

# **ECONOMY-MIGRATION, CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE WHICH INCREASES THE NUMBER OF DIVORCES**

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## **Abstract**

The Albanian economy during these 25 years of transition is accompanied by changes. It is true that during this period, has undergone positive changes, but it does not bring any significant improvement in terms of employment growth in the country. Most Albanians, again see immigration as an opportunity for employment, since the country has not been able to find a job, that to provide sufficient income for their families. Youth, the most vital part of society, are the ones who make up the majority of immigrants. The majority of them, once they have a family, and others are parents who want to provide income to raise their children. Immigration contributes positively to the economy of these families, but also has its negative side, in terms of the impact that it has on the relationship between partners in a couple. Living divided between partners, it has created problems in this relationship, being dogged by divorce. So, as a result of a high level of emigration, we have also increased the number of divorces in the country. Low economy brings a host of social problems, which generate from it. These problems lead to an increase in the number of divorces, where most of them make up the pairs, who had only one of the partners or both in emigration.

This study was conducted in the region of Elbasan. The data were taken from interviews conducted with partners that have made themselves a request for divorce. For this study also used data from studies carried out by various state institutions, INSTAT and NGOs operating in Albania.

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**Keywords:** Divorce, immigration, the economy, marital relations, social problem.

## **Introduction**

Divorce is a difficult moment in the life of a couple, not only for the problems that lead to his marriage but also the consequences which followed

it especially for children. A very important factor that affects the growth of divorces is immigration. Albanian emigration to other countries is mainly for economic reasons, which are directly related to economic conditions in which our country is. As a former communist regime inherited from a backward economy and rundown. During the transition, Albania was an improvement but we are left again a country with a weak economy which does not meet the needs for jobs. Facing this economic state with a high unemployment rate have highlighted the emergence of a new phenomenon of economic migration. Economic emigration got a widespread especially after the 90's with the change of political system. This phenomenon continues to exist even today. Initially emigration ranged mostly young people and mostly men, while women stay at home with children waiting for men to bring in money. Over time the situation has changed as part of immigration are also women and children.

### **The purpose of this study**

Divorce is a phenomenon that plagues every day society. This concern comes not only because if there is increased but also because he has social as well as economic cost (psychological consequences of partners but also the children, economic conditions after divorce, etc.).

The purpose of the study is:

The impact of economic immigration, because that leads to the increasing number of divorces.

Making more specifically on the problems that lead a couple to divorce, in terms of relations between spouses and their character. The distance for a long period, has also brought a cooling, to keep peace in the couple. Couples who previously had their contradictions between the departure of migrant husband, were added still more these contradictions. Another fact is that the spouse in migration creates a new connection where. Social and economic changes can influence the improvement of conditions in many families. This could possibly bring the curb immigration as a phenomenon, and therefore curbing divorce due to immigration.

### **Hypothesis and research questions**

The hypothesis is cast in this study it is:

- Increasing the number of divorces as a result of immigration and the opening of the company

Questions raised in this study are:

- What couples go to divorce?

- How many of these couples have had one of the partners in emigration?

- How has the distance for a long time affect the relations between them?
- What changes in social, cultural and economic policies will help these couples not to go in divorce?

### **Research methods and methodology**

To make this study were used primary data (interviews of divorced people) and secondary (data taken from the literature). In reviewing the literature gathered data pertaining to divorce, which was due to the departure for a long time one of the partners in emigration.

I conducted this study based on a representative model of study with qualitative data collected from the literature. Also in the study included primary data from semi-structured interviews and unstructured that were conducted with participants in the study.

The sample: is using non-probability approach. Select the champion is aiming to give answers to the survey questions. Participants in the study were men and women who have made themselves a request for divorce. Interviews were conducted with persons having stayed away divorced partner for a long time as a result of immigration. The purpose of these interviews is to see how it has impacted the distance in relationships, the couple stay for a long time in a country with different culture.

Data processing is count taken through thematic analysis starting with unprocessed data, interpreting, summarized and categorized them. The conclusions were drawn using interpretive approach

### **Analysis**

Immigration of Albanians to neighboring countries, generally has been illegal. He has never been directed or organized by the state authorities. As a result of massive and uncontrolled immigration for many years, Albanian citizens successfully worked without a residence permit, without being registered in the relevant state bodies. Thus, they did not have a safe place to stay. Precisely this was the reason why mostly men migrate, leaving women and children in Albania. Migrants return to the country and emigrate again illegally, for more than a decade, a period that is relatively long in terms of family life and couple relationship. They were almost out of family troubles and problems during its migration where trying to secure money for their families. Almost throughout the year were away from your family and wife. They stood with their families just a few days a year and mainly during the holidays.

Over the last decade, Albanian immigrants were granted legal residence in the respective countries where they emigrated. Most of them made family reunification by pulling the migrant family. Referring to

research conducted by INSTAT (INSTAT 2014); It indicated that spouses or partners and children left behind by migrants during their migration up about 60%. Specifically 54% of them have left his / her spouse and more than half have left the children in the family unit of origin. Almost a third of the immigrants claim that partners of them have gone out to join them, while one in four have their children along. (INSTAT 2014). Most of the immigrants have left children in Albania. This fact constitutes a very worrying and complex problem.

Where these children are staying and with whom? From the analysis of the social status of children in all institutions of social problems handling, about 80% are children who come from families with divorced parents with social problems, imprisoned, in emigration (SOS Children's Villages Albania 2012). Many parents divorced, and then remarried, leaving their children in these institutions, as partners do not accept them. Remarriage of parents, has been a problem for children who are not welcomed by the new partner of a parent. Some parents in emigration, send their children in these institutions. Some of the immigrants leave their children in the care of parents or their relatives, because they have no opportunity to take with them into emigration. Immigration is not easy for parents as well as children.

Generally, men constitute the largest number of immigrants, but the difference with women is not very great. (INSTAT 2014) 34% of men aged 25-34 years old have immigrated. This age group constitutes the largest number of migrants, followed by the age group of 20-24 years, which constitutes 23% of men who have emigrated. (INSTAT 2014) These are the most active age for work, also have worked. Their essentials of life are at the stage when they have a family and need to provide for its maintenance. Albanians have had various destinations where most favorite emigration were Italy a place where there are 47% of emigrants, followed by Greece with 43% of immigrants. In third place rank the United States of America with the difference compared with the first two places (INSTAT 2014). Historically Albanians have been more inclined to migrate towards neighbors compared to remote sites even though their economy has been more developed.

Marital relations during the reunification of spouses in emigration. Reunification emigration has not been easy, not only in terms of difficulties in accommodating family, but also in the adaptation of lifestyle in a foreign country. Each of the partners had been his way of living. Immigrant men were separated from family problems which mainly resolved by women. During the union they are caught unprepared before a situation where they seem to take part in solving these problems. This is often accompanied by disagreements between partners, passing unpleasant situation for their

children. Interviews with partners who have made a request for a divorce after he returned from abroad, the difficulty emerges that they have to remake their lives in pairs after a long period of separation. Living share has established a cooling of relations between the partners although their marriage still existed. Most marriages among immigrants have had such a history, after the crowning, the husband is in emigration and stayed there almost all the time. During this period one of the partners is dealing with raising children, while the other partner has provided income for the family emigrated. Up to this stage everything goes well in terms of their marriage and relationships. Couple problems arise with their union in emigration. During the union they understand that marriage has problems which had not noticed before, but that added over time. Disputes have been eclipsed by the conflicts which add even more cooling of relations between the partners. Divorces cases included in the study 58% say that marriage has come to an end as a result of the cooling of relations in pairs. Spouses leaving blame each other for the situation in which is their marriage. They often justified by the fact that they have not well known partner before marriage, or that are inconsistent character. These problems emerge after several years of marriage, where most of the time, the partners have lived separately. Thus marriage comes to an end, although the partners have not previously thought of such a thing. Quite evident in couples with a partner in migration are even extramarital relations. Living away from the spouse, it has contributed to the creation of these connections, which have had a negative impact on marriage. Such examples have not only the partners in migration, but also the partners who have resided in the country. Allegations of adultery are common in-demand claims for divorce. 45% of the cases included in the study exhibited partner's betrayal as a problem that has led to the recent marriage. One problem may be less evident if the spouses would live near each other as all normal couples.

Although state intervention is crucial in terms of reducing the scale of immigration?

Couples who have emigrated partners, are at higher risk for divorce, referring to data arising from the study. It relates not only to the way of life that make these partners, but also the problems faced by them. For any of the partners is not an easy life, for those who are living in emigration and separated from family, as well as to other partner should only handle family problems. Certainly one of the families that have emigrated partners have better living conditions, are in a better economic condition, compared to households without migrants. Such a finding would not mean that their problems are solved. Social problems that carries emigration, mostly to reflect this social group compared with the other group. It also noted the high number of divorces performed. Immigration is a factor that strongly affects

the increasing number of divorces. The data of the study it appears that 65% of divorce cases were included in the study had one or two partners in emigration. To avoid this phenomenon and to reduce as much as the number of divorces caused as a result of immigration, state intervention is crucial. Enterprise and realization of economic and social policies, would have a very positive impact in terms of reducing the scale of Albanian emigration to other countries. Consequently spouses will make a more consolidated, so the family will be demonstrated fewer social problems, and consequently divorces would be fewer in number.

Economy a key factor in the increase of divorce. Although at first glance seem somewhat paradoxical, low domestic economy indirectly affects, therefore, not directly in the growth of divorce. The weak economy appeared phenomenon of economic migration, because of unemployment, which in turn shows social problems that directly affect the increasing number of divorces. A weak economy appeared mostly social problems, which adversely affect relations between the partners.

What are the measures taken by the state to curb immigration and boost employment?

The biggest influx of migrants coming from rural areas and most of them are young. (Officials Journal 2014 / No. 169) These young if they were in Albania to work in agriculture. This referred to the current situation in rural areas which are based mainly in the agricultural sector in terms of employment. Their migration makes to decrease the availability to work in these areas. This adversely affects agriculture and rural development. The economic crisis in countries where Albanians have emigrated has forced many of them to return. To mitigate unemployment is first priority of state institutions development of the agricultural sector (Officials Journal 2014 / No. 169) after 52% of full-time employees in the country belong to this sector. (INSTAT 2013) are employed in agriculture, the largest number of women, reducing inequality in employment gap between men and women. (Officials Journal 2014 / No. 169). And investments in this sector and its development can positively affect the reduction of immigration as a major part of immigrants will have employment opportunities. They will not be interested to emigrate if employment in this sector will be profitable for them. Reduce the rate of emigration in turn will enhance the mitigation of social problems and reducing divorces caused by the latter.

## **Conclusion**

Of course the economic situation of our country's economy is also reflected in our families. When in place it is very difficult to find work, immigration is seen as the ability to provide from the unemployed category. This really is a good solution of economic problems, but that is often

associated with social consequences. One of the most worrying problems is the divorce as a result of immigration. If employment opportunities in the country would be higher then the number of immigrant Albanian it would be reduced. As a result of inhibition of mass immigration would decrease significantly the number of divorces caused by him. State intervention to boost employment is very important because it will reduce the number of immigrants by reducing the social problems caused by it.

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