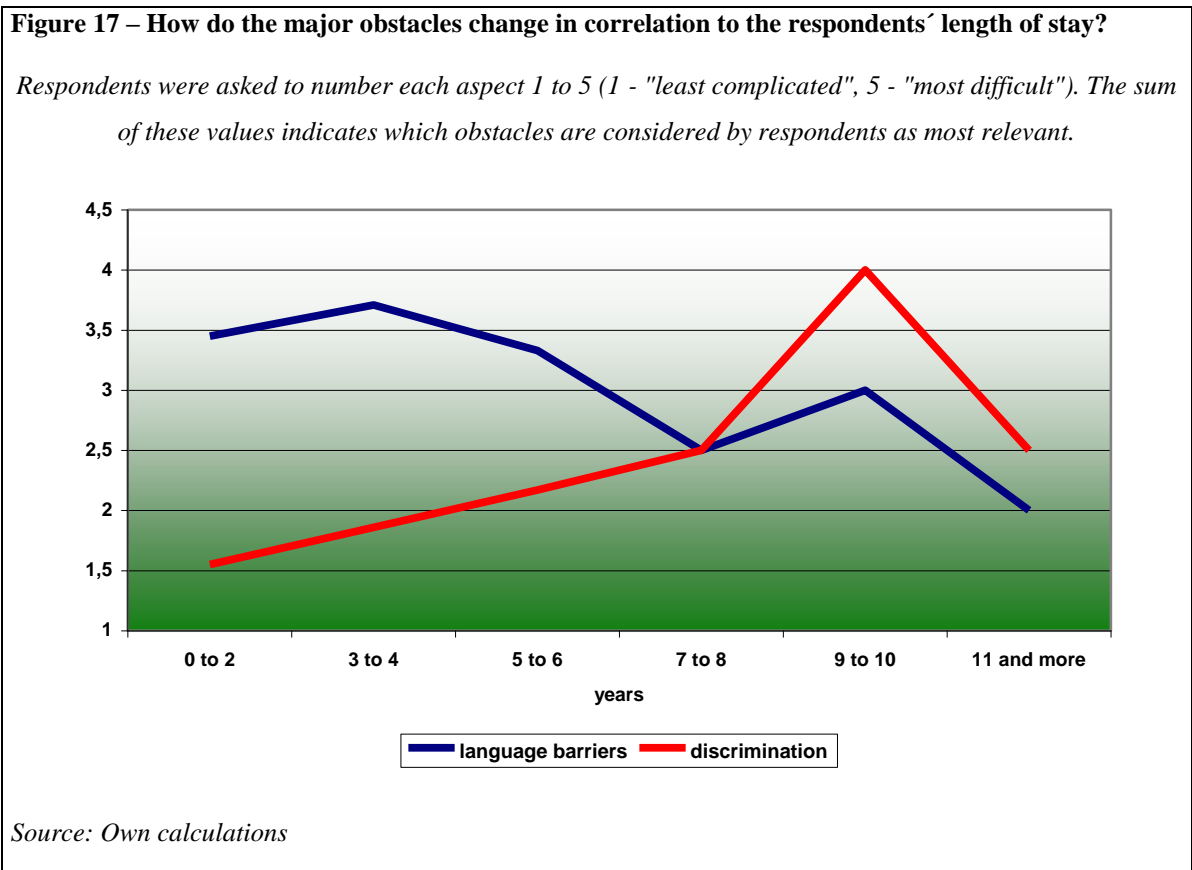
**Figure 16 – What are the major obstacles in your life in the Czech Republic? – by nation and sex**

Respondents were asked to number each aspect 1 to 5 (1 - "least complicated", 5 - "most difficult"). The sum of these values (divided by the number of respondents in each group) indicates which obstacles are considered as the most relevant.



Source: Own calculations

As we have established earlier in terms of length of stay, the Czech language becomes less of a problem - longer they live in the Czech Republic, more they improve their knowledge of Czech (of course with some exceptions as already introduced). Conversely, their relation towards discrimination has quite the opposite tendency - longer the respondent has lived in the Czech Republic, more he/she considers the Czech majority as of discriminatory nature. The reason for this may be the fact that longer they live in the Czech Republic, more they become familiar with the actual behavior and attitudes of the hosting society, besides that also the laws and regulations regarding the immigrants' issues, etc. Alternatively, longer they are staying, higher chances they face of being involve in some unpleasant experience with the hosting society or authorities, which can be interpreted as discriminatory. This experience may of course significantly affect the overall attitude of the foreigner towards the hosting society.<sup>268</sup> The comparison between the length of stay and discrimination shows *Figure 17*.



<sup>268</sup> Information gauner from the invterviews.

Among the other issues, the respondents often indicated problems at work. Either they find their work not adequate (below their level of education or qualification) or dull. In scope of this work was not able to further investigate this working problematic.

#### **3.2.4.7 Would you like to attend social events?**

Some of the respondents would appreciate to have social events, where they could meet with Czechs, 2 Ukrainian respondents would specifically like to go dancing. Half of the Vietnamese respondents would like to attend some social events but they did not specify which.

### 3. B THE EVALUATION OF THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Based on the questionnaire results and the interviews I conducted, I present the summary to the research questions which I outlined at the beginning of my research.

I am aware of the fact that the number of participants was quite small and therefore I cannot draw weighty conclusions. However, the research still gives basic orientation.

- **Does the degree of integration of third-country immigrants deepen in correspondence to the length of stay in the Czech Republic?**

The research results show that knowledge of the Czech language among the respondents increases depending on the length of their stay. This does not apply quite generally, because there are also immigrants who live in the Czech Republic for many years, but their knowledge of Czech is still at a very low level. The research confirms that Czech language is less problematic for Ukrainians than Vietnamese.<sup>269</sup> Most obviously, the affiliation towards same language background makes it easier for Ukrainians than for Vietnamese. However, I also think that the natural closeness of the Vietnamese community represents another obstacle in the successful learning of the Czech language.

With regard to economic self-sufficiency, the research indicated that Vietnamese respondents showed better economic situation – lot of respondents are entrepreneurs, with quite stable incomes and housing conditions; the others have quite stable jobs or count on the community help. The Ukrainians, on the other hand (and especially those who are subject to their "client"), are in principal dependent and losing a job could greatly affect them. However, in general their economic situation seems to be better than in their country of origin. Of course, the sample did not include cases where the immigrant loses his/her job and is forced to move out (or start to work illegally).

In contrary to the supposed hypothesis that with more time the relation with the majority improves, the responses from the respondents indicated that often the level of interaction with the hosting society remains partial during their whole stay in the Czech Republic. It seems that except of the social events, which are organized by the integration

---

<sup>269</sup> See chapter 3.2.4.4 Do You Understand Czech?



Centers, any other possibilities, where the majority could meet with the foreign communities, are so far very limited.

The situation is similar in regards to the overall orientation in society - eloquent as the fact that foreigners considered dealing with authorities to be one of the major obstacles for them in the Czech Republic - regardless of the length of stay in the country.

- **Do the third-country nationals change their jobs frequently?**

The researched sample of immigrants basically answered as expected - most foreigners keep the same job as at the beginning. Employment changes occur only by a small proportion of foreigners, usually those, who are able to improve their knowledge of the Czech language, and based on that they perform intermediation services between the community and the Czech authorities (translators, financial advisors). A specific cases form Ukrainians, who managed to free themselves from the client system and work directly under the Czech employer.

- **Do the third-country nationals perceive discrimination from the Czech majority?**

The research showed quite surprising results. At the beginning of their stay most of the respondent replied that they do not feel any discrimination attitudes. However, longer they stay here, more discriminatory they feel. It seems that the research findings correspond with the theoretical part, which indicated that at the beginning the immigrants' main interest is to find, maintain and secure their job position. They may also not be very well acquainted with the term "discrimination", i.e. what it involves, what forms it can take, etc. Yet after they have lived here for some time period, managed to learn the language to some point and also their knowledge of the legislative framework deepened, they may recognize/admit that the behavior of the Czech majority is discriminatory towards them. The level of discrimination can be same as at the beginning, they might have just neglected in the beginning or they may feel more confident to talk about such issues, only after they have permanent status or even Czech citizenship, etc.

From a broader perspective there is also problem of low contact with the majority of immigrants - most respondents stated that outside of their employment they meet relatively little with the Czechs. The result is that the general perception of the foreign communities by the majority can be quite distorted.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

The age of globalization helped migration to become one of the most influential forces, which can significantly change the characteristic of today's societies. The contemporary demographic changes and demand for labor force in most of the Western Europe during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century turned to be the main key factors in the open approach towards the foreigners. Yet with the rapid inflows of the foreign nationals into the European countries, most of them realized the need for a comprehensive and stipulating legislative framework in order to battle the negative outcomes of the migration (illegal migration, illegal work, closed communities, black market, etc.).

The situation in the Czech Republic was specific as the communistic government allowed only substantial immigration from the befriended socialistic countries. Since its end in 1989 and the foundation of the sovereign Czech Republic in 1993, the situation in the field of immigration underwent substantial changes. From a source country prior 1989, through a period of a large inflow of applicants for international protection and transiting foreign nationals at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> and beginning of 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the Czech Republic has become not merely the crossing point, but a destination place for many foreign nationals. As the numbers of foreign nationals working and living in the Czech Republic continued to rise, the issue of immigration became a constant concern for the Czech government as well.

In order to find the suitable solution, the Czech Republic initiated first major talks about the migration issues in 1999 and in 2000 came in effect an official national concept for migration concerns named The Policy for the Integration of Foreigners. The Policy promoted cooperation between a broad number of governmental departments such as Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Local Development and Ministry of Culture as well as other partners (regions, non-governmental, non-profit organizations including foreigners' organizations, social partners, etc.). The large platform of participants acknowledged the fact that integration of foreigners is a complex problem concerning a number of areas. The Policy highlighted the fact that the integration of foreigners into the Czech society is a two-sided process, therefore it is indispensable to raise awareness about this problematic not only within the foreigners community but importantly also within the Czech majority.

The Policy was updated in 2006 and 2011. Today, the main objective of the Policy is to maintain social cohesion in the society, enabling harmonious conflict-free coexistence between foreigners and the majority. It shall prevent the creation of closed immigrant communities, social isolation and social exclusion of foreigners as well as prevent potential problems in the area of immigrants' communities. The Policy builds up on sharing of information about the culture in the country of origin of foreigners as well as informing about the conditions of their existence in the Czech Republic, it stresses the importance of the development of mutual knowledge and understanding between foreigners and the majority.

The Policy likewise forms part of the broader concept of the European Union approach towards the migration. Migration policy aims to support legal migration, which is in the long term beneficial for the State and society, and in the same time to combat illegal migration and its aspects. The Czech Republic concentrates on cooperation with international organizations, EU and Schengen Member States in order to implement the necessary methods and legislation pertaining to the area of migration, national border protection and asylum.

The successful integration of the foreigners represents a key component in maintaining social consistency of the hosting society. The Policy and its amendments express the positive attitude in the direction of the foreigners' integration on the Czech territory. The legislative framework is set to allow systematic approach towards the elimination of obstacles of the integration process. Although there has been significant progress in regards of an attempt to incorporate foreigners into the society, and to inform adequately Czech citizens about the migratory phenomenon, many of the native Czechs act reluctantly towards foreigners. The incorporation of the foreigners into the society becomes slow and rather incomplete, which supports high level of social exclusion and low protection of their rights. The insufficient integration processes may therefore lead to further social difficulties.

It is clear that due to the specific historical circumstances, the immigration to the Czech Republic is still relatively a short-term process, thus it is not possible to make final definitions or assumptions. The conclusions from the concluded research indicated that in some areas of the integration Policy, the process is going quite well. On the other hand, majority of the respondents experience inefficient integration mechanisms in other areas,

especially regarding the incorporation into the society. The current legislative framework seems to be another problematical and disturbing element, rather than providing helpful and welcoming support. The foreigners continue to face social isolation, separation from the majority and public life due to an insufficient public awareness about the foreigners' life in the Czech Republic. They also continue to live on a "temporary" base, which is contra productive regarding their willingness and possibilities to bond with the majority. A serious problem represents difficult working conditions and client systems, which frequently lead to further discrimination, exploitation and instability. Significant number of the questioned respondents wants to stay in the Czech Republic permanently. That brings us to the question how to accomplish their harmonious integration to our society.

Other major issue represents the discriminatory attitude of the Czech majority. Most of the respondents confirmed that they somehow feel discriminated. Although they may not perceive such attitude from the very beginning of their stay (mostly because they are yet not aware what "behavior" can be taken for discrimination), it seems that once they manage to learn the language, deepen the knowledge about their rights and the legislative framework, they recognize, even admit, that the behavior of the Czech majority is discriminatory towards them. The research concluded that even though the Czech Republic is a country with the least number of conflicts between foreign communities and local inhabitants, there have been observed higher figures of racist crime, xenophobic attitudes or hostility lately.

With this paper I would like to contribute to the wider debate and awareness of the situation of immigrants and especially third-country nationals in the Czech Republic. Despite the obvious limitations of this work, I hope the results of my research give basic orientation about the migration phenomenon in the Czech Republic and the integration issue of the third-country nationals. I believe that we must start open and friendly debate between the minorities and majority. Such activity shall generate mutual understanding, help to eliminate long time alleged prejudices, and avoid rapid, sudden judgments, especially from the majority as a result of fearing something new and inexperienced.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Literature sources:

- Aktualizovaná Koncepce integrace cizinců. Společné soužití.* (2011). Usnesení vlády České republiky. On-line at [http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni\\_vlady\\_09022011.pdf](http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/741/Usneseni_vlady_09022011.pdf).
- AVRAMOVÁ, L. (2009). *Imigrace Bulharů do Čech*. Katedra antropologických a historických věd, FF ZCU: Plzeň. On-line at [http://antropologie.zcu.cz/media/webzin/WEBZIN\\_2-3\\_2009/Avramova\\_\\_L..pdf](http://antropologie.zcu.cz/media/webzin/WEBZIN_2-3_2009/Avramova__L..pdf).
- BADE, K. J. (2005). *Evropa v pohybu. Evropské migrace dvou staletí*. Nakladatelství Lidové noviny: Praha.
- BAGANHA, M.I.B. (2003). *From closed to open doors: Portuguese Emigration under the Corporation Regime*. E-journal of Portuguese History, Volume 1, University of Coimbra.
- BAŠTÝŘ, I. - VAVREČKOVÁ, J. (2010). *Metodika sledování a hodnocení integrace cizinců z třetích zemí v České republice*. VÚPSV: Praha.
- BAUMANN, T. (2004). *Defining Ethnicity*. IN: *The SAA Archaeological Record*, p. 12-14. Indiana University: Indiana. On-line at <http://gbl.indiana.edu/baumann/Baumann%202004%20-%20Defining%20Ethnicity.pdf>.
- BIJAK, J., KUPISZEWSKA, D., KUPISZEWSKI, M. (2008). Replacement Migration Revisited: Simulations of the Effects of Selected Population and LaborMarket Strategies for the Aging Europe, 2002-2052. IN: *Population Research and Policy Review*, Vol. 27, No. 3, pp. 321-342
- BOSWELL, C. (2005). *Migration in Europe. Policy Analysis and Research Programme of the Global Commission on International Migration Hamburg Institute of International Economics*. On-line at [http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/policy\\_and\\_research/gcim/rs/RS4.pdf](http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/site/myjahiasite/shared/shared/mainsite/policy_and_research/gcim/rs/RS4.pdf).
- BROUČEK, S. (2003). *Aktuální problémy adaptace vietnamského etnika v ČR*. Etnologický ústav AV ČR: Praha.
- BURCIN, B., DRBOHLAV, D., KUČERA, T. (2008). *Migration as a Possible Solution to the Future Population Deficits and Demographic Ageing in the Czech Republic*. IN: *Czech Sociological Review*, Vol. 44, No. 4, p. 653-682.
- CASTLES, S. (2002). *Migration and Community Formation under Conditions of Globalization*. Centre for Migration Studies of New York. On-line at [http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sociology/notes07/Level5/SO5512/Week%2010%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/sociology/notes07/Level5/SO5512/Week%2010%20(2).pdf).
- ČECHOVSKÝ, M. (2010). *Fenomén (i)migrace a imigrační politika Evropské unie*. Masarykova universita, Katedra sociálních studií: Brno.
- ČERNÍK, J. - UHEREK, Z. (2004). *Výzkumné zprávy a studie o integraci cizinců na území České republiky*. Ministerstvo školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy ČR: Praha. On-line at <http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/100/vyzkum.pdf>
- DESHINGKAR, P. – GRIMM, S. (2005). *Internal Migration and Development: A Global Perspective*. IOM Research Paper Series, No. 19, p. 8.

- DISMAN, M. (1993). *Jak se vyrábí sociologická znalost*. Karolinum: Praha.
- DRBOHLAV, D. - UHEREK, Z. (2008). *Reflexe migračních teorií*. IN: *Geografie — Sborník České geografické společnosti*, Vol. 112, No. 2, p. 125-141.
- DRBOHLAV, D. (1995). *Hlavní trendy mezinárodní migrace*. IN: *Demografie*, roč. 37, č. 4, p. 275-290.
- DRBOHLAV, D. (2010). *Migrace a (i)migranti v Česku: kdo jsme, odkud přicházíme, kam jdeme?* Sociologické nakladatelství: Praha.
- DRBOHLAV, D. (ed.) (2008). *Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů (Česko v evropském kontextu)*. Karolinum: Praha.
- DRBOHLAV, D.- JANSKÁ - E., ŠELEPOVÁ, P. (2003). *Ukrajinská komunita v České republice (Výsledky dotazníkového šetření)*. On-line at [http://aa.ecn.cz/img\\_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci\\_Drbohlav\\_1.pdf](http://aa.ecn.cz/img_upload/9e9f2072be82f3d69e3265f41fe9f28e/Ukrajinci_Drbohlav_1.pdf).
- FAINI, R. – ZIMMERMAN, K. F. – MELO, De J. (ed.) (1999). *Migration - The controversies and the evidence*. Cambridge University Press.
- GABAL, I. (2004). *Analýza postavení cizinců dlouhodobě žijících v ČR a návrh optimalizačních kroků*. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. On-line at [http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/511/postaveni\\_cizincu.pdf](http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/511/postaveni_cizincu.pdf).
- HAAS, DE, H. (2006). *Engaging diasporas. How governments and development agencies can support diaspora involvement in the development of origin countries*. International Migration Institute, University of Oxford, [www.imi.ox.ac.uk](http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk).
- HNILICOVÁ, H. - DOBIÁŠOVÁ, K. (2009). *Zpráva o stavu zdraví a zdravotní péči pro migranty v ČR*. Ústav veřejného zdravotnictví a medicínského práva, 1. lékařská fakulta Univerzity Karlovy: Praha.
- HOLLIFIELD, F. J. – HUNT, F. V. – TICHENOR, J. D. (2008). *Immigrants, Markets, and Rights: The United States as an Emerging Migration State*. Washington University Journal of Law & Policy, Vol. 27:7. On-line at <http://digitalcommons.law.wustl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1135&context=wujlp>.
- HÖNEKOPP E., MATTILA, H. (2008). *Permanent Or Circular Migration? - Policy Choices To Address Demographic Decline and Labour Shortages in Europe*. International Organization for Migration: Budapest. On-line at [http://www.iom.hu/PDF/ARGO\\_permanent%20or%20circular%0migration.pdf](http://www.iom.hu/PDF/ARGO_permanent%20or%20circular%0migration.pdf).
- HORÁKOVÁ, M. — BAREŠ, P. (2010). *Interkulturní otevřenost institucí trhu práce a zaměstnanosti v České republice*. Project “Moving Societies towards Integration?”, On-line at <http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/707/otevrenost.pdf>.
- HORÁKOVÁ, M. (2005). *Cizinci na trhu práce v České republice v letech 1994 -2004*. VÚPSV: Praha.
- HORÁKOVÁ, M. (2008). *Dlouhodobé trendy ve vývoji pracovních migrací České republiky*. VÚPSV: Praha. On-line at [http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/574/Dlouhodobé\\_trendy.pdf](http://www.cizinci.cz/files/clanky/574/Dlouhodobé_trendy.pdf)
- HOUŽVIČKA, V. (2012). *Právo menšin v proměnách času a souvislost*. IN: *The Revue Politika*, on-line at <http://www.revuepolitika.cz/clanky/1618/>
- HOUŽVIČKA, V. (2005). *Návraty sudetské otázky*. Karolinum: Praha.
- HUDDLESTON, T., NIESSEN, J., NI CHAOIMH, E., WHITE, E. (2011). *Migrant Integration Policy Index III*. British Council: Brusel. On-line at

[http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/ceska\\_republika\\_abridged\\_migrant\\_integration\\_policy\\_in\\_dex\\_mipexiii\\_2011\\_bybcczechrepublic\\_cz.pdf](http://www.mipex.eu/sites/default/files/downloads/ceska_republika_abridged_migrant_integration_policy_in_dex_mipexiii_2011_bybcczechrepublic_cz.pdf).

JANDOUREK, J. (2007). *Sociologický slovník*. Portál: Praha.

KERBS, M. (2009). *Stop Labour Exploitation*. La Strada Czech Republic. On-line at

[http://www.strada.cz/images/Publikace/English/analysis\\_of\\_the\\_agency\\_employment\\_of\\_the\\_vietnamese\\_in\\_the\\_czech\\_republic.pdf](http://www.strada.cz/images/Publikace/English/analysis_of_the_agency_employment_of_the_vietnamese_in_the_czech_republic.pdf).

KOCOUREK, J. (2003). *Vietnamci v ČR*. On-line at

<http://www.socioweb.cz/index.php?disp=temata&shw=199&lst=108>

KOSTRHOUNOVÁ, P. (2009). *Vliv cizinců na trh práce v Jihočeském kraji a okolních krajích*. Diplomová práce, Jihočeská univerzita v Českých Budějovicích.

KREBS, M. (2009). *Vietnamští dělníci a dělnice v českých továrnách*. La Strada Česká republika.

LIEDERMANOVÁ, I. (2010). *Aktuální výzvy v oblasti integrace cizinců*. Sborník z konference. Pardubice: Magistrát města Pardubic.

LUCASSEN, J. – LUCASSEN, L. (2005). *Migration, Migration History, History. Old Paradigms and New Perspectives. International and Comparative Social History - Volume 4*: Oxford.

MASSEY, D. et al. (1993). *Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal*. IN: *Population and Development Review*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (Sep., 1993), p. 431-466. On-line at

[http://cis.uchicago.edu/outreach/summerinstitute/2011/documents/sti2011-parks-theories\\_of\\_international\\_migration.pdf](http://cis.uchicago.edu/outreach/summerinstitute/2011/documents/sti2011-parks-theories_of_international_migration.pdf).

MASSEY, S. et al. (1993). *A Review and Appraisal*. IN: *Population and Development Review*, Vol. 19, No. 3, pp. 431-466. Population Council. On-line at <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2938462>.

*Menšinová problematika v ČR: komunitní život a reprezentace kolektivních zájmů*. (2006) Sociologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha. On-line at [http://studie.soc.cas.cz/upl/texty/files/247\\_SS\\_06\\_10.pdf](http://studie.soc.cas.cz/upl/texty/files/247_SS_06_10.pdf).

*Neregulární pobyt cizinců v ČR — problémy a jejich řešení*. (2008). Člověk v tísni: Praha.

PETRÁŠ, R. – PETRŮV, H. – SCHEU, H. CH. (2009). *Menšiny a právo v České republice*. Auditorium, Praha

PORTES, A. – DEWIND, J. (2007). *Rethinking migration: new theoretical and empirical perspectives*. New York and Oxford, Berghan Books. On-line at

<https://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/csp/article/viewFile/16033/12838>.

RÁKOCZYOVÁ, M. - TRBOLA, R. - VYHLÍDAL, J. (2011). *Lokální strategie integrace cizinců v ČR II*. VÚPSV: Praha.

RICHTERMOCOVARÁ, T. (2010). *Migrace České republiky, její klady a zápory*. Oberig, občanské sdružení: Ústí nad Labem. On-line at <http://www.oberig.cz/ftp/pdf/Migrace%20v%20CR.pdf>.

RYCHLÍK, J. (1998). *Češi a Slováci ve 20. století: česko-slovenské vztahy 1945-1992*. Academic Electronic Press: Bratislava.

SANJAY, J. –MAJUMDAR, S. – MUKAND, S. (2008). *Workers without Borders? Culture, Migration and the Political Limits to Globalization*. Department of Economy, Queen's University.

SARTORI, G. (2005). *Pluralismus, multikulturalismus a přistěhovalci : esej o multietnické společnosti*. Dokořán: Praha.



- SCHAEFFER, P. V. (1993). *A Definition of Migration Pressure Based on Demand Theory*. IN: *International Migration*, 31: 43–72.
- SCHMITTER, B. (2000). *The Sociology of Immigration. From Assimilation to Segmented Integration, from the American Experience to the Global Arena*. IN: *Migration Theory: Talking Across Disciplines*, p. 77-96. Routledge: New York.
- ŠEĐOVÁ, K. - ŠVAŘÍČEK, R. et al (2007). *Kvalitativní výzkum v pedagogických vědách*. Portál: Praha.
- ŠIŠKOVÁ, T. (ed.) (2001). *Menšiny a migranti v České republice*. Portál: Praha.
- The Organisation of Asylum and Migration Policies in the Czech Republic*. (2008) European Migration Network, Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky: Praha.
- ŠRUBAŘ, M. (2002). *Současná definice národnosti a pojetí národnostních statistik ve Střední a Jihovýchodní Evropě*, Masarykova Univerzita v Brně.
- TROMBÍK, P. (2008). *Integrace specifických skupin imigrantů v České republice*. Ministry of the Interior. On-line at <http://aplikace.mvcr.cz/archiv2008/azyl/integrace2/nks01/prispevek7.pdf>.
- UHEREK, Z. - KORECKÁ, Z. - POJAROVÁ, T. (2008). *Cizinecké komunity z antropologické perspektivy: vybrané případy významných imigračních skupin v České republice*. Etnologický ústav Akademie věd České republiky: Praha.
- UHEREK, Z. (2005). *Integrace cizinců z hlediska emického a etického*. Etnologický ústav AV ČR: Praha. On-line at [http://www.inkluzivniskola.cz/sites/default/files/uploaded/ZUherek\\_Integrace\\_cizincu.pdf](http://www.inkluzivniskola.cz/sites/default/files/uploaded/ZUherek_Integrace_cizincu.pdf)
- VACKOVÁ, J. et al (2012). *Zdravotně sociální aspekty života imigrantů v České republice*. Triton: Praha / Kroměříž.
- VAH, M. – HACIN-LUKŠIČ, M. (2008). *Contemporary implications of multiculturalism policies for European welfare states*. IN: *Two Homelands – Migration Studies* 28, p. 7-22. The Institute for Slovenian Emigration Studies: Ljubljana. On-line at [http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD\\_TH\\_28.pdf](http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/on-linejournal/DD_TH_28.pdf).
- VERTOVEC, S. (2007). *Circular Migration: the way forward in global policy?* Working papers No. 4, International migration Institute, University of Oxford, [www.imi.ox.ac.uk](http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk).
- Volný pohyb pracovníků v rozšířené EU*. (2008). Euroactiv. On-line at <http://www.euractiv.cz/rozsirovani-eu/link-dossier/voln-pohyb-pracovnk-v-rozen-eu>.
- WIRTH, L. (1945). *The Problem of Minority Groups*. IN: Ralph Linton (ed.), *The Science of Man in the World Crisis*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- World migration 2008: managing labour mobility in the evolving global economy*. (2009) International Organization for Migration: Geneva.
- Zpráva o situaci v oblasti migrace a integrace cizinců na území České republiky v roce 2009*. (2010) Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky: Praha.
- Zpráva o situaci národnostních menšin v České republice za rok 2011*. (2012) Úřad vlády České republiky, Sekretariát Rady vlády pro národnostní menšiny: Praha.
- ZHANG, B. (2009). *The Migration in the post-enlargement European Union. Analysis of the Migration from the Eastern European Countries to the EU-15 after the enlargement in 2004*. Lund University, pp.12-13. On-line at <http://lup.lub.lu.se/student-papers/record/1397263>.

### **Internet sources:**

Czech Statistical Office: <http://notes2.czso.cz>

Czech Sociological Review: <http://sreview.soc.cas.cz/cs/archive>

Demografie – informační server: <http://www.demografie.info>

European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE): <http://www.ecre.org>

EPP –ED Group in the European Parliament: <http://www.epp-ed.org>

Evropská Unie: <http://europa.int.eu>

Global Issues – Racism: <http://www.globalissues.org/article/165/racism>

Infoservis společnosti Člověk v tísní při ČT : <http://www.infoservis.net>

International Organization for Migration: <http://www.iom.cz/>

Migrace on-line – vše o mezinárodní migraci: <http://www.migraceon-line.cz>

Ministerstvo vnitra ČR – Asylum: <http://www.mvcr.cz/azyl/slovník.html>

Ministerstvo vnitra ČR – EU: <http://www.mvcr.cz/eunie/azyl.html>

Ministerstvo vnitra ČR – migrace: <http://www.mvcr.cz/dokumenty/dokumenty.html>

Multikultura: <http://www.multikulturazlin.cz>

Odbor azylové a migrační politiky Ministerstva vnitra ČR (OAMP): <http://www.mvcr.cz/uprchlici/>  
(statistiky, azylový zákon, Úmluva o právním postavení uprchlíků aj.)

Organizace pro pomoc uprchlíkům (OPU): <http://www.azyl.cz>

Politicko-společenská revue Centra pro studium demokracie a kultury: <http://www.revuepolitika.cz/>

Poradna pro občanská a lidská práva: <http://diskriminace.cz>

Slovník cizích slov on-line: <http://slovník-cizich-slov.abz.cz>

The Council of Europe: <http://hub.coe.int/>

The World Bank – Migration & Remittances: <http://web.worldbank.org/>

United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR): <http://www.unhcr.ch>

UNHCR – česká pobočka: <http://www.unhcr.cz>

Vláda České Republiky: <http://www.vlada.cz/>

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX I – THE QUESTIONNAIRE

**Dobrý den, jmenuji se Markéta Benešová a studuji 2. ročník oboru the Joint Master in Migration and Intercultural Communication na Pedagogické fakultě Jihočeské univerzity v Českých Budějovicích.**

**V rámci zpracování diplomové práce na téma „Největší překážky při sociální integraci cizinců v České Republice, oblast České Budějovice“ si Vás dovoluji požádat o vyplnění tohoto dotazníku, který je zcela anonymní a údaje z něj získané budou použity pouze jako podklad pro zpracování výzkumné části práce.**

### **Dotazník**

#### **I Osobní údaje**

- 1) Národnost:
- 2) Věk:
- 3) Pohlaví:
- 4) Nejvyšší dosažené vzdělání:
- 5) Máte rodinu?:

Manželka/manžela: *ne – ano*

Děti: *ne – ano: počet dětí:*

Je Vaše rodina s Vámi v České republice, nebo zůstali ve Vaší zemi? *Vyberte 1 možnost: v České republice – doma*

Pokud Vaše rodina zůstala ve Vaší zemi, máte v úmyslu je v budoucnosti přestěhovat do České republiky? *Vyberte 1 možnost: Ne – ano – zatím nevím*

#### **II Pobyť v České republice**

- 6) Jak dlouho žijete v České republice?:
- 7) Jaký je Váš pobytový statut?:
- 8) Proč jste se rozhodl/a přicestovat zrovna do ČR?: (*Např.: Přicestova/al za příbuznými, známými, viděl/a jsem nabídku práce, rozhodl/a se sám/sama od sebe*)
- 9) Proč jste si vybral/a Jihočeský kraj?:

- 10) V jakém typu zařízení bydlíte? *Vyberte 1 možnost: Vlastní byt – Vlastní dům – Ubytovna – Podnájem v bytě – Podnájem v domě – Azylový dům – Jiné*
- 11) Bydlíte doma sami nebo s dalšími osobami? *Vyberte 1 možnost: sami/s rodinou – s příbuznými – se spolupracovníky – s krajany – s jinými národnostmi*
- 12) Chcete tu zůstat trvale nebo plánujete opustit ČR? *Vyberte 1 možnost: Chci se za několik let vrátit domů – Chci pokračovat jinam do ciziny – Chci tu zůstat*

### III Zaměstnání

- 13) V jakém oboru pracujete?:
- 14) Pracoval/a jste předtím v České republice i na jiných pozicích? *Vyberte ne – ano:*  
Pokud ano, tak jaké?:
- 15) Jste spokojený/á se svým platem? *Vyberte 1 možnost: velmi spokojen – spokojen – ani spokojen, ani nespokojen – nespokojen – velmi nespokojen*
- 16) V jaké oboru jste pracoval/a ve své domovině?:
- 17) Pracujete za stejných podmínek jako čeští pracovníci na stejné pozici? (stejný plat, bezpečnost práce, počet hodin) *Vyberte 1 možnost: ne – ano – nevím*
- 18) Jste se svou prací spokojen/a?: *Vyberte 1 možnost: velmi spokojen – spokojen – ani spokojen, ani nespokojen – nespokojen – velmi nespokojen*
- 19) Zbývá vám nějaký volný čas na Vaše záliby? *Vyberte 1 možnost: nyní ne – ano – do budoucna budu mít více času*  
Pokud ano, jak nejraději trávíte svůj volný čas v České Republice?:

### IV Integrace

- 20) Jste celkově v České republice spokojený/á?: *Vyberte 1 možnost: velmi spokojen – spokojen – průměrně – nespokojen – velmi nespokojen*
- 21) Využíváte nebo využili jste služeb nějakých institucí, pomáhajících cizincům s v České republice, např. OPU, CPIC, Diecézní charita? *Vyberte 1 možnost: ne – ano – chtěl bych v budoucnu*  
Pokud ano, tak jakých služeb? *(Např. jazykové kurzy, knihovna, právní poradna, společenské kurzy)*
- 22) Setkáváte se v České republice s diskriminací?: *Vyberte 1 možnost: velmi často – často – občas – jen několikrát – nikdy. Pokud ano, rozveďte některý z těchto případů.*

- 23) Rozumíte česky? *Vyberte 1 možnost: dobře – málo – vůbec ne*
- 24) Setkáváte se mimo zaměstnání s Čechy?:
- 25) Co Vám nejvíce znesnadňuje život v České republice? Pokuste se následující aspekty očíslovat (1 – nejméně komplikuje, 5 – nejvíce komplikuje), případně uveďte další:
- jazyková bariéra
  - jednání s úřady
  - složité zákony
  - finanční potíže
  - diskriminace
  - jiné:.....
- 26) Měl/a byste zájem o společenské akce (ochutnávka tradiční kuchyně, taneční večer, setkání s dětmi, apod.), na kterých byste se mohl/a setkat blíže s českými spoluobčany?
- Vyberte 1 možnost: ne – ano – neuvažoval/a jsem nad tím*

**Děkuji za Váš čas a vyplnění dotazníku.**

## APPENDIX II - THE STATISTIC OF ASYLUM INTEGRATION

### 1 The Asylum Integration - Table

| <b>Figure I – Statistic of the asylum integration in the Czech Republic - overview</b>  |                        |                                     |  |                                     |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Overview of provided integration flats, the number of asylum seekers and the released funds in the period from 1994 to 2010.</i> |                        |                                     |  |                                     |
| <b>Year</b>   | <b>Number of flats</b> | <b>Funds for the housing in CZK</b> | <b>Funds for the municipalities in CZK</b> | <b>Number of integrated persons</b> |
| 1994  | 22                     | 4 798 000                           | 1 480 000                                  | 84                                  |
| 1995  | 48                     | 8 802 000                           | 3 340 000                                  | 120                                 |
| 1996  | 15                     | 2 700 000                           | 930 000                                    | 44                                  |
| 1997  | 19                     | 4 000 000                           | 1 430 000                                  | 56                                  |
| 1998  | 28                     | 6 050 000                           | 3 070 000                                  | 65                                  |
| 1999  | 44                     | 9 900 000                           | 5 160 000                                  | 110                                 |
| 2000  | 30                     | 6 600 000                           | 3 090 000                                  | 78                                  |
| 2001  | 23                     | 4 950 000                           | 2 730 000                                  | 47                                  |
| 2002  | 18                     | 3 750 000                           | 2 210 000                                  | 41                                  |
| 2003  | 18                     | 3 750 000                           | 2 910 000                                  | 39                                  |
| 2004  | 38                     | 8 836 750                           | 5 979 500                                  | 113                                 |
| 2005  | 40                     | 7 877 907                           | 5 604 500                                  | 102                                 |
| 2006  | 55                     | 8 832 281                           | 6 867 500                                  | 131                                 |
| 2007  | 49                     | 6 666 744                           | 5 285 500                                  | 147                                 |
| 2008  | 47                     | 1 408 342                           | 7 428 000                                  | 119                                 |
| 2009  | 76                     | 2 800 967                           | 12 846 000                                 | 177                                 |
| 2010  | 85                     | 4 346 220                           | 7 774 000                                  | 179                                 |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>655</b>             | <b>96 069 211</b>                   | <b>78 135 000</b>                          | <b>1667</b>                         |

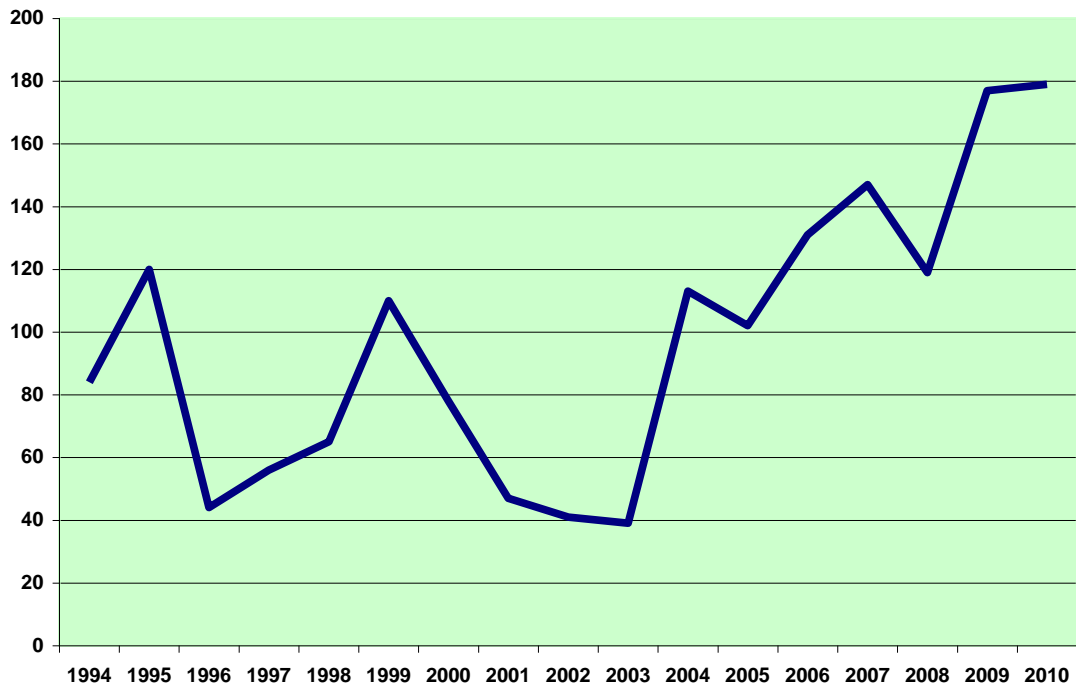
*Source: Own adaptation, based on data of the official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.<sup>270</sup>*

<sup>270</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/integrace-statistika-integrace-azylantu.aspx>. [Accessed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012].

## 2 The Asylum Integration - Graph

**Figure II – Statistic of the asylum integration in the Czech Republic**

*Overview of number of asylum seekers in the period from 1994 to 2010.*



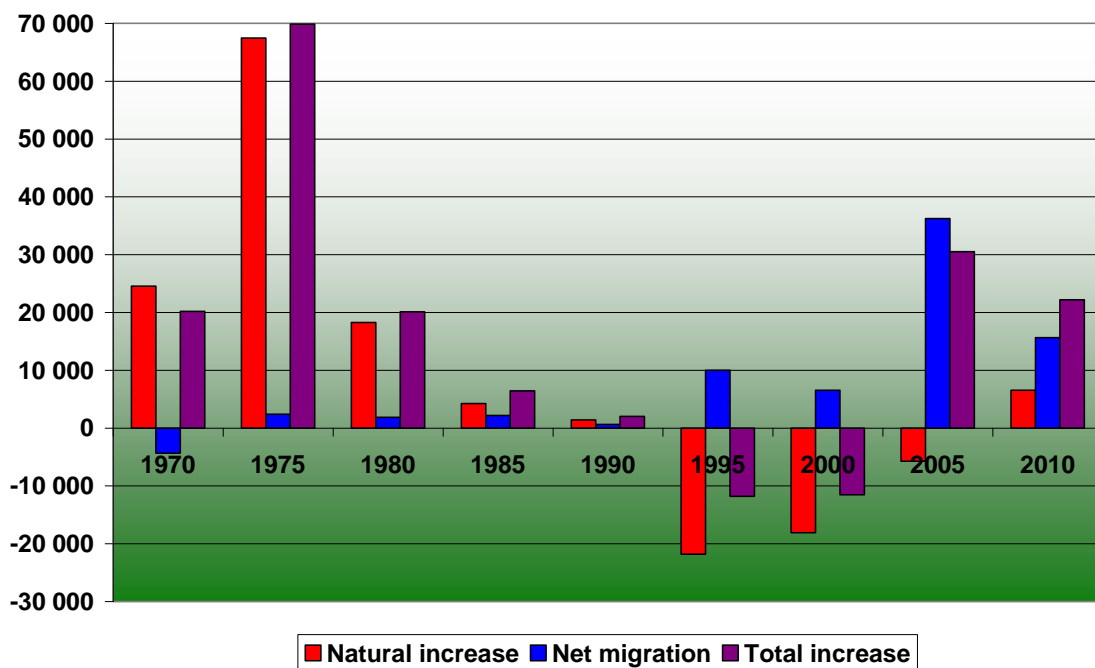
*Source: Own adaptation, based on data of the official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic.<sup>271</sup>*

---

<sup>271</sup> Official websites of the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, see on-line at <http://www.mvcr.cz/clanek/integrace-statistika-integrace-azylantu.aspx>. [Accessed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012].

## APPENDIX III – THE STATISTIC OF POPULATION GROWTH

Figure III – The overview of the population growth in the Czech Republic



Source: Own adaptation, based on data of Czech Statistical Office<sup>272</sup>

<sup>272</sup> Czech Statistical Office. – Obyvatelstvo – Roční časové řady. See on-line at [http://www.czso.cz/csu/csu.nsf/i/tab1\\_obyr-cr/\\$File/c-4001-12.xls](http://www.czso.cz/csu/csu.nsf/i/tab1_obyr-cr/$File/c-4001-12.xls) [Accessed November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012].



## APPENDIX IV – THE CZECH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR FOREIGNERS´ INTEGRATION

### **1. Organization for Aid to Refugees (OPU)<sup>273</sup>**

Organization for Aid to Refugees is a non-profit organization, founded in 1991 in Prague, which provides free legal and social assistance to their clients, organizes educational activities for the general public and experts. Organization for Aid to Refugees promotes human rights, opposes extremism and is involved in projects of international development assistance. In addition to the Prague headquarters has offices in Brno, Plzen and Czech Budejovice and cooperates with similar organizations abroad.

### **2. Association of Citizens Assisting Migrants (SOZE)<sup>274</sup>**

SOZE is a non-profit organization, whose mission is to provide assistance to refugees and other categories of foreigners coming to the Czech Republic. This assistance is based on free of charge legal, social and psychological counseling, implementing leisure and educational programs, and complex social and legal assistance to long-term residence for foreigners and asylum holders in the painstaking process of integration into the majority society. The association has offices in Brno and Olomouc.

### **3. Centre for Migration (CPOM)<sup>275</sup>**

CPOM is a nonprofit organization that defends the rights of foreigners in the Czech Republic, the successor to the Counseling Center for Refugees. CPOM has office in Prague.

---

<sup>273</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.opu.cz/> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>274</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.soze.cz> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>275</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.migrace.com/> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

#### **4. La Strada Czech Republic<sup>276</sup>**

La Strada Czech Republic is a non-profit organization, which operates in embarking upon human trafficking. It is the only specialized organization in the Czech Republic exclusively dedicated to providing assistance to trafficked and exploited persons. The aim of the organization is to contribute to the elimination of trafficking and exploitation, providing the victims with support and protection. La Strada has ongoing commitment to the legislative changes in order to prevent human trafficking and exploitation and to protect the rights and interests of the target groups

#### **6. Charity Czech Republic (CCR)<sup>277</sup>**

The non-profit humanitarian organization Charity Czech Republic is the largest private provider of social and health services in the Czech Republic with more than a hundred years of history. The organization sustains eight arch / diocesan charities (Brno, Prague, Olomouc, Ostrava-Opava, Czech Budejovice, Hradec Kralove, Plzen, Litoměřice), the Czech Catholic Charity - Homes religious, and Greek Catholic charity. On the territory of arch / diocesan Caritas operates regional, municipal and parish charities. CCR Secretariat's national headquarters provides service for the entire organizational structure of Charity in the Czech Republic. All services are provided free of charge.

The Charity České Budějovice was established in 1994. The objective of the charity regarding foreigners is to help those, who find themselves in difficult life situations, regardless of their immigration status.

Services offered:

- Social and legal advice
- Help to promote the rights and legitimate interests
- Assistance in obtaining accommodation and job placement
- Material assistance (groceries, clothing, financial assistance)
- Courses of Czech language (for adults and children)

---

<sup>276</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.strada.cz> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>277</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.dchcb.cz/Adresari/?s=poradna-pro-cizince-a-migranty> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

- English language courses, computer courses and occasional thematic training courses
- Multicultural Events<sup>278</sup>

## **7. People in Need<sup>279</sup>**

People in Need are an international humanitarian organization to assist in crisis areas and promote respect for human rights worldwide.

The main objectives are:

- Humanitarian aid and development cooperation
- The promotion of human rights (currently implemented in Cuba, Burma, Belarus, Russia, Moldova and Ukraine)
- Social Integration Programs
- Training and information courses

## **8. Integration Advice Centre (PPI)<sup>280</sup>**

The Advice Center is a nonprofit organization with offices in Prague and Usti nad Labem. The organization provides legal and social counseling to foreigners living in the Czech Republic.

---

<sup>278</sup> Multicultural activities should help in establishing the contact between the Czechs and the foreigners (e.g. Ukrainian day, Mongolian Day, etc.). In České Budějovice took a place happening named „Colorful Budějovice“, carried out by the occasion of the International day of refugees (June 20th), which included cultural program prepared mainly by the foreigners themselves.

<sup>279</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.clovekvtisni.cz>. [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>280</sup> See more about the organization at <http://p-p-i.cz/sluzby/> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

## APPENDIX V – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR MIGRATION

### **1. UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)<sup>281</sup>**

UNHCR Prague office was opened in 1992. The main objective of UNHCR in the Czech Republic is to support the government's efforts to create a comprehensive, sustainable and independent asylum system through the protection and public information activities. UNHCR is actively involved in the preparatory stages of all relevant laws and seeks to ensure compliance with the Asylum Act. Office regularly monitors the first instance decision in order to ensure fair and efficient refugee status determination. UNHCR also assists judges who decide cases of appeal in asylum cases.

### **2. International Organization for Migration (IOM)<sup>282</sup>**

International Organization for Migration is an intergovernmental organization with headquarters in Geneva. It was founded in 1951 and currently has 122 member States and 92 observers including 18 States and 74 global and regional inter-governmental and non-profit organizations. IOM operates in the Czech Republic since 1998, and is based in Prague.

The main activities are in the following areas:

- Voluntary return and reintegration
- Migration and Development
- Labor migration
- Preventing and combating human trafficking
- Migration management
- Integration of Foreigners in the Czech Republic

---

<sup>281</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.unhcr-centraleurope.org>. [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

<sup>282</sup> See more about the organization at <http://www.iom.cz/> [Accessed on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011].

## APPENDIX VI – THE INTERVIEW - IMMIGRANTS’ STORIES

The following stories have been transcribed from the written notes which I made during my interviews. I have opted to present each of the participants’ stories by an informal, narrative style, not just to copy out strictly the interview scheme. The names have been changed in order to maintain the anonymity of the participants.

### **1 John – Vietnamese, 58 years old**

I met John in the Centre for Support of Integration. He drives his brother, who does not speak almost any Czech to the Center for language course. John, on the other hand was already fluent in Czech language. John agreed to help with the survey and we carried out on talks while I was working on my Internship Report in the Center. John is the oldest from the all respondents, whom I carried out the research with.

John arrived to the Czech Republic thanks to the bilateral cooperation between the former Czechoslovakia and the Vietnamese Socialistic Republic. He is originally from Hanoi. He was a student of a technical school and was offered a working internship in the Czech Republic. At that time, it was a very common praxis. He started to work as a workman in the Chemopharma in Ústí nad Labem. He was quite disappointed at first, as this work did not related to his studies but he got slowly used to it. With the money he earned he could support his parents and relatives back in Vietnam.

He stated that when he was dismissed in 1990s, he had already made quite few friends. Thanks to them he found a new job in Prague, this time as a sales person in the market place. He met his wife here. Together they have decided to move to the South Bohemia and work there.

Thanks to his job, John learned quite well Czech already in Prague and improved that in South Bohemia. He stated that his wife does not speak much. When I asked why does she not attend the Centre’s language classes, he pointed out that someone must be at work (John has a small shop) which he keeps open seven days a week.

John has a daughter and a son. The oldest daughter is eighteen and she studies at the high school in České Budějovice. He plans for her to go the University in Prague

afterwards. His son is twelve and is a good student as well. Both children are fluent in Czech.

John agreed that he is quite happy in the Czech Republic but his wife would sometimes prefer to return home.<sup>283</sup> He thinks it is because her parents are still alive. John's parents have died and the only relative he now supplies back in Vietnam is the family of his wife. Most likely they will never do so, because they have managed to establish themselves quite well here and their financial situation is pretty stable. They bought an older house in which they have opened their shop recently (before that he and his wife worked in Kaplice in the market). He and his wife both have a permanent residence in the Czech Republic.

John thinks that the biggest problem for foreigners here is the immigration legislation. He said that "the laws are changing very fast and all the time I have to fill in some new papers but I do not even know what they are for". He also pointed out that "some people look at me with dislike like how I dare to work and live in the Czech Republic; I should be out there, in Vietnam". However he made an emphasis that mostly he has had a nice relationship with his customers and neighbors.

He lives in a small town close by České Budějovice. Thanks to their work, they meet Czech people, but still they do not have many Czech friends. His children on the other hand do. He is glad for that and sometimes he wishes to have more opportunities to meet with Czechs. Yet, he admits that he has had a little time because he works long hours in his shop.

Conclusion: John likes his life in České Budějovice. He has two children- both of them go to the Czech school, have Czech friends and are fluent in the Czech language. He expects both of them will go study at the University. He is respected in his community but also in his new place, a little town near České Budějovice where he recently bought his house and runs a small shop there. His wife is not as happy as he is here. At first because she still misses her family, secondly because she has limited contact with the Czech majority. She

---

<sup>283</sup> It is some sort of „ambivalent attitude” – although they have lived here for many years and they have established themselves quite well (have savings), they still live in some sort of a provisional arrangement as they are not sure if they stay here forever or if they decide to go back to Vietnam. For further reference see Brouček S. 2003, p. 3.

never learned to speak Czech well; she only knows some basic words. John speaks fluently Czech and it is easy for him to talk to his neighbors. He drives his brother to the CPIC to take the language lessons, but he is not so concerned about his wife language skills. In this case, he follows the conventional gender division on masculine and feminine roles in the family, and society in general. He has a residence permit and has no intention to return back to Vietnam. Quite contrary, he has been helping to his relatives to come to the Czech Republic. He admits that some people look at him disrespectfully and sometimes tried to offend him. Although he feels already as a Czech citizen, he still feels remained of the “otherness”. However, he tries not to complain about it.

## **2 Alexander – Ukrainian, 32 years old**

I met Alexander at one of the construction places near my house, to which I actually know the head construction man. I noticed a couple of young men speaking Ukrainian there and I approached the head man and he helped me out to approach the workers. Once they understood what I needed, they were very helpful and agreed to participate in the research. Because the stories were indeed quite similar, I chose to portray just one of the men.

Alexander came to the Czech Republic about five years ago. He was a carpenter originally but there were not enough jobs in his town. He heard of the job possibility from one of his neighbors in his town. He came here on a tourist visa at first. He came with couple of other men directly to České Budějovice to work at the constructions. He has been going back and forth since then. He is single but he mentioned once he had some girlfriend back at his town.

Alexander is employed by a Czech company but he himself did not find the job. It was arranged by another person, whom he calls “*the boss*” (in Alexander’s case it is a Czech person but often these men are Ukrainians as well). He explained that this particular person has connections to the construction companies and is able to find them suitable workers. He then takes a percentage or fixed money from the workers as his reward. Without this middle man foreign workers like Alexander can hardly find a job unless they have been here for a longer time. Alexander was not complaining about the man, more by the fact that people look at him with degradation. Alexander said that at home “I would be praised for the work; here I am just used as a cheap labor”.

However, he was happy with the money he makes, which he partly sends home to his family; he has two sisters and one younger brother who studies back at home. This is quite common practice by all the immigrants. He lives with other Ukrainian men at the foreigners' housing facility. At work he meets also Czech workers but in a construction the people vary a lot, so he had not made any close friendship with any of them.

Alexander would like to stay in the Czech Republic and now he is preparing his application for a permanent stay. He had to seek a lawyer and paid him quite a lot of money. I have told him about the Centre and he said he try to go there to consult with the Center's lawyer. He would like to get a better job later, maybe even establishing his own business, but it all depends on the market situation. When asked about going back to home, he said he would not mind to live in Ukraine but there are not jobs. Therefore he thinks he stays in the Czech Republic.

Conclusion: Alexander came to the Czech Republic in order to find a better paid job than in Ukraine. He is manually skilled therefore the easiest option was to work at the construction. With the time here, things were easier and today he can speak quite well the Czech language. He does not mix much with the Czech people except of his co-workers. He lives in the quarters with other Ukraine workers. He would like to rent his own apartment. At first he must arrange his working and residential status. If he settles well in, he would invite his girlfriend and his brother over.

### **3 Nadezda – Ukraine, 41 years old**

I have meet Nadezda at my fitness center where she works as a weekend cleaner for the past couple of years. She was very keen on the interview.

Nadezda came to the Czech Republic after the breakup of the former Soviet Union. She was born in Carpathian Ruthenia, but her family moved to Kiev (Ukraine), when she was 3 years old. She responded to the advertisement which she found in the newspaper together with some other women from her town. It stated a job opportunity in the Czech Republic. She arrived to Karlovy Vary. Later she found out that the advertisement was placed by a Ukrainian man whom married German women and established his business in the Czech Republic.



She got a work in the factory related to the automobile industry. She and her colleagues did not receive any money for their work (or just very little), only housing and food. She said that “the accommodation was very bad; it was all dirty and not nice”. Because she was not getting any salary, she finally went to complain to the Labor Office. The Office later warned her to leave the place as they would investigate the situation there (I presumed she had a working papers already at that time but did not confirmed that with her).

Nadezda and one her friend left Karlovy Vary and came to České Budějovice. When I asked her, why she have chosen to come here, she said, she came here because she found a job here. At the same time she mentioned that there was some agency involved in the job contracting and nobody wanted to employ them because it would cost lot of money. I asked her if the same agency organized her first job but she denied it. She did not want to speak more about the agency. Luckily, she found help from some Czech employer (she mentioned his name, Mr. Holeček) who for some reason did not fear the nameless agency and helped her with a job. Then she had no more obligations towards the agency. After some time, she managed to get a work in the factory again but this time she was employed directly from the factory. She said “this was the first time I earned my own money here”. She also mentioned that the housing conditions were much better then in Karlovy Vary.

After few years she met her husband in one of the discotheques. They have a nine year old son today. She then stayed home with the boy while he was little. Before she found this job, she was already cleaning in a different company. She found this new job through the Labor Office. She did not really articulate why she left her previous job but it seemed she had very low salary there because she mentioned that in her new job she is happy and they pay her a normal salary as anybody else.

She did not hear about the CPIC before. She speaks Czech but not always correctly and with a strong foreign accent. She would like to learn Czech because she needs it in order to speak with her son and to be able to correct his school works. She pointed out that her husband is not so patient when it comes to the school matters. She agreed that the idea of free language classes is very motivating however she is used to learn from her husband and does not go out on her own.

Nadezda has got only her mother back in Ukraine. She sends her some money monthly. At some point she was even considering to bring her mother to the Czech

Republic but her mother did not want to move. She has not visited the Carpathian Ruthenia since she left it in 1990s and she does not know if she will have had enough money by next year to visit her mother.

Conclusion: Nadezda has lived in the Czech Republic since the 1990s and occasionally married here. Her son was born in České Budějovice. She does not want to move back home, her home is here. However, she has a low-profile job with no access to the quality contacts with other Czech women. Most of her friends she mentioned are her fellow citizens or other foreigners (especially Russians) who she met during her stay in the Czech Republic or in České Budějovice. She does not feel excluded but she admits having limited contacts with the Czech majority.