

### POPULATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC 2001–2006<sup>1)</sup>

This publication analyses demographic development in the Czech Republic in the new millennium. It was prepared by members of the Department of Demography and Geodemography at the Faculty of Science, Charles University, and it ties in with (in content and presentation) similar analyses that the department published in the years between 1994 and 2002 (Population Development in the Czech Republic 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 1990–2002). Like the previous publications, this one is also structured according to individual demographic processes, and at the close of the first section there is also a chapter on families and households. In response to the significance of the changes in fertility an article on this subject and the related issue of population policy is included in the second part of the publication. The individual chapters are titled: **Population Structure** (Dagmar Bartoňová), **Nuptiality** (Ludmila Fialová), **Divorce** (Květa Kalibová), **Abortion** (Jiřina Kocourková), **Mortality** (Boris Burcin), **Migration** (Dagmar Bartoňová), **Families and Households** (Dagmar Bartoňová), **Fertility in the Czech Republic: Current State and Recent Trends** (Jitka Rychtaříková), **Population Climate and Family Policy** (Jiřina Kocourková). Following the introduction, there are tables presenting an overview of natural population changes since 1960 and analytical indicators of population development in the Czech Republic from 1981 to 2006. A list of definitions for the basic demographic indicators used in the analysis and English summaries of the chapters are printed at the end of the publication.

The chapters are based mainly on data from the annual processing of population change by the Czech Statistical Office. In the first chapter, information on the structure of the population by sex, age, and marital status (based on data for individual calendar years) is accompanied by some additional information on the population structure ascertained in the 2001 Population and Housing Census (the population by education and nationality). Selected data on foreigners from this comprehensive survey are also presented in the chapter on Migration. Also the last chapter in the first part of the publication, Families and Households, is based on the results of the censuses conducted in 1991 and 2001. To complete the picture of the demographic situation in the Czech Republic the authors also occasionally draw on other data sources on this subject.

Although the publication under review is titled *Population Development in the Czech Republic 2001–2006*, in the individual chapters, with the exception of Migration, the authors also assess development over the longer term, roughly since the start of the 1990s, but in the case of fertility since as far back as 1986 (data presented in tables and figures; understandably the authors often go further in the discussions in the texts). In this respect the chapters are not entirely uniform, and this also reflects the very individual approach taken by each of the authors, and this is also apparent, for instance, in other details, such as the inclusion or exclusion of information on the international position of the Czech Republic with respect to the issue under examination, or data on the vital events of foreigners living in the Czech Republic. However, these differences are not very substantial and certainly in no way alter the fact that this is a complex, good-quality, and exhaustive analysis of recent and current population development in the Czech Republic.

For the most part, the chapters follow a traditional approach to this type of analyses, based on almost all available and meaningful classification of demographic data. Given that this is an omnibus publication with wider possible applications, it is understandable that greater attention is not devoted to more 'marginal issues', but in the chapter on Migration, for instance, no basic data are presented on the development of foreign migration of Czech citizens, which, despite its problematic nature, ought to be included in it. Valuable information, especially relating to the education of women, is presented in the chapter on fertility by Jitka Rychtaříková. Although the data are not always perfect (in a not small percentage of cases the data are not provided and are automatically filled in during the processing of the

<sup>1)</sup> Praha: Katedra demografie a geodemografie Přírodovědecké fakulty UK v Praze (Department of Demography and Geodemography, Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague), 2007, 114 p.

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birth report; moreover, in what is probably just a small number of cases, the highest completed level of education that applied at the time of the observed event will change within a relatively short period of time), the education of women is one of the most important differentiating factors of (not just) fertility. The author also discusses the current issue of whether there exists a new alternative to marriage with children. Based on the different structure of married and unmarried mothers by average age at the time of first birth, birth-order, and education, she refutes the hypothesis that unmarried cohabitation with children exists as an alternative to marital union. By combining data on mothers who had their children while not married with data on brides getting married it turns out that some women first give birth to a child and only then get married (in the case of births in 2007 and later, in most cases it is possible to observe whether it is the father of the child that she married). For example, among women who had their first child in 2004 and were not married, one-quarter of them married within four years (and this occurred slightly more often among more educated women). This means that for some women unmarried cohabitation with children is an alternative to marriage, but only in the early stages of family life. Although it would appear then that the unmarried cohabitation of parents is no substitute for marriage with children, a positive development is that data on the father in the statistical reports on births are provided for ninety percent of children born (in 2007). It could be indirectly inferred from this that in these cases the father is in some way involved in caring for the child. However, as in the case of extramarital births, the share of omitted information increases the lower the level of completed education of the mother.

In addition to the high-quality content of the publication, it also has a very nice design and layout. Boris Burcin, who alongside working on selected demographic subjects also specialises in designing and preparing publications for print, has maintained a consistent style in this regard for several years. Thus, even less regular users of the publication can immediately orientate themselves in the content and find links to the publication outcomes of members of the Department of Demography and Geodemography at the Faculty of Science. The concise synopses inside each chapter containing key information on individual issues in population development are among other things an excellent idea for helping readers to easily navigate the publication's content.

Terezie Štyglerová

## FAMILY AND EMPLOYMENT

This rich and valuable publication<sup>1)</sup> is made up of four interconnected sections that provide a complex analysis of the situation of parenthood today from the perspective of the demands of work and family and the conditions and strategies affecting these two spheres. The goals of the analysis and the evaluation are made clear in the abstract and in the introduction by A. Křížková. The focus is mainly on the issue of combining work and a family, the biggest obstacle to which is care for children, especially children aged 6 and under. The studies are based on research conducted in 2005 on a representative sample of 1998 parents (men and women) sharing a household with children up to the age of 18.

The publication's evaluative aim is apparent in the very titles of the individual sections: 'Parents in the Labour Market – Real Opportunities and Hypothetical Choices' (H. Maříková), 'How Contemporary Parents Organise and Manage Work and Family Life' (A. Křížková), 'Reproductive Plans and the Reality of Early Childcare' (H. Hašková) and 'The Division of Household Work and Childcare in the Family' (J. Bierzová). It is difficult to describe the concise content and the findings of the analyses of data presented in the tables and figures, but they provide a very realistic description of the situation in which families are living and to which they are forced (rather than want) to react, while their educational conditions, preferences, and the position of the women themselves (single mothers) are different. The authors question the Czech term for maternity and parental 'leave' ('*dovolená*'); they want a more accurate term for the period spent caring for children, for which the parent is relieved from work with partial financial compensation in order to perform this specific role.

The analyses essentially confirm realities of family with dependent children, which we are already familiar with from demographic research in the 1950s, but here in the newly differentiated conditions

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<sup>1)</sup> Křížková, A. (ed.) - Maříková, H. - Mašková, H. - Bierzová, J. *Pracovní a rodinné role a jejich kombinace v životě českých rodičů: plány versus realita*. Praha: Sociologický ústav AV ČR, edice Sociologické studie 06:14, 2006.

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arising from the wider opportunities for choosing family strategies. In the 1950s, however – especially owing to the low level of education of women in particular – women were not in as strong a position as they are in today (in the 25–39 age group there is only a slightly smaller share of women than men with higher education, but a higher share of women with secondary education at 40%, while the figure for men is around 30%). However, what has changed little is the fact that the differences in men's and women's employment income are still considerable. And that, in my view, is the source of the reality reconfirmed in this research that women are still responsible for most childcare and household work (and most often are the ones who take 'leave'), because the absence of men from the labour market causes a bigger decrease in income than the absence of women. I believe that this is the key issue. The second fact overlooked here, in my view, is that even after fifty years of women's employment women as mothers have not managed (or wanted?) to raise their sons in such a way that preclude the reproduction of past approaches to parenthood and household activities in future generations. If this chain cannot be broken by the current, more emancipated generation of mothers, then similar research in twenty years will again reconfirm everything that is being observed today. The third thing that I believe the authors missed is the defence more commonly used now to avoid being forced into traditional roles: marriage at a later age (more often after obtaining a certain position at work), the rejection of marriage (singles: at the age of 35 more than one-third of women would remain single!), and deliberate childlessness or life with just one child.

Our labour market and consequently also our society are still set up in a way that accommodates men and the assumption that they will be less burdened by family activities, and even women with higher education are only slightly less affected by this. Demands in general have grown, and this particularly impacts women. Women's work successfully raising children and running the household is not nearly as valued as a career would be or as the earnings of men are. The assumption that the legislative extension of 'leave' will give both women and men wider choices in their family strategies has not been fully proved. Mothers, especially mothers of small children living in small rural communities, albeit perhaps closer to grandparents, are in a very particular position.

I value that the analyses of single motherhood in the publication particularly drew attention to the fact that single mothers are much more often women with basic education and more often live in parts of the country where there is currently the highest unemployment rates. How this is connected also to the larger share of young Roma women among single mothers could only be revealed by a deeper study of this reality, the long-term consequence of which are hard to speculate on.

These studies should also be read by people – men – in executive positions; perhaps the situation in the future could improve. The authors should be praised for their sound methods and their conclusions.

Milan Kučera

## ILLEGAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF MIGRANTS (THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN A EUROPEAN CONTEXT)<sup>1)</sup>

On 29 February of 2008, a book launching was held at the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague. The new book, *The Illegal Economic Activities of Migrants (the Czech Republic in a European Context)*, published by Karolinum publishers, is devoted to the topic of illegal economic activities of migrants in the Czech Republic and selected European countries and it was prepared by a group of authors under the editorship of *Dušan Drbohlav*. The publication is one of the main outcomes of the project 'International Migration and the Illegal Economic Activities of Migrants in the Czech Republic in a Wider European Context' (no. IJO57/05-DP1 – supported by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic) and it is based on the key research areas defined in the National Research Programme TP5 'Modern Society and Its Transformation'.

Illegal migration and the unauthorised economic activities of foreigners constitute a subject that is currently on the tongues of politicians and experts not just in the Czech Republic but also in other advanced countries. It is clear that, despite some benefits, this phenomenon is accompanied by a number

<sup>1)</sup> Drbohlav, D. a kol. *Nelegální ekonomické aktivity migrantů (Česko v evropském kontextu)*. Praha: Univerzita Karlova v Praze, Karolinum, 2008, 311s.

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of significant risks. These risks affect not just migrants but also the environment of the host countries and even that of transition and source countries.

One of the book's main assets is the authors' effort to provide a complex picture of this issue, and this is achieved not just through the diverse selection of themes studied, but above all through the methodological approach applied to them. The book is written in a highly readable, easy to understand style of language, accessible not just to experts on international migration, but to anyone in the lay public with an interest in this subject.

The first and **introductory section of the book** is divided into three chapters. In the first chapter, the author, *Dušan Drbohlav*, lays out the terminological, conceptual, and methodological conception of the studied problem. He explains the terms used in the book, such as 'illegal migration', 'illegal employment', and 'illegal business', and how these terms are interpreted in relation to legislation currently in effect in the Czech Republic. He also presents the definitions and meanings of some other regularly used terms relevant to the given issue, such as 'illegal' and 'quasi-legal' economic activities, the 'Švarc system' (the practice of hiring labour on the basis of individual trade licenses instead of employment contracts, so that people perform their economic activities on the basis of trade licence even though their real activities should be performed on the basis of labour-law regulations) and the 'klientský' or 'client' system (an organised system in which 'clients' (migrant workers) are provided to employers by mediators who profit from the migrants.). He also notes that at a theoretical level very little attention has thus far been devoted to illegal migration and the unauthorised economic activities of migrants, and he cites examples of some more comprehensive concepts that deal with illegal migration. The closing section of the first chapter focuses on the methods used to study illegal migration and the unauthorised economic activities of migrants. In this case the chosen method of research is the Delphi method.

The second chapter, also written by *Dušan Drbohlav*, is mainly devoted to the development and the wider conditions behind illegal migration in Europe, its impact on destination countries, and the policies applied within the framework of EU countries to combat illegal migration.

The theme of developing joint EU policies to regulate economic migration is dealt with in the third chapter by *Andrea Baršová*. In this chapter, the author devotes attention to the constitutional framework of forming EC/EU policy to regulate economic migration, policies aimed at combating illegal economic activities of foreigners, and EU policies regulating legal economic migration.

The next section of the publication is titled **The Wider Framework of Unauthorised Economic Activities of Migrants in the Czech Republic**. The chapters in this section focused mainly on the problem of legal labour migration in the Czech Republic (Chapter 4 by *Dušan Drbohlav*) describe the development of the Czech labour market since 1990 (Chapter 5 by *Zdeněk Čermák*) and the black labour market as it relates to the situation in the Czech Republic (Chapter 6 by *Martin Fassmann*), and outline the legal and political framework behind the effort to combat unauthorised economic activities of migrants in the Czech Republic (Chapter 7 by *Andrea Baršová*), and examine the results of efforts by the relevant authorities to crack down on this problem (Chapter 8, by *Dita Čermánková* and *Lenka Lachmanová*).

The third and core section of the publication presents the **results of the project 'International Migration and the Illegal Work Activities of Migrants in the Czech Republic in a Wider European Context'**. The introductory chapter, by *Dušan Drbohlav* and *Lenka Lachmanová*, outlines the objectives and questions of the research and its design. As mentioned above, the Delphi method of research was used, which involves conducting a repeat and systematically organised survey of opinions and attitudes among experts on the chosen issue. Experts were invited to comment on the most common forms of unauthorised economic activity that migrants to the Czech Republic engage in, the reasons for these activities, the basic characteristics of migrants involved in illegal economic activities, the estimated number of such migrants, the future course of illegal economic activities of migrants in the Czech Republic, the impact of these activities, and measures that could restrict such activities.

On the one hand, the results of the research confirmed some generally known facts and earlier findings (e.g. the persistent existence of the 'Švarc system' and the 'client' system) as the most common forms of illegal and quasi-legal economic activities of migrants in the Czech Republic, the significant role of the 'mediator' lobby, the strong demand for illegal foreign labour on the part of domestic employers, and the position of Ukraine as the dominant source country for migrants engaged in illegal economic activities in the Czech Republic). On the other hand, some of the research's findings were not entirely unambiguous (e.g. the estimated number of migrants engaged in illegal economic activity in the Czech labour market significantly varied, and similarly ambiguous was the estimated scale of this phenomenon for the years 2006–2010).

The next chapter in this section, by *Lenka Lachmanová*, draws on the experiences of the relevant au-

thorities in this area, i.e. labour offices and trade licensing offices, where employees were given a survey on this issue. It is worth noting that the results of the survey more or less confirmed the opinions of respondents and findings from the Delphi research.

The next chapter, by *Zdeněk Čermák* and *Dagmar Džúrová*, focuses on the work and living conditions of illegal migrants in the Czech Republic. The chapter presents the results of a questionnaire survey carried out among two groups of migrants: migrants to the Czech Republic from post-Soviet countries and migrants from Vietnam.

'Economic and Transit Migration to the Czech Republic – the Life Stories of Illegal Migrants' is the title of the next chapter in the third section. In this chapter, the authors, *Dušan Drbohlav* and *Eva Janšká*, inform readers about the results of interviews conducted with illegal migrants in the Czech Republic. Based on an evaluation of the life stories of these respondents the migrants are divided into groups according to migration types. An important finding produced by this research is that in terms of illegal transit migration and unauthorised economic activities the Czech Republic in many respects now resembles traditionally advanced immigration countries.

The chapter by *Dita Čermáková* looks at the widespread 'client' system in the Czech Republic and its specific features. The author looks at the start of the client system in the Czech Republic and describes its basic operating principles and the main actors in the system. She also points out how the entire system functions in an environment that is very strongly influenced by restrictive state legislation pertaining to third-country migrants and the inadequate enforcement of rights. The final chapter in the third section, by *Dušan Drbohlav* and *Lenka Lachmanová*, outlines some possible approaches to estimating the number of illegal migrants in the Czech Republic and especially Prague. Particularly interesting is a proposal for estimating the number of migrants living illegally in Prague using a field survey of the number of foreigners living in selected localities that represent certain types of residential areas.

The fourth section of the book is devoted to **other particular aspects of illegal migration and unauthorised economic activities of migrants in the Czech Republic**. In the first chapter, the authors, *Pavla Rozumková* and *Martin Rozumek*, look at the illegal economic activities of persons applying for international protection. Many readers may be surprised to learn how diverse a range of illegal economic activities these migrants are engaged in within this country. In the next chapter, *Vlastimil Vintř* reflects on the role of the non-profit sector in the area of illegal migration and illegal economic activities of migrants.

The book's fifth section deals with the **situation of source countries and their view of labour migration to the Czech Republic**. The introductory chapter in this section, by *Valerij Mošňjag* [*Moshnyag*] and *Milan Lupták*, describes the position of the Czech Republic in the plans and strategies of Moldavian labour migrants. The next chapter, by *Olena Malynovská* [*Malinowska*], deals with labour migration from Ukraine to the Czech Republic. This is followed by a chapter in which *Milan Lupták* focuses on the contemporary 'push' factors in Ukraine that drive labour migration abroad. The conditioned nature of the contemporary migration of Vietnamese citizens to the Czech Republic is the subject of the next chapter by *Jiří Kocourek*.

The sixth and equally interesting section of the book is devoted to the results of studies on illegal migration and unauthorised economic activities of migrants conducted in other Central European countries, namely **Austria and Hungary**. It is worth noting that the results of the studies in these countries in many respects concur with findings in the Czech Republic.

The seventh section of the publication is the conclusion, in which the authors, *Dušan Drbohlav* and *Lenka Lachmanová*, summarise the main findings.

The entire publication is written in a very pleasant to read and comprehensible style. Despite the fact that the book has contributions from numerous authors, it comes across as consistent and coherent. Using the Czech Republic and some other European countries as its examples, the book offers the inquisitive reader insight into the nature and mechanisms behind illegal migration and illegal economic activities of foreigners in their host country and the impact of these activities on society, and finally, it proposes measures for effectively combating these phenomena. I strongly recommend it be read.

*Jarmila Marešová*