

Book review:

**Alexandra Porumbescu, Migrația românilor în  
Germania [The Romanians` migration in Germany],  
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In this book, the author, Alexandra Porumbescu presents both a general picture of the phenomenon of the Romanians' migration in Germany, as well as a detailed analysis of some of the essential components of this process. The theme, although it has been approached in the Romanian literature, we do not find it approached so thoroughly and comprehensively in any other work. The study does not only expose theoretical facets of the migration phenomenon, but also presents some current aspects of the life of Romanian migrants in Germany, resulting from the research undertaken by the author in that country.

The monographic work begins with the analysis from "general" to "particular", debating in the first chapters aspects related to the evolution of international migration, presenting the theories of migration, the historical evolution of the phenomenon and the immigration policies of the German state, followed by a part dedicated to the study the Romanian community from the German lands and its characteristics. We find in the final part of the paper the results of a sociological survey conducted among the Romanians in Germany, based on the application of a questionnaire and an interview, and meant to highlight details of the Romanian community in that state.

Mrs. Alexandra Porumbescu's work is structured into 6 chapters during which the author reaches fundamental themes for the studied topic, using a current and appropriate bibliography.

The first chapter: "The immigrants in Germany", presents the contemporary German society, one of the most important destination countries for immigrants, also ingeniously inserting historiographical elements, which are the reference of the current context. Also, the chapter, displays the German immigration policy. We observe the merging of the statistical elements with the legislative and the history ones. We note that, currently, we find in Germany 15 million people who are immigrants or descend from immigrants (ethnic Germans returning from abroad and foreigners who do not have German ancestry), and the motivation of choosing Germany as a destination state is being variable (high quality of life, high level of public safety, well-developed social system etc.).

The second chapter, "The Romanian emigration phenomenon", carries out a radiography of the Romanian society after 1990, trying to highlight the causes and effects of the massive international emigration of our conationals. The author points out Romania's unstable economic situation as the main cause of emigration and reveals

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the devastating effects on the social and economic level, but also highlights the relatively uncertain situation and perhaps even tragic, of a potential return migration.

The third chapter, "The characteristics of the phenomenon of Romanians' migration in Germany", outlines a complex image of the Romanian community in the Federation. Are highlighted the main social and economic elements that have had a major impact on the migratory flow from Romania to Germany, mainly analyzing the post-revolutionary period. A statistical analysis based on economic indicators is structured.

The fourth Chapter, "Ethnical emigration from Romania to Germany", presents the history of the German minority in Romania and also the current status of the communities of Transylvanian Saxons and Swabians, noting the tradition of the Romanians' migration to Germany, even before the communist period, given the large number of Romanian citizens of German origin who lived in Banat and Transylvania. Currently, a large number of inhabitants of Romania are still stated as being of German nationality, ethnic Germans who still live in Romania play an important role in the relations between the two countries.

The fifth chapter, "The Romanians in Germany", presents the results of a sociological survey conducted by the author in Germany, based on the application of the questionnaire. The survey was conducted on a sample of 250 Romanian immigrants from Germany and the research results respond to some important questions like: "Who are these immigrants?; Why did these people came in Germany?; What do these people do in Germany?; What future intentions do the immigrants have?; Do migrant networks play any part in this process?". Summarizing the results, we highlight that: more than half of the subjects came to Germany for the well-paid jobs, 43% of the Romanian immigrants said they want to stay in Germany, 31% said they want to return to Romania represent a percentage of 31%, and over 70%, said they had relatives or acquaintances in Germany before coming here.

The last chapter, "Romanian students in Germany", presents the results of a qualitative research, based on the application of 12 interviews to current or former Romanian students in Germany. The results of the study accurately present the typology of the young Romanian immigrant from Germany: they are people coming from families with average or raised income level, with very good professional training and who want to pursue a career in the field in which they had prepared.

In the final part of the paper, dedicated to conclusions and proposals, the author appreciated that "migration is a cumulation of benefits and challenges (risks) that if we understand, we are able to manage properly, in the idea that one needs to track the assimilation of benefits and progress, both in the societies of origin and destination, regarding the socio-economic aspect". The author noted that, although it is an area of major importance, migration is not yet sufficiently regulated in Romania and concluded that the existence of a policy in the field of emigration is quite necessary.

After studying and analyzing the work written by Alexandra Porumbescu, I appreciate that this work is of high quality and value and I strongly recommend that it be read in order to discover a part of the Romanian world that is abroad, the identity the profile of the Romanian emigrant and at the same time to see the bridge between the two countries, Romania and Germany, created through this migratory flow with tradition.