Amidst negative demographic trends, emigration of the young, reproductive and employable population is one of the vital issues for the further development of the Republic of Serbia. Since the country’s emigration potential is not sufficiently represented in previous research, the authors aim to shed light on the phenomenon of migration by discussing the attitudes, intentions and motives of senior-year high school students. They also aim to identify the factors for the potential emigration of young people. The analysis was carried out using data from a focus-group survey conducted in three local governments – the City of Leskovac, the City of Užice and the City of Zaječar. Regional centres in the southern, western and eastern parts of Serbia were selected because they best represent the heterogeneity of its socio-economic development and migration patterns.

The participants recognised the importance and relevance of youth migration, showed enthusiasm and, at the same time, took the discussion seriously. The results showed that most of the participants intend to stay in Serbia, while also indicating a relatively high level of readiness to emigrate after finishing school. The most frequent push factor is the unfavourable financial situation in the family. When it comes to the pull factors, the majority of respondents stated that the standard of living, higher salaries and more adequate conditions for professional development and advancement abroad are decisive for potential emigration.

Read more at https://hrcak.srce.hr/253840
MIGREC staff participated at three online conferences with their presentations on the impact of COVID-19 to regular and irregular migration in Serbia. The conferences were organized by the Demographic Association of Serbia and the Center for Demographic Research of the Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade, Serbia, by the Faculty of Political Science of the University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and by the School of Governance, Law and Society of the Tallinn University, Estonia, Sussex Centre for Migration Research, Roskilde University and University of Tampere.

MIGREC also started its three capacity building activities.

The first Publishing Seminar was titled ‘What to expect: understanding the international academic publication process’. It was led by ELIAMEP team members of MIGREC, Dr. Ioannis Armakolas and Dr. Julianne Funk, who are also editors of the journal Southeast European and Black Sea Studies (SEEBSS).

The Reading Group was organized by USFD team members of MIGREC. It is structured around debating and exchanging perspectives about migration governance topics between PhD candidates and senior researchers.

The First “Training workshop in applying for external research funding with emphasis on HORIZON EUROPE” was led by SEERC team member of MIGREC, Nikos Zaharis. It was concentrated on funding opportunities for researchers and post-doctoral fellowships.

Visit the project web-site for more information under http://migrec.fpn.bg.ac.rs/events/