

A Sociological View on Migration Phenomena and Democratization Process in Post Communist Albanian Society

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ABSTRACT

The collapse of communist regime in Balkan brought significant politically, economically and socio-culturally drastically changes. Albania was one of the countries touched by these changes, which engaged internationally after establishing a democratic political system. Democratization process brought out many transitions in society because it appeared as very complex process that ended with consolidation of an anomic democratic governing system. The effective implementation of the new democratic constitutions and policies required changes in the economic, social and political transformations, including also the migration flows in and out of Albania. Democratization process helped Albanian society to be 'open border' toward all countries in the world, especially toward Western ones, during 1990's. This phenomena was quite new for Albanian society. Also the lack of the established democratization process may be defined as a push factor of migration flows.

The main aim of this article is to determine the migration phenomena during the democratization process in post communist Albanian society. Another aim is to analyze the anomic situation of democratization process as a push factor of migration flows in and outside the Albania.

Keywords: *Democratization Process; Migration Phenomena; Post Communist Period; Albanian Society*

1- Introduction

During 1990's till today migrants flows in and out of Albania have been massive due to the size of the population number and most of the time have been challenge for this society. The dynamic of migration has been reflected on the society's social structure, culture, policies and economies. According to Azzarri and Carletto, following the fall of communism and opening of borders in early 1990's, massive migration from the transition economies in Eastern Europe towards more affluent Western neighbors seemed certain. However, despite rising unemployment and poverty, the mass exodus never materialized, except in a few cases. Albania is one such case¹ during 1990's. One of the most important factors that influence the migration

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¹ Carlo Azzarri & Calogero Carletto, *Modeling Migration Dynamics in Albania*, Policy Research Working Paper 4945, The World Bank: Development Research Group; Poverty and Inequality Team: 2009, p:15

phenomena was the fall of communist regime and the establishment of democratization process.

Democratic transitions and democratization process sometimes seems to be problematic. This is seen in post communist Albanian society, although democracy is an indispensable goal, the process of introducing democratic practices is inherently troubled. Such processes rearrange political policies, alter structures and power relations in society, and often exacerbate social problems rather than ameliorating them. The key features of each regime are political factors, economic factors and socio-cultural factors. During the democratization process in Albanian society these key factors caused a very anomic structure. The collapse of communist regime and reorganization of Albanian society's order caused problems not just in politics but also in economic and socio-cultural perspective. These factors seem to be as the important push factors for causing migration phenomena. Vullnetari claimed that Albanian migration after 1990's presents a unique case not only in post-communist Europe, but also more widely, by reason of its massive concentration over a short period of time and its specific features². Consequently to this, it is necessary to claim that migration is as important as complex phenomena in the post communist Albanian society. Also Albanian migration case is unique and quite different from other migration types in Balkan areas or even in the world. The flow of Albanian migration was expended as a huge exodus toward different states of the world, but especially toward European countries.

Today main policy focus of European Union is on managing inward migration, governments may also restrict internal movements and outward migration. The visa liberalization is a facility for Albanians to move free and not to be for a long time migrants. However, it was not same situation in early 1990's with Albanian migration because Albanian migration situation faced exodus and was quite different from other migration floods in the world. The literature on migration remains very much state-centered, focused on developed countries and on economic development (especially in European Countries), with little attention to social development and integration issues. But for Albanian migration the situation was quite different. Because the 'hermetic' or 'closed' borders of communist Albania caused the interest of 'what is around'. So this curiosity and hope for a 'new' life push Albanian toward migration. Consequently we can say that Sasse and Thielemann stressed that migrants, a common distinction is made between legal and illegal migrants, the former entering their new host country through a legal route (such as a temporary or permanent immigrant visa or a work permit), the latter often being associated with illegal human trafficking and have difficulties on integration in host countries. It is often overlooked that a substantial number of so-called illegal migrants entered their new country legally, but lost their legal status by overstaying their visa³, such as illegal migration of Albania during 1990's.

Migration phenomena in Albania still continues to be a very dynamic and all pervasive phenomenon, with the majority of Albanian households having experienced

² Julie Vullnetari, *Albania on the Move: Links between Internal and International Migration*, IMISCO Research, Amsterdam University Press: 2012, p:20

³ Gwendolyn Sasse & Eiko E. Thielemann, *A Research Agenda for the Study of Migrants and Minorities in Europe*, JCMS: Volume 43; Number:4; 2005, p:65

some form of migration since 1990 and one third of households having at least one split-off household member currently living abroad⁴. Democratization period is still extended in nowadays Albanian society. One of element that impacts this extension is migration phenomena too.

The structure of this article is formed by the debates about the democratization concept and democratization process in Albanian society. Following is going to be focus on analyze of migration phenomena and challenges that this phenomena brings in a society. Analyze of democratization process and migration phenomena will be discuss in the last part of this article by taking as reference Albanian society during 1990's.

2- Democratization Process in Albania

Most of the time, democratic transitions are problematic and get social, economical, political and cultural anomies. Even though democracy is an important and necessary stage for the contemporary society, the process of stabilization period of democracy often is troubled. So this process reorganizes political, social, economical and cultural structures of society. Chiodi distinguished that democratization is period of instability, widespread protests and state disintegration⁵.

The democracy process is used as a word that consolidate the transition period toward stabilization of democracy. Rather, 'transitional' is taken to mean a state of fundamental change from what went before from protracted war or violent conflict to a new social contract for building the 'peace'; from autocratic centralized government to representative, elected forms; from political subjugation or domination to independence or the redressing of imbalances in power relations⁶.

In democratization theory there are already standard criteria whereby progress in a democratization process country's may be evaluated. Rustow identified three consecutive stages of systemic changes. First stage is pre-transition crisis with a breakthrough towards democratization. Second stage is democratic transition with the elements of both systems, old and new. And third stage is democratic consolidation as an emergence of the new system in a coherent way⁷. Explain stages according to Albanian society. This reorganization alters structures and power relations, and sometime brings out and impairs social problems rather than stabilized them. The democratization process in the short term may threats the stabilization of society. Societies that are in democratization process face unsettled social environments and structures. This un settlements influence all parts of society's structure, such as political, economical, social, cultural etc.

'The democratization trends of the 1990's and early 2000's raise a number of

⁴ Carlo Azzarri & Calogero Carleto, *Modeling Migration Dynamics in Albania*, Policy Research Working Paper 4945, The World Bank: Development Research Group, Poverty and Inequality Team, 2009, p:12

⁵ Luisa Chiodi, *Mass Migration, Student Protests and the Intelligentsia Popullore in the Albanian Transition to Democracy*, Cosmos WP. Florence: European University Institute, 2012, p.5

⁶ Mark Kesselman; Joel Krieger & William A Joseph, *Introduction to Comparative Politics*; 2nd Edition; USA: Houghton Mifflin, 2000, p.18

⁷ Dankwart A. Rustow, *Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model*, in *Comparative Politics II*, Volume 2, Issue 3 (Apr., 1970), p.337

important retrospective questions about the underlying drivers of democratization, the various paths that countries go down on the road to democracy, whether such changes are sustainable over time, and why they are sustainable or not. Democratization process refers to the transition from authoritarianism liberal democracy⁸. The most important features of this process may be granting the basic freedoms, particularly political rights, the establishment of popular and competitive elections and the introduction of market reforms and freedom of movement (such happened in Albanian society during 1990's). Heywood claimed that according to Macmillan democratization encompasses three, sometimes overlapping processes. The first, the old regime breaks down. This usually involves a loss of legitimacy, generally linked to economic failure and the faltering loyalty of the police and military. Second 'democratic transition' witnesses the construction of new liberal-democratic structures and processes. Third, 'democratic consolidation' sees these new structures and processes becoming so embedded in the minds of elites and the masses that their removal becomes unthinkable. Democracy thus becomes 'the only game in town'⁹.

Sina distinguished that democratization is a complex process that does not end with the formation of democratic institutions; the phase of consolidation and sustainability of the institutions from liberal democracy is more relevant. The mode of transition not only affects the consolidation of new regimes but also helps determine whether the transition is to democracy or to some other regime type. Different modes of transition are likely to have distinct consequences for a country's politics¹⁰. Achieving a transition to democracy is only the first step toward consolidating democracy. Kesselmen claimed that, in order to achieve a transition to democracy, a non democratic regime must resign the four prerequisites of democracy such as political accountability, political completion, political freedom and political equality¹¹.

Democratization, then, is both enrollment and dynamic. This process lunch a democratization process and the reorganization of society such happened in Albania during 1990's. Kesselman; Krieger and Joseph claimed that during democratization process must be realized five conditions:

- 1- Consolidation and development of free and lively civil society;
- 2- Development of relatively autonomous and valued political society;
- 3- Development of the rule of the law to ensure legal guarantees for citizen's freedoms and independent associational life;
- 4-Development of state bureaucracy;
- 5- Development of institutionalized economic society¹².

The consolidation and development of free society give opportunities to demographic changes and movement of people from one place to another, even outside

⁸ Dankwart A. Rustow; *Transitions to Democracy: Toward a Dynamic Model, in Comparative Politics II*; Volume 2, Issue 3 (Apr., 1970), p. 339

⁹ Andrew Heywood, *Politics*, 3rd edition UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007, p.32

¹⁰Anjeza Sina; *Delayed Democracy: Albanians' Pathways to Post-Communism*, Eunomia Rivista semestrale del Corso di Laurea in Scienze Politiche e delle Relazioni Internazionali Eunomia 1, Italia: 2012, p.240,

¹¹ Mark Kesselman; Joel Krieger & William A Joseph; *Introduction to comparative Politics*; 2nd Edition; USA: Houghton Mifflin, 2000, p.18

¹² Mark Kesselman; Joel Krieger & William A Joseph; *Introduction to comparative Politics*; 2nd Edition; USA: Houghton Mifflin: 2000, p 20

the country. This topic is very wide to be discussed for this reason shortly in this article is going on focused on Albanian democratization period.

The fall of communism has brought drastic changes to Albania state, long the most isolated and repressed country of the Eastern bloc. Biberaj distinguished that Albania communism was the last domino to fall¹³. Albania was considered to be the last country to turn to pluralism, and also the country which had the longest and most repressive communist system from all Eastern European countries. During the 1990's Albania had taken significant steps towards establishing of democracy based on the rule of law and respect for human rights. Despite these important achievements, a great deal remains to be done to overcome the brutal legacy of communist dictator Enver Hoxha. According to Vickers, in November 1990 the Central Committee made its last attempt to define a political strategy for the country. Albania was now the only remaining communist state in Europe and university students had rising expectations as to the democratization of the country and were growing impatient with worsening living conditions¹⁴. In March 1992, early elections were held as decided by the main political parties. According to Bruzja The Democratic won the elections giving an end to the communist regime. Important to be mentioned is the great support that the Democratic Party had from international organizations, as being the tool to bring Albania into democracy¹⁵. Democratic Party and Primary Minister Berisha government has taken steps to further the process of political, economic and social reform. Although there is still no complete constitution, the formation of a Constitutional Court and a new Charter on Fundamental Freedoms and Human Rights (Law No. 7692) are important steps in realizing the new government's commitment to create an open democracy with full respect for human rights¹⁶. The complete absence under communism of independent courts, a free media and human rights mechanisms poses a serious challenge to Albanian democracy. Even the freedom of movement of people or in literature of Albanian social science knowing as migration phenomena was a challenge for Albania. Moreover, the population in general, as well as the emerging political and economic elites, were initially unfamiliar with the workings of a market economy and with the right of free movement¹⁷.

The first signs of democracy in Albanian were freedoms and human rights. Freedom was concluding with the citizens having the right to travel abroad and the right to enjoy religious freedom. The movement of people, the right to behave as they want the right of having properties etc, brought out not just the positive sequences of consolidation of democracy. But they brought out the transformations and social anomies in Albanian society. Most of the time, this period is defined as the democratization process or as transition period in Albania. The transition period for Albania has been a rough and prolonged one. Consequently it has been very dynamic. This dynamism got

¹³ Elez Biberaj; *Albania: The Challenges of Transition; Central and East European Politics: From Communism to Democracy*, 2nd Edition; United Kingdom: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers:2011, p.47

¹⁴ Miranda Vickers & James Pettifer, *Albania: From Anarchy to a Balkan Identity*. London: Hurst & Company, 1997, p 33

¹⁵ Hans Bruzja, *The Influence of the EU Integration Process in Democratization of Post Communist Albania*, Master Thesis: 2013, p 65

¹⁶ *The Organization of Justice and the Constitutional Court, Law No. 7692*, March 31, 1993.

¹⁷ Attila Agh; *Processes of Democratization in the East Central European and Balkan States: Sovereignty-Related Conflicts in the Context of Europeanization; Communist and Post Communist Studies 32; Pergamon; 1999; p 271*

a large number of challenges. The end of communism regime and the raise of democratization process helped Albanian society to be 'open border' toward all countries in the world, especially toward Western ones during 1990's. This phenomenon was quite new for Albanian society. In the next parts of this article will be discussed migration phenomena as a challenge for Albanian society.

3- Migration Phenomena as a Challenge for Society

Migration is a challenge and very complex phenomena in perspective of socio-cultural and economic life. Human migration is the movement of people from one place to another one inside the country, from country to another for the purpose of taking up permanent or semi permanent residence, usually across a political boundary. For thousands of years people migrate to search for life maintains, survive conquer frontiers, colonize new territories, escape from war zone or political authorities and look for new and more rewarding and existing opportunities. People can either choose to move (voluntary migration) and be forced to move (involuntary migration). According to a widely used definition, migrants are persons who have been outside their country of birth or citizenship for a long period of time and stay there for different reasons. On the migrant side, one can usefully distinguish three main groups: economic, forced and family migrants, which is a distinction based on the motivations for leaving one's country of origin. According to me, migrants could not be classified on just three groups because there are so many people who are not forced to migrate but they want to leave their countries for political reason (such as political transition), for education and for a better socio-cultural activities. Engle claimed that Joly and Reeves defined that migration is often cast as a "problem" to "control" in the domestic politics of richer countries, heightened by recent concerns with "national security"¹⁸.

Also in social sciences, the term 'migrant' spread an underlying definitional imprecision that blurs the respective fields of study, socio-cultural and policy-making as well as the linkages between these. So we can claim that migration is the moving of people internally within countries, or internationally between countries from sending to receiving countries. This moving may be for the short or long term, for economic, political, cultural or social reasons. It may be regular/legal or irregular/illegal. Migration all over the world is the excepted as documented or undocumented people movement, which are effected by political incorporation, economics, politics or historical associations. But unfortunately the prevailing approach of national policymakers is accordingly one of managing the flow of migrants¹⁹ driven by domestic concerns rather than more global interests or the interests and rights of migrants. The intergovernmental body, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), works under the banner of 'Managing migration for the benefit of all' and has gained significant support from governments²⁰. Ravenstein saw migration as an inseparable part of development, and he

¹⁸ Lauren B. Engle, *The World In Motion*; Short Essays on Migration and Gender, Geneva: International Organization for Migration: 2004, p. 67

¹⁹ Robert E.B Lucas; *International Migration and Economic Development: Lessons from Low-Income Countries*, Edward Elgar Publishing: 2005, p. 71

²⁰ Susie Jolly & Hazel Reeves Bridge; *Gender and Migration*, Overview Report, Institute of Development Studies, 2005, p. 29

asserted that the major causes of migration were economic. Migration patterns were further assumed to be influenced by factors such as distance and population densities. According to Hein people are expected to move from low income to high income areas, and from densely to sparsely populated areas, that is, the general notion that migration movements tend towards a certain spatial-economic equilibrium, has remained alive in the work of many demographers, geographers, and economists ever since and, as we will see, is also the underlying assumption of push-pull theories²¹. Hans de Hein's point of view about migration is related to the neo classical theory. But it is important to claim that Neo-classical migration theory could not able to deal with Albanian migration case because the factors that push people to emigrate were not just economic, but an opportunity to escape from Albania, to discover the 'magic' of other countries and 'new' hope for the future.

Different theories of migration (such as Push and Pull Theory; Neo-Classical Equilibrium theory; Historical Structural Theory; International Migration Theory etc) , which mainly focus on the causes of migration and the feedback mechanisms through which population movements, are perpetuated. So the causes and consequences of migration are strongly interrelated, and part of the same general processes of social and economic transformation, the circumstances that cause migration will equally affect migration on development in sending societies. For this reason we can say that migration phenomena's complexity can be seen also to definitions above. And the complexity is multidimensional and varies according to each migration wave of a country.

'The scholarly debate has tended to separate the developmental determinants and effects or impacts of migration artificially from more general processes of social including economic change. There is a clear need to study migration impacts in their wider societal context, and to see how migration as: A process which is an integral part of broader transformation processes embodied in the term "development"; but also has its internal, self-sustaining and self-undermining dynamics; and impacts on such transformation processes in its own right'²². So, is very important to say that emigration play a very important role not just for reorganization of life, but for society's cultural, social, economical and political perspective.

The complexity of migration trends in the twenty-first century cannot be ignored. In the past, most migrants came from countries with colonial and specific bilateral arrangements to European and other economical development countries. But the migration profile has been changed during the last decade. There has been a rapid increase in the diversity of migrants as a result of a more interconnected world, with continued political and economical disparities and the impact of globalization. The increase in the number of sending countries has resulted in a new 'super-diversity' in Europe, with many disparate communities composed of small groups made up of many different nationalities. So consequently to this we may claim on the other face of complexity of migration phenomena. The flow of migrants to Europe has also become more complex in terms of movement and legal status. After the fall of communism and the

²¹ Haas de Hein; *Migration Development: A Theoretical Perspective*, International Migration Institute; James Martin 21st Century School; University of Oxford; Working papers; Paper 9; 2008, p 4

²² Haas de Hein, *Migration Development: A Theoretical Perspective*, International Migration Institute; James Martin 21st Century School; University of Oxford, Working Papers, Paper 9, 2008, p. 2

opening of borders of Albanian state, another factor affected the rise of migrations flows. This factor was and still is globalization. Globalization is changing the nature of the migration dimensions.

According to Hans de Hein, one-way voyages to a new country of settlement, the type of migration which populated the New World, are giving way to more temporary and flexible movements, and a new generation of migrant globetrotters. With cheaper communication and travel, migrants have greater opportunities to maintain links with their home countries, and 'return' and 'circular' migration is becoming increasingly commonplace. In Europe particularly, an increasing proportion of the migrant population is 'transnational: that is to say, people working in one country while maintaining a family and social life in another²³. According to this perspective is very evident and important to say that the problematic form of migration is reflected to the social relation of one society. So migration is very benefit for the economical conditions but its reflection or symptoms causes the social anomies for receive and hosted societies too. This phenomenon is seen in social identities of migrants, such as they have a feeling of not belonging in the hosted society but even in their own state. So this feeling is mostly related with integration according to policies of receive countries and sometimes this application may not be totally voluntary. These processes cause the complexity of migration phenomena and sometimes the anomic situation in hosted and sending societies.

Migration phenomena's complexity derives from a number of factors. According to Vullnetari these factors may include origin or destination country perspectives, macro or micro analyses, discipline based approaches, concerns over short or long term impacts, varying types of migration and development spatially and over time and, not least, various ways of measuring the two. Increasing interdependencies of social, economic and political aspects require an approach that takes these global interdependencies into account, but also embeds the analysis in a specific social and geo-historical context relevant to the study²⁴. So as conclusion is important to stress that social; cultural and even the personal identity of migrants must be fit or involvement of migrants, and their families, in the social, cultural political and economical life of the host country's conditions. Most of the time these conditions are phrased as social integration of migrants in hosted societies. Migrants may not be complain voluntarily to these conditions. From this point started to be faced the complexity of migration phenomena. From a policy perspective, migration phenomena become crucial to relate determinants to outcomes and to understand how changes over time have influenced migrants' decisions. Migration is a repeated decision which an individual continues to make every year when he/ she decide to either migrate or stay in Albania. For those who have migrated, whether to return or stay abroad. This is one of the reasons why migration has a dynamic structure.

²³ Haas de Hein, *Migration Development: A Theoretical Perspective*, International Migration Institute; James Martin 21st Century School; University of Oxford, Working Papers, Paper 9, 2008, p.26

²⁴ Julie Vullnetari, *Albania on the Move: Links between Internal and International Migration*, IMISCO Research, Amsterdam University Press: 2012, p. 35

4- Migration in Post Communist Period in Albania

Nowadays Albania is a country on the move, with massive levels of both internal and international migration. During the communist era (1944-90), migration had come to a virtual dream, as it was officially prohibited, and emigrants and family members left behind had been ostracized or severely punished. The fall of communism in Albania after 1990's and democratization process brought out opportunities of free movement of people and goods and political, economical and cultural forming relations of Albania with different countries of the world. 'The fell of communist regime eventually fell, the end of the controls on internal and external migration and the collapse of the centrally planned economy unleashed a demographic shift at an unprecedented pace, as individuals and entire households started migrating to the cities or leaving the country altogether'²⁵.

So from 1990's till nowadays Albanian society is 'open border' toward the different countries, especially to European ones. Free movement or migration phenomena were quite new for Albanian society in early 1990's. According to Ikonomy, Albania, after 21 years (according to the study of the World Bank shows that the number of migrants abroad Albania is around 860,485 persons, or about 27.5% of the population²⁶ are still facing with some migration problems, but there are form policies for bringing social control over the migration and its situations. As Vullnetary claimed, according to the data from MOLSAEO²⁷, there were nearly 750,000 and 1.1 million Albanian migrants living abroad in 1999 and 2005, respectively. The majority of them lived in Greece and Italy²⁸. NID²⁹ reported that the Albanian migrants' number is 1.7 million in 2010³⁰. So as it appears from the statistics, Albanian migrants' number is one of the highest in Balkan area. So to have concrete statistics we may analyze the data's of ALSMS³¹ as following. 'The 2005 ALSMS contains a number of innovations, particularly in relation to the migration module, which enable us to fully characterize the evolution of migration since its onset in 1990'³².

²⁵ Carlo Azzarri & Calogero Carleto, *Modeling Migration Dynamics in Albania*, Policy Research Working Paper 4945, The World Bank: Development Research Group, Poverty and Inequality Team, 2009, p.15

²⁶ Luljeta Ikonomy, *E drejta Migratore, Manual Trajnues*, Edited from World Bank, Migration and Remittances Factbook; 2009, p.15

²⁷ Ministry of Labor Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of Albania

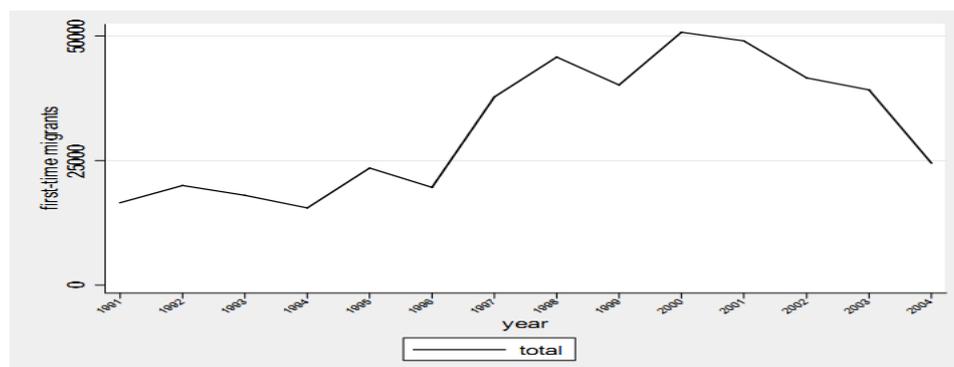
²⁸ Julie Vullnetari, *Albania on the Move: Links between Internal and International Migration*, IMISCO Research, Amsterdam University Press, 2012: p.15

²⁹ National Institute of Diaspora

³⁰ *The activity of NID during 1996-2010*, National Institute of Diaspora, Albanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tirana, 2011

³¹ Automated Life Support Management System in the World

³² Carlo Azzarri & Calogero Carleto, *Modeling Migration Dynamics in Albania*, Policy Research Working Paper 4945, The World Bank: Development Research Group, Poverty and Inequality Team, 2009, p.17

Figure 1. *Flow of Current Migrants, by Year of Migration*³³

In this figures in this section, the year indicates the year of first migration of current migrants. Thus, in case of multiple events prior to settling abroad, we are using the timing of the first of such events. However, in the majority of cases, permanent migrants only reported one migration episode. Also, the lower numbers in the early 1990's reflect the fact that a higher number of these early migrants have now returned and settled back in Albania, as reflected in the high numbers of past migrants in these early years of transition. "These large-scale migration flows have contributed to the growing importance of remittances as a major source of income for many Albanian households and for the national economy"³⁴ and for the dynamic form of social structure of Albanian society. Because the socio-demographic characteristics of migrants have been changing over time, suggesting an overall deterioration of the human-capital quality of more recent flows, less educated and older migrants appear more likely to migrate in recent years.

Albanian migration seems to be as a lake of opportunities and challenges not just for migrants but also for the Albanian society too. Selecting the destination for migrating is related to push and pull factors such as ease of finding work, geographical proximity, ease of entry into the host country, relatives who live in places where they migrate, recognizing the opportunities for education and improvement of professional skills, opportunity to work in their profession and better salaries compared to other countries. Also other challenges come from the migration reorganization of social structure. The flow of young people as a work force outside Albania forms the lack of population dynamism and anomies in socio cultural structure of Albania. The anomies reflect also in social cohesion and development of society. Extremely demographic changes loose the focusing on control of population in home country. But another dynamic that reflect on the positive manner is the economic growth and prosperity from the remittances of migrants. This makes possible the country development and

³³ Carlo Azzarri & Calogero Carleto, *Modeling Migration Dynamics in Albania*, Policy Research Working Paper 4945, The World Bank: Development Research Group, Poverty and Inequality Team, 2009, p. 16

³⁴ Marc Hooghe, Ann Trappers, Bart Meuleman & Tim Reeskens, *Migration to European Countries. A Structural Explanation of Patterns*; International Migration Review; Volume 42, Issue 2, 2008, p.497

also has social and economic impacts. These impacts bring out the national growth and development and also the political stabilization. So it is important to stress those migration phenomena of Albanian society brought out positive and negative changes from its dynamical structure.

5- Conclusion

Rapid democratization can also be conflict inducing. Since the end of the cold war in 1989, the world has seen an ongoing 'wave' of democratization. The democratization trends of the 1990s and early 2000s raise a number of important retrospective questions about the underlying drivers of democratization, the various paths that countries go down on the road to democracy, whether such changes are sustainable over time, and why they are sustainable or not. Democratic transitions and democratization process sometimes seems to be problematic. 'Although democracy is an indispensable goal, the process of introducing democratic practices is inherently troubled. Such processes rearrange political competition, alter structures and power relations, and often exacerbate social problems rather than ameliorating them'³⁵. The key features of each regime are political factors, economic factor and cultural factor. During the democratization period these key factors had a very anomic structure. The collapse and reorganization of society caused problems not just in politics but also in economic and cultural perspective. These factors seem to be as the important push factor for migration phenomena. So from 1990's till nowadays Albanian society to be 'open border' toward the different countries, especially to European ones. Free movement or migration phenomena were quite new for Albanian society. Albanian migration seems to be as a lake of opportunities, challenges and dynamism not just for migrants but also for the Albanian society too. Migration phenomena in Albania still continues to be a very dynamic and all pervasive phenomenon, with the majority of Albanian households having experienced some form of migration since 1990 and one third of households having at least one split-off household member currently living abroad³⁶. The flow of young people as a work force outside Albania forms the lack of population dynamism and anomies in socio cultural structure of Albania. The anomies reflect also in social cohesion and development of society. Extremely demographic changes loose the focusing on control of population in home country. But another dynamic that reflect on the positive manner is the economic growth and prosperity from the remittances of migrants. As conclusion, is important to stress that the democratization period is still continuing and migration is still dynamic and a very complex phenomena in Albanian society.

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³⁵ Andrew Heywood; *Politics*; 3rd edition UK: Palgrave Macmillan; 2007: p.105

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