HOW DIFFERENT PUBLIC AUTHORITIES REFLECT INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION?[1]

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Abstract. *Migration represents a social phenomenon, influential and which is encountered globally, especially in Romania, where people choose to leave the country in search of better conditions, meaning that Romanian migration represents the most frequent typology of migration encountered in Europe by East and West. Romanian migration represents a form of dynamic migration, which produces significant changes, and its effects are most felt in the economic and social sphere. However, an important aspect of migration and diaspora is represented by the way data is reported both at the national and international level, especially since such information helps to evaluate and monitor Romanian citizens outside the border, influences the perception of diaspora and contributes to the development and implementation of policies dedicated to this community.*

Keywords: *diaspora, Romania, migration, migrants, reporting methodologies*

JEL CODE: J83; K37; O15

1. Introduction

Migration represents a social process with a strong influence on society at the international level, but especially in Romania, a society where more and more citizens choose to leave the country in search of a better life or driven by unmet needs in their home country, either for short periods or for indefinite periods. Romanian migration is the most common migration in Eastern and Western Europe, occurring dynamically and causing changes in Europe and beyond. This provides an opportunity to understand the changes taking place in European states and in Romania.

Given the impact of the migration phenomenon, studying it is a current and relevant topic, which increases the desire to delve deeper into this subject, leading to a comparative political analysis of the reporting methodologies used at the national and international levels. The phenomenon of migration is closely linked to economic development and globalization, which has led to increased competitiveness among neighboring countries, especially in attracting highly qualified labor, representing the most valuable resource. However, beyond the scale of this phenomenon, which is gaining more and more momentum in Romania, migration is also a controversial and extremely sensitive topic, sparking interest in understanding and deepening the subject (Raiu & Jukneviciene, The Science of the State. A comparative analysis of Statistical National Offices in the European Union, 2021).

When discussing migration and the diaspora, we also talk about the data reporting methodology used at the national and international levels, which allows for the evaluation and monitoring of Romanians abroad. These data influence the perception of the size and specific characteristics of the Romanian diaspora and contribute to the creation and implementation of policies dedicated to Romanian communities abroad (Raiu C. V., An Ontology of Good Governance. A Political Theory Approach, 2015). In this context, a comparative political analysis of the reporting methodologies for the Romanian population abroad was developed to highlight existing problems and inconsistencies, with the aim of proposing solutions to manage the situation of the Romanian diaspora more effectively. This research starts from the premise of reporting and monitoring methodologies for Romanians in the diaspora, both at the national and international levels, in this case referring to data sources and the definition of emigrants.

When reporting citizens at the national and international levels, discrepancies in reported data are noted, such as the size of a segment of the Romanian population abroad, its characteristics, and its trends. These discrepancies in reporting methodologies influence the creation and implementation of policies dedicated to the Romanian diaspora, as well as how they are perceived in Romanian society and in the destination country.

2. Methodology

The main purpose of the research is to deepen and analyze a large topic and its impact on the development of society and public policies in Romania. In this sense, the research proposes the following research objectives: 1. analyzing the institutions that collect statistical data on migration, and 2. identifying the techniques used to report citizens leaving the country.

This research focuses on *how the statistical data of Romanians abroad are collected at the National and International levels*? In this context, the current research presents the following institutions of interest: *The National Institute of Statistics (INS), Eurostat, UNESCO, UNHCR, and the World Bank.* All these institutions provide periodic statistical information on international migration, especially regarding Romanians living outside Romania's borders. In this case, official statistics encompass a lengthy process of data collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination. Each analyzed institution differentiates the international migration situation, using various methodologies for data collection and reporting, adapted to specific purposes and available resources. Here below is a more detailed analysis:

1. *National Institute of Statistics (INS)*

    o Use selective statistical surveys and censuses;

    o Collaborates with local ministries and institutions;

    o Guarantee data consistency and accuracy through direct consultation and comparison with other sources.

2. *EUROSTAT*

    o It is based on surveys, questionnaires, and administrative sources;

- o Collaborates with national statistical institutions within the EU;

- o Conducts consistency checks and validations with direct consultations.

3. **UNHCR**

- o Collect data through statistical activities and field assessments;

- o Working with governments, refugee organizations and NGOs;

- o Directly consult with the registered persons under their protection.

4. *World Bank*

- o Collect data through economic and administrative cooperation;

- o Use secondary sources such as the United Nations, IMF, OECD and Eurostat;

- o Verify the data through consistency checks and expert consultation.

5. **UNESCO**

- o Run their own statistical institute and uses surveys and questionnaires;

- o Use secondary sources such as the World Bank, the United Nations, the OECD and academic research;

- o Data verification through expert consultation.

The purpose of such statistical data is to administer and create policies tailored to contemporary society. According to Law no. 226/2009, these statistical data are compiled and produced by the following institutions:

1. Firstly, governmental authorities and public institutions, including the National Bank of Romania, which gather data and information on demographic, social, economic, financial, legal, and environmental situations. In order to facilitate scientific research of public interest, this information is essential for drawing links and comprehending interconnections between many domains (Parlamentul Românie, 2009);

2. Second, in compliance with certain legal provisions governing its establishment and operation, the National Bank of Romania is able to furnish particular statistical data within its purview (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

In this case, statistical data from official sources are largely collected, processed, and subsequently disseminated to any institution in need, such as governmental agencies or international organizations (Pârțachi, 2018). Furthermore, it has been observed that there is a diversity of statistical data sources, involving various collection methods employed by National Statistical Institutes or researchers. Consequently, statistical research benefits greatly from the use of a variety of data sources, such as:

- o Extensive observations, which include studies centered on a population that has been statistically observed, such as census data;
- o Statistical observations using opinion surveys to get particular information on the statistical population under observation;
- o Partial statistical observations, such as pilot surveys, similar to the previous category but not mandatory in terms of representativeness;
- o Administrative sources recorded in administrative registers concerning population records, which complement the pool of existing statistical information. (Pârțachi, 2018)

In such situations, understanding the sources of statistical data is crucial, as it represents a key aspect in research activities, whether for documentation, analysis, or further research (Pârțachi, 2018). The most widely used and often cost-effective or free source of statistical data is represented by official sources, which also offer credibility advantages. Due to the National Statistical Institutes in each country, researchers benefit from a wealth of statistical data that can be utilized in both administrative and informational processes. Therefore, understanding and highlighting how statistical data are distributed is essential, whether referring to international organizations or National Statistical Institutes, all of which aim to disseminate information on various social, economic, demographic, and other aspects.

Next focus on the research on the elements that make up Romania's statistical system and how it is organized in accordance with Law No. 226/2009:

o The National Institute of Statistics, along with its territorial directorates and other organizations under its jurisdiction, is the first and principal entity;

o Statistical offices under the central government's public administration (Parlamentul Românie, 2009);

o Any statistical office under local public administration (Parlamentul Românie, 2009);

o Statistical offices under the authority of public authorities and institutions, excluding those under the National Bank of Romania (Parlamentul Românie, 2009);

o Finally, the National Bank of Romania, within the scope of its activities (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

The aforementioned statistical offices are authorized to produce official statistical data under the provisions of Law no. 226/2009, which ensures the organization and operation of statistical activities in Romania in an official manner (Parlamentul Românie, 2009). Taking into account the National Bank of Romania that was previously mentioned, it is an organization that functions inside the national statistical system, generating official statistics and carrying out its designated tasks within its area of expertise. In accordance with its areas of expertise and activity, the National Institute of Statistics may develop its own procedures for the gathering, processing, analysis, distribution, and creation of statistical series in conjunction with the National Bank of Romania (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

Moreover, the National Bank of Romania is a member of the European System of Central Banks, which enables it to develop statistical programs for the implementation and enhancement of official statistics (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).By examining the main institutions in Romania and globally regarding the process of collecting, processing, analyzing, and disseminating data, every individual benefits from the transparency and accuracy of the data. This aspect, regarding how data are collected and processed, is particularly important in research and must be emphasized to ensure the credibility of scientific endeavors.

The National Institute of Statistics

The National Institute of Statistics collects and processes the statistical data that it makes available to citizens both through periodic reports and through the TEMPO Online platform. As a result, any statistical information published on the website of the National Institute of Statistics is accompanied by a government license that is granted to open data, provided following a protocol from 2014. The purpose of this protocol, signed since 2014, provides permanent, free access to all the data found in the TEMPO Online database in Romania, which provides statistical information, such as data specific to social, economic, financial, justice, environmental, utility statistics public, territorial administration and sustainable development (Iordan, 2017).

The maintenance of this database - free of charge - along with the method of collection and eventual modernization of them, certainly represents a long-term and extremely difficult process due to the extremely limited number of financial resources required. This may affect the processing and publication of statistical data, an aspect noted in certain sections available on TEMPO Online, where certain statistical data are not updated. Regarding the specific ways of collecting, processing, and interpreting the data collected by researchers, it can be difficult as a result of several meanings for certain concepts.

An example in this case is provided by the concept of employment, which in the sense of the Ministry of Labor represents something else, compared to the Ministry of Finance, and this highlights a problem faced by the researchers of the National Institute of Statistics in Romania (Iordan, 2017). Since 2017, the creation of a draft law was aimed at the creation of statistical offices in each ministry, the purpose of this draft law being to clearly establish common samples and the coordination of databases, so as to ensure the high coherence of public policy proposals (Iordan, 2017). And as a result, the population census, since 2017, was intended to be completed by the housing census, an aspect that could be supported and coordinated with the help of the National Agency for Cadaster and Real Estate Advertising, but also by the County Statistics Directorates, in order to create several data collection points in electronic format, through the online platform (Iordan, 2017).

Next, analyzing the statistical methodologies used by the National Institute of Statistics in Romania, in accordance with Law no. 226/2009 in force at the time, we could observe the fact that the National Institute of Statistics represents that producer of statistical data at the national level and which has the authority to establish the specific methodologies for carrying out statistical-type scientific approaches, in accordance with the annual national statistical programs, thus these methodologies are approved according to the order signed by the president of the National Institute of Statistics (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

As a result, the information made available by the producers of official statistical data, who collect the data in accordance with their field of activity, but have the opportunity to establish their own statistical methodologies and techniques, without the need for approval from the National Institute of Statistics (Parlamentul Românie, 2009)). The legislation in force highlights the fact that, during the entire period of data collection and processing, statistical data researchers can apply the techniques and methods that ensure compliance and maintenance of the correctness and veracity of the statistical data produced (Parlamentul Românie, 2009)). In addition, it is important to note that the principle of confidentiality must be respected throughout the processing and storage of the collected statistical data, and in this case, researchers are obliged to separate the data that have been identified as belonging to those who provided them from the variables which have been registered, i.e. to preserve anonymity (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

Another obligation that falls to both the producers of statistical data and the National Institute of Statistics is to destroy both the questionnaires used throughout the duration of the research and the references to the stored identification data (Parlamentul Românie, 2009). However, there is an exception, namely that of the fact that the data that are necessary to update the information provided in the statistical registers, after the end of the processing stage, but no later than one and a half years from the end of the reference period (Parlamentul Românie, 2009). Also, the producers of statistical data together with the National Institute of Statistics have the obligation to record and store all information under conditions of maximum security and safety (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

In this situation we are talking about any statistical material or document that must not be destroyed either accidentally or without approval, but it is important to avoid other situations such as the falsification or inappropriate use of statistical data (Parlamentul Românie, 2009). Regarding the processing rules, respectively the storage rules and any other technical or organizational conditions can be developed in accordance with the specific areas of competence of the National Institute of Statistics, it being necessary to comply with all legal provisions and the approval of the president of the National Institute of Statistics from Romania (Parlamentul Românie, 2009).

Therefore, at the level of Romania, official statistics is one of the most important branches of knowledge of a society, because it can provide quantitative and qualitative information that contributes to an administrative system and the creation of public policies both at the micro level and at macro level (Institutul Național de Statistică, 2022). That is why there are multiple differences between official and public statistics, so that the first and most important category provides information collected and disseminated in accordance with the compliance with some normative acts, respectively by complying with the regulations at the European or national level (National Institute of Statistics, 2022). As a result, statistics become useful to a certain type of public when they are provided correctly, quickly and ensure the satisfaction of the users of statistical data, but especially if they are free (Institutul Național de Statistică, 2022).

According to national and international rules and laws, the National Institute of Statistics in Romania utilizes particular methodology for reporting on migration. Among these techniques are:

- o Estimating migration stocks, which represent populations delimited by specific criteria at a given time, such as the stock of emigrants (people with Romanian citizenship who have had their habitual residence in another state for at least 12 months);
- o The stock of immigrants (people without Romanian citizenship who have had their habitual residence abroad for at least 12 months but live in Romania for at least 12 months), is one way to measure the annual flows of emigrants and immigrants in accordance with the definitions for long-term temporary international migration, which involves a change of residence for a period of at least 12 months;

o Compliance with the habitual residence criterion and the 12-month threshold for measuring international migration flows according to European regulations.

Eurostat

It is important to understand the importance of Eurostat in terms of statistics, being the main responsible for analyzing and publishing statistics at the European level, in order to make comparisons at the level of the member countries of the European Union (European Commission, no date). Among Eurostat's main responsibilities are the development of definitions, classifications and methodologies for statistics at national level for the member countries of the European Union.

Also, Eurostat has a large responsibility regarding the aggregation of official statistical data of the European Union and the Member States, due to the fact that it uses data collected by statistical authorities at national level, in accordance with European standards. Finally, Eurostat will make European statistics available to decision-makers and citizens, using the Eurostat website, but also through other channels (Comisia Europeană). Thus, Eurostat represents a portal that includes statistical data made available by the European Commission and any other statistical information from the European Union (Pârțachi, 2018).

Eurostat disseminates statistical data in such a way that it is accessible to all people, using three languages of international circulation, namely English, French and German, depending on the areas of interest. Eurostat provides both general and regional statistical information in areas such as economy, finance, social, industry, trade, agriculture, fisheries, transport, international trade, environment, science and technology. As a result, it can be seen that the interface used by Eurostat for the dissemination of statistical data is very friendly and very easy to access, especially free, to provide statistical data to all interested persons. In addition, this portal the statistics provided by Eurostat are disseminated to countries that are not part of the European Union and, at the same time, particularly important for the neighboring countries of Southern Europe (Pârțachi, 2018).

To make the statistical information presented by Eurostat easier to understand, the portal uses databases structured by themes, tables according to the themes of interest, tables in accordance

with European Union policies and graphical representations, all of these (Pârțachi, 2018). Thus, the statistical system is an efficient one to understand, due to the fact that it provides a database and periodic information, in which graphs, tables and figures are used, which are explained by experts and researchers, to facilitate the understanding of the data.

The information is also structured and presented at the level of each region of interest, and this aspect highlights the fact that individuals within Eurostat make constant efforts to provide high-quality statistical information that reflects reality and supports the institutions that use this data.

According to the European Union regulations in the field of migration statistics, Eurostat uses the criterion of habitual residence and the 12-month threshold to measure international migration flows, considering a person to be an immigrant or an emigrant according to these criteria. The National Institute of Statistics (INS) estimates and transmits annually to Eurostat the data on the flows of emigrants and immigrants (European Regulation no. 862/2007, art. 2, paragraph 1, letter b) (Parlamentul European, Consiliul European, 2007). Estimating migration stocks is a difficult process, and in recent years there have been significant revisions of them in various countries in the European Union. International migration statistics are also disseminated by other international bodies such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations (UN), which adopt different practices from Eurostat, leading to different results in data dissemination.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is an agency based in Switzerland that provides assistance to refugees, supports individuals and protects fundamental human rights in order to identify the most appropriate long-term solutions for that refugees can find a place that gives them a sense of home (UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency).

UNHCR has created databases dedicated to informing populations that have been displaced (such as refugees, asylum seekers or people who are internally displaced) and this activity has been carried out for at least 70 years and also include demographic information of these individuals (UNHCR, 2023). At the same time, within the databases offered by the UNHCR there are also those people such as the stateless who, in the vast majority, have not been displaced, so the

purpose of this database is to support the authorities to create the most relevant solutions for displaced persons, measures such as their repatriation or resettlement (UNHCR, 2023).

The main data sources on which UNHCR operates are the following:

- o The data provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees are collected through annual statistical activities, since 1951, the year in which the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees took over (UNHCR, 2023);
- o That data provided by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, so this information focuses mainly on Palestinians registered under the mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) (UNHCR, 2023);
- o The data that is provided by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Center (IDMC), information dedicated to people who are internally displaced, especially in areas of conflict or with a high degree of violence (UNHCR, 2023);
- o These data made available by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) are relevant, due to the fact that the information provided is both about refugees (needed by difficult conditions, such as political ones, to leave their native country and look for areas that provide them with safety), as well as about people who voluntarily leave the country for more favorable living conditions.

The World Bank

The World Bank disseminates statistical information specific to its field of activity, i.e. provides economic results for over 125,000 companies from approximately 139 countries (Pârțachi, 2018). In the case of the statistical information made available by the World Bank, it is outlined in a schematic form, carefully structured, so that it is easy to understand by researchers, but also by citizens or media institutions. Also, the World Bank has a database of world statistics, integrated into a portal, to distribute the information in an organized way for each country, respectively for each topic of interest, thus everything is arranged on websites web, and the topics are structured as follows:

- First of all, the *data*, which represents the initiative of the World Bank through which it creates *Open-Data* through which it makes available to users the possibility to access the data provided by the World Bank. Thus, the World Bank information made available through a database that generates tables that are already formatted, or generates certain explanatory reports, is presented. In addition, there is a section where world development indicators are found, which provide information on political development, economic development, agricultural development and environmental development (Pârțachi, 2018);

- Secondly, there are *Doing Business Indicators*, specific to the description of the business environment, which provide a diverse range of statistical information for several aspects dedicated to international business development. It also offers indicators specific to the business environment that offer the opportunity to compare the economies of over 180 countries, statistics that are closely related to the availability of credits, respectively to cross-border trade (Pârțachi, 2018);

- Thirdly, we have *Investing Across Borders*, which represents those cross-border investments, presenting the country-level indicators, depending on the topics of interest, such as the cross-border investment sector, opening foreign businesses, accessing land to start investment projects industrial, arbitration in case of commercial disputes. Thus, through this online platform of the World Bank, laws, regulations and practices that can affect direct investments globally are compared (Pârțachi, 2018).

According to the information made available by the World Bank, we can see that they have not been updated since 2015, a fact that shows that the data on international migration at the level of Romania have not been updated, in order to have an up-to-date picture. As a result, we can observe that the phenomenon of international migration is not a subject addressed by the World Bank, thus the last centralization was carried out in 2015, resulting in the most recent value of 226,943 migrants.

Selected Countries and Economies

Country	^	Most Recent Year	Most Recent Value	
Romania		2015	226,943	•

The situation of Romanian migrants, 2005-2015. Source: (World Bank Group, revised 2012)*, https://shorturl.at/moxwB*

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has its own statistical institute with the role of providing particularly important information on subjects such as education, science, culture or communication worldwide, to enable researchers and anyone interested to obtain information and indicators depending on the country, region or time period (years, months), the platform being available in two languages of international circulation such as English and French (Pârțachi, 2018). Thus, the UNESCO provides its users with a comprehensive database of up-to-date information in areas of social interest, education, culture, science, technology and innovation, the information being accessible within an arranged list in alphabetical order for all countries globally. The UNESCO has its own Statistical Institute (ISU) which provides high-quality, reliable and internationally comparable statistical information on education, science, communication and culture (UIS.Stat, UNESCO, no date).

This Statistical Institute of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is an official statistical agency with the role of producing current databases in accordance with the requirements, needs and changes taking place in the aforementioned fields. This official statistical agency of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was born from the desire to support the policies and investments necessary to produce changes in the lives of citizens and people in need, but also to contribute to the good development of contemporary society.

The Statistical Institute of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization provides free access to statistical data for all member countries, respectively for all regional groupings within UNESCO from 1970 to the present. Also, the Statistical Institute of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization supports and promotes the development and scientific endeavors to create sites and applications designed to use the data disseminated by this institution.

In addition, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics supports a data browser as well as a bulk data download service, abbreviated BDDS (UIS.Stat, UNESCO, no date). Therefore, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) collaborates with several states, which are responsible for collecting and providing data in specific fields, such as education, science and culture. It also sends questionnaires and surveys to national agencies and important entities in each member country - through this data it collects internationally comparable data. In addition to data collected from member countries, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also uses data from secondary sources, such as data provided by the World Bank, United Nations, etc. and the validation of the collected data are subject to a rigorous verification process by consulting our own experts.

3. Discussion

Given that this research addresses the issue of migration statistics by analyzing how migration statistics are processed or disseminated, especially Romanian migration and starting from the fact that in 2021 there were over 4 million Romanians registered outside the borders, we easily see that Romania ranks in on 17th in the list of countries of origin for global migration, according to a Global Migration Report from 2022, the most current report to date (International Organization for Migration, 2021).

As a result of the Global Migration Report from 2022, it is evident that the ratio between the Romanian population who left the country and the ratio of individuals of other nationalities who migrated to Romania is 6 to 1, meaning that the number of Romanian emigrants is six times greater compared to the number of foreign immigrants in Romania in December 2020 (International Organization for Migration, 2021). Thus, it can be observed that the value of

remittances sent by Romanians abroad was over 7.5 billion dollars in 2020, a sum that decreased compared to 2019.

Regarding the proper management of labor migration in Romania and abroad, it can only take place based on a carefully constructed informational system, in accordance with the regulations of the United Nations (Vasile, 2018). However, it is important to emphasize that such a system in Romania requires specific policies and measures for conception, cooperation, and especially coordination among those involved in analyzing the labor migration market. In this case, to accurately measure the volume, structure, and intensity of external migration movements, as well as the motivations or impact of these movements at the international, national, and local levels, represents a challenging aspect. Migration as a highly complex phenomenon can have multiple causes, and for each individual it can represent a different meaning, whether it is simply a change of residence or migration due to reasons such as the need for a better life.

In the case of labor migration, it represents an extremely important factor in the globalization of the labor market (Vasile, 2018). It is important to underline that in order to create an adequate and well-established informational system, several measures and actions under careful coordination and cooperation are necessary, such as:

Careful collection of basic, primary information using administrative sources or any other relevant sources for this type of information;

Constant application of the subsidiarity principle during the collection, processing, subsequent analysis, and dissemination of collected data and information;

Clear coordination and horizontal and vertical cooperation between all individuals and authorities providing information, whether they are public or private persons or institutions;

Finally, the development and implementation of a standardized, well-prioritized system based on indicators that are relevant, expressive, credible, and accessible to all (Vasile, 2018).

Such a form of collecting information and statistical indicators represents a very relevant and valid aspect in order to provide a concrete picture of the phenomenon of migration outside the borders of Romania.

In addition, the collection and indexing of information based on these measures and procedures can lead to the creation and implementation of specific policies for external migration, all resulting in the exploitation of Romania's human capital (Vasile, 2018). In the course of the

present research, it has been observed that the measurement of migration, respectively the understanding of the specific number of citizens outside the borders of Romania and any other country, represents a sensitive aspect. Clearly, despite all technological innovations and developments in tools dedicated to measuring international migration and the number of citizens who have left Romania, this cannot be measured concretely in order to generate a final, real number of the population leaving the country. In addition, measuring migration, respectively the circulation of individuals outside the country in general, represents a process that starts with the following recommendations that are elaborated by the United Nations, specifically:

The International Organization for Migration must provide clear and specific statistics dedicated to international organizations, especially in the field of migration;

In the field of migration, especially Romanian migration, it is important to have official statistics from Eurostat (which provides the most relevant information from all areas in Europe) that present the characteristics of flows and stocks of international migration, using a level of detail that allows comparison of statistical information from EU member states;

In addition to the recommendations provided by the United Nations, national statistics are recommended to use specific elements at the national, regional or local level (Vasile, 2018).

It is important to create tools or identify techniques dedicated to measuring international migration, and this aspect is recognized by major organizations such as the International Organization for Migration or the United Nations (Vasile, 2018). As a result, when reconfiguring techniques for collecting and interpreting statistical data, the following measures may be necessary to provide a clear picture of this phenomenon:

Constant adaptation and updating of recommendations in the field of migration provided by the United Nations to ensure the generation of concrete and conclusive policies for its management;

Also, compatibility must be ensured between concepts and methodology for national statistics in the field of migration, primarily between organizations and institutions that produce statistical information, even if these are collected and interpreted in Romania;

Currently, more attention needs to be paid to aspects of migration, especially informing about this phenomenon, especially in Romania;
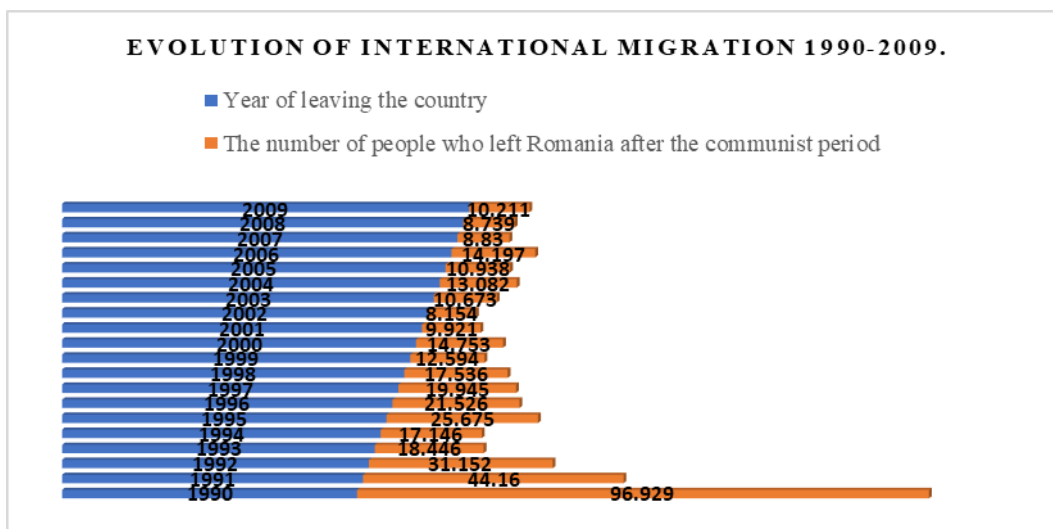
Prioritize regulations on international migration to identify, introduce and apply national regulations on this phenomenon, but all of these must occur in accordance with recommendations

provided by international institutions and at the European level in the field of migration (Vasile, 2018).

Therefore, when it comes to a sovereign state, it is particularly important to respect the right to determine which persons transit national territory, who remains in the country, and under what conditions these processes occur. Thus, this right is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, emphasizing that citizens have the right and freedom to leave any country, even their native country, and the right and freedom to return to the country of origin (Vasile, 2018). Throughout time, during the communist period, it has been noted that the number of people leaving the country has steadily decreased. Thus, from 1990, when the highest number of departures from the country was recorded (96,929), until 1994, when 17,146 people left post-communist Romania. From 1995, when there was a significant increase in migration, approximately 25,675 people leaving the country, the number of people who left Romania decreased until 2002, where the lowest number of international migrations was recorded, specifically 8,154 people (Cruceru, 2010). The period 2002-2004 led to an increase in the number of people who left post-December Romania, but from 2006 to 2008, the number of people seemed to decrease due to the economic crisis facing the country at that time.

As a result of the fact that the Romanian economy suffered as a result of the crisis, in 2009, the number of people who left the country increased to 10,211 people, and this detail highlighted the need of Romanians for security and stability, a desire fed by a better life, but outside the country.

This table, based on information generated by the National Institute of Statistics from Romania, highlights the importance of this phenomenon for researchers, being a long-term analysis that resulted from the collapse of the Communist regime.

Source: (Cruceru, 2010)

The phenomenon of international migration in the case of Romania highlighted the following aspects: with the opening of borders during the country's transition from the communist regime to democracy. Additionally, this phenomenon led to a deeper desire for analysis due to the breakdown of statistical information by gender, which provided a much clearer and more concrete picture regarding the evolution of families remaining in the country. For the period analyzed (1990-2009), the gender distribution is as follows: regardless of the year they left Romania, the largest proportion was recorded among females. This highlighted that the need to meet family needs and job availability for this gender category is greater among women. Furthermore, upon analyzing the number of people who left the country by gender category, it was found that the high percentage of females led to an unfavorable outcome, particularly evident in the birth rate and the children who remained at home. The root of this issue is rooted in long-standing cultural preconceptions about women's roles in the home, particularly with regard to raising and educating children. It was shown that children's development tended to be weaker when their moms were absent.

4. Results and conclusions

The statistical data currently gathered are imprecise and do not accurately reflect the circumstances of the population living outside of Romania, given the research goal of examining the problem of international migration and its influence on the evolution of Romanian society and public policy. It became evident when the communist system fell that a sizable portion of

Romanians had emigrated abroad in quest of better opportunities. The migration situation did, however, improve over time, and the census was unable to accurately capture the statistical truth of this occurrence.

Reporting Methodologies used at the National and International levels					
Criteria	Institutul Național de Statistică	EUROSTAT	UNHCR	Banca Mondială	UNESCO
Citizenship	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Country of Birth	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES
Time threshold	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year
Usual residence	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Reporting Periods	Annualy (TEMPO ONLINE) Every 10 year (Census)	Annualy	Annualy	Annualy	Annualy
Period	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year	1 calendar year
Data source	"Econometrics of International Migration Estimation": - selective statistical research; - the census.	- Use questionnaires and surveys to ensure comparability of data; - Uses data from administrative sources and national registers.	- Data collected through UNHCR + UNRWA statistical activities (registration of persons under UNHCR protection); - Field surveys and assessments.	- Data collected through economic and administrative collaboration activities, from the governments and national statistical agencies of the member countries.	- Owns its own statistics institute; - questionnaires and surveys to national agencies and important entities of the member states.
Multiple sources for Data Collection, Verification, and Validation	- Collaborate with ministries, government agencies and local authorities in Romania. - Performs consistency checks and compares data with other sources to identify and correct possible errors; - Data verification involves direct consultation with data providers for clarifications and corrections.	- Collaborates with the national statistical institutes of the EU member states, responsible for the collection and reporting of data at national level, according to the standards and methodologies established by Eurostat; - Performs consistency checks and data validation involves direct consultation with national statistical offices.	- Collaborate with host country governments, national refugee agencies, NGOs; - direct consultation with persons registered under UNHCR protection.	- Use secondary data sources, such as UN, IMF, OECD, Eurostat; - Data verification involves consistency checks and expert consultation.	- Use secondary data sources such as World Bank, UN, OECD, academic research; - Data verification involves consulting experts.

Particularly after the self-numbering 2021 census, there is a dearth of particular information, and disparities are evident in both the population living in Romania and at the national level. Competent agencies routinely conduct research to support activities connected to migration policies and strategies and to distribute information regarding international migration. In order to disseminate information about international migration, competent authorities regularly conduct research to support initiatives related to migration policies and strategies. This allows the information to be centrally managed in an online database and accessible to everyone at any time. The main purpose of this research was to examine and analyze important issues and their effects on the development of Romanian society and public policy in more depth. Finally, in order to

make the reporting methodology used clearer, the below table has been created to suggest a clearer view of this aspect:

Therefore, each institution analyzed the reports on the status of international migration in different ways, mainly in terms of data collection methods and purposes of data reporting, as well as available resources. In addition, the importance of the term varies from institution to institution, especially according to criteria for defining certain aspects, criteria such as citizenship, country of birth and time thresholds defining immigration. Moreover, the methodology of data collection is different because institutions such as Eurostat, the World Bank, UNESCO and UNHCR use surveys, while institutions such as the National Statistical Institute prefer both surveys and censuses as data collection methods. Data collection methods differ, as some studies aim to implement a country's migration policy, while others provide information to institutions. Nevertheless, all these approaches are technocratic-based, and less political (Raiu & Mina-Raiu, 2023)

As for the usefulness of information on international migration, it is essential that national public institutions and governments implement public policies to support migration flows (Raiu C. , 2012). The importance of the collection and documentation of migration-related data by the National Statistical Institute is important for effective governance, and the data collected by the National Statistical Institute (INS) by organizations such as Eurostat, UNHCR, the World Bank and UNESCO are fundamental for the creation and implementation of public policy at the national and international levels.

Also, *are methods such as selective statistical surveys and censuses sufficient for Romania's governance needs?* Romanian migration data is collected by methods such as selective statistical surveys and population censuses. These are necessary to understand demographic trends and plan appropriate policies in areas such as employment, education, health and social security. The National Statistical Institute (INS) has adopted stringent methods for data collecting and verification, which increases the accuracy of the data. But problems with data integrity could arise, especially with groups of illegal immigrants and those living in remote areas.

There is much disagreement over the veracity of the data provided to support the current administration. However, because the National Statistical Institute's (INS) methodology is uniform and accessible for scrutiny worldwide, there is a reduced likelihood of notable

manipulation. Transparency and methodological publication also affect data reliability. Additionally, by using these data, public services like health and education can be more efficiently allocated to meet the needs of the general public.

Who will benefit from this migration data? These statistical data are also useful for international organizations such as the United Nations, Eurostat, UNHCR, the World Bank and UNESCO to monitor global migration trends. In addition, migration data is important for non-governmental organizations as it creates intervention and support programs for migrants, including health, protection and educational services.

In addition, migration data serves the interests of government power, as it can be used to justify policies and decisions, increase international funding, and demonstrate progress and special needs. Finally, statistics are effective for the public at both national and international levels, especially for raising awareness and creating public discussion about migration trends, so that these data are easy, accessible and easily understand able for all categories of people.

The research highlights the importance of the phenomenon of international migration, which is supported mainly by statistical data provided by public institutions such as the National Statistical Institute, the World Bank, UNHCR, UNESCO and Eurostat. All these data are aimed to analyzing and presenting the migration situation in Romania, and in particular in Romania, to show how statistics about this phenomenon are presented. Considering that the research started with the desire to analyze and define the methodologies used in migration reporting at the national, European and international levels, we observed that different institutions pay special attention to this issue. We can observe that after the scientific approach, the migration situation in Romania was analyzed, especially after the Communist period, it was noted that the largest number of people left the country.

Most migration data mostly center on the overall count of individuals exiting a country and sociodemographic details categorized by age, gender, and origin. Data at national, European, and global scales are available online via public platforms and databases, although specific data collection methods were not detailed. In conclusion, a scientific approach allowed this research to observe that the census is the primary tool used to report the population by age, gender and gender, but in certain cases, it does not reflect the accuracy that are presented and sampled throughout the research. Also, for certain statistics, there are no updated data in the database so

far, but the continuous evolution of this phenomenon of migration is due to the continuous transformation of modern society.

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