



Republic of ALBANIA

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Ancona 16th November 2007

Migration Current Situation

- **Data and characteristics of Labour Migration from Albania**
- **The Albanian emigrants are resided mostly in Greece (600 000) and Italy (250 000) and in other countries as USA 150 000), UK (50 000), Germany (15 000), Belgium (5 000), France (2 000), Canada (12 000), Switzerland (2 000), Austria (2 000), Netherlands (1 000) and in Turkey (5 000).**
- **The reasons that obligate the Albanian citizens to emigrate abroad can be mentioned:**
 - **higher incomes,**
 - **need to financially support the family;**
 - **better work conditions,**
 - **better living conditions,**
 - **better education/qualification conditions for themselves or the family members, and**
 - **in certain periods, the public insecurity in the country**

Migration Current Situation

- During the last years (from 2002) there has been a continuous decrease of the illegal emigration because of the strengthening of the border control, intensification of the fight against human trafficking, improvement of the social and economic conditions in Albania and the political stability and public order.
- Another phenomenon is the decrease of the importance of the geographical closeness. There is a continuous decrease of the number of emigrants in the neighboring countries, such as Greece and Italy and a considerable increase of the emigrants in countries like United Kingdom, USA and Canada.
- Lately can be noticed the increase of the seasonal emigration in the neighboring countries and the change of the relation between the regular and irregular emigration in favor of the regular emigration.

Incomes from emigration

Incomes are assess for a decade period about:

- 15% of GDP
- 58.8% of Trade Balance

Vitet	PBB (GDP)	IHD (FDI)	Bilanci tregtar	Te ardhurat e emigranteve	Ne % te PBB	Ne % te IHD	Ne % te bilancit tregtar	Kursi i këmbimit Lek /USD
1993	1,228	58	-489.7	274.7	22.4	473.6	56.1	102.1
1994	1,948	53	-459.9	378.1	19.4	713.4	82.2	94.7
1995	2,476	70	-475.2	384.7	15.5	549.6	81	92.8
1996	3,013	90	-678.3	499.5	16.6	555.0	73.6	104.5
1997	2,164	48.6	-534.9	267.2	12.3	549.8	50	148.9
1998	2,738	45	-603.7	452.3	16.6	1005.1	75.1	150.6
1999	3,444	41.3	-662.8	368.1	10.4	891.3	55.5	137.7
2000	3,695	143	-821	524.6	14.2	366.9	63.9	143.7
2001	4,100	207.3	-1027	545.4	13.3	263.1	53.1	143.5
2002	5,001	115.8	-1336.9	806.0	16.1	452.8	60.1	121.9
2003	6,001	115.8	-1336.9	806.0	13.4	452.8	60.1	121.9
2004	7,452	343.9	-1576.9	1015.4	13.6	259.3	64.4	102.8
2005	8,383	277.4	-1820.3	1105.5	13.2	398.9	60.8	99.8
2006	9,137	258.6	-2121.6	1174.8	12.9	454.3	55.4	98.1

Trends of Immigration



Statistics by the non-governmental resources 2006

STATES	Number of Emigrants
ITALY (2005)	380 000
CANADA(2005)	32 000
GREECE	450 000 legalized 120 000 in process of legalization
USA (2005)	50 000
UK	1025 seeking asylum
FRANCE, AUSTRY, TURKEY (2002)	2 000
GERMANY (2002)	6 000
BELGIUM (2000)	2 500
etc	

Actual Legal Framework for emigration and immigration.

There are made important steps towards the improvement of the national legislation and implementation of the ratified international instruments aiming to harmonize our national legislation with international standards related to the protection of emigrant's rights and reintegration policies.

Actual migration legislation:

- **Constitution of Albania of 1998; Article 8 and article 38.**
- **European Social Chart, revised (ratified on November 2003);**
- **Law Nr.9668 date 18.12. 2006 “On the emigration of the Albanian citizens for work purposes”.**
- **Law No. 8492, Date 27.5.1999 “On Foreigners”, which constitutes the principal legal act in the field of immigration;**
- **Integral Law for Employment Promotion, 2006**
- **Law No 7986 date 13.09.1995 “On the State Labour Inspectorate”, changed with the Law no 8394 date 2.9.1998 and the Law No 8857 Date 7.2.2002, which aims the control and inspection of the implementation of the legislation in the field of labour of the foreigners. (Article 83 of Law No 8492 Date 27.05.1999 “On Foreigners”).**
- **Labour agreements between Albania and Greece (1997), Italy (1996) and Germany (1991), but they are not very active.**

The elaboration of an appropriate Legal Framework for emigration and immigration.

Ratification of International Instruments in Migration field:

- 1. ILO Convention No 143 “On Migrant Workers” 1975 (December 2005);**
- 2. Council of Europe Convention on "The Legal status of Migrant Workers" (April 2006);**
- 3. UN Convention "For the Protection of rights of all migrant workers and their families" (December 2006).**
- 4. UN Convention 181 “On Private Labour Agencies” (1998)**

The elaboration of an appropriate Legal Framework for emigration and immigration.

- 1. Undertaking a study for the identification of facilities enabling emigrants to vote abroad. Amendment of the electoral code, Law for Consular Services and other acts, on the Execution of the right to vote abroad for the Albanian Emigrants.**
- 2. Drafting and approval of by laws “On voluntary return promotion of Albanian emigrants and their re-integration in the country ”.**
- 3. Amendment of the Law on Civil Status and Decision no. 365, 2000 “For the establishment and maintenance of the National Civil Status register and regulations for usage and technicalities of the e-network” aiming at the inclusion of emigrant contingency in this register.**
- 4. Establish of the national register of emigrants as previewed in the National Strategy of Migration (2004) in cooperation with Programme CARDS 2005 which conform the Order of Minister of Labour will include:**
 - Potential emigrants**
 - Returned emigrants (in Albania) whoms need assistance to reintegrate**
 - Albanian citizens whoms have obtained employment contract and visa.**

Actual Institutional Framework for migration.

- In response to the "Jointly –Recommendations draft" by the European Commission in the fields as visas, control, asilium and migration, as well as the address to the "National Plan of Action on SAA" and implementation of the National Strategy of Migration, there are achieved objectives as:
 - It is estsablished NSC on Migration as consultative structure to the Counceil of Ministers 2004-2006,
 - It is established the National Coordinative and Monitoring Unit in MOLSA,
 - The Order of Minister of Labour on the documentations to profit the emigrant status which aim that every Albanian citizen that enjoys the the status of emigrant is entitled of profits according the Law Nr.9668 date 18.12. 2006 "On the emigration of the Albanian citizens for work purposes".

The ongoing policies and programmes

- We are working for the review of the national legislation and programme in this field.
- We are in the beginning phase of negotiation for drafting and signing of a cooperation protocol in the field of the new social and employment policies and prot-agreements for employment and vocational training with Italy and Greece.
- **Bilateral agreements for the social insurances**
It is agreed in principle the drafting and signing of bilateral agreements for the social insurances of Albanian emigrants in Italy and Greece and we are in process of negotiations. There are established contacts with local and regional authorities in Italy and Greece.
- With Greece there are conducted 2 ministerial meetings and 2 meetings in specialist level. Too, from us it is proposed to Greece authorities to improved the actual agreement on seasonal employment and with Italy we are in process of review of the actual agreement of seasonal employment.

The ongoing policies and programmes

- **Social insurances awareness campaign**

Related to social insurances, it is conducted a awareness rising campaign for including of Albanian emigrants in the scheme of voluntary social insurances. At the same time there are established centers for the collection of the voluntary social insurances near the border points.

- Albanian Government in cooperation with UNDP is implementing the Programme “From Brain Drain to Brain Gain” to encourage the voluntary return of Albanian emigrants.

- In the framework of the initiative ”Albania 1 Euro”, there is organised a awareness campaign to rise the interest and encourage the foreign investment in Albania.

- In the framework of the asisst programme for MOLSA with EC, IOM, ILO etc there are produced Practical Handbooks on issues of emigration, imigration.

- In the field of non-discriminatory policy, after the approval of the New law of the Emigration and the P/Law on the Foreigners a complete package of legal acts and sub-acts conform European Directive and the Decision of the European Commission on the free movement of the workers will be prepared.

RECOMANDATIONS

- **Intergovernmental dialogue and cooperation on labour migration policy within the region should be developed, in consultation with the private sector and employers, trade unions, the civil society including migrant worker organizations and academia.**
- **Labour migration policy coherence and inter-ministerial cooperation within the government departments responsible for migration issues should be promoted to avoid adverse effects of policy or policy contradictions.**
- **The exchange of information among governments on labour migration issues should be facilitated at both bilateral and regional level; cooperation and consultation with receiving countries should be strengthened.**
- **National capacities and structures for collecting and analyzing labour migration data and statistics, including emigration potential in the region need to be improved.**
- **Labour ministries should actively participate in the formulation of countries' migration policy to ensure that labour and employment policy considerations are taken into account.**

RECOMANDATIONS

- **Bilateral and multilateral agreements between destination and origin countries addressing different forms of labour migration, such as seasonal and circular migration should be promoted.**
- **Policies to tackle irregular forms of labour migration should be enhanced, including strengthened monitoring of the labour market and possibilities for employers' sanctions as well as legalization programmes in countries of destination.**
- **Return of highly qualified workers and/or their links with communities of origin i.e. through scientific networks should be actively promoted.**
- **Research on labour migration issues should be carried out at a regional level and applied to policy formulation.**