

# SÜDOSTEUROPA

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Ein demographischer Überblick

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## **Sehr geehrte Leserin, sehr geehrter Leser,**

„Zum siebten Geburtstag des Kosovo findet eine kleine Völkerwanderung vom Balkan nordwärts statt“, so schrieb die FAZ vom 18. Februar dieses Jahres. Nach Angaben des Bundesinnenministeriums erhöhte sich allein von Dezember 2014 bis zum Januar 2015 die Zahl der Asylbewerber aus dem Kosovo um 85 Prozent. Die deutsche Botschaft in Pristina sprach Anfang Februar von monatlich 30.000 Kosovaren, die das Land in Richtung Deutschland verlassen. Der umfangreiche und alle überraschende Exodus aus dem Kosovo zeigt, wie aktuell das Thema Migration im südosteuropäischen Raum auch 25 Jahre nach der Wende ist. Dabei haben sich seither die Rahmenbedingungen und teilweise auch die Richtungen der Migration unter den Einflüssen von selektiven EU-Beitritten, der Finanz- und Wirtschaftskrise und dem Vollzug der Arbeitnehmerfreizügigkeit verändert. Insbesondere Rumänen und Bulgaren versuchen, die neuen Möglichkeiten in Westeuropa zu nutzen. Andere Migrantengruppen werden durch Krisen in den Zielländern zur Rückkehr mehr oder weniger gezwungen, wie etwa viele Albaner in Griechenland. Ein Symposium des Wissenschaftlichen Beirats der Südosteuropa-Gesellschaft zum Thema „Gegenwartsbezogene Migrationsforschung – Von der Perspektiv- zur Krisenmigration?“ befasste sich am 13. Februar 2015 in Jena mit der Thematik. Unser Schwerpunkt „Migrationsforschung zu Südosteuropa“ dokumentiert die Beiträge zu dieser Konferenz. Ausgehend von einem Überblick über aktuelle Migrationen in und aus Südosteuropa präsentiert dieses Heft der Südosteuropa Mitteilungen Befunde aus exemplarischen Studien zum Thema. Die Beiträge richten das Augenmerk auf politische, gesellschaftliche, wirtschaftliche und lebensweltliche Konsequenzen und Perspektiven aktueller und zukünftiger Migrationen.

Am 21. Dezember 2014 wurde in Rumänien der deutschstämmige Klaus Johannis als neuer Präsident vereidigt. Seine Wahl – nach zwei Urnengängen am 2. und 16. November 2014 – wurde im In- und Ausland als eine Sensation oder gar Revolution bewertet, verbunden mit großen Erwartungen an einen Neubeginn in der rumänischen Politik. Unser Autor Hans-Christian Maner zeichnet das rumänische „Novemberwunder“ nach. – Die Parlamentswahlen in der Republik Moldau Ende November 2014 sind Thema des Beitrags von Dominik Tolksdorf. Erst nach langem Ringen bildeten die Liberaldemokratische Partei und die Demokratische Partei dort eine Minderheitsregierung; sie ist angewiesen auf die Unterstützung der Kommunistischen Partei. Westliche Beobachter sehen in dieser Regierungsbildung eine verspielte Chance. Sie fürchten, dass für Moldova eine Beitrittsperspektive zur EU damit auf absehbare Zeit vom Tisch sein wird.

Eine anregende Lektüre wünscht Ihnen  
Ihre Redaktion

*Hansjörg Brey*

*Claudia Hopf*

**SÜDOSTEUROPA**

Mitteilungen

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***Main Focus: Migration Research in Southeast Europe***

**Heinz Fassmann**

**Migration to and from Southeast Europe – A Demographic Survey**

The article offers an overview of migration processes in Southeast Europe, embedded into the demographic development over the past six decades. Three different perspectives are selected: The general perspective on the whole region based on figures of population development and net migration; the demography of immigrants from Southeast Europe using the micro census in Austria; and the structure of potential emigrants derived from the results of a specific survey in Serbia. The different approaches clearly show that after a long period of growth, Southeast Europe has become a shrinking region due to a rapid decline in fertility rates and a surplus of outmigration. The outmigration of mostly young and qualified people is a reaction to the political and economic circumstances in Southeast Europe and the employment doors opening to them in Western Europe. Southeast Europe and Western Europe constitute a functional migration region, which should therefore collaborate more closely in migration issues.

**Daniel Göler / Dhimitër Doka**

**ReEMigration in Albania**

**From Emigration to Remigration and Vice Versa?**

Migration processes are amongst the most relevant issues in Albanian geography and society. After the collapse of the socialist system in 1991, the country suffered from out-migration for almost 20 years.

Since a couple of years return migration has increased, mainly from Greece. In our study return is interpreted as the response of Albanian emigrants to the economic downturn in the host country. Coming back home after a long period abroad is to a lesser extent an expression of pull-factors in the country of origin. Rather the process is triggered by push-factors for Albanians living and working in neighbouring crisis-affected countries. In migration studies, migrants are often seen as agents of societal change and economic development. In the period of global economic and financial crises we have to scrutinize this general assumption.

From a geographical point of view, our study analyses structures, contexts, chances and challenges of current return migration to Albania. One of the biggest problems is the degree of readiness and preparedness of individual as well as institutional actors.

In this respect, re-integration of Albanian migrants in the first and especially in the second generation is a crucial task. Another finding is that return migration will increase the country's existing spatial disparities. If the general situation, the living standard and the labour market in Albania do not improve, another wave of out-migration must be expected.

**Lucian Brujan**

### **Romania Between Home and Diaspora**

#### **Migration and Its Effects on Politics, Economy and Society in Romania**

The article discusses the situation concerning emigration from Romania between 1990 and 2015, with a focus on emigration after 2002 when visa requirements for travelling to the European Union were lifted. First, the contribution presents the emigration context, including the push-factors, which have contributed to the decision to leave (especially the background of economic, demographic and political transition after the fall of the socialist system in 1989). Second, it highlights the main emigration trends, patterns and profiles, between long-term, temporary, circular migration and re-migration. Third, it highlights the present implications of emigration, focusing on the effects on social and family structures (in particular the situation of "home alone" children), on the economy (the importance of remittances) and on the political role of the Romanian diaspora.

Currently, between 3.5 and 4 million from a total of over 20.2 million Romanian citizens live and work abroad, mainly in countries of the EU (Spain, Italy, Germany, France, UK, Greece), in the USA and in Canada. This phenomenon affects all spheres of Romanian society, economy and recently also politics. Although the magnitude of emigration is high, research, statistical data and overall awareness of the phenomenon are still rather low. The article attempts a compilation of different statistical and empirical studies in order to highlight the importance and the effects of the emigration phenomenon in Romania.

**Tanya Dimitrova**

### **Informal Migration Networks and Social Relations between Bulgaria and Greece**

#### **The Case of Bulgarian Migrants in Greece**

The article discusses the formation process of the Bulgarian migrant community in Greece after 1989. The focus is directed towards the establishment of migrant networks and the multiple effects that initial migration had on the migrating community in the country of origin as well as on its extension.

The main factors influencing the migration process and facilitating migration flows are outlined. The social networks that migrants create are seen as a form of creating social capital, which is used for an expansion of the community and of the network itself. The connections that migrants maintain with their places of origin and of settlement are illuminated. In this community there is a constant exchange of information, ideas and material resources. The expansion of social networks as well as the variations that migration causes in the families' and relatives' networks are presented in detail.

**Hans-Christian Maner**

**The Presidential Elections 2014 in Romania  
“Revolution”, “November Miracle” or a New Beginning?**

For the presidential elections in Romania in November 2014 the result seemed clear. As the then governing President Traian Băsescu was no longer allowed to compete for re-election, polling forecasts predicted a victory of the Prime Minister in office, Victor-Viorel Ponta. Therefore, Klaus Werner Johannis was not considered a genuine alternative.

The final result was a big surprise for all observers. Numerous young voters celebrated Johannis' victory: Many spoke of a new beginning in the country's politics, even of a “revolution” or a “November miracle”.

The article examines the Romanian Presidential Election in 2014 in its historical context. The analytical focus is on the election campaign, the programs of the two candidates Ponta and Johannis, and the final results. In conclusion, the winner's road to the inauguration and his first steps as President are illuminated.

**Dominik Tolksdorf**

**Parliamentary Elections in the Republic of Moldova at the End of  
November 2014**

**Free but not necessarily fair**

The defining issue in the run-up to the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova on 30 November 2014 was the country's foreign policy orientation. While many parties supported convergence with the European Union, some opposition parties promoted closer cooperation with Russia and joining the Russian-led Customs Union.

Shortly before election day, one of the opposition parties was excluded from the electoral list. Although the election was free, it was not necessarily conducted in a fair manner. In early 2015 efforts by Western politicians and officials supporting the entry of the three “pro-EU” parties into parliament failed to form a government coalition. But in January 2015 the Liberal-Democratic Party and the Democratic Party formed a minority government that is being backed by the Communist Party.

The new government faces several challenges, including the introduction of more effective instruments in the fight against corruption, a substantial reform of the judiciary, and the adoption of better regulations on media ownership and on political party and election campaign financing.