

RETURNING - REMITTING: Social Remittances in Lithuania, Poland and Croatia REMIT WORKSHOP

of the REMIT project: Social Remittances of (Re)migrants: Challenges and Experiences in Comparative Perspective

Time	October 09, 2020 11:00 AM (Vilnius timezone)
Location	Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas Jonavos str.66, Room 112
Online	Adobe Connect invitation will be sent after the registration
Registration	Please fill this form for the registration. If you have any questions, please contact workshop host: email daiva.vilcinskiene@vdu.lt or call +370 676 99572
Description	<p>In the last few decades and especially since the EU accession in 2004, Lithuania, Poland and Croatia (in 2013) have experienced high levels of emigration. However, studies show that some of those who leave decide to return and bring with them not only substantial financial resources but also valuable human capital, progressive thinking, innovative ideas and more liberal views, which have the potential to contribute to social change in their countries of origin.</p> <p>Our project aims to explore the phenomenon of social remittances in Lithuania, Poland and Croatia. Using in-depth interviews with return migrants and NGOs, and media discourse analysis on returnees, we study forms of social remittances as well as ways in which they are being transferred, and challenges which prevent them from being implemented in the communities of origin. We endeavour to highlight the impact of social remittances on the societies of origin and the role that is played in social remitting by factors both on individual and social levels, such as return migrants' identity and belonging as well as the receiving local environment, diaspora-oriented organisations and policies.</p> <p>This work-in-progress workshop is being organised with the aim of sharing and discussing some preliminary findings emerging from the interviews with returnees and their significant others. One specific aim of this event is to start a meaningful comparison between countries included in the project. The discussions will be based around four presentations by the project team members.</p>
Presenters	<p>Vytis Čiubrinskas, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas Ingrida Gečienė, Social Innovation Institute, Vilnius Caroline Hornstein-Tomić, Institute of Social Sciences Ivo Pilar, Zagreb Violetta Parutis, University of Essex, UK and Marta Buler, SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Warsaw</p>

Discussion Questions

- What does "successful social remitting" mean?
- What are some of the strengths and weaknesses of the main trends in researching the impact of social remittances on the welfare of the country of origin?
- How do context-related circumstances and conditions impact on expectations, attitudes and responses of those who stayed towards those who left and returned? How do reciprocal perceptions influence the interactions, in which social remittances initially are embedded?
- What are the intervening factors in acquiring or resisting social remittances?
- What is the role of state and business in supporting returnees in the process of social remitting from the returnees' perspective?
- Does successful re-adaptation after return mean successful social remitting?
- What is the role of the moral economy factor in social remitting? Is 'return with resources' based on relational responsibility of migrants towards their significant others in the country of origin?
- Do highly skilled out-migrants seek recognition/merit by social remitting 'back home'?
- What role in social remitting is played by returnees' identity and belonging? How are (cultural) citizenship and shifting loyalty shaping issues of their identity and belonging?

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