

FREE MOVEMENT OF WORKERS IN EUROPE

SLOBODNO KRETANJE RADNIKA U EVROPI

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Abstract: *The progress of free movement of workers in Europe is present. The workers from different European countries change the employer more often than before. The basic document which allowed to establishment of this free movement of persons is one of the fundamental freedoms guaranteed by the Treaty on the European Union and Community law. The reasons why workers move to other European states are different. In this article is paid attention to the analysis of reasons for the labor force mobility and to the briefly view to situation about work immigrants in V4 countries. There is a big potential for increasing the free movement for EU workers in European Union.*

Key words: *mobility, free movement, workers, European Union*

Sadržaj: *Progres slobodnog kretanja radnika u Evropi je realnost. Radnici iz različitih evropskih zemalja menjaju poslodavca češće nego ranije. Osnovni dokument koji je omogućio slobodno kretanje ljudi, kao jednu od osnovnih garantovanih sloboda, je Ugovor o Evropskoj uniji i komunitarnom pravu. Razlozi zbog kojih radnici odlaze u druge evropske države su različiti. U ovom radu analiziraju se razlozi mobilnosti radne snage i kratko elaborira o situaciji sa imigrantima iz zemljama V4. Postoji veliki potencijal za povećanje slobodnog kretanja za radnike iz EU u Evropskoj uniji.*

Ključne reči: *mobilnost, slobodno kretanje, radnici, Evropska unija*

1. INTRODUCTION

It is well known that mobility has different meaning in scientific background. The literature present the occupational mobility and the geographical mobility. The mobility across a set of jobs can be divorced to lateral and vertical. The lateral means the worker mobility within a broad class of jobs similar in socioeconomic status and the vertical means the worker mobility from one job to a better or worse job. This article aims the geographical mobility in context of work movement of European citizens to another European country.

The labour force mobility is one of the factors which are necessary for economic social progress and the sustainable development not only for Member States of the European Union but also for political integration in the EU area.

The degree of mobility in European Union is the perspective for improving the cooperation in the area of European Union. The reallocation of workers across regions permits the exploitation of complementary resources as they are discovered in new places, while

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reallocation across sectors makes possible the use of new technologies and the growth of new industries. [1]

The background of the free movement of workers in Europe goes to the past. It can be seen that is known the internal mobility and overseas emigration. The present situation is the fact that every European state has mobility. The statistical office of EU and also national statistical offices of European countries have statistic data about the work mobility yearly.

2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF WORKER MOBILITY

The history of worker mobility can be seen in seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It can be seen in 17.-19. Century that work migration was mostly in the field of agriculture. The work migration begins with employing at the family farm where the workers were moving to different farms at the end of each year. The destination states where the workers migrated at the beginning or work migration in Europe were Britain, France, Germany. This work migration helped to improve features of European growth in area of industry.



It can be seen that the work mobility is different due to the age of workers. The work mobility is not only about the interest to move for getting job but also is influenced by age of people. The factor which is really positive for increasing the work movement is ability “to be mobile” for worker. In the history for example British young people were highly mobile. The other point in the movement is also the freedom of institutional barriers to the geographic mobility.

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The freedom of institutional barriers to the geographic mobility means also the legislation of states in EU which are “friendly” orientated to work migration. It will be considered in this article in part of analysis.

In the history were the overseas migrants, internal movers tended to be young. The common reason for work movement in past and present was the search for economic gain.

The same thing in work movement was the difference between the villages and the cities. Movement of workers from farms to cities and towns eliminated any substantial wage gap between farm and urban workers, after adjusting for cost-of-living differences. Mostly workers did the work movement from village to big city. Movement of workers from farms to cities and towns eliminated any substantial wage gap between farm and urban workers, after adjusting for cost-of-living differences. The cities provided one such opportunity. Males who moved from a rural to an urban area experienced more upward mobility than they would have had they remained. Education provided another avenue of mobility. Sons from all economic backgrounds were more likely to exceed their father’s socioeconomic status if they attended some elementary school than if they did not, and the likelihood increased with years of schooling. [1]

3. REASONS FOR WORKERS TO MOVE FOR WORK

There is the widely range of reasons for workers to move to another country for working. Let just mention this three:

Unemployment

To have job is for people who are able to work one of the reason. In European countries are still present the areas where is really difficult to find the job and there is high unemployment rate. The chance to find job in another country also outside the state of residence seems to be interesting. It can be said that this factor which influence movement of workers to another state would be still also in time when the wages will be the same in all EU countries. To have job is the first point which is necessary for people who would like to work.

Wages

The one of the basic reasons for work movement is the high of wages. There is quite big difference between the hight of wage in the comparison between European countries. It can be seen that this difference between the wages in EU states goes up yearly. The higher wages are for the works “the big motivators” for moving. The wages as one factor of workers movement make possible long-run comparisons of labour mobility in different eras. There are some differences in the social systems between EU states. This point can be also advantage for workers movement. In the last few years was around Europe discussion about social policy

and special retirement for those workers who fill the conditions for getting the retirement in country they worked.

Social security

The social security has different settings in the each European state. Thinking of moving to another country of EU means to workers social security right. In the EU countries is the condition that only one country is responsible for social security coverage at the time. This article does not aim with social security so it must be said that social security coverage is really large theme because there also in social security coverage some exceptions. For example for workers who signed short assignment and also for workers who work simultaneously. There is social security coordination. We know for example that if worker is from Sweden (country of worker permanent residence) and work in Sweden 2 days per week for short assignment for the same employer and also work 3 days per week in Denmark than Sweden company will be responsible for social security coverage. In the social security coverage it is known the basic principle which are same for all workers in EU area. The fact is that the social security coverage depends on: number of employers, permanent residence and other conditions of worker. Sometimes it is said also about so-called "social benefit tourism".

4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS IN FREE MOVEMENT IN EUROPE

The fact is that there are some "gaps" between detailed information about administrative procedure. It means - the administrative process for workers who come to one European country for working in another European country. There are some administrative steps which workers should fill before starting to work in European country.

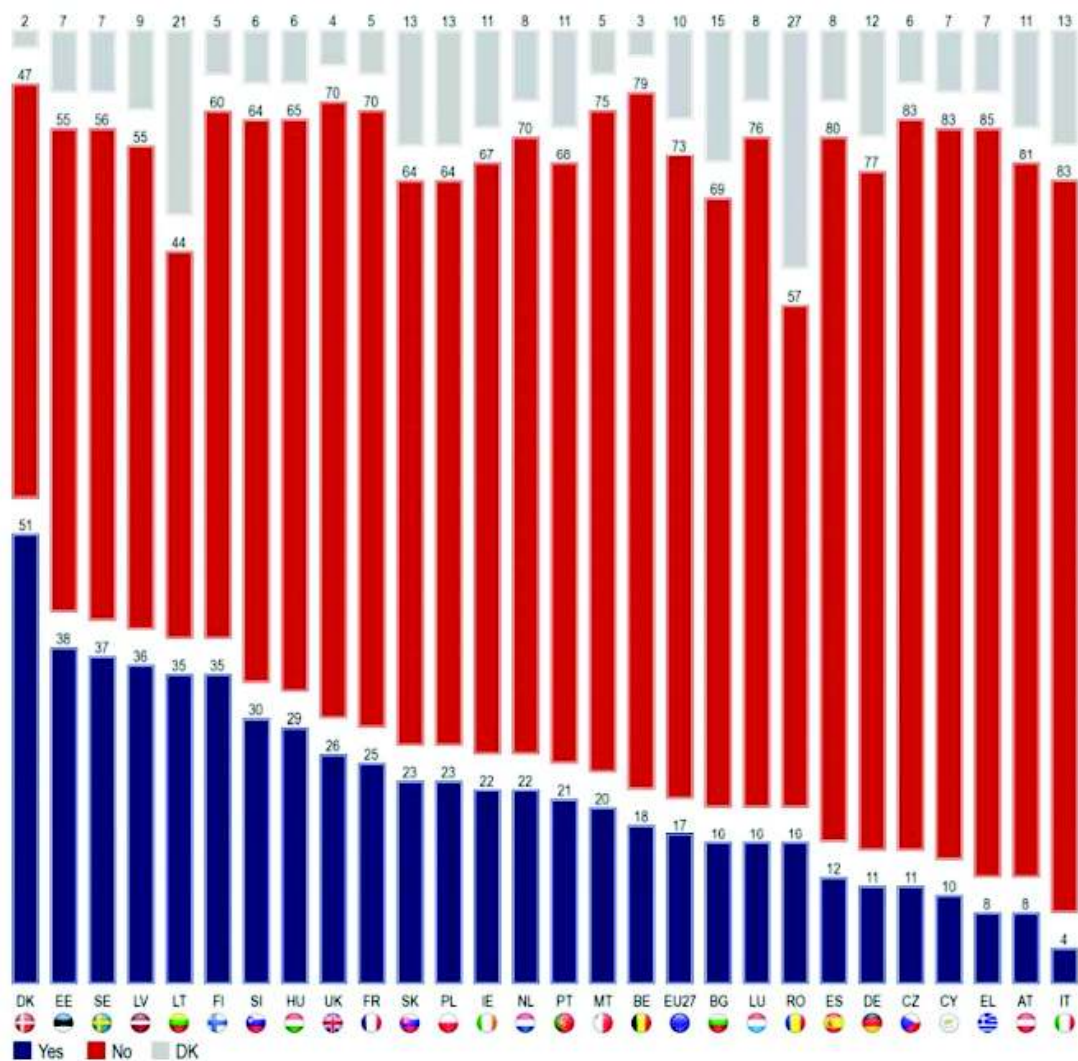
European Union motions some basic principles for EU citizens and their work movement:

- Some EU countries require diplomas, titles, certificates or other special qualifications as a condition for access to certain salaried and self-employed occupations. It can be difficult to have worker 's own training and skills fully recognized.
- The EU has therefore set up systems for recognizing diplomas and training that enable worker to make full use of worker's training and skills in another EU country. The basic principle is that if worker is qualified to exercise a profession in worker's home country, worker is qualified to exercise the same profession in any other EU country.
- A general system of recognition of qualifications that is applicable to most regulated professions has been put in place across the EU. So, if the worker wishes to work in a profession (as a teacher, lawyer, engineer or psychologist, for example) that is regulated in the country of employment, worker must apply for recognition of worker's qualifications in that country. The authorities have 4 months to reply. If they consider that worker 's training is significantly different in terms of duration or content from that given in the host country, worker may be asked to obtain either additional professional experience completing your training, or to take a training course or to take an aptitude test.
- If the worker is a doctor, a general nurse, a dentist, a midwife, a vet, a pharmacist or an architect, worker's national qualifications are in principle recognised automatically. If worker's profession is not regulated in the country in which worker wish to work, no recognition of worker's qualifications is required. [2]

4. PRESENT EUROPEAN SITUATION IN WORK MOVEMENT

The official statistical information shows that around 6.6 million EU citizens lived and worked in a EU country other than their own. They represent 3.1 % of workers in the EU. An additional 1.2 million people live in one EU country but work in another. What kind of tendency for work mobility is in Europe? See Figure 1.

Survey: Question: Do you envisage to work in a country outside (your country) at some time in the future?



* Note. Asked to all respondents except retired people, base = 19793 respondents

Figure 1: EU state - Opinions about work mobility [3]

Survey: Question: Generally speaking, do you think that when people move across regions within the European Union it is a good thing, a bad thing or neither a good nor a bad think for

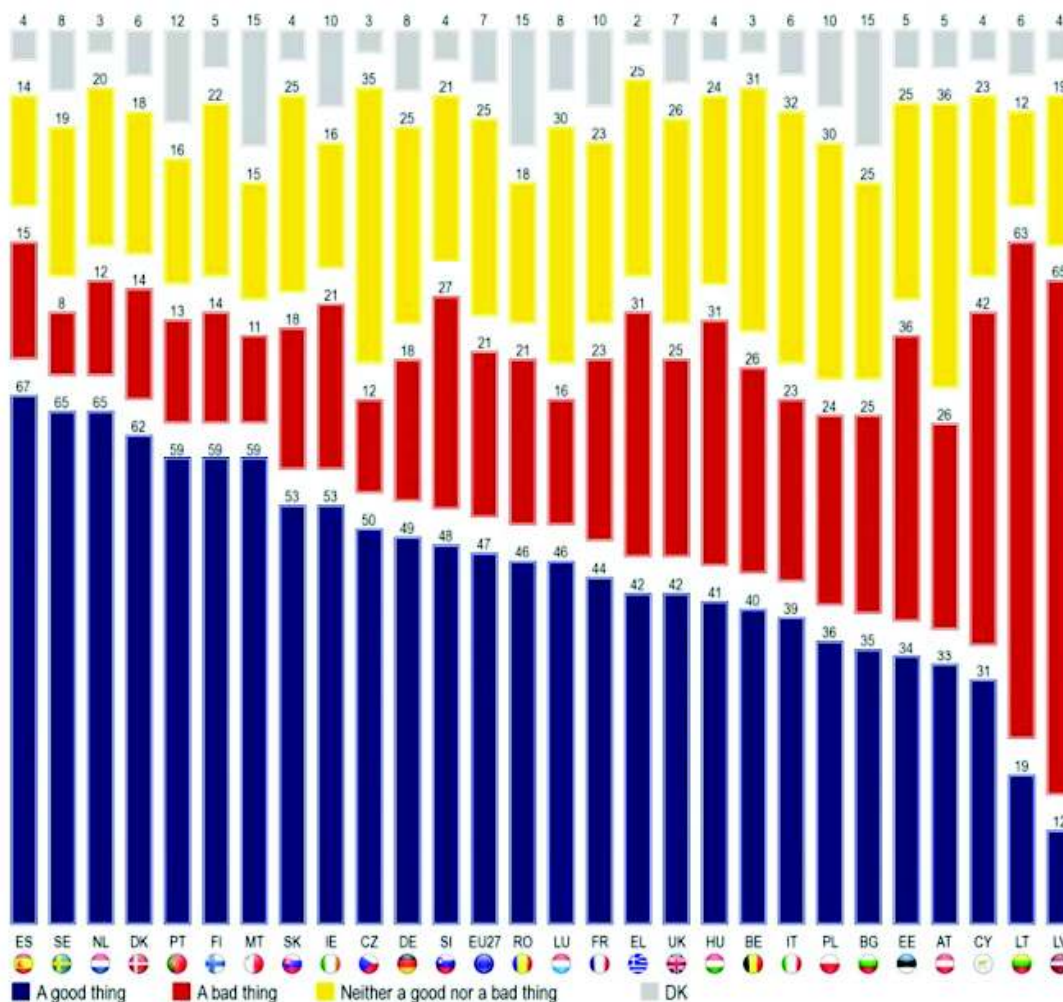


Figure 2: EU state - Opinions about work mobility [3]

Ten percent of Europeans say they have lived and worked in another country (inside or outside the EU) at some point in their past, whilst three percent have lived in another country but did not work there, and one percent worked in another country before but did not live there. Almost one third (31%) of Europeans have a friend or family member that has experienced living and working in another country. [3]

The present situation is that work migration depends on a lot of factors. Mostly it is not only reason of one factor but work mobility influence a group of factors.

The situation in work mobility influence also economic situation. As it is said by Mikkel Barslund, Matthias Busse and Joscha Schwarzwälder about the crisis: The crisis has shown that there are clear limits to the potential of labour mobility within the current eurozone. [4]

The workers from European Union have tendency for higher work movement across European states as can be seen in previous text.

5. DATA ANALYSIS OF WORK MOVEMENT IN V4 COUNTRIES

This data aim with basic information from historical data about work movement in other words about work migrant's country of origin – the situation in V4 countries. The problem for scientific research is to find the full results for making analysis with the relevant data.

SLOVAKIA	2006
Total men and women	5389180
<i>International migrant population</i>	
Total men and women	25563
Men	14864
Women	10699
<i>Migrant's country of origin</i>	
United States	634
Vietnam	848
Austria	888
Bulgaria	552
Czech Republic	4350
France	635
Germany	1640
Hungary	1760
Poland	2835
Russian Federation	1246
Ukraine	3703

Table 1: International Labour Migration Statistics [5]

POLAND	2006
Total men and women	38125479
<i>International migrant population</i>	
Total men and women	54883
Men	25691
Women	29192
<i>Migrant's country of origin</i>	
Vietnam	1906
Belarus	1535
Germany	11373
Russian Federation	3291
Ukraine	5182

Table 2: International Labour Migration Statistics [5]

HUNGARY	2006
Total men and women	10066158
<i>International migrant population</i>	
Total men and women	154430
Men	77361

Women	77069
<i>Migrant's country of origin</i>	
China	8584
Germany	10504
Poland	2681
Romania	66183
Ukraine	15337
Former Yugoslavia	12111

Table 3: International Labour Migration Statistics [5]

CZECH REPUBLIC	2006
Total men and women	10287189
<i>International migrant population</i>	
Total men and women	296236
Men	177008
Women	119228
<i>Migrant's country of origin</i>	
United States	3430
China	3703
Vietnam	38454
Bulgaria	4285
France	1869
Germany	10109
Moldova	4658
Poland	18894
Romania	2697
Russian Federation	17216
Slovakia	58384
Ukraine	86739
Serbia and Montenegro	3469

Table 4: International Labour Migration Statistics [5]

This historical data have one common thing and this is the fact that there are more men immigrants than women. What is paradox here is that more or less every country of V4 had in 2006 the work immigrants from Germany and Ukraine.

Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland had the common point working immigrants from Russian Federation. The free movement of workers in V4 countries is less used from European citizens. In historical data can be seen that the most work immigrants are people from other than European Union.

Country	2014 (%)
Czech Republic	71,8
Hungary	70,4
Poland	63
Slovak Republic	66,1

Table 5: Foreign-born employment in V4 countries [6]

This table 5 aims the foreign-born employment rate is calculated as the share of employed foreign-born persons aged 15-64 in the total foreign-born population (active and inactive persons) of that same age. Employed people are those who worked at least one hour or who had a job but were absent from work during the reference week. This indicator is measured in percentage of foreign-born population of the same age by gender. [6] This data show that in V4 countries the most of the work immigrant are employed. Otherwise the worst situation from V4 countries is in Poland where 37% people for working who came to Poland do not have a job.

6. CONCLUSION

The free movement of workers is a big theme in Europe. The briefly overview of the free movement of workers in Europe through literature sources and historical data showed that there is such a big difference between meaning free movement of workers and real results who are the work immigrants in Europe. Mostly as it was showed on historical data the work immigrants are people from other than European countries. The most of the work immigrants to V4 are workers from east Europe. There such a big point because this workers have to meet the requirements othe than set up free movement for European citizen for working in other European state. The articles contend that there are the potential for increasing free movement in European Union for EU workers.

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