

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 Szeged: processes, effects and policy challenges

Municipality of Szeged

December 2017

This Local Status Quo Analysis on youth migration was developed in the framework of “YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration”. YOUMIG is a strategic project funded by the European Union’s Danube Transnational Programme. Project code: DTP1-1-161-4.1

The analysis was prepared within the YOUMIG activity “Local status quo analysis of youth migration with involvement of stakeholders”, coordinated by the Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, with inputs from several project partners of the YOUMIG consortium.

The information published here reflects the authors’ views and the Managing Authority is not liable for any use that may be made of the information concerned.

© Municipality of Szeged

All Rights Reserved.

Suggested citation: Municipality of Szeged (2017): Transnational Youth Migration in Szeged: processes, effects and policy challenges. Local status quo analysis developed within the project ‘YOUMIG - Improving institutional capacities and fostering cooperation to tackle the impacts of transnational youth migration’. Available at: <http://www.interreg-danube.eu/youmig>

Contents

Executive Summary	5
Project Description:	7
1. Introduction	10
1. Methods	11
2. The municipality of Szeged	13
2.1. General presentation	13
2.2. Local development	13
3. Migratory and demographic processes in quantitative perspective	16
3.1. Population change and migratory processes at national level	16
Population change at national level	16
Migratory processes at national level	17
Data on immigrants residing in Hungary	18
3.2. Population change and migratory processes at municipality level	19
3.3. Presentation of the results of the population projection	21
Introduction	21
Scenarios	22
4. Characteristics of youth migration in the municipality	23
4.1. General characteristics	23
4.2. Perceived characteristics of youth migration in Szeged	25
Immigrants living in Szeged	25
Emigrants leaving Szeged	26
Return migration	27
A special case: day-care and youth migration	27
Perceived relation between migration patterns and local development	28
Attitude towards immigration	28
4.3. Results of the interviews with young migrants	29
5. Typical biographies of young migrants	30
6. Challenges connected to youth migration and policies aimed to deal with them	32
6.1. Young migrants on policy challenges	32
6.2. Policy competences, institutional actors involved	33
6.3. Policies aimed to deal with the consequences of youth migration (based on the findings of the interviews with institutional actors)	34
Main challenges concerned with Youth immigration according to the representatives of local institutions	34

Main challenges concerned with Youth <i>emigration</i> according to the representatives of local institutions	34
Positive and negative consequences of youth migration	35
Access to social care facilities of different migrant segments	35
Suggestions of the interviewees	36
Special municipality level policies, strategies, services or programs related to youth migration.	36
7. Outlook, conclusions and recommendations	37
References	39
Annex 1: Tables containing the main results of the demographic projection	40
Annex 2: Table on interviewed institutional actors	41
Annex 3: Table on the interviewed young migrants	42
Annex 4: Table on the participants of the focus group	42

Executive Summary

The Local Status Quo Analysis was based on research activities using both quantitative (collection and analysis of statistical data) and qualitative methods (interviews with institutional actors, narrative-biographic interviews, focus group, migration forum, brainstorming session).

Based on official statistics, in the past the surplus of migration balance has mitigated the effect of natural change in the city of Szeged, in the south of Hungary, and has ensured that the total population change exceeds it. The total fertility rate is well below the replacement level, while life expectancy has been continuously increasing in the last decades.

Aging is more perceivable in Szeged than at national level: life expectancy is higher than the national average, and the fertility rate is well below the national rate. From 2005 until 2015, the internal migration balance was positive, while the official international migration balance was either positive or slightly negative. Data for the year 2016 suggest that this trend may be reversed. In Szeged the majority of EU-born and third-country-born immigrants belong to the cohort aged 15-34.

The local population projection (which cannot be considered a forecast) shows that migration will probably have a significant (but not drastic) effect on the population size of Szeged. In two decades Szeged may lose 2-6% of its population due to migration.

The main immigrant communities in the municipality are the Serbian-born (about 6,000 persons) and the Romanian-born (about 3,000 persons) population and students of the University of Szeged coming from abroad (about 2,000 persons). Serbia keeps being the main sending country, followed by Romania. After Hungary's accession to the EU in 2004, and especially from 2009, an increase in the out-migration of young people (mainly to the United Kingdom, Germany and Austria) can be detected. In this period, the number of returnees has been continuously increasing as well.

Migration plays an important role in Szeged. There is a perceivable presence of foreigners in the city. Immigrants are generally identified as foreign students studying at the University of Szeged. Foreigners are typically considered beneficial for the city of Szeged. Foreign students generally remain isolated from the majority society. Internal immigration plays an important role in Szeged, many young people come to Szeged to enroll at the local university, and many of them would like to stay. Internal emigration is often a first stage of international emigration. A significant number of people leave Szeged. The fundamental motivation for emigration is better salaries/wages. It is often not individual persons, but families who migrate. When deciding on returning, emotional reasons are dominant. Some people return in order to attend to the needs of elderly family members, or come back to start a family and have children in Szeged.

Citizens of Szeged generally see foreigners as beneficial for the city, accordingly, no negative perceptions on the foreigners were detected during the research. Based on a recent survey, only a small, but not completely marginal part of the local population is disturbed by the presence of foreigners in the city.

There are several challenges connected with youth immigration. Foreigners should be made to feel even more welcome. There is a separation between foreigners and locals. It is difficult to find a company to employ somebody who does not speak Hungarian. Szeged should provide a good cultural and educational palette to cater to the needs of locals and foreigners at the same time.

According to the representatives of local institutions, there are multiple challenges regarding emigration. Those who go abroad often leave part of their family behind. Young people are more and more mobile and motivated by money, and better working environments, which should be improved

in Szeged. It is important to keep in Szeged those who could contribute to the development of the city. It is a challenge to create proper opportunities for those who can work from a distance and try to keep them in Szeged. The lack of doctors in the health-care system has several important consequences. Further, there is little reliable and comprehensive data on local migratory processes, which makes planning difficult.

According to the findings of the research, locals think that tolerance or intercultural skills should be (further) developed by sensitization. Administrators should be trained on how to deal with those coming to Szeged from abroad and those going from Szeged to another country. It is pointed out that sensitization should include the staff of the day-care centres of the municipality, who are in direct contact with young immigrant parents and immigrant children as well. Recommendations include the systematic collection of migration-related data and the accentuation of migration in policy documents, strategies.

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

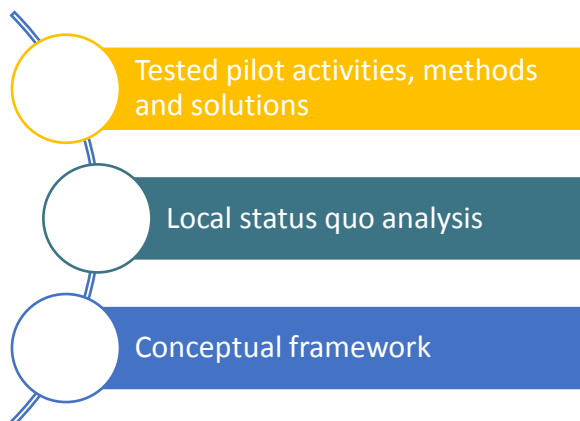


YOUMIG is a strategic project of the European Union’s Danube Transnational Programme, in which 19 partners from 8 countries work together. The objective of the project is to support local governments in tackling the challenges and exploiting the developmental potential of youth migration, leading to 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 provides an overview of the trends in youth migration and of the 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, the project endeavours to characterize and typify the municipalities according to the migratory trends they experience. The second aim is to understand the effects of youth migration, respectively to identify the policy challenges related to it. Through our applied research, we also wanted to provide a brief look into the responses given by local authorities to challenges related to in- and out-migration of the young people. A related goal was to identify the management and capacity gaps in the institutional mechanisms of the local authorities to deal with youth migration and related phenomena.

The level of the analysis is the municipality and each of the Local Status Quo Analyses can be perceived as detailed case study using multiple methods of data collection and analysis. These case studies cover local administrative units being in quite different position in the system of international migration and of the socio-economic interdependencies. Some of our municipalities receive; some of them send migrants while others are both targets and starting points of the transnational migratory flows. The municipality of Szeged is affected by (internal and international) immigration and (internal and international emigration) as well. Some of our municipalities in the project are important regional centres, while others are small or medium-sized towns with an economically peripheral position. Our municipality is one of the biggest and most developed cities in Hungary. In spite of these significant differences, both the data collection and analysis were based on jointly used concepts, uniform methodologies and previously agreed processes. The main focus of the investigation was on emigration, immigration and return migration. In some municipalities, commuting was included; however, internal migration (even if important in some cases) was not in our focus. The conceptual and theoretical framework of the analysis was provided by the University of Vienna team, while the methodological tool by the Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities. By using these tools, the comparison of the results will be possible in a further phase. Nevertheless, at the level of the present case study we also tried to reveal the specificities of Szeged.

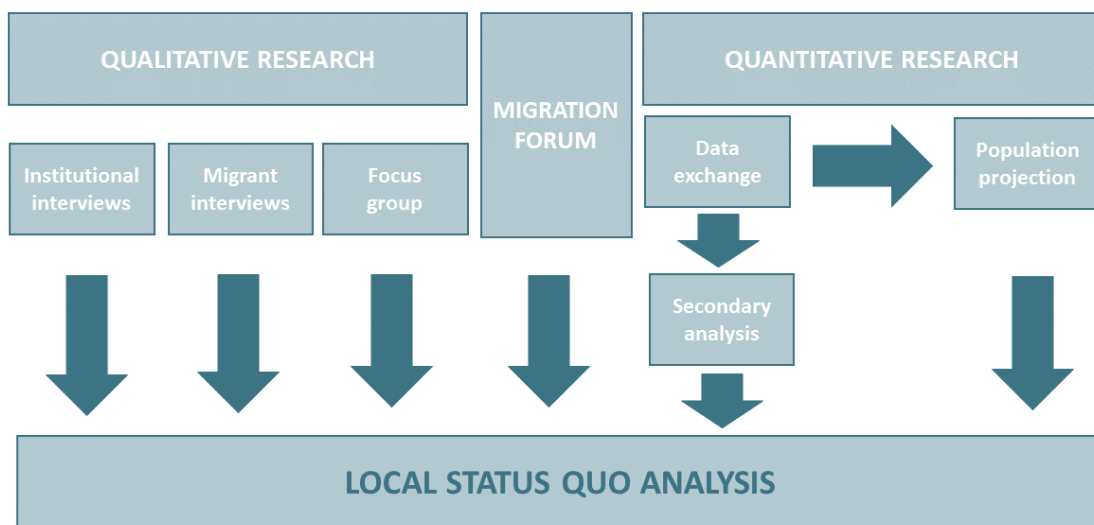
The research activities were closely connected to other work packages and activities. The results of the present analysis help the municipality to elaborate evidence-based strategies to deal with the impact of youth migration. This will be of key importance during the implementation of Work Package 5 of YOUMIG, where a pilot project concerning the management of the effects of youth migration will be launched in each municipality. The strategy building activities of Work Package 6 of the YOUMIG project will be also based on the exploratory activities synthesized in this report.

The report is organized into eight chapters. First, we present in brief the methodology of the investigation. Afterwards, we provide a general presentation of the Municipality of Szeged with a special focus on local development. The next chapter is a description of the migratory processes and related phenomena from a quantitative perspective relying on available statistical and survey data. The indicative timespan of this analysis is the 1989/1990-2016/2017 period. In this chapter, a municipality level population projection provided by the INFOSTAT team is also included. The following two chapters focus on the results of the qualitative investigation based on interviews with institutional actors and young migrants. We present the characteristics of youth migration, and provide some typical migrant biographies. The next part presents the major policy challenges the local authorities have to face and their policies concerning the effects of youth migration. The following chapter contains our concluding remarks and recommendations. The last sections of the document are a bibliography and relevant annexes.

1. Methods

The Local Status Quo Analysis was based on research activities using both quantitative and qualitative methods (Figure 1). The figure below summarizes the data sources and research activities that fed into the current report.

Figure 1: Methods used to collect and analyze data



Qualitative research

Most importantly, a complex qualitative research was carried out by the experts contracted by the Municipality of Szeged.

(1) First, interviews with institutional actors were conducted. 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 reveal local discourses concerning migration, and map how local stakeholders think about the relationship between migration and development. One of the main aims of this phase was to map the existing policies (measures and activities) focusing on migration and youth. On the 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. For the list of institutional actors, please see Annex 2.

(2) In the next phase, narrative-biographic interviews with young migrants were carried out. We used only partially the narrative-biographic method. The second part of the interviews can be conceived as

a semi-structured interview, as we put 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 (the self-representation) of migrants to our own scientific or political narratives. The interviewed young migrants had the opportunity to present their stories in a less constrained way. The semi-structured phase was used to obtain additional data concerning the migrants, to test some previous hypothesis concerning them. We tried to select young migrants with “typical” life trajectories. As in general, during the research, our main focus 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 to be asked during the interviews. A total number of nine narrative-biographic interviews were conducted (see Annex 3).

(3) A focus group was also conducted according to a previously fixed guide. The focus group method is a par excellence 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 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 interview focused on the experiences of young people with migration, paying special attention to the administrative aspects of the migration process (their contacts with the local and other levels of administration, the problems they encountered, their opinion about the policies employed by the relevant authorities etc.). Our goal was to obtain information that can be useful for local decision-makers, policy-makers and stakeholders.

(4) A migration forum and a brainstorming were also organized with the participation of local citizens and representatives of local stakeholders in order to identify the challenges connected to the transnational migration of young people.

Quantitative research

The quantitative research was based on secondary analysis of existing statistical sources and surveys conducted at the level of 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.

(1) 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 Hungarian Central Statistical Office (HCSO). These data were used in the secondary analysis carried out using a template provided by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia. Unless indicated otherwise, the source of all data used in the current document is HSCO.

(2) The quantitative analysis presents the demographic and migratory trends forecasted 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.

2. The municipality of Szeged

2.1. General presentation

Szeged, with a population of around 161.000 inhabitants is one of the biggest cities in Hungary. It is located 8 kilometres from the Serbian border, and 18 kilometres from the Romanian border. Due to its geopolitical status, a certain level of multiculturalism has been for long an important characteristic of Szeged – the city offers a fine example for the coexistence of the Romanian, Serbian and Hungarian people. Szeged is the administrative centre of Csongrád county (one of the 20 NUTS-3 regions of Hungary); and the hub of the Southern Great Plain (NUTS-2) region. The majority of the seats of the county-level institutions and organizations are in Szeged, and the entities of the regional level institutional system are concentrated in the city. With twelve faculties, and more than 20 thousand students, the University of Szeged is a key institution in the city, and the biggest local employer.

2.2. Local development

Szeged in regional perspective

Szeged is a major economic, cultural and education centre. The number of local businesses exceeds 20 thousand, both industrial (food industry, processing industry and construction industry) and service (info-communication technologies, biotechnology, health industry) sectors are strong. Szeged is also an innovative hub: several sectors with great growth potential like ICT, life science and laser technologies are present. The number of shared service centres is on the rise.

Szeged is definitely a European cultural and festival city. The Szeged National Theatre with one of the largest budgets in the country has three sections and offers one of the best repertoires in Hungary. The music life of the city is globally renowned. Besides the theatre, the Music Academy and the Szeged Synagogue (the fourth biggest synagogue in the world) await concertgoers. The city has two major libraries: the Somogyi Library and the public collection of the University of Szeged. The flagship of the festivals is definitely the Szeged Open-Air Festival, nevertheless there is an abundance of programmes throughout the year: beer and wine festivals, Bridge Fair, Jewish Cultural Festival and several other cultural and gastronomical events. Szeged boasts numerous museums and exhibition-places, including Ferenc Móra Museum, which is one of the most visited museums in Hungary. (Szeged Pólus 2016)

Szeged is the second largest educational centre after Budapest in the country, with more than 40 thousand people studying at one of the numerous secondary, high and vocational schools, and the University of Szeged. The presence of bilingual primary and secondary schools ensures a smooth integration of children of foreigners and return migrants in Szeged. The University of Szeged offers hundreds of training courses, including bachelor, master, integrated, undivided and doctoral training courses in Hungarian and in foreign languages as well. Higher education specializations, postgraduate courses and adult education programmes are also available. According to academic rankings, the University of Szeged is among the world's top 500 universities. The role of the University goes beyond providing education and enhancing R&D activities; it is responsible for patient care in the region as well. (Szeged Pólus 2016)

The interviews with institutional actors revealed that the development of Szeged looks contrasting from different perspectives. When it is examined compared to the development of other settlements in Csongrád county (NUTS 3 region), Szeged is clearly the most developed city; and in the entire

Southern Great Plain (NUTS2 region) Szeged is considered to be the most (or the second most) developed settlement¹. On the other hand, compared to the most developed cities of Hungary (e.g. Budapest, Győr, Székesfehérvár) it is acknowledged that in the terms of economic development Szeged cannot compete with them. Generally, interviewees consider Western Hungary to be economically more developed than the region in which Szeged is situated.

Table 1: GDP per capita in Hungarian NUTS 3 regions (2016). Source: HCSO

Rank	Region	GDP/capita (in thousand HUF)	% of the national average
1	Budapest	7 289	202,0
2	Győr-Moson-Sopron	4 901	135,8
3	Fejér	3 762	104,2
4	Komárom-Esztergom	3 751	103,9
5	Vas	3 570	98,9
6	Pest (without Budapest)	2 907	80,5
7	Bács-Kiskun	2 747	76,1
8	Veszprém	2 726	75,5
9	Zala	2 725	75,5
10	Csongrád	2 708	75,0
11	Tolna	2 657	73,6
12	Heves	2 603	72,1
13	Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén	2 543	70,5
14	Hajdú-Bihar	2 526	70,0
15	Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok	2 355	65,2
16	Baranya	2 338	64,8
17	Somogy	2 220	61,5
18	Békés	2 169	60,1
19	Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg	2 043	56,6
20	Nógrád	1 566	43,4

This is also reflected in the statistics. Although Szeged is the economic centre of Csongrád county (e.g. 8 out of the top 15 enterprises in the county are based in Szeged), Csongrád is only in the middle range in the ranking of Hungarian counties based on GDP per capita (Table 1).

¹ It was mentioned as one of the biggest recent success stories of Szeged by several interviewees that British Petrol has recently opened its global service centre in Szeged in 2016-2017, and plans to expand it in the near future, creating altogether 500 jobs in the city.

Leading companies in Szeged

The leading companies in Szeged are present in a diverse array of fields of operation (Table 2). According to the latest rankings², among the top 500 Hungarian companies only 9 (in terms of results), or 14 (in terms of turnovers) are based in Csongrád county.

Table 2: Top enterprises in Csongrád county (2016). Source: official registers

Rank	Company	Field	Net turnover (in 1000 million HUF)	Operating result (in million HUF)	Number of employees
1	NKM Áramszolgáltató Zrt.	Trade of electricity	95,5	3665	457
2	Pick Szeged Zrt.	Meat-products	77,0	1032	2956
3	Sole-MiZo Zrt.	Dairy products	53,3	1168	950
4	KÉSZ Építő Zrt.	Constructing	48,0	1245	178
5	NKM Áramhálózati Kft.	Electric power distribution	47,9	9145	638
6	Hansa-Kontakt Kft.	Wholesale trade	44,7	757	456
7	Contitech Rubber Ind. Kft.	Rubber products	36,8	n.a.	n.a.
8	ÉGÁZ-DÉGÁZ Földgázelosztó Zrt.	Gas distribution	17,2	-1239	485

The effects of the regime change and EU enlargement on national and local economy

After 1989, despite the optimism of Hungarians, the first years of the transition saw a deep recession in Hungary. Although the number of private firms raised significantly, industrial and agricultural production declined, and employment largely decreased. The liberalization of prices contributed to their rise, which resulted in a high level of inflation. With the change of the regimes in Eastern Bloc countries, the COMECON (Council for Mutual Economic Assistance) collapsed, Hungary lost most of its major economic connections and markets, and as a result of this process, specific industries and huge agricultural plants lost their former role, and turned out to be much less valuable than before. (Csizmadia 2008) Certainly, as any other Hungarian city, Szeged was affected by these processes. Nevertheless, unlike many big cities in Hungary, it was not severely touched by the collapse of heavy industry. For various reasons, however, many companies working in light industries resulted not to be competitive enough, and ceased to exist or severely reduced their output. Many local people working in these factories (e.g. textile, shoe-making, cloth-making, cannery) lost their jobs. Due to unfavourable macro-processes, an austerity package became necessary in Hungary in 1995, which envisaged a radical cut of expenditures, and a significant increase on the income side. Taxes on personal income were raised and VAT increased; staff reduction was implemented in the public sphere, and measures were taken to stop the increase of the real income. (Kornai 1997) Although these measures paved the path for growth, they also created a significant discontent among Hungarians. Therefore, the period after the change of the regime cannot be considered a success story neither in Hungary, nor in Szeged.

The accession of Hungary to the European Union in 2004 clearly had positive effects on the country and Szeged. In the period 2004-2006 almost 20 000 projects were supported from the Structural Funds; support was provided to 13 000 micro, small and medium-sized enterprises; nearly 22 000 new jobs were created; and as a result of the transport projects, 570 km of railway was upgraded, 40 km of motorway constructed and 450 km of public roads rehabilitated. (EU 2009) Entities in Szeged greatly

² Published in HVG 2017/45 and HVG 2017/46.

contributed to the fact that Csongrád was one of the most successful counties in accessing EU-funds. In December 2005, the M5 motorway reached Szeged. There were exceptionally high expectations concerning the positive effects of the motorway. Its economic impact and its role in attracting investors turned out to be somewhat lower than expected; nevertheless, Szeged has been able to benefit greatly from the direct motorway connection with the capital city of Budapest. The fact that the biggest Hungarian airport (Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport) is only about 90 minutes driving from Szeged is an important factor that makes the city more appealing to foreigners.

Social inequalities, poor neighbours

There are no segregated areas for migrants in Szeged. Poor segregated areas of Szeged are mostly habited by Roma people; immigrants typically do not live in these parts of the city. The Municipality of Szeged has made great effort to cease segregation by relocation and by innovative measures like a very successful large-scale desegregation program starting in 2007 and a number of pilot initiatives (e.g. Student Mentoring Program) to ensure integrated education and convivence of the Roma and non-Roma population of Szeged. (Fejes-Szűcs 2009)

Things that young people like and dislike about Szeged

The characteristics that young people like about Szeged are the renowned schools of the city and its university, its vibrant atmosphere, the beautiful downtown of Szeged, the availability of a vast array of services, the abundance of cultural events, and the youthful character of Szeged. The things that young people do not like about Szeged are the limited availability of jobs and relatively low salaries.

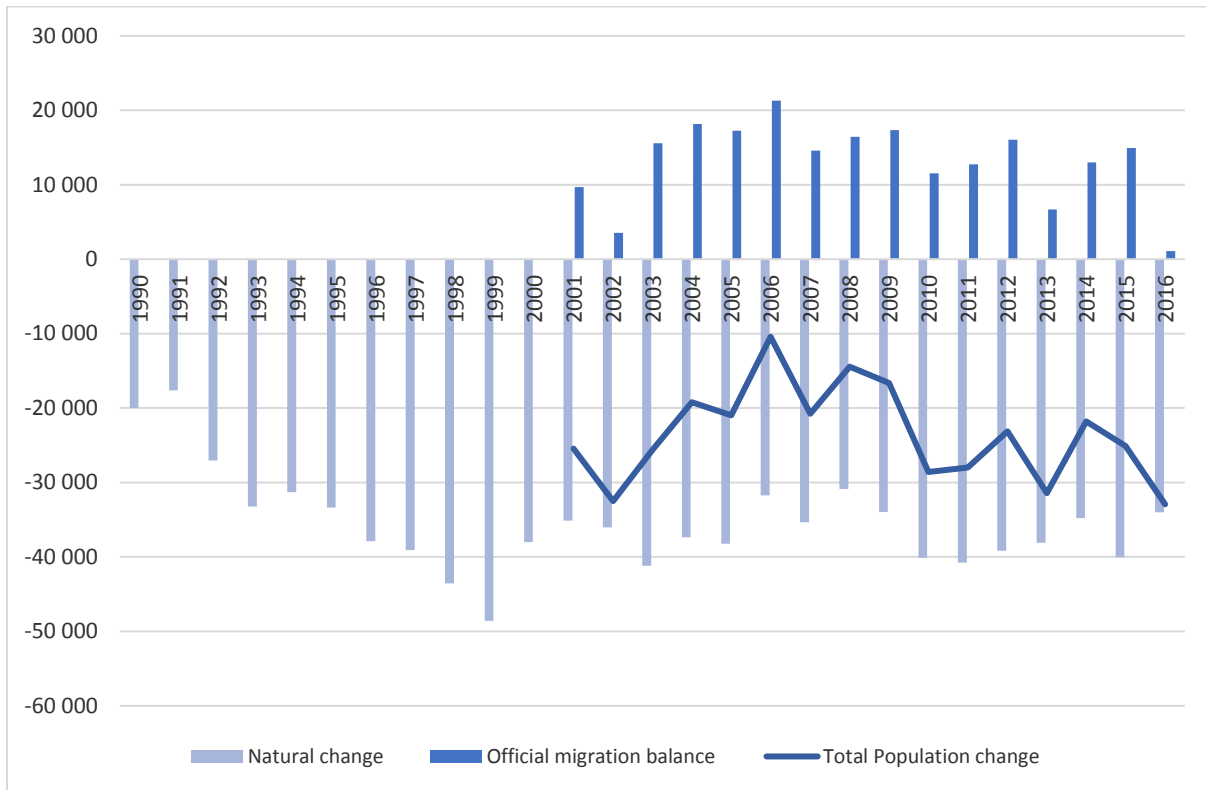
3. Migratory and demographic processes in quantitative perspective

3.1. Population change and migratory processes at national level

Population change at national level

Based on the official statistics, two major processes can be examined in the population change of Hungary (Figure 2). First, the population of Hungary has been continuously decreasing from 1989. In most of these years, the natural change remained within a range of -30.000 and -40.000. The other important aspect is the surplus of migration balance, which has mitigated the effect of natural change and has ensured that the total population change is more favourable than the natural change. Nevertheless, from 2006 a decreasing tendency in migration balance can also be detected.

Figure 2: Population change in Hungary (1990-2016). Source: HCSO



Ageing is one of the main concerns of demographers in Hungary. In 1991, the total fertility rate (1.88) was well below the replacement level (2.1), and it has not only remained in the sub-replacement range, but also further decreased since that time. In 2011 it was close to 1.2, and it has increased in recent years (in 2016 it was 1.49). On the other hand, life expectancy has been continuously increasing, from 69.32 years in 1991 to 75.91 years in 2016.

It is no wonder that the age structure has considerably changed in the last two decades. While in 1991 those aged 0-14 constituted the 19.9% of the population, in 2017 this rate was only 14.5%. The proportion of young people aged 15-34 decreased from 27.5% to 23.7%, while that of the elderly (aged 65 and up) increased from 13.4% to 18.7%. The government of Hungary has introduced several measures to increase the fertility rate. Two of the most significant measures are tax-reductions for families and a family housing support program.

Migratory processes at national level

Immigration

From the late 1980s, immigration in Hungary started to grow at a fast pace. This flow was characterized by a specific quality: most of the immigrants were citizens from neighbouring countries: Ukraine and Yugoslavia, and – most notably – from Romania. In the '90s, the Balkan wars made former Yugoslavian citizens – not only ethnic Hungarians, but also Bosnians, Serbians and Albanians – arrive in Hungary as asylum seekers (Póczik et al. 2008.). Concerning voluntary migration, immigration from China and several Middle Eastern countries also started to flow around 1990, many of them starting businesses.

Nevertheless, the majority of the immigrants in the 1990s stemmed from neighbouring countries: Romania, Ukraine and Yugoslavia (or former Yugoslavian republics) and Slovakia.

In the 2000s, the annual flow of immigrants was constant in the period of 2000-2004, however it peaked in 2005 (one year after the EU-accession of Hungary), and in 2008. This later rise was due to the new Immigration Act of Hungary, which enabled European Economic Area citizens to get a residence permit in a streamlined process. From 2009, immigration has gradually started to decrease. After the turn of the millennium, the neighbouring countries kept being the main sources of immigration; however, in 2005, their role started to shrink, and this process can be experienced until recent days.

Emigration

The opening of the borders at the time of the change of the regime contributed to a significant growth in emigration flow, however, among the people leaving Hungary many were not of Hungarian ethnicity, but forward migrants. This wave of emigration has ended by the mid '90s, and no exodus was experienced. Emigration started to rise in the first decade of the new millennium, especially after Hungary joining the European Union in May 2004. Member states gradually opened their labour markets, the United Kingdom and Ireland as early as in 2004, while Germany and Austria only in 2011. (Gödri et al 2013) One of the main migration channels has led from the Western-Transdanubia region of Hungary to Austria. (Hárs 2009) Studies suggest that the migration potential of Hungarians – especially that of the youth – is significant; therefore, emigration is unlikely to decrease. The top 3 countries of destination of Hungarians are Germany, Austria and United Kingdom (in this order).

From a comparative perspective, it is to be noted that the extent of outgoing migration from Hungary has been relatively low among CEE or SEE countries in the transition period, especially in its first two decades. It can be argued, that this was a result of different factors, including poor language skills, relatively high GDP and wages and low unemployment (Hárs 2016). Thus, the trend of increasing out-migration in the last decade can be considered as a process of catching up to other countries in the region in this respect.

Return migration

The '90s saw a new kind of migration phenomena: former emigrants returning to Hungary. Inflow of Hungarian citizens immigrating into Hungary was relatively low, but showed a growing tendency: 300-400 persons per year in 1990-1992 and 1200-1700 capita per annum in 1998-2000. In the 2000s, with the rise in emigration of Hungarians, the number of Hungarian citizens immigrating (back) into Hungary has also increased. Until 2010 (with few exceptions), the share of returning Hungarians among all migrants was relatively constant, but it has been increasing since then. The rise can be – at least partially – attributed to the simplified naturalization process, which (from January 2011) has enabled ethnic Hungarians living or born abroad to become Hungarian citizens with favourable conditions, even without having to reside in Hungary. Therefore applicants may become Hungarian citizens before immigrating to Hungary, and – after entering the county – appear in statistics as Hungarian citizens, not as foreigners.

Data on immigrants residing in Hungary

In 2011, based on census data, 96.1% of the population was native born, 2.7% was EU-born immigrants, and 1.2% non-EU-born immigrants. No dramatic change can be detected until 2016, when – according to micro-census data – out of the total population of 9.803.837 persons, 9.420.342 (96,1%) were native born, 252.958 (2.6%) were immigrants born in the EU, and 130.537 (1.3%) were born in a third country. The two latter groups have rather different characteristics concerning age structure (Table 3). It is clear

that the proportion of young people aged 15-34 are lower among EU-born immigrants, but higher among non-EU born immigrants than in the native-born population. The proportion of those aged 0-14 is rather low in both categories of foreign-born population. Therefore, both the relatively low proportion of immigrants and their age structure show that immigration plays a rather marginal role in mitigating the effects of aging in Hungary.

Table 3: Age structure of the native born and foreign-born population in Hungary in 2016. Source: HCSO

Age group	Native born	EU born (non-native)	Non-EU born
0-14	15.0%	4.6%	6.3%
15-34	26.1%	23.8%	30.8%
35+	59.0%	71.6%	62.9%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

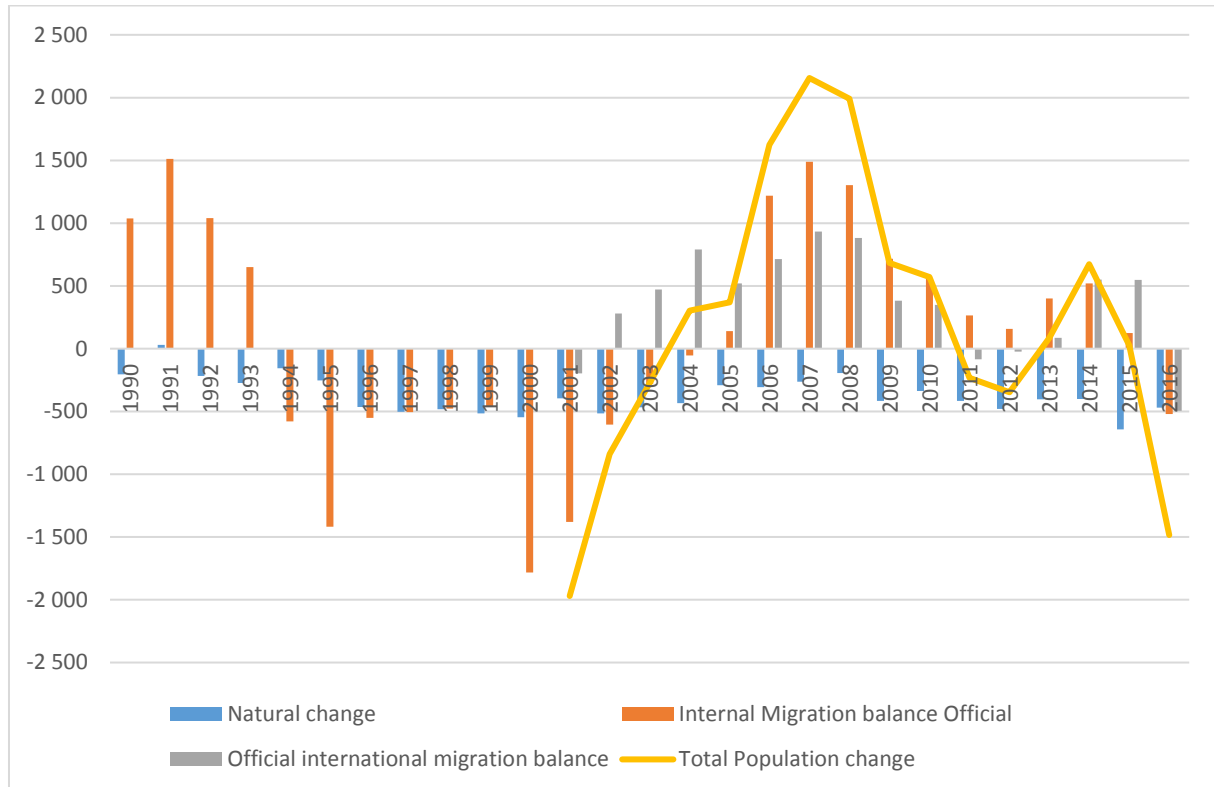
In 2016, most of the foreign-born population was born in Romania (1.61% of the total population), followed by Ukraine (0.36%), Slovakia (0.33%), Serbia (0.29%) and (Germany 0.23%). One must point out that the proportion of foreign population based on citizenship shows remarkable changes over the period 2011-2017. While in 2011 the proportion of foreigner citizens was 2.1% (1.3% EU-born and 0.8% non-EU born), in 2017 the proportion of those with foreign citizenship was significantly lower (1.5%), with 0.8% of the population holding EU citizenship, and 0.7% holding non-EU citizenship. One of the main reasons for this change is the endeavour of the Government to provide ethnic Hungarians with a fast-track process (simplified naturalization) to acquire Hungarian from January 2011. In 2011 and 2012, more than 96 percent of the newly naturalized citizens were nationals of Romania, Ukraine, Serbia or Slovakia (HCSO 2014). This is reflected by the fact that in the mentioned period, the proportion of Romanian citizens residing in Hungary fell from 0.77% to 0.25%, and the Serbian, the fourth biggest emigrant group with a population of more than 16 thousand in 2011, could not make it in the top five in 2017 with less than 6000 persons.

3.2. Population change and migratory processes at municipality level

Population change

Based on the official statistics, several major periods can be defined regarding the effect of migration on the population of Szeged (Figure 3). First, the population of the city has been continuously increasing from 1990 until 1993, due to internal migration. From 1994 until 2004, internal outmigration exceeded internal immigration. Suburbanization has been experienced from the mid-1990s, therefore part of the population loss can be attributed to this phenomenon, which means that part of those who have ceased to be residents of Szeged keep being attached to Szeged without living in it. From 2005 until 2015, the internal migration balance had become positive, while official international migration balance was either positive or slightly negative (close to zero). Data for the year 2016 suggest that this trend may be reversed: both internal and international migration balances were negative.

Figure 3: Population change in Szeged (1990-2016). Source: HCSO



It is a common characteristic of the period starting from 1992 that natural change of the local population has been negative. The effect of aging is more prevalent in Szeged than at national level. In Szeged both male and female life expectancy (74.29 and 81.01, respectively) are higher than the national rates (72.43 and 79.21). In the city, life expectancy between 1991 and 2016 has increased more than the national index; the increment was 8.25 years in case of males, and 6.46 years in case of females. The fertility rate in 1991 in Szeged (1.67) was well below the national rate (1.88), and the difference has further increased since then: currently (2016) the municipal-level fertility rate is as low as 1.15 compared to the national rate of 1.49.

Peculiarities of local migratory processes

In Szeged, the migratory processes affecting Hungary described above were experienced with several specific features. First, the in-flow of Romanian and Serbian citizens (mostly, but not exclusively of Hungarian ethnicity) to Hungary was more remarkable in Szeged than in most settlements in Hungary. The vicinity of Szeged to Serbia and Romania made Szeged a gate-city for many immigrants, part of whom remained in the city. Second, although in Hungary the number of immigrants from Romania has well exceeded that of Serbian immigrants, in Szeged the presence of Serbia-born population has been more perceivable. At the time of the last census (2011), 3.6% of the total population of Szeged was born in Serbia, while 1.6% in Romania. Third, due to the renowned school system of Szeged, and the local university, the profile of immigrants is rather specific. The age-structure of immigrants in Szeged (Table 4) strikingly differs from that of immigrants in Hungary (Table 3). Preliminary data provided by

HCSO shows that in 2017 in Szeged three quarters of EU-born immigrants and more than two third of immigrants born in a third country belong to the cohort aged 15-34.

Table 4: Age structure of the native born and foreign-born population in Szeged in 2017. Source: HCSO

Age group	Native born	EU born (non-native)	Non-EU born
0-14	13.4%	1.7%	1.6%
15-34	25.2%	75.1%	68.8%
35+	61.3%	23.3%	29.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Relevant local researches

No reliable statistical data on emigrant stock are available at the time of the elaboration of current paper. Nevertheless, results of local researches – especially those of the annual representative survey “Szeged Studies” carried out by the Department of Sociology of the University of Szeged – give hints about how the population of Szeged is affected by migratory processes. According to the results of the most recent wave (Szeged Studies 2016), more than 14% of the local population has already spent at least half a year abroad, and 20% of the population (41% of the young adults aged 18-34) plans to go abroad for non-recreational purposes³.

3.3. Presentation of the results of the population projection

Introduction

a) Ideational approach towards creating scenarios

Three major scenarios are presented in case of migration. These scenarios in their nature are rather projections than forecasting scenarios. This means, they are some kind of “what-if” preconditions. Unlike forecasts do, the projections do not indicate the “real” development, as presupposed by their authors. By means of this is demonstrating how different assumptions will affect the future population dynamics and age structure. In other words, forecast is unconditional, only tells about the most reliable future trajectory as set by its author. In case of the projections, author could set the unlimited set of preliminary conditions. For instance, in case of fertility, “what-if” condition may be as follows: “what the natural dynamics would be, if fertility rate grows up to two children per woman”. The difference between the terms is not only the matter of academic debate, which was very fruitful mainly in the 2nd half of the 20th century (Pittenger 1976, Keilman 1997, Smith et al. 2001, and many others). It is also very important to clarify it towards stakeholders and decision-makers. The projections are very often the subject of misunderstanding. Although their results are only simulations being very often far away from the possible reality in the future, the media and politicians take the projections’ results and present them as “real” future.

³ Results courtesy of Department of Sociology, University of Szeged.

The fertility and mortality have been set in only one scenario and migration makes the differences to them. In general, a special focus is given to the youth migration. The volatility over time was taken into consideration as it implicates the uncertainty of assumptions. If the recent instability was higher, then the confidence interval (range between high and low scenario) was set as wider.

The medium scenario (*"Migration 2"*) is usually perceived as the most realistic in the forecasting. In this case, the medium scenario is much closer to the "present" approach. This means, the future here has been modelled as being similar to the recent development. It is simulation "what the population dynamics and age composition will be if the future migration characteristics remains as the contemporary ones do".

The low (*"Migration 3"*) and the high scenarios (*"Migration 1"*) are the possible frontiers beyond that the future development should not exceed. In this case, again, the both scenarios rather do model what the future dynamics will be, if the net migration grows (the high scenario) or reduces (the low scenario). The "accurate" range between them was based on expert estimation. In general, both too wide and too narrow intervals decrease the reliability of the forecast. The changes in future migration were modelled through the changes in youth migration. This means, the increase/decrease in the overall net migration was made via changes in the youth migration characteristics.

The zero-migration scenario is contrasting to the above-mentioned three scenarios. It demonstrates what the population development would be, if no migration enters into the population dynamics, and overall dynamics is only natural movement as itself. It is one of the best examples of the projection. On one hand, the non-existence of migration is very unreal, on the other hand the efficiency of such assumption is very efficient when the goal is to show the only impact of the fertility and mortality.

The jump-off age structure is real; however, the future assumptions are based on the principle of projections, not forecast, as explained above. One must distinguish between the starting (current) age-composition and age-composition within the future assumptions.

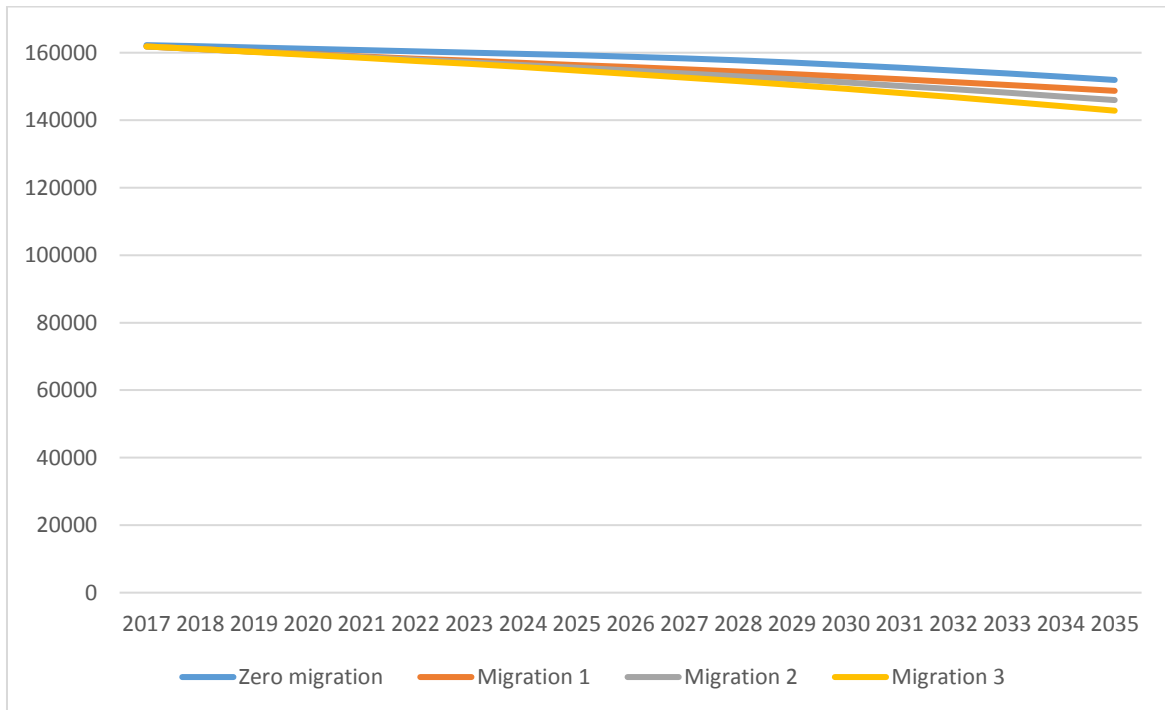
b) Methodological comments

The data on migration are segmented by sex and age. Structural aspect was taken into account. Age-profile data has been analysed. A special focus on youth migration has been paid. In the low and high scenarios, mainly the youth age groups have been modified. Finally, the numbers (surplus or loss) in all ages by sex have been included into the cohort-component model. As for internal and international components, both have been analysed separately and summed up in the last stage.

Scenarios

As it was presented above, four different projections have been developed: a hypothetical zero-migration scenario as well as three more realistic scenarios with different parameters. It can be clearly seen that migration will probably have a significant consequence on the population size of Szeged; nevertheless, its effect is not drastic. In the zero migration scenario, by 2035 the population will be 152 000, with "Migration 1" it will be about 149 000, with "Migration 2", about 146 000, and even according to the demographically worst case scenario ("Migration 3") it will be only slightly below 143.000. The difference between the zero and the worst migration scenario is around 9000 persons, that is 5.6% of the current population.

1. Figure: Population projections for Szeged (2017-2035). Source: INFOSTAT



4. Characteristics of youth migration in the municipality

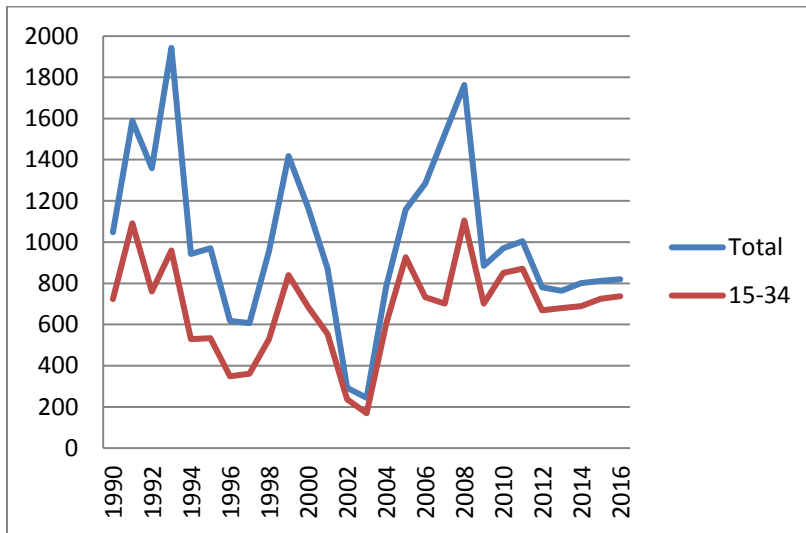
4.1. General characteristics

Immigration

The main immigrant communities in the municipality are the Serbian-born (about 6000 persons), the Romanian born (about 3000 persons) and students of the University of Szeged coming from abroad (about 2000 persons). Serbia keeps being the main sending country, followed by Romania. The present of the German (several hundred persons, almost all of them being young people studying at the University) is also perceivable in the city.

The first major stream of immigration since 1989 was experienced in the period 1989-1993, when a large number of Romanians arrived in Hungary, and in Szeged. The next (partially overlapping) stream occurred during the '90s, when a great number of Serbians fled from the wars. Many of them arrived in Szeged for fear of being summoned to fight in the Serbian army. The last stream was experienced in 2008, as an effect of the new Immigration Act of Hungary (Figure 5).

Figure 5: International immigration flows of foreign citizens (age group 15-34 and total) in Szeged (1990-2016). Source: HCSO



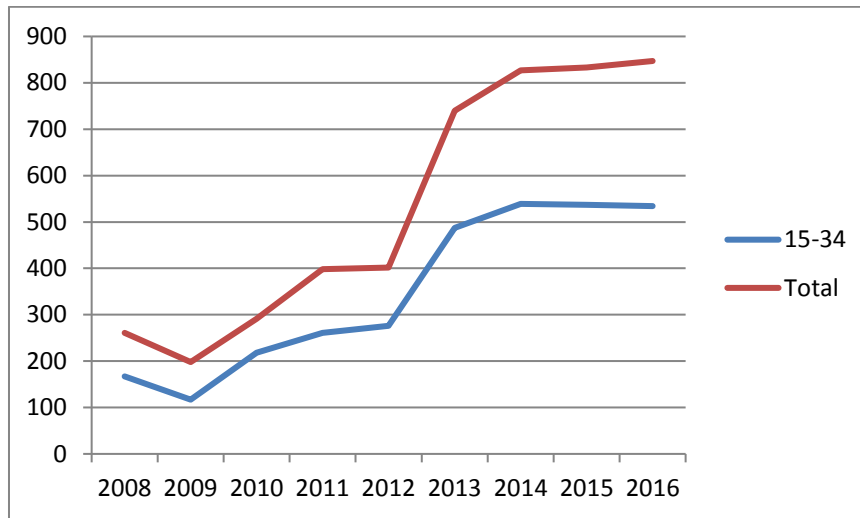
The age-group 15-34 represents an important fraction among immigrants, the majority of newcomers has belonged to this cohort in the last 17 years. Nevertheless, it is a relatively new phenomenon that the proportion of the age-group 15-34 is (approximately) constant and remarkably high at the same time: from 2010 onwards the 86-90% of immigrants have been aged 15-34.

Since most of the immigrants have been of Hungarian ethnicity, they have been able to get integrated into the local society without major difficulties. Segregated immigrant neighbourhoods do not exist in Szeged. Short-term foreign labour migrants are not typical in Szeged.

Emigration

During the period 1989-2017, well-identifiable streams of emigration from Szeged cannot be detected. Nevertheless, after the EU-accession, and especially from 2009 a significant increase of out-migration can be detected (Figure 6). The top three receiving countries of young citizens of Szeged going abroad are United Kingdom, Germany and Austria (in this order).

Figure 6: International emigration flows of native-born national citizens (total population and age group 15-34) in Szeged (2008-2015). Source: HCSO



Data suggest that the proportion of the age-group 15-34 among all emigrants has been relatively constant from 2011 until 2016 (within the range 63-69%, each year). However, a certain declining trend can be detected, the percentage of the mentioned cohort has gradually decreased each year in the period starting in 2012 (68,7%) and ending in 2016 (63,0%).

Return migration

Due to a methodological change, data for the years 1990-2009 are not comparable with data after 2010. In the post-2009 period, a growing number of returnees has been experienced. While in 2010 only 24 young people aged 15-34 (and 37 citizens in total) returned to Szeged, in 2016 significantly more, 270 young returnees (490 citizens in total) were registered. In 2016, most of the young returnees arrived from the United Kingdom, Germany and Austria (in this order), reflecting emigration patterns.

4.2. Perceived characteristics of youth migration in Szeged

Immigrants living in Szeged

It can be concluded from the institutional interviews that migration plays an important role in Szeged. Concerning immigration, there seems to be a consensus regarding the presence of perceivable proportion of foreigners in Szeged; nevertheless, immigrants are generally identified as foreign students learning at the University of Szeged. The presence of foreigners is typically perceived as beneficial for the city of Szeged, partially because of the purchasing power of those, partly because they culturally enrich the city and make it more vivid and international. Immigration, however, is not perceived as an important issue.

At the migration forum and the brainstorming session, also the role of the local university and the large presence of foreign students came up. It is believed that most of the foreign students coming from other countries (many of them Arabians and Africans) do not return to their homeland, but migrate to

Western Europe; although there are exceptions: a small number of Arabian doctors who work in Szeged. It was generally mentioned that foreign students are very visible in Szeged, especially in the downtown. They generally remain isolated from the majority society. Certain enterprises (especially cafés, restaurants) build their businesses around foreign students. In spite of the present of a great number of immigrants from Romania and Serbia (most of them of Hungarian ethnicity), however, immigrants from these Danube Region countries were not mentioned by the interviewees as an important immigrant group in Szeged. Local labour market experts explicitly stated that these two sources almost had been depleted, and Szeged cannot expect many persons from these countries in the future. Nevertheless, it is a widely known fact that many people coming from Vojvodina have arrived in Szeged to study in the city. Most of the representatives of institutional actors do not expect an increase in immigration. It was also mentioned by various professionals that internal immigration plays an important role in Szeged. A specific type was emphasized: many young people come to Szeged to learn at the local university, and most of them would like to stay.

Although in the city of Szeged seasonal work plays a marginal role in fuelling immigration, it must be noted that this is not the case at all in the region surrounding the city. Agricultural guest-work is a very noticeable phenomenon at this part of Hungary. Seasonal workers coming from Romania and Ukraine working on the farmlands around Szeged were mentioned several times during the research.

The presence of second-generation immigrants is thought to be only marginal. Nevertheless, it was suggested that probably there are young people in Szeged who are children of those who came from Romania and Serbia, but it remains undisclosed that they are children of immigrants.

Emigrants leaving Szeged

Several representatives of the institutions stated that for many people living in Szeged, internal migration (to Budapest or the western part of Hungary) is a first stage, which is often followed by going abroad. Indeed, it was confirmed by a HR professional that internal migration from Szeged and its surroundings are facilitated by an apparent wage-gap between Szeged and Western Hungary. Generally, the interviewees reported that a significant (and growing) number of people leave Szeged.

It was mentioned by several experts that the fundamental motivation for emigration was existential (better jobs and wages abroad), and the people and especially young people leave the country in the hope of a better livelihood. It was also suggested that in Szeged the presence of the university is dominant, since many young people grow acquainted with a foreign environment or possibilities abroad in connection with the Erasmus program, which serves as a stair in the process of migration.

During the brainstorming, there was an endeavour to come up with a tentative description of usual emigrant groups. Based on the discussion, the highly skilled is clearly one important group of those who leave. Although not confirmed by all, other groups mentioned included the unskilled, those who are severely indebted, and skilled workers (plumbers, carpenters etc.). During the institutional interviews, the presence of the latter group was confirmed by experts. It was also reported that several years ago a great number of doctors and nurses went to work to Austria and Germany.

The brainstorming confirmed that many young people leave or plan to leave Szeged after the high school final exam for going to university abroad, or they often opt for spending some time studying at the University of Szeged and going abroad later. It was also mentioned that often not individual persons, but families migrate. According to a high-ranked municipal representative, based on official registers, recently more than a hundred small children have left Szeged and gone abroad with their parents. It is also believed to be usual that small families that move abroad end up taking a retired family member with them, because it is cheaper than hiring an au-pair. It is a general statement that

those who emigrate often find a job which does not suit their original qualification. It can be deduced from the interviews with experts that the role of Germany and Austria is still significant as destination countries, nevertheless, for the young generation the United Kingdom and Ireland are more and more popular.

There is no a univocal opinion on whether emigration of young people is a bad thing. Some are worried that more and more young people go abroad, others are confident that as long as Szeged keeps attracting young people from all over the country, emigration is not a big issue. In case of Szeged, Roma emigration (or immigration) seems to be irrelevant (or almost completely invisible): this specific kind of migration was not mentioned by either of the interviewees. Experts on labour-force issues confirmed that there is seasonal emigration from Szeged, especially to Ireland, and to Austria.

Return migration

There seems to be no consensus about whether those who move will return in a few years' time. As a conclusion of the institutional interviews regarding return migration, some return within one or two years, but the majority will possibly stay longer. There is a group of people who goes abroad for one, two or three years with the intention to come back afterwards (with a certain amount of money), and many of them indeed return.

There is a specific reason for returning: family. Either returning to attend the needs of elderly family members, or coming back to start a family and have children in Szeged. While the main motivation for emigration was better jobs and wages abroad, in the case of returnees the emotional reasons are dominant. Nevertheless, based on the expert interviews, return migration could mainly (and almost exclusively) be facilitated by more and better jobs and improved wages/salaries.

During the brainstorming session, it became clear that most of the young people who leave Szeged are nostalgic about the city and they like to come back for a visit; yet the lack of good job options makes permanent return for many of them impossible or unwanted. Other possible solutions for return such as working from a distance were not seen as common or easily feasible by the participants. Remittances were not seen as very usual and substantial.

A special case: day-care and youth migration

Municipality officials coincided in stating that youth migration is highly perceivable for the Municipality of Szeged in a specific field of operation: day-care. The local kindergarten (which has 45 day-care centres) is clearly affected by immigration, emigration and return-migration as well. Migration has clearly shaped the availability of local services: the emigration of young families resulted in a recent (2016) close down of several establishment of the local kindergarten – one of the most difficult and least popular decision of the assembly. Due to immigration of young families with small children, the local kindergarten attends the needs of dozens of immigrant children, which requires a special attention from the Municipality. As a recent phenomenon, immigrants with very different cultural backgrounds enrol their children in the local day-care centres, which poses an important challenge. The local kindergarten has to deal with the consequences of return migration as well: the returning kids and their parents are accustomed to a different system and cannot easily adapt to a new one, language issues may arise, certain children have a hard time reintegrating into his/her former environment.

Perceived relation between migration patterns and local development

The relation of local development and migration is multifaceted. Szeged is one of the biggest and most developed cities in Hungary, and the administrative capital of Csongrád-county. This status brings into the city many internal migrants, including a great numbers of commuters. This process is enhanced by the fact that the University of Szeged is one of the biggest institutions of higher education in Hungary.

During the migration forum, the brainstorming and the institutional interviews, the same topic appeared: Szeged is not only developed in the economic sense, but also in other dimensions. Many called Szeged a “liveable city”, referring to its nice atmosphere, beautiful buildings, the decent number of hours of sunshine, the availability of many different services, and to the fact that there are no huge distances in the settlement.

Nevertheless, another recurring topic was that of the low-level of wages/salaries. Interestingly this situation is generally attributed to immigration by locals. It is a general statement that the development of Szeged and the University of Szeged attract many persons, who are not willing to leave the city; therefore, they accept lower wages and salaries (which keeps them at a relatively low level).

The concept of “liveable city” seems contradictory to the persistence of low salaries. Interestingly, it is often the same people who complain about employment and income and call the city a good place to live. This is not an example for cognitive dissonance. When confronting locals with this discrepancy, it becomes clear that in their vocabulary, the adjective *liveable* refers to the ways one can spend free time in Szeged. Moreover, “liveable city” seems to be a local locution: people in Szeged have learnt the Szeged can be called this way.

The migration forum, the brainstorming and the institutional interviews confirmed that Budapest, and the northwestern part of Hungary is economically more developed, and there are higher wages and salaries there. It was also mentioned by several subjects that those who work in domains where there is a high demand for skilled labour force, often leave Szeged for a higher-salary. It was even mentioned by an HR-expert that some companies in Szeged decided not to enrol their employees in language courses to prevent their emigration.

In the past few years the emigration of skilled workmen (masons, plumbers, carpenters, etc.) has resulted in a shortage, thus it is harder and harder to find skilled persons to household maintenance and repairs, as well as for construction works, which may affect development, especially related to housing.

Attitude towards immigration

Although as a response to the refugee crises, in Hungary there have been several media campaigns against the influx of foreigners, no negative perception on the foreigners were heard during the research⁴. Even the representatives of the patriotic organizations showed tolerance towards immigrants. A certain pride could be detected that Szeged and local university attracts many foreign students, and their presence is considered to be beneficial for the local economy. There are expectations related to Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI) project, and its mostly foreign staff, spending their money in Szeged. During the brainstorming, everybody agreed that the presence of ELI is a positive change in

⁴ Based on a recent survey (Szeged Studies 2016), only 18% of the local population are disturbed by the presence of foreigners in Szeged. Result courtesy of Department of Sociology, University of Szeged.

the city's life and the newly arriving, highly skilled migrants will need specific services (e.g. nursery with English-speaking staff for their children) in order to prevent this wealthy group from being isolated.

Citizens of Szeged generally see foreigners as beneficial for the city. They have significant purchasing power, which contributes to the prosperity of Szeged. Moreover, it is also believed that they culturally enrich the city and make it more vivid and international. The University of Szeged works hard to facilitate the influx of foreign students; nevertheless, other local stakeholders seem to take the presence of foreign students for granted.

4.3. Results of the interviews with young migrants

The selection of interviewees ensures a great diversity. Among the interviewed persons the researchers included men and women; persons with primary, secondary and tertiary education; people with and without children; as well as returning migrants, emigrants and immigrants (Annex 3).

Immigration

The interviews provided additional pieces of information regarding youth migration, especially the immigration of Serbia-born Hungarians. It was disclosed that in Vojvodina, young ethnic Hungarians are often encouraged by their parents and even by their teachers to come to Hungary. They have a preferential status in the procedure of applying to a Hungarian university. Two major motivations for immigrants of Hungarian ethnicity can be distinguished: to be able to learn in Hungarian and better schools and universities. The other reasons for choosing Szeged are diverse: it is a big city close to Serbia with excellent education opportunities, and is less crowded and busy than Budapest. Migrants coming from Serbia univocally think that Hungary is more developed than Serbia, and Szeged is more developed than their hometown. The openness of the people of Szeged and the multicultural nature of the city was praised. Nevertheless, it was also indicated that people in Szeged are less relaxed, and have less time for each other. Ethnic Hungarians coming from Serbia have good relations with their peers born in Hungary; it is not typical at all that the majority of their acquaintances in Szeged are also immigrants from Serbia. They think that they are treated well by locals, and they have experienced very few xenophobic attitudes.

Emigration

The interviews shed lights on some interesting features of the mobility of youth. Student emigration is hindered by the fact that studying abroad is expensive (even with an Erasmus scholarship), and many families cannot afford it. It also happens that young people do not go abroad because of a romantic relationship (the partner wants to stay in Szeged), or they are discouraged by their family. For those who leave, the main motivation is economic, but it is also common that they go abroad to live in a different setting, to try something new. It was confirmed that networks play an important role when deciding about emigration and choosing the destination country, suggesting the presence of chain migration patterns. At the destination, the interviewees were assisted in doing administration tasks by migrant fellows and by the entity they worked for. Thinking of returning appears as one of the options among others, and the possibility of living in Hungary again is often mentioned as a temporary state, which may be followed by re-migration. Family as well as planning family formation also have influence on migratory decisions: a narrative was detected according to which the person goes abroad to find an adequate setting to her/his (future) child or children to grow up.

Return migration

Return migrants do not always consider living in Hungary (again) as a final choice. They find it possible that they go abroad anew, in case certain conditions are met. For those who are attached to Hungary, it is important to form a family in the land they were born, and they return for this reason. Return migrants emphasize that in several dimensions Hungary (and Szeged) performs better than the place they lived abroad; e.g. a wide range of free public services are available, prices are lower, the city of Szeged is a nice place to live in, and certain attitudes of the local population are to be appreciated.

5. Typical biographies of young migrants

Based on the narrative-biographic interviews, three types of migrants were identified. The first one considers the act of migration an adventure. The second one goes abroad in quest of higher wages and salaries. The third group is made up of ethnic Hungarians living in Szeged, but born in Serbia or Romania. The current chapter presents – in a brief and structured manner – the life-stories of three persons having different migration profiles.

A) The adventurer

Name	Anna ⁵
Profile	35-year-old women with tertiary education, married, with one child.
Major biographical events mentioned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Birth in Szeged ⊗ Going to high school in Szeged ⊗ Moving to Budapest (at the age of 18) ⊗ Attending university in Budapest, living in dorms and rented-rooms ⊗ Moving back to Szeged (half a year after graduation) ⊗ Working as a freelancer in Szeged ⊗ Getting a permanent job in Szeged (at the age of 25) ⊗ Decision about going abroad (at the age of 28) ⊗ Moving to Spain (at the age of 29) ⊗ Spending one year in Spain ⊗ Getting pregnant ⊗ Moving back to Szeged ⊗ Going back to former work for half a year ⊗ Being a stay-at-home mom for 1,5-2 years ⊗ Going back to work ⊗ ----- ⊗ Going abroad for about 3 years (expected in the future)
Major turning points	<p>Most of the main turning points are related to her profession and career, or to the career of her husband. The first major point is the choice of profession at an early age. The second one is high school and university studies related to this profession. The third one is having a permanent job. The next one going abroad with her husband who got a job in Spain, which is followed by moving back to Hungary and having a baby.</p> <p>The choices of Anna were limited at certain stages of her life. First, the University that best fit her career choice was located in Budapest. Second, during university years, she wanted to go and learn abroad, but she and her family could not afford it. Third, she wanted to stay and work in Budapest, but could not find a job in the capital, therefore she moved back to Szeged. Fourth, although she supported her husband in his plans to work abroad for one year, their preferences concerning the destination countries were entirely different. Fifth, after the birth they wanted to go abroad for a longer period, but stayed home because of the commitments of her husband.</p>

⁵ Names are altered to ensure anonymity.

Role of gender	Although Anna and her husband discussed all the choices regarding migration and migration plans, final decisions were made by him. She remained active during the time spent abroad, and worked as a freelancer.
Identities and self-representation	Although in her narratives, constraints play an important role, Anna treats them as a framework, which she accepts, and use in order to make the best of each situation, and realize her goals without trying to change the constraints. Although admittedly both Anna and her husband worked hard in Spain, she characterized themselves during the time spent in Spain as “adventurers” and “travellers”.

B) The economic migrant

Name	Viktoria
Profile	30-year-old women with secondary education, single, no child. Her emigration to Australia started 5 years ago.
Major biographical events mentioned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Secondary school in Szeged ⊗ Going to university in Szeged ⊗ Leaving university (without graduation) ⊗ Starting to work in Szeged ⊗ Decision to quit ⊗ Going to Australia ⊗ Working and living in Australia ⊗ ----- ⊗ Moving back home, or somewhere else in Europe (expected in one year time)
Major turning points	The major turning point in the life of Viktoria was when two factors coincided. First, she was fed up with her job, and decided to quit. Second, she “got together” with someone who encouraged her to go abroad with him. The choices of Viktoria were limited at some stages of her life. During secondary school, she wanted to go for a year to study abroad but she was attached to her parents and they did not support this idea. During later phases, her romantic relations kept her from going abroad.
Role of gender	Viktoria thinks that her former relationships kept her in Hungary (since her ex-boyfriends did not want to move abroad). On the other hand, eventually her boyfriend convinced her to move to Australia.
Identities and self-representation	Vera uses the term “economic migrant”; nevertheless, she underlines that the main reasons for migration was “experiencing different kinds of attitude” and simply “being somewhere else”.

C) The ethnic Hungarian from a neighbouring country

Name	Daniel
Profile	18-year-old young man, enrolled in high school, single, no child. Spends weekdays in Szeged, and weekends in Serbia.
Major biographical events mentioned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊗ Living in Vojvodina, Serbia ⊗ Going to nursery and primary school in his home city ⊗ Becoming a semi-professional athlete ⊗ Moving to Szeged ⊗ Enrolling in a high school in Szeged ⊗ ----- ⊗ Finishing high school in Szeged (expected in the future) ⊗ Starting university studies in Szeged (expected in the future) ⊗ Going abroad (expected in the future) ⊗ Staying abroad or going back to Serbia of Hungary (expected in the future)
Major turning points	The major turning point in his life was definitely moving to Szeged (he started high school in Szeged, and became member of a professional sports club).
Role of gender	His girlfriend lives in Serbia, he meets with her on weekends. Daniel did not mention her girlfriend when he spoke about his former decisions and future plans.
Identities and self-representation	Daniel grew up as ethnic Hungarian in Serbia, which marks his identity. Additionally, he has another strong identity: being one of those Hungarians who came from the Vojvodina region of Serbia (the biggest group of immigrants in Szeged).

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

6.1. Young migrants on policy challenges

[This chapter is based on the results of the focus group interview with young migrants.]

Relevance of the statements

The problems and suggestions in this chapter do not (directly) concern the Municipality of Szeged, but other institutions that are more relevant for migration-related administration. The relation of young migrants to the local municipality was not disclosed during the focus group interviews. Nevertheless, the Municipality can greatly benefit from knowing the problems young migrants encounter in Szeged. Moreover, the complaints and suggestions provided by the interviewees can serve as a good starting point for the screening and improvement of the administration of the Municipality of Szeged.

Problems perceived by immigrants

Problems perceived by young immigrants include that schools have different policies concerning students who spent several years abroad. Some educational institutions are more flexible, others require formal tests as a prerequisite for enrolment. Administration in Szeged (and in Hungary, in general) is problematic without a permanent address in Hungary. Many subsidies are not available for those with only a temporary address.

One of the main problems that young migrants face is the lack of information. Admittedly, this is to some extent their fault, too. Their knowledge on administrative requirements, rights and obligations are often based on oral information received from peers. They often behave on assumptions. In addition, in many cases they think that procedures are similar to those applied in their home city and country, and the Hungarian administration is as flexible as that in their country of origin. Foreigners often forget to register in all sub-systems, or they procrastinate until they need to use specific services. For instance, they do not care about social security until they get sick and they realize that they have administrative obligations if they want access to healthcare.

Problems perceived by emigrants and return migrants

Return migrants face a burdensome administration concerning social security. Even if previously they officially de-registered, after returning to Szeged, re-registration is not straightforward, but a rather time-consuming task. Return migrants feel that administrators are not always in total control of the relevant processes, and sometimes their attitude is not appropriate (e.g. they act as if they were doing a favour). Before leaving the country, Hungarians have to de-register from certain systems, and in order to do so, they have to cease their address in Hungary. Consequently, return migrants face additional administrative burdens. Return migrants who compare administration abroad and in Hungary think that the system abroad is more simple and straightforward, requires less data, respond to questions faster, and is more cooperative.

General complaints

It is a general complaint that bureaucracy is (too) big, rules are not entirely clearly communicated, and a lot depends on the attitude of the administrators. It is reported that administrators in Hungary use a specific vocabulary that may not be completely understood by non-specialist, and that they often refer to specific rules or forms without explaining their nature. Official websites in many cases do not provide exact information on the procedures (where to turn, what kind of document are required, how long the process takes, etc.) and the wordings are not understandable for all. In many cases, administrators are not competent enough; it is not unusual that they have to ask others on how to proceed in case of certain issues. Those migrants who receive income from their country of origin, but work in their country of destination are not clearly informed about tax-related issues.

It was mentioned that in recent years, administration in Hungary has improved significantly, and it has become more client-friendly. Mostly the renewed government customer service (the so called “government window”) was praised, mentioning its one-stop-shop approach, promptness, and appropriate opening-hours.

Suggestions made by young migrants

Young migrants provided several suggestions regarding migration related administration. The first group of suggestions concern the provision of information. A clear description on what is required from clients in case they would like to arrange something (e.g. where to turn, what to bring) would be highly appreciated. Providing immigrants with relevant laws and their practical applications in foreign languages was also mentioned. Immigrants should be able to know what to do and where to go after arriving in Hungary. In case it is needed, clear categories should be made (e.g. third country migrant, intra EU-migrant), relevant processes should be linked to these categories, and made available publicly in foreign languages. Immigrants should be able to find those pieces of information that are relevant for them. Migrants acknowledge that the processes of administration are hard to be simplified, although they are convinced that the availability of relevant information on these processes can and should be improved. Additionally, a clear description of each migration-related process should be made available for administrators to prevent confusion and misunderstanding; and administrators should be trained in this field. It was also suggested that administrators should treat clients with more respect, and bureaucracy should not be built on distrust towards clients. As a long-term goal, administration should be based on clear, simple and fair rules, without loopholes; and communication actions should be implemented emphasizing that keeping these rules is the best interest of the clients.

6.2. Policy competences, institutional actors involved

Although the Municipality of Szeged has no written youth policy⁶, it assists young people in many ways. The city provides talented young people with scholarships and financial support. The municipality has excellent relations with institutions in charge of youth-related fields, such as foster care and school system (municipalities in Hungary are not in charge of local public education). Numerous institutions of the municipality assist young people, making the city more attractive for them. For example, *Agora* offers many programmes, a great deal of extracurricular activities and camps for young people. The institution in charge of sports facilities offers a great framework for youth sports. The IH Event Centre

⁶ Groundwork for elaborating the Youth Policy of Szeged has already started.

offers several programmes for young people including concerts and speeches, it runs a cinema, and operates the D2 Youth Development and Media Centre. Moreover, the municipality provides several youth organizations with the opportunity to rent an office at a reduced price.

The government of Hungary prepared a Migration Strategy of Hungary for the period 2014-2020. The document focuses mainly on how Hungary can ensure a proper legal and administrative framework for dealing with migration. The chapter “Integration” evaluates several dimensions related to immigration, but the document does not explicitly deal with the difficulties immigrants and emigrants have to face when arriving in or leaving Hungary. The topic of emigration is not explicitly present in this strategy. Nevertheless, the Government is clearly aware of the issue of emigration. Just to cite an example, an official programme “Gyere haza fiatal” (Young people come home) was initiated in 2015 to attract Hungarians living in the United Kingdom.

6.3. Policies aimed to deal with the consequences of youth migration (based on the findings of the interviews with institutional actors)

Main challenges concerned with Youth immigration according to the representatives of local institutions

One of the main challenges concerned with youth immigration is to create a city where foreigners feel even more welcome. This includes English-speaking (or German-speaking) personnel in public administration and in the service industry, as well as high-quality services tailored for the needs of foreigners. Nevertheless, it is acknowledged that the situation concerning these dimensions has improved largely in recent years (e.g., nowadays most waiters speak at least basic English). The other challenge is the separation of foreigners and locals. Generally these two groups do not mingle, which could be facilitated by targeted programmes. Also, several skilled foreigners (for certain reasons) would like to settle down in Szeged, however it is difficult to find a company to employ somebody who does not speak Hungarian. Although employing such persons can indeed induce problems, it can also be beneficial for the entity, since somebody with different life-experiences, perspectives, and educational background think differently, and can give unique answers to the emerging problems, unlike those who think rather alike. It is also a challenge to provide a proper cultural and educational palette to cater for the needs of locals and foreigners alike. At the same time, Szeged should remain attractive for young people coming from other settlements of Hungary. Most of them arrive from a less developed city or region, and for them coming to Szeged is clearly a step forward. They often grow to like the city and stay here; nevertheless, since they constitute an already mobile population, it is a challenge to keep them in Szeged.

Main challenges concerned with Youth *emigration* according to the representatives of local institutions

The fact that those who go abroad leave part of their family behind represents an important challenge. Those who stay in Szeged cannot rely on their help, but also they are unable to assist them. This applies to families with small children, where grandparents can see their grandchildren rarely; to middle-aged persons whose children go abroad; and to elderly people who must rely entirely on the social care system, since their children live elsewhere (accordingly, there is indeed a growing need for more

capacity in homes for the elderly, just to cite an example). Another challenge is to keep in Szeged those who could contribute to development of the city (e.g. highly qualified persons, those working in sectors with shortage of labour-force, innovative entrepreneurs). Young people are more and more mobile and motivated by money, and by better working environments, which should be improved in Szeged. It is a challenge to create proper opportunities for those who can work from the distance (programmer, translator, designer, etc.), and try to keep them in Szeged. The lack of doctors has several important consequences, which is aggravated by the aging of healthcare specialists. Local companies are used to the fact that if someone leaves them, they can immediately find a number of proper candidates for the position; now they start to realize that in many sectors this is not the case any longer. Educators and family members face the challenge to convince youngsters that they can have a decent life in Szeged, and if they stay here at a local company, they can develop professionally, and on the long run salaries may raise significantly (and the negative aspects of emigration should also be stressed). For the municipality, it is a challenge that there are no reliable and comprehensive data on local migratory processes, which makes planning difficult.

Positive and negative consequences of youth migration

Immigration

The most positive side of immigration is the ambiance migrants create, the vivid and happy presence of them in the streets, which gives a certain cosmopolite touch and a young and dynamic aspect to Szeged. Foreigners have a positive effect on local economy, part of the local businesses even live off almost exclusively of foreign students. In addition, the presence of immigrants coming from the four corners of the world teaches tolerance and helps to prevent or moderate prejudices and stereotypes. Immigration has another positive consequence: those studying at the University of Szeged promote the city throughout the world. Additionally, ex-students often come back with friends and family members, enhancing tourism.

Emigration

Concerning the consequences of emigration, negative aspects are dominant. The highly skilled, most competent, and most innovative people leave the city. Local businesses have a hard time finding an adequate candidate for job vacancies. Remittances are not at all typical, however it seems that there is a way locals can profit from emigration: companies must raise the wages and salaries to keep their staff and attract employees since they face a growing shortage of labour-force and they have to compete (indirectly) with salaries abroad. As a positive aspect, elderly family members staying in Szeged became more open minded, and the use of computers (to communicate) contributes to their digital literacy.

Access to social care facilities of different migrant segments

Immigrants are generally not at all dependent on welfare transfers, they have a decent income (or support), and they usually have a higher standard of living than the majority of the locals. There are, certainly, some persons who come to Szeged with very limited resources, but these are exceptional cases (e.g. homeless people coming from neighbouring countries). The basic-level social services are available to them, thus access to life-maintaining services (e.g. food, a place to sleep in wintertime) is provided to them.

Suggestions of the interviewees

Interviewees provided a diverse array of suggestions. According to them tolerance and cultural intelligence should be developed. Sensitization regarding people coming from different cultures would be essential. This could be initiated as early as in primary schools. Joint programmes and student exchanges with third (non-EU) country students should be implemented. Sensitization is urgently needed for the personnel of those institutions that are frequented by foreign students. It should be clarified where foreigners can turn to if they feel that they have been discriminated against or they have been victim of racism. Those who arrive in Szeged from a different culture should be provided with a complex professional integration programme (the University of Szeged organizes a great number of programmes to let foreigners get to know local culture; these activities include common cooking, parties and excursions). Companies should be taught about the advantages of employing a foreigner.

It is suggested that Szeged and the university should not let go of students for good. There should be an alumni network for former foreign students; and the potential benefit of such initiative for Szeged should be harnessed. In order to keep internal immigrants and local students in Szeged after graduation, companies should cooperate with students before graduation, employing them as interns, showing them perspectives in Szeged.

Administrators should be trained on how to deal with those coming to Szeged from abroad and those going from Szeged to another country. Those going abroad should be informed on the possibilities regarding the social security in destination countries. Currently, many people do not know their rights, and for example do not request unemployment allowance even if they could do it. At EU-level, there should be a harmonization of legal background concerning unemployment services. Currently, these services work rather differently. Documents are often issued with a significant delay, and the exchange of information and documents is not fluent with each of the EU-countries.

Special municipality level policies, strategies, services or programs related to youth migration.

The city of Szeged does not have a Migration Strategy or a specific policy document related to migration. The same applies to regional levels: neither Csongrád county (NUTS3 region), nor the Southern Great Plain (NUTS2 region) elaborated such document. In the integrated local development strategy of the city of Szeged (RVI 2014b) migration is not a central issue. Solely the influx of scholars from abroad due to the Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI) project is explicitly covered. Nevertheless, the analysis based on which the integrated development strategy was elaborated (RVI2014a) identified several fields where migration plays an important role. It states that more than 2000 foreign students attend the University of Szeged, and that services tailored for their need are generally available. Considering tourism, the document states that the relatively high and growing number of foreigners creates a multicultural milieu in the city, which is an important strength. Regarding demography, it acknowledges that highly qualified citizens often opt for working or settling down abroad.

Several NGOs had programmes to assist the integration of foreigners, mostly third country nationals. Nevertheless, these programmes (in many cases financed by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals) typically lasted for a well-defined period and were not sustainable. Currently there are no specific ongoing programmes provided or directly financed by the municipality that are related to immigration or emigration. However, this situation is about to change. In 2019, the Scholarly Academy of Szeged will open its gates with the financial support of the municipality of Szeged with the aim of keeping gifted students in Szeged and making young scholars residing abroad return to Hungary.

7. Outlook, conclusions and recommendations

Migration plays an important role

The quantitative data presented above clearly demonstrate that youth migration is highly important for Szeged. The city has been clearly affected by migration; currently about 5% of the total population was born in Serbia or Romania. The presence of the more than 2,000 foreign students is also clearly perceivable. Migration can also affect the size of the local population. Based on the population projection, Szeged can lose 2-6% of its population in 20 years due to migration. Although there is no comprehensive statistical data on the emigrants from Szeged, based on the available information, it is clear that after Hungary's EU accession, and especially since 2009, a significant increase of out-migration can be detected. The major receiving country of young citizens of Szeged going abroad is the United Kingdom, which is followed by two Danube-region countries: Germany and Austria. With the rise of emigration, the number of returnees has also increased recently, which phenomenon is likely to continue.

Migration affects local development

Migration is closely related to local development. Immigrants are beneficial to the economy of the city. Their income is higher than the local average, and certain local businesses would not be viable without them. The presence of immigrants also contributes to local development indirectly. Foreigners create a multicultural milieu in the city, which is an important strength regarding tourism. Emigration is mainly seen as a factor that possibly hinders local development. Highly qualified citizens often opt for working or settling down abroad, and it is an important challenge to keep in Szeged those who could contribute to the development of the city. On the other hand, the constant influx of internal immigrants is able to mitigate this effect – to some extent. Remittances are not seen as very usual and substantial, therefore money transfers from abroad cannot be considered to be an important factor that can contribute to local development.

Migration affects the Municipality

The example of the local kindergarten presented in the current document showcased that migration affects the Municipality of Szeged in many ways. Emigration, immigration and return migration all have perceivable effects on the operation of the Municipality and its institutions.

There is room for improvement

According to the qualitative research, measures should be taken to make foreigners feel even more welcome – sensitization can be key in this process. Local companies should be encouraged to employ foreigners. The separation between foreigners and locals should be diminished. The cultural and educational palette provided by Szeged should cater for the needs of locals and foreigners alike. Reliable and comprehensive data on local migratory processes should be elaborated in order to provide local policy makers and decision makers with adequate and actual information. The municipality should consider the elaboration of a migration policy or including migration as an important factor in its policy documents.

Recommendations

As a result of the analysis, four areas have been identified, where intervention is necessary, and the Municipality of Szeged is able to achieve significant improvement with a limited amount of resources. All four recommended initiatives have a common feature: they are feasible within the organization of the Municipality; thus operational risks are minimalized. Moreover, by implementing the suggested actions, the Municipality can serve as an example for other entities of Szeged, and for other municipalities in Hungary as well.

- A. According to the qualitative analysis, measures should be taken to make foreigners feel even more welcome in Szeged. Unfortunately, in certain cases, the persons who provide information to foreigners, or assist them in administration lack the proper attitude or appropriate mindset to deal with intercultural encounters. Since there are many immigrant children in the local kindergarten (and their number is growing), it is recommended to provide the staff of the kindergarten of the city with multicultural training. This way both the parents and the children could benefit from the intervention.
- B. Based on the experiences of the sensitization of kindergarten staff, the multicultural training can be extended to employees of other institutions of the Municipality (depending on the probability of intercultural encounters and the available resources). Sensitization of front-office administrators should be considered as a regular practice on the long term.
- C. According to municipality officials, reliable information on migration – and its effect – concerning Szeged is scarce (or even non-existent). The Municipality, therefore, should systematically gather the available data on local migratory processes and make it available for its employees. It should also define what kinds of information would be needed to make proper decisions, and consider how it can be collected. It is also recommended to identify what kind of data are available within the (institutions of the) Municipality that can serve as proxy measures for migration.
- D. During the research it was revealed that the Municipality of Szeged plans to elaborate its youth strategy in the near future. Since youth migration is a relevant and important phenomenon, we recommend to include it as an accentuated topic (or a separate chapter) in the youth strategy document.

References

- Csizmadia, L. (2008): The Transition Economy of Hungary between 1990 and 2004. Doctoral Thesis, Aarhus School of Business University of Aarhus
- European Commission (2009): European Cohesion Policy in Hungary. http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/country2009/hu_en.pdf
- Fejes J. B. - Szűcs N. (2009): Hallgatói Mentorprogram. A szegedi deszegregációt támogató pilot program első évének tapasztalatai. Új Pedagógiai Szemle, 59. 2. sz. 61-75.
- Gödri, I. - Soltész, B. - Bodacz-Nagy, B. (2013). Dynamic Historical Analysis of Longer Term Migratory, Labour Market and Human Capital Processes in Hungary. Country report developed within the project 'SEEMIG Managing Migration and Its Effects – Transnational Actions Towards Evidence Based Strategies'. HCSO DRI. 2013. <http://www.seemig.eu/downloads/outputs/SEEMIGHistoricalAnalysisHungary.pdf>
- Gödri, I. - Tóth, E. F. (2010). Magyarország, Románia és Szlovákia kivándorlási folyamatai a rendszerváltozások után - eltérések és hasonlóságok. Demográfia, 53, 157-204.
- Hárs, Á. (2009). Magyarok az osztrák munkaerő-piacon. Ingázók, bevándorlók, munkaerő-migránsok? Kutatási zárójelentés. Budapest: Kopint Konjunktúra Kutatási Alapítvány.
- Hárs, Á. (2016). The Experiences of a New Emigrant Country: Emerging Migration from Hungary. In: Kahanec, M. - Zimmermann, K. (2016). Labor Migration, EU Enlargement, and the Great Recession. Berlin. pp. 271-295.
- HCSO 2014. Honosított Magyar Állampolgárok. Statisztikai Tükör 2014/35. Budapest.
- Keilman, N. (1997). Ex-post errors in official population forecasts in industrialized countries. Journal of Official Statistics 13. pp. 245 –277.
- Kornai, J. (1997) Adjustment without recession: a case study of Hungarian stabilization. In: Zecchini S. (eds) Lessons from the Economic Transition. Springer, Dordrecht
- Pittenger, D.B. (1976). Projecting State and Local Populations. Ballinger publishing Company. Cambridge.
- Póczik, S. - Fehér, L. – Dunavölgyi, S. - Jagusztin, T. - Windt, S. (2008). Nemzetközi migráció - nemzetközi kockázatok. Magyar tudomány, 169, 1095-1107.
- RVI Magyarország Kft. (2014a) Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Településfejlesztési Konceptiójának és Integrált Városfejlesztési Stratégiájának megalapozó vizsgálata. Szeged.
- RVI Magyarország Kft. (2014b) Szeged Megyei Jogú Város Integrált Településfejlesztési Stratégiája (2014-2020). Szeged.
- Smith, S., Tayman, J., Swanson, D. (2001). State and Local Population projections. Methodology and Analysis. Kluwer Academic publishers.
- Szeged Pólus Development Non-profit Ltd. (2016): Szeged Investing Guide. Szeged.

Annexes

Annex 1: Tables containing the main results of the demographic projection

“Zero migration” scenario

Year	Males						Females						Total					
	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.
2017	662	807	-145	0	-145	74415	629	862	-233	0	-233	87828	1291	1669	-378	0	-378	162243
2018	668	809	-141	0	-141	74274	636	863	-227	0	-227	87601	1304	1672	-368	0	-368	161875
2019	675	809	-134	0	-134	74140	648	876	-228	0	-228	87373	1323	1685	-362	0	-362	161513
2020	685	809	-124	0	-124	74016	654	888	-234	0	-234	87139	1339	1697	-358	0	-358	161155
2021	691	808	-117	0	-117	73899	658	896	-238	0	-238	86901	1349	1704	-355	0	-355	160800
2022	697	812	-115	0	-115	73784	660	904	-244	0	-244	86657	1357	1716	-359	0	-359	160441
2023	693	812	-119	0	-119	73665	662	914	-252	0	-252	86405	1355	1726	-371	0	-371	160070
2024	688	812	-124	0	-124	73541	658	923	-265	0	-265	86140	1346	1735	-389	0	-389	159681
2025	679	814	-135	0	-135	73406	647	931	-284	0	-284	85856	1326	1745	-419	0	-419	159262
2026	661	815	-154	0	-154	73252	632	939	-307	0	-307	85549	1293	1754	-461	0	-461	158801
2027	645	820	-175	0	-175	73077	612	951	-339	0	-339	85210	1257	1771	-514	0	-514	158287
2028	619	828	-209	0	-209	72868	589	962	-373	0	-373	84837	1208	1790	-582	0	-582	157705
2029	591	829	-238	0	-238	72630	567	971	-404	0	-404	84433	1158	1800	-642	0	-642	157063
2030	566	833	-267	0	-267	72363	540	982	-442	0	-442	83991	1106	1815	-709	0	-709	156354
2031	541	839	-298	0	-298	72065	515	989	-474	0	-474	83517	1056	1828	-772	0	-772	155582
2032	514	846	-332	0	-332	71733	493	1001	-508	0	-508	83009	1007	1847	-840	0	-840	154742
2033	495	850	-355	0	-355	71378	472	1013	-541	0	-541	82468	967	1863	-896	0	-896	153846
2034	479	851	-372	0	-372	71006	456	1025	-569	0	-569	81899	935	1876	-941	0	-941	152905
2035	465	856	-391	0	-391	70615	448	1035	-587	0	-587	81312	913	1891	-978	0	-978	151927

“Migration 1” scenario

Year	Males						Females						Total					
	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.
2017	662	807	-145	-69	-214	74346	629	862	-233	-321	-554	87507	1291	1669	-378	-390	-768	161853
2018	655	809	-154	-56	-210	74136	626	860	-234	-312	-546	86961	1281	1669	-388	-368	-756	161097
2019	656	810	-154	-44	-198	73938	629	870	-241	-304	-545	86416	1285	1680	-395	-348	-743	160354
2020	662	806	-144	-33	-177	73761	630	876	-246	-295	-541	85875	1292	1682	-390	-328	-718	159636
2021	661	811	-150	-20	-170	73591	631	879	-248	-287	-535	85340	1292	1690	-398	-307	-705	158931
2022	670	810	-140	-7	-147	73444	640	885	-245	-279	-524	84816	1310	1695	-385	-286	-671	158260
2023	673	817	-144	4	-140	73304	644	886	-242	-272	-514	84302	1317	1703	-386	-268	-654	157606
2024	676	808	-132	17	-115	73189	646	897	-251	-264	-515	83787	1322	1705	-383	-247	-630	156976
2025	677	808	-131	29	-102	73087	646	900	-254	-257	-511	83276	1323	1708	-385	-228	-613	156363
2026	674	818	-144	29	-115	72972	642	909	-267	-257	-524	82752	1316	1727	-411	-228	-639	155724
2027	670	817	-147	29	-118	72854	635	917	-282	-257	-539	82213	1305	1734	-429	-228	-657	155067
2028	661	818	-157	29	-128	72726	630	928	-298	-257	-555	81658	1291	1746	-455	-228	-683	154384
2029	651	826	-175	29	-146	72580	622	934	-312	-257	-569	81089	1273	1760	-487	-228	-715	153669
2030	639	829	-190	29	-161	72419	608	949	-341	-257	-598	80491	1247	1778	-531	-228	-759	152910
2031	628	829	-201	29	-172	72247	598	953	-355	-257	-612	79879	1226	1782	-556	-228	-784	152126
2032	618	825	-207	29	-178	72069	587	964	-377	-257	-634	79245	1205	1789	-584	-228	-812	151314
2033	606	830	-224	29	-195	71874	580	972	-392	-257	-649	78596	1186	1802	-616	-228	-844	150470
2034	601	833	-232	29	-203	71671	571	982	-411	-257	-668	77928	1172	1815	-643	-228	-871	149599
2035	593	836	-243	29	-214	71457	566	990	-424	-257	-681	77247	1159	1826	-667	-228	-895	148704

“Migration 2” scenario

Year	Males						Females						Total					
	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.
2017	662	807	-145	-69	-214	74346	629	862	-233	-321	-554	87507	1291	1669	-378	-390	-768	161853
2018	655	809	-154	-69	-223	74123	626	860	-234	-321	-555	86952	1281	1669	-388	-390	-778	161075
2019	656	810	-154	-69	-223	73900	628	870	-242	-321	-563	86389	1284	1680	-396	-390	-786	160289
2020	662	806	-144	-69	-213	73687	628	876	-248	-321	-569	85820	1290	1682	-392	-390	-782	159507
2021	661	811	-150	-69	-219	73468	629	879	-250	-321	-571	85249	1290	1690	-400	-390	-790	158717
2022	665	809	-144	-69	-213	73255	636	885	-249	-321	-570	84679	1301	1694	-393	-390	-783	157934
2023	669	817	-148	-69	-217	73038	638	886	-248	-321	-569	84110	1307	1703	-396	-390	-786	157148
2024	668	808	-140	-69	-209	72829	640	897	-257	-321	-578	83532	1308	1705	-397	-390	-787	156361
2025	668	808	-140	-69	-209	72620	637	900	-263	-321	-584	82948	1305	1708	-403	-390	-793	155568
2026	662	817	-155	-69	-224	72396	635	909	-274	-321	-595	82353	1297	1726	-429	-390	-819	154749
2027	655	816	-161	-69	-230	72166	622	915	-293	-321	-614	81739	1277	1731	-454	-390	-844	153905
2028	645	816	-171	-69	-240	71926	616	926	-310	-321	-631	81108	1261	1742	-481	-390	-871	153034
2029	634	824	-190	-69	-259	71667	603	934	-331	-321	-652	80456	1237	1758	-521	-390	-911	152123
2030	619	828	-209	-69	-278	71389	592	949	-357	-321	-678	79778	1211	1777	-566	-390	-956	151167
2031	609	828	-219	-69	-288	71101	581	953	-372	-321	-693	79085	1190	1781	-591	-390	-981	150186
2032	597	824	-227	-69	-296	70805	570	963	-393	-321	-714	78371	1167	1787	-620	-390	-1010	149176
2033	587	830	-243	-69	-312	70493	562	971	-409	-321	-730	77641	1149	1801	-652	-390	-1042	148134
2034	581	831	-250	-69	-319	70174	551	983	-432	-321	-753	76888	1132	1814	-682	-390	-1072	147062
2035	572	834	-262	-69	-331	69843	547	991	-444	-321	-765	76123	1119	1825	-706	-390	-1096	145966

“Migration 3” scenario

Year	Males						Females						Total					
	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.	Live births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Total increase	Population 31.12.
2017	662	807	-145	-69	-214	74346	629	862	-233	-321	-554	87507	1291	1669	-378	-390	-768	161853
2018	655	809	-154	-75	-229	74117	626	860	-234	-337	-571	86936	1281	1669	-388	-412	-800	161053
2019	656	810	-154	-82	-236	73881	627	870	-243	-351	-594	86342	1283	1680	-397	-433	-830	160223
2020	661	806	-145	-90	-235	73646	628	876	-248	-365	-613	85729	1289	1682	-393	-455	-848	159375
2021	660	811	-151	-96	-247	73399	629	879	-250	-379	-629	85100	1289	1690	-401	-475	-876	158499
2022	661	809	-148	-105	-253	73146	633	885	-252	-394	-646	84454	1294	1694	-400	-499	-899	157600
2023	663	816	-153	-110	-263	72883	633	886	-253	-409	-662	83792	1296	1702	-406	-519	-925	156675
2024	664	808	-144	-118	-262	72621	632	897	-265	-422	-687	83105	1296	1705	-409	-540	-949	155726
2025	655	808	-153	-126	-279	72342	627	900	-273	-438	-711	82394	1282	1708	-426	-564	-990	154736
2026	648	817	-169	-126	-295	72047	618	909	-291	-438	-729	81665	1266	1726	-460	-564	-1024	153712
2027	639	816	-177	-126	-303	71744	608	915	-307	-438	-745	80920	1247	1731	-484	-564	-1048	152664
2028	626	816	-190	-126	-316	71428	596	925	-329	-438	-767	80153	1222	1741	-519	-564	-1083	151581
2029	609	824	-215	-126	-341	71087	579	934	-355	-438	-793	79360	1188	1758	-570	-564	-1134	150447
2030	593	827	-234	-126	-360	70727	564	948	-384	-438	-822	78538	1157	1775	-618	-564	-1182	149265
2031	579	827	-248	-126	-374	70353	552	953	-401	-438	-839	77699	1131	1780	-649	-564	-1213	148052
2032	563	824	-261	-126	-387	69966	537	963	-426	-438	-864	76835	1100	1787	-687	-564	-1251	146801
2033	549	829	-280	-126	-406	69560	522	971	-449	-438	-887	75948	1071	1800	-729	-564	-1293	145508
2034	539	831	-292	-126	-418	69142	512	983	-471	-438	-909	75039	1051	1814	-763	-564	-1327	144181
2035	527	832	-305	-126	-431	68711	500	989	-489	-438	-927	74112	1027	1821	-794	-564	-1358	142823

Annex 2: Table on interviewed institutional actors

No.	Profile of the interviewed institutional actors
1.	CEO of a language school
2.	International Marketing Officer at the University of Szeged
3.	Founder of a civil organization, which frequently organizes public presentations and discourses on local issues
4.	Local EURES adviser
5.	Administrator at the Employment Division of the local Government Office
6.	Vice mayor of Szeged
7.	Office manager at a company providing HR services
8.	Founder and chief executive of a civil organization promoting local traditions
9.	Representative of one of the most important social care institutions of Szeged

Annex 3: Table on the interviewed young migrants

No.	Gender	Age	Educational attainment	Family status	Type of migration
1.	male	28	tertiary	domestic partner, one child	from Serbia to Hungary
2.	male	18	primary (enrolled in high school)	single, no child	from Serbia to Hungary
3.	female	28	tertiary	lives with partner, no child	away from Hungary
4.	female	35	tertiary	married, one child	returned to Hungary
5.	female	30	tertiary	married, one child	into Hungary
6.	male	36	tertiary	single, no child	returned to Hungary
7.	male	29	secondary	single, no child	from Serbia to Hungary
8.	female	30	secondary	single, no child	away from Hungary
9.	male	37	tertiary	married, three children	returned to Hungary

Annex 4: Table on the participants of the focus group

No.	Gender	Age	Educational attainment	Family status	Type of migration
1.	Male	36	Tertiary	Married, 4 children	Immigrant
2.	Male	36	Tertiary	Single	Return
3.	Female	30	Secondary	Single	Emigrant
4.	Female	37	Tertiary	Married, 2 children	Immigrant
5.	Male	37	Tertiary	Married, 2 children	Immigrant/ Return
6.	Male	29	Secondary	Single	Immigrant