

## ***How to speak about migration?***

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Population migration can lead to the transformation of political, economic and social institutions, as it encourages the development, establishment and reconsideration of existing social theories. However, up until the current moment the terminology employed in migration research field has been given little consideration. Nevertheless, the issue of how humanistic and legally appropriate terminology in the migration field has emerged and developed is increasingly important nowadays. Growing and constantly transforming migration flows increase the need for accurate and thoughtful analysis from researchers and practitioners.

At the moment, research into Russian-speaking migration is characterized by a lack of common agreement on the definitions used, resulting in errors in perception and a distortion of migration as a phenomenon. This blog intends to analyse the linguistic framework of migration and to evaluate the meaning of independent definitions. A linguistic framework for migration as a social phenomenon has important meanings. Terminology outlines and forms the basis of its social occurrence; the formulations of lawmakers define the language of law enforcement, as well as mass media influence presumptions towards migrants and newcomers among ordinary people.

The way ordinary people interpret migration is also significant, as well as the terms used by the bodies tasked with managing migration. Therefore, the terminology of migration and its framework remain terra incognita in the new independent states. This blog intends to cover the terminological framework of migration as a phenomenon in the political, legal and media space.

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Expats, cosmopolitans, migrant workers, autochtones and allochthones. Scientists, law enforcers and journalists note the ambiguity and the absence of a precise definition for the concept of "migrant", mentioning conditionality of the existence of "such a social group as migrants" due to "differentiation of individuals belonging to this category in a variety of parameters". Such statements appear to be controversial in the context of a legal field. Indeed, the term "migrant" used in public debates has quite a broad definition, though, certain types of migrants (migrant worker, refugee, asylum seeker) are clearly determinable legal categories in international law.

Besides, French authors use the term "allochtone", which describes a person of a foreign origin. The term has become widely spread in English academic literature as well. Allochthons are opposed to autochthonous. The concept of "autochthonous" originates in the ideas of protecting national minorities from essentialist and static autochthonous culture in favor of language diversity, native practices, beliefs and their past. In the linguistic space of German language, those kinds of definitions are also commonly used. Thus, the creators of the immigration media-dictionary define German autochthones (Autochthone Deutsche) as "Germans without a migratory past", "born here" and "locals, not newcomers" and German allochthones (Allochthone Deutsche) as people or a group of an inherently different origin.

Special attention should be paid to a wide use of a term "Gastarbeiter" in Russian media space, which has its own specific history in Germany. In the 1960s in order to get rid of the negative past, the term "guest worker" (Gastarbeiter) appeared in the German scientific discourse and it meant a migrant who arrived in the country to obtain a short-term employment as a "working guest". Nowadays, the term has become obsolete and is only used by individual representatives of the second and third generations of migrants as an element of their own identification in a "descendant of a Gastarbeiter" collocation.

After the era of National Socialism and the Second World War, a concept of Gastarbeiter took over a politically incorrect term of Fremdarbeiter, a foreign worker. Fremdarbeiter meant a foreign worker whose labor force was used by the national socialists. In Switzerland, where they do not have such negative experience of national socialism, this term is still officially used. In German academic

discourse, there also was a special term to describe forced unpaid use of foreign labor (mostly from Eastern European countries) - Zwangsarbeiter, which is a forced labor worker.

A term "illegal migrant" requires special examination too. Today, more and more experts agree that (a) a person cannot be illegal, in other words, cannot be outside the framework of law and legitimacy - such a definition can only be applied to legal acts; (b) the very use of the term "illegal migrant" is an unfriendly and improper way to name "migration outside the law". Therefore it is more appropriate to use the concepts of sans-papiers and clandestins. The first French term means migrants without documents, the second - persons with no legal basis to stay in a particular territory.

The term "illegal migrant" has already become a classic example in the struggle for purity and humanity of migration terminology. In April 2013, the Associated Press international news agency prohibited its employees from using the term "illegal migrant" as it contradicts the humanistic ethics of mankind. In the guidelines for editors of the agency, the use of "illegal migrant" is regulated in the following way: "Except the direct speech of a respondent, use "illegal" only in relation to a description of an action, but not a person: illegal migration, but not illegal migrant.

Initially, the reaction of Western media to such a revolutionary step was ambiguous. Representatives of the American conservative Fox TV station made a statement on "totalitarianism" in the media, and the supporting media undertook the use the term "illegal invader" instead of "illegal migrant" in relation to undocumented migrants. However, nowadays, the process of rejection of the term of "illegal migrant" has become so irreversible that Hillary Clinton was forced to make official apologies for the public use of this term in the past. And the president of the Spanish Telemundo TV company interrupted an interview in D. Trump's electoral debates where the host of Fox News Monday constantly used the term "illegal migrant".

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Unfortunately, in the multilingual space of the former USSR countries, any migration terms - migrant, Gastarbeiter, labor migrant often have negative connotation and describe the people who pose a "threat" to a (hosting) society. Migration is a phenomenon of yesterday, today and definitely tomorrow. The increasing mobility of people which takes new trajectories, requires the creation of a legitimate, humane, non-discriminatory and politically correct vocabulary for defining migrants and migration.