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## THE MAIN TRENDS IN THE STATE POLICY OF UZBEKISTAN IN THE FIELD OF EXTERNAL LABOR MIGRATION

**Abstract:** This article discusses the main issues of defining the concept of a labor migrant, as well as the administrative and legal foundations of state regulation of external labor migration in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The analysis of the activities of executive authorities in the field of external labor migration is carried out. The mechanism of implementation of measures within the competence of the Agency for External Labor Migration of the Republic of Uzbekistan is considered.

**Key words:** the concept of labor migration, migrant, external migration, state migration policy, migration processes.

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### Introduction

We are observing human movement on an unprecedented scale in modern world. Based on the International Organization for Migration (hereinafter - IOM), the number of international migrants reaches almost 272 million people worldwide, and almost two-thirds of them are labor migrants [1]. In the context of the acceleration of the processes of globalization of the world labor market for the Republic of Uzbekistan, the issue of improving the legal regulation of relations in the field of external labor migration is of paramount importance. The relevance of this issue is especially clearly manifested in connection with the fact that Uzbekistan has become in recent years one of the largest suppliers of labor resources in the CIS labor market.

### Main part

Being de facto one of the donor countries in the field of external labor migration, Uzbekistan is taking active steps to determine the priorities of state policy in this area, develops state programs to streamline the processes of labor migration of its citizens. However,

despite the measures taken to streamline the processes of external labor migration, the conclusion of international agreements on the organized recruitment of citizens to work abroad, the creation of favorable conditions to ensure their safe passage to the place of work outside the republic, there are many unresolved problems in this area. For example, there are still large flows of illegal labor migration, the indicators of organized employment of citizens abroad, as well as the provision of employment for persons returning from labor migration, remain low [2].

To improve the management of labor migration processes in the structure of the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations, specialized bodies have been formed: the Agency for External Labor Migration, its regional Bureau for Employment of Citizens Abroad, Centers for Pre-Departure Adaptation of Citizens Going Abroad, Representative Offices of the Agency abroad, as well as the Support Fund and the protection of the rights and interests of citizens working abroad. This, to a certain extent, contributed to the improvement of the quality and efficiency of public administration in this area and the

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strengthening of the protection of the rights of labor migrants.

The foregoing allows us to say that external labor migration should be considered not only as an important sphere of the social life of the country's population, characterized by many socio-economic characteristics, but also as an independent direction of the state's activity, as a separate object of public administration. The state system, which includes the entities, means and forms of regulation of external labor migration, is sharpened for the management of this area of the life of society.

As you know, the basis of any state activity in a certain area of public life is the formation of state policy. Before considering the goals and content of state policy in the field of external labor migration, it is necessary to define the very concept of "labor migrant".

According to the IOM definition, a migrant is any person who is or has already moved across an international border or within a State and has left his place of usual residence, regardless of (1) the legal status of the person; (2) voluntary or involuntary displacement; (3) reasons for displacement; or (4) length of stay [3]. As stated in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, adopted by General Assembly resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, a migrant worker, more precisely means a person who were engaged, are in engaged and will engaged in a paid activity in a country of which he or she is not a citizen [4]. A similar definition is given in ILO Convention No. 97 concerning Migrant Workers (as revised in 1949) [5]. Coming into force on January 21, 2021, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Employment of the Population" (Article 4) determined that employed are "citizens engaged in temporary labor activity outside the Republic of Uzbekistan» [6]. Thus, any citizen of Uzbekistan engaged in labor activities outside the country is a labor migrant. And the Republic of Uzbekistan, in accordance with the specified document, has the status of a "state of origin", which means the country of which the labor migrant is a citizen. In accordance with the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Government of the Russian Federation on the organized recruitment and attraction of citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan to carry out temporary work in the Russian Federation, "A migrant worker is a person who is a citizen of the Republic of Uzbekistan, permanently residing in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who has reached 18 -years old, selected and legally staying on the territory of the Russian Federation temporary labor activity with a permit» [7].

In a broad sense, state policy is a process of administrative influence of state institutions on the main spheres of society, including the strategy and

tactics of regulating the functioning of society [8, P.52]. Actually, the concept of "public policy" is defined as "a set of goals, measures, objectives, programs, attitudes, implemented by the state» [9, P.318 ]. As you can see, this is a multifaceted concept covering a fairly wide range of phenomena and tools.

We support D.F. Vorontsov's opinion, who defines state policy as a set of static and dynamic means (legal, informational, economic, social, organizational and others) implemented by public authorities to achieve their goals. In static means, the strategic, conceptual aspect of public policy (ideas, principles, directions, goals, objectives) is manifested, and in dynamic means - the activities of bodies to exercise their powers [10, P.18 ].

Article 6 of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On employment of the population" contains an exhaustive list of the main directions of state policy, which, in particular, includes assistance to citizens in employment outside Uzbekistan, ensuring their legal and social protection during the period of temporary employment [6]. Ensuring the implementation of a unified state policy in the field of employment of the population is entrusted by the law to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the direct implementation of this policy to the authorized state body in this area - the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations.

In accordance with the law, the ministry implements a unified state policy in the field of employment of the population, develops and implements state and other programs in the field of employment of the population, coordinates the activities and interaction of government bodies and other organizations in the field of employment; implements measures to assist citizens in finding employment outside of Uzbekistan, ensuring their legal and social protection during the period of temporary work, as well as their reintegration after returning to the country, monitors compliance with legal requirements, as well as international cooperation in the field of employment.

State administration in the field of external labor migration is carried out by the Agency for External Labor Migration under the Ministry of Employment and Labor Relations. According to law and government decree [11] it is entrusted with the conclusion of agreements with foreign employers on the attraction of labor migrants, agreements on the provision of services for the organized recruitment of citizens for temporary work outside Uzbekistan. At the same time, the Agency monitors and controls the conditions of employment of citizens outside of Uzbekistan, compliance with the norms for providing labor migrants with appropriate wages, decent living and working conditions in the country of employment.

Based on the foregoing, we can conclude that the state policy in the field of external labor migration is, in our opinion, the direction of the state's activity,

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covering the system of goals, objectives, principles and measures of organizational and legal, socio-economic, information, personnel and other nature in the field external labor migration, as well as practical work to ensure the rights, freedoms, interests and needs of labor migrants.

### Conclusion

Thus, the analysis of the state of the modern state policy of Uzbekistan in the field of external labor migration allows us to highlight the following trends in it:

1. A radical revision of the priorities of state policy in the field of external labor migration is carried out, aimed at the formation of a modern system of safe, regulated, legal labor migration;

2. A course has been taken to ensure the organized implementation of external labor migration, the provision of state support on the ground to the families of labor migrants;

3. International cooperation in the field of external labor migration is intensified, interaction with foreign organizations in the field of labor migration and with organizations of compatriots abroad is being established.

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