

LOCAL STATUS QUO ANALYSIS

YOUMIG - *Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration*

Activity 3.2: Local status quo analysis of youth migration with involvement of stakeholders

YOUMIG
Transnational Youth Migration in the Municipality of the city district of Bratislava - Rača: processes, effects and policy challenges

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Executive Summary

Reproductive and family behaviour has been changing as a consequence of the political and societal transformations witnessed since 1989. The changes in the 1990s were so distinct that they can be seen as the emergence of a completely new model of reproduction and family behaviour. The new-millennium development is accompanied with the stabilisation of the main trends.

A steep drop in the intensity of fertility and nuptiality was a typical feature of the demographical transformations in the last decade of the 20th century, mainly in the first five years of the period. A rise in divorce rates and in the proportion of non-marital births was very notable in this period, too. Though mortality levels started to fall, the intensity of mortality was still high as compared to Western Europe. Not only the intensity but also the timing changed markedly. This was characterised by the increasing mean age of marriage and childbirth. The number of induced abortions was on a down curve. The volume of migration declined with changing migratory patterns. Trends of the population concentration to the cities and towns connected with the socialist urbanization process stopped and were replaced by a deconcentration, mainly a sprawl of suburbanisation. A stabilisation occurred after 2000, however, some of the trends did not change even after 2000. These trends led to the less intense reproduction patterns, a fall in population growth and an intensive population ageing.

Population development in the district of Rača in the city of Bratislava has copied and followed the national trends in many aspects. As Rača is an integral part of the Slovak capital, several demographical specificities typical for the city emerged in Rača, too. Thus, like in the case of the Slovak Republic as a whole, the population in Rača has undergone a steep drop in fertility, changing the timing of fertility, which resulted in a higher mean age at childbirth and especially the first birth. Further, there was a decline in nuptiality numbers, an increase of divorce rates, an enhancement in mortality and health conditions for both sexes, a change in migratory patterns and many other aspects. The onset of these changes in Rača, like in other parts of the capital, occurred early on, partly before the beginning of the political and economic transformation in 1989.

The population of Rača city district grew throughout the entire period particularly thanks to internal migration. Half of the immigrants arriving to Rača come from the capital city and its surroundings (from the relevant NUTS3 region). In the whole period under review, international net migration represents one-fourth of the net migration of Rača. As the number of emigrants abroad is not high and in certain years there were no emigrants at all recorded, the international net migration is almost equal to the number of immigrants from abroad. In 2016 Rača listed 604 foreign citizens who represented less than 3 per cent of Rača's population. In 2011 most of them were citizens of the Czech Republic, but in 2016 citizens of Vietnam prevailed in Rača. The number of foreign born people living in Rača increased to 1,226 by 2016, which means 5.9 per cent of Rača's population. Most of them were born in the Czech Republic. In the age structure, foreign born people under the age of 35 accounted for about 19 per cent of Rača's population.

The recent developments contribute to an optimistic outlook with respect to the future of reproduction trends. This becomes visible in the results of the population projection. Based on the projections Rača may very well avoid a population decrease and ageing.

Project Description

YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/youmig/>

This Local Status Quo Analysis on Transnational Youth Migration was prepared in the framework of the **“YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration”** project, in a series of seven similar analyses prepared in Burgas (Bulgaria), Graz (Austria), Kanjiža (Serbia), Maribor (Slovenia), the Rača district of Bratislava (Slovakia), Sfântu Gheorghe (Romania) and Szeged (Hungary). These analyses provide an overview of the main trends and challenges of youth migration, based on a common methodology. The aim of the papers is to enable YOUMIG project partners to better understand the local processes linked to youth migration, and respond better to its challenges.

YOUMIG Partners in the Danube region. Cartography: University of Vienna



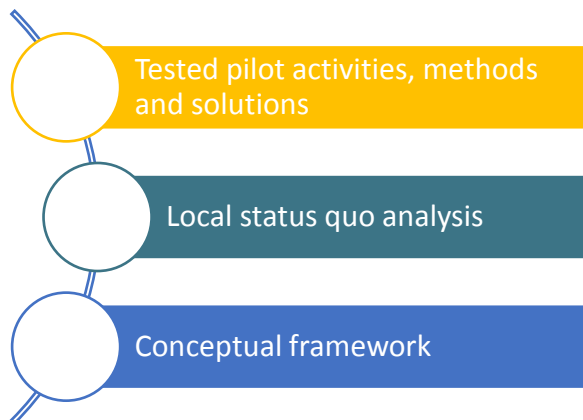
YOUMIG is a strategic project of the European Union’s Danube Transnational Programme, in which 19 partners from 8 countries work together. The objective of the project is to support local governments in tackling the challenges and exploiting the developmental potential of youth migration, leading to a better-governed and more competitive Danube region. The project aims at improving institutional capacities to measure and manage the immigration, emigration and return migration of young people (aged 15-34). Statistical offices and academic organizations teamed up with local governments for

creating local developmental strategies based on improved impact indicators of youth migration, administrative capacity building and pilot activities.

YOUMIG's work is structured in six work packages (WPs). Besides management (WP1) and communication (WP2) issues, thematic work is distributed as follows:

In WP3, a Conceptual Framework provides the theoretical background of the project. In addition, all partners contribute to the better understanding of youth migration and its developmental impacts on the municipality level by elaborating local status quo analyses. This Local Status Quo Analysis is also a part of WP3.

In WP4, a comprehensive evaluation of the locally available statistical data and indicators related to youth migration is carried out. Shortfalls of measuring local challenges are identified and new or improved indicators of youth migration are elaborated and tested.



In WP5, the project improves local administrative capacities to manage the migration-related processes identified by the Local Status Quo Analyses by jointly testing and introducing good practices as pilot activities, and institutional solutions based on a one-stop-shop approach.

In WP6, the project concludes by providing transnationally tested tools for all governance levels contributing to better strategies, policies and services related to the issue of youth migration.

The project runs between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2019. The Local Status Quo Analysis was finalized in December 2017.

YOUMIG PROJECT at a glance

Full name: YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration

A project of the

Danube Transnational Programme

Start date: 01-01-2017

End date: 30-06-2019

Budget: 2,718,853 EUR (of which: ERDF Contribution: 2,055,179 EUR, IPA Contribution: 255,846 EUR)

Call number: Call 1

Priority: 4. (Well-governed Danube region)

Specific objective: 4.1. (Improve institutional capacities to tackle major societal challenges)

Project partners:

Lead partner: Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HU)

Work package leaders: University of Vienna (AT), Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (DE), Maribor Development Agency (SI), INFOSTAT - Institute of Informatics and Statistics (SK)

ERDF partners: Municipality of Szeged (HU), City of Graz (AT), Institute for Economic Research (SI), Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (RO), Municipality of Sfântu Gheorghe (RO), National Statistical Institute of the Republic of Bulgaria (BG), Burgas Municipality (BG), Municipality of the City district of Bratislava- Rača (SK)

ERDF partners: Municipality of Szeged (HU), City of Graz (AT), Institute for Economic Research (SI), Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities (RO), Municipality of Sfântu Gheorghe (RO), National Statistical Institute of the Republic of Bulgaria (BG), Burgas Municipality (BG), Municipality of the City district of Bratislava- Rača (SK)

IPA partners: Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (RS), Institute of Social Sciences (RS), Municipality of Kanjiža (RS)

Associated Strategic Partners: Statistics Austria (AT), City of Karlsruhe (DE), Federal Institute for Population Research (DE)

Other YOUMIG Local Status Quo Analyses are available at the project's website:

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/youmig>

YOUMIG news: <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/youmig/news> and

<http://www.facebook.com/youmigproject>

1. Introduction

The Local Status Quo Analysis (LSQA) provides an overview of trends in youth migration and of related social phenomena, respectively. The study is based on policy-oriented research. The first aim is to synthesize the findings of the YOUMIG research activities concerning youth migration. In this respect, we want to characterize and typify the municipalities according to the migratory trends they experience. The second aim is to understand the effects of youth migration, and to identify policy challenges related to it. Through our applied research, we also wanted to provide a brief look into responses from local authorities to challenges related to the in- and out-migration of young people. A related goal was to identify management and capacity gaps in institutional mechanisms of local authorities to address youth migration and related phenomena.

The analysis was performed at the level of the municipality, and each LSQA can be understood as a detailed case study, using multiple methods of data collection and analysis. These case studies cover local administrative units in quite different positions in the system of international migration and of socio-economic interdependencies. Some of our municipalities typically receive migrants while some of them send them and others are both destination and origin points of transnational migratory flows. In the Rača municipality the population has grown particularly thanks to migration. The height of net migration is influenced in particular by internal migration, but the number of immigrants shows a growing tendency, too, especially in recent years. Some of our municipalities are important regional centres, while others are small or medium-sized towns with an economically peripheral position. The Rača municipality can be characterized as a marginal city district with a character of a vineyards area. In spite of these significant differences, both data collection and analysis were based on jointly used concepts, uniform methodologies and previously agreed processes. The main focus of research was on emigration, immigration and return migration. In some municipalities commuting was also included, however, internal- and short-term migration (even if important in some cases) were not in the focus of the LSQA. The conceptual and theoretical framework of the analysis was provided by the University of Vienna team, while the methodological tool was provided by the Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities. By using unified tools, the comparison of the results will be possible in a further phase. At the level of the present case study, specifics of individual municipalities were also to be identified.

The research activities were closely connected to other project work packages and activities. The results of the present analysis enable local municipalities to elaborate evidence-based strategies to deal with the impact of youth migration. This will be significant during the implementation of WP5 where a pilot project concerning the management of the effects of youth migration will be launched in each municipality. One important finding of the case study in Rača was that in this municipality it would be advisable to focus on activities for young families centred around education, opportunities for social and cultural activities and the support of integration of youth migrants into the local society/community. An additional issue could be the development of effective tools of communication and stable linkages with migrants. The strategy building activities of the WP6 will also be based on the exploratory activities synthesized in this report.

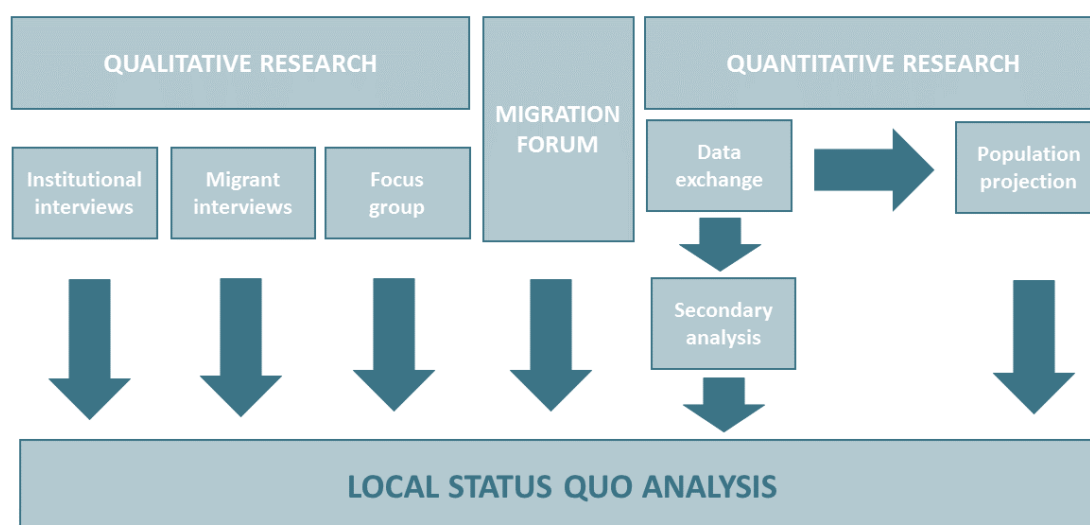
This report is the collective work of local and national thematic experts, and offers results in the following work activities: selecting, sorting, collecting of quantitative data and data exchange between the municipality Bratislava-Rača (local level) and INFOSTAT (statistical institution), a secondary analysis of quantitative data with computation of selected indicators (e.g. life expectancy at birth, total fertility rate), construction of a population projection for Bratislava-Rača using the cohort-component model in several scenarios, organising and getting input from Migration Forums for relevant local stakeholders, qualitative research based on interviews with local institutional actors, interviews with young migrants and a focus group.

The report is organized into eight chapters, where the initial part provides an explanation of the methodology used. The second part is a general presentation of the municipality of Rača with a special focus on local development. The third chapter is a description of the migratory processes and related phenomena from a quantitative perspective, relying on available statistical and survey data. The time span of this analysis is the 1990-2016 period. This chapter also includes a municipality-level population projection provided by the INFOSTAT team. The fourth and fifth sections focus on the results of our qualitative investigation based on interviews with institutional actors and young migrants, on focus groups and migration forums, respectively. We present the characteristics of youth migration, and some typical migrant biographies based on these sources. The sixth part presents the major policy challenges local authorities have to face and their policies concerning the effects of youth migration. The last section contains our concluding remarks and recommendations.

2. Methods

The Local Status Quo Analysis is based on research activities using both quantitative and qualitative methods. Figure 1 synthesizes data sources and research activities which contributed to the present report.

Figure 1: Methods used to collect and analyse data



Most importantly, a complex qualitative research activity was carried out by the Rača municipality team of local experts.

- (1) First, we conducted interviews with institutional actors (e.g. leaders or employees of institutions engaged in addressing the effects of youth migration). This phase had manifold aims. It was an explanatory research concerning the patterns and variations of youth migration. We tried to identify the general position of our locality in the system of transnational migration and the general trends of immigration, emigration and return migration. We also wanted to explain local discourses concerning migration, more specifically the way local stakeholders

think about the relationship between migration and development. Nevertheless, the main aim of this phase was to map the existing policies (measures and activities) focusing on migration and youth. On one hand, we were interested in concrete measures, activities, projects or permanent programmes run by institutional actors. On the other hand, we wanted to know whether the interviewed stakeholders and institutional actors thought that they had the institutional capacities to alter (or affect) the migratory behaviour of young people and to deal with the (already known and possible) consequences of migration. The semi-structured interviews were carried out according to a previously elaborated guide. A total number of nine interviews were conducted. We were able to complete interviews with the mayor of the municipality, a social worker from the non-governmental organisation providing community services to local children and youth, two employees of the local Labour Office (one responsible for the implementation of EURES and one providing assistance to employers who hire foreigners), director of the local family centre, the Head of the Internal Administration Office and the Head of the Educational Office of the Municipal Office, a local real estate agent, and a representative of the local branch of the Union of Seniors.

- (2) In the next phase, we carried out narrative-biographical interviews with young migrants. We used only partially the narrative-biographical method. The second part of the interviews can be conceived as a semi-structured interview, as we posed questions according to a previously elaborated guide. The narrative-biographical method (which was used in the first phase of the interview) provides a rigorous and previously fixed technique of conducting and interpreting interviews. It is important that through using this technique, we will not subordinate the stories (meaning the self-representation) of migrants to our own scientific or political narratives. The interviewed young migrants will have the opportunity to present their stories in a less constrained way. The semi-structured phase was used to obtain additional data concerning the migrants, namely to test some previous hypotheses. We tried to select young migrants with a “typical” life trajectory. As in general during the research, our main focus here, too, was on migration patterns in the Danube region (especially Germany, Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania). This focus was taken into account in the selection of interviewees as well as in the questions that were to be asked during the interviews.
- (3) Focus groups were also conducted according to a previously agreed guide. The focus group method is par excellence a qualitative research method, suitable primarily for mapping people’s attitudes, opinions, experiences, or the discourses that are in use regarding a certain topic or phenomenon. One of the most important advantages of the method is its interactive nature, the fact that participants actively participate in the interactive and collective process of the construction of meanings. Our focus-group session concentrated on the experiences of young people with migration, paying special attention to the administrative aspects of the migration process (e.g., their contact with the local and other levels of administration, the problems they encountered, their opinions about the policies employed by the relevant authorities etc.). Our goal was to obtain the information and to make it useful for local decision makers, policy makers, stakeholders. In our focus group, all participants (age range 19-39; one male, six females) were return migrants of Slovak origin who spent at least six months abroad. Participants were people who have had either short-term (study exchange program or summer work) or long-term migration experience (study, work or both) or a combination of the two. Their destination countries were mainly Western European countries (Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom) and the United States of America and Canada. The focus group meeting lasted approximately two hours. Two participants had children and raised them for a limited time abroad.

- (4) Migration forums were used to identify the challenges connected to the transnational migration of young people.

The quantitative research was based on a secondary analysis of existing statistical sources conducted on the level of the municipality. One should emphasize that quantitative data provide a kind of framework for the qualitative analysis, which constituted the major focus of the investigation and are the primary sources of the present report.

- (5) The collection and acquisition of statistical data took place in the framework of the so-called data exchange exercise. This was based on a common template provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia and carried out by the Institute of Informatics and Statistics - Demographic Research Centre. These data were used in the secondary analysis carried out by local experts, following the template provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.
- (6) The quantitative analysis presents the demographic and migratory trends forecast by a population projection based on the cohort-component method provided by the INFOSTAT team. This forecast can also be useful for local-level stakeholders.

3. The municipality of the City district of Bratislava- Rača

3.1. General presentation

According to the data from the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic the city district of Bratislava – Rača had 21 384 inhabitants (December 2016).

Rača is situated on the southeast foot of small Carpathians at a height of 174 m above the sea level. It is 8 kilometers away from the center of the capital Bratislava. Rača is trying to preserve the character of the traditional wine community even with elements of a traditional village at certain places. Thanks to the extensive and intensive settlement of the capital, new inhabitants come to Rača as well each year. The combination of the modern community with a village atmosphere, surrounding forests and vineyards is a great attraction for people to choose Rača as a nice and peaceful place to live.

Rača, an autonomous village in the past, is known from written sources which originate in the first third of the 13th century. In the second half of the 16th century Rača received several privileges and was promoted to a town. After the Second World War Rača was administratively associated with Bratislava. At present the city district of Rača is one of 17 city districts of the capital city Bratislava. It is headed by the mayor of the city district. The district office and its individual departments are coordinated by the superintendent of the office. Within the framework of self-government activities, expert committees are the advisory, initiating and controlling bodies of the local parliament. The local parliament is made of 15 elected deputies. Local parliament meetings are held approximately every five weeks and deputies decide on important issues related to the city district. Another body in the structure of the city district is the Local Council which is initiating, executive and controlling advisory body of the mayor. Self-government of the city district manages issues of local importance.

There are seven kindergartens and two elementary schools in the area of the city district. Apart from these there are still one religious elementary school In Rača, one high school and five secondary vocational schools focused on mass media and information studies, information technology, polygraphy, hotel service and commerce and electrotechnics. There is also one police college – the Police Corps Academy.

Compared to other city districts of Bratislava Rača is not dominated by industry nor administration such as in Podunajske Biskupice for example where the industrial giant Slovnaft is located or in Devínska Nová Ves with Volkswagen automotive factory.

3.2. Local development

From the regional perspective Rača can be described as a marginal city district with a character of the vineyard area. In the 50s of the last century the first housing estates has begun to be built in an ever-typical village. The massive house estates construction began to alter significantly the rural character of Rača and it meant an important step in its transformation into a part of the big city. This involved an urban life penetration into the village. The inhabitants of the newly built house estates came mostly from other parts of Bratislava or other Slovak towns and villages. The population growth increased the pressure to modernize urban public transport. Thanks to direct and relatively fast traffic connection with almost all city districts of Bratislava Rača is a good alternative for living even for those who travel for work. You can get comfortably to the city center of Bratislava by tram within less than 15 minutes.

Since the last year there is also a direct connection between Rača and the biggest city district Petržalka over the Danube River.

In the 70's of the 19th century a dynamite factory was built here, which was one of the most important chemical factories in Austro-Hungarian Empire. After the Second World War an economically prosperous Peasant Common Cooperative was founded here. The appearance of Rača was altered by a construction of the industrial base in the second half of the 20th century. Some of the biggest companies in Rača included Wine factories (wine processing and distribution), Cosmetics (one of the most successful manufacturer in this field in the whole Czechoslovakia) and Meopta (production of professional optics). Besides these three big companies, several smaller factories, production facilities and branches have been built e.g. Benzinol, Elektrovod, Technomat, Doprastav, Drevona, Semex, warehouses of vegetables and furniture, repair companies. Slovak Cartography Company was of the state significance. The Electrotechnical Company of Bratislava and Meat processing enterprise were built up in Rača.

The major macro-political event that affected the municipality economically was the change of political regime between the years 1989 and 1990. The fall of socialist regime in November 1989 brought significant changes in ownership relation into the economic development of the Slovak Republic – companies became private, denationalization, demonopolisation and restitutions. Nevertheless, the extensive privatization has not always brought the expected results, big companies fell apart into several smaller ones, they were missing the support of strong shareholders and even any conceptual idea. Many companies disappeared which reflected subsequently in decrease of the production in the city district Rača. In case of the biggest Rača's company – Wine factories, they ended the production. The land where factories were located has been afterwards bought by developers who will begin in short time to build a huge house estate here.

A significant change that affected greatly the development not only at the national but also at the regional and local levels was the entry of the Slovak republic into the European Union. Being a part of the united European entity has brought a positively perceived increased competition. Business barriers between our country and the rest of Europe have been removed, many business and employment opportunities have emerged and the market economy has become stronger. Rača welcomes the possibility of using EU funds. The city district of Rača has been actively involved in the projects (such as of European Social Fund) which enable to use financial means for its development and improvement for example in building infrastructure, fostering education and social areas. With a financial support from the EU funds a day-care center for seniors was built in Rača. A 28-kilometer long cycle path was built that connects Rača with the nearby towns as well as pre-school and school facilities were refurbished.

At present one of the main and important sectors of the economy in Rača municipality is agriculture – viticulture and winery. Favorable geographic location and geological base predispose the land to be used just for this purpose. We may positively perceive that in recent times the winery community has been rejuvenated. The number of winegrowers and wine producers who continue, develop and actively devote themselves to the tradition of wine trade increases. The city district is interested in supporting and motivating them. We appreciate the efforts of winegrowers and wine producers to enlarge the land by renting the abandoned vineyards and by restoring them subsequently. In addition there are still polygraphy and smaller private companies of different types in Rača.

There is a full spectrum of educational facilities in Rača – from pre-school facilities (kindergartens, nurseries), elementary schools, high schools, secondary vocational schools of different types even one

college. Only kindergartens and nurseries are managed by their establisher – the local municipal office of Rača. Although the city district of Rača wants to be involved within its possibilities in other educational facilities development, they cooperate actively and support their different projects. The municipality actively supports mutual cooperation of schools in Rača with schools abroad located in partner cities – in Priverno in Italy, Gols in Austria and Morawica in Poland. With the last mentioned city – Morawica, Rača cooperates in organizing cultural stays, summer schools and language courses. Students from the secondary vocational school of hotel services and commerce have the opportunity to use their skills in social and cultural events organized by the city district within the frame of their practical education.

As for social inequalities or poor neighborhoods we do not have any evidence within the area of the city district, nor ethnically marked -for example Roma colonies or some neighborhoods inhabited by immigrants.

Most of the interviewed officials perceive Bratislava-Rača as a dynamically developing municipality just like the whole Bratislava region. They mentioned three main areas of development, namely: (1) improving conditions at the local/regional labour market; (2) increasing quality of locally provided public services mainly for families with children; (3) more community activities and higher civic engagement. The officials predominantly pointed out that the municipality and entire Bratislava offers good conditions at the local labour market, particularly the increasing number and more attractive job opportunities, and increasing wages. It means that they perceive development mainly in the economic terms. Besides that, the officials emphasised the development of the local services for the families with children, mainly educational and child care facilities. In this respect, they mentioned mainly the reconstructing and increasing capacities of the local kindergartens, nurseries and primary schools (pre-school and primary education is in the responsibility of the municipalities). They considered these steps as crucial for the young families settling down in the municipality and as the prevention from moving out to the different Bratislava districts or abroad. The last area of the development is the quality and quantity of different community activities taking place in Bratislava-Rača. To be more specific, the interviewed officials pointed out that there is the increasing number of community activities conducted by local residents. The frequently mentioned community projects was (1) a maternity centre offering services to parents with the pre-school age children; (2) a community garden; or (3) the newly emerged project “Stará Jedáleň” which will aim at providing services to children, teenagers and their families.

Based on data from the interviews with young migrants and focus group participants, there can be identified main attractive and less attractive aspects of the municipality. Main attractive aspects in the municipality can be categorised into: (1) surrounding nature (nearby forests and vineyards); (2) geographical proximity and good transportation to Bratislava centre; (3) community activities; (4) particular local services for families with children; (5) safety. Regarding this, the respondents appreciated mainly the fact that Bratislava-Rača is a rural-type municipality meaning that some of its parts resemble the rural area rather than the district of the capital city in terms of the surrounding nature, calm atmosphere etc. At the same time, the location and the accessibility to the city centre by a car or the public transportation is considered as very good. Nevertheless, some of the respondents mentioned that the appearance of the municipality has been rapidly changing (at least some of its parts) during the last years due to huge construction projects and the increasing number of multi-storey houses which not only increases the population of Rača but also increases the anonymity between citizens and diminishes rural character of the municipality. Additionally, the respondents pointed out that the municipality is a good residence place for families with children due to a good child care services such as nurseries and kindergartens but also accessibility to the whole infrastructure

such as shops, banks etc. The respondents also appreciated the increasing number of community activities such as a community garden or maternity centre. The respondents with migration experience acquired in the West-European countries emphasised also the public safety meaning the low likelihood of terrorist attacks.

Less attractive aspects named by the respondents can be categorised into: (1) overall low quality of local services; (2) poor urban planning; (3) a lack of parks or places for sport and other leisure time activities for children, teenagers and adults; (4) a lack of cultural events for residents aged 20-35; (5) poor housing policy for young people. The respondents consider the overall quality of local services as low and slowly responding to the needs of the local residents. They feel that the municipality does not do enough efforts to get to know the needs of the residents or responds to the needs very slowly. Regarding the specific type of public services, they mentioned mainly poor quality of public areas maintenance such as of the greenery and (e.g. uncut public law) and the damaged roads and pedestrian paths. At the same time they realise the existence of the ownership issues over public properties between the particular city districts and the Municipality of Bratislava as a whole. Also, the number of parks or other leisure time facilities and cultural events for young people aged 20-35 are considered as insufficient. Additionally, the respondents evaluated housing policy for families with children as inadequate and pointed out that young people are not able to afford housing in the city due to the low wages which prevent them from settling down and starting a family.

4. Migratory and demographic processes in quantitative perspective

4.1. Population change and migratory processes at national level

Reproductive and family behaviour has been changing as a consequence of the political and societal transformation since 1989. The changes in the 1990s were so distinct that they can be seen as completely a new model of reproduction and family behaviour. The new-millennium development demonstrates with the stabilisation of the main trends and after-transformation trends begun to turn up.

The steep drop in the intensity of fertility and nuptiality was a typical feature of the demographical transformation in the last decade of the 20th century, mainly in the first 5 years of the period. The growth in the divorce rates and the values of the share of non-marital births was very distinct too. Though the mortality levels started to decrease, the intensity of mortality was still high as compared to Western Europe. Not only the intensity but also the timing changed markedly. This was characterised by the increasing mean age by marriage and birth. The number of induced abortions was on a down curve. The volume of migration declined together with the changing migratory patterns. Trends of concentration connected with the socialist urbanization stopped and were replaced by a de-concentration, mainly a suburbanisation. The stabilisation occurred after 2000, however, some of the trends demonstrated the stage of compensation even after 2000.

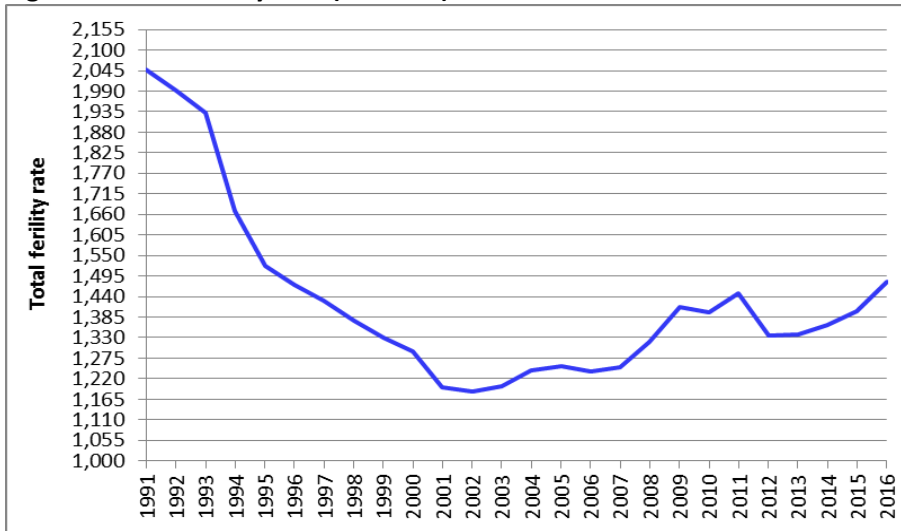
Table 1 Population change at national level (Slovakia)

Year	Total	Natural change	Net migration
1990	23 048	25 370	-2 322
1991	24 166	23 951	215
1992	18 278	21 217	-2 939
1993	22 300	20 549	1 751
1994	19 752	14 984	4 768
1995	11 583	8 741	2 842
1996	11 142	8 887	2 255
1997	8 718	6 987	1 731
1998	5 732	4 426	1 306
1999	5 275	3 821	1 454
2000	3 890	2 427	1 463
2001	168	-844	1 012
2002	210	-691	901
2003	892	-517	1 409
2004	4 769	1 895	2 874
2005	4 358	955	3 403
2006	4 457	603	3 854
2007	7 361	568	6 793
2008	11 256	4 196	7 060
2009	12 671	8 304	4 367
2010	10 348	6 965	3 383
2011	11 876	8 910	2 966
2012	6 514	3 098	3 416
2013	5 113	2 734	2 379
2014	5 400	3 687	1 713
2015	4 903	1 776	3 127
2016	8 948	5 063	3 885

The level of the fertility remained above so called replacement level by the end of the 1980s. The total fertility rate reduced to 1.47 children per woman in 1996. This represents the drop by 30%. Subsequent decrease up to 1.19 in 2002 moved the Slovak population to the absolute bottom of the EU ranking. After this drop, the slow rise was visible. The level of so called lowest-low fertility was exceeded in 2008. The contemporary value of 1.5 children per one woman is close to the EU average¹.

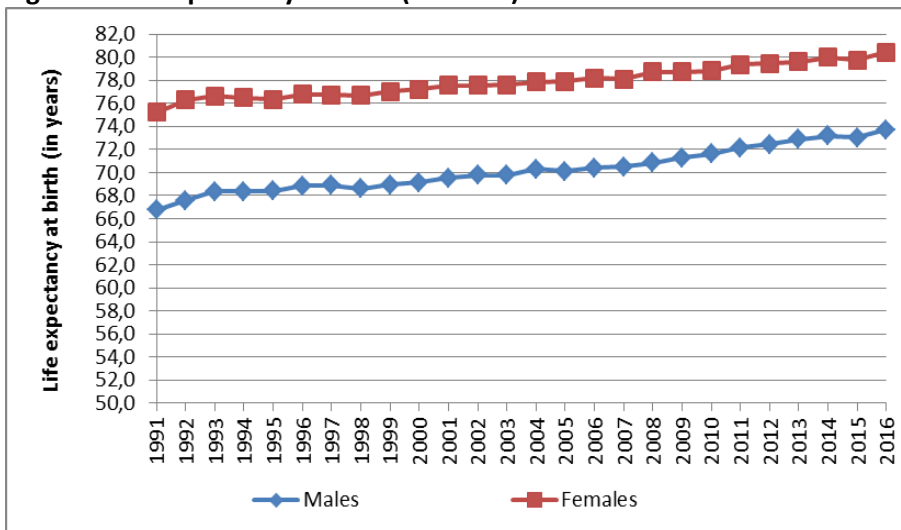
¹ The contemporary value would be even higher, however, the children born to Slovak women abroad have not been included since 2002.

Figure 2 Total fertility rate (Slovakia)



The level of the mortality went down in both sexes during the whole period between 1989 and 2016. The life expectancy at birth in case of males grew by almost 7 years and by more than 5 years in case of females. Besides an enhancement of the mortality conditions, this indicates reduction of the male excess mortality. Despite that, the Slovak Republic still belongs to the countries in Europe with the highest level of mortality, especially regarding the male population.

Figure 3 Life expectancy at birth (Slovakia)

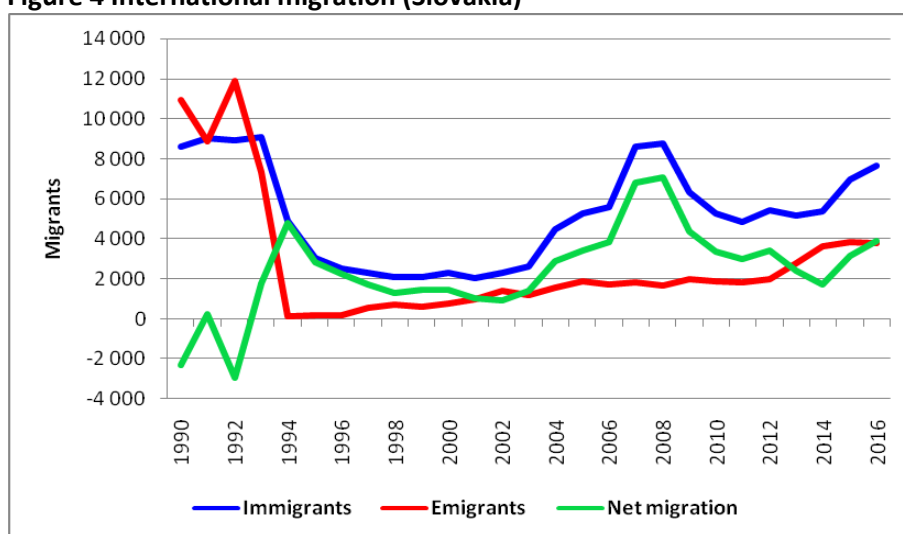


The above mentioned trends led to the less intense reproduction, reduction of the population growth and an intensive population ageing. The natural increase dropped downwards most of the all major demographic characteristics. It was more than 30 thousand persons in absolute number at the end of the 1980s, whereas it was less than 10 thousand in the half of 1990s, thus going down by more than 70%. It reduced close to the zero at the end of the 20th century and for the first in the history of Slovakia went below zero in 2001 and two consecutive years 2002 a 2003. Positive balance only has been recorded since 2004 with the highest values (more than 10 thousand persons again) in the period of 2008 - 2011. A total increase of population has been remaining in positive numbers in the whole period since 1989. The net migration on the levels of several thousand persons compensated the low natural increase, even the natural decrease during the period between 2001 and 2003. The contemporary

values of the total increase attack the level of 10 thousand persons a year, thanks to recovery in reproduction².

One of the most important consequences bound to the recent population development is the change in population and household structures. Among them, the change in age structure demonstrating as population ageing is the most significant. The population ageing in Slovak population is rapid and going to be a quicker in the very recent period. The mean age of population rose in the last 27 years by 7 years, it means 21%. While the ageing index was 40 persons aged 65 and more over 100 children to 14 years, the same ratio was 97 already in 2016. Despite the rapid ageing, the population of Slovakia still belongs to the youngest populations in the European Union.

Figure 4 International migration (Slovakia)



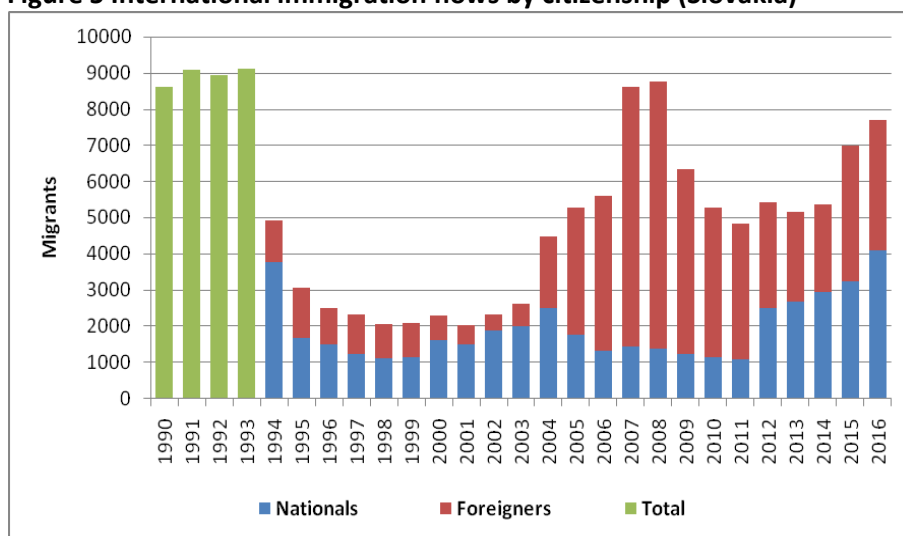
Slovakia as a part of Czechoslovakia was always losing inhabitants in terms of migration, mainly due to internal migration into the Czech part of the country. The migration with other countries was insignificant by 1993. The opening of state borders after the fall of the “Iron curtain” in 1989 offered for citizens of Slovakia new opportunities in travelling abroad, possibilities to work or study abroad, etc. On the other hand, new opportunities for entrepreneurship and employment were opened in the Slovak Republic for foreigners. After the split of the common state (31 December 1992) the migration development turn around – the Slovak Republic begins to gain inhabitants due to migration. In 1994, the Slovak Republic recorded the highest migration gain of the 1990s in amount of 4 800 people. However, the lowest increases of international migration were typical for the period from mid-1990s to 2004, i. e. before the accession of the Slovak Republic into the EU.

Development of migration in the new millennium was influenced by the accession of the Slovak Republic into the European Union (1 May 2004), as well as by the integration of the Slovak Republic into the Schengen Area (21 December 2007). These facts facilitated the movement of persons across the borders of the Slovak Republic. This resulted in the increased number of immigrants and in a higher population growth due to international immigration to the Slovak Republic.

² The population size does not correspond to the population growth accurately as every ten years the number of population is re-calculated coming from the population census' results.

In the new millennium, the largest migration gains of the Slovak Republic are linked to the period of economic growth in 2007-2008, when the number of immigrants from Romania and Bulgaria increased after the accession of these countries to the EU (1 January 2007). The migration gain of the Slovak Republic in these years was about 7 000 people. Afterwards it gradually declined to the level of 1 700 people in 2014 and currently it reaches approximately 4 000 people.

Figure 5 International immigration flows by citizenship (Slovakia)



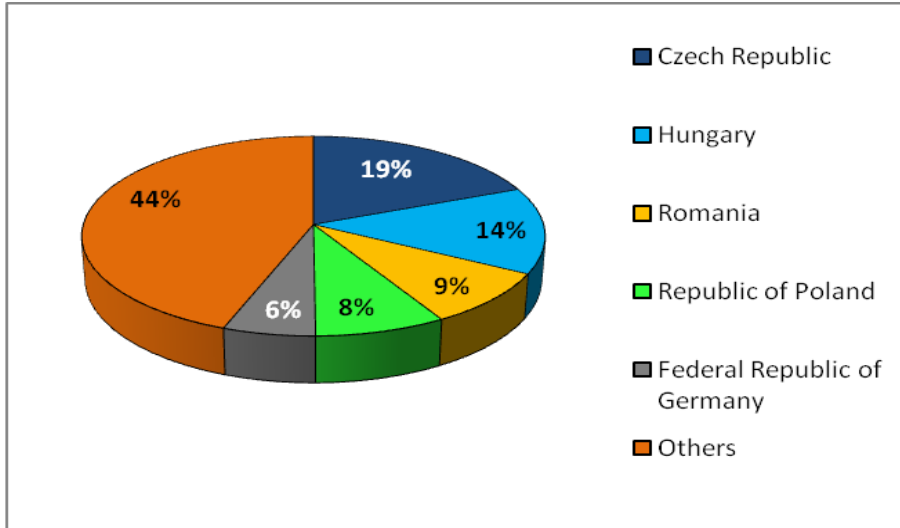
Before the accession of the Slovak Republic to the EU (between 1993 and 2004) Slovak citizens prevailed among immigrants from abroad, however, between 2005 and 2012 foreigners prevailed. The number of immigrants reached the maximum in 2007 – 2008 when 8 600, respectively 8 800 people yearly moved to Slovakia. Among them were even 5 times more of foreigners than citizens of the Slovak Republic. Beginning with 2013, except for 2015, Slovak citizens again prevailed among immigrants. This turnover relates to the improving economic situation in the Slovak Republic as well as to the lack of work force which encourages the return. The Czech Republic remains the most important source of international immigration.

In the Slovak Republic, there was the high number of emigrants only in the early 90s, when the citizens of Slovak and Czech Republics were deciding in which state they would live after the split of Czechoslovakia. It was expected that simplification of conditions for emigration would be reflected in the higher numbers of emigrants from the Slovak Republic and in the significant increase of emigrant stock. Nevertheless, the number of emigrants from the Slovak Republic recorded by the Statistical Office of the SR is not high and does not match with reality as the emigrants do not often administratively change their permanent residence when leaving the Slovak Republic. In 1994 the number of emigrants reached the minimum of 154 persons then the number gradually increased and in 2004 emigrated 1 600 persons. The maximum of 3 900 emigrants was recorded in 2015. At the same time, native born people accounted for 80 – 85 per cent of emigrants from the Slovak Republic. The Slovak Republic does not have any data on emigrant stock. According to the UNO data, in 2015 there were approximately 340 000 people living abroad who were born in Slovakia. Most of them lived in the Czech Republic, in the United Kingdom and in Germany. On the other hand, 177 000 foreign born persons were living in Slovakia according to the same source of information³.

³Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2015 Revision (United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2015)).

Citizens of the Czech Republic prevail among foreigners living in Slovakia.

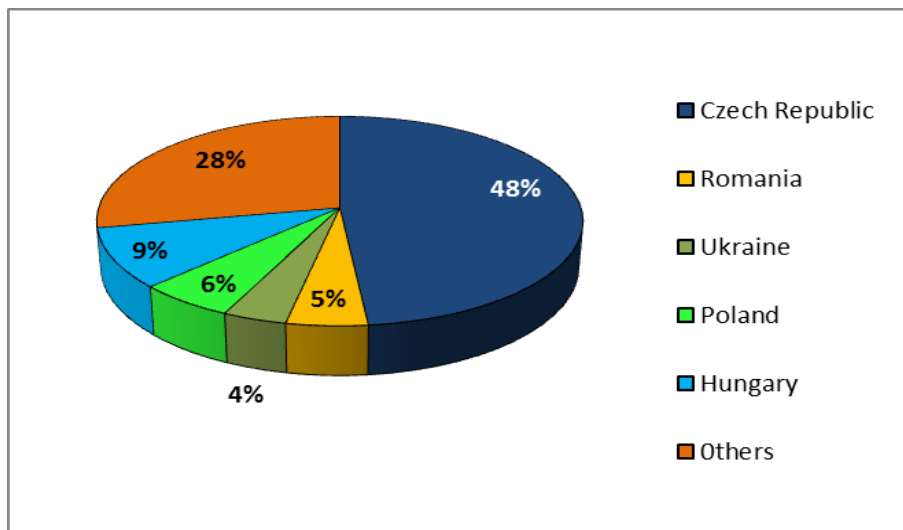
Figure 6 Foreigners in the Slovak Republic by citizenship (Slovakia, 2016)



Data on foreign born population of the Slovak Republic are recorded only since the Census 2011 when 149 700 people declared to be born abroad which was 2.8 per cent of the population of Slovakia. In 2016, the number of foreign born population increased approximately by 32 000 (i.e. by one fifth) and reached 181 600 people. Of them, 48 per cent were born in the Czech Republic (56 per cent in 2011), 9 per cent in Hungary and 6 per cent in Poland.

In terms of age structure, older age groups have higher proportion in foreign born population. More than one quarter of foreign born are people aged 65 and over. People under 35 represent only 28 per cent and children aged 0-14 only 11.5 per cent of foreign born population in Slovakia. The ageing index (the number of people aged 65 and over per 100 children aged 0-14) reaches up to 224 per cent.

Figure 7 Foreign born population (Slovakia, 2016)



4.2. Population change and migratory processes at municipality level

The main data source about population change and migratory processes at municipality level in the Slovak Republic is:

- Database of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (SOSR)

Secondary data sources are:

- Database of Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Presidium of the Police Force of the Slovak Republic (BBAP PPF)
 - Population register
 - Population census

The SOSR database is a basic source of data on number, movement and structures of inhabitants with a permanent residency in the Slovak Republic (citizens of the Slovak Republic and foreigners with issued permission for permanent residency). The data from SOSR database are available on-line on the website of the Statistical Office. The disadvantage of the database is that it does not contain data about people with other than permanent type of residency such as the temporary one. Data about people according to their country of birth have not been followed up in the Slovak Republic until the last census in 2011 and in balances since the year 2012.

Bureau of Border and Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force has been established on April 01, 2000 as an authority with a competence on the national level in order to ensure the control of the Slovak borders. BBFP PPF monitors and keeps records of foreigners residing in the Slovak Republic (permanently, temporarily or as tolerated). By default, these data are not published on the local level. Data on foreigners residing in the city district of Bratislava – Rača were obtained upon the request for data provision for the years 2013, 2015, 2016 and up to the date May 31, 2017. The data included many indicators: age, gender, nationality, citizenship, type and purpose of their residence in the Slovak Republic and optional indicators (they do not need to be completed or updated): marital status, education, occupation.

The population register contains data about citizens of the Slovak Republic residing in the territory of the Slovak Republic and residing outside its territory, data about foreigners residing in the territory of the Slovak Republic, about foreigners without residence in Slovakia's territory who got into the contact with public administration authorities. The local population register in Rača does not come into direct contact with foreigners. They receive information from the Office of foreign police about the residency that was granted to a foreigner. From Local Register Office Database only the current number on foreigners registered for permanent residency can be found. It is not possible to select from the database the number of foreigners registered for a residency during a particular period of time.

The city district of Rača does not have any database of foreigners on its own.

Table 2 Population change at municipality level (Rača)

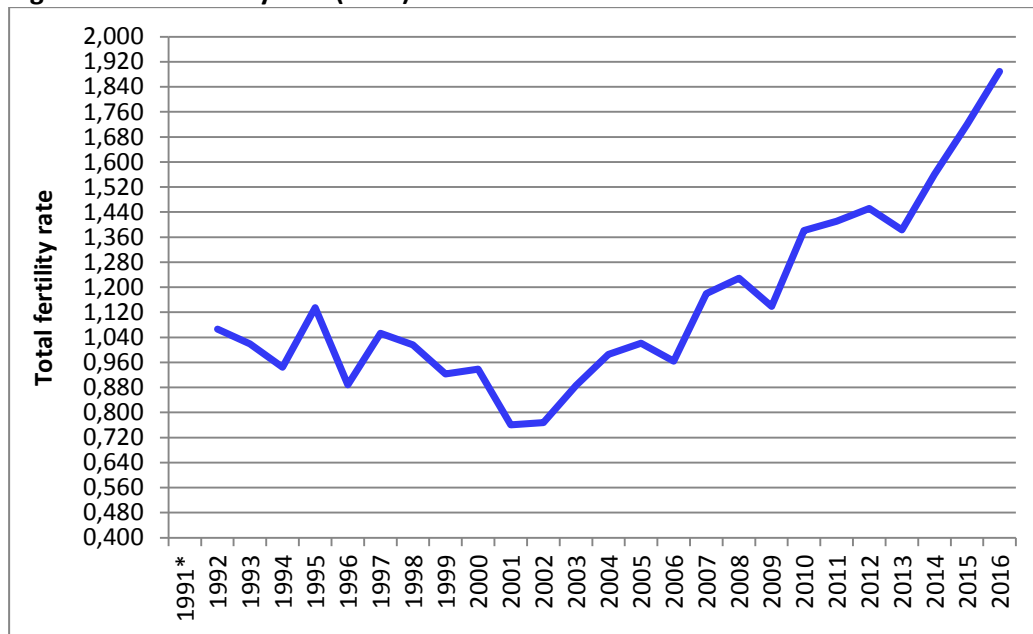
Year	Total	Natural change	Net migration
1990	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1991	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1992	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1993	127	21	106
1994	-9	-9	0
1995	-53	-32	-21
1996	-35	-66	31
1997	-39	-29	-10
1998	-124	-14	-110
1999	-30	-51	21
2000	-50	-52	2
2001	55	-68	123
2002	76	-80	156
2003	-56	-61	5
2004	51	-58	109
2005	70	-27	97
2006	87	-7	94
2007	-6	-6	0
2008	43	-45	88
2009	67	-13	80
2010	112	-16	128
2011	135	21	114
2012	254	20	234
2013	183	-4	187
2014	280	54	226
2015	260	44	216
2016	593	113	480

The population development in Rača copied and followed the national trends in many aspects. As Rača is an integral part of the city of Bratislava, several demographical specificities typical for the city demonstrated in Rača too. Thus like in case of the Slovak republic as a whole, the population in Rača has undergone the steep drop in fertility, changing timing of the fertility with a higher mean age at birth and especially the 1st birth, the decline in the nuptiality numbers, the increase of divorce rates, the enhancement in mortality and health conditions in both sexes, changing migratory patterns and many others. These changes in Rača like in other parts of the capital city started very soon, partly before the beginning of the political and economic transformation in 1989.

The total fertility rate decreased to the extremely low levels at the beginning of 1990s. The indicator oscillated at the level of one child per woman until 2006, even below this level in some years. This number increased considerably in the last 10 years. Whereas the TFR was only 0.96 children per woman

in 2006, the value in 2016 was nearly twice higher than in 2006 (1.89), thus being also much higher than the average of the national population.

Figure 8 Total fertility rate (Rača)

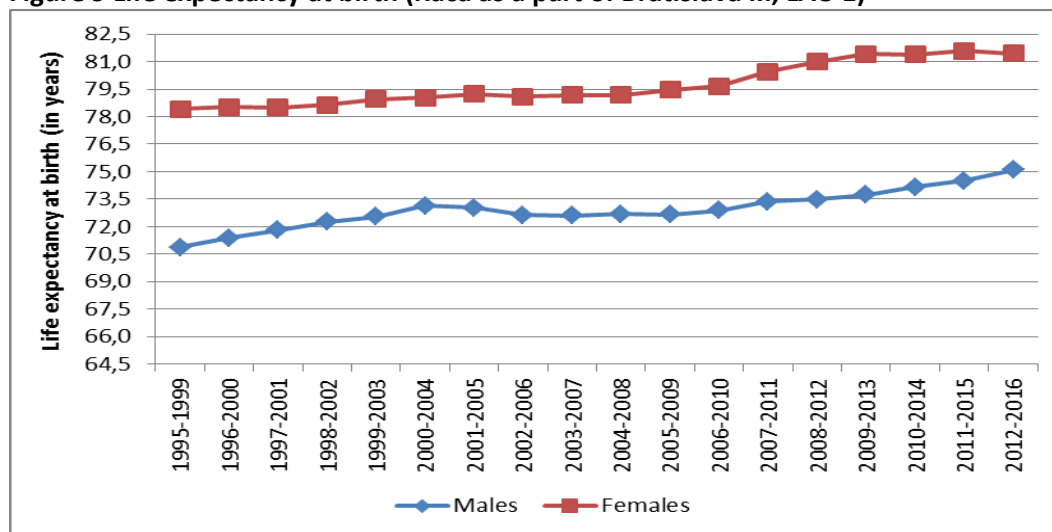


* not available

The mortality conditions expressed by the life expectancy are better than in case of the national average. Males live two years longer than in the national average do, the analogous number for women is one year approximately. The life expectancy at birth grew from the half of the 1990s until 2016 by 4.2 years (5.9%) in case of males, and by 3.1 years (3.9%) in case of females.

The natural increase was below zero, in the sector of negative values between 1994 and 2010. The period of natural decrease was thus much longer than in case of the Slovak population as a whole. The maximum of population loss due to excess mortality over natality was around 2000. The growing natural increase is a consequence of the higher fertility in the last years. The 2016-value is the highest one in the analysed period. The migration loss was represented only in the years 1995, 1997 and 1998. The growing trend is significant mainly from 2010 onward. The annual population growth (natural increase + migration balance) remained at the very low values around zero, only tenth of person a year, except years 1993 and 1998. The higher impact has had the migration than the natural increase has. A visible increase of the values was recorded after 2010 and the value in 2016 is highly above the previous values.

Figure 9 Life expectancy at birth (Rača as a part of Bratislava III, LAU 1)



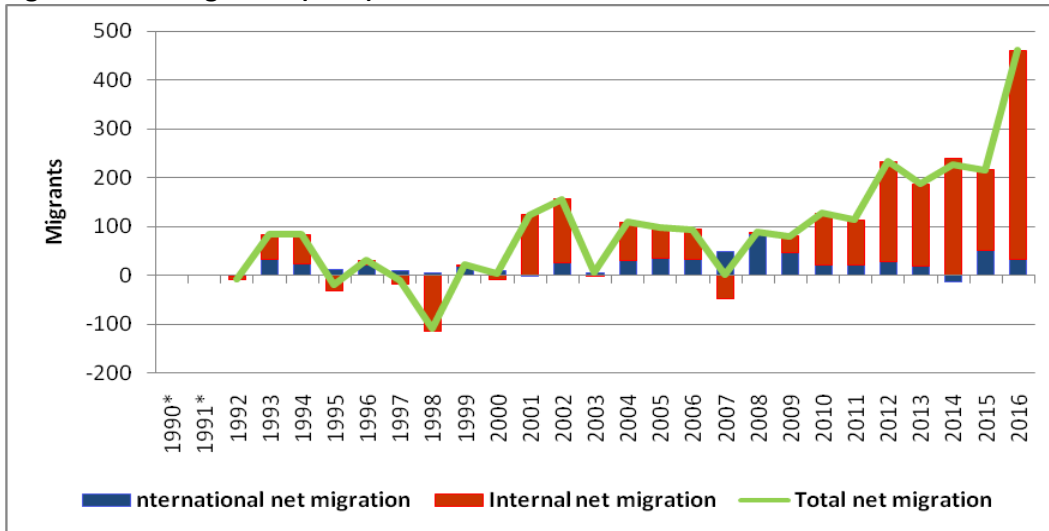
The process of population ageing has intensified in the population of Rača. The number and share of persons aged over 45 has been growing at the expense of the younger age categories. The population of Rača still belongs to the younger populations in Bratislava and the intensity of ageing is at the same level as at the national level is. The mean age grew by 7 years from 36 years to 43 years since 1990 to 2011 (17%). The stagnation of the value was recorded from 2011 to 2016 especially thanks to the immigration. Some other indicators faced very similar trajectories. The number of seniors already started to be higher than the number of children in 2008. The dependency ratio has been developing in a different way. The ratio decreased until 2005. The continual increase started in 2006 and has been going on so far, from 50 to 38.5 and back to 50 non-productive over 100 working-age persons.

The population of Rača city district has grown throughout the entire reference period particularly thanks to migration. In the 1990s the development was fluctuating, migration increases were alternating with migration decreases. Since 1999 (except for the year 2007), Rača has recorded migration gains. The height of net migration is influenced in particular by internal migration.

The number of immigrants shows a growing tendency with increase being the most intense at the end of the reference period, with a peak of 973 immigrants in 2016. This growth is closely linked to intensive housing construction. Residents are looking for attractive locations for living in Rača, particularly in terms of environment. Half of the immigrants arriving to Rača comes from the capital city and its surroundings (from the given NUTS 3), with 42 per cent of immigrants coming from other city districts of the capital.

In spite of here mentioned advantages, the numbers of emigrants from Rača to the Slovak Republic are relatively high. It is around 400-500 people yearly. Therefore the internal net migration reaches higher values only in last recent years (100-200 people), with maximum of 447 people in 2016.

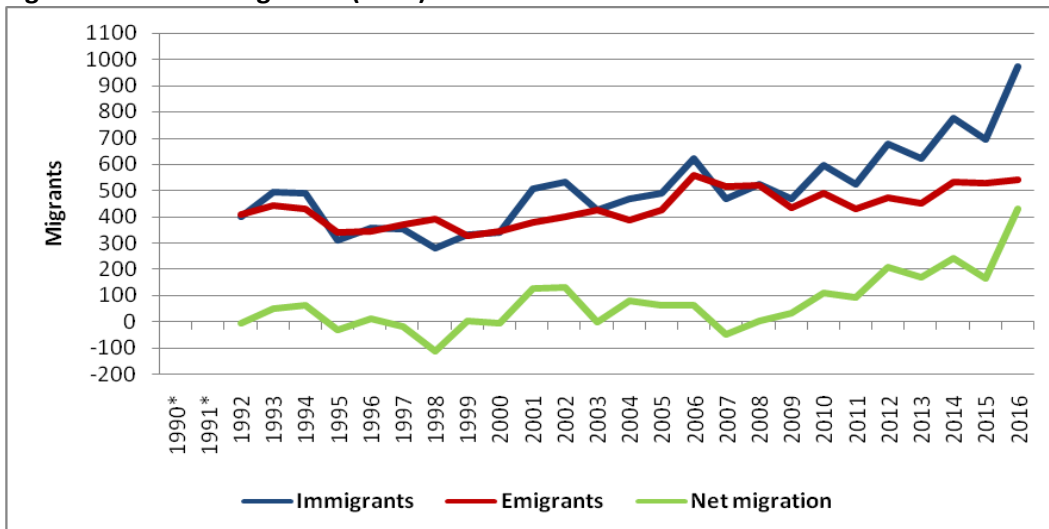
Figure 10 Net migration (Rača)



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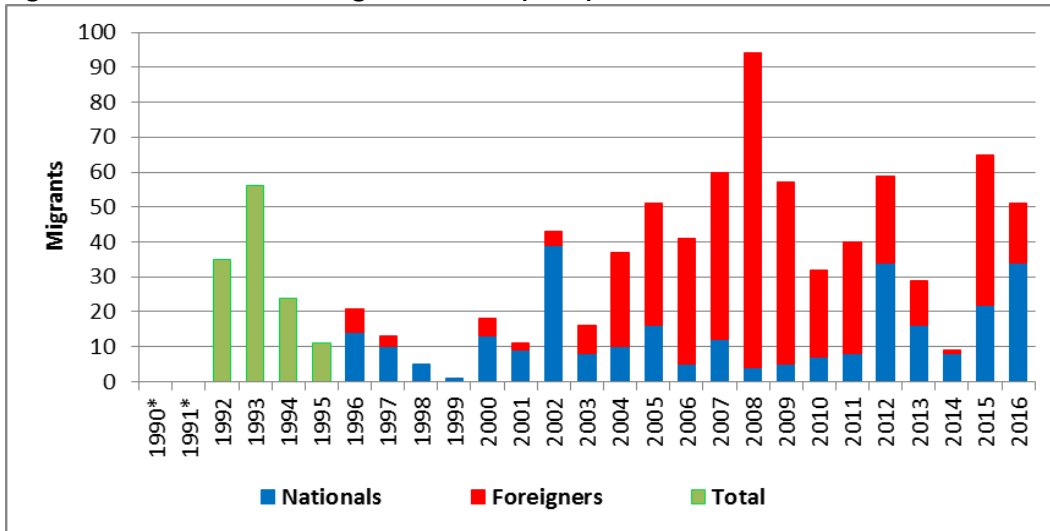
International net migration of the whole period under review represents the one fourth of the net migration in Rača, although the annual net migration is only on the level of tens of people (up to 96 people in 2008). As the number of emigrants abroad is not high and in certain years even no emigrants are recorded, net migration is almost equal to the number of immigrants. The city district of Rača does not have data on emigrant stock as well as the Slovak Republic do not have. The numbers in Rača would be probably very low.

Figure 11 Internal migration (Rača)



* not available

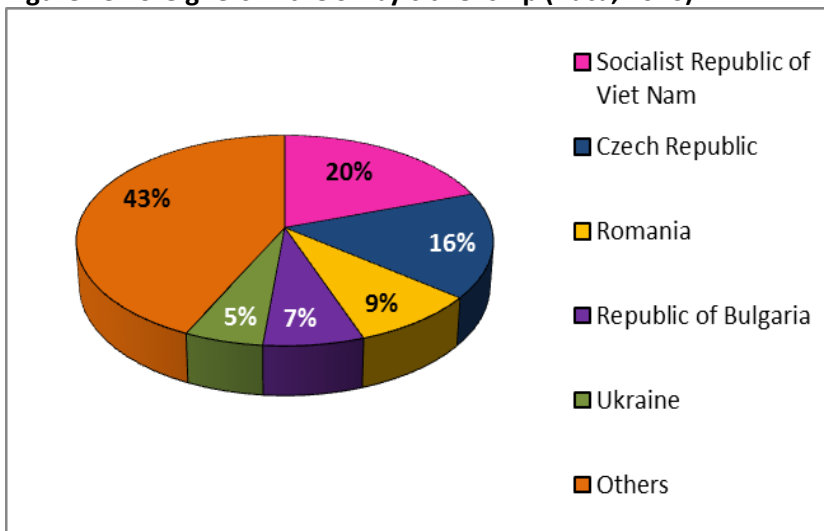
Figure 12 International immigration flows (Rača)



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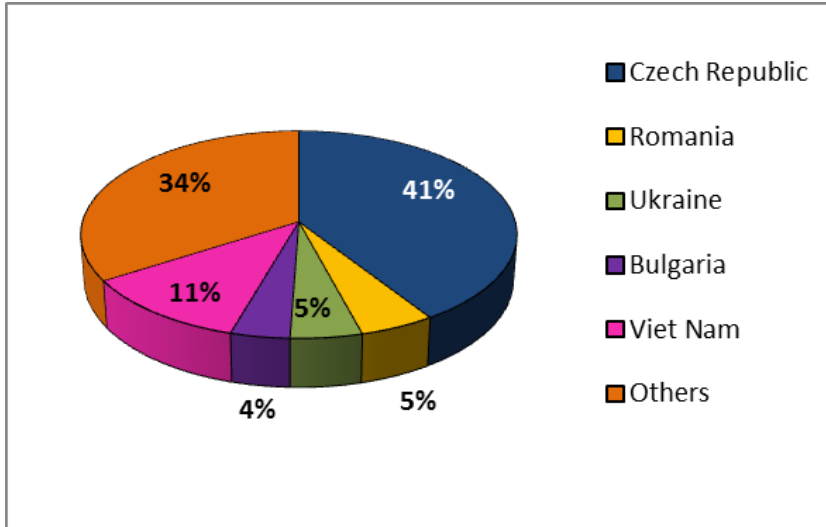
Based on the Census 1991, 559 foreigners have been living in Rača. However, in the Census 2011 only 190 people reported foreign citizenship (948 people did not declare any citizenship), so the data is probably underestimated. The balance from 2016 lists 604 foreigners living in Rača who represented less than 3 per cent of Rača's inhabitants. So the number of foreigners living in Rača between 1991 and 2016 grew by 8 per cent. At the beginning of 1990s and in 2011 most of them were citizens of the Czech Republic, but in 2016 citizens of Vietnam prevailed (118 people) and they accounted for 0.6 per cent of Rača's inhabitants.

Figure 13 Foreigners in the SR by citizenship (Rača, 2016)



According to the Census 2011, from 19 679 inhabitants of Rača almost 93 per cent have been native born, approximately 3 per cent did not declare any country of birth and 4.3 per cent (853 people) were foreign born. The number of foreign born living in Rača increased to 1 226 by 2016 which means 5.9 per cent of Rača's population. The number of those who were born in the Czech Republic was almost unchanged in 2016 compared to 2011 (approximately 500 people). The number of people born in Vietnam increased to 140 which was 11.4 per cent of foreign born living in Rača.

Figure 14 Foreign born population (Rača)



In the age structure of foreign born population, people aged and 35 over prevail. People under the age of 35 accounted for 14 per cent of this population in 2011 but by 2016 their percentage increased to 19 per cent. The number of women to men is the same.

Compared to the national average, in Rača, there is the bigger percentage of foreigners. While in 2016 foreigners represented 1.25 per cent of the Slovak Republic's population, in Rača they represented 2.9 per cent of population. Citizens of the Czech Republic prevailed among foreigners in the Slovak Republic, but in Rača citizens of Vietnam. In terms of the country birth, people born in the Czech Republic prevailed in Rača as well as in the Slovak Republic. The differences are in development of migration. While the Slovak Republic recorded migration increase from 1993 to 2016, in Rača the development was not so clear, especially in 1990s, when migration losses appeared.

4.3. Presentation of the results of the population projection

Population projection of Rača has been created in the three scenarios. In the all three scenarios is assumed the continuation of the trends with respect to the fertility and mortality. The differences among scenarios lie in the migration. The medium – "present" scenario goes from the contemporary values and prolongs the current values up to the 2035. In the high and low scenarios the values of net migration are rising / lowering by 5% approximately.

Figure 15 Natural increase of population in Rača

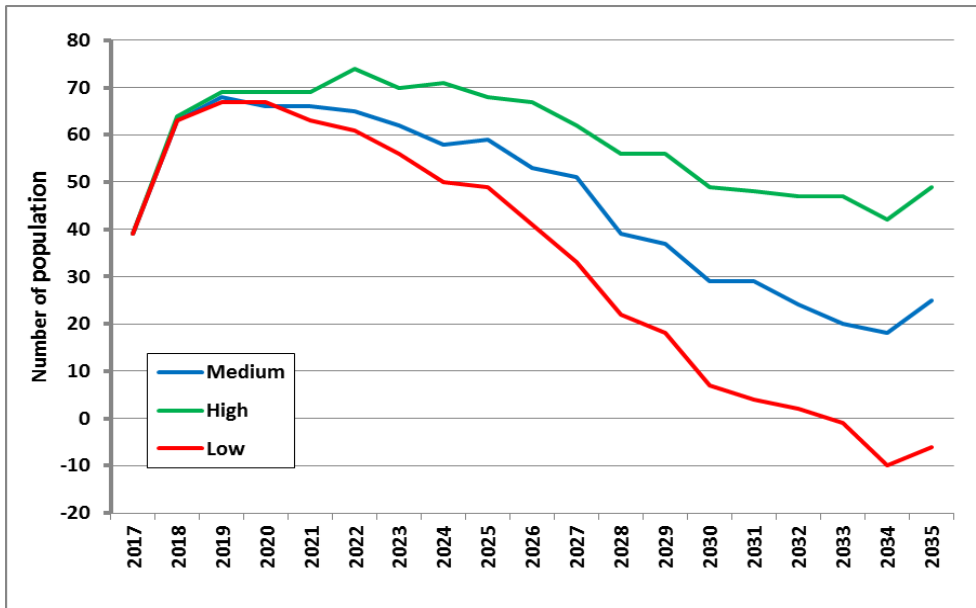


Figure 16 Net migration in Rača

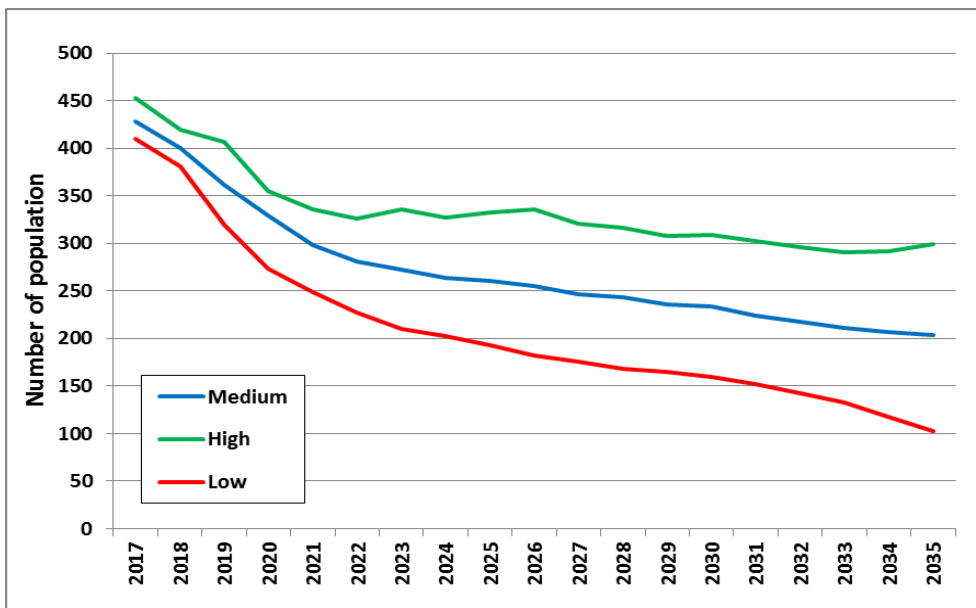


Figure 17 Total increase of population in Rača

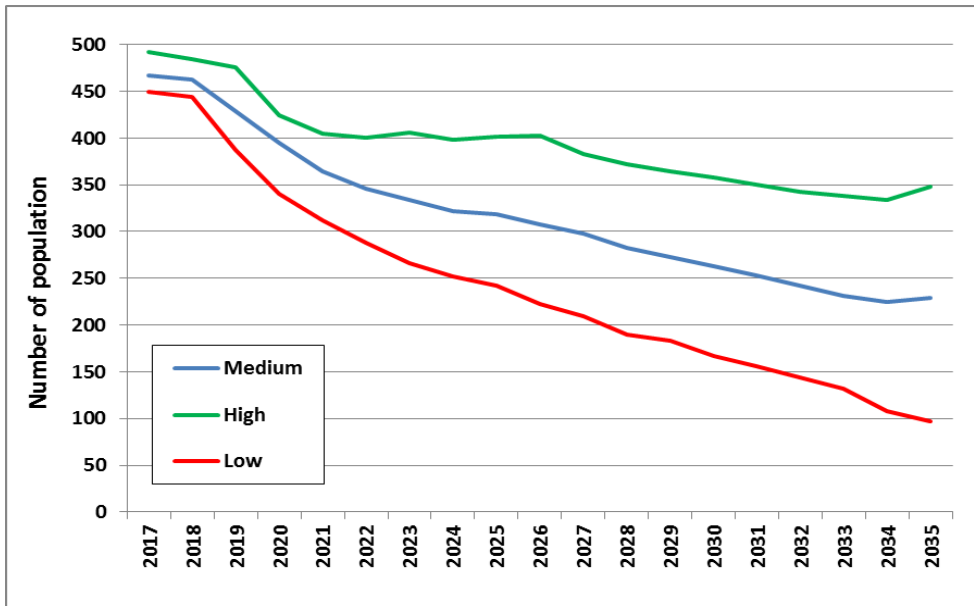


Figure 18 Population in Rača

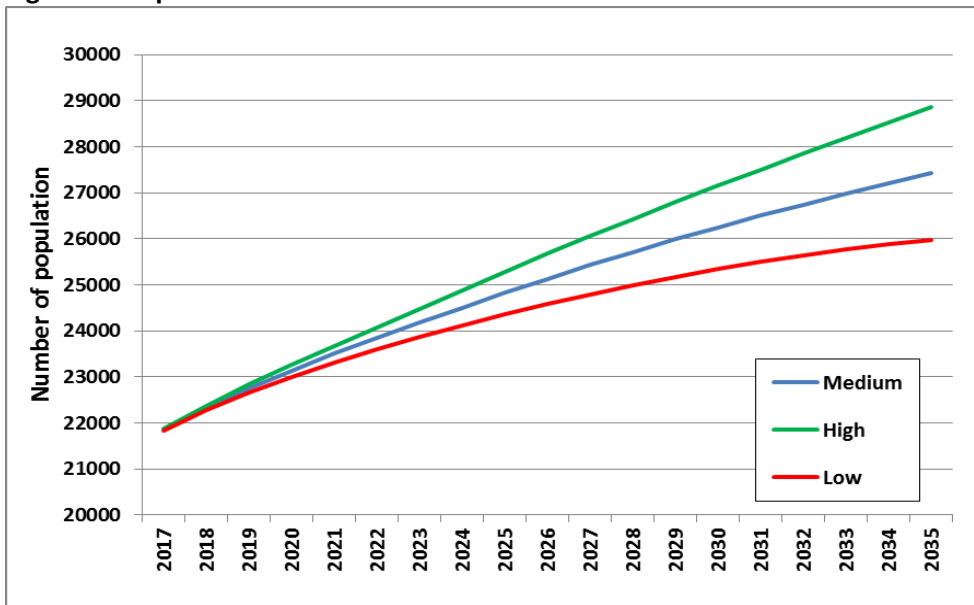
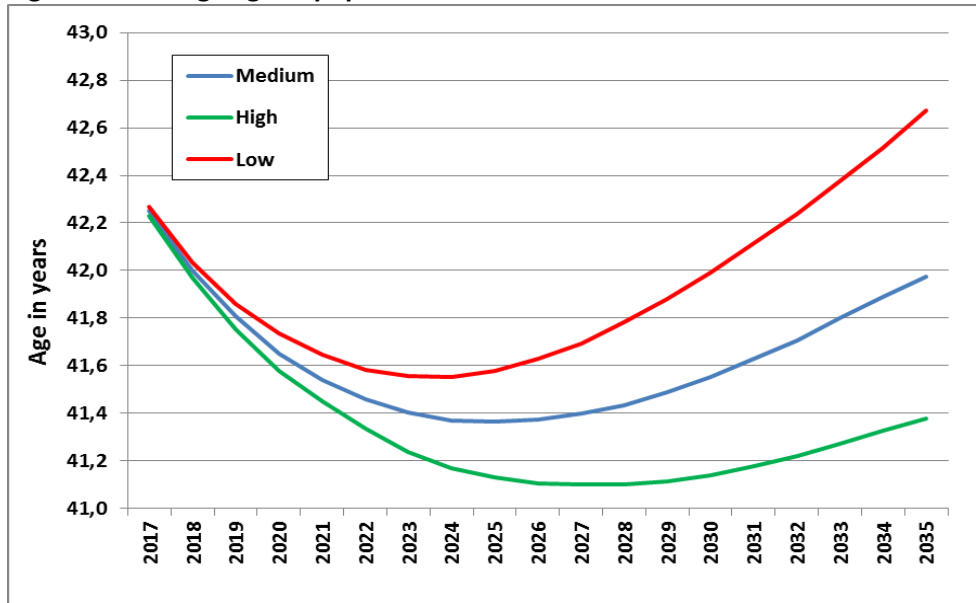


Figure 19 Average age of population in Rača



An optimistic outlook with respect to the characteristics of the reproduction implies the forecast's results. Unlike the most of municipalities in Slovakia, Rača wouldn't face the population shrinking and ageing.

The population size will grow in each scenario up to 2035. The population size will be 27.4 thousand in 2035 in the medium scenario which represents the growth by 27.5%. If the high scenario becomes realistic, population of Rača would reach nearly 29 thousand (+34.2%). The population size is predicted to be 2 thousand in the low scenario, this is 21% more as compared to the number in 2016. While the growth would finish around 2035 in the low scenario, in the other two scenarios the growth would continue beyond the forecast's horizon.

A growing trend in the population numbers is a result of both the natural increase and migration surplus, however, the total annual increase will be lower in the all scenarios towards the projection's horizon. The highest annual number are expected in the high scenario in which the total increase will accelerate from about 500 persons in 2017 to 3350 in 2035. The annual increase will reduce from 467 persons in 2017 to 230 persons in 2035. Finally in the low scenario, the annual increase will be only 100 persons in 2035.

A natural increase will be on a down-curve too in each scenario during entire period by 2035. Annual number will be only in tenth of persons. The highest values are again in the high scenario in which a reduction towards lower values is lesser than in other scenarios. The lowest increase is predicted in the low scenario in which the increase turned to decrease around horizon (in 2033).

A difference between Rača and the national average will be even higher as for the progress in the population ageing. In any of the three scenarios the population of Rača will not be ageing and the mean age will decrease slightly in the high and medium scenario and stagnate in the low scenario at the level from 41 to 42 years. The value of ageing index will going down in all scenarios. In the high scenario it will be about 20%, in the medium scenario by about 8%. In the medium scenario the share of children and seniors will be balanced, in the high scenario there will be more children than seniors (95 over

100). This clearly tells about the impact of the migration on the population ageing/rejuvenation. The rejuvenation became very scarce process on the national and regional levels and it is stealing away from the demographic glossaries. In some city districts and suburban areas migration is the driving force that can push the population from the process of ageing to the rejuvenation, especially if the youth immigration is in progress. Secondly, the process of reproduction is positively affected.

5. Characteristics of youth migration in the municipality

This chapter deals with the qualitative inquiry on how the local institutional stakeholders view migration and local development, and how different types of migrants in Bratislava-Rača view their migration experience, motivations to migrate and return and their perspectives on local development and migration policies at the local level.

5.1. General characteristics

In general, when speaking about immigration, the local stakeholders tend to talk about immigrants from outside Europe. To be more specific, even though the respondents were provided with the context of the project (the fact that it is focused on the migration in the Danube region), they constantly spoke about the immigrants from other countries such as Africa or Asia although immigrants from Africa and Asia do not make up the large portion of the entire immigrant cohort in Slovakia.

Regarding immigrant communities in the municipality, the public officials were likely mention the Vietnamese community. They are aware of existence of other immigrants mainly from Ukraine and the Balkan states but do not perceive them in the everyday life of Rača. The Vietnamese community is considered as the one which is to some extent segregated from the majority population even though their members have been living in Slovakia for decades. In case of immigrants from the Danube region (such as Serbs, Romanians, and Bulgarians) or Ukrainians, the respondents, although they knew about their presence in the municipality, did not realise their presence in the every-day life of the municipality. It seems that immigrants from these countries are not involved in the community activities much and are partially „invisible „for the locals.

Regarding the short-term labour immigration, the respondents had only limited information, for example that employees working in the construction sites and the automobile industry come from the Balkans, Ukraine, Romania or other countries.

Regarding the emigration of young people, as stipulated below, is viewed as troublesome since it negatively affects the labour market and causes aging population in Slovakia. As main receiving countries after 1989 are considered in general West-European states, mainly the United Kingdom, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic or Ireland. As a main reason of emigration are considered low wages and the desire to acquire life experience.

5.2. Perceived characteristics of youth migration in Bratislava-Rača

The interviewed officials pointed out several characteristics of youth migration in Bratislava-Rača, that can be categorised as follows: (1) Bratislava-Rača (and the whole Bratislava region) is getting more and more attractive for both international and internal migrants due to good conditions at the regional

labour market; (2) Bratislava-Rača offers family-friendly environment suitable for families with small children; (3) Young emigrants usually do not want to return back to Slovakia; (4) Mainly housing policy needs to be improved, so young emigrants would return and could start a family; (5) There can be expected more international immigrants especially from both non-EU and EU countries due to high standard of living.

To be more specific, the respondents consider the municipality and whole Bratislava region as dynamically developing in the economic terms and in terms of increasing quality of private and public services. As a result, they think that the municipality is getting more attractive for migrants, both international and internal. To be more specific, the interviewees consider Bratislava-Rača as an attractive place for young families with children due to the fact that the municipality is a calm place situated close to nature with good conditions for decent living as the municipality is a district of the capital city offering very good job opportunities. Nevertheless, as a main problem is considered a housing policy for young people who often cannot afford housing and start a family.

On the other hand, the officials perceive emigration of young people as troublesome for the whole country mainly due to the fact that qualified people leave the country which negatively influences the labour market. Nevertheless, they perceive short-term emigration for either study or work purposes as desirable since young people have the opportunity to acquire different labour-related skills, master foreign languages, learn different life experience and learn to live on their own. As a result, it is desirable if they return with skills and experience because it is beneficial for their native municipality and country. Emigration of the locals and Slovaks in general is therefore perceived by the officials as beneficial provided that they return to Slovakia and get integrated in the Slovak labour market and start a family in Slovakia.

Nonetheless, most of the respondents do not think that young people return to the country or the municipality, and consequently, the municipality loses the qualified people and especially labour force. To facilitate return migration, they suggest implementing more family-oriented policies mainly housing policy for young people so they can start a family.

Regarding immigration, since the officials consider the municipality and the whole region as well-developed and further developing in terms of labour market outcomes providing liveable wages and attractive job opportunities, they expect the number of immigrants, both international and internal, to grow. They look at the immigration patterns in the broader EU perspective claiming that since the West-European countries have so far received the high numbers of immigrants they will stop receiving more and the flow will be directed to other countries just like Slovakia. Therefore, they expect the higher number of immigrants from Africa or the Middle-East. Besides that, they expect further immigrants from Ukraine, Serbia and Romania. According to them, the attractiveness of Slovakia rests mainly in good job opportunities and good quality of living.

The interviewed officials perceive immigration as beneficial and did not suggest stopping it. Nevertheless, they pointed out that there must be some requirements expected from potential immigrants such as willingness to have a job, be well-educated, and to respect the local habits and the law order. Regarding policy measures that would facilitate immigration or inclusion of the immigrants, the interviewed officials appeared to have a limited knowledge on what inclusion measures could be implemented. The most frequent measures were some inter-cultural events, facilitating communication between the residents and new-coming immigrants and school-family cooperation.

5.3. Results of the interview with young migrants

Emigrants

As stated above, four out of eight respondents have experience with emigration in different forms such as short-term study/work stay, long-term work stay, commuting to work abroad, or settling down in the municipalities in the cross-border areas.

Motivations to migrate abroad or to migrate in Slovakia of the respondents were complex and each respondent had multiple motivations. Motivations to emigrate can be categorise into: (1) better job opportunities; (2) desire to travel and get new life experience; (3) ability to learn a foreign language; (4) to learn other labour-related skills. The better job opportunities in terms of higher wages and better working conditions (e.g. training components of work, possibilities to be promoted, and the quality of management) were the most frequently mentioned motivations. Nevertheless, the desire to increase income and to improve their financial situation was accompanied by other motivations such as desire to travel and get different life experience, which they would not be able to acquire in Slovakia, to learn to live on their own as well as acquire language and other skills demanded by the labour market. To be more specific, the respondents perceive the youth as a life time period suitable for migration since a young migrant does not have commitments in the form of taking care of children or aging parents. They also pointed out that work experience and skills acquired abroad are appreciated in the Slovak labour market. The migration is therefore perceived as an investment bringing different benefits to the future. Regarding the labour aspect of migration, the respondents who appreciated mainly the higher wages and better working conditions such as fixed working time (e.g. no unpaid overtime), space for self-realisation, benefits linked to employment mainly in case of Austria such as higher parental allowances and contribution for commuting provided by the employer.

Motivations to migrate in the cross-border areas particularly municipalities in Hungary and Austria located only a few kilometres to Bratislava were closely related to starting a family and settling down, and especially buying the first property. The respondents consider Hungarian and Austrian municipalities as more suitable to start a family due to higher quality of public services (such as maintenance of public spaces, pro-family policies such as the quality or capacity of kindergartens) and mainly in case of Hungarian municipalities the lower prices of properties. The advantage of living in these municipalities also lies in the close geographical proximity to Bratislava where respondents may commute for work.

Student emigration

Based on the data from the focus group, the migration of students, either in the form of the short-term study exchange programmes during high school (in Austria or the United States) or the whole university study abroad (in the United Kingdom), was triggered mainly by the higher quality of the educational institutions. The respondents having experience with the foreign educational institutions highlighted mainly the individualised approach of school management or teachers, more effective responses to the needs of the students and the higher quality of teaching.

Each of us at the high school had own tutor and we had tutorial classes where we were told about universities, which [universities] would be suitable for us and what we need [to get accepted]. And he helped us to write essays and all these things which do not exist in Slovakia. We had a teacher [in Slovakia] who tells us just when to send application and does not care anymore.

(Female focus group participant, 19, UK)

Besides that, the respondent with the university degree obtained abroad emphasised that there is a high demand of Slovak employers for graduates from foreign universities:

In Slovakia, I have better opportunities with English university, MA degree, than in England. Because they still view me as an immigrant there.

(Female focus group participant, 24, UK)

Immigrants

Motivations to immigrate in Slovakia are similar to motivations to emigrate and can be categorised into (1) better job opportunities; (2) to increase the standard of living (3) desire to get different life experience. The frequently mentioned motivation was better job opportunities in Bratislava region mainly in terms of higher wages and better working conditions such as easier way to be promoted. The immigrant respondents from Serbia and Romania not only pointed out the significant differences in wages in their native countries and Slovakia but also that for the income they receive in Slovakia are able to afford higher standard of living than in their native countries. Regarding that, they emphasised that one of their motivation was to increase the standard of living, not only in terms of higher job incomes but also better functioning private and public services.

Principally, nothing works in Serbia. You do not know what they [the public officers] will want from you, what you will need. You agreed on something and the next day the situation is different. There are not the same rules for all. It is a mess. It is 10-15 years behind Slovakia.

(Immigrant, 29, Serbia)

Also, just like in the case of the emigrants, they wanted to get new life experience outside their home country. Interestingly, Slovakia was not a desired destination country and the immigrant respondents did not internationally plan to move in Slovakia. They consider their immigration to Slovakia rather as a coincidence caused by job opportunity they were offered at the certain time, even though they planned to move to EU member states due to benefits it offers such as ability to travel in the Schengen zone with the residence permit etc.

Returnees

Motivations to return to Slovakia are mainly improving conditions at the labour market in Bratislava region and the desire to start a family in Slovakia and raise children together with the rest of the family, mainly grandparents. The respondents claimed that the wage differences in professions requiring higher qualification are not significant anymore when comparing Slovakia and other mainly West-European countries. This applies mainly to jobs in the IT sector, marketing or gastronomy. Also, some respondents raised the question of the public safety which they consider as higher in Slovakia in comparison with other West-European countries stressing out terrorist attacks.

Perception of local development

As stated above, the returnees decided to return to Slovakia in the phase of settling down and starting a family due to good conditions at the labour market and the desire to raise children with grandparents. In this respect, they view the local municipality as well-developing in both economic terms and in terms of increasing quality of private and public services. The wage differences between Slovakia and West-European countries are not considered as significant anymore (when taking into account the level of living costs) and are perceived as enabling to enjoy a higher standard of living. Nevertheless, they still consider the quality of public services as low in comparison with the countries

they lived in. Mainly, they highlighted the overall quality of public spaces such as the greenery, roads and pedestrian paths, which are considered as not suitable for example for parents with pushchairs, so-called “visual pollution” meaning very many billboards by the roads and others. On the contrary, according to the immigrants coming from the Balkan countries the quality of public services is considered as good. They particularly appreciate the effectiveness of the rule of law and less bureaucratic processes in the public offices except for the Office of Foreign Police issuing residence permits. Such perception of local development of their destination municipality is based on comparison with their home country. It means that since their quality of living has increased, they do not see local problems as significant as returnees do.

6. Typical biographies of young migrants

In this part, short biographies of three young migrants are presented with the aim to provide with the context of what migrants experience in destination countries. This chapter serves to learn more about what are the motives of migration, what obstacles migrants face in destination countries and what main topics come out when speaking about personal migration stories. The following biographies were selected as they present three different types of migrants, particularly (1) career-oriented adventurous immigrant coming from Serbia to Slovakia in order to get new life experience and increase the standard of living; (2) family-oriented Slovak emigrant who settled down in Austrian-Slovak cross-border region to ensure the good standard living for the whole family; (3) Serbian immigrant working at the construction sites in Bratislava-Rača while his wife and child have stayed in Serbia. These three respondents were selected since due to their different family, work and social status have distinct migration experience. The information provided are anonymised so personal data and identity of respondents are protected.

Male, 29, immigrant from Serbia, married without children

The respondent arrived in Slovakia in 2012 and has been living in the country permanently since then. The main motive to migrate to Slovakia was to pursue the career of a football player in the football club located in Bratislava. The respondent did not plan to migrate to Slovakia. Initially, he wanted to migrate to one of the West-European countries, where conditions for football players are much better:

Definitely not Slovakia. I did not know that it existed. My dream countries were Spain and Italy. Because of football. If I could have chosen, I would have chosen one of them. But rather Italy.

According to him, it was administratively easier to acquire a residence and work permit as a football player in Slovakia. At the same time, the respondent considered migrating to Western Europe once he gets the residence permit in Slovakia:

There was an opportunity. I was intensively thinking how to get [abroad]. And suddenly there was a phone call from a trainer [who asked] if I want to go to a tournament to Slovakia. I was saying myself “OK, I will try”. And he told me that it is easy to get a residence permit in Slovakia even if a person is an amateurish football player. Somewhere else he must be a professional. I was thinking that I will get documents in Slovakia and then I will try something else.

The respondent worked for different football clubs based in Bratislava and had different part-time jobs to earn money and master the Slovak language. The football club administration managed to get the respondent the residence permit and provided him with accommodation. After injuries *unabling* him to pursue the career of a sportsman, he decided to quit the football career and tried to start career in other fields. He worked in different positions such as the waiter in the bar located in the stadium

(owned by the Serbs), in telemarketing and finally in the finance consulting. The latter one presents a respondent's current job.

Interestingly, after he quit the job in the football club and as a result could not live in the apartment owned by the club anymore, he was homeless but found the apartment and started to work on full-time. At this time, the respondent did not want to leave to Serbia because he liked Slovakia, and especially Rača, due to better living conditions and job opportunities. Few years later, the respondent settled down in Rača with the Slovak wife.

Migrating to Slovakia was not the only respondent's migration experience. As a child, he and his family moved from Serbian municipality Loznica to the municipality Pilica located in Bosnia. Both municipalities are located close to each other in the cross-border Serbian-Bosnian region. The family moved to Bosnia during the Yugoslav Wars in early 90s due to safety reasons. After the war ended, they returned to Loznica again. As a result of such movement, the respondent said that he did not intensively perceived the impact of the war as a child.

Besides the arrival to Slovakia and migration during the war time, the main life events mentioned by the respondent was the university study of law in Belgrade which the respondent quit as he seized the opportunity to migrate to Slovakia, finding a life partner and finding the job in the finance consulting. The study and employment experiences were dominant in the respondent's story-telling.

The respondent presents himself as an ambitious person who wants to permanently work on his skills and pursue his career in the field of financial consultancy. Nevertheless, he admits that he is and was not able to control every aspect of live, for example even though he initially wanted to migrate to Italy or Spain, he finally ended up in Slovakia due to the fact the administrative process related to migration was easier than in West-European countries. Even though he considers some important life events as a coincidence he presents himself as a person who can effectively seize the opportunity once it comes and benefit from it as much as possible.

The respondent has no intentions to go back to Serbia. However, he intends to start business in financial consultancy in Serbia as he perceives that this sector is small or even missing in his home country. Also, as he claims, he wants to help his Serbian fellows by employing them or providing them with quality financial services.

The respondent considers Serbia as a progressing country but he perceives that this progress is slow, mostly regarding the rule of law, opportunities in the labour market and overall standard of living. Because of this, he does not consider moving back:

Principally, it is not a problem to find a job, but salaries are low. If I consider that Bratislava is more expensive by 20-30 cents in anything. In Serbia, on average, people earn one EURO per working hour. And that price difference [between Slovakia and Serbia] is not significant.

As a result of the poor situation at the Serbian labour market, the respondent plans to "bring" his siblings to Slovakia so they can have better job and educational opportunities. The respondent's brother already arrived in Slovakia one year ago, while his sister, currently a student of law in Belgrade, is about to come to Slovakia after she finishes her studies. The remittances play a significant role, as both respondent and his brother support the sister and parents living in Serbia.

Even though the respondent has a Serbian identity, he did not meet with the Serbs living in Bratislava very often as he wanted to master Slovak language and find friends among Slovaks. He strongly accented that the immigrant should do his or her best to learn and speak the language of the destination country. In a very defensive manner, he also accented that there is no problem with his „integration“ as he mastered Slovak language and has no problems with the locals at all.

Female, 31, Slovak emigrant, married with two children

The respondent migrated with the husband and two children from Bratislava-Rača to the Austrian village located a few kilometres to Bratislava. Shortly after having the first baby, the respondent with her partner decided to buy a property in the calm area close to Bratislava where the couple worked. In this case, the migration was very strongly related to finding suitable place for starting a family and raising children.

Therefore, the respondent's motives to migrate are closely related to the interests of children. The respondent wants children to live in the calm place surrounded by nature, to learn a foreign language in the Austrian educational system, and in general enjoy the higher standard of living and public services the Austrian village offers. At the same time, the couple wanted to keep ties with Bratislava due to work and family reasons.

Besides moving to Austria, the respondent had just one short migration experience in Norway. In 2010-2011/2012 she did a six-week long internship in the Slovak Embassy based in Norway as she studied the international relations and diplomacy in the Slovak university. Besides that, she experienced internal migration as she moved from the hometown in Central Slovakia to Bratislava-Rača after she graduated from the university. The fact that she was raised in the place also surrounded by the nature strongly affected her and her partner's decision to move to the Austrian municipality also located close to the nature.

Initially, the respondent and her husband wanted to find a job in Austria but due to poor German language skills they could not find anything:

We hoped a little bit that we would find a job here. But we did not succeed. As here is a lot of Slovaks, one needs to have very good German to find a job. And I did not want to start from zero meaning to work as a shop assistant because I have a university degree. And my husband did not succeed because his German language skills are not good. So we work in Bratislava.

The respondent very intensively think about the attitudes of the local Austrian towards new inhabitants. When speaking about how the local Austrians perceive the increasing number of Slovaks moving to the municipality, she answered:

Some of them not very well. Here are many Slovaks, many Turks and there are local Austrians. Some of them view us that we basically are "flooding" it here. And others are OK, because if Slovaks had not been here, it would not have been an interesting place. It is a village. There is no reason to live here [for Austrians]. Mainly the young people move out from here.

The respondent presents herself as someone who takes into account mainly the interests of the family. The main motive for migrating to Austria was that the couple did not want to raise children in the large city but rather in the smaller municipality located close to the nature. At the same time, it is important for her to still keep social ties with Slovaks (e.g. with the Slovak community living in the Austrian municipality) and in Bratislava as well.

Male, 31, immigrant from Serbia, married with one child

The respondent works at the construction sites in Bratislava-Rača and is employed by work agency recruiting workers for construction companies based in Bratislava. Several weeks throughout the whole year he works in Bratislava and surrounding municipalities and then few weeks he is with his family, wife and a child, in Serbia.

Initially, the respondent did not intend to go to work abroad:

I did not think about going abroad because of the family at home. And then there was that opportunity to go to Slovakia. Well, firstly I got some information and then there was that agency. It was interesting for me at that time.

He is employed by the work agency, which, as he claims, recruit labour force from abroad as Slovaks are not willing to work at the construction sites. The work agency can provide workers not only with the job but also accommodation and makes it easier to go through the whole process of acquiring the work permit. The respondent received the information about job opportunity in Slovakia through the former colleague:

My colleague who worked with me in Serbia at the construction site told me. And he gave me contact on the work agency. I did not even know that they are seeking people for Slovakia. He told me about money, what he did here and that he did not have any problem. Your [people] do not want to do it for that money. We, from Serbia, do it. And from Ukraine [I have] colleagues too.

The main motive to go to work to Slovakia were bad conditions at the Serbian labour market. Even though the respondent had a job in Serbia at the construction sites, the salary he received was very low and he could not raise standard of living of his family. Also, as he claims, workers' rights in Serbia are poorly protected, since he experienced for example unpaid overtime, poorer safety policies at the construction sites:

Nothing works there [in Serbia]. Public service, job market, whatever. If you want something, you have to pay. You work hard, long and then the salary is nothing. If you have children, there is nothing left for you. And you also want something better for them. But there is the family, friends. That home.

While working in Slovakia, he lives with other Serbian and Ukrainian workers in the boarding house located in Bratislava-Rača. He claims that he does not interact much with the locals and focuses on work performance while being in Slovakia. As a result, he enjoys his social life only when being in Serbia with family and friends. As he states, he does not know Bratislava-Rača much and he is not even involved in any Serbian networks in Slovakia besides his co-workers.

The respondent presents himself as a breadwinner with the strong motivation and feeling of responsibility to support his family and raise the standard of living so his child (or future children) will be able to enjoy better life opportunities. At the same time, he worried how the separation from the family has the impact on the quality of relationships and overall bonding with his child. He perceives this way of life, short term works stays abroad, as not suitable for „normal“ family life.

The issue of separation from his family was a main topic throughout his whole story-telling. Regarding this, the respondent intends to bring his wife and child to Slovakia but he worries that it might be very administratively demanding what he learned from experience of other colleagues from non-EU countries, mainly Serbia and Ukraine, who brought the family in Slovakia. Also, since his wife is a nurse, she would need to master Slovak on the high level so she will be allowed to work in Slovak health care system:

I heard that it is a very long process. And I do not know if it is worth it. My wife would come here but we also do not know if she can get employed here. She needs [to speak Slovak] language in the hospital.

Moreover, the respondent has a strong bond to his hometown in Serbia. Even though he considers Bratislava as a city with better living conditions he would like to stay in Serbia due to social ties. Thus,

he is balancing between the willingness to improve the financial situation of the family, which is a high priority for him, and the desire to be in his hometown.

7. Challenges connected to youth migration and policies aimed to deal with them

7.1. Young migrants on policy challenges

The problems identified by young migrants living in the municipality can be categorized into: (1) overall low efficiency of public services; (2) the low quality of public areas and urban planning; (3) the low quality of educational institutions; (4) access to information for foreigners. As can be seen the problems were related to both local but also national level. The most frequent problem is considered the overall approach and efficiency of public servants. The focus group participants stressed out that the public servants at the all levels are inefficient, unwilling to help and do not communicate in the electronic way which results in slow administrative processes. The focus group participants were likely to compare the quality of administrative processes between Slovak and foreign public sector:

Everything can be filled in in electronic way in England. I was not personally in any public sector office. Even for this National Insurance Number. I had there just a 15-minute long interview. They asked me why I wanted to work etc. I explained 5-6 things. They gave me a seal and [told me] that they will send it by mail.

(Female, 24)

The Foreign Police Office was considered as especially troublesome due to unwillingness of officers to help their clients, long waiting processes and poor language skills of the officers:

We had a former employee from Ukraine and those stories he told us from the Foreign police were crazy. That is such a shame of Slovakia. I would be discouraged as a foreigner so I would not really like to come [to Slovakia].

(Female, 29)

Another frequently mentioned objection was related to the urban planning and overall quality of public spaces. To be more specific, the participants mentioned mainly damaged roads and pedestrian paths, the quality of the greenery maintenance and the low number of parks. As a result, the public space is considered as insufficiently family-friendly due to barriers (e.g. for parents with pushchairs or people with disabilities) and not enough places for leisure time activities such as sport or family events. The participants having experience with studying abroad pointed out mostly the quality of educational system, both high school and university level. Particularly, they emphasized a lack of individualized approach employed by administration workers and teachers, low quality of teaching and other education-related activities such as career guidance services.

Even though, no immigrant from foreign country was present in the focus group, respondents based on their experience with living abroad highlighted that it might be very difficult for foreigners to get important information related, for example, to what documents are needed for different bureaucratic processes (such as getting a residence, planning or work permit) but also information about local community activities taking place in the municipality.

The respondents suggested a set of measures. At the municipal level, they recommended:

1. **Improving conditions of the public areas and better urban planning:** It was suggested mainly to repair roads and pedestrian paths, to establish more parks and in general facilities for leisure time activities (sport facilities, dog training places etc.). This measure also involves policies towards developers of the construction projects, who, as suggested, could be obliged to take care of the surrounding greenery or establish a local playground or park and, importantly, parking lots. Additionally, the parking policy could be stricter and better enforced by the local law (meaning to deal with the cars parking on pedestrian paths more effectively).
2. **Improving approach of the public officers and transparency in the public sector:** The respondents called for speeding up the bureaucratic processes, e.g. regarding the building/planning permit, ensuring that at least one public servant in the municipality can speak English (regarding this, it was recommended to have the municipality website also in English version) and ensuring that public servants communicate more efficiently/frequently in the electronic way so their clients do not have to go to the office personally that often.
3. **Providing more community activities for young people aged 18-35 without children and spreading information about them more effectively:** The respondents suggested for example running summer cinemas (with English subtitles for people with poor Slovak language skills) or picnic activities. Regarding this, they recommended to spread information about these activities more effectively e.g. through Facebook channels.

Other measures related to other institutions are following:

1. **High schools** (in responsibility of the Higher Territorial Units): to introduce individualized approach in learning/teaching, to improve the quality of teaching (less memorization, more critical thinking), introducing/improving quality of career guidance services;
2. **Universities:** to introduce individualized services provided to foreign students;
3. **Foreign police office:** to speed up the administrative processes (related to issuing different documents such as residence permit etc.), to introduce more individualized services, to improve the language skills of the civil servants, to be more transparent and provide all information needed for the foreigners in foreign languages;
4. **Ministry of Education:** to implement more flexible and efficient recognition of degrees earned abroad - mainly the secondary school leaving exam ("Maturitná skúška") and university degrees;

I have all documents. That officer [of the Health Insurance Company] did not even want to talk about it. She told me that "I do not see it in the system" and refused to provide me with services without any willingness. Because if they want to recognise it, they have to find the school [on the list]. Because the Ministry of Education has a list of schools -universities which it recognises. And supposedly, my school is not on the list.

(Female, 24)

5. **Health Insurance Company:** to speed up the transition process from foreign Health Insurance Company to the Slovak one and vice versa.

Additionally, the focus group participants suggested that the public officials could communicate with the clients more effectively through emails/phone with the aim to speed up bureaucratic processes.

7.2. Policy competences, institutional actors involved

Institutional structure and policy competences are influenced primarily by division of powers between two lines of public administration in Slovakia – self-government and state administration. As a result of public administration reforms more powers are decentralised and deconcentrated. Nevertheless many important issues are under the control of state administration. Powers (as well as resources and capacities) of local self-government in the field of migration are limited. In addition, minor set of powers are executed by local self-government on behalf of state in a form of delegated powers (e.g. citizens register). Access to whole scale of public services and benefits at the local level is related to the status of permanent or interim residence. Until now major role in the field of migration policy has state administration, nevertheless with enough activity space open for other actors (self-government, NGOs, private sector). The field of migration policy is still more centralised and only partially deconcentrated and decentralised activity.

Local institutional environment is dominated by **local self-government** at the level of city-district (Bratislava - Rača is one of 17 city districts with local self-government in Bratislava), nevertheless its powers related to young migration are currently limited. Local self-government is responsible for local development and local affairs in general. It has key role e.g. in pre-school and elementary education, selected activities in social affairs, environmental issues and public spaces, local planning, local culture and free time, businesses operation regulation, municipal property administration etc. From the point of view of migration and integration of migrants the most relevant are powers in the fields of pre-school and primary education, support of their culture, social affairs and social assistance (in limited extent), social housing (local self-governments have very limited social housing stock available). Among other self-governmental actors influencing local matters we have to take into account **city-wide self-government** (upper tier of local self-government in Bratislava) with important role in city-wide services (e.g. public transport, waste collection and disposal, social services). The role of **regional self-government** (*Bratislavský samosprávny kraj*, covering Bratislava and three suburban districts) focuses primarily on issues of secondary education, selected social affairs, culture, health care regulation, regional road network, regional planning. From the point of view of young migration is very important their role in the field of secondary education. Besides division of powers, all levels of self-government co-operate and co-ordinate their activities depending on their capacities (e.g. in the field of planning, social services, culture, new development).

As a separate line of institutional arrangement we can consider deconcentrated **state administration** (district and regional level). From the point of view of state administration key role have institutions responsible for labour market, immigration and citizenship issues. The strong position of state administration is based on powers allocated at *Offices of Labour, social affairs and family* ("labour office", working at district level). It is providing majority of social welfare transfers. These offices actively administer labour market services (e.g. search for work, support of new jobs creation), including unemployment benefits distribution (in case of Bratislava – Rača it is district Bratislava III). They have own programmes for employment of young people. The control of the foreigners on the territory of the Slovak Republic is under the auspices of Foreign Police of the Presidium of the Police Force with set of local branches spread across the country.

At the **national level**, major role in the field of migration issues and migration policy framework have two Ministries. Main responsibilities and coordinating role has Ministry of Interior (primarily it is the Migration Office as its organizational unit) and second the most important is the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family (e.g. its Centre for foreigners' integration - CKIC). They are responsible for major migration policy documents preparation. At national level also operates the Central Office of

Labour, Social Affairs and Family coordinating activities Offices of labour, social affairs and family (at the district level) in the field of employment of foreigners. The policies formulation and capacities building in this field at the local level is only in early stage of development (including involvement of the largest Association of towns and communities in Slovakia - ZMOS). For migrants in Bratislava it is also good possibility to use consultancy and services provides IOM by Migration Information Centre (MIC) in Bratislava (personally, phone contact, web).

Nevertheless, all mentioned public sector bodies co-operate in many fields also with numerous **non-governmental bodies** directly involved in activities in many fields, including services provision. Among them we can mention – *Marginal – civic association, Human Rights League, Milan Šimečka Foundation, Centre of legal advice (CPP)*. Selected, more numerous migrant communities have their associations based in Bratislava. They are often very helpful to newcomers and their integration. We also have to be aware of the important role of markets and responsibility of people in many fields. Nevertheless, all in many cases various support of public administration and NGO bodies is available (e.g. housing, business start, culture). Important role have, also have business companies acting as intermediaries at the labour market (focusing on services related to employment of foreigners).

Based on above stated, powers the most relevant to young migration at the local level are dispersed among set of actors and more sectors (self-government, state administration, “third sector”). They are active in selected field of social life, with less direct focus on young migrants until now (until now it is not included into priorities within the society). In a case of Bratislava positive impact has location and accessibility of more actors (not only local) active in the field of migration (and their offices), mostly on daily basis. They serve those living and working in Bratislava, as well as those living in other Slovak regions.

7.3. Policies aimed to deal with the consequences of youth migration

Until now, local representatives do not observe any specific negative phenomena concerning youth migration in the city district Bratislava – Rača. Local self-government also has not face any specific challenges related to youth migrants from Danube countries. There has not been any stronger pressure to deal with this specific segment of migrants (in fact with migration in general). It is not hot issue in current public discourse. Currently living smaller communities of migrants attempt to integrate into local life without any tensions.

Situation **on local labour market** is developing in favour of increasing demand for labour force, including foreign workforce. Situation on labour market improved during last two-three years. It is confirmed by data concerning registered unemployment which is fluctuating between 4%-5% (e.g. during 2017 according to district level Bratislava III, Source: Monthly Statistics – UPSVAR 2017). Labour market situation (unemployment) is similar to other Bratislava city districts and Bratislava region. It generates pressure on the labour market especially in some professions. We have to be aware that city district Bratislava-Rača is part of larger labour market which covers Bratislava and its hinterland, with many possibilities to find a job. Among those registered unemployed is approximately one third is in age category to 34 years (data according to Bratislava III). Long term unemployment is less frequent (unemployed for more than 12 months). Prevailing demand for labour force confirms 20% higher supply of free workplaces comparing to those registered as unemployed (July 2017). Brief insight into the structure of demand for workforce we can summarize that less qualified workforce is more needed, predominantly in services, sales and industry workers and operators (SK ISCO-08

categories 5, 8, 9) in Bratislava region (and similar structure is also valid for district Bratislava III). The highest demand concerns category less qualified, elementary occupations (cat. 09). Education requirements were elementary and medium (lower secondary and vocational training). It seems that there is longer term unsatisfied demand for workforce. It generates increasing demand for foreign workers (especially those for less sophisticated services and industry sectors). However it is questionable if this need (low paid jobs) can be satisfied without more involvement of wider institutional environment. There are no specific programmes addressing various segments of migrant's labour integration in larger scale. Nevertheless due to demand for less skilled and worse paid jobs, specific measures could be adopted focusing, on their access to housing (cheaper), language preparation, and potential retraining in co-operation with their employees.

Due to the fact that labour market agenda is primarily managed by specialised labour market institutions and in co-operation with interested companies, local self-government is not directly involved in developing and implementation of measures to support **migrants' labour market integration until now**. Major segment of migrants workers in general is managed by interested larger companies and related intermediaries (employment/personal, recruitment, human resources agencies), including state administration "Labour office". It is also the case of highly qualified migrant workforce. Migrants also can apply for financial contribution aimed on improving of their position on labour market applying for support provided by Migration Information Centre (e.g. for language course, requalification, special training), in cooperation with "Labour Office".

Migrants have access to general **welfare system**. They do not generate any specific pressure on welfare transfers at present. Migrants or their communities do not face any obstacles concerning access to social care facilities. They do not generate any extensive demand for such services and social benefits. Thanks to numerous opportunities on the labour market they can attain needed regular resources. Due to positive social-economic development in Bratislava region there are no specific segments of population requiring extensive support (outside standard social benefits), with exception of **homeless** people. Their needs address local self-government initiatives at city wide level, as well as other non-governmental organization. Homeless people are not concentrated in Bratislava-Rača in size requiring large scale initiative of local self-government (nevertheless supported by local self-government by financial support of NOGs with such activities). They require assistance in providing meals, shelters, health care, and labour market integration.

There are no specific measures focusing explicitly on **emigration**, or emigration prevention. It is not considered as threat to local development or any segment of local labour market. Nevertheless, local self-government pays large attention to offer good opportunities concerning all aspects of life for young people and young families with children. It should not only prevent emigration of young, but to attract young people to live in this city district. It is well expressed in rising new housing construction, or easy access to various local services and facilities (kinder gardens, primary education, culture, sport, services). Those living in this city district have good access to Bratislava labour market in general (e.g. public transport), without need to change place of living (despite the fact that are no large employers located in this city district).

There is no special **policy** adopted directly focusing on migration issues, or youth migration (e.g. integration policy, adaptation policies etc.) in Bratislava-Rača. It is caused by missing pressure from local situation or induced by demands of citizens, activists or migrant communities, as well as by missing strict requirement for such policies or measures induced by higher levels of public administration (or adopted legislation). Until now such kind of policy documents are elaborated only at the central level, in minor part of self-governing regions and in some cities (we can consider as "pilot

cities”). Nevertheless closely related priorities we can find in main **local planning documents** (Community plan of social services, Programme of social and economic development). There is also other analytical document addressing situation of young people in this city district (Report on life of young people in Rača). Although they do not address youth migration explicitly, they provide good framework for future initiatives and much focused approach.

Mentioned planning documents (adopted by Local Council) already include priorities and measures relevant from the point of view of young migration focusing on human resources, young families with children, as well as social and cultural affairs. Within this framework we can find attention to issues like integration of children (with planned special programme in this field), support of free time activities of young and children (including programme for such activities addressing specific groups of children and youth). Support of organizations focusing on local social issues and cultural life is also expected. Intended increase in participation of various groups of local public in managing public affairs should also improve efficiency of communication with various groups of people living in city district including migrants. City district also plans support of new social rented housing. New strategy of education on the territory of the city district should be also elaborated until 2020 (focusing on primary and secondary level). These documents also suppose support of sister city partnerships and cultural exchange.

Within last years, local self-government pays large attention to provide sufficient capacities in pre-school and school facilities (large investments to school facilities within the last years). Among initiatives we can find possibility for Slovak extended language courses (combined with introduction to Slovak cultural environment) to improve foreigners and migrants integration. As useful seems idea for administrative assistance and advice provided within local self-government office in main procedures concerning their stay and integration at the local level (concerning permits, registry in insurance systems, housing opportunities, education and training, cultural life). Important tool in improving addressing of eventual support should be better functioning of registers of those living in city district. Long term tradition has support of cultural and other social activities of local people with migration background. As other local citizens those living on the territory of city district have access to individual financial support (one-time) in a case of interim problems (provided by local self-government).

Local self-government already provides **support of migrant** (youth) communities in various forms. Often it is in co-operation with other actors (associations, NGOs). It is in form of subsidies (financial transfer for particular activities), by provision of facilities and space (rooms for meetings, social events), special events (festivals, participation in other events). This scope of activities could be extended in future with special attention to youth and young families (e.g. children integration and adaptation). There is also limited amount of social housing stock managed by local self-government. City district self-government cooperate with developers active in the field of new housing construction in providing set of “starting” information for newcomers to the city district (until now only in Slovak, but foreign languages mutation are under considerations).

Local self-government in Bratislava-Rača until now follows more universalistic approach to needs of all citizens, including migrants and foreigners. They are equally treated in their needs. Local institutional environment (local self-government, schools, cultural centres, other public administration bodies) are open to various initiatives induced by such communities. It is also prepared to provide more focused services if demanded. Attention to young migrants is very close to general local self-government priority to focus its attention towards young families and youth. New programmes and measures for their support are under considerations. Important aspect in mitigation of migration in this city district

is that they have access to many institutions located in Bratislava, including those managed directly by central state, NGOs, foreigners associations, or international organizations.

8. Outlook, conclusions and recommendations

The population development in Rača followed the national trends in many aspects. As Rača is an integral part of the capital city of Bratislava, several demographic specificities typical for the city became apparent in Rača, too. Thus, like in the Slovak republic as a whole, the population in Rača has undergone a steep drop in fertility, changing timing of fertility with a higher mean age at childbirth, and especially the first birth, a decline in the nuptiality, the increase of divorce rates, the enhancement in mortality and health conditions of both sexes, changing migratory patterns and many others. These changes in Rača like in other parts of the capital city started very soon, partly before the beginning of the political and economic transformation in 1989.

The annual population growth remained at the very low values around zero until 2010, except in the years 1993 and 1998. A visible increase of the values was recorded after 2010. The higher impact has had the migration than the natural increase has.

The population of Rača city district has grown throughout the entire reference period particularly thanks to migration. In the 1990s the development was fluctuating, migration increases were alternating with migration decreases. Since 1999 (except for the year 2007), Rača has recorded migration gains. The height of net migration is influenced in particular by internal migration. International net migration of the whole period under review represents one-fourth of the net migration in Rača. The number of immigrants shows a growing tendency. This growth is closely linked to intensive housing construction.

The process of population ageing has intensified in the population of Rača. The number and share of persons aged over 45 has been growing at the expense of the younger age categories. The population of Rača still belongs to the younger populations in Bratislava and the intensity of ageing is at the same level as the national level.

An optimistic outlook with respect to the characteristics of reproduction in last few years implies the forecasts' results. Unlike the most of municipalities in Slovakia, Rača probably would not face the same population shrinking and ageing. An expected growing trend in the population numbers until 2035 is a result of both the natural increase and migration surplus, however, the total annual increase of the population will be lower towards the projection's horizon. The most probable changes in the age structure of the population can be evaluated as stagnation. The average age of the population will move between 41 and 42 years.

Compared to the national average, in Rača, there is a bigger percentage of foreigners. Regarding immigrant communities in the municipality, the most visible is the Vietnamese community. This community is considered as the one which is to some extent segregated from the majority population even though their members have been living in Slovakia for decades. Also immigrants from other countries, mainly from Ukraine and the Balkan states, live in Rača. However their presence in the everyday life of the municipality is less visible.

Until now, local representatives do not observe any specific negative phenomena concerning youth migration in city district Bratislava – Rača. Local self-government also has not faced any specific challenges related to youth migrants from Danube countries. There has not been any stronger pressure

to deal with this specific segment of migrants (in fact with migration in general). It is not a hot issue in current public discourse. Currently smaller communities of migrants attempt to integrate into local life without any tensions.

There is no special policy adopted directly focusing on migration issues, or youth migration (e.g. integration policy, adaptation policies etc.) in Bratislava-Rača. This is caused by pressure lacking from the local situation or induced by demands of citizens, activists or migrant communities, as well as by a lack of strict requirements for such policies or measures from higher levels of public administration (or adopted legislation).

Local self-government already provides support to migrant (youth) communities in various forms. Often it is in co-operation with other actors (associations, NGOs). It is in form of subsidies (financial transfers for particular activities), by provision of facilities and space (rooms for meetings, social events), special events (festivals, participation in other events). This scope of activities could be extended in future with special attention to youth and young families (e.g. children's integration and adaptation). There is also a limited amount of social housing stock managed by local self-government. Local self-government in Bratislava-Rača until now has followed more universal approaches to the needs of all citizens, including migrants and foreigners. They are equally treated in their needs. Local institutional environments (local self-government, schools, cultural centres, other public administration bodies) are open to various initiatives induced by such communities. They are also prepared to provide more focused services, if requested. Attention to young migrants is very close to the general local self-government priority of focusing attention towards young families and youth. New programmes and measures for their support are under consideration. An important aspect in the mitigation of migration in this city district is that they have access to many institutions located in Bratislava, including those managed directly by the central state, NGOs, foreigners' associations, or international organizations.

Key challenges that concern youth migrants reflect the current situation at the local level, as well as its future development linked primarily to an increased need for labour force in Bratislava region's economy. It is also clear that this demand for labour force can be satisfied only with the help of migration. Current experiences confirm that local level administration needs deeper incorporation into migration policy framework in Slovakia. A system of multilevel governance in this field is not sufficiently developed and the role of the local level is less clear. We also should be aware that there are fields of action surpassing capacities of local self-government, or there are other influential actors with dominant powers and resources. This is the case in housing (e.g. affordable housing also for worse paid migrants) and labour market issues (or e.g. health services).

Among those challenges that can be addressed by local self-government we propose initiatives focusing on education (primarily addressing their Slovak language skills and overall education performance), opportunities for social and cultural activities and support of their integration into local society/community. An additional issue is the development of effective tools of communication and stable linkages with migrants (and their communities) to increase the suitability of adopted policies. Different approaches should be developed to address specific needs in the early stages of migration (e.g. specific welfare framework – social affairs, health) and others in addressing long-term migrants and those with a migration background.

Taking into account local self-government capacities and powers, as the most suitable areas for immediate local action, we propose:

- *support in Slovak language skills (1),*

- *improving communication with and assistance to new foreign immigrants (2).*

The administration can accommodate the needs of new migrants to adapt as soon as possible to local conditions and support their deeper integration into local life, the school system and the labour market. It reflects moderate growth of foreign migration and satisfies needs expressed during communication with foreigners. Focusing local attention on these specific recommendations is firmly backed by key findings in previous quantitative and qualitative research connecting local demographic and economic conditions, which seem especially suitable for integration of young foreign migrants bringing vital solutions to gaps generated by a rapidly aging local population and booming local labour / housing markets, and already a very active internal immigration situation in Bratislava - Rača as a result.

Bratislava is one of the new European capital cities, receiving a strong growth impulse with —and succeeding the integration within— the European Union. Bratislava - Rača is an affordable location at the edge of a dense city, with an easy access to job opportunities and services, and numerous property development projects. Changes in age structure are occurring, as population ageing is the most significant in the demographic domain. The population ageing in the Slovak population is rapid and is going to be a quicker in the very near future. The mean age of the population rose in the last 27 years by 7 years, by a total of 21%. While the ageing index was 40 persons aged 65 and more over 100 children to 14 years, the same ratio was 97 already in 2016. Qualitative findings clearly support our decision, since motivations to immigrate in Slovakia were categorised into: better job opportunities; to increase the standard of living; and desire to get a different life experience. The most frequently mentioned motivation was better job opportunities in Bratislava region mainly in terms of higher wages and better working conditions, such as easier ways to be promoted. The immigrant respondents from Serbia and Romania not only pointed out the significant differences in wages in their native countries and Slovakia, but also that for the income they receive in Slovakia they are able to afford a higher standard of living than in their native countries. Regarding that, they emphasised that one of their motivations was to increase the standard of living, not only in terms of higher job incomes, but also better functioning private and public services. It should be pointed out that neither Bratislava nor the rest of Slovakia were desired destinations. They merely indicate to move here as a coincidence caused by a job opportunity they were offered at the certain time, even though they planned to move to EU member states due to benefits it offers such as ability to travel in the Schengen zone with the residence permit etc.

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ANNEX 1: Tables and graphs containing the main results of the demographic projection

Population projection Rača - medium scenario

Year 2020						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males%	Females%	Total%
0-4	847	792	1639	7.61	6.59	7.08
5-9	745	648	1393	6.70	5.39	6.02
10-14	549	490	1039	4.93	4.08	4.49
15-19	331	354	685	2.98	2.95	2.96
20-24	371	403	774	3.33	3.35	3.35
25-29	638	713	1351	5.73	5.94	5.84
30-34	956	980	1936	8.59	8.16	8.37
35-39	1063	1037	2100	9.56	8.63	9.08
40-44	1185	1106	2291	10.65	9.21	9.90
45-49	887	851	1738	7.97	7.08	7.51
50-54	691	647	1338	6.21	5.39	5.78
55-59	582	601	1183	5.23	5.00	5.11
60-64	536	637	1173	4.82	5.30	5.07
65-69	648	853	1501	5.82	7.10	6.49
70-74	456	683	1139	4.10	5.69	4.92
75-79	299	516	815	2.69	4.30	3.52
80-84	182	321	503	1.64	2.67	2.17
85-89	108	224	332	0.97	1.86	1.43
90-94	35	120	155	0.31	1.00	0.67
95-99	15	36	51	0.13	0.30	0.22
100+	1	1	2	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total	11125	12013	23138			

Year 2025						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males%	Females%	Total%
0-4	805	767	1572	6.69	5.99	6.33
5-9	881	806	1687	7.33	6.30	6.80
10-14	769	658	1427	6.40	5.14	5.75
15-19	555	500	1055	4.62	3.91	4.25
20-24	356	409	765	2.96	3.20	3.08
25-29	501	612	1113	4.17	4.78	4.48
30-34	861	918	1779	7.16	7.17	7.17
35-39	1090	1061	2151	9.06	8.29	8.67
40-44	1109	1069	2178	9.22	8.35	8.77
45-49	1192	1122	2314	9.91	8.77	9.32

50-54	887	866	1753	7.38	6.77	7.06
55-59	693	648	1341	5.76	5.06	5.40
60-64	534	550	1084	4.44	4.30	4.37
65-69	465	610	1075	3.87	4.77	4.33
70-74	571	805	1376	4.75	6.29	5.54
75-79	377	616	993	3.14	4.81	4.00
80-84	217	421	638	1.80	3.29	2.57
85-89	106	214	320	0.88	1.67	1.29
90-94	45	105	150	0.37	0.82	0.60
95-99	10	38	48	0.08	0.30	0.19
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.02
Total	12025	12798	24823			

Year 2030						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males%	Females%	Total%
0-4	768	725	1493	6.00	5.39	5.69
5-9	836	777	1613	6.53	5.78	6.15
10-14	905	809	1714	7.07	6.02	6.53
15-19	775	668	1443	6.05	4.97	5.50
20-24	569	551	1120	4.44	4.10	4.27
25-29	477	600	1077	3.73	4.46	4.10
30-34	698	799	1497	5.45	5.94	5.70
35-39	981	989	1970	7.66	7.36	7.51
40-44	1125	1092	2217	8.79	8.12	8.45
45-49	1118	1085	2203	8.73	8.07	8.39
50-54	1192	1123	2315	9.31	8.35	8.82
55-59	884	852	1736	6.90	6.34	6.61
60-64	641	608	1249	5.01	4.52	4.76
65-69	470	523	993	3.67	3.89	3.78
70-74	412	579	991	3.22	4.31	3.78
75-79	475	730	1205	3.71	5.43	4.59
80-84	283	504	787	2.21	3.75	3.00
85-89	133	286	419	1.04	2.13	1.60
90-94	47	106	153	0.37	0.79	0.58
95-99	13	35	48	0.10	0.26	0.18
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.02
Total	12803	13444	26247			

Year 2035						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males%	Females%	Total%
0-4	742	712	1454	5.52	5.09	5.30
5-9	798	735	1533	5.93	5.26	5.59
10-14	860	777	1637	6.39	5.56	5.97
15-19	911	817	1728	6.77	5.85	6.30
20-24	789	715	1504	5.87	5.12	5.48
25-29	669	720	1389	4.97	5.15	5.06

30-34	648	768	1416	4.82	5.50	5.16
35-39	800	863	1663	5.95	6.18	6.06
40-44	1016	1017	2033	7.55	7.28	7.41
45-49	1135	1105	2240	8.44	7.91	8.17
50-54	1118	1082	2200	8.31	7.74	8.02
55-59	1179	1099	2278	8.76	7.86	8.31
60-64	821	807	1628	6.10	5.77	5.94
65-69	571	580	1151	4.24	4.15	4.20
70-74	421	499	920	3.13	3.57	3.35
75-79	351	527	878	2.61	3.77	3.20
80-84	365	606	971	2.71	4.34	3.54
85-89	180	354	534	1.34	2.53	1.95
90-94	62	148	210	0.46	1.06	0.77
95-99	15	40	55	0.11	0.29	0.20
100+	1	4	5	0.01	0.03	0.02
Total	13452	13975	27427			

Population projection Rača - high scenario

Year 2020						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	855	797	1652	7.64	6.60	7.10
5-9	748	650	1398	6.68	5.39	6.01
10-14	552	490	1042	4.93	4.06	4.48
15-19	331	354	685	2.96	2.93	2.94
20-24	374	409	783	3.34	3.39	3.37
25-29	654	735	1389	5.84	6.09	5.97
30-34	970	994	1964	8.67	8.24	8.44
35-39	1075	1042	2117	9.61	8.63	9.10
40-44	1188	1107	2295	10.62	9.17	9.87
45-49	887	853	1740	7.93	7.07	7.48
50-54	693	647	1340	6.19	5.36	5.76
55-59	584	601	1185	5.22	4.98	5.09
60-64	533	635	1168	4.76	5.26	5.02
65-69	647	853	1500	5.78	7.07	6.45
70-74	456	683	1139	4.08	5.66	4.90
75-79	299	518	817	2.67	4.29	3.51
80-84	185	321	506	1.65	2.66	2.18
85-89	108	224	332	0.97	1.86	1.43
90-94	35	120	155	0.31	0.99	0.67
95-99	15	36	51	0.13	0.30	0.22
100+	1	1	2	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total	11190	12070	23260			

Year 2025						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	839	798	1637	6.84	6.13	6.48
5-9	900	820	1720	7.34	6.30	6.81
10-14	776	666	1442	6.33	5.12	5.71
15-19	559	506	1065	4.56	3.89	4.21
20-24	357	410	767	2.91	3.15	3.04
25-29	531	650	1181	4.33	5.00	4.67
30-34	921	974	1895	7.51	7.49	7.50
35-39	1132	1087	2219	9.23	8.36	8.78
40-44	1131	1079	2210	9.22	8.29	8.75
45-49	1197	1126	2323	9.76	8.66	9.19
50-54	897	875	1772	7.32	6.73	7.01
55-59	702	650	1352	5.73	5.00	5.35
60-64	529	543	1072	4.31	4.17	4.24
65-69	459	610	1069	3.74	4.69	4.23
70-74	573	805	1378	4.67	6.19	5.45
75-79	377	618	995	3.07	4.75	3.94
80-84	217	430	647	1.77	3.31	2.56
85-89	109	215	324	0.89	1.65	1.28
90-94	45	105	150	0.37	0.81	0.59
95-99	10	38	48	0.08	0.29	0.19
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.02
Total	12262	13008	25270			

Year 2030						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	822	779	1601	6.19	5.62	5.90
5-9	883	819	1702	6.65	5.90	6.27
10-14	924	833	1757	6.96	6.00	6.47
15-19	783	682	1465	5.90	4.92	5.40
20-24	585	560	1145	4.41	4.04	4.22
25-29	510	649	1159	3.84	4.68	4.27
30-34	786	881	1667	5.92	6.35	6.14
35-39	1076	1064	2140	8.10	7.67	7.88
40-44	1185	1124	2309	8.93	8.10	8.50
45-49	1143	1097	2240	8.61	7.91	8.25
50-54	1203	1141	2344	9.06	8.22	8.63
55-59	904	863	1767	6.81	6.22	6.51
60-64	646	594	1240	4.87	4.28	4.57
65-69	461	520	981	3.47	3.75	3.61
70-74	413	582	995	3.11	4.20	3.66
75-79	476	731	1207	3.59	5.27	4.45
80-84	283	515	798	2.13	3.71	2.94
85-89	133	295	428	1.00	2.13	1.58

90-94	47	106	153	0.35	0.76	0.56
95-99	13	35	48	0.10	0.25	0.18
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.01
Total	13277	13873	27150			

Year 2035						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	831	781	1612	5.85	5.33	5.59
5-9	861	798	1659	6.06	5.45	5.75
10-14	907	829	1736	6.38	5.66	6.01
15-19	930	843	1773	6.54	5.75	6.14
20-24	808	734	1542	5.69	5.01	5.34
25-29	727	789	1516	5.12	5.38	5.25
30-34	748	866	1614	5.26	5.91	5.59
35-39	931	963	1894	6.55	6.57	6.56
40-44	1125	1097	2222	7.92	7.49	7.70
45-49	1196	1142	2338	8.42	7.79	8.10
50-54	1145	1116	2261	8.06	7.62	7.83
55-59	1196	1119	2315	8.42	7.64	8.02
60-64	839	804	1643	5.90	5.49	5.69
65-69	573	571	1144	4.03	3.90	3.96
70-74	419	501	920	2.95	3.42	3.19
75-79	352	530	882	2.48	3.62	3.06
80-84	365	611	976	2.57	4.17	3.38
85-89	180	361	541	1.27	2.46	1.87
90-94	62	153	215	0.44	1.04	0.74
95-99	15	40	55	0.11	0.27	0.19
100+	1	4	5	0.01	0.03	0.02
Total	14211	14652	28863			

Population projection Rača - low scenario

Year 2020						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	839	778	1617	7.59	6.51	7.03
5-9	743	643	1386	6.72	5.38	6.03
10-14	546	489	1035	4.94	4.09	4.50
15-19	331	353	684	2.99	2.95	2.97
20-24	369	399	768	3.34	3.34	3.34
25-29	626	702	1328	5.66	5.88	5.77
30-34	930	965	1895	8.41	8.08	8.24
35-39	1053	1028	2081	9.52	8.60	9.05
40-44	1184	1105	2289	10.71	9.25	9.95
45-49	886	850	1736	8.01	7.11	7.55

50-54	686	646	1332	6.20	5.41	5.79
55-59	581	601	1182	5.26	5.03	5.14
60-64	540	640	1180	4.88	5.36	5.13
65-69	647	853	1500	5.85	7.14	6.52
70-74	456	683	1139	4.12	5.72	4.95
75-79	299	513	812	2.70	4.29	3.53
80-84	181	319	500	1.64	2.67	2.17
85-89	108	224	332	0.98	1.87	1.44
90-94	35	120	155	0.32	1.00	0.67
95-99	15	36	51	0.14	0.30	0.22
100+	1	1	2	0.01	0.01	0.01
Total	11056	11948	23004			

Year 2025						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	780	748	1528	6.61	5.95	6.27
5-9	870	788	1658	7.38	6.27	6.81
10-14	767	644	1411	6.50	5.12	5.79
15-19	552	492	1044	4.68	3.91	4.29
20-24	345	394	739	2.93	3.13	3.03
25-29	471	576	1047	3.99	4.58	4.30
30-34	799	876	1675	6.78	6.97	6.87
35-39	1035	1028	2063	8.78	8.18	8.47
40-44	1088	1057	2145	9.23	8.41	8.80
45-49	1190	1118	2308	10.09	8.89	9.47
50-54	886	851	1737	7.51	6.77	7.13
55-59	681	642	1323	5.78	5.11	5.43
60-64	533	560	1093	4.52	4.45	4.49
65-69	473	609	1082	4.01	4.84	4.44
70-74	567	801	1368	4.81	6.37	5.61
75-79	377	616	993	3.20	4.90	4.08
80-84	217	414	631	1.84	3.29	2.59
85-89	105	212	317	0.89	1.69	1.30
90-94	45	105	150	0.38	0.84	0.62
95-99	10	38	48	0.08	0.30	0.20
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.02
Total	11792	12572	24364			

Year 2030						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	704	671	1375	5.71	5.16	5.43
5-9	807	756	1563	6.54	5.82	6.17
10-14	892	788	1680	7.23	6.06	6.63
15-19	770	644	1414	6.24	4.95	5.58
20-24	565	519	1084	4.58	3.99	4.28
25-29	427	534	961	3.46	4.11	3.79

30-34	607	719	1326	4.92	5.53	5.23
35-39	883	937	1820	7.16	7.21	7.18
40-44	1063	1052	2115	8.62	8.09	8.35
45-49	1086	1067	2153	8.80	8.21	8.50
50-54	1186	1110	2296	9.61	8.54	9.06
55-59	876	834	1710	7.10	6.42	6.75
60-64	634	603	1237	5.14	4.64	4.88
65-69	472	532	1004	3.83	4.09	3.96
70-74	418	576	994	3.39	4.43	3.92
75-79	472	727	1199	3.83	5.59	4.73
80-84	283	504	787	2.29	3.88	3.11
85-89	133	281	414	1.08	2.16	1.63
90-94	46	106	152	0.37	0.82	0.60
95-99	13	35	48	0.11	0.27	0.19
100+	1	3	4	0.01	0.02	0.02
Total	12338	12998	25336			

Year 2035						
Age	Males	Females	Total	Males %	Females %	Total %
0-4	665	627	1292	5.23	4.73	4.97
5-9	724	677	1401	5.70	5.10	5.39
10-14	819	756	1575	6.44	5.70	6.06
15-19	895	788	1683	7.04	5.94	6.48
20-24	777	660	1437	6.11	4.98	5.53
25-29	625	642	1267	4.92	4.84	4.88
30-34	533	652	1185	4.19	4.92	4.56
35-39	672	763	1435	5.29	5.75	5.52
40-44	908	952	1860	7.14	7.18	7.16
45-49	1053	1052	2105	8.28	7.93	8.10
50-54	1074	1064	2138	8.45	8.02	8.23
55-59	1166	1083	2249	9.17	8.17	8.66
60-64	823	794	1617	6.48	5.99	6.23
65-69	575	575	1150	4.52	4.34	4.43
70-74	423	507	930	3.33	3.82	3.58
75-79	357	524	881	2.81	3.95	3.39
80-84	363	604	967	2.86	4.55	3.72
85-89	180	354	534	1.42	2.67	2.06
90-94	62	145	207	0.49	1.09	0.80
95-99	15	40	55	0.12	0.30	0.21
100+	1	4	5	0.01	0.03	0.02
Total	12710	13263	25973			

ANNEX 2: Table with interviews with institutional actors

Institution	Respondent
Municipal Office	Mayor
Non-governmental organisation working with children and youth	Social terrain worker
Local Labor Office	Employee responsible for the implementation of the EURES project
NGO providing family care services to families with children at pre-school age and organizing cultural activities	Director
Local Labor Office	Employee providing assistance to employers employing foreigners from non-EU countries
Municipal Office	Head of the Internal Administration office
Municipal Office	Head of the Educational Office
Real estate company	Real estate agent
Union of Seniors	Representative of the local branch

ANNEX 3: Table with interviews with young migrants

Gender	Age	Family status	Educational Attainment	Type of migration	Employment status	Country of origin/destination
Male	35	w/o children	Tertiary education	Returning migrant and soon-to-be commuter	Employed	Belgium - short-term study/work stay; Hungary – cross-border commuter
Female	31	w/ children	Tertiary education	Commuter	On a maternity leave/Employed	Austria
Male	27	w/o children	Upper-secondary education	Long-term immigrant	Employed	Romania
Male	31	w/ children	Upper-secondary education	Long-term immigrant	Employed	Serbia

Female	30	w/ children	Primary education	Long-term immigrant	Stay at home parent	Ukraine
Female	29	w/o children	Tertiary education	Returning migrant	Employed	UK
Male	29	w/o children	Upper- secondary education	Long-term immigrant	Employed	Serbia
Female	35	w/ children	Tertiary education	Returning migrant and commuter	Employed	Venezuela. USA. Czech Republic – long-term migration; Austria – commuting to work

ANNEX 4: Focus group characteristics of participants

Gender	Age	Family status	Educational Attainment	Type of migration	Employment status	Country origin/destination
Female	29	w/o children	Upper- secondary education	Returning migrant	Employed	United Kingdom – labour migration (2008- 2011; 2013-2015)
Female	19	w/o children	Primary education	Returning migrant	Student	United Kingdom - study exchange programme (2015-2016)
Female	24	w/o children	Tertiary education	Returning migrant	Employed	United States of America – study exchange programme (2010-2012); United Kingdom-labour and study (2012-2017)
Female	21	w/o children	Upper- secondary education	Returning migrant;	Employed	Short-term emigration (study exchange programme) to Austria (2013-2014) and short- term work stay in the United States during the summer 2017
Female	26	w/o children	Secondary education	Returning migrant	Employed and student (PhD)	Study exchange programme (2007-2009) and multiple short term volunteering

						programmes 2010-2014 in Germany
Female	34	w/ children	Upper- secondary education	Returning migrant	Employed	Austria – maternity leave; husband- labour migration (2014-2016)
Male	39	w/ children	Tertiary education	Returning migrant	Employed	Canada – long-term labour migration (2001-2007)