

Social worlds of Romanian migration abroad

by Dumitru Sandu, Polirom Publishing, Iași, 2010

Review

Cristina CORMOȘ, *Teaching Assistant, PhD. Candidate*
Department of Philosophy, Social and Political Sciences
Faculty of History and Geography
“Ștefan cel Mare” University of Suceava, Romania
cristinacormos@yahoo.com

Keywords: *international migration, social worlds, collective memory, identity feelings, transnational orientation, returns migration, remittances, values, mentality, life projects.*

The author of the book *Social Worlds of Romanian migration abroad*, Dumitru Sandu, was particularly concerned, over several years, with international migration. He conducted research abroad, and this book is almost the quintessence of his undertaken studies and research.

In this book, the author Dumitru Sandu surprised migration from a particular perspective, drawing a parallel between the migrant-abroad report and the migrant-country of origin report. Thus, he captured certain aspects related to the emigrant's individuality formed in the new environment and transmitted through identity feelings, through new life projects, transnational guidelines and through the newly formed mentality.

All of these issues are found during the two major parties and in the six chapters. Thus, in the first part of the book “Emergence of new migration system of Romania”, composed of three chapters (Chapter one: The conditioning matrix of temporary decisions to emigration abroad, Chapter II: The ‘90s Genesis, Chapter III: Stage reconstructions using the collective memory of migrants), the author details the major migration flows, brings to attention a new system of Romanian migration and describes the new Romanian emigrants projects for leaving abroad. Finally, he puts his focus on the emerging transnational's as a

result of the circular migration phenomenon of the rural population abroad and the stock of migratory experience at the community level - constituted among other things, through relatively small departures for work abroad, which influenced the new streams dynamics and attitudinal, by the consolidation of a favorable migration orientation as a solution of life.

In the second part “Values, projects and remittances in the migration worlds” consisting of three chapters (Cap. IV. Return migration: design and mood, Cap. V. The immigrant’s orientation to “home”, on transnational spaces, Cap. VI. Foreign in the country: the mentality of former migrants), the author Dumitru Sandu pulls an alarm signal about the influence of migration upon the social system, marked through important changes occurred at the individual and collective level. Thus, he evidenced the return migration phenomenon and its implications on new life project plans and the level of identity feelings, manifested by the uprooted symptom in some cases. About the intention of returning home, the author points out that it is firmly rooted in the soil of multiple plans and those who do not have plans to return permanently to the origin country, they still intend to bind their future with the origin lands through businesses or the purchase of properties, lands. Dumitru Sandu, emphasis and on the remittances originated from the migration act, considered by the author as a immigrant’s form of guidance to “home”. He also speaks of a typology of the migration experiences, respectively, about a certain formed migrants’ mentality from this experience.

In this book, the author sought to capture in particular the implications of the migration phenomenon at individual and collective level, mainly in terms of return migration. The book is well structured and developed, it contains important concepts and terms, and the message transmission and the typing method of the text is one of quality. The author used a vast bibliographical material from the country and from abroad and he managed in a specific way the undertaken research.