

Report on implementing the project in 2015

Performance as compared to financing

This report describes the project in 2015. Overall, one should say that **all proposed activities were fulfilled and all imposed objectives were reached**. The performance indicators were already at higher levels than the assumed ones. We managed to have such performance since 2013, and this year we simply added new products. One should also remember that, despite outperforming the imposed indicators, the financier unilaterally decided in 2013 and in 2014 to move a significant part of the budget to 2015, and in 2015 to postpone again financing, providing a part from the remaining money in 2015, and programming the rest for 2016. Since the financier acts this way, I find it legitimate to simply revise parts of the report from 2014 and to include them in this report, along with the original parts.

In 2014, we had 22% of the budgeting for that year (in fact, 22% out of what was postponed for that year). This year we started with an imperative message sent by UEFISCDI, saying that they have only 80% of the budget. Therefore, they allotted us 32.27% of the founding (!!), postponing the remaining for 2016. In the end of the year, with less than a month before this report was due, they decided that they can increase the amount of money. Therefore, we ended up with 45% of the money that they have successively postponed.

Let's remember other facts, as I have mentioned in the 2014 report: "We do remember the facts, for those who read this report: in 2013 CNCS-UEFISCDI imperatively asked to move part of our budget to 2014. Therefore, we were forced to work in 2013 at lower speed. We were forced to involve in other activities to be sure that our families have their ends met. In 2014, instead of having access to the sums postponed from 2014, we assisted to an astonishing prolongation of the contract, all money postponed from 2013 and half of the 2014 budget being reallocated by the financier to 2015. This led to having this year a budget equal with 22% of those agreed by the same financier in the renewed contract from 2013."

The severe underfinancing of the project denied again our access to good quality conferences. We have missed the opportunity to disseminate the results in conferences such as ESRA or ECSR, we delayed submitting papers to journals (they need proper language proofing, which costs money).

However, this didn't keep UEFISCDI from asking us to impose Thompson Reuters (a private outlet) to mention their financing of our papers. This was the rude measure imposed by the financier last year, under the same conditions in which they did not respect their part of contract. As always, their requests come with the specific message "do it in two days" or so. There is a single word that defines their behaviour: feudal.

Despite dealing with such an agency, we tried to continue working. This year we have 2 more papers accepted in ISI journals, one under evaluation (second revise and resubmit decision), two papers published in BDI

journals. They complement two book chapters (international publishing houses). 20 presentations in conferences add to the balance sheet, most of them being in Romania, or invited speeches of the team members.

I should repeat from the report in 2014: “Even so, we have continued to publish, with a decent efficiency, but the activities in the project were at lower level than we would have wanted. To be clearer: in 2013 and in 2014, we have worked more than the financing, and as compared to the payment, we rocketed.” The same applies to 2015.

The figures speak for us. The mentioned publications add to the 11 ISI papers, 8 BDI, 4 book chapters, 2 books that were accepted or published in 2011-2014. In the same period, we have delivered 38 presentations in conferences. The full list of publications is included on our internet site (we do not post conference presentations there, preferring to wait for their finalization in proper publications).

Several other papers are under preparation, including four articles that are likely to be submitted for publication these days.

Assumed objectives and performance indicators

Box 1 describes the academic objectives of the whole project, while Table 1 includes the assumed indicators for 2015. As one may noticed, the task was to continue analysing the theme that we have proposed, and to focus on dissemination.

Box 1. Project’s objectives

(SO0) Does international migration contribute to the changing of European societies by increasing similarities between European countries, in terms of social values, participation, and life satisfaction, creating the context for better institutional integration?
(SO1) The first issue to be investigated is if migrants do change behaviours and value orientations, and how.
(SO2) The second part is to see if the presence of migrants does change the host society.

Table 1. Plan of activities in 2015, according to the additional contract imposed by CNCS-UEFISCDI in 2015

Objectives	Activities	Results
1. analyses for (SO0)	1.1. data analysis and writing papers	1. Conference presentations (minim 2) 2. At least three submitted papers
	1.2 presenting results in conferences and submitting papers to journals	
	1.3 supplementary analysis: political remittances, circulation of cultures of life satisfaction and cultures of civic participation due to international migration	
2. Dissemination	2.1. Maintaining the website	1. Updated site

2015: Results, outcomes, findings

We have two main directions in which we follow changes in European societies due to migration: on one hand, we look at whether migrants change due to migration. On the other hand, we investigate the changes in host societies due to migration. Starting with 2014, we have expanded the scope of the research, and we also look at the change of stayers, that is the change of the societies of origin. In this later respect, we consider Romania as our case study. The three streams of research allow us to assess if European societies can be more similar under the impact of international migration.

We look at these three directions through the lenses of various fields, including life satisfaction, political behaviour, civic participation, various social values.

Let us inspect each of the directions, mentioning how the fields were considered in 2015 within the respective direction. In the end, I will describe the contributions to understanding each field, independent of the impact of migration.

Changing migrants

This direction was mainly covered in the previous years. In 2015, we have published a paper on changing confidence in institutions when exposed to a different culture of political trust (Voicu & Tufiş, 2015). Our argument, also empirically tested, is that facing a different culture of confidence in institutions, international migrants slightly change, adopt parts of it, internalizing them as personal values, to mix with the values internalized during early socialization. This is crucial for changing the host societies: if such assimilation process would not occur, a fragmented society would result. On the other hand, since initial values and political trust do not disappear, mangled by the host's culture and norms, migrants bring diversity to the host society, and this may be a source for change.

On the other hand, we have reported upon changes in identity during outmigration and post-return migration (Deliu, 2015). The argument is mixed. On one hand, it became clear that identity tends to change in the host society. Second, there is a change to be addressed in the following section – international migrants change in the host society. If they return, they tend to change the society of origin as well.

One of the papers that we have in progress (Vasile & Voicu, 2015), discusses changes in life satisfaction. It looks like the city of destination plays an important role in shaping the satisfaction of international migrant, but its impact depends on the one given by the city of origin. Therefore, life satisfaction is not only dependent on the double-contextuality given by the transnational situation of immigrants, but also by the dipole given by the two mentioned localities. This would be a supplementary constraint to be considered in the impact of migration on changing cities, people, and societies.

Changing the host societies

The host society changes at once due to the incoming population of immigrants, to changes of the natives, and to structural changes. The first such transformations were already addressed in the previous section. The second ones are the subject of research to be carried out in 2016. The last ones are not part of our focus.

Changing the society of origin

Since return migrants live in their society of origin, and they return with different identity frameworks (for

instance the ethnic identification may switch to citizenship-related one, in the case of Roma population, as we report – Deliu, conference paper). The situation may be similar with respect to gender (also a conference paper by Deliu).

Another paper ready for submission to journals and presented in various conferences (Voicu, 2015) deals with the change of returning migrants with respect to civic participation. It is been shown that both returnees and stayers in mediated exposure to foreign cultures are likely to change their likelihood to involve in protest action. The conclusion does not hold water when it comes to civic involvement.

Similar approaches were undertaken with respect to social solidarity (Rusu & Croitoru – conference paper).

We have also considered the way in which legislation changes in order to address outmigration issues. The presentations by Şerban, as well as by Şerban & Croitoru, answer this issue.

Preparatory papers and presentations

Several preparatory papers were preliminary studies for the above mentioned outputs or for future ones. Claudiu Tufiş’s presentation on protest movements is related to Bogdan Voicu’s discussion if involvement in protest action depends on migration experience. Voicu & Voicu’s paper address the topic of gender values, to be latter discus in relation to migration by Alexandra Deliu. Comşa and Gheorghită address the issue of turnout, to be later refined in the discussion upon the impact of migration on turnout, by Radu & Voicu. Etc.

2014: Fulfilling the performance indicators

We have assumed, through the contract, for this year, to deliver a minimum of 2 conference presentations, and to submit 3 papers (see Table 1 in the previous pages). Table 2 summarize the main products, to be presented in detail in the Annex, and depicts how we have achieved the goals. Not only have we submitted papers, but they were accepted and published in good-quality journals. And their number is higher than planned. The same happens with the presentations.

Table 2. Products in 2014

	Papers		Books in Romania	Book chapters		Conferences		
	ISI	BDI		Outside Romania	In RO	ISI	Non-ISI, outside RO	Non-ISI, in RO
In 2013	Published & accepted	2	2			1	2	
	Conditionally accepted							
	Under review	1						
	About to be submitted	4						
	Total 2015	5	2			4	4	12
Total public. +accept. in 2015	2	2						
TOTAL IN 2011-2014	11	8	2	2	2	14	14	10
TOTAL PROJECT 2011-2015 (only published + accepted)	13	10	2	2	2	18	18	22

2015: Vulgarization

2015 includes a few vulgarization actions. First, there is the permanent feeding with announcement of the project’ website and its Facebook counterpart. We had at least one post monthly, which, putting it simply,

are tangible results for the project. Several interventions are to be found in the media, being included in media such as: *Regard*, *Dilema veche*, *imigranti.ro*, *totb.ro*, *romaniacurata.ro*, *Adevărul*, *șamd*. A Newsletter was issued by Alexandra Deliu on our website in February, to complete the series.

Conclusion

There is no meaning in having another conclusion, other than repeating the last phrase in the 2013 and in the 2014 reports:

„In 2014, it will be tough, if not impossible, to motivate the team to work in the absence of the financial incentives included in the contract (including the ones postponed from 2013) and well-deserved considering the current productivity.”

Annex: list of publications and conferences in 2015

Publications

ISI papers (accepted)

1. Bogdan Voicu & Claudiu D. Tufiş. 2015. Migrating trust. Contextual determinants of international migrants' confidence in political institutions, *European Political Science Review*.
2. Mircea Comşa, Andrei Gheorghişă. 2015. 'Many', 'half' or 'one out of two'? Assessing the effectiveness of counter-biasing techniques in reducing self-reported turnout, *Revista de Cercetare și Intervenție Socială*.

ISI papers (under evaluation)

1. Mălina Voicu, Bogdan Voicu. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX, under review by YYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY. (decision: revise and resubmit)

BDI articles (published)

1. Alexandra Deliu. 2015. Community Frames of Migration. The Path from Seaca to Spain, *Social Change Review* 13(1): 29-54.
2. Bogdan Voicu and Ingvill C. Mochmann. 2014. Social Trust and Children Born of War, *Social Change Review* 12(1): 161-184.

Book chapters

1. Horățiu M. Rusu (2015) Soziale Solidarität in Rumänien—über Solidaritätshandlungen in Sagebiel, J., A. Muntean și B. Sagebiel (eds.) *Zivilgesellschaft und Soziale Arbeit: Herausforderungen und Perspektiven an die Arbeit im Gemeinwesen in Rumänien und Deutschland*. AG SPAK Bücher, pp. 61-85.
2. Mircea Comşa, & Claudiu Tufiş. (2016). Reassessing the effect of economic conditions on support for democracy: Evidence from the 2009-2013 Romanian Election Study panel. In Mălina Voicu, Ingvill C. Mochmann, Hermann Dülmer, eds., *Values, Economic Crisis and Democracy*, Routledge.

Conferences

ISI

1. Alexandra Deliu, Ionuț Anghel. Searching for a better life. Migrants' accounts on change and life

- satisfaction, *The 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Praga 2015.
2. Andrei Gheorghiuță, & Mircea Comșa. 2015. Leader characteristics and the personalization of electoral politics in Central and Eastern European democracies. *The 5th Annual Conference of the European Political Science Association*, Vienna, June 25-27, 2015.
 3. Andrei Gheorghiuță, & Mircea Comșa. 2015. The personalization of electoral politics and leader characteristics in the Eastern post-communist bloc. *The 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Praga 2015.
 4. Monica Șerban, Paula Tufiș. Migrant parents and school achievement of left-behind children, *12th Conference of the European Sociological Association*, Prague, Czech Republic, 25-28 August

Non-ISI

5. Alexandra Deliu. Discourse, distance and shifting boundaries. International migration and identity construction, *EdiSo 2015 - Discourses and Societies on the Move*, Coimbra, Portugalia, 18-20.06.2015
6. Alexandra Deliu. Gender, everyday life and shifting boundaries. A feminine perspective on the migration experience, *Conferința Națională a SSR și Colocviul Internațional de Științe Sociale și ale Comunicării ACUM 2015*, Brașov, 19-21.11.2015
7. Andrei Gheorghiuță, & Mircea Comșa. 2015. Caracteristici ale liderilor și personalizarea politicii electorale în democrațiile Europei Centrale și de Est. *Conferința Națională a SSR și Colocviul Internațional de Științe Sociale și ale Comunicării ACUM*, Brașov, 2015-11-19.
8. Bogdan Voicu, Monica Șerban. Attitudes Towards Emigration. A Quantitative Approach, *HSE Summer School*, Voronovo, 3 August 2015.
9. Bogdan Voicu, Monica Șerban. Attitudes Towards Emigration. A Quantitative Approach, *Quality of Life: a Challenge for Social Policy. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Research Institute for Quality of Life*, București, 23-25.04.2015.
10. Bogdan Voicu. 2015. Exit polls and the Romanian presidential elections, 2009 & 2014. The surprising failure to provide transparency, *Sondajele sociologice în campaniile electorale - percepere mediatică și evitarea manipulărilor* 19 – 22 februarie 2015, Universitatea de Stat din Chișinău.
11. Bogdan Voicu. Remitting civic participation. Are sending countries changing due to mediated exposure and contagion? *ISA RC 47 Regional Conference Social Movements in Central and Eastern Europe*, May 11-12, 2015 University of Bucharest.
12. Bogdan Voicu. Remitting civic participation. Are sending countries changing due to mediated exposure and contagion? *The Third Annual Conference of the Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS, Re-gensburg) "Migration in and out of East and Southeast Europe: Values, Networks, Well-Being"*, July 2-4, 2015.
13. Bogdan Voicu. Remitting civic participation. Are sending countries changing due to mediated exposure and contagion? *SCOPE conference, University of Bucharest, Department of Political Science, May 8-10, 2015*.
14. Claudiu Tufiș. Becoming Citizens: The Coagulation of Grassroots Movements in Post-Accession Romania, *Effects of elections in CEE countries on EU governance organized by Central European University, Center for EU Enlargement Studies*, Budapesta, Ungaria, 30.11.2015.
15. Horatiu Rusu, Alin Croitoru. Solidaritate intergenerațională și migrație de revenire în România, *Conferința Națională a SSR și Colocviul Internațional de Științe Sociale și ale Comunicării ACUM 2015*, Brașov, 19-21.11.2015
16. Marian Vasile, Bogdan Voicu. City scale, social capital and life satisfaction, *Conferința Națională a SSR și Colocviul Internațional de Științe Sociale și ale Comunicării ACUM 2015*, Brașov, 19-21.11.2015
17. Marian Vasile. Health, healthy lifestyles and health behavior change theories. A critical review, *Quality of Life: a Challenge for Social Policy. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Research Institute for Quality of Life*, București, 23-25.04.2015.
18. Monica Șerban, Alin Croitoru. Building a system to manage the outflow of contract migrant workers in the case of Romania, *International Workshop Migrant workers in the agriculture sector. Trajectories, circularity and rights. A comparative perspective*, 3-4.12.2015
19. Monica Șerban, Paula Tufiș. Migrant parents and school achievement of left-behind children, *International Conference Migration Processes: Migrants' adjustment and integration issues*, Stavropol-Arkhyz, Rusia, 16-19.10.2015
20. Monica Șerban. What are migration policies from origin country perspective? An exercise on Romanian case, *VII International and Practical Conference "The Role of Labor Migration on the Social-Economic and Demographic Development of Sending and Receiving Countries"*, Moscova, Rusia, 13-14.10.2015

Project director,


Predan Voicu