

**UNIVERSITY „BABEȘ-BOLYAI” OF CLUJ-NAPOCA
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PHD GEOGRAPHY STUDIES**



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PHD ON GEOGRAPHY AND CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Population mobility between Romania and Italy
Anthropo-geographical study on emigration and tourism

PHD THESIS SUMMARY

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Table of content for the PHD THESIS Summary
TALBE OF CONTENT PHD THESIS
KEY WORDS
INTRODUCTION
CURRENT STUDY OF THE KNOW-HOW IN THIS FIELD
STRUCTURE, OBJECTIVES AND THESIS PLANNING
STUDIES- CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS FIELD
THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS STUDY
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCIENTIFICAL RESEARCH
MANAGERIAL APPLICATIONS OF THE RESEARCH
THE LIMITATIONS AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT
BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

General plan of the research

Introduction

PART I

Cap. 1 Theoretical and methodological aspects regarding research on immigration phenomenon

- 1.1 Trans-migratory ethnical aspects
- 1.2 Ethnicity as export instrument
- 1.3 Anthro-po-geographical study on migration
- 1.4 Contributions to the anthro-po-geographical research in Eastern and Southern Europe: Romania-Transylvania.
- 1.5. Research methods used: human geography, statistics, observation, comparison, analysis, history

Cap. 2 Researching the Romanian identity. A historical and geographical analysis of society.

- 2.1 Origins; Geto-Dacians, Romans. 1st millennium migrations
- 2.2 From the Roman conquest to the Romanian Feudal principalities and to the Kingdom of Romania
- 2.3 The revolution and the fights for independency and national unity
- 2.4 Romania before the First World War, the Union in 1918 between the two World Wars
- 2.5 The Communist Age, The age of Ceaușescu; Contemporary age and democratic life
- 2.6 Geographical and historical aspects related to mobility-emigration between Romania and Italy

Cap. 3 Romanian cultural traditions

- 3.1 Culture
- 3.2 Identity
- 3.3 Emigration

Cap. 4 Emigration to Italy for work: Romania-Italy

- 4.1 Quantitative aspects
 - 4.1.1 Numerical evolution after 1990
- 4.2 Geo-demographical structures
 - 4.2.1 Gender structure
 - 4.2.2 Age group structure
 - 4.2.3 Professional structure
- 4.3 Origin of the emigrants from Romania
- 4.4 Emigrants' destinations in Italy

- 4.5 Categories of professions of the Romanian emigrants in Italy
- 4.6 Field of work (constructions, commerce, tourism others)

Cap. 5 The emigrant woman in Italy

- 5.1 Romanian woman between tradition and modernity
- 5.2 Emigrating women
- 5.3 Fields of occupation
- 5.4 Ways of emigration and lifestyle
- 5.5 Social issues: adaptability, delinquency, prostitution

Cap. 6 Emigration from Italy to Romania

- 6.1 The history of migration from Italy to Romania
- 6.2 Quantitative and structural aspects (Age groups, professions, business fields that attract Italians)
- 6.3 Main emigrant destinations in Romania
- 6.4 Social aspects

Cap. 7 Case study: emigration Cluj – Abruzzo

- 7.1 Impact of migration (economic, social and psychological)
- 7.2 Mixt marriages
- 7.3 Italians moving permanently to Romania and vice versa

PART II

Cap. 8 Potential for touristic attractions in Transylvania

- 8.1 Categories of touristic attractions in Transylvania which bring tourists from Italy (Transylvania - other attraction components apart from the legend of Dracula)a
- 8.2 Categories of touristic attractions in Abruzzo, which bring tourists from Romania

Cap. 9 Infrastructure and tourist circuits

- 9.1 Accomodation in the county of Cluj
- 9.2 Accomodation in Abruzzo
- 9.3 Means of communication and transportation
 - 9.3.1 Means of transportation: car, plane (low cost companies) agencies
- 9.4 Touristic intensity. Touristic flows.
- 9.5 Touristic destinations (where Romanian tourists go in Abbruzzo)
- 9.6 Touristic destinations (where Italian tourists go in Transylvania)
- 9.7 Methods of tourism planning Romania-Italy and viceversa

Conclusions

List of images: map, map drafts, diagrams, logical schemes (1 – n)

List of abbreviations

List of tables

Bibliography

Webography

Official documents: development strategies and reports

Annex (questionnaires)

Ion Pillat

Străinul

*Pe bancă, sub castanul din vie, te aşază,
Străine, ce venit-ai priveliştea s-o vezi —
Florica e acolo, cu casa, parc, livezi,
Şi peste drumul mare: zăvoiul. Înserează.
Câmpia e albastră şi-n zare norii ard.
Sclipeşte Râul Doamnei înspre apus, o clipă...
Un taur muge; puţul cu lanţ şi roata ţipă;
Şi vrr!... un zbor de vrăbii zbucesc dintr-un gard...
Te-apleci mirat, străine, pe-amurg ca pe o ramă
Ce-ar străluci din umbra muzeului pustiu,
Şi crezi, pornind aiurea, rănit de-un dor târziu,
Că ai Florica... Dar n-ai zărit, ia seama,
Pe-albastra depărtare a luncii de demult,
Trecutul meu, ce arde sclipind în Râul Doamnei —
N-ai auzit, deodată rupând tăcerea toamnei,
Vrr!... timpu-n zbor, pe care cutremurat l-ascult.*

Ion Pillat, *Străinul*, Poezii, Ed. Pentru Literatura, Bucurest, 1967.

Keywords: Geography , cultural anthropology, emigration, tourism, Romania, Italy, Transylvania, Abruzzo, Anthro-geographical study.

Introduction

The project of a PHD thesis on the migratory movements between Italy and Romania, especially the region of Transylvania and about the touristic perspectives of this region has its origins, beyond study and research reasons, in the feelings that tie me to these lands. I have started having feelings for this region in 2007, when I came to this country as a tourist out of pure curiosity. I believe it was an inevitable encounter especially thanks to my interest for anthropological research, which led me to investigate both socially and psychologically, but also geographically, a reality in its translated (emigrated) form, a reality represented in Italy by one million Romanians living in my country. My education as a psychologist and the years in which I taught ethnical-anthropological classes at the Italian University *Gabriele D'Annunzio* from Chieti, along with a profound interest to know and explore other culture have led me as propulsive and unstoppable engine to cross the Carpathian mountains and arrive to Transylvania. Should I use a psycho-dynamic terminology, I would say that my wish to transfer my field of study and research in Eastern Europe, after having done research for many years in places such as Africa, the two Americas and India, has its origin in the thirst for knowledge that vibrates passionately inside me, a vital force that mustn't be stopped, but channeled, just like the accumulation of a river can give birth to a new form of energy, rather than to a frustrating loss.

My encounter with the former Lord Rector of the Babes Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Andrei Marga, a few days after I got to Cluj, Transylvania, proved to be a decisive factor in the start of a collaboration between the two Universities. Approximately a year later, a convention was signed for an Erasmus project and I have had the chance to be one of the project managers for the University that I come from, along with Prof. Gaetano Bonetta, who is currently the Department's Director.

The year of 2007 is a historical milestone for my research, since this is when Romania joined the European Union and European countries, including Italy, opened up for the Romanian citizens. Therefore Romania and Bulgaria became countries of the European Union and, as stated in the Treaty of Rome, which is the foundation of the EU, the citizens of these countries started enjoying the right to move and establish freely in any of the member states. This led to the birth

of a series of social events that involved the Romanian and the host society, the Italian society. We can take into account the fact that the massive immigration beyond the national borders has created a deficit of workforce in some regions of Romania, which led to a immigration phenomena of Moldavians and Ukrainians. Another example regarding the manner in which the immigration phenomenon between the two countries has determined many changes at a social level is represented by the statistical data certifying the increase in the number of Romanians in Italy in the last two decades. Actually, in the first part of the '90, the Romanian presence was rather limited, while today Romanians are the biggest minority in Italy. Romanians live mostly in the Northern-Central regions of Italy, and the provinces with the biggest Romanian communities are Rome, Turin and Milan. The Romanian community is not limited only to the big cities, but it is widely spread: for example, in the case of the city of Rome, many immigrants live in the outskirts of the city.

There are different elements that testify the presence of Romanians in Italy: the increase in married couples, students, the average age of the residents, the properties that are being sold.

Regarding relations, Romanian immigrants are not separated from Italians and many of the jobs they have imply the interaction between the two nations. For example, the work as a caregiver implies a high level of intimacy with the family in general and with the person that is being taken care of and his/her family specifically. The mental representations regarding the Romanian immigrants are often superficial: on the one side, the Romanian citizen is perceived as easily adaptable to us, with a higher possibility of integration compared to other nationalities, since it is an image similar to our past, while on the other side, Romanians, especially men, are considered to be violent, thieves, unscrupulous individuals, while women are seen as taking advantage of other people trust or simply as prostitutes. I would dare to say these themes are “hot” both for us, Italians, and for Romanians living in Italy.

The ignorance of Italians regarding Romanian society and the lack of knowledge about its history and traditions tying the two nations, determine Italians to be the victims of common ideals and judgments on the Romanian immigrants in Italy and generally about all Romanians.

Therefore there is an ethnocentric risk of suggesting general ideas expressed through false ideas often suggested by the mass-media through news that involve Romanian citizens. These general ideas can give birth to hatred or racist stigmatization that might degenerate into physical or ideological violence phenomena. These issues led to what is vulgarly defined in Italy as the

“Romanian issue”. Through the class I’ve taught in Italy I’ve had the chance to initiate an evaluation analysis of the Romanian immigration phenomena in Central Italy based on my students’ knowledge regarding Romania and Transylvania, to whom I’ve applied different questionnaires and interviews which results are presented in the annex of this thesis, and they have served me as an alternative source of inspiration in order to start a PhD thesis on this subject.

Through the investigation and the analysis of the manner in which the issues coming from the immigration phenomena in Italy impact society and its historical evolution, this thesis has the purpose of classifying a subject that involves different social aspects (including the Italian one): crimes. Crimes in which immigrant communities are involved enhance in the collective mentality a sum of ideas and racist attitudes leading to false generalizations and demining the attempts of systemic study of society.

Particularly the phenomena of migration follows a policy that originates in the capitalism that due to a fast mobility of capital and investments in poorer countries leads to a larger profit for companies, generating a decreased level of control and a more extensive freedom regarding the location of industrial factories. Therefore, with the opening of new work and trade channels, the large multinationals have proven to be the only beneficiaries of these circumstances.

Similar to the way in which the development of the industry and services in post war society, despite out country roots, has pushed many Italian citizens to search for fortune elsewhere, the same way the immigrants from Eastern Europe, following the fall of the Soviet Union, have seen themselves obliged to migrate towards more favorable contexts (taking into account the political and economical uncertainty that struck their origin countries)

The migratory flux coming into our country from East, but also from the South, with the constant flux coming from African countries, is changing forever the face of our urban centers. Actually, cities are under the impact of daily changes and to this purpose we just have to think of the fact that according to official data, our big cities have the largest concentrations of immigrants.

Regarding the elements that have led the migrants to choose Italy as their destination, the language is among the first, since Romanian is a Neolatin language, just like Italian and the high possibility of learning Italian language enhances their possibilities for access on the work market.

Regarding women specifically, the increase in the need for services has determined an increase in the female immigration from Romania: according to B. Ehrenreich and A. Russell Hoschschild the lifestyle in Western countries are possible due to a global transfer from the poorer countries to the richer ones of the functions associated with the traditional role of the woman.¹ This suggest that the type of work that Western countries required from foreign workers does not imply just physical strengths and time, but also a special attention to human relations. It is also possible that the cancellation of Visas in 2002 has contributed to a lower degree of dependence from men. It is important to underline the role of Romanian women in Italian families: women represent a primary source in care taking. The help they provide has had and still has a powerful impact on the traditional concept of family within Italian culture. The arrival of a new person, a foreigner, has determined a revision of the balance and the inner workings of the traditional Italian family. Women in these roles must learn the Italian language and also different types of linguistic terms highly familiar in order to relate to the situations that they are operating in.

If we make a detailed analysis on how the current work is structured, in the following lines we will present the methods and the instruments that were adopted in the organizing and planning the project.

Now, at an introductory level, I can anticipate that in the first part, the study is focused on the analysis of geographical and historical aspects regarding Romania generally and Transylvania specifically. I have therefore analyzed the data of recent studies of the emigration phenomenon in Italy's direction, with a particular focus on the migratory flux coming from the region of Transylvania to Central Italy. My analysis focuses on the topic of the female immigration and on a particular phenomena related to this: "the Italian Syndrome", Italy is the European country with the highest number of caregivers². I have then taken into consideration the emigration of our co-nationals in Transylvania with a specific focus on the Italian businessmen in Cluj-Napoca, Transylvania.

In the second part of the thesis, I will illustrate the resources and the development perspectives of tourism in the region of Transylvania, Romania and in Abruzzo, Italy.

¹ Ehrenreich B., Russel Hochschild A., *Donne globali. Tate colf, badanti*. Feltrinelli, Milano, 2004.

² D.Burtini, *Female emigration. From rural Romania to the adriatic coast: women on their journey between opportunity and social vulnerability*. "The Italian Syndrome". STUDIA UBB GEOGRAPHIA, LX, 2, 2015, pp. 123-138

Briefly put, the study of Romanian immigration phenomenon is based on two fundamental topics: the migration from Romania for work related reasons, with an analysis regarding age, gender, cultural and linguistic background, motivation and destination; and the migration for tourism, with the analysis of the touristic flow throughout the year, its motivation and its main means of transportation used to this purpose.

These are topics with a very high social, political and cultural importance that must be studied thoroughly as scientific research in order to promote an appropriate level of know-how on the contemporary facts that involve our multi-ethnic and multi-cultural societies, in order to favor the dialogue between nations and cultures and promote new perspectives of growth and cultural, social and economic development.

My personal interest for the research and the love for Romania have been my driving engine for the development and the work on this project and fascinating mission.

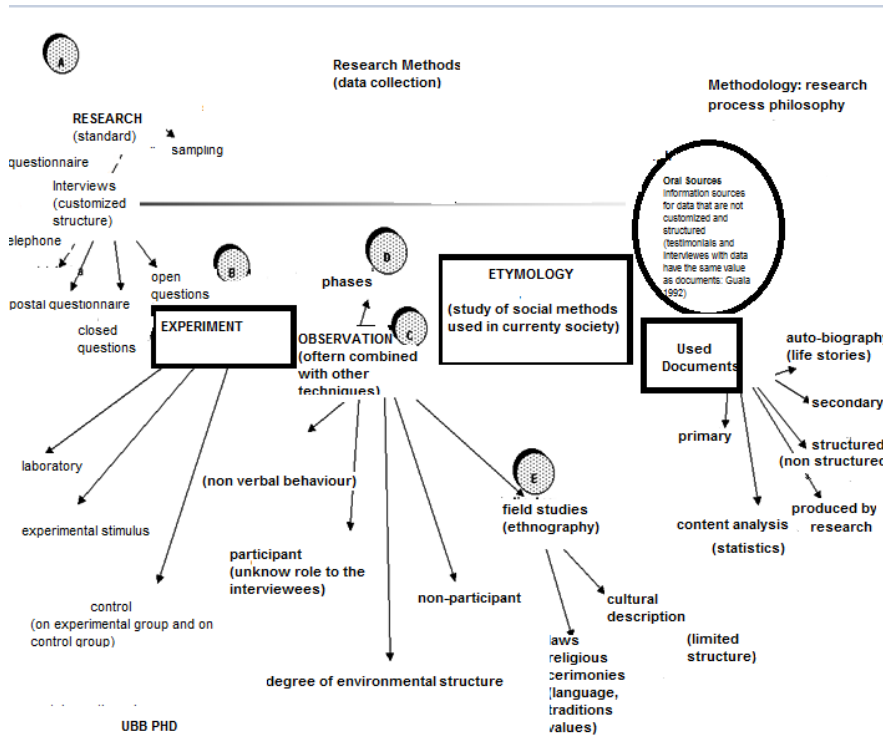
METHODOLOGY AND TYPE OF RESEARCH

Cultural anthropology and human geography are the disciplines that favor the most the exploring analysis and the systematic study of social groups. The first discipline, as part of anthropology, studies human cultures understood as groups of traditions and models that constitute the identity of a social group, researching therefore the cultural phenomena and their manifestation in particular groups or individuals. Human geography, commonly known also as anthropic geography or antro-po-geography, is the discipline that studies the distribution of man in space, social and cultural aspects such as race and ethnicity, linguistic groups, religions, relationship between man and nature and tourism.

Therefore this research is based on the methodology of these two disciplines, as it is a research on nowadays social and inter-cultural phenomena. In my opinion, studying these topics means having the capacity to feed a state of consciousness that can promote the elevation of the culture that, as Ruth Benedict would say, keep people together.

Therefore, the research methods used in this thesis are mainly focused on two types of analysis: a socio-anthropological one and an anthropological-geographical one.

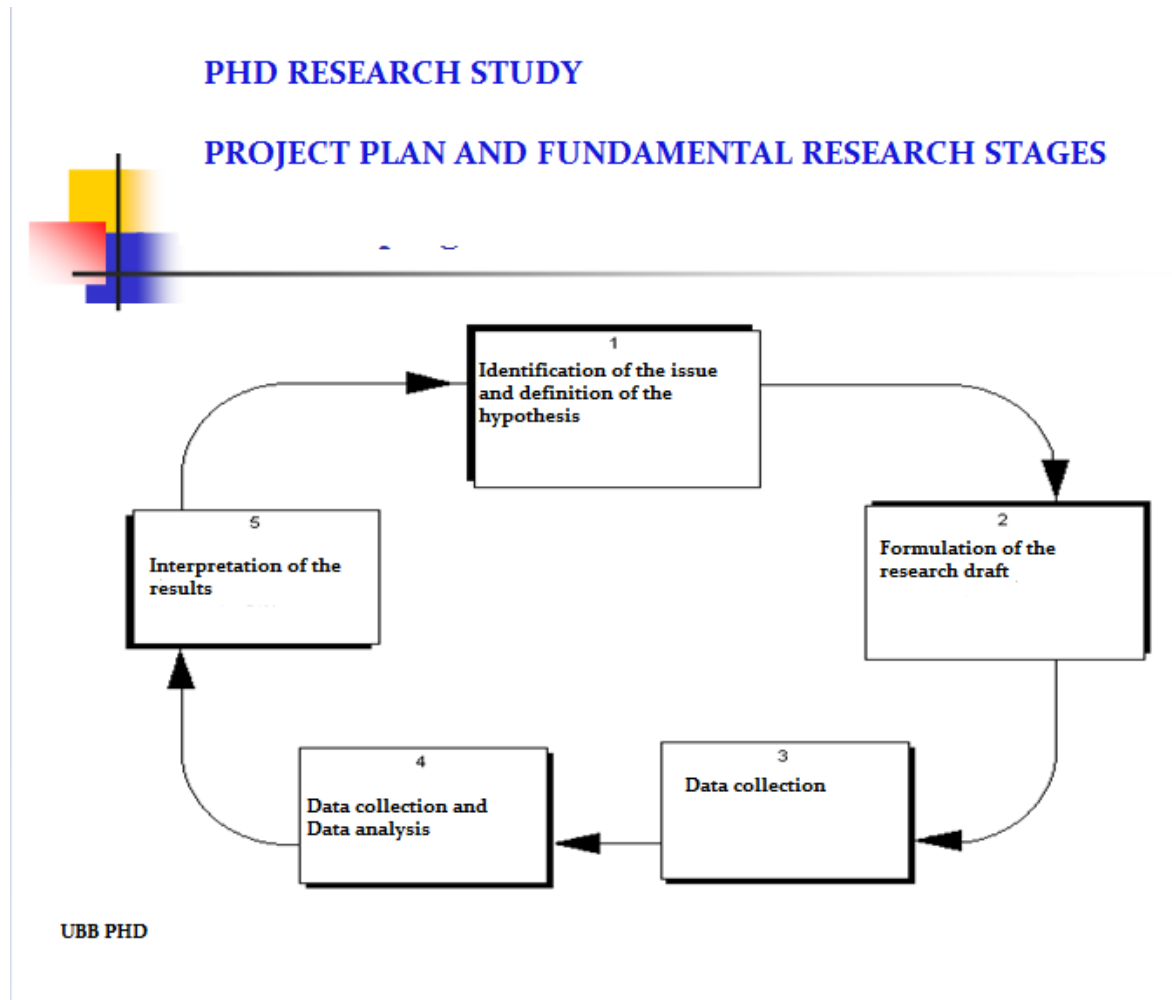
Image 1: Socio-anthropological research methods



Regarding the methodology of the first part, the research tools that were used are:

- The selection of the issue and the definition of the hypothesis
- The formulation of the research project
- Data collection
- Codification
- Data analysis
- Interpretation of the results

Image 2: Project plan and key stages of the research



In the observation stage it is highly important that we recognize three main categories of elements: geographical, environmental and human. In the data collection stage I have used as main research instruments interviews and questionnaires, which results are presented in the annex. These tools were already used during the classes I have taught in Italy, with the university students, in order to understand their take on the phenomenon of Romanian immigration and the knowledge about Romania and Transylvania. In the second stage, different interviews and questionnaires have been presented to Romanian citizens in Italy with the purpose of understanding the reasons behind their immigration and the manner in which they are experiencing the sense of individualism or the feeling of belonging to the condition of an immigrant in a foreign country. In a further analysis stage, the data collected

was integrated with information on history, economics, traditions or environmental characteristics and it was elaborated through numerical data such as real figures, reports, averages and percentages. The main resource for statistical data was ISTAT- Italian National Statistical Institute- and INS, the National Institute for Statistics in Romania, combined with documents from national libraries in Bucharest, Cluj and Italy. The data was represented through schemes and tables in order to be more comprehensive. In the conclusion of the last stages of work it was possible to interpret and explain the perspectives and the relationships between man and environment through an inductive method based on the observation of unique objects and phenomena within a determined area, understanding the inter-dependency between different factors and enabling different conclusions.

Geographical research was used in order to identify events and processes both with natural and human origin, in two different methods, with their own methodology: physical geography, which had the task of studying the inter-relations between different natural aspects that impact territories, determining the division into natural regions, and human geography or anthropo-geography, that researches the distribution, location and spatial organization of human facts. This branch exploring the subjective elements in the relation between man and territory is grounded also in other disciplines such as literature and social studies, especially sociology, economics and psychology. However, the research that I have led for this thesis also refers to history, since it takes into account the concept according to which each manifestation of human culture must be understood as grounded into a historical and environmental moment that originated it.

The project and its fundamental research stages have been developed following processes of:

- Observation
- Formulation of the research plan
- Data collection
- Data codification and data analysis
- Interpretation of the results

In the initial stage of the research I have studied and analyzed the following topics, delimitating an introduction of a geographical, historical and anthropological research from the perspective of this thesis.

- **Geography of migration**

Migratory ethnical characteristics. Ethnicity as export tool. Anthropological synthesis on migration. An anthropo-geography of Oriental Europe: Transylvania.

- **Researching Romanian identity. A historical and geographical analysis on Romanian society**

Origins, Geto-Dacians; Romans; Barbarian invasions. Turkish invasion; Romanians and crusades; Romanian kingdoms and the Kingdom of Romania. The Revolution and the fight for independency and unity. Romania and the First World War. Ceausescu Age; Contemporary times and democratic life.

- **Cultural traditions in Romania**

Cultural influences from invaders, music and literature, spirituality and religion, Romanian cuisine and public celebrations.

Part I

MIGRATION FOR WORK: ROMANIA-ITALY

As previously stated, in the first part of this research thesis, we have analyzed the migration flows between the two countries and we have explored both positive and negative aspects of this phenomenon. Before beginning this analysis, it was first necessary to place Romanian identity through a historical and geographical recap of its cultural traditions in order to facilitate the understanding of this phenomenon. Located in Central-Eastern Europe, Romania is a member of the European Union and it is constituted by an ethnical and cultural homogeneity-Romanians. The most important region is Transylvania, a plateau surrounded by mountains and fields. A land with different ethnic groups where three languages are spoken: Romanian, Hungarian and German, which represent the main resident communities of Transylvania.

At the beginning of the '90, Romania was a country under a very strong migratory pressure. The first to migrate were the ethnical minorities, but with the fall of the Communist Regime and the closing of the factories, many Romanian workers have also transferred to other places. Their favorite destinations were Italy, Spain and Germany. Romanian migration in Italy has registered an increase in numbers in 1994 and several variations during the years. In the beginning, the migrants were mostly male, but in 2002 we have seen an increase in the percentage of female immigrants that needed to escape their role of care takers and submission to the severe and often aggressive men or they simply had the will to improve their lifestyle conditions by migrating towards a society that offered better financial perspectives compared to their origin country.

Starting 2007 Romania is part of the European Union and starting that year, any Romanian citizen could enter and move freely between the European member states.

In Italy, policies on migration mostly agree that the presence of foreigners is a resource for the country since it has favored the productivity and it has also cured the financial deficits. However, the lack of organizational and national structures has been an obstacle in the promotion of integrating policies.

It is through integration that we can recognize that fundamental part of the first step towards the concept that immigration is merely a resource.

According to several studies, the main issue in Italy is the lack of regulations and efficient laws due to which the current immigration flow is no longer corresponding to the real economic and demographic needs of the country. We can take into consideration the immigrants that have little to no qualification or delinquents that might pose a danger to society, security and public order. All these factors have led to the creation of climate of dissatisfaction and aversity of the local citizens to such an extent that the immigration phenomenon has now reached a critical level.

There are two separate models that can be identified in the research for a valid integration policy: neo-assimilationism³ that refers to stages of integration not only in the destination country, but also in the origin country, analyzing the general tendency of the individual towards social integration and verifying his/her knowledge of the culture, history, language and values in the destination country. On the other hand, neo-functionalism⁴ refers to a fight against clandestine immigration with the intent of eliminating supernumerary immigration or dangerous immigration in terms of public order and public safety. To this purpose, the European Union has promoted several agreements between the member states in order to disfavor the departure of unlawful citizens and the recovery of clandestine immigrants that were removed or expelled by the countries where they had migrated to. A selection of immigrants seems to favor the balance between offer and demand, granting to the immigrants those basic and necessary competencies so they can have a positive and long lasting integration on the work market.

³ Most studies related to integration have a theoretical background made up by the assimilation paradigm, which sees assimilation as an inevitable process between generations and over periods of time. From this perspective, assimilation is seen as organic and univocal, linear, that is entirely the migrants' responsibility. They are the ones that become assimilated by the new social context and therefore they must become similar to the natives, assuming their mental concepts and their lifestyles, in order to make themselves accepted and climb on the social stair without putting in danger the balance of the host society. After having dismissed for a long period following the criticism of the 60s, the assimilation logic now seems to have returned under the spotlight thanks to a revival of orientations that now come to re-affirm the inevitability of assimilation at an inter-generation level, with a focus on second generations. Therefore the suggested integration is divided into 2 stages: according to the assimilation idea, integration is normal and is the result of a graduate and linear process that is however entirely dependent on the migrants, abandoning their minority status in order to become compliant with the dominant model; according to new-assimilation, integration is the result of objective factors, defined by the host society and subjective factors such as social, economic, cultural and family background of the foreigner, therefore requiring a participation on both sides.

⁴ Functionalism sees integration as process based on the hospitality logic exclusively instrumental and utilitarian. The idea of integration is based on a social difference between the hosting society and the migrants, that can be accepted as working force, useful for different jobs and occupations. At a social level, this is a deficient integration, with the sole purpose of benefits on both sides without involving any values or traditions specific to their culture.

In Italy, in the first year of 1900s there were very few Romanian immigrants, while today they represent the largest community of immigrants. Among the main reasons that determine Romanian citizens to migrate, the first one is the political and economic insecurity in their origin country and therefore, pressured by the necessity of a more satisfying economic situation, they see themselves forced to move to countries that offer them the necessary conditions for a better lifestyle. Romanians come to Italy also because Italian is a neo Latin language that is easy learn for them and therefore they can integrate easier both work and education wise.

Romanian immigrants come mostly to Northern and Central Italy and to big cities such as Turin, Milan, Padua and Rome. The region of Abruzzo has become in time an interesting destination for foreign citizens, both thanks to the good work opportunities and also due to the social integration possibilities offered by the region.

Following the move to Italy, Romanian immigrants succeed in entering different work fields, specifically constructions, agriculture and craftsmanship in the case of men, while women are mostly caregivers for old people. This reflects the inner workings of the Italian social situation, with a work market that needs national workers in these fields for which the immigrants show a certain affinity. Rather than offering such services in their origin countries, attracted perhaps by the financial possibilities, they go to other countries. This behavior is similar to the one of the Italian citizens that refuse to offer their own services in Italy due to the fiscal pressure that no longer allow them to have a comfortable life, while Romanians occupy the work places freed by Italians so that they can later on move large amounts of money back to their origin countries, a fact which makes the Romanian currency RON one of the most fluctuant in Europe. To their opinion, the type of work they are doing in Italy would be impossible to do in their origin countries for smaller financial gains.

Our production system is based on an inter-relation between the lack of workforce and informal economy; which creates the premises for illegal work. There are several studies that focused on illegal work and the advantages that it offers for the employers, that therefore are not paying the legal expenses. Clandestine work is mostly present in constructions and agriculture. This has led to new production management: clandestine workers are inserted on the work market based on offer and demand. The offer and demand for work aim mostly those minorities with few or no rights at all.

Starting 2007 the Romanian worker's condition change since they gain the same rights as other EU workers. Due to these changes, the employers have preferred to hire Moldavian or Ukrainian workers that were easier to convince to accept bad working conditions. Such informal and fluid elements as explained above are mostly seen in constructions, agriculture, small craftsmanship, where the possibilities for illegal work are very extended. The constructions field is mostly developing through sub-contracting competitions, in which the work is provided based on projects that the company wins. This field hires seasonal or short time workers, and there is a very limited control over this practice in small and medium sized companies. Craftsmanship shops are usually managed by families, and they involve the manager and the workers who have a work dynamic according to internal rules. The Romanian immigrants therefore become a part of a process that involves customers and family relations in production activities sometimes even to such an extent that the places where they live becomes the same where they work irregularly.

Another aspect of our work market is represented by the large demand for care givers for old persons. These developments help us understand the composition and the demographical and social changes that have impacted our country in the last 30 years, bringing a significant decrease in the number of births and a larger presence of Italian women on the work market, both effects having their origin in the lack of social policies. This lack of social policies is accountable for the large gap that has been filled in by a strong immigration of Romanian women, a unique situation at a European level.

This new working role has been introduced in Italian families, the introduction of a new person capable of offering care giving and assistance services for the ones in need, starting from the older ones in the family. This has lead to the appearance of a new social image, due to the increasing role of Romanian women within Italian families, a fact that was noticed starting 2002. According to studies, Romanian women come second on this role after the Ukrainians.

We have noticed that women cover mostly assistance roles within Italian families such a care givers or domestic collaborators, while men handle mostly physical work, such as bricklayers or workers in agriculture and they represent a considerable percentage of the work force that contributes to the general Italian society.

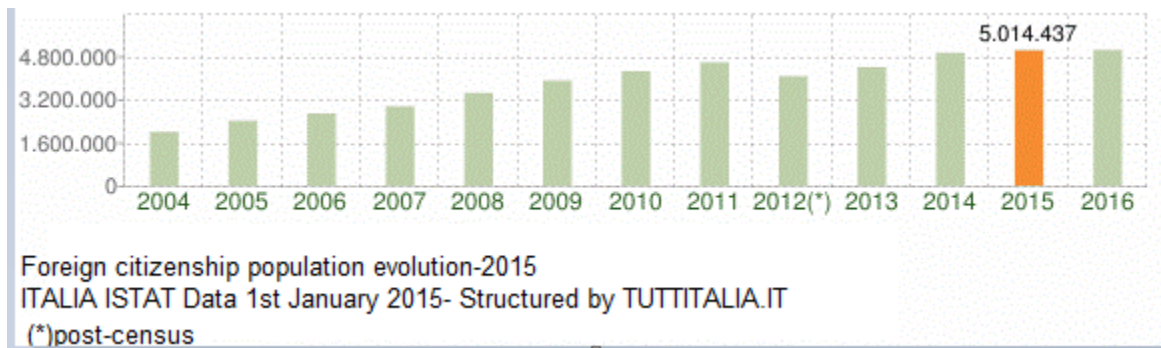
However, Italy is also the destination country for many women that are obligated to be prostitutes. Such flows come mostly from the Balkans and especially from Albania, Moldavia

and Romania. In Italy, prostitution is mostly seen on the streets, in highly circulated areas such as highways, boulevards or streets that access the train stations.

Migrants' destinations in Italy

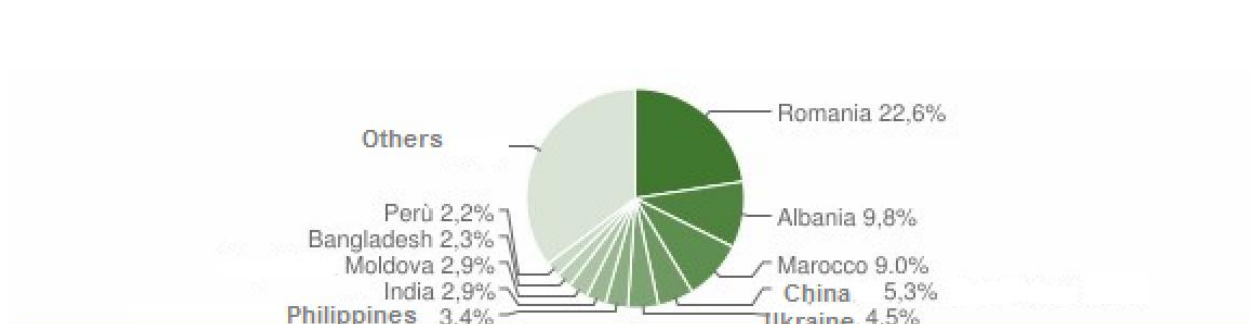
Based on the data provided by the Ministry of Interior and elaborated by ISTAT, the number of foreign residents in Italy on the 1st of January 2015 was 5.014.437 and it represented 8.2% of the total resident population

Image 3. Foreign residents in Italy. ISTAT DATA 2016



The most numerous foreign community is the Romanian one with a percentage of 22.6 from the total of foreign residents in the country, followed by the Albanian one (9.8%) and Moroccan one (9.0%)

Image 4. Foreigners in Italy on January 1st in % ISTAT Data



On January 1st 2007 Romania was the second immigrant nation in Italy, following Albania, with 278.582 residence permits. Should we make a difference between men and women, if we take

into consideration the last two countries, even back in 2007, Romania was on the first place. In 2015 this becomes even more obvious in the image no. 5 where we can see the details on the origin countries of foreign resident citizens, divided by continent and ordered by number of residents.

Image 5: Countries of Origin. ISTAT DATA www.tuttitalia.it

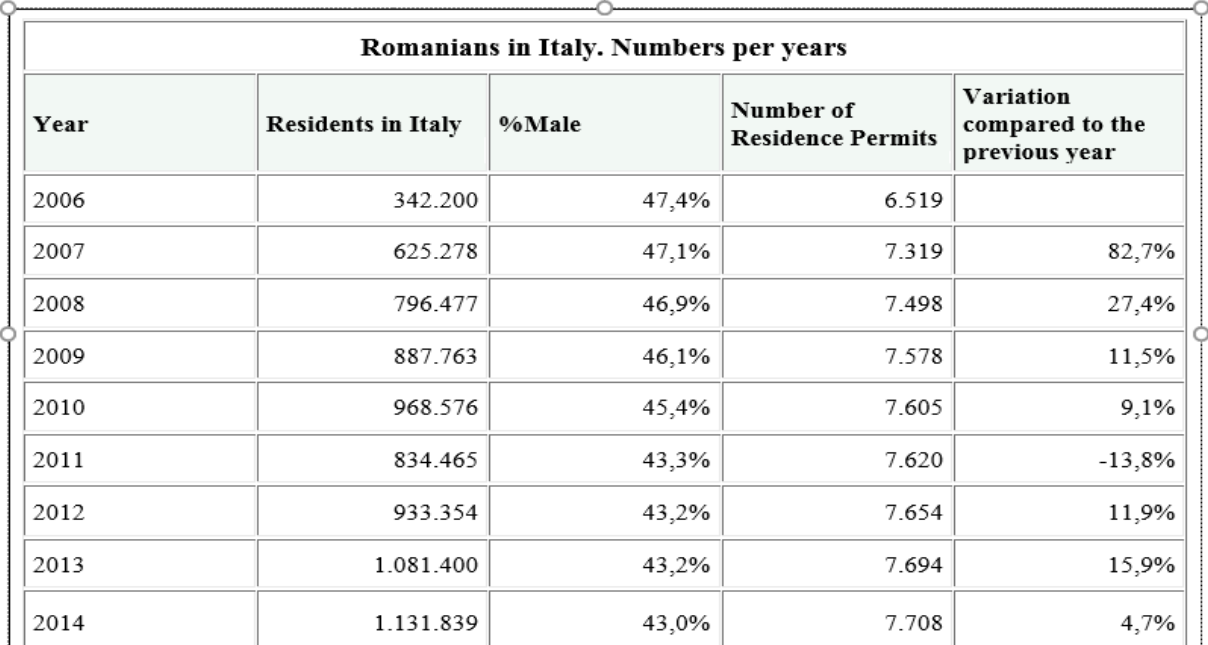
<i>EUROPA</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Maschi</i>	<i>Femmine</i>	<i>Totale</i>	<i>%</i>
Romania	Unione Europea	487.203	644.636	1.131.839	22,57%
Albania	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	254.622	235.861	490.483	9,78%
Ukraine	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	47.393	178.667	226.060	4,51%
Moldova	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	49.929	97.459	147.388	2,94%
Poland	<i>Unione Europea</i>	26.371	72.323	98.694	1,97%
Macedonia	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	41.818	35.885	77.703	1,55%
Bulgaria	<i>Unione Europea</i>	20.970	35.606	56.576	1,13%
Kosovo	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	25.459	20.377	45.836	0,91%
Serbia	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	21.982	21.829	43.811	0,87%
Germany	<i>Unione Europea</i>	13.756	22.993	36.749	0,73%
Russia	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	6.454	28.757	35.211	0,70%
Bosnia-Herzegovina	<i>Europa centro orientale</i>	15.922	13.520	29.442	0,59%

This data combined with everything we have said regarding the emigration from Romania, show how the migratory flows between Romania and Italy have involved both men and women and that actually women were the protagonists of this phenomenon.

On January 1st 2006, the majority of the residence permits were issued to persons that had entered Italy in 2002, corresponding to 41.5% of the total permits. This data, apart from showing a boom in the presence of Romanian in Italy in 2002 shows the effects of the regulations in 2002 and it shows how this impacted the life of Romanian citizens. This can also show an increase in

the number of Romanians following the cancellation of VISAS for Romanian Citizens that wanted to come to Italy. This helps us understand better the migratory dynamics between Romania and Italy.

Based on the data provided by ISTAT on residents, Romania is one of the countries which presence has increased extensively: Romanian residents in Italy have increased in numbers from 75 000 in 2001 to 249 000 in 2005 and to more than one million and hundred thousand in 2014. This exponential increase has been constant from 2006 as shown in Image 6.



Romanians in Italy. Numbers per years				
Year	Residents in Italy	%Male	Number of Residence Permits	Variation compared to the previous year
2006	342.200	47,4%	6.519	
2007	625.278	47,1%	7.319	82,7%
2008	796.477	46,9%	7.498	27,4%
2009	887.763	46,1%	7.578	11,5%
2010	968.576	45,4%	7.605	9,1%
2011	834.465	43,3%	7.620	-13,8%
2012	933.354	43,2%	7.654	11,9%
2013	1.081.400	43,2%	7.694	15,9%
2014	1.131.839	43,0%	7.708	4,7%

Image 6. Romanians in Italy. Date Istat 2015

According to the *Dossier Statistico Immigrazione 2016- Statics on Immigration-* in 2015 there were 3.408.118 living out of their origin country: 1 in ever 6 in Italy (17.5%). The Romanian community in Italy represents a third of all Romanian emigrants to other countries (33.8%). Despite the long economic-work crisis in Italy, in the beginning of 2016 they are once again confirmed at the largest foreign community, with a total of 1.151.395 residents, from which 57.2% were women, and 160.000 sons of Romanians in schools (a fifth of all the foreign students in Italy).

The number of Romanians in Italy has increased with approximately 20.000 compared to the 1.131.839 residents last year, a considerable increase if we remember the fact that the presence of other foreign residents remained stable. This number includes the approximately 25.000 new

arrivals, the birth in Italy (15796 is the last available data from 2014), the residents that returned to Romania (13215 residence permits cancelled in 2014) and the acquisition of Italian citizenship (6442 in 2014). This community is spread throughout the Italian territory, with a larger percentage in the Northern part of Italy (575908) and in the Center (362.755). In terms of numbers, Rome is the capital of Romanians in Italy, while Turin is the capital of foreign citizens in Italy. In the province of Rome alone (178.701) we had in 2015 more Romanian citizens than in the entire Northern region (145 993). In the province of Turin, where there are just a little over 100 thousand (102077), they represent half of the non-Italian population (46,0%). The next in the top are a few important provinces in the Northern side of the country such as Milan (47564) and with a little over 30.000 Verona and Padua (30.806 and 30529).

Romania is also the community with the highest percentage of working individuals in Italy: there are over a fifth combining those born out of Romania (21.5% in 2015, which means 767047 workers, according to INAIL archives) while there were 70652 individuals that were hired for the first time in 2015, making up to a total of 30% of the immigrant workforce. Over half of the Romanian workers have a job that does not correspond to their level of education, as shown by the high concentration of this community for unqualified jobs, in contrast to the high education titles that they have. For Romanians, the main work fields to which they have access are services (422089 equal to 55,0%) and industry (163346 equal to 21.3%) with higher percentages in personal services and constructions. Romanians represent 40% of the foreign workers in constructions. A back-up work field in times of crisis has always been agriculture with an increasing number of workers: 100506 Romanians, equal to 13.3% of the total Romanian workers, out of which 19.125 were hired for the first time in 2015.⁵ Regarding the regional distribution in the last few years of foreign residents with Romanian citizenship, on the 1st of January of every year, we can estimate the following flow:

⁵ **Fonte:** Centro Studi e Ricerche IDOS. Elaborazioni su dati Onu e Istat.

Image 7: ISTAT: Yearly numerical growth of Romanian residents in Italy

Region	Romanians				% from the total of foreign citizens	Comparison % last year
	Male	Female	Total	%		
1. Lazio	103.011	124.018	227.029	19,7%	35,19%	+1,1%
2. Lombardia	75.122	89.861	164.983	14,3%	14,36%	+3,4%
3. Piemonte	65.879	83.689	149.568	13,0%	35,44%	-0,4%
4. Veneto	52.024	65.170	117.194	10,2%	23,54%	+1,0%
5. Emilia-Romagna	35.357	50.122	85.479	7,4%	16,02%	+3,1%
6. Toscana	32.329	51.614	83.943	7,3%	21,19%	+0,8%
7. Sicilia	21.638	31.551	53.189	4,6%	29,03%	+4,8%
8. Campania	16.390	23.157	39.547	3,4%	17,03%	+4,3%
9. Puglia	12.692	20.905	33.597	2,9%	27,38%	+4,1%
10. Calabria	14.624	18.513	33.137	2,9%	34,20%	+5,2%
11. Abruzzo	11.047	15.956	27.003	2,3%	31,27%	-0,1%
12. Umbria	9.742	16.392	26.134	2,3%	26,98%	+0,4%
13. Marche	8.898	16.751	25.649	2,2%	18,28%	-0,5%
14. Friuli Venezia Giulia	10.249	13.230	23.479	2,0%	22,31%	+0,3%
15. Liguria	7.951	11.632	19.583	1,7%	14,38%	+3,0%
16. Sardegna	4.367	9.183	13.550	1,2%	28,57%	+0,8%
17. Trentino-Alto Adige	5.479	7.589	13.068	1,1%	13,77%	+0,0%
18. Basilicata	3.376	5.174	8.550	0,7%	43,98%	+4,1%
19. Molise	1.602	2.557	4.159	0,4%	34,56%	-1,1%
20. Valle d'Aosta	960	1.594	2.554	0,2%	30,12%	-1,8%
Total ITALY	492.737	658.658	1.151.395		22,9%	+1,7%

Romanians in Abruzzo

The region of Abruzzo with its economy manages to correspond to the demands of a developing population, while still remaining one of the most important regions in Southern Italy and shows its dynamic character and the ability to retain its citizens while representing an attractive relocating possibility for the immigrants. With time, Abruzzo has become an attractive point on the map for foreign citizens, due to its location and also to the high possibility of work opportunities combined with the social integration possibilities that this region has to offer. Romanians represent the highest number of working foreign citizens in the city of Chieti. The work fields in which they operate are agriculture, where we have 30% of Romanian immigrants, industry has on average 12 out of 100 immigrants, but there are also other fields in which we can see Romanians such as: transportation in the province of Pescara, IT and company services, in Chieti healthcare and social care, while in Teramo they work mostly in public care. But throughout the region, Romanians are engaged mostly in work “in the family”, especially in the case of Romanian women.

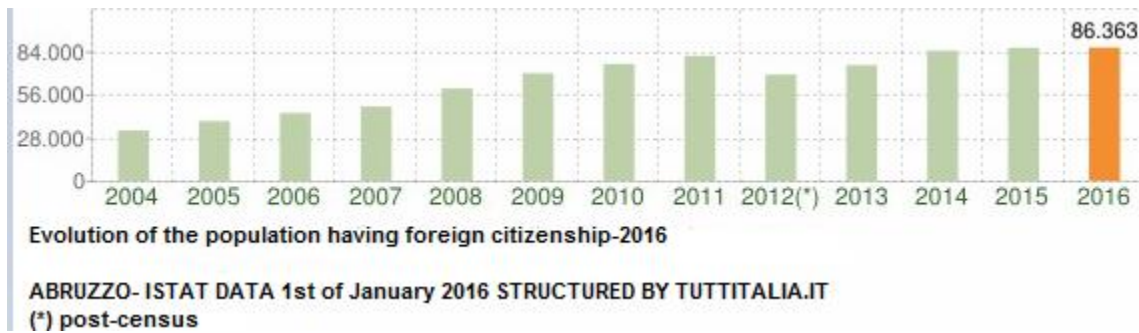
In the schools of all levels in Abruzzo, there are over 10.000 foreign citizens, equal to 5.2% of the school/university population in the region while Aquila is the province that registers a higher percentage of Romanian presence.

Image 8: Region of Abruzzo Italy



We are currently witnessing an integration process that requires an attitude of openness and inclusion since the presence in the same society of several different cultures, ethnicities, languages and religions can only determine the development of the society in its complexity. The combination of diversity has always been creative and school is an institution that has a high responsibility and possibility to impact this process, by valuing inter-culture as a mix of cultures growing together towards development. In the following schemes, we will present the data on the foreign resident population in Abruzzo and the distribution per geographical region based on citizenship and the percentage of Romanians in this region.

Image 9. Foreign citizens with residence in Abruzzo on January 1st 2016. By foreign citizens we refer to persons who do not have Italian citizenship and are living in Italy



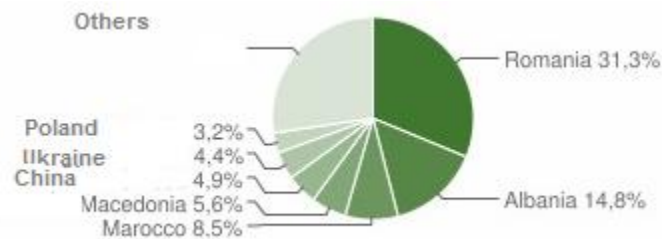
The number of foreign residents in Abruzzo on January 1st 2016 is 86363 and they represent 6.5% of the total resident population

Image 10. Citizenship distribution in geographical areas



The most numerous foreign community is coming from Romania with 31.3% of all foreigners in the region, followed by Albania (14.8%) and Morocco (8.5%)

Image 11. Foreigners presence in percentages in 2015



Italy is currently going through an internal migratory move from the South of the Peninsula towards central and Northern regions, to which we add the movements of foreign citizens, but in the center of the Peninsula, Abruzzo is an exception to this reality since thanks to its economy it can respond to the demands of a constantly developing society, while still remaining an important Southern region that shows dynamism through its capacity of retaining its inhabitants while also presenting an interesting destination for immigrants.

FEMALE IMMIGRATION

The XXIst century can be defined as a migration age, since starting with decolonization and after it, even more during the '80s of the XXth century, migration has impacted the entire globe, and it has therefore been qualified as a global phenomenon. Today we notice a different trend compared to the past, since now it seems that the geography of migration has changed and so has its composition by becoming increasingly female. There are always more and more women that create a migration plan and go on an adventure in what is defined as “a voyage of hope” with the objective of improving their lifestyle, both economically and socially speaking.

At a national level, Romanians represent the highest community of foreign citizens, actually more than a fifth of foreign citizens are Romanians. In Abruzzo, the most impacted area by the Romanian immigration is the province of Chieti is the most impacted area; Pescara also has starting the 1st of March 2014, 1657 Romanian women and 70% of these live in the city. The Romanian women on the Adriatic coast have an age between 43-47 years old, have sons and they

have a secondary school level. These women come mostly from Muntenia and Moldova, and once they get to our country they work in families as care givers.

One of the most significant changes that impact the migratory processes in our country is the phenomenon of mixed couples. Italy is also one of the main destinations for daily flows of prostitutes coming from Romania. The presence of women on the sex market is very complex and varied, since such activities can take place in private spaces such as apartments or in public spaces, such as public streets. Its manifestation expresses the wish of women aspiring to a better lifestyle in Western countries, but when it is object of violence and slavery, it reflects the lack of balance at a global level. Many of these women start by hoping for a better life, and this type of work is attractive since it allows them to create a project in order to support their families.

We must look closely at the women that leave their country on their own, leaving behind their lives, but most importantly, their children.

The migration of these women often has dramatic consequences. The suffering of the children and the mothers that were forced to leave their homes in search of work is identified by the psychologists as “The Italian Syndrome”. This is understood as a form of depression that has its origins in two factors: on the one side, these women do not perceive themselves as “good mothers” because of the long separation from their sons, and on the other side, they are experiencing a profound identity crisis about their nationality, due to the separation from their origin country. Working as care givers in other families, without the possibility of being reunited to their own families for many years and often pressured to leave their sons in the care of others are all co-causes that facilitate the Italian Syndrome as condition of an individual that feels alienated in a foreign country. Depression is a psycho-somatic disease that appears all of a sudden very often, affecting these women that are obliged to have a difficult and unqualified job as care givers, away from their children. Children, raised by the grandparents, relatives or in some cases in institutions for under-aged children also develop a form of depression that can even lead to suicide in its severe form. They are called the “White Orphans” and Unicef estimates that there are approximately 350.000 in Romania⁶.


This theme has been researched thoroughly during my Phd studies and it has been presented in an article published in the magazine *Studia UBB Geografia* discussed at the *6th International*

⁶ D. Burtini, FEMALE EMIGRATION. FROM RURAL ROMANIA TO THE ADRIATIC COAST: WOMEN ON THEIR JOURNEY BETWEEN OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL VULNERABILITY. “THE ITALIAN SYNDROME” in *STUDIA UBB GEOGRAPHIA*, LX, 2, 2015, pp. 123-138

Conference on Rural Space and Local Development (RSLD 2014, 23rd to 27th July 2014 Cluj-Napoca, Cluj, Romania); below we have an image of the article: Image 12


Female emigration. From Rural Romania to the Adriatic Coast: Women on their Journey between Opportunity and Social Vulnerability. "The Italian Syndrome"

Dino Burtini
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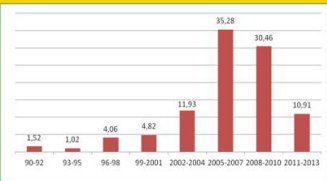
MIGRATORY FLUX FROM ROMANIA TO ITALY
Observing the incoming from the regions of Romania, we can note that the most part people come from Muntenia (32%) and from Moldova (29%)




ROMANIAN PEOPLE IN ITALY (ADRIATIC COAST-ABRUZZO)

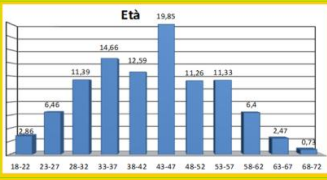
The most part of the foreign population comes from Romania, 56% are women.

Provincia	Romeni			%
	Men	Women	Tot.	
Chieti	3.197	3.798	6.995	31,2%
L'Aquila	2.763	3.534	6.297	28,1%
Teramo	2.156	2.823	4.979	22,2%
Pescara	1.646	2.468	4.114	18,4%
Tot Abruzzo	9.762	12.623	22.385	



PRESENCE IN THE CITY OF PESCARA





Età

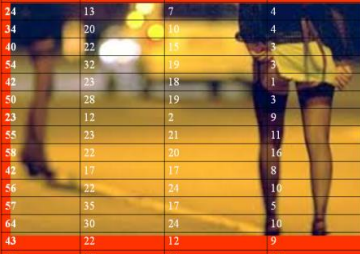


TITLE OF STUDY

In the Abruzzo area the presence of Romanian women is higher than the male presence, not only in the region of Abruzzo, but also in the different provinces of reference

OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL VULNERABILITY Job, Prostitution and The Italian Syndrome

TOT.	SOLO ROMENI	ALTRA NAZIONA	NON CONOSCIUT
48	18	16	14
44	22	21	1
24	13	7	4
34	20	16	4
40	22	15	3
54	32	19	3
42	23	18	1
50	28	19	3
23	12	2	9
55	23	21	11
58	22	20	16
42	17	17	8
56	22	24	10
57	35	17	5
64	30	24	10
43	22	12	9
62	19	33	10
796	380 (47.74%)	295 (37.06%)	121 (15.20%)



AGAR Project
Prostitutes on the Adriatic Coast

ANNO	ABRUZZO	PESCARA
2007	547	691
2008	476	860
2009	372	1004
2010	405	1106
2011	439	1178

JOB
Women find Jobs like maid service, Carers

ROMANIAN CHILDREN	
Tot.	5.000.000
With a parent who lives abroad	750.000
Sindrome Italia	80%
(40 bambini suicidi dalla 008)	

THE ITALIAN SYNDROME

That's a kind of depression in Europe. It has got specific origins. Women find work as carer in the foreign countries are affected by that. They leave their nation, leaving their sons alone to care of their old people on the other side of the continent. Sons left in the origin country suffer for this Syndrome too, and they are called "White or orphan". 2005, people talk about Italy Syndrome also to indicate a kind of deep depression that can cause great problems to the health and some times also life. A terrible date is that since 2008 a great number of Romanin children killed themselves because of their mothers had left.

MIGRATION FROM ITALY TO ROMANIA

Romania is the second most populated country in Eastern Europe. According to the 2011 census, there are 19 million inhabitants, 53% in urban centers, such as Bucharest, the capital, that records 1.7 million inhabitants, equal to 8.8% of the entire country's population.

Romania's economy is ranked on number 48 worldwide (FMI 2010 data), the gross domestic product GDP pro-capita is 5800 euro compared to the EU average of 24.500 euros and it is on the penultimate place before Bulgaria. In 2011 the GDP was equal to 136.5 billion euros, made by services 45.4%, industry 26.3% and constructions 9.8%, while agriculture was 6.5%, to which we can add the 12% made by the net set on products.

In the first quarter of 2012, services have registered a quote of 44.9%, while industry was 29.8% of the GDP, constructions 7.9%, agriculture 3.6% and net set on products 13.8%.

This division is typical to an economic structure that is still developing, presenting a growth in services and registering a slight decrease of the percentages of agriculture and industry. The economic crisis has slowed down this process having severe effects on the already fragile developing economy.

The productive sectors that have registered increases in the first semester of 2012 compared to the first semester of 2011 are: agriculture, forestry and fishing (+0,2%), industry (+0,2%), constructions (+3,1%). The net set on products has increased by 4.6%. Services have registered decreases for branches such as "ingrosso and en detail trade; vehicle and moto repairs; transportation and storage; hotels and restaurants" (-0,3%); " financial intermediaries and insurances" " (-1,0%);"public administration and defense: education etc. (-3,1%) and increases for "IT and communications" (+1,7%); real-estate transactions (+0,3%); "professional, scientific and technical activities" (+3,2%); " shows, culture and recreational activities" (+2,7%).

Romania has a high developing potential based on different factors that represent the competitive advantages of the country. Romania's natural resources are among the most significant in Europe, the size of the market make it one of the largest in Eastern Europe, its population is highly predisposed to consumerism, the country has a strategical position at the center of Southern-Eastern Europe, the availability of an educated workforce and the competitive

cost, the membership to the UE, the available structural funds, are all factors that contribute to the foundation of the future development of the country.

Of course, the economy is still fragile and the country depends strongly on foreign investments and on the international markets, but we can say that on a long term the country's developing possibilities could materialize into a solid economic growth. First and foremost, agriculture and industry offer a strong developing possibility along with services.

In the last few years, despite the economic crisis, Romania has shown a unique developing trend compared to the other European countries, despite the worldwide crisis hitting the economy starting 2009. Romania is now the second biggest market of Central-Eastern Europe after Poland and it has registered a continuous growth following the investments of different foreign companies and nations, which were favored by its strategical geographical position since the country is a communication bridge between Europe and Central Asia. Among the main domains that have contributed in the past years in making Romania a competitive economy we can mention mostly services and constructions, followed by agriculture and industry.

Economic relations between Romania and Italy are stable and supported mostly by the available structural funds coming from the EU, which make business projects in Romania sound like an appealing idea to Italian companies, especially thanks to the country's open policy towards commercial exchanges, which is easily noticeable if we consider the large amount of exports compared to the imports.

For the Italian businessmen, investing in Romania is highly convenient, and other European countries also have a similar vision, while Italy is at the 4th place in terms of invested capital and the presence of Italian companies in Romania, after the Netherlands, Austria and Germany. For import-export exchanges, there are also other foreign countries such as France and other Eastern European countries such as Hungary, Ukraine and Turkey.

The most appealing sectors of activity are constructions, energy, environment and agriculture: the capital is evaluated at approximately 850 million euros, both for export and import, in terms of machines and mechanical devices, equipment and electrical devices, textiles, mineral products and rubber and plastic products as well as food related products.

We have extracted a case study related to Romania and we have analyzed its results from the research *Migrants 2010* promoted by the Foundation Migrantes.

Through the study offices of Sei-Ugl we have commissioned 200 questionnaires for 200 Italians living in Romania. We have come to interesting conclusions, that make up the profile of the nowadays' Italian living as an immigrant in this nation which is mostly known only as an emigration country. Italians living in Romania are mostly men of working age (from 30 to 40 years old), single and without sons, coming from Central Italy (mostly Lazio and Tuscany), members of AIRE, having a high school diploma, born in Italy and certain that they will return to Italy. If we focus on the statistic data emerging from the questionnaires, we have mostly men,(62.3%), from which 36% are of ages between 30 to 44 (and 27% between 18 and 29 years old). Single (35.5%) or in a living with their partner (20%), without any children of their own (65%) and with a middle school diploma (64.5%), high school diploma (10%) and university or technical institute diploma (15%).

55.5% of the interviewed Italians think they will go back to Italy (especially because they miss their country or their family, reasons that impact a percentage of 24) and this idea lingers within them despite the overall positive lifestyle they declare (60%) especially since they do not have any language related issues: 67% of them says that they know Romanian very well (and 31% of them say they know it a medium level); 50% of them says they have a safe job; 50% of them are satisfied by the money they earn and over 75% says that their overall financial security has improved following the migration to Romania.

We are referring here to hired employees (46%) or freelancers (20%), working in industry (32%) or in services (21%). Generally, their overall living conditions have improved following the migration for more than 52% of them and they say that they have not encountered any difficulties since arriving to Romania. On the other side, there are also those who say that they have been through difficult moments (especially because they were looking for a job and because of lack of support from the Italian Consulate) but they have managed to successfully overcome them. Generally, these immigrants have rarely needed financial support, but when this occurred, they have asked the help of their family members, both those in Italy and those who have emigrated to other foreign countries (to different countries).

The current positive lifestyle was not an immediate reality, but it was the results of years of sacrifice that were taken into account when they moved to Romania. After they've arrived to here to work and find a better work and financial environment to respond to expectations, the interviewed Italians declare to be happily integrated. 53% of them live in a house they own,

speak mainly in Romanian, use both Romanian and Italian mass-media to get their news (90%), they watch TV or radio programs both in Italian and Romanian (63%, while 14% only in Romanian).

The initial situation of necessity has been successfully overcome, but they haven't reached a real positive lifestyle, but rather an optimal financial lifestyle that can be seen in other migratory contexts. Actually, 60% of them does not own a house in Italy: 92% does not send money to Italy, 70% does not go for vacation in Italy, but not just because they are not interested in the destination (27%), but also because they do not have the financial resources (43%).

They are actually close to the national politics: 64% of them have participated in the last Parliament Elections and half of them believe this is an accurate form of representation. 58% say they are satisfied by the way Consulates operate.

An important point to notice is the distance from religion (61% of them declare to be non religious and 88% of them do not go to the local church) and from the Italian associations (68% declare they are not members of any co-national organization).

To this purpose, anthropology and migration sociology is fundamental to understand the dynamics of these movements, the experience of the businessmen and the causes of their choices along with their future objectives.

PART II

THE POTENTIAL FOR TOURISTIC ATTRACTION IN TRANSYLVANIA AND ABRUZZO

Categories of touristic attractions in Transylvania

Romania has the advantage of a good geographical position, means of transportation by car, plane, train and sea, which make it easily accessible from all the 4 cardinal points of the continent, and thank to its numerous touristic and cultural attractions, it is an interesting destination for many foreigners and therefore ideal for tourism. The country's international collaboration with different tourism organizations from EU countries have facilitated the promotion of different tourism development strategies.

Transylvania, in the center of Romania, is the biggest and probably the most famous region in the country and the best equipped to greet tourists coming every year. The nice weather welcomes tourists especially during summer with hot and windy days and refreshing nights. Transylvania is a fascinating land of nature, culture, art and traditions which make it capable to offer to tourists beautiful natural landscapes along with urban and rural centers. The main attraction points in the region are the wonderful medieval cities, the castles, the towers and the churches that are included in the Unesco Patrimony.

The most visited cities are: Brasov, a city surrounded by nature, with a great cultural and commercial importance, Cluj, an important academic, cultural and industrial center, Sibiu named the capital of culture, Oradea, a rich industrial city important water resources and highly industrialized. There are also Saxon villages with a great social and cultural importance because they still honor customs and traditions for the past. A few of the most important villages are Bran, Moeciu de Sus, Moeciu de Jos, Pesterea, Simea and Fundata.

The Transylvanian forests usually extend on large surfaces and you might even find castles surrounded by forests, among which the most famous is Bran, since it was the home of the historic character that has inspired the legend of Count Dracula, which attracts circa 650 000 tourists every year.

For those who love to live out in the open, the region offers unique natural parks, underground glaciers, caves and mountains for those who love winter sports or trekking, mountain trips and camping. Here we must mention the Retezat Natural Park, the oldest one in the country and the Natural Park of the Apuseni Mountains, with fast mountain rivers, torrents and caves rich in minerals, magical places for nature lovers where they can admire different species of protected animals in a natural and virgin landscape.

The round shape of the Romanian landscape is dominated by the Carpathian Mountains, which chains form a giant triangle: the Eastern Carpathians, the Southern Carpathians, with the highest mountain peak Mountain Moldoveanu 2544 meters and the Western Carpathians. The landscape changes and eventually transforms step by step into plain fields, with never ending forests. The Southern border of the country is made up by the Danube flowing into the Black Sea which extends on the Eastern border for 244 km. One of the most fascinating and interesting landscapes is the Mountain Moldoveanu, where, in the summer of 2014, I went on a trip for a research project with some other colleagues from the University of Geography, a trip challenged by the awful weather (Image 13)

IMAGE 13: Moldoveanu Peak (RO) 2543m with the colleagues from the Faculty of Geography UBB Cluj (RO) August 2014



Historically speaking, Transylvania has been a mixture between different cultures and ethnicities (Hungarians, Germans, Slaves, Hebrews) and this is why the architecture has many styles and details coming from this multicultural mix. Among the culinary specialties we can find the so called Ciorba, a vegetable soup with meat, the so called Saramura, similar to the Italian fish soup, Sarmale, a mix of minced meat and the Papanasi, a typical desert.

The extraordinary artistic and cultural patrimony and the important natural resources of these lands have been studied and researched through this thesis. In the conclusion of my thesis, as an empirical research method, I have organized a study trip to Transylvania in June 2016 with students from the University of G. D'Annunzio from Chieti and with the students of the Naturopathy School from the Psica center which I manage. This has allowed students to benefit from the a learning, cultural and touristic experience, visiting interesting landscapes and historical and artistic places. The group has been welcomed by the Faculty of Geography from the Babes-Bolyai University with prof. Cianga Nicola giving an excellent *Lection Magistralis* in Aula Magna.(Image 14)



Image 14: Study trip with students from Abruzzo in Transylvania, welcomed by prof Nicolae Cianga in the Amphitheatre “George Valsan” from the Faculty of Geography UBB Cluj-Napoca (RO) June 2016

I will briefly describe the cities the group has visited in order to give the readers an idea of our experience on the field and also to promote the potential of this amazing world region.

CLUJ-NAPOCA

Founded by the Romans in the 2nd century after Christ on the banks of the river Someșul Mic, this city is one of the most important centers in Transylvania in what regards cultural, industry and university. Here we have visited the University of Babes-Bolyai UBB and the Botanical Garden founded in 1912 by professor Alexandru Borza. The garden is located inside the Botanical Institute of the Faculty of Biology and Geology and it extends over 4 hectares being home to over 10.000 different species of plants: decorative, fito-geographical, systematical, economic and medicinal.

TURDA

Located in the county of Cluj, this city is famous for its salt mine dated from the beginning of the 1900s. Salt deposits are located throughout the area of Transylvania, but at Turda the salt level reaches 1200 meters. In 1992, the mine was open to the public and it was converted into a fun park and a museum. According to the local mineralogist, *Johann Fridwaldszk*, this mine is “worth visiting”: it has a temperature of 11 to 12 degrees Celsius, a high humidity and a low pressure, along with an absence of

pathogenic bacteria and a moderate ionization of the air all contributing to the creation of factors that have a positive effect on the respiratory system.

SIBIU

Founded by the Saxons in 1190, Sibiu is one of the most interesting touristic attractions in Romania due to its beauty and its architectural patrimony, and it is not a chance that it was call the European Capital of Culture in 2007.

SIGHISOARA

This Medieval city that was included in the Unesco Patrimony of Humanity is famous for being the birth city of the Wallachian Prince, Vlad Tepes, that has inspired the famous novel of Bran Stoker: *Dracula*. Here we've visited the **House of Vlad Dracul**, which is where Vlad Tepes was born in 1431 and where he lived with his father until 1435.

BRASOV

Brasov is one of the main cities in Transylvania due to its cultural and commercial importance and it is situated almost at the center of Romania at 170 km from Bucharest. Founded in 1211 by the Teutonic knights and fortified by the Saxons, the city is a maze of small streets, Baroque facets and Gothic spires. A few kilometers from this Medieval city we can find the *Bran Castle*, in the village with tehe same name. The castle is known by many as the **Dracula's Castle**: the most famous and visited fortress in the region.

BOTANICAL GARDEN OF JIBOU

Founded in 1968, this is considered one of the most beautiful and biggest gardens in Eastern Europe and it is a center of research, environmental education and alternative energy. Inside the garden there is a zoological Park, an aquarium, a big aviary and a Japanese garden.

TOURISTIC ATTRACTION POINTS IN ABRUZZO

Italy's artistic, cultural and landscape patrimony place it on the 5th spot among the most visited world destinations by foreigners and on the first place among the foreign destinations visited by Romanian tourists. Following our research, we can conclude that they seem to be attracted not only by the geographical beauties of our country, but also by the "Made in Italy" items such as cars, motorcycles, our fashion, design and food and wine companies.

The cities preferred by tourists are major historical and artistic cities such as Rome, Venice, Milan and Florence, the balneary resorts such as the coasts of the Friuli Venezia Giulia, Veneto and Emilia Romagna and the mountain cities with ski resorts, especially Trentino Alto Adige, Veneto and Lombardy. In the South of the country, Campania, Sicily and Calabria are the ones Romanian tourists appreciate the most even if they travel to Southern Italy with the main purpose of visiting relatives and friends or for business reasons.

In order to evaluate the potential of touristic attraction of Abruzzo compared to other Italian regions we have examined the indices regarding expenses and tourist numbers in each region. According to these numbers, Abruzzo registers a decreasing potential, while regions such as Lazio, Veneto and Tuscany are confirmed as the most important touristic areas of the country. In order to compare the Italian regions based on a homogeneous criteria we found it necessary to take into consideration the indicators regarding touristic density and in this case the numbers recorded in Abruzzo is lower compared to those recorded in the Northern or Central regions, while the Southern ones are just above the national average numbers.

From the data collected, Abruzzo seems to be a region in which tourism develops over short distances, and its role has been increasing in the years marked by uncertainty at the level of national economy. Other factors that have contributed to the decrease of tourism related expenses in Abruzzo could be the decrease of arrivals of foreigners after the earthquake of 2009 in Aquila and the fact that the region is not well inserted in the international tourism circuits.

Without a doubt, the live perception of the perspective on the world and its problems during the years has had a great impact on our reflection on subjects related to certain scientific and social aspects during this research has been without a doubt the live perception of the perspective on the world and its problems during the years.

Philosophy and pedagogy along with social and anthropological sciences have a specific quality that accumulates all models of reflection: since its research field is human by excellence, it has the feature of conserving through time setups that reflect both political ideal and economic interests specific to a particular moment in time. Concepts related to society and culture are essential in the definition of any

anthropological and educational project. Everything is always connected to a specific period in history typical to a way of thinking influenced by moral, political or religious doctrines.

In the history of anthropology, the presence of connections marking the development of a so called “*politically correct*” mindset is obvious and this shows the manner in which human prejudice has become emancipated with time. The term of tourism therefore can be connected to human behaviors driven by ideas such as: separation, integration and interaction.

By presenting such terms we intent to illustrate the great variety of attitudes that can be adopted in dealing with different cultures. By making these concepts explicit we could explain our idea of a separation seen as co-existence without a co-living which shuts down intercultural report because of the fear of possible contamination: a manner of making ourselves invisible to others by living differently.

However through integration we intend a series of actions aimed towards the idea of a homogeneous society, in which cultural differences are lessened until they disappear: in this case, cultures influence each other, one being superior and the other one being absorbed.

With the last term, interaction, we are trying to bring to light the concept that is now being discussed worldwide at a cultural level according to which cultures have both a necessity and a capacity of going into contact with each other in order to define each other and build a righteous society in the process.

With this approach we emphasize the mutual recognition of the right to exist and develop a culture’s own work of acculturation, without any dominant position: tolerance becomes an essential aspect, but not a unique one, since different synergies are put into motion all conducting to the recognition of others in their dual role as competitors and collaborators. Building authentic and equal relations where there are no eternal truths, but applied uncertainties in fields such as science, moral conduct and civil relations becomes the true “Knowledge”.

We have tried to interpret these cultural interaction mechanisms in the context of new movements related to tourism and we truly believe that cultural conflicts can be resolved through the construction of a meta culture based entirely on mutual respect, on an open mind and on curiosity understood as richness, on fraternity that comes to alleviate the sufferings of human condition.

This thesis has researched the main factors connected to anthropology and tourism geography in the social Italian and Romanian contexts with a particular focus on the regions of Transylvania and Abruzzo. The motivation and the driving elements of tourism have been study and comparison objects and they have been evaluated as foundation for the prediction of possible development scenarios at an international level. The types and shapes of tourism and making tourism have been observed with the help

of bibliographic resources, online documentation and updated statistics provided by INSSE and ISTAT, which have given us the possibility of making a general exam of the flows regarding these two selected regions. According to our research, Transylvania and Abruzzo show both negative and positive aspects regarding tourism resources that have not been maximized yet and they show a certain degree of delay compared to the European average, but this could be overcome in the coming years. The definition of these flows of Italians and locals from Abruzzo to Romania and Transylvania are still showing a low interest compared to countries that are closer not necessarily culturally speaking, but geographically speaking such as Germany, also regarding Romanian tourism in Abruzzo the data cannot be easily interpreted because there are many Romanians in Italy and Abruzzo that create a touristic “market” due to relatives and friends that are coming over to visit, but that rarely use touristic structures, since they are house guests.

The study has shown that despite the distance between the two regions, Abruzzo and Transylvania are rather close due to their geographical and cultural particularities, mostly connected to history and traditions that can represent the engine of touristic and economic development for both regions.

CONCLUSIONS

We have seen that the theoretical research conducted on immigrations moves its focus from the study of social sciences to that of new migratory phenomena, focusing on aspects related to the variability of ethnical composition and the increasing flows that have modified destination and departure routes in the last few years. Specifically, this research thesis has focused on the area of Eastern Europe, analyzing both its determining factors such as the fall of the socialist regimes and the opening of the frontiers and the consequences that the increasing migration coming from Romania have had in its guest country-Italy. Moreover, through specific methodologies used we have managed to show how with time, especially after '89, the migratory flow has changed between the two countries.

The undergone analysis show that among the consequences of such phenomena we can see a series of social issues connected at a macroscopic level to the feeling of hostility that human nature instinctively develops towards the idea of "different". We have therefore analyzed a few elements that can individualize, promote and favor aspects that make possible the birth of positive and not negative effects of immigration. The elements that the research has shown with the objective of further develops for this subject have been the following: a. multi ethnical initiatives with the purpose of minimizing differences, especially at a religious level, which are often a cause for conflict; an adequate public policy as recommended by the E.U. that must be put into motion in the destination countries with the intent of maximizing the immigrational efficiency through a precise regulation of entries and residence permits; financial controls and illegal immigration control, since there is a direct connection between legal immigrants and a higher integration of possibility within the destination country.

Another perspective that was brought to light by the anthropological observation of immigrations has investigated work as a primary cause determining the necessity to emigrate. Once arrived in the destination country, the immigrant finds an initial foundation in the first work opportunity. Therefore, he/she can have a residence, but still maintains the origin country as a point of reference where all investments and savings are sent in order to contribute to a future return to the home country. All of this contributes to the creation inside the immigrant of a new self persona, that reflects the way they feel as foreigners in this unknown country. The psychological aspect that emerges is directly related to the personality of the immigrant-worker, a person that has no points of reference, submerged in a cultural context that he does not belong to and in which he belongs for a determined period of this live in search for opportunities.

As we have seen, this PHD thesis has studied two fundamental topics related to migration, the first part studies the work and business mobility (Romania→Italy; Italy→Romania), and the second studies mobility for tourism.

Following our research, we have concluded that the migratory exchanges between the two countries have developed in four macro-phases:

- 1) During the period before the First World War, migration was unidirectional from Italy to Romania;
- 2) Following the 1989 revolution, we have noticed a reversed tendency and also the fact that more and more Italian companies have started investing in the Romanian economy;
- 3) The first years after 2000, when we can observe the economic exchanges between the two countries;
- 4) 2007 with Romania becoming part of the U.E. there is an increase in the flow Romania→Italy and an increase in the number of Italian investors in Romania.

This study has placed a larger emphasis on the last two phases. A fundamental element of migration is the female migration and the results of our research show that the immigration gender structure has changed with time. In this case we can observe three variation phases:

- 1) 1994-1998, the migration from Romania to Italy is mostly male, at that point in history women did not have the necessary financial support to immigrate;
- 2) 1999-2000, an increase in the female immigration due to families being reunited and tourism;
- 3) After 2002, the exodus continues and more and more women migrate to Italy independently from their husbands or fathers and their number exceeds the men. This number becomes relevant starting 2007 and then after Romania becomes part of the E.U.

The reality of female immigration results significant and important not only due to its number, but also due to the form and manner in which it has distinguished itself in the last decades has brought to the rise of critical phenomena such as prostitution and the new “Italy Syndrome”. A depressive syndrome, that affects Romanian mothers forced to leave their sons in their homeland. We are talking about women leaving behind everything, including their sons, in order to guarantee to their families a better life. They come to Italy to work as care assistants, to take care of our old people and our sons, while their old people and their sons remain alone in Romania. Most of them have a highschool education and this contributes to the submersion in an identity crisis, along with the alienation feeling that often leads to strong depression. This syndrome echoes in what happens on the other side to these women’s sons. They are called the

“White Orphans” and according to Unicef there are about 350 thousand such orphans in Romania. Often times, the separation from the mothers is too painful, and the waiting time too long. In less fortunate cases, these children end up depressed, they develop drug or alcohol addiction or they turn into delinquents. In worse cases, they commit suicide.

Another element that results from the investigation regarding the issue of migration-work in the current age: in comparison to the migratory flow from Romania to Italy in the first years after 2000, today we are seeing an inversion of these tendency that is determined by several different factors.

Among these factors, the first one is the economic crisis that drives Italian investors to other countries. To this purpose, Romania represents a center of interest for foreign companies thanks to four main reasons:

- 1) Low cost labor;
- 2) An increase of internal demand (especially in the en-detail sector along with real estate and credit) which attracts foreign investors to the local infrastructures;
- 3) Large development projects for Romanian infrastructures that obtain financing from the European Union apart from personal gain;
- 4) Romania’s geographical strategic position: easy access to oriental markets (despite them being too risky at the moment due to the currently uncertain context)

Through our geographical, historical and anthropological research we have been able to point out within the migration phenomenon a historical perspective on the past, present and future, which has enabled us to build hypothesis on what could happen in the relation between Italy and Romania in the coming years.

With our research on the touristic attractions in Romania and Italy we could establish the tourism potential for both , marked by anthropology studying touristic phenomena as cultural phenomena both from the perspective of the dynamic processes involved and of the cultural material and non material goods that constitute the foundation for touristic attraction and planning.

The purpose of this research has been the focus on emigration topics and tourism Romania-Italy and Italy-Romania with a anthro-geographical perspective in a historical and cultural time of great importance for the migratory flows that affect these countries and such research could pave the way for other researches on this subject and stimulate the interest of other human sciences (such as sociology, psychology, human geography etc.) while taking into consideration the importance of the effects that these phenomena have on the social system and therefore on the individuals.

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Anthropology and geography are precious teachers that guide us with their knowledge to study peoples, cultures and world regions that must be explored from the inside, touched directly, breathed in and appreciated in all of their complexity and diversity. Moreover, they teach us to look beyond margins and ideological limits, to overcome stereotypes and common ideas in the discovery of the universal character of feelings and values that makes us human before making us Italians or Romanians. This study comes to confirm that if I love Romania and I feel that it is my home to some extent it is also thanks to so many wonderful Romanian people, that are not just my friends, but my family in Romania; Paul, Viorica and Roberto Malutan. I dedicate my work to them, since they are the most authentic and genuine expression of this country.

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Annex (questionnaires)