

ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN WAR ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MIGRATION PROCESSES (ON THE EXAMPLE OF UKRAINE AND POLAND)

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The Russian-Ukrainian war has accelerated the process of active involvement of Ukrainian citizens in global migration processes. During the war, Ukraine became one of the countries from which the largest number of people leave every year. Unlike in previous years, the peculiarity of modern migration processes is their forced nature. Along with the military-political and economic situation in Ukraine, a significant factor in migration is the country's geographical location at the intersection of major transport corridors.

A significant part of migration flows from Ukraine is security and labour migration, which is becoming an effective means of employment, guaranteed income, and self-realisation for citizens, which generally contributes to the country's inclusion in the global labour market, the formation of a middle class, and is a catalyst for integration into the global community.

Migrants have an impact on the economy of their host country in several ways. Firstly, they contribute to GDP by creating value added in the sectors of their employment. By consuming goods and services for their own needs, they create demand. The presence of Ukrainian migrants on the Polish labour market can affect wages and employment opportunities for local workers. As entrepreneurs and investors, migrants create new jobs. As highly qualified specialists and scientists, they contribute to the introduction of innovations and technologies. As taxpayers and consumers of public goods, they have a potential impact on the government budget.

For a deeper long-term analysis of the impact of migration to Poland on the economic development of Ukraine as a labour donor country, it is important to consider the impact of remittances of labour migrants. In this context, let us find out whether there is a significant impact of remittances from labour migrants working in Poland.

Thus, in Table. 1 and Figure 1 show the dynamics of remittances of labour migrants from Poland to Ukraine.

Table 1

Volumes of Private Remittances to Ukraine from Poland by Official and Unofficial Channels in 2018-2021 and 2023-2024,* million USD

Year	Total volume of remittances	Remittances from Poland	Share of remittances from Poland in the total volume, %.
2018	11111	3649	32,8
2019	11921	3558	29,8
2020	11980	3300	27,5
2021	14019	4647	33,1
2023	11292	4163	36,9
2024	9480	3308	34,9

* Official data for 2022 are not available.

Compiled by the author based on NBU data [1].

As can be seen from the data in Table 1 and Fig. 1, the share of remittances to Ukraine from Poland decreased in monetary terms during the war years, but increased in share, outstripping this figure for each of the pre-war years and accounting for more than 1/3 of the total amount of remittances to Ukraine from all other countries combined.

And this is despite the fact that today a certain part of Ukrainian migrants is hidden from the view of official statistics, although in recent years the liberalisation of migration policy has significantly reduced undocumented migration.

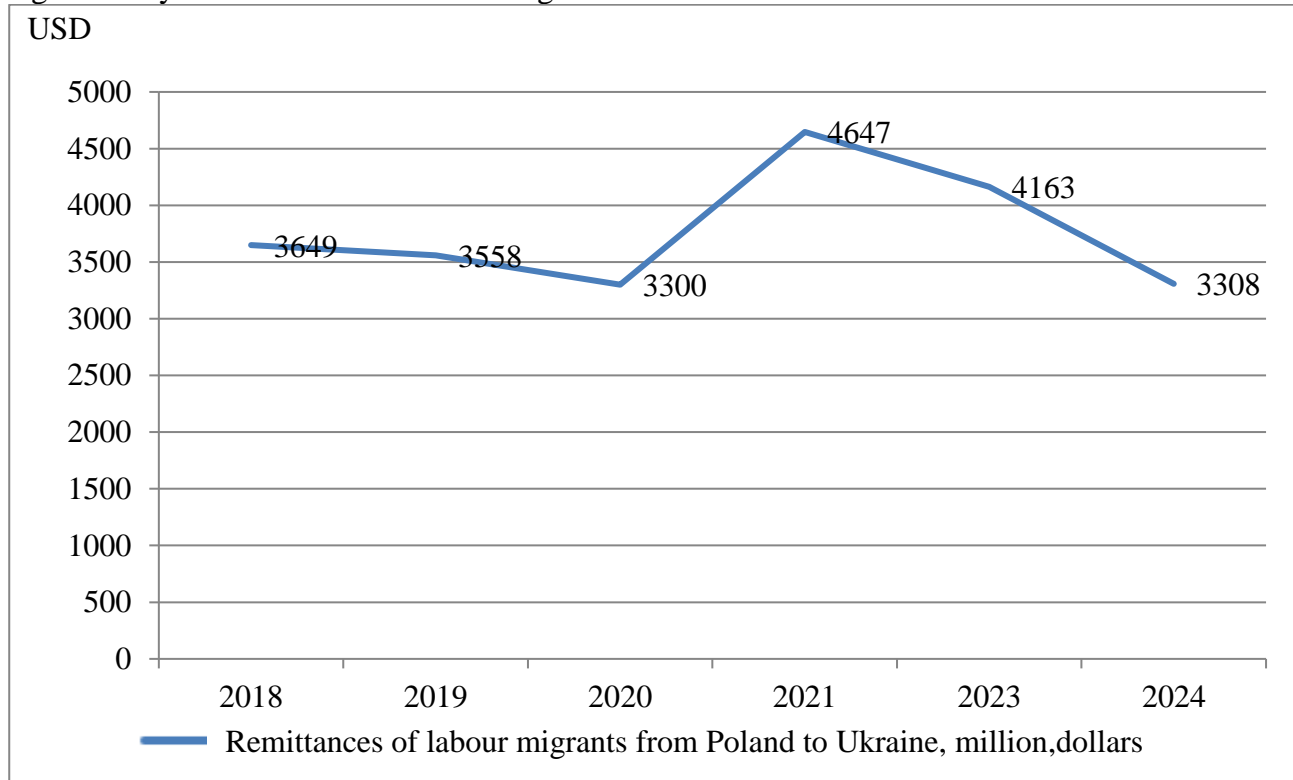


Figure 1. Dynamics of remittances of labour migrants from Poland to Ukraine in 2018-2021 and 2023-2024 [1].

The existing demographic problems in Poland and the unwillingness of the local population to engage in low-skilled and relatively low-paid work or their high wage demands are causing a shortage in the labour market and a growing demand for the services of Ukrainian labour migrants.

There is every reason to believe that the presence of Ukrainian migrants in Poland actually stimulates the local population to obtain more prestigious jobs, reduces the burden on the state budget by supporting the disabled population, does not delay the growth of labour productivity, and does not compete with the local population in the Polish labour market.

REFERENCES:

1. Official website of the National Bank of Ukraine. URL: https://bank.gov.ua/files/ES/Perekaz_y.pdf.