

PARTICULARITIES OF ROMANIAN PERMANENT MIGRATION – AN ANALYSIS AT THE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT REGIONS

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Abstract

This study proposes an empirical analysis of the evolution of permanent migration from the Region South-West Oltenia of Romania (NUTS2 – RO04) and its counties with the aim to identify specific aspects of the region as a region of origin or destination for migrants permanent. In the same time, the aim of the paper is to identify several endogenous and exogenous factors that would result from specifics and the development level of this region in the context of national migration during 1992-2015, especially that, on the all period were maintained nationwide regional socio-economic disparities. Demographic decline, caused in part by the negative balance of migration in certain regions, but especially its structure by age and sex, do only deepen the national territorial disparities. Their identification and managing can create possible pathway of control over the medium and longterm effects. In this regard, are used statistical analysis methods and techniques based on available territorial data from database Tempo Online of the Romanian National Institute of Statistics.

Key Words: Permanent emigrants, Romanian development regions, Soud-West Oltenia Region, net migration

Classification JEL: F20, F22, J16

1. INTRODUCTION

The literature in this topic highlights that, after the year 1989, when border barriers have fallen, migration reached its culminating in Romania, and it became a country of net emigration. This implies for our country severe consequences at different levels: economic, social and, most importantly, demographic (Roman, M. & Voicu, C. 2010; Ianos, I. 2016). Romanian population aging, confirmed by the last census and population register data, from 2011 reinforces the idea that there are expected a pressure on increasingly larger population in terms of labor shortages caused by significant changes in the share of population active in the labor market and in the insurance and social protection sectors. From other perspective, recent studies has identified two issues of the demographic decline caused by migration: a) direct loss and the devastating b) the effects of damage on the age structure (Ghețău, V., 2007).

Another aspect of the demographic effects that should not ignored when estimating costs final migration, is the emigration of young females, of childbearing age, because lately stadies reveal a migration mainly dominated by women. (Georgescu, M. A. 2015). In this support, Georgescu L.C. realized a relevant review of an impressive amount of literature in topic with a variety of approaches of international migration and its impact both for origin country and the destination.

For the reason that after communism, in the period 1990-1992 the migration in Romania was significantly defined by the migrants by german and hungarian ethnic and for political reasons, we can talk about the permanent emigration of Romanian ethnics only just since 1992, (Andreescu, G., 2005). Permanent emigration of Romanians during 1992-2015 is well defined either in size as especially the determining causes (Babucea A.G, Răbonțu C.I, et al. 2016). Between 1992 and 1997, permanent external migration was maintained at a high level as a response to the level of economic and social development of Romania, massive restructuring of the Romanian economy had determinated an irregularly migration of unemployed population. After 2002, citizens of Romania were allowed to travel to EU without restrictions, like a consequently, emigration levels increased continously by the year 2007. The permanent emigration wave from Romania started to decrease steadily until 2007-2008 when the size of definitive migratory flux was the lowest, caused by the entry of Romania into the Union Europe. Starting with 2007, Romanians benefited from EU accession. After the economic and financial crisis, the phenomenon increase somewhat, reaching remarkable levels.

While emigration registered high rates, immigration had very low levels, so we can say that Romanian net migration was negative, during the entire analysed period. As for immigration in Romania, the main motivations that determine the immigrants to come to our country for permanently, are not at all particular, on the contrary, they subscribe in the ones in recent years immigration is treated as a substitute in order to cope with demographic decline and aging across the EU. (Neguț, S. et. al., 2010).

2. DATASET AND METHODOLOGY

The dataset that supported the study, about number of permanently emigrants and immigrants considered at the level of the eight Romanian development regions, covers the period from the year 1992 to year 2015, and it is public available in the database Tempo Online of National Institute of Statistics of Romania.

However, we must consider that data on emigrants refers to Romanian citizens who change their usual residence, are from the administrative sources, as exclusive data provider. So, the migration from Romania are still undervalued, due to lack of data sources to provide information on all persons leaving Romania for a period of at least 12 months, with or without residence change. In this regard, we applied statistical methods and techniques usually used in territorial comparisons.

3. SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE ROMANIAN PERMANENT MIGRATION PHENOMENON AT THE REGIONS LEVEL

As can be seen from the data in the table below, it is clear that, starting with the 90s, Romania was constantly a "country of origin" even for the permanent emigration phenomenon, as for temporary emigration. Socio-economic conditions in Romania generated hard reasons for own citizens to emigrate, and in the same time, made from Romania an unattractive "country of destination" for the emigrants of other countries.

Even if starting with the EU free movement from 2001, the permanent emigration was stabilized, only after the year 2007 caused by the entry of Romania into the Union Europe, our country has become somewhat attractive for immigration, so net migration became positive. Figure no. 1 shows the evolution for the three main indicators of Romanian migration.

Table no. 1 - Evolution of Migration in Romania, (persons)

Years	Emigrants	Immigrants	Net Migration
1992	31152	1753	-29399
1993	18446	1269	-17177
1994	17146	878	-16268
1995	25675	4458	-21217
1996	21526	2053	-19473
1997	19945	6600	-13345
1998	17536	11907	-5629
1999	12594	10078	-2516
2000	14753	11024	-3729
2001	9921	10350	429
2002	8154	6582	-1572
2003	10673	3267	-7406
2004	13082	2987	-10095
2005	10938	3704	-7234
2006	14197	7714	-6483
2007	8830	9575	745
2008	8739	10030	1291
2009	10211	8606	-1605
2010	7906	7059	-847
2011	18307	15538	-2769
2012	18001	21684	3683
2013	19056	23897	4841
2014	11251	36644	25393
2015	15235	23093	7858

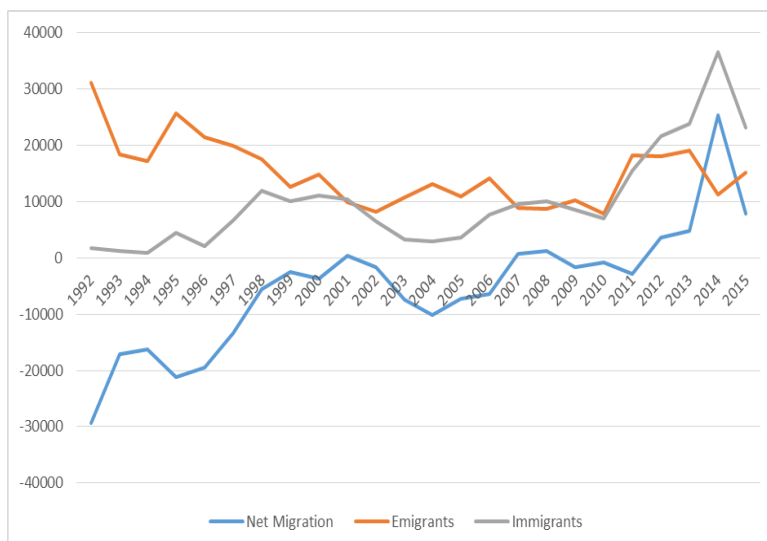


Figure. no. 1 – Evolution of the main indicators of Migration Phenomenon (Emigrants, Immigrants, Net Migration) for Romania in the period between the year 1992 and 2015

Source: author processing based on data from Tempo Online, <http://statistici.insse.ro/shop/>

The year 2010, the first one with signs of the output of EU economic and financial crisis, seems for Romania, to be the starting point for a new trend, a growing net migration. Since 2012, the net migration became continuously positive one, the number of emigrants been significantly exceeded by the number of immigrants.

For analyzing migration data at the level of each development region of Romania, we considered the content of Table no. 2., that presents the evolution of the Romanian permanent migration – Emigrants, Immigrants and Net migration, during the period 1992-2015, by regions at the level of NUTS2.

For the entire period considered, can note significant differences between the 8 regions, both for the evolution of the number of emigrants and for the immigrants, and obviously for the net balance of migration as a difference between the number of emigrants and immigrants (See Figures no. 2-3).

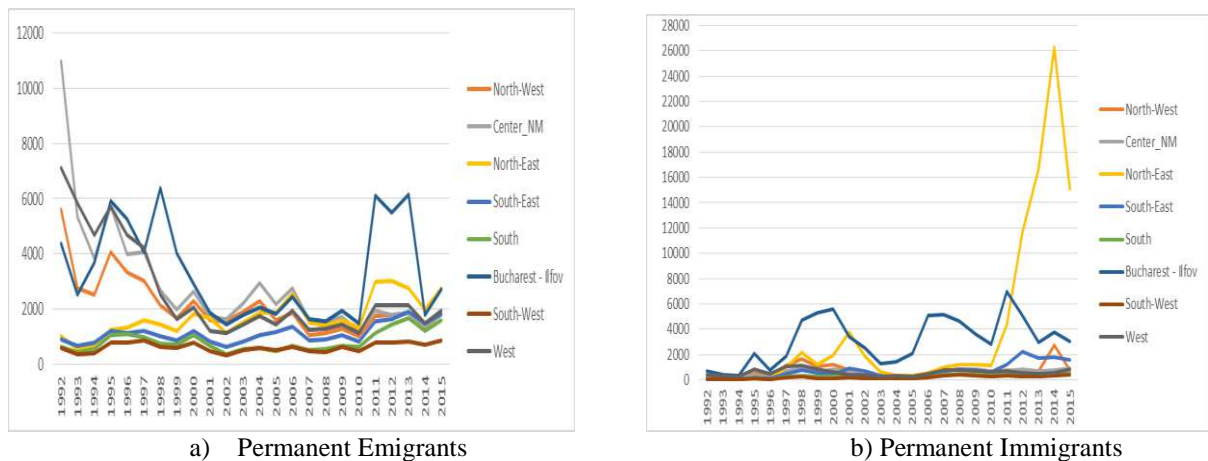


Figure no. 2 – Romanian Permanent Migration, at the level of the 8th regions (NUTS2)

Because in the recent years, from the years 2010, were identified at the nationwide changes both in structure and in the volume of migration at regional level, we considered relevant to analyse such an aspect at the regional level. Remarkable in this respect there are two development regions with spectacular evolution relative to the previous period - Bucharest-Ilfov region, the most developed region of Romania, including the capital of the country, and the Northeast region, the least developed region of Romania (according to EUROSTAT report based on data from 2014).

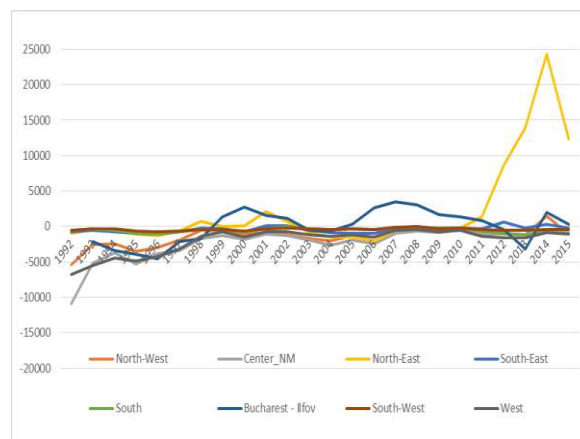


Figure no. 3 – Permanent Net Migration of Romania

Note that, from all regions of Romania, the only region where the number of immigrants in recent years is consistently higher than that of emigrants is the North - East Region, and those differences had caused in fact the positive trend at the national level. (See Figure no.3). Moreover, this is even more difficult to explain, for the reason that this region is the poorest. To explain this aspect we took into account data on the country of origin of immigrants in Romania in the period between year 2010 and year 2015 presented in Table no. 3.

Table no. 3 – Evolution of Permanent immigrants in Romania, by country of origin

County of origin	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015	
Total	7059	100%	15538	100%	21684	100%	23897	100%	36644	100%	23093	100%
Austria	111	1,57	80	0,51	50	0,23	62	0,26	69	0,19	129	0,56
Canada	230	3,26	224	1,44	132	0,61	153	0,64	202	0,55	299	1,29
France	149	2,11	143	0,92	83	0,38	85	0,36	160	0,44	202	0,87
Germany	438	6,20	357	2,30	280	1,29	669	2,80	269	0,73	465	2,01
Israel	108	1,53	130	0,84	64	0,30	98	0,41	106	0,29	142	0,61
Italy	1274	18,05	692	4,45	473	2,18	553	2,31	879	2,40	1315	5,69
Republic of Moldova	1973	27,95	8919	57,40	16931	78,08	20066	83,97	20125	54,92	14340	62,10
United State of America	434	6,15	479	3,08	298	1,37	325	1,36	369	1,01	477	2,07
Ukraine	39	0,55	1013	6,52	492	2,27	684	2,86	1090	2,97	1221	5,29
Hungary	294	4,16	248	1,60	166	0,77	158	0,66	163	0,44	227	0,98
Other countries	2009	28,46	3253	20,94	2715	12,52	1044	4,37	13212	36,06	4276	18,52

Table no. 2 – Evolution of the Romanian permanent migration – Emigrants, Immigrants and Net migration, during the period 1992-2015, by regions (NUTS2)

Regions	Indicators	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total ROMANIA	Net Emigration	-29399	-17177	-16268	-21217	-19473	-13345	-5629	-2516	-3729	429	-1572	-7406	-10095	-7234	-6483	745	1291	-1605	-847	-2769	3683	4841	25393	7858
	Emigrants	31152	18446	17146	25675	21526	19945	17536	12594	14753	9921	8154	10673	13082	10938	14197	8830	8739	10211	7906	18307	18001	19056	11251	15235
	Immigrants	1753	1269	878	4458	2053	6600	11907	10078	11024	10350	6582	3267	2987	3704	7714	9575	10030	8606	7059	15538	21684	23897	36644	23093
North - West	Net Emigration	-5422	-2565	-2443	-3524	-2994	-1883	-505	-598	-1070	-803	-1210	-1671	-2016	-1317	-1468	-345	-297	-498	-361	-971	-1089	-1166	1449	-1043
	Emigrants	5593	2752	2532	4070	3311	3003	2142	1657	2271	1569	1536	1893	2270	1595	1876	1045	1137	1284	992	1757	1766	1848	1301	1831
	Immigrants	171	187	89	546	317	1120	1637	1059	1201	766	326	222	254	278	408	700	840	786	631	786	677	682	2750	788
Center	Net Emigration	-10841	-5201	-3728	-5286	-3775	-3376	-1736	-1309	-1797	-1075	-1232	-1957	-2703	-1923	-2402	-957	-667	-869	-484	-1209	-969	-1164	-558	-902
	Emigrants	10991	5338	3819	5709	3971	4071	2683	1964	2640	1703	1628	2219	2958	2164	2739	1570	1504	1689	1163	1921	1776	1870	1345	1794
	Immigrants	150	137	91	423	196	695	947	655	843	628	396	262	255	241	337	613	837	820	679	712	807	706	787	892
North - East	Net Emigration	-939	-474	-666	-1081	-1226	-630	737	-1	92	2091	690	-839	-1514	-1513	-1977	-519	-183	-419	-187	1342	8639	13927	24314	12330
	Emigrants	1015	558	711	1241	1315	1596	1450	1216	1837	1667	1140	1495	1853	1852	2556	1522	1412	1593	1302	2972	3027	2742	1964	2729
	Immigrants	76	84	45	160	89	966	2187	1215	1929	3758	1830	656	339	339	579	1003	1229	1174	1115	4314	11666	16669	26278	15059
South - East	Net Emigration	-701	-563	-731	-970	-1024	-724	-259	-331	-775	109	46	-532	-821	-927	-966	-182	-8	-298	-192	-311	611	-212	302	-250
	Emigrants	873	652	778	1186	1113	1202	1005	857	1213	813	632	826	1039	1160	1360	863	881	1038	830	1551	1620	1894	1481	1823
	Immigrants	172	89	47	216	89	478	746	526	438	922	678	294	218	233	394	681	873	740	638	1240	2231	1682	1783	1573
South - Muntenia	Net Emigration	-536	-379	-504	-931	-1035	-718	-388	-412	-748	-331	-37	-357	-471	-310	-424	-121	-91	-231	-261	-608	-994	-1189	-788	-1030
	Emigrants	614	420	540	1052	1087	971	750	690	1039	668	360	538	578	453	663	507	549	644	602	1107	1414	1646	1214	1590
	Immigrants	78	41	36	121	52	253	362	278	291	337	323	181	107	143	239	386	458	413	341	499	420	457	426	560
Bucharest - Ilfov	Net Emigration	-3715	-2139	-3381	-3868	-4521	-2170	-1679	1322	2693	1539	1101	-542	-658	257	2656	3480	3064	1716	1363	878	-423	-3172	1948	299
	Emigrants	4381	2523	3678	5916	5266	4045	6376	4014	2913	1841	1431	1792	2057	1808	2440	1643	1567	1936	1456	6106	5479	6148	1797	2705
	Immigrants	666	384	297	2048	745	1875	4697	5336	5606	3380	2532	1250	1399	2065	5096	5123	4631	3652	2819	6984	5056	2976	3745	3004
South - West Oltenia	Net Emigration	-525	-301	-369	-692	-712	-652	-389	-432	-667	-306	-176	-374	-485	-375	-424	-121	-46	-277	-199	-459	-533	-558	-380	-461
	Emigrants	581	351	396	791	767	835	614	574	772	468	306	489	589	488	617	451	419	607	449	759	791	797	681	833
	Immigrants	56	50	27	99	55	183	225	142	105	162	130	115	104	113	193	330	373	330	250	300	258	239	301	372
West	Net Emigration	-6720	-5555	-4446	-4865	-4186	-3192	-1410	-755	-1457	-795	-754	-1134	-1427	-1126	-1478	-490	-481	-729	-526	-1431	-1559	-1625	-894	-1085
	Emigrants	7104	5852	4692	5710	4696	4222	2516	1622	2068	1192	1121	1421	1738	1418	1946	1229	1270	1420	1112	2134	2128	2111	1468	1930
	Immigrants	384	297	246	845	510	1030	1106	867	611	397	367	287	311	292	468	739	789	691	586	703	569	486	574	845

Source: Calculated by the author based on data from Tempo Online (<http://statistici.insse.ro/shop/>)

Data shows that the largest share of immigrant in Romania are the Moldovans, as European Union statistics show that they chosed to emigrate especially in Romania, with destination at the border counties, in Iasi county in particular. The duration of the migration from Moldova to the European Union through Romania depends on its foreign policy, but as long as the European Union is a destination for a better living, Romania will be the country with the fastest integration, but with Romanian citizenship, Romania will be only a transit country to Western countries, more developed.

Eliminating the two regions, namely Bucharest-Ilfov and North East from the initial sample, another very poor region has highlighted specific particularities, the South-West Oltenia Romania. This region is characterize by stationary developments both for the number of emigrants and for the number of immigrants, and in the same time the lowest level in the country. Practically, the factors that have caused fluctuations al nationwide no affected this region.

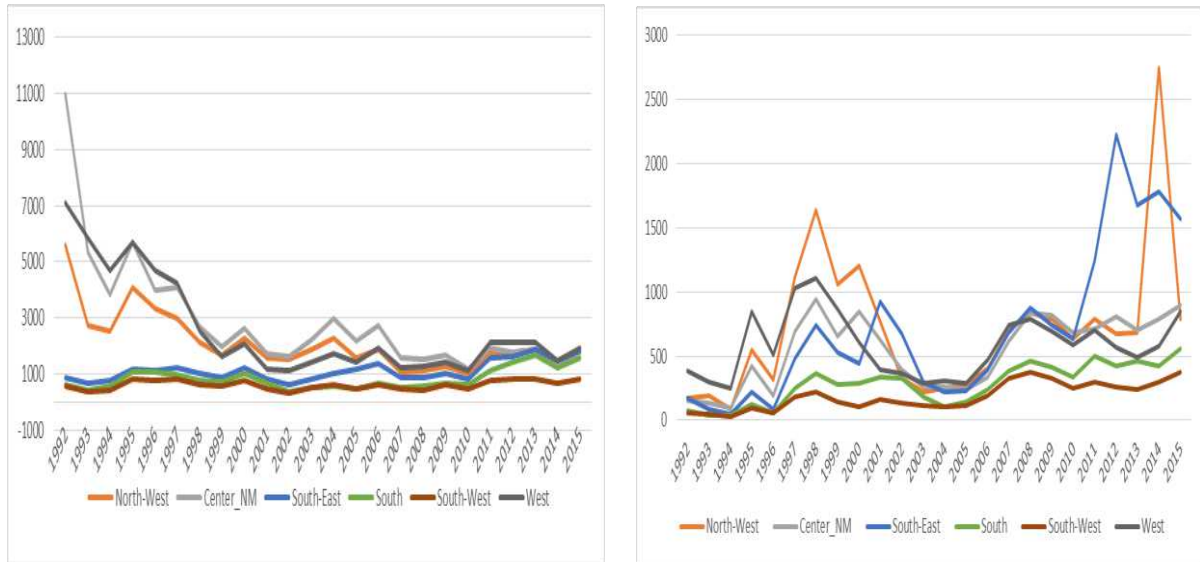


Figure no. 4 - Romanian Permanent Migration, at the level of the regions (NUTS2), excluding Bucharest – Ilfov Region and North-East Region

In figure no. 5 are represented the two variables and the derivate indicator net migration, a) at the national level and b) at the level of the development region South-West Oltenia. It is worth noting that if at nationwide, in recent years, the immigrants settled in Romania exceeded significantly the number of emigrants resulted in a positive balance of migration starting with the year 2012.

A situation far from similarity offers the South-West Oltenia Region where, net migration remained negative the entire analyzed period, even with a very low an emigration relative to other regions (NUTS2) of Romania.

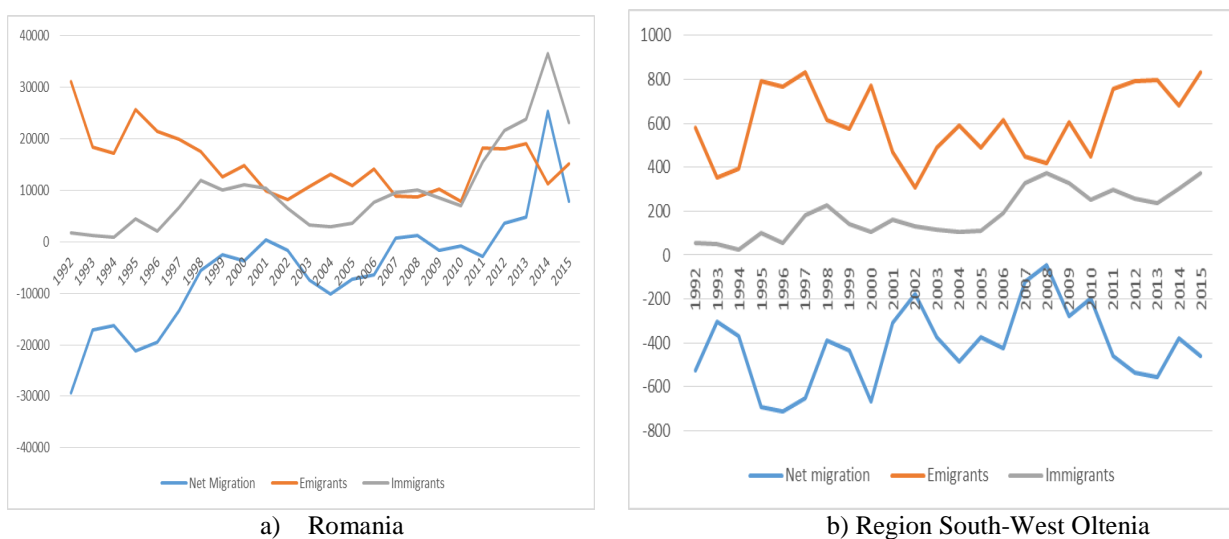


Figure no. 5 – Permanent migration at level of - a) Romania, and b) Region South-West Oltenia

The evolution of the permanent migration in the counties of the Region South-Oltenia is presented in the figure below.

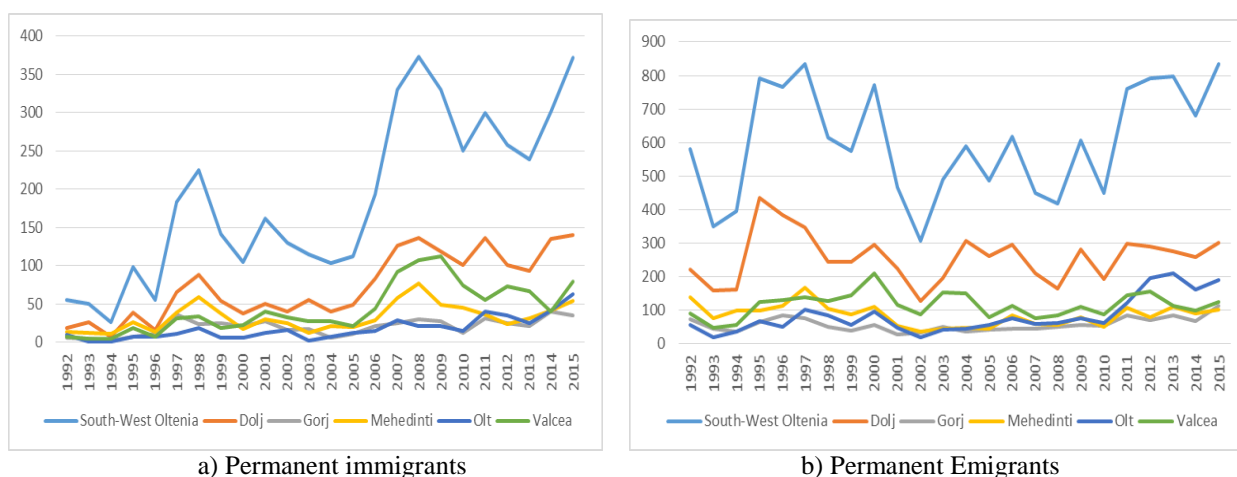


Figure no. 6 – Permanent migration at the level of Region South-West Oltenia (NUTS2) and its counties

Table no. 4 presents data by counties of departure of emigrants and respectively, of arrival of immigrants at the level of South-West Oltenia Region, the region of study case, one of the atypical regions, regarding the migration.

Table no. 4 – Evolution of permanent migration at the level of South-West Region, Immigration, Emigration and Net Migration

Year	S-W Oltenia			Dolj			Gorj			Mehedinți			Olt			Valcea		
	I	E	Net M	I	E	Net M	I	E	Net M	I	E	Net M	I	E	Net M	I	E	Net M
1992	56	581	-525	19	222	-203	6	73	-67	14	138	-124	10	57	-47	7	91	-84
1993	50	351	-301	27	160	-133	5	46	-41	12	78	-66	1	19	-18	5	48	-43
1994	27	396	-369	8	163	-155	2	37	-35	11	100	-89	1	38	-37	5	58	-53
1995	99	791	-692	39	436	-397	7	64	-57	26	98	-72	8	69	-61	19	124	-105
1996	55	767	-712	16	385	-369	11	86	-75	14	113	-99	7	51	-44	7	132	-125
1997	183	835	-652	66	348	-282	36	77	-41	39	169	-130	11	102	-91	31	139	-108
1998	225	614	-389	88	245	-157	24	52	-28	60	105	-45	19	84	-65	34	128	-94
1999	142	574	-432	54	246	-192	25	40	-15	38	88	-50	6	56	-50	19	144	-125
2000	105	772	-667	38	296	-258	21	58	-37	17	111	-94	6	96	-90	23	211	-188
2001	162	468	-306	50	224	-174	28	28	0	30	53	-23	13	47	-34	41	116	-75
2002	130	306	-176	40	129	-89	16	33	-17	25	36	-11	16	20	-4	33	88	-55
2003	115	489	-374	55	196	-141	17	52	-35	13	44	-31	2	43	-41	28	154	-126
2004	104	589	-485	40	306	-266	6	38	-32	22	49	-27	8	46	-38	28	150	-122
2005	113	488	-375	49	262	-213	11	43	-32	20	46	-26	12	58	-46	21	79	-58
2006	193	617	-424	84	297	-213	21	46	-25	29	84	-55	15	77	-62	44	113	-69
2007	330	451	-121	126	210	-84	25	45	-20	58	59	-1	29	59	-30	92	78	14
2008	373	419	-46	137	165	-28	30	50	-20	77	56	21	21	63	-42	108	85	23
2009	330	607	-277	119	283	-164	28	57	-29	49	79	-30	22	76	-54	112	112	0
2010	250	449	-199	101	192	-91	13	55	-42	46	51	-5	15	62	-47	75	89	-14
2011	300	759	-459	137	299	-162	31	84	-53	37	108	-71	40	122	-82	55	146	-91
2012	258	791	-533	101	291	-190	25	71	-46	24	79	-55	35	195	-160	73	155	-82
2013	239	797	-558	93	277	-184	22	84	-62	32	111	-79	25	210	-185	67	115	-48
2014	301	681	-380	135	260	-125	41	69	-28	42	92	-50	42	162	-120	41	98	-57
2015	372	833	-461	140	303	-163	35	113	-78	54	103	-49	63	190	-127	80	124	-44

Source: author processing with Excel based on data from Tempo Online, <http://statistici.insse.ro/shop/>

The data in Tables 5 and 6 highlights major differences between the region's counties, Dolj and Valcea counties being somewhat affected by the migration phenomenon, other counties had recorded for the entire period very low levels both in the number of emigrants, but especially of immigrants in the region.

Table no. 5. - Descriptive Statistics – Permanent Immigrants

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance
South-West Oltenia Region	24	27	373	4512	188,00	107,449	11545,217
Dolj	24	8	140	1762	73,42	43,069	1854,949
Gorj	24	2	41	486	20,25	10,860	117,935
Mehedinti	24	11	77	789	32,88	17,603	309,853
Olt	24	1	63	427	17,79	15,048	226,433
Valcea	24	5	112	1048	43,67	32,093	1029,971
Valid N (listwise)	24						

Source: author processing with SPSS based on data from Tempo Online, <http://statistici.insse.ro/shop/>

Even, since the year 2011 the phenomenon of emigration appears to contain South-West Oltenia Region, too, the immigrants do not choose to settle in this region, one of the poorest in the country.

Table no. 6 - Descriptive Statistics – Permanent Emigrants

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Variance
SouthWest Region	24	306	835	14425	601,04	164,498	27059,607
Dolj	24	129	436	6195	258,12	73,476	5398,723
Gorj	24	28	113	1401	58,38	20,417	416,853
Mehedinti	24	36	169	2050	85,42	32,584	1061,732
Olt	24	19	210	2002	83,42	54,181	2935,558
Valcea	24	48	211	2777	115,71	36,197	1310,216
Valid N (listwise)	24						

Source: author processing with SPSS based on data from Tempo Online, <http://statistici.insse.ro/shop/>

CONCLUSIONS

After the year 1990, the Romanian emigration know different intensities under distinct motivations. Migration patterns, depending on a number of constraints with various effects on Romanian society were permanently changed, especially that immigration in Romania had other reasons. However, the Romanian net migration was essentially negative. The study highlighted several specific aspects of net migration at the level of the regions.in the last five years, only region where the number of immigrants in recent years is consistently higher than that of immigrants is the North - East Region, and those differences had caused in fact the positive trend at the national level. That is because Moldovans immigrants. Other region with specifics particularities is South-West Oltenia Region if compared it with the other Romanian development regions, but in the same time, differences between its counties. We note an atypical situation at the level of this region, where, net migration remained negative the entire analyzed period, even with a very low an emigration relative to other regions of Romania. While Dolj County seems most attractive to immigrants from the region, it is county of origin for the most emigrants, almost 43 % for the entire period, followed by Valcea County. Gorj County compared to other counties, appears no affected by migration during the entire period.

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