Estimating international migration in the Republic of Moldova based on administrative sources

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Resident population on 1st of January, 2014-2019 (постоянное население) and the impact of the current migration estimates

Net migration used for estimating resident population, is calculated based on the authorised immigration and emigration, provided by Public Services Agency (State Population Register)
Why calculating new migration estimates?

- High flow of unregistered international migration
- Implementation of the concept of *usual residence* in official statistics
- Aligning the national statistical system with European standards

Implications for migration measurement

- The 12 months reference period is strongly recommended
- The need to exclude temporary absences clearly stated

**but**

- Not a clue regarding how temporary absences should be defined and measured

Each country has to select the way to implement the definition according to the local situation and data availability
International migration concept

**Immigrant**
- a person who entered in Republic of Moldova and stayed in the country for at least 9 months during the upcoming year after living abroad for at least 9 months in the previous year

**Emigrant**
- a person who exited from the country and lived abroad for at least 9 months during the previous year, living in RM for at least 9 months the year after

**Net migration** – the difference between the numbers of immigrants and emigrants during one year

New international migration estimates

- Based on a **solid basis**: the border-cross recording of entrances and exits to/from RM at **individual level**, but **depersonalized** data
- For each individual it was possible to calculate **accurately** how much time was spent abroad/in-RM
- Migration estimates was calculated using **international recommended definitions**
- For the **first time** in many years **RM has a full and realistic picture of migration flows** in and out the country
Processing and migrant status determination

- Building the DB for each year
- Identification of “illogical itineraries”
- Imputation of a missing movement
- Assignment of a date to the missing movement
- Calculation of migrant status at the level of movements
- Calculation of the migrant status of the individual

International migration by sex, 2014-2017, thousands persons

2017

109,7 Immigrants
159,1 Emigrants
-49,4 Net migration
International migration by sex and age groups, 2017 (rates by 1000 persons)

Conclusion

• Migration is a key issue in RM
• Moldovans are intensively involved in international migration in both directions challenging existent migration definitions and concepts
• Migration should not only be measured in terms of the net migratory balance: high exposure of RM inhabitants to other cultures and countries may have extremely positive implications and open new opportunities in the future
• From now on NBS will be able to provide much better and reliable statistics for policy design, funding, monitoring & evaluation, planning and research
Thank you for your attention!