

Migration and Gender Issues in Russia and Former Soviet Union

Trinity College

Prof. Nadezda A. Shvedova
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United States of America

Course Description:

To introduce you to the significant effect on the migration phenomenon, examining trends that have emerged since the end of the Cold War and collapse the Soviet Union and to provide students with necessary analysis of migration process in contemporary Russian society. Familiarity with the process of migration in Russia, based on gender approach, is promoting the better understanding the whole International Migration process all over the world.

The course explores the wide spectrum of topics to create vital panorama of the migration process in the world through present day situation in Russia. We will:

- Examine the almost unprecedented situation in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union in terms of the scale of the problem and the geographical area in which they located.
- Examine a situation that there has never before been in which several million persons have suddenly found themselves to be foreigners in a country where they had been living for several generations and, besides, tens of thousands of persons, who are in need too, have been **displaced within Russia** as a result of ethnic conflicts.
- Examine social crisis getting worse while women and children becoming impoverished, the issues in area of sharp political activities and struggle.
- Examine how specific situation in Russia resulting from many factors, the collapse the Soviet Empire and traditional neglect of gender interests, impacts on labor migration, forced migration, international migration flows from a gender perspective.
- Examine how the reforms and politics are dangerous for the interested groups, state bureaucracy with their old ineffective methods to solve problems.
- Examine how since September 1999, UNHCR has been providing support to the Government of the Russian Federation in the relief effort aimed to assist the affected population in the Northern Caucasus.
- Examine an active participation of the UNHCR in the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Northern Caucasus and its support to governmental and non-governmental agencies dealing with **protection of IDPs in Chechnya**.
- Examine how asylum seekers are treated and the changing conditions for asylum.

- Examine women specific conditions generating asylum requests and the vulnerability of refugee women and children.
- Examine government response to the shifts in migration trends and the specific feature of the new migration legislature in Russia.
- Examine the push and pull factors creating conditions for human trafficking, trafficking of women and children.
- Examine how new processes of migration and creation democracy in the transition country Russia is interbounded.

Syllabus:

January 21, 2004

Class One: Introduction to the Russian Federation and Key Course Concepts

Welcome and introduction to Certificate Program by Dr. Robert Maguire

Welcome and introduction to INAF 570 by Dr. Nadezda A. Shvedova, Russian Academy of Sciences and Visiting Fulbright Scholar

Review of syllabus, handing out of supplementary materials, class introductions

Introduction to the Russian Federation and key course concepts

Setting the scene:

- Review the General Information about The Russian Federation.
- Review contemporary political, economical, environmental and cultural issues in the Russia.
- Review contemporary population and multicultural traditions.
- Review basic definition and language.

In class viewing the film “The Russian Federation — the Multicultural State”

Reading assignments due January 28, 2004

- Peter Stalker. Workers without frontiers. The Impact of Globalization in International Migration. Lynne Rienner Publishers, ILO, 2000, pp. 1–10.
- Rule, Wilma, and Norma Noonan, Eds. (1996). Russian Women in Politics and Society. Westport, Connecticut. London: Greenwood Press, pp. 175–177.

Students will be expected to prepare a short paper (2–3 p) on *Glossary of Russian Terms*

1. Apparatchik
2. Commonwealth of Independent States
3. Communist Party of the Russian Federation
4. Constituent Member of the Russian Federation
5. Democratization (Demokratizatsiia)
6. Economic migrant
7. Federal Assembly

8. Federal Authorities of the Russian Federation
9. Federation Council
10. Glasnost
11. Government of the Russian Federation
12. Internally displaced persons (IDPs)
13. Migration
14. Near Abroad
15. New Thinking
16. Perestroika
17. Prosecutor General's office
18. Refugee
19. Refugee status
20. Rejected asylum seekers
21. Republic
22. State Duma
23. Stateless
24. Temporary protection
25. Unaccompanied minor
26. Zastoy

January 28, 2004

Class Two: Economic Consequences of Migration Trends Related to the Russian Affairs

- Quiz on review from Class One.
- Review Migratory movements as a key agenda item on the international affairs agenda.
- Review migration as an available life choice.
- Review Emergence of Russia and other post-communist countries in the international migration scene Review the Russian Transformation or Reforms.
- Review basic results of the Russian reforms in gender perspectives.
- Economic Consequences of Migration.
- International Migration Trends.
- The Tendencies of Forced Migration after Disintegration of the USSR in the Context of Socio-Economic Development.
- International Intellectual Migration.
- Brains return to Russia from the West.
- Stages of Development.
- Definitions.

In class discussion of the film “The Russian Federation — the Multicultural State”

Reading assignments due February 4, 2004

- Migration in Central and Eastern Europe — 1999 Review, published jointly with the International Center for Migration Policy Development (1999, English).
- Peter Stalker. Workers without frontiers. The Impact of Globalization in International Migration. Lynne Rienner Publishers. ILO, 2000.

February 4, 2004

Class Three: Globalization, International Migration and Forced Women Migration

Quiz on review definitions

- Social woman's rights in Russia as human's rights
- The Effect of the Current Crisis on Women
- Push and Pull Factors Causing Migration in Russia
- Working Conditions and Changes in the Workplace
- Women in the Labor Market
- Discrimination in the Workplace
- Totalitarian Tradition and Free Enterprise in Russia
- Economic activities and the social safety network
- State Politics and Mechanism
- Women and Education

Questions and Topics for individual research due.

Readings and assignments due February 11, 2004

- Racioppi, Linda, and O'Sullivan See, Katherine (1997). Women's Activism in Contemporary Russia. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, p. 25–26, 32, 41, 44– 50.
- Rules, Wilma, and Norma Noonan, Eds. (1996). Russian Women in Politics and Society. Westport, Connecticut. London: Greenwood Press, pp. 65–67, 104–106, 124–127.
- Trafficking in Persons Report. Released by the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. June 11, 2003.

February 11, 2004

Class Four: Russia Responses to It's Challenges

Quiz on information from Class Two and Three

- Highlights of migration trends in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) countries in 1990s
- Support needed from the World Community
- Illegal migration: homeless children.
- Problems of Regulations.
- Social Conflicts
- Xenophobia Related to the Presence of Migrants. Roots. Political Culture.
- Status of Young Women.
- Trafficking in persons
- Prostitution and Sale of Women as a Factor of Forced Migration: Double Violence

- The Russian Government Response to trafficking.

In class discussion on:

- How trafficking in human beings is linked to labor migration of women and What does it mean “modern day slavery and slave trading”?
- Why trafficking in persons is one of the greatest human rights challenges of our time?
- Who Is Being Trafficked and Who Are the Traffickers and How Do They Recruit Individuals?
- Why Is Trafficking Flourishing?

Readings and assignments due February 18, 2004

- David Kyle and Rey Koslowski, “Introduction,” in Kyle and Koslowski (eds.), pp. 1–28.
- Guiding Principles of reviewing laws concerning trafficking in human beings with the special emphasis on the Southeast European region. OSCE: BDIHR, 2001.
- Kevin Bales, *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy* (Berkeley: Univ. of California Press), 1999, pp. 1–33.
- Phil Williams, “Human Commodity Smuggling: An Overview,” & “Trafficking in Women and Children: A Market Perspective,” in Phil Williams (ed.), *Illegal Immigration and Commercial Sex: The New Slave Trade* (London: Frank Cass), 1999, pp. 1–10 and 145–70.
- Trafficking in Women and Children in Asia and Europe. A background presentation of the problems involved and the initiatives taken. Stockholm, 2001. pp. 22–28.

February 18, 2004

Class Five: Russia as Receiving Country Migration Between Russia and Other former Soviet States

- The Political Changes and Their Impact on Waves of Migration
- Deportation under Stalin Regime — The brief history vision
- Specific Problems in Forced Migration of Population in Regional Development
- Characteristics of Forced Migration in different regions of the former USSR
- Migration between the Russia and other Former Soviet States
- Involuntary Relocating Persons (IRPs) and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)
- The mass immigration (repatriation) of the Russian-spoken people
- How it’s possible in post-soviet era to create sustainable development in the former Soviet Republics
- Asylum Under Threat

In class discussion

“What are the main trends of women’s family status? What is the women’s role in family?”

Readings and assignments due February 25, 2004

- Gibney, Matthew J. (2001), “The State of Asylum: Democratization, Judicialization and Evolution of Refugee Policy in Europe”, *New Issues in Refugee Research*, Working Paper No. 50 (Geneva: UNHCR).

- Nezavisimaya Gazeta, July 29, 2002. Grigory Yavlinsky: Our State Does Not Need People, despite the low birth rate. By Lidia Grafova *The State of World's Refugees*. UNHCR, Moscow, Interdialect, 2000.
- No Refuge: The Challenge of Internal Displacement. United Nations. New York and Geneva, 2003.

February 25, 2004

Class Six: Women's Rights as Human Rights: Refugee and IDPs

- Women and migration
- Refugees and displaced women.
- Human rights of women refugees
- Gender persecution and discrimination
- Women as target of organized violence in conflict situations
- Statelessness and citizenship laws: implications on women and children
- Women trafficking, networks of prostitution
- Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
- Violence in the family
- Measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women

Readings and assignments due March 3, 2004

- Nezavisimaya Gazeta, July 29, 2002. Grigory Yavlinsky: Our State Does Not Need People, despite the low birth rate. By Lidia Grafova *The State of World's Refugees*. UNHCR, Moscow, Interdialect, 2000.
- No Refuge: The Challenge of Internal Displacement. United Nations. New York and Geneva, 2003.
- Violation of International Norms and the Russian Legislation of the Rights of Refugees and Forced Migrants. Moscow, 1999.

March 3, 2004

Class Seven: The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

- Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees
- Government Policy (Problems of the Transition)
- Government of Russia's Approach to Refugees
- The Origins of Asylum.
- Refugees and Asylum-Seekers.
- Asylum Under Threat the Asylum Crisis
- Women and Children in Asylum
- Safety and Security
- UNHCR's Activity in the RF
- UNHCR and refugees: partnering with others — NGOs and business

Readings and assignments due March 17, 2004

- Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. Adopted on 28 July 1951 by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons convened under General Assembly resolution 429 (V) of 14 December 1950.
- Nezavisimaya Gazeta, July 29, 2002. Grigory Yavlinsky: Our State Does Not Need People, despite the low birth rate. By Lidia Grafova *The State of World's Refugees*. UNHCR, Moscow, Interdialect, 2000.
- No Refuge: The Challenge of Internal Displacement. United Nations. New York and Geneva, 2003.
- Violation of International Norms and the Russian Legislation of the Rights of Refugees and Forced Migrants. Moscow, 1999.

March 17, 2003

Class Eight: The Lessons of the World Experience of International Migration Consequences

Discussion in the class of “What are Specific Problems in Forced Migration of Population in Regional Development?”

In class review for Exam — Research paper due no exceptions

Final Examination

Course Readings:

Required Texts:

- No Refuge: The Challenge of Internal Displacement. United Nations. New York and Geneva, 2003.
- Peter Stalker. *Workers without frontiers. The Impact of Globalization in International Migration*. Lynne Rienner Publishers. ILO, 2000.
- Racioppi, Linda, and O’Sullivan See, Katherine (1997). *Women’s Activism in Contemporary Russia*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, pp. 47–50, 119–120, 179–183.
- Violation of International Norms and the Russian Legislation of the Rights of Refugees and Forced Migrants. Moscow, 1999.

Text to be handed out in class:

- David Kyle and Rey Koslowski, “Introduction,” in Kyle and Koslowski (eds.), pp. 1–28.
- General Overview of the function of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. UNHCR. Geneva, Switzerland, November 2002, pp. 12–13 (Women and Children).
- Guide to the new UN Trafficking Protocol. European Women’s Lobby. 2001.
- Guiding Principles of reviewing laws concerning trafficking in human beings with the special emphasis on the Southeast European region. OSCE BDIHR, 2001.
- Human Rights Standards for the Treatment of Trafficked Persons. Human Right Caucus, 1999.

- Kevin Bales, *Disposable People: New Slavery in the Global Economy* (Berkeley: Univ of California Press), 1999, pp. 1–33.
- *Migration in Central and Eastern Europe — 1999 Review*, published jointly with the International Center for Migration Policy Development (1999, English).
- Most frequently asked questions about the Refugee Convention. *Refugees*. Vol. 2, number 123, 2001, pp. 16–17.
- *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, July 29, 2002. Grigory Yavlinsky: Our State Does Not Need People, despite the low birth rate.
- Phil Williams, “Human Commodity Smuggling: An Overview,” & “Trafficking in Women and Children: A Market Perspective,” in Phil Williams (ed.), *Illegal Immigration and Commercial Sex: The New Slave Trade* (London: Frank Cass), 1999, pp. 1–10 and 145–70.
- *Refugees. Children*. Volume 1, number 122, 2001.
- *Respect our Rights: Partnership for Equality*. Report on the Dialogue with Refugee Women. Geneva Switzerland pp. 20–22 June 2001.
- Shvedova, Nadezda. (1998). “The Challenge of Transition — Women in Parliament in Russia” In *Women in Parliament: Beyond Numbers*. Stockholm, Sweden: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) pp. 57–65.
- *Trafficking in Women and Children in Asia and Europe*. A background presentation of the problems involved and the initiatives taken. Stockholm, 2001. pp. 22–28.

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