

## **Analysis of existing migratory data production systems and major data sources in Slovakia**

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**2013**

This country report was developed in the framework of SEEMIG – Managing Migration and its Effects in SEE – Transnational Actions towards Evidence-based Strategies. SEEMIG is a strategic project funded by the European Union’s South-East Europe Programme.

Project code: SEEMIG - SEE/C/0006/4.1/X

The country report was prepared within the SEEMIG activity *Enhancing data production systems of migration and human capital in the South-East European area* coordinated by the Demographic Research Institute at the Hungarian Central Statistical Office.

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Suggested citation: Bleha, Branislav – Jurčová, Danuša – Mészáros, Ján – Šprocha, Branislav – Vaňo, Boris (2013): *Analysis of existing migratory data production systems and major data sources in Slovakia*. Country report developed within the project ‘SEEMIG Managing Migration and Its Effects – Transnational Actions Towards Evidence Based Strategies’.

<http://www.seemig.eu/downloads/outputs/SEEMIGDataSystemsCountryReportSlovakia.pdf>

Suggested citation for Chapter 3 Case study: Bugár, Branislav (2013): Case study on the city of Turčianske Teplice about the use and accessibility of migration-related data sources. In: Bleha, Branislav – Jurčová, Danuša – Mészáros, Ján – Šprocha, Branislav – Vaňo, Boris (2013) *Analysis of existing migratory data production systems and major data sources in Slovakia*. Country report developed within the project ‘SEEMIG Managing Migration and Its Effects – Transnational Actions Towards Evidence Based Strategies’.

<http://www.seemig.eu/downloads/outputs/SEEMIGDataSystemsCountryReportSlovakia.pdf>

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## List of acronyms and abbreviations

CR – Czech Republic  
EC – European Community  
EEA – European Economic Area  
EU – European Union  
EUROSTAT – European Statistical Office  
ILO – International Labour Organisation  
INFOSTAT – Institute of Informatics and Statistics  
ISCED – International Standard Classification  
ISCO – International Standard Classification of Occupations  
LAU – Local Area Unit  
LFS – Labour Force Survey  
NACE – Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community  
NGO – Non Governmental Organisations  
NUTS – Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics  
OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development  
SO SR – Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic  
SR – Slovak Republic  
ECU – Register of Foreigners (Evidencia Cudzincov)  
MIGRA – Database of asylum applicants, refugees with asylum granted and people with subsidiary protection

## Executive Summary

The aim of the national report is to describe the data concerning migration together with an attempt to identify the major problems bound with collecting, processing, and assessing and using the migration-related data. Information on migration-related data of the city of Turčianske Teplice has been included.

All demographic data, including migration-related data, are obtained by using statistical surveys and administrative sources. There is a no special population survey dealing with any additional information or data. Information and data-sources on reproductive and migratory intentions are important when policy measures are prepared.

Migration-related statistics are based on the permanent residence concept in the Slovak Republic. Usual residence concept has been in progress just for a couple of years; moreover, implementation into the practice is time-consuming and problematic. People register their usual residence very rarely. Let us take the example of the last census in which the number of inhabitants referring to their usual residence was significantly lower than estimated.

The statistical surveys are the main source of demographic data. Among others, census and regular evidence of population dynamics are very important. Other sample surveys are used in some cases. In cases of migration, Labour Force Survey is the source.

The population census is the only direct source of data on population size and structure of inhabitants and households. Slovak citizens and foreign citizens located in Slovakia are incorporated. One part of the census' questions is related to mobility - such as place of birth, place of previous stay, reasons of migration into the new place of stay, commuting etc.

The natural and migration changes are the exclusive parts of population dynamics. The persons with permanent residence are incorporated only. Migration is defined as change of the place of permanent residence.

The labour force survey is the major source of the data on current situation and trends in the labour market. Data on persons with permanent residence aged 15 years and over are included. Some migration-related information such as ethnicity, country of birth, citizenship, and changes in residence could be extracted.

As for migration-data, the administrative sources are very important. Several registers under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior are used; mainly the population register and the registry of foreigners are close to the migration issues. The more common usage for demographic statistics is restricted by several legislative and organizational reasons. Registers are not connected to each other because of the non-existence of a common ID. Several pieces of important demographical data are missing; moreover, the accuracy is not efficient enough. This is caused by errors generated during the update process.

The population register is a component of the state information system. The data on citizens with and without permanent residence, foreigners with registered stay as well as persons granted asylum are involved. Based on such data the identification of every person is possible together with their relationships to other persons and other data given by legislative acts.

The availability of the migration data coming from the above mentioned statistical surveys is good. Most of the data are included in the database, available freely at the web page of the Statistical Office. More specific data of a more detailed nature is released on request.

The availability of administrative sources is limited. The administrators provide just selected data according to the legislative acts and norms. The data are released on request, and the recipient usually has to pay some tax.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The main aim of the country report of Slovakia is to highlight peculiarities of data sources and data production processes focusing on the problems of availability, reliability and comparability of migration-related data. This exploration and comprehensive description of data production systems is also necessary for building a SEE level comparative statistical dataset containing all key longer term demographic, migration, human capital and labour market indicators prescribed by the developmental models and patterns. The analysis also provides information about shortcomings of data quality.

The country report of Slovakia covers the period since 2001 up to the end of 2011 (respectively 2012). It has been elaborated by INFOSTAT, Institute of Informatics and statistics in Bratislava. The working team consists of Branislav Bleha, Danuša Jurčová, Ján Mészáros, Branislav Šprocha and Boris Vaňo. Mária Katerinková from the Statistical Office of the SR also contributed to the study.

The case study on local level was produced by local partner - the city of Turčianske Teplice under the responsibility of Branislav Bugár.

The study analysed the following migration-related data sources:

- Population Register
- Register of Foreigners
- Central Register of Acquisition and Loss of Citizenship of the SR
- Information system MIGRA
- Information system Migration and International Protection
- Information System of Employed Foreigners
- Statistical Survey on Population
- Labour Force Survey
- Population and Housing Census

A specific feature of SR is that almost all of the data on migration are available only on the basis of permanent residence. In addition, also demographic data are available only for permanent residence. Another distinctive feature is that data from different registers are not linked with regard to the protection of personal data (unified pin code does not exist), and so the use of these registers for migration analysis has its limits. This means that there is no link between the population register and the other registers in the SR. Therefore the population register is not used for demographic (or migration) purposes. This long-term problem is not yet resolved in Slovakia.

Most of the described administrative and statistical surveys included in the report could be used and in fact are used at all levels of public administration. Among others, the census data are probably of the highest interest. The data are used by the representatives of local administrations for the creation of strategic and development plans. All cities and towns with a population above 2 000 are obliged to develop strategic plans. The demographic analysis and forecast is an obligatory part of the plan. Lots of other census data are used for the planning of socio-economic activities. Besides, population size is a key indicator by delimitation of public budget for cities, villages and other settlements. In the academic sphere, the census data are the basic source for the creation of national and sub-national population projections.

Each census period represents the starting point of the new population forecast based on current and adjusted age structure. The census data are often used for demographic analyses released by several research bodies. Moreover, several projections, such as work-force projections and education projections based on basic population projections are regularly published. The academic sphere uses

the census data for educational purposes. The original and innovative Population Atlas of Slovakia was published in 2006. The census data are the core of the analyses included inside. The census data, as well as the data from other sources, has been used in several official legislative documents and conceptions of central government concerning social, population and migration policy, e.g. Conception of migration policy of the Slovak republic (issued in 2010). The data from most of the described administrative and statistical sources has been used in the general document “Long-term vision of Slovak society ‘s development” published by the consortium of research and academic bodies in 2008 (<http://ekonom.sav.sk/sk/publikacie/dlhodoba-vizia-rozvoja-slovenskej-spolocnosti-p187>).

To conclude, the data from administrative and statistical sources are well used at different levels of public administration, both at national and sub-national levels. Among ministries of the central government, mainly the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance as well as Ministry of Economy often use the data according to its relevance for respective branches.

Many sources are used by the representatives of local and regional self-governments. Since public administration reform in the Slovak Republic started, the role of self-governmental institutions has increased markedly. Therefore many new strategic, planning and legislative documents had to be prepared by local authorities. The role of the above mentioned statistical sources was very important in the process of their creation.

## 2. DATA SOURCES AND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

### 2.1. Administrative (register-based) data sources

#### 2.1.1. Population register, Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic

The population register follows the Law on the reporting of the residence of Slovak Republic citizens and the population register of the Slovak Republic as it arises from amendments and supplements executed by Act No. 253/1998 Coll., Act No. 369/1999 Coll., Act No. 441/2001 Coll., Act No. 660/2002 Coll., Act No. 174/2004 Coll., Act No. 454/2004 Coll. and Act No. 500/2004 Coll. These laws regulate, inter alia, the establishment of the population register, the role of public authorities and municipalities related to the population register and providing data from the population register.

The population register is part of the state information system. It includes a set of information on Slovak Republic inhabitants based on which it is possible to identify a person, to find out his/her residence and relations to other persons and also other administrative information defined by the Law. The Ministry of Interior manages the Population register. The population register serves the needs of state authorities, local governments, and other legal entities or individuals.

The Register includes information on:

1. Citizens with permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic,
2. Citizens who do not have permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic,
3. Foreigners reported for a stay in the territory of the Slovak Republic,
4. Foreigners who were granted asylum in the territory of the Slovak Republic.

Permanent residence is the citizen's residence, usually in a place of his/her stable residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic. The citizen has only one permanent residence at a time. The citizen is obliged to report every change of the address of permanent residence as well as deregistration from the permanent residence (with exception of Slovak citizen permanently living abroad). This information is subsequently recorded in the register.

Temporary residence is the citizen's stay outside the place of permanent residence lasting more than 90 days. Temporary residence is also the stay of the citizen permanently living abroad lasting in the territory of the Slovak Republic more than 90 days.

The citizen informs the registration office responsible in the place of temporary residence on his/her temporary residence within 10 days of accommodation.

The population register includes, on *citizens with permanent residence* in the territory of Slovak Republic: personal information (name, academic title, birth number, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, nationality, date and place of death), data on place of residence, data on the relationship with other persons (wife, children, parents), administrative data (identity card, passport, responsibility for legal acts, divorce, residence restriction, naturalization).

The population register includes, on *citizens with temporary residence* in the territory of Slovak Republic: personal information (name, academic title, birth number, date and place of birth, sex, marital status, nationality, date and place of death), data on place of residence (including information about the termination of permanent residence), data on the relationship with other persons (wife, children, parents), administrative data (passport, responsibility for legal acts, divorce, residence restriction, naturalization).

The population register includes information on *foreigners* reported for residence (both permanent and temporary) in the territory of the Slovak Republic and on *foreigners who were granted asylum* in the territory of the Slovak Republic within the scope stated in a residence document issued under the special law.

The quality of data included in the population register has not yet been reliably evaluated. The comparison of the data by age and sex between the population register and balance calculated by the Statistical office of the Slovak Republic confirm differences which are significant in those aged under 2 years and over 70 years and also from a regional perspective (differences are mainly due to delayed reporting of births to the register and inaccuracies in extracting deaths from the register).

Data from the population register are used for administrative purposes only to a very limited extent. The population register is used in the preparation of the population census, especially for the preparation of the list of persons who should participate in the census as well as for the creation of census districts. The Statistical Office, which is particularly interested in the greater use of data from the population register for the needs of the population census, and also for the needs of population balance (by sex, age, marital status, education, nationality, citizenship, place of birth) is aware of the unsatisfactory situation in the use of data from the population register for statistical purposes. Greater use of data from the population register for statistical purposes is hindered by some legal, technical, organizational and financial reasons. Several changes are needed in the register content, improvement of data quality, the introduction of a unique identifier (for linking to other registers). For these reasons, the register can not be used for the purposes of population census.

Data from the Population register are provided by the Ministry of Interior to the Statistical Office of the SR under contract (current valid contract was signed in 2007). Data beyond this contract are provided upon written request and for a fee.

The data are updated continuously, immediately after the occurrence of the respective event.

The Statistical Office is not directly involved in the design of data collection. The Statistical Office gives comments only in legislation process.

### ***2.1.2. Register of Foreigners (ECU), Ministry of the Interior, Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Presidium of Police Force***

**Data collector:** Ministry of the Interior, Office of Border and Aliens Police of the Presidium of Police Force

**Main scope:** Registration of the stay of foreigners in the SR

The political situation in 2001-2011 was influenced mostly by the accession of the Slovak Republic to the European Union on 1 May 2004 and by the accession of the Slovak Republic to the Schengen Area on 21 December 2007. In the field of migration, at the beginning of 2005, the Slovak Government adopted the Conception of migration Policy of the Slovak Republic (Government Resolution No. 11/2005) as a principal strategic tool in the field of migration management.

In 2001-2011, the entry and residence of foreigners in Slovakia was regulated by the Act No. 73/1995 Coll. on Residence of Aliens and since the 1 April 2002 by the Act No. 48/2002 Coll. On Residence of Aliens.

By adoption of the Act No. 48/2002 Coll. compliance has been achieved with the Constitution of the SR and with international agreements signed by the SR on the issues of family reunion, and migration and stay of foreigners.

The Act introduced a new definition of short term stay of foreigners (the length of stay was shortened from 180 days to 90 days) and also introduced the term of temporary residence (the stay 90 day and over) which could be granted maximally for 2 years (in the case of study or family reunion, for 5 years).

According to this Act, foreigners in the SR are divided into two groups – EU nationals and third country nationals. Even before Slovakia's accession to the EU, above standard conditions for stay of EEA nationals had been applied. EEA nationals did not need any permission for their temporary stay (for one year) in the SR (in the case of business, employment, etc.); only registration for the residence was required.

In the period 2001-2011 the Act No 48/2002 Coll. was amended 14 times – first in 2003, then after the accession of the SR to the EU (2004) - in 2005 (harmonisation of the condition of entry and stay of foreigners with EU legal standards, changes in the first permanent residence which might be granted for 5 years ), in 2007 (transposition of the EU Directive on the promotion of mobility of the third country nationals in the field of science and research; some changes in granting tolerated stay), in 2009 (transposition of the new EU Directives in the field of visas (Schengen visa) and stay of foreigners) and so on. The amendment of this Act in 2011 implemented the Council Directive 2009/50/EC of 25 May 2009 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for highly qualified employment (Blue Card).

Currently, the entry and residence of foreigners in Slovakia is regulated by Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on Residence of Aliens and Amendment and Supplementation of Certain Acts which entered into force on 1 January 2012. This act implemented Council Directive 2009/52/EC of 18 June 2009 setting out minimum standards on sanctions and measures against employers employing third-country nationals who are illegally present in the Member States into Slovak legislation.

#### ***The Register includes***

all foreigners holding a residence permits of ***more than three months, minors or*** new born in the Slovak Republic from foreign parents and EEA citizens with permanent residence. Asylum seekers are excluded.

Persons according to the types of residence status are as follows (Act 404/2011 Coll.):

**Person with temporary residence** - temporary residence can be granted to third country nationals for the time required to achieve one of the following purposes: business activities, employment, study, special activities, family unification, research and development, for performing service obligations by civil units of armed forces, for persons who have the status of a Slovak living abroad and persons who have the status of a person with long term residence in another member state.

There are no special rules for registration of ethnic nationals, i.e. Slovaks living abroad (according to previous law Slovaks living abroad from third countries have no obligation to apply for temporary residence in the SR).

The group of persons with temporary residence includes also the persons with residence on the basis of a **Blue Card of the European Union** and persons with **long-term residence** in the EU issued in accordance with this Act.

The Blue Card is a new type of temporary residence, which third country nationals may obtain for the purpose of highly qualified employment in Slovakia. The basic requirement for acquiring the Blue Card is a higher professional qualification in the form of university education or proof of at least 5-years professional experience, which must be recognized by the Ministry of Education of the SR. Another condition is a contract of employment or written promise of the employer confirming his willingness to hire the foreign national for the duration of at least 1 year. The Blue Card is granted for a maximum of 3 years and may be repeatedly renewed. It entitles a third country national to enter, reside and work in Slovakia, to travel abroad and back. In view of the short time since the beginning

of the efficiency of the Council Directive 2011/50/EC in Slovakia (20 July 2011), there is not yet accurate data on the number of Blue Cards issued in the EU. In Slovakia, there were recorded only 9 cards issued to the beginning of February 2013.<sup>1</sup>

Temporary residence is bound to one purpose only. Its maximum duration is generally 2 years (in some cases 3-5 years, according to purpose, in the case of study for 6 years) but it can be repeatedly renewed for up to 3 years (in special cases for up to 5 years).

### **Persons with permanent residence**

Permanent residence is delivered to third country nationals mainly for family reunion purposes under condition, if he/she is a family member of a citizen of the Slovak Republic or a family member of a third country national with *permanent residence for 5 years*. First it is granted for 5 years and then for an indefinite period.

### **Persons with tolerated stay:**

Tolerated stay is granted to a third country national if there is no reason for the refusal of an application (specified in this Act).

Tolerated stay is granted: to those who suffer administrative expulsion; to those granted a temporary refugee; or to those whose exit is impossible and whose detention is inefficient; to minors found in the Slovak Republic territory; if it is required due to the respect for his/her personal and family life; or to those who are the victim of human trafficking. Tolerated stay may be granted for a maximum of 180 days and may be repeatedly prolonged.

### **The EEA citizens**

An EEA national has the right of residence in the Slovak Republic during the period of more than three months, if he/she is employed in the Slovak Republic; he/she is a self-employed person in the Slovak Republic, if he/she has sufficient resources for him/herself and for his/her family, if he/she studies, if there is an assumption that he/she would find employment; or he/she is a family member of an EEA national. They do not need permission for the stay but they have to register their stay. The document on registration is valid for 5 years. After living in the SR continuously for 5 years they can ask for permanent residence in the SR. The condition of five years may not be met if the other conditions are fulfilled in accordance with Art. 67, par. 2 of Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on Stay of Aliens.

### **Procedure for registration or deregistration**

#### Immigration

An application for the *temporary residence* is usually filed in person at a Slovak embassy or consulate abroad on an official form. In some cases they may be filed at the district office of the Border and Aliens Police. The Border and Aliens Police in Slovakia are always responsible for the decision.

If a third country national has been granted permanent residence he/she is obliged within three working days of entry to report the start of his/her stay to the district office of the Border and Aliens Police section. A foreigner with a temporary residence permit does not have to fill in any official form on reporting his or her stay. There is no need to present oneself at the municipal office.

Application for *permanent residence for 5 years* must be submitted by foreigners to an embassy or consulate or in person to the district office of the Border and Aliens Police.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.euractiv.sk/podnikanie-v-eu/clanok/vydavanie-modrej-karty-eu-je-zatial-minimalne-020648> (Downloaded 15.6.2013)

The EEA citizens and his/her family members who join him/her have the right to stay for 3 months in the territory of the SR without any further conditions. They have only the duty to report their arrival to the respective police unit within ten working days of their arrival.

If he/she wants to stay for more than 3 months, he/she has duty to apply for the registration of residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic. He/she fills in an *Application for the registration of right of residence of EU Citizen* in person at a police department within 30 days of the end date of the three months from the entry into the Slovak Republic territory. An EEA national has the right of permanent residence, if his/her residence in the Slovak Republic territory was registered at the police continuously during the period of five years. He/she has to fill in the form *Application for registration of right for permanent residence of EU Citizen*.

Both EEA and non-EEA citizens have also to fill in the statistical form *Obyv 5-12 Hlásenie pobytu* (form to report the residence) which is uniform for nationals and non-nationals.

### Emigration

Slovak citizens, when emigrating, are obliged to report changing their place of permanent residence to another country. They have to fill in statistical form *Obyv 5-12* in the municipal offices.

Foreigners (the EEA and non-EEA citizens) with a permanent residence status, when changing their permanent place of residence towards another country, are obliged by law to report to respective police unit the voluntary termination of their permanent stay in the Slovak Republic. They have to fill in a statistical form *Obyv 5-12*.

The permanent residence of third country nationals is terminated also in the case when the validity of the *permanent residence for 5 years* expired and a foreigner had not applied for the *permanent residence for an unlimited period*.

Foreigners with temporary residence permits are not obliged to report their departure and they are excluded from the register in the case of expiry or cancellation of their permits. People who are deregistered still remain in the Register in an inactive way.

### **Process of data collection**

District offices of the Border and Aliens Police keep electronic databases. As soon as a foreigner is granted a residence, data are entered into the database and all information is transferred electronically to the central database. Besides, some characteristics stipulated by law (the same as in the case of Slovak citizens) are sent automatically to the Population register.

Data collected and included in database of foreigners:

#### ***Data on third country nationals:***

- applicant - name and surname, his/her surname at birth, previous surnames, date of birth, sex, place and country of birth, citizenship, family status, data on travel documents, biometric data, occupation; previous residence in the Slovak Republic, his/her degree, nationality, purpose of residence, the highest education attained, data on employment prior to and following their arrival in the Slovak Republic, place and country of residence, address of their last residence, residence in the Slovak Republic, name of the accommodation provider,
- parents - name and surname of his/her father; name, surname and maiden name of his/her mother; date of birth, citizenship, address of residence,
- spouse - name, surname and surname at birth; date and place of birth, previous surnames, country of birth, citizenship, permanent residence and residence of his/her husband in the Slovak Republic,
- children - name, surname and date of birth, place of birth, citizenship, permanent residence and residence in the Slovak Republic,

- siblings - names, surnames, date and place of birth, citizenship and permanent residence.

### **Data on EEA nationals**

Applicant - name and surname, surname at birth, previous surnames, date of birth, sex, place and country of birth, citizenship, family status, data on travel documents, biometric data, data on the highest education attained, address of permanent residence abroad, address of last residence abroad, residence in the Slovak Republic and data on the accommodation provider.

Data are available from 1993. Reference day is 31 December, reference period: 1 January – 31 December

Ministry of Interior is processing data for statistical purposes within the scope of the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 from 2008 onwards. Aggregated data are sent to the Statistical Office once a year. Since the year 2007 there is an Agreement between the Ministry of Interior of SR and the Statistical Office of SR on primary data transmission to the Statistical Office of the SR, but till now it is not in function. The Statistical Office and Ministry of Interior organize a joint meeting every year to improve data collection. The requirement of the Statistical Office on the deregistration of EEA Citizens when emigrating from the SR, was incorporated into new Act on Residence of Aliens (No. 404/2011 Coll.)

Data transmission to the Eurostat is the same as data published on a national level. Data are available only at NUTS1 level. However, the data are not comparable in time. Data linked to permanent residence were sent to Eurostat in 2001-2003 and 2011 and data connected with usual residence of foreigners in 2004-2010. Ministry of Interior of the SR is the only collector of data on foreign migrants. Database of the Statistical Office of the SR contains only a part of those data - the data on foreigners with permanent residence.

Data are published by the Ministry of Interior within 30 days of the end of the reference year.

Publication prepared: Yearbooks of the Bureau of the Border and Aliens Police 2000-2012 (some of them only available in Slovak, <http://www.minv.sk/?rocenky>).

There are also printed publications published by the Statistical Office of the SR: "International Migration and Foreigners in the Slovak Republic" for the years 2009-2011 and electronic publications for download: "International Migration statistics in the Slovak Republic". They are published within 30 days of the data transmission to the Eurostat (i.e. in 13<sup>th</sup> month after reference year).

Other publications of the Statistical Office of the SR: Statistical Yearbook of the Slovak Republic, Population Change in the SR ('Source Publication') for the years 2001-2011, available also on web site: [www.infostat.sk/popin](http://www.infostat.sk/popin).

Yearbooks of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police provide only basic information on migration of foreigners. More detailed information for users is on the web site of the Statistical Office of the SR. Users can also ask the Ministry of Interior for data needed in written form. Users (scientists, students, NGOs) would welcome a joint publication of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Statistical Office, containing demographic and socio-economic characteristics of foreigners living in the SR.

To facilitate working with data on migration of foreigners, it is essential to implement already designed primary data transmission from Ministry of Interior to the Statistical Office of the SR. Updates should be carried out on a monthly basis.

### **2.1.3. Central Register of Acquisition and Loss of the Citizenship of the SR, Ministry of Interior of the SR, Section of Public Administration, Department of Citizenship and Civil Registers**

**Main scope:** Registration of acquisition and loss of the citizenship of the SR.

Until 1968, only Czechoslovak citizenship was recognised. Following the establishment of the federation, in 1969, all Czechoslovak citizens also had a republican nationality, as “Czechs” or “Slovaks” according to their birth place if born before 1 January 1954. For those born after this date, citizenship was determined by the status of their parents.

According to the law adopted following the split of the former Czechoslovak federal state in 1993 (Act No 40/1993 Coll. On the Acquisition and Loss of Slovak Citizenship) the acquisition of Slovakian citizenship might be provided:

- by determination (for the former “Slovaks”) and also
- by simple declaration (for citizens of the Czech Republic, if the application was lodged up to 31st December 1993), by birth (if at least one of the parents is a citizen of the Slovak Republic; if the child was born on the territory of the Slovak Republic, of parents being stateless; if the child was born on the territory of the Slovak Republic, of parents not being citizens SR, but the child does not by birth gain the citizenship of either of the parents),
- by adoptions,
- by naturalisation.

Act Nr. 40/1993 Coll. on Acquisition and the Loss Citizenship of the Slovak Republic came into force on 5 July 1997. This Act was amended several times. In 2005, the basic conditions for acquisition of citizenship were extended under the European Convention on Citizenship. The objectives of the 2007 amendments (since the 1 October 2007) ensure a more thorough examination of applicants for citizenship of the Slovak Republic, due to the increasing danger of organized crime and international terrorism.

**Conditions:**

- Slovak citizenship can be granted to an alien after 8 years of continuous permanent residence in the country (previously after 5 years).
- A foreigner living in a marriage with a Slovak citizen can acquire Slovak citizenship after 5 years of continuous marital cohabitation (previously after 3 years).
- The criminal record of the applicant is also required.
- At the same time, extra emphasis is given to the ability to speak the state language.
- Refugees granted asylum can apply for citizenship after 4 years of residence in the Slovak Republic.
- In the case of Slovaks Living Abroad, the continuous residence requirement is increased from two to three years.
- For applicants who have significantly contributed to the benefit of the SR in the fields of science and culture, citizenship can be granted by the President of the Slovak Republic.

These conditions are also applied at present.

In the Slovak Republic also dual citizenship is possible. According to § 9 of the Act No. 40/1993 Coll. On citizenship of the Slovak Republic, as amended by Act No. 250/2010 Coll. after the 17 July 2010, Slovak citizens may have double or multiple citizenship, however, just in case, if citizenship of a foreign country was taken by birth - according to parents or if a citizen of the Slovak Republic took foreign citizenship during his/her marriage with a citizen of foreign country.

A dual or multiple citizenship will be preserved if a citizen of the Slovak Republic acquired foreign citizenship before 17 July 2011. He/she does not lose Slovak citizenship.

**Data included on acquisition of citizenship:** name and surname, date of birth, place of birth (community + state), current citizenship, address of residence at the time of granting the citizenship of the SR, number of decision and the date of acquisition of the citizenship of the SR, date of issuance of the certificate of naturalisation, date of receipt of the certificate of naturalisation, state of

handling the file, legal title of the acquisition of the citizenship of the SR, authority which made decision.

The application for granting the citizenship of the SR is filed by the applicant at a local regional office. In addition to the submission of the required documents, the applicant shall fill in a personal questionnaire (questionnaire of applicant). The regional office delivers the completed application to the Ministry of Interior of the SR. When deciding in favour of the applicant the Ministry of Interior of the SR delivers the certificate of naturalisation to the regional office. The regional office hands over the certificate of naturalisation to the applicant, enters a respective record into the regional register and informs the Ministry of Interior of the SR. The Ministry of Interior of the SR makes a record on the acquisition of the citizenship of the SR to the Population Register.

Once a month, the Ministry of Interior of the SR provides the Organisation for Public Administration (IPA Košice) with an electronic list of persons that have acquired the citizenship of the SR. The IPA Košice aggregates data supplied by regional offices and puts them in the Central Register of the Acquisition of the Citizenship of the SR kept by the MI SR. The Central Register is accessible to the regional offices.

The **application for releasing from the state bond** of the SR is filed by an applicant through the foreign mission of the SR with a respective regional office. The regional office decides on releasing the applicant from the state bond of the SR.

The foreign mission hands over the certificate to the applicant then informs the regional office. The latter indicates the loss of the SR citizenship in the Population Register. Once a month, the regional office transmits electronically the list of persons who lost the citizenship of the SR to the IPA Košice which merges the data from regional offices and puts them in the Central Register of the Loss of the Citizenship of the SR kept by the Ministry of Interior of the SR.

Data included on loss of the SR citizenship are as follows: name, date of birth, place of birth (community + state), address at the time of the loss of the SR citizenship, state of handling the file, authority which made decision, date of issuance of the certificate of releasing the applicant from the state bond of the SR, date of receipt of the certificate, legal title of the loss of the SR citizenship.

Data are available from 1993. Reference day is 31 December, reference period: 1 January – 31 December.

From 2008 data are provided and disseminated under the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007.

Aggregated data are sent by Ministry of Interior to the Statistical Office once a year. The transmission is based on formal agreement between Statistical Office of the SR and Ministry of Interior. Aggregated data are sent by Ministry of Interior to the Statistical Office not later than 11 months after the end of the reference year.

Annual data are sent by the Statistical Office to the EUROSTAT approximately 12 months after the end of the reference year. Data transmission to the Eurostat is the same as data published on national level. Data are available only at NUTS1 level. Data are not comparable in time. Break in series are caused by changes in legislation.

Ministry of Interior is the only provider of statistical information on acquisition and loss of citizenship of the SR.

Data about acquisition and loss of citizenship are published by the Statistical Office of the SR in publications "International Migration and Foreigners in the Slovak Republic" for the years 2009-2011 and electronic publications for download named "International Migration statistics in the Slovak Republic". Publications "International Migration and Foreigners in the Slovak Republic" 2006 - 2008

are available in Slovak language only. Data are published not later than one month after the data is transmitted to the EUROSTAT. The data are not published by the Ministry of Interior.

Only data from the Statistical Office are available to users from other ministries, scientists, students, etc. If they need more detailed information they have to ask in writing to the Ministry of Interior.

The Statistical Office of the SR was not involved in the design of the data collection. A joint publication on foreigners, which would be issued by the Ministry of Interior and the Statistical Office of the SR, could also contain information on citizenship.

#### **2.1.4. Information System MIGRA, Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the SR**

**Name:** Information system “Refugee”, since 2011 information system “MIGRA”

**Responsible person** and the data Collector: Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of the SR

**Main scope:** Asylum seekers, asylum proceedings, data on international protection

At the beginning of the 2000’s, asylum issues in the SR were covered by the Act No. 283/1995 Coll. On refugees which was only partially compatible with the EU asylum requirement.

At present, the terms of international protection are defined by the Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum and amendment of some acts which came into the force on 1st January 2003. This law is consistently based on the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees adopted in Geneva in 1951 and the Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees, adopted in New York in 1967. For the Slovak Republic, the laws on asylum and refugees adopted by the European Union are mandatory; they create conditions for a uniform practice in those areas. These acts were incorporated in the Slovak Republic legal system during the EU accession process and the others were gradually transposed by accession the SR to the EU.

The Act No. 480/2002 Coll. has been amended several times. The amendment of 2005 (by the Act No. 1/2005 Coll.) modified asylum terminology and transposed the Council Directive on minimum standards for asylum seekers (2003/9/ES). The amendment (by the Act 692/2006) which came into force in 2007 enabled the Ministry of Interior to grant subsidiary protection to those applicants who have not been granted asylum. The Dublin system was automatically integrated into the SR asylum procedures.

The Dublin System consists of the Dublin Regulation (or Dublin II Regulation - Regulation 2003/343/EC) and the EURODAC Regulation. The aims of the Dublin Regulation are to prevent an asylum applicant from submitting applications in multiple Member States and to reduce the number of "orbiting" asylum seekers, who are shuttled from one member state to another. The Regulation establishes the criteria for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national and provides for the transfer of an asylum seeker to that Member State. The core of the Regulation is the stipulation that the Member State responsible for examining the asylum claim of an asylum seeker is the one the asylum seeker first entered. The Dublin II Regulation is directly applied in Slovakia (Act No. 404/2011 Coll.)<sup>2</sup>. EURODAC Regulation establishes a Europe-wide fingerprinting database for unauthorised entrants to the EU.

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<sup>2</sup> Mittelmanová, M., Fajnorová, K. Dublin Regulation II. National Report Slovakia. European network for technical cooperation on the application of the Dublin II Regulation. December 2012. The project financed by the European Commission through the European Refugee Fund (July 2011 – February 2013). <http://www.hrl.sk/pages/publications#>

The Migration Office of the MI SR was the reporting unit for the information system 'MIGRA', which continuously follows information system 'Refugee'. Information is continuously entered into the online system on the basis of the foreigner's announcement supplied to the Migration Office by the asylum departments of the Bureau of Border and Aliens' Police. The Migration Office implemented the new information system MIGRA to provide more detailed statistical information on persons asking for international protection in the territory of the SR. The Bureau of Border and Aliens Police of Presidium of the Police Force is linked online to this information system, enabling improvements to the information flows on foreigners in the SR between individual departments of the Ministry of Interior.

Information system MIGRA includes personal data and information

- on applicants
- on persons granted asylum
- on persons with subsidiary protection
- on persons applying for the status of de-facto refugee
- on leavers (displaced persons)
- Basic data on person:
  - name, sex, date of birth, citizenship, nationality, religion, date of filing announcement, border crossing, code of the family + family relationship, ground for application, separated child, reclassification of the applicant case to DUBLIN, prolongation of the period, deadlines for finalising records, terminated quarantine, Eurodac No.
- The data relating to the Dublin procedure:
  - date, description of procedure, member state, term, reason for termination, date of reply, result, ID article, number of record at the Dublin Centre.
- The data describing the asylum procedure:
  - Code of decision with description of asylum procedure and date, dates released, announced, and valid, and the number of record of Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior.

The decisions are differentiated as follows: granted asylum, non-granted asylum, rejected asylum applications and stopped asylum procedures.

Reference period is month or calendar year. Data are available from 1992.

The data on asylum issues are provided by Migration Office to the EUROSTAT according to Art. 4 of Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007 from 2008. Statistics relating to new asylum applicants are not covered by Art. 4 and are provided to EUROSTAT on a voluntary basis. Slovakia started to provide these statistics from the reference period January 2010.

At present, the Migration Office provides this statistical information on its web pages:

- overview of asylum applicants from the year 1992 differentiated by finished procedures,
  - monthly and annual data on the structure of asylum applications by citizenship and by type of finished procedure (granted asylum, non-granted asylum, rejected application, cessation of the asylum procedure); until 2005, the Slovak Republic did not report the 1<sup>st</sup> instance decision separately,
  - structure of asylum applications by citizenship, age, sex,
-

- structure of asylum applications by nationality,
- overview of granted asylum and citizenships granted (for person with asylum granted) in the territory of the SR since 1992,
- overview of unaccompanied minors - asylum seekers in the territory of the SR by citizenship and age.
- since 2007, information on persons with subsidiary protection
- since 2011, first asylum applications

Asylum seekers are not included in the migration statistics. Persons granted asylum are included in the statistics when they report their permanent residence. Persons with subsidiary protection can have temporary residence for one year; it can be prolonged for two years.

Some of the data on international protection are published annually in the Statistical Yearbook of the SR and in the publication Social Development Trends in the SR (Statistical Office of the SR) <http://portal.statistics.sk/showdoc.do?docid=30277>.

Monthly data are available on web pages of Migration Office not later than two months after the end of reference month.

Monthly data are supplied to EUTOSTAT not later than two months after the end of the reference month. Annual data are supplied to EUROSTAT not later than 3 months after the end of the reference year. Data are available on NUTS1 level only.

The Statistical Office is not involved in the design of the data collection.

#### ***2.1.5. Information system Migration and International Protection, Ministry of the Interior, Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Presidium of Police Force***

**Irregular migration** in the frame of illegal state border crossing and illegal stay in the territory of the SR is in the competence of the Bureau of Border and Aliens Police of the Ministry of Interior, which maintains the database of the flows of irregular migrants and their characteristics.

The system contains information according to the Act No. 48/2002 Coll., since 1.1.2012 according to the Act No. 404/2011 Coll. As it was mentioned the Act No. 48/2002 Coll. has been amended several times, which was also reflected in the structure of the data provided. The structure of the survey data was affected by Slovakia's accession to the EU in 2004 and by connection of the SR to the Schengen area at the end of 2007. From Slovakia's accession to the Schengen external and internal borders of Slovakia are distinguished. External border is formed by border with Ukraine and airports. Borders with other countries (with the EU member states) are internal.

Change in data processing also occurred since 2011, when crossing internal borders is classified into category of illegal stay. According to the changes in administrative sources of the Bureau of Border and Aliens Police the definition of illegal crossing of state border and illegal stay in the territory of the Slovak Republic was modified in 2011. Based on this modification, the irregular migrant is:

- any foreigner who illegally crossed or tried to cross illegally the external state border of the SR, regardless of direction of crossing. It is understood that the time between crossing the state border and apprehension of the person is not more than 48 hours; furthermore this person is apprehended on the territory of SR by police patrol whose task is border control. The cases of readmission, where a foreigner is apprehended outside of Slovak territory by authority of another country and is returned to Slovakia by this authority on the basis of readmission agreement belong to the same category.

- any foreigner who was found illegally at the territory of the SR, not in compliance with the national legislation, regardless of whether he/she entered the territory of the SR legally or illegally, or if he/she was discovered during border control on exit from the Slovak Republic with exception of illegal (external) state border crossing.

Data collected are date and time of event, direction in which the state border was crossed (in – out of the SR), place where the state border was crossed, place of event, person who detained illegal migrant, personal data on illegal migrant (name and surname, date of birth, sex, citizenship), way of case treatment.

Data are collected in the direct contact with foreigners in connection with border control, border surveillance and control of foreigners in the territory of the Slovak Republic. The method of collection is online electronic form.

Reference period is calendar year. Data are available from 1993.

Data on irregular migration are provided according to Article 5 and 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 which depicts in detail the data provisions Member States are bound to supply Eurostat with.

Required data are transmitted to the Eurostat directly by the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Ministry of Interior not later than three months after the end of the reference year.

The results are published annually in Yearbooks of the Bureau of Border and Alien Police. Data are published no later than one month after the end of the reference year.

The stock of irregular migrants is not generated by any institution in the SR. Only some estimates exist (Divinský 2008).

Main user of information is the Bureau of Border and Alien Police of the Presidium of Police Force. Detailed data are available for ministries and state organisations (and the other users) only on written request.

#### ***2.1.6. Information System of Employed Foreigners, Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family***

Foreign citizens who are employed in the Slovak Republic are registered by the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. The office arises under the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

The main aim is to collect and publish data with respect to the foreigners who work or run a business in the Slovak Republic.

The legal background is represented mainly by the Act of employment services No 5/2004 Coll. together with the two edicts No 31 and No 44/2004 Coll. No cardinal changes to them have been made since 2004 with respect to the registration rules in the respective period since the Act was enabled. From 1997 to 2003 data were collected by the National Labour Office.

The main rules of registration are as follows. Foreign citizens of the EEA countries as well as the foreigners with no duty to obtain work permission are registered by using so called information cards. Other foreigners have to get the permission classified by the reasons of staying in the Slovak Republic. Such permission is necessary for getting the permission for residence. This process is run by the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. Thus the Office is the main collector of the data. The source covers all data about legal stays of foreigners who are working in the Slovak

Republic. Of course, the database does not include illegal workers in the country being uncovered by any state and local authorities and institutions.

The data are published by the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family on its official web site <http://www.upsvar.sk>. An English version is available though all information is not included in comparison to the content of the Slovak version. The exact rules of registration and rules for job seekers in English language are published on this web site: [http://www.upsvar.sk/sluzby-zamestnanosti/informacie-pre-obcanov-pri-evidovani-sa-na-urade-psvr.html?page\\_id=12924](http://www.upsvar.sk/sluzby-zamestnanosti/informacie-pre-obcanov-pri-evidovani-sa-na-urade-psvr.html?page_id=12924). The data on foreign workers are available on this web site: [http://www.upsvar.sk/statistiky/zamestnavanie-cudzincov-statistiky.html?page\\_id=10803](http://www.upsvar.sk/statistiky/zamestnavanie-cudzincov-statistiky.html?page_id=10803). Data are included in the xls format. The periodicity of releasing the data is monthly. The data from 2008 to February 2012 are currently available. The older data (from 2001) are available upon request. The very current data from March 2012 are not available at the moment. The new information system, harmonization and migration of data are being processed. The data will be available after completion in the coming months of 2013.

The data are in xls books divided into the several sheets according to the type of permission (EEA registration cards, work permission for non EEA citizens). The data are in aggregate form. Individual data are available upon request. The following main attributes of each individual are available.

1. Date of birth and age
2. Sex
3. Country of origin
4. Branch
5. District within the Slovak Republic
6. Duration of permission (from to)
7. Education of the worker

Data are collected at the end of the month and are definitive.

Data are collected in the structure of EU / non-EU countries since 2004, and are published monthly on the Internet.

The Statistical Office is not directly involved in the design of data collection. The structure of published data has been proposed by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family. The Statistical Office gives comments only in legislation process.

The Statistical Office of the SR is only a user of the data based on formal agreement between the Statistical Office and respective institutions. The Statistical Office of the SR is responsible for migration data transmission to the Eurostat.

Employers provide information under the Employment Services Act. The quality of the data is evaluated by the Statistical Office in the Quality Questionnaire.

Statistical on Slovak citizens working abroad are missing. This problem would require some changes in the legislation.

## **2.2. Statistical data sources, sample surveys**

### **2.2.1. Statistical Survey on Population, Statistical Office of the SR**

Demographic statistics are collected by way of statistical survey on population changes (vital events and migration) conducted each year by the Statistical Office of the SR by means of statistical reports OBYV 1-5/12. The Statistical Survey on Population is based on the Statistical Reports:

1. Statistical Report on Marriage (OBYV 1-12),
2. Statistical Report on Birth (OBYV 2-12),
3. Statistical Report on Death (OBYV 3-12),
4. Statistical Report on Divorce (OBYV 4-12)
5. Statistical Report on Change of the Address of Permanent Residence/Report on Migration (OBYV 5-12).

The survey covers the whole population of the SR including the foreign citizens who have been granted permanent residence in the SR. It is an exhaustive survey conducted under the Programme of National Statistical Surveys. The Programme of National Statistical Surveys is a legislative document imposing the reporting duty concerning all statistical surveys on reporting units according to § 18, Par. 3 of Act No. 540/2001 Coll. on State Statistics.

**Statistics on change of the address of permanent residence:** "Statistical Report on Change of the Address of Permanent Residence/Report on Migration (OBYV 5-12)" is the source of the data, and municipal and city authorities and competent departments of the Ministry of Interior for foreigners, are reporting units.

The following individual data are collected: details on the person who has changed her/his address of permanent residence (date of birth, sex, marital status, highest level of completed education, ethnic nationality, citizenship), date when the person was registered on residence, reason for move, address of the former and of the new permanent residence, or country of departure and country of arrival and since the year 2012 also the country of birth (for 2011 only estimation). By means of the "Statistical Report on the Change of the Address of Permanent Residence/Report on Migration (OBYV 5-12) flows data are collected, this means data on immigrants as well as on emigrants.

**The frequency of accessing** data by the statistical office: monthly.

**Data gathering:** since 1996

**Authorities collecting the data** are: municipal and city authorities and competent departments of the Ministry of Interior for foreigners.

**Sample unit:** person performing migration (internal or international)

**Sample size:** exhaustive survey, all cases of immigration and emigration without regards to citizenship of migrated person, covers cases with permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic. It means it covers all concerned population registered for and deregistered from permanent residence. Emigrants who left the country to live abroad are statistically processed in that case, when they fulfil the duty to deregister themselves from permanent residence in the Slovak Republic.

**Geographical area:** NUTS 1-NUTS 3, LAU1 - municipality.

The survey has international scope.

Individual data are transferred to the Statistical Office from municipal and city authorities and competent departments of the Ministry of Interior for foreigners every month only by paper reports. At present, a new information system is introduced with the electronic transmission of data

Migration data are processed by the Statistical Office of the SR. The statistical survey covers international migrants registered and deregistered on/from permanent residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic and internal migrants registered and deregistered on/ from permanent residence in municipality . Thus, database of the Statistical Office includes data on international and internal migration.

Under the conditions of the Slovak Republic, international migration refers to a change in a person's country of residence from the Slovak Republic to a foreign country or from abroad to the Slovak Republic regardless of the person's citizenship during the reference year.

Criteria used for international migration: citizenship/country of birth, beginning of residence (permit)/the date of entry. Data about the included migrant categories collected: age, sex, marital status, country of birth, citizenship.

It is possible to find publications on the web site of the Statistical Office SR: <http://portal.statistics.sk/showdoc.do?docid=4189>. There are printed publications named "International Migration and Foreigners in the Slovak Republic" for the years 2009-2011 and electronic publications for download named "International Migration statistics in the Slovak Republic". Other publications: Statistical Yearbook of the Slovak Republic, The Population Change in the SR ('Source Publication') for the year 2001-2011.

From 2004 to 2010 the Statistical Office of the SR processed data about international migration on the basis of usual residence using data on permanent residence of the Slovak nationals and permanent residence of the EU nationals and third country nationals and temporary residence of the third country nationals. In the other years only data on permanent residence were processed and sent to the Eurostat. The issue of the usual residence (international migration in connection with demography) is addressed by the Statistical Office of the SR this year.

The Statistical Office of the SR through its survey on population collects all relevant indicators requested by the Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007 on statistics of Community on migration and international protection. All events are processed regarding both types of movement (internal and international), when the person registers/de-registers his/her residence in the territory of the Slovak Republic. Persons are obliged to register and deregister his/her residence by the Act of the National Council of the SR No. 404/2011 Coll. on Residence of Aliens and Amendment and Supplementation of Certain Acts and by the Act of the National Council of the SR No. 253/1998 Coll. on reporting the Residence of Citizens of the Slovak Republic and on Register of Inhabitants of the Slovak Republic and Amendment of Some Acts.

Data processed by the Statistical Office are collected on the basis of permanent residence. The Statistical Office of the SR analysed international migration flows of the population. These analyses show that persons immigrated on / emigrated from permanent residence clearly confirm the intention of the stay of at least 12 months. Data are provided and disseminated under the requirements of the Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007.

### **2.2.2. Labour Force Survey, Statistical Office of the SR**

The EU-LFS is a quarterly household sample survey carried out in the Member States of the European Union, Candidate Countries and EFTA countries (except for Liechtenstein). It is the main source of information about the situation and trends on the labour market in the European Union. The EU-LFS is organized in 12 modules covering demographic background, labour status, employment characteristics of the main job, atypical work, working time, employment characteristics of the second job, previous work experience of persons not in employment, search for employment, main labour status, education and training, situation one year before the survey and income.

The methodology adopted for the Labour Force Sample Survey (LFS) in households is the standard one recommended by international institutions under the co-ordination of the International Labour Office (ILO). The legal basis for implementation of the survey in the Member States of European Union is Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community.

The Labour Force Sample Survey has been conducted by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic since the beginning of 1993, and from 2003 the survey is completely harmonised under the regulations and guidelines of the European Union.

The survey is designed to provide reliable results on a quarterly basis. The LFS is based on a random sample of the dwellings from all districts of the Slovak Republic. The sample is proportional to the number of population in each district and covers 10 250 dwellings every quarter, which represent 0.6 % of all permanently occupied dwellings. The sample frame is based on the Population Census. Each selected dwelling household remains in the sample for five consecutive quarters.

Data from the survey for all persons who were willing to co-operate are weighted by demographic data as of the 1st January. Post-stratification is performed by NUTS III region, sex and 5-year age groups.

The subject of the labour force survey is every person aged 15 and over living in the household of the selected dwelling with permanent residence in the Slovak Republic (Slovak citizens and foreigners with permanent residence).

In the case of foreigners (according to citizenship) the subject of LFS are only persons with the length of stay in Slovakia one year or more. If the foreigners are in the territory of the Slovak Republic less than one year, it is recommend to interviewers find out how long they intend to stay in Slovakia. If the time that this person has spent in Slovakia, along with the time they still intend to stay in Slovakia, is at least one year, this person is the subject of the survey. The foreigners with temporary residence are not subject of the LFS.

The LFS is a continuous survey; data processing and publishing of the results are carried out every quarter. All data are the result of the processing of the SO SR.

The results are available quarterly in electronic form:

<http://portal.statistics.sk/showdoc.do?docid=16714> entitled “Výsledky výberového zisťovania pracovných síl” in Slovak and English language in the same publication. The results are also available in printed form with the same title as the electronic one.

Some other possible information in the LFS related to identifying the foreigners in the Questionnaire “A” for household: ethnic origin, nationality (citizenship), country of birth, years of residence in the Slovak Republic, change of residence (district, country) in comparison with situation one year ago, district of residence one year ago, country and region of residence one year ago (region only in case of a European country).

In terms of the numbers of foreigners in the LFS, the results are available only for the whole population. The data about above-mentioned categories of migrants are not published and can be obtained only from source files (cross-tabulation computed from source files e.g. ethnic origin, sex, date of birth, marital status, labour status etc.). For all subjects of the LFS, the following characteristics are collected in the Questionnaire “A”: relationship to the head of household, relationships among household’s members, sex, date of birth, marital status, main labour status (child, pupil (basic school), apprentice, student at secondary school, student at university, person on maternity leave, person on parental leave, person keeping household, in retirement (incl. early), disabled, employed, unemployed, admitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> year of secondary school or university, other), education - highest completed level (without school education, basic-first stage, basic-second stage, secondary vocational without maturita, secondary without maturita, secondary vocational with maturita, secondary general with maturita, secondary specialised with maturita, higher professional,, university - Bachelor degree, university - Master degree, university - PhD. degree), field of highest level of education, year when highest level of education was successfully completed.

The EU-LFS is based on international classifications (NACE for economic activity, ISCO for occupation, ISCED for education and NUTS for regional data).

## 2.3. Census databases

### 2.3.1. Population and housing census, Statistical Office of the SR

Two censuses were conducted in Slovakia since its independence. The first one was **The 2001 Population and Housing Census**; the second one was **The 2011 Population and Housing Census**. Both used traditional methods. The second one was conducted pursuant to Act No. 263/2008 Coll. on the Population and Housing Census in 2011 of 18 June 2008. The act was drafted and adopted in compliance with Regulation (EC) No 763/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on Population and Housing Censuses. The reference date of the last census was **21<sup>st</sup> May 2011**.

The Census was carried out, methodically guided and co-ordinated by the Statistics Office of the Slovak Republic, Department of Population Statistics, in co-operation with ministries and other central state authorities in the Slovak Republic, local state authorities and municipalities. The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic was responsible for preparing and conducting the Census.

The Population Census 2011 in the SR was conducted in the traditional way.

The Census included nationals of the Slovak Republic (Law Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 40/1993 Coll. on the Citizenship of the Slovak Republic, as amended by later legislation) and foreign nationals dwelling in the Slovak Republic (§ 1, par. 2 of Law Act No. 48/2002 Coll. on the Residence of Aliens, as amended by later legislation) at the reference date. The Census excludes foreign nationals having diplomatic privileges and immunities.

Every person included in the Census had to specify in relation to migration her/his place of residence (permanent or usual) in Slovakia or abroad, her/his living abroad at least 1 year at any time in the past years, previous place of residence, date and reason for immigration to current permanent residence

According to the EU regulation the Census includes information about country and place of birth (mother's residence at time of birth), nationality, mother tongue and citizenship.

The conditions for foreigners to be included:

- All foreigners holding residence permits of more than three months, minors or new born in the Slovak Republic from foreign parents and EU citizens with permanent residence.
- Asylum seekers are excluded.
- Foreigners living in the SR less than 90 days had to fill in only gender, date of birth and citizenship.

All data collected in census on population:

- Address of permanent or usual residence
- Gender
- Date of birth
- Marital status
- Country or place of birth
- Nationality, citizenship
- Previous place of residence, date of moving to the current place of residence, and reason for moving
- Relationships among household members
- Current economic activity
- Occupation
- Position

- Industry in which economic activity is conducted
- Place of employment
- Highest education level attained
- Major field of study
- Place of school, college or university
- Method of commuting to work, school
- Number of live-born children (females only)
- Year in which current marriage began
- Ethnicity
- Mother tongue
- Most frequently used language
- Religion
- Computer literacy

All census data are published by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Main source is on the web site <http://www.scitanie2011.sk/en/neprehliadnite> and on the web site <http://portal.statistics.sk/showdoc.do?docid=26251> .

Available publications (in Slovak language only: <http://portal.statistics.sk/showdoc.do?docid=49969> )

*Population in Slovak Republic and Regions*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Selected Results*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Age and Sex*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Nationality*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Religion*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Educational Attainment*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Mother Tongue*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by The Most Frequently Used Languages*

*The 2011 Population and Housing Census Basic data, Population by Computer Skills*

Available tables - Slovak Republic:

<http://www.scitanie2011.sk/en/neprehliadnite/slovenska-republika-tabulky>

Available tables- regions of SR:

<http://www.scitanie2011.sk/en/neprehliadnite/kraje-tabulky>

Available tables- districts of SR:

<http://www.scitanie2011.sk/en/neprehliadnite/okresy-sr-tabulky>

Available tables- municipalities of SR:

<http://www.scitanie2011.sk/en/neprehliadnite/obce-sr-tabulky>

Responsibility for the data quality lies with The Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. They had to face an anti-census campaign, which caused a delay in the release of results.

An anti-census campaign meant that some people raised doubts as to whether the census is really anonymous. The media publicized it and thereby expanded the number of people who boycotted the

census, or cheated by filling in personal data. It was therefore necessary to use a variety of statistical methods in addition to the imputation of missing persons and personal data.

They made logical data controlling and a lot of logical irregularities have been eliminated. Slovakia as an EU Member State has only one fixed deadline, which is March 2014 and by this date the comprehensive census results must be sent to the EUROSTAT, the Statistical Office of the European Community.

### 3. CASE STUDY ON THE CITY TURČIANSKE TEPLICE ABOUT USE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF MIGRATION-RELATED DATA SOURCES



Position of the city of Turčianske Teplice within the Slovak Republic



Position of the district of Turčianske Teplice (NUTS) within Žilinský region (NUTS 3)

#### Basic information

Location: Central Slovakia; NUTS 3 level – Žilinský region, between the towns Martin and Banská Bystrica

Population: cca 7 000

Area: 33. 48 km<sup>2</sup>

Altitude: 518 m above sea level

Surrounding mountain ranges: Veľká Fatra (east), Malá Fatra (north), Žiar (west), Kremnické vrchy (south-east)

Tourist attractions in the city: SPA & AQUAPARK, thermal swimming pool, Spa Park.

Brief characteristic: The city of Turčianske Teplice belongs among the oldest and very traditional spa towns in Slovakia. The city and the hot springs are referenced to have been established in 1281. In 1533, Turčianske Teplice became the property of the City of Kremnica. After February 1948, the current name Turčianske Teplice started to be used and the town became the seat of the district. On 20 February 1949, Kremnica surrendered their rights to the spa and Czechoslovak state spa and fountains was created.

Turčianske Teplice is the only spa within Slovakia at which the kidney and urinary tract are treated. Also treated there are musculoskeletal disorders, especially rheumatic conditions after arthritis, chronic degenerative diseases, hip, knee joints, spine, trauma and postoperative deformation conditions of the locomotors system. In addition to the adult spas, since 1993 there is spa for children too. The spa offers treatment and rehabilitation programs for a wide range of candidates.

Labour market: According to the fact that Turčianske Teplice is officially marked as a spa town, most working possibilities are connected with the spa and tourism services. There is a narrow labour market due to this fact, and a lot of inhabitants travel for work to nearby towns and cities (Martin, Banská Bystrica, Žilina). The town of Turčianske Teplice is not a very attractive destination for immigrants from other countries especially because of the low possibility of finding a job in the city. The phenomenon of emigration is affected by the situation on the local labour market. High level of unemployment cause higher level of emigration within the Slovak Republic and to the EU countries, too. Unfortunately, in this case, we usually are not able to give proof of this phenomenon, because people usually do not report their change of residence.

Like other cities in Slovakia, the city of Turčianske Teplice produces population data. The duty is based on legislation of the Slovak Republic. Population data are processed both in internal electronic system (database) of the municipality and are simultaneously recorded in a national register of population (Population register). The city of Turčianske Teplice produces data exclusively based on the registered permanent residence and temporary residence of Slovak citizens. The city representatives are not able to provide data on Slovak citizens who are living without registration in the city.

We distinguish between the two following types of residents according to the evidence and data produced:

1. Permanent residence in Slovakia - a resident can use just one permanent residence at any one time.
2. Temporary residence - the residence of a citizen outside the registered place of residence, which the citizen is at least 90 days residing in. Such a permit may be granted to a foreigner who is permanently living abroad and staying temporarily for more than 90 days in Slovakia.

The above types indicate that various indicators can be generated by the municipality, merely on population registered for permanent or temporary residence, i.e. of those who are registered in the system provided by the city. The city of Turčianske Teplice does not provide any data on the people staying in the city without registration.

With respect to the SEEMIG project, we generated the following information related to the migration of residents:

1. Residents registered at permanent residence – by age, sex. There is no indication of nationality at level of NUTS V. We cannot generate data based on citizenship, country of birth, country of birth of parents. Population can be generated according to the nationality.
2. Emigrant stock – no data available.
3. Emigrants and immigrants to the city – inflow/outflow – we can only generate data on the emigrants and immigrants who are officially registered at permanent residence (for immigrants to the city, respectively those registered to residence after migrating out of the town in the new place of residence).
4. First asylum applications – data are not provided.
5. Persons granted international protection status – data are not provided.
6. Persons who changed their place of residence within the country – the data have been extracted from the city database for the period since 2007. Data about individuals who are officially registered for permanent residence (after immigration to the city, respectively emigration) are also available.
7. If the workplace differs from the residence place, the data are not provided because no obligation to report the place of employment to the municipalities exists. Thus, the data are only available from Censuses.

#### International Migration and Human Capital

1. Total fertility rate – there are available data (absolute numbers) of births for 2001 - 2012 (Statistical Office SR); fertility rate calculation is not meaningful for such small age groups represented by the population of the city of Turčianske Teplice.
2. Population growth rate – data provided by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Town records can provide data on the number of residents annually for the period from 2007 to 2013.
3. Life expectancy at birth – no possibility to generate the indicator.
4. The stock of usually-resident population – only the permanent residence, the city does not record usually-resident population. The data on permanent residence can be sorted by age and sex.
5. NUTS 3 regions – the data provided by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.
6. Usually-resident population aged 25-74 by education – can be extracted from the Census data as well as from the data on educational attainment (the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is the provider)
7. Immigrants aged 25-74 by education – can be extracted from the Censuses data as well as from the data on educational attainment (the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is provider)
8. Emigrants aged 25-74 by education - can be extracted from the Censuses data as well as from the data on educational attainment (the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic is provider)
9. Usually-resident population by ethnicity distributions – no data available
10. International migration and labour market, social and economic development – no data available.

The data on residents of the city of Turčianske Teplice are collected and processed for the purpose to keep records of inhabitants. The attributes of the data meet the needs of municipalities. Their priority is to use them to carry out elections, provide statistical data to the Statistical Office, the economic estimates of the revenue to the city budget and for educational purposes as well.

In the case study, the city of Turčianske Teplice intends to get better mapping of demographic changes associated with migration but also with the loss of population in very recent years. Municipalities do not have information of emigrants who work abroad because people usually do not report these changes to municipalities. The problem lies also in the poor availability of the statistical

data usually processed at NUTS level IV, III, or at the highest levels. Towns thus provide some data, but the output is unavailable to them (then municipalities cannot make comparisons, track changes, estimate trends - long-term and short-term etc.).

The city of Turčianske Teplice does not have in its database any foreigners with permanent residence. It is estimated that approximately 5-10 foreigners are living temporarily in the city. With such small numbers of foreigners, the city does not feel any need to address this problem.

## 4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The statistical surveys and databases in the Slovak republic focused on demographic statistics and migration are at the standard quality level. Administrative data sources, however, are rarely used for the purposes of demographic statistics. The problems and complications with respect to the evidence and using of the reproduction and migration data are similar to the situation in other European countries. The major problems are connected to the migration statistics, the emigration especially, registration of inhabitants to the usual residence, census being realized traditionally without using the administrative data, and finally, the absence of special and particular sample surveys focused on the demographic reproduction and migration.

Problems are also, as in other countries, in emigration records. So far, according to the Act No. 48/2002 Coll. as amended, foreigners were not required to deregister their residence when leaving the SR. Only the Act No. 404/2011 Coll. with effect from 1.1.2012 requires foreigners to fulfill this obligation. However, the demographic and migration data for 2012 are not yet available.

The situation concerning the migration of Slovak citizens abroad is similar. Although the law requires citizens of the Slovak Republic to deregister their residence in the SR, respectively to announce to the reporting office when they intend to stay abroad for more than 90 days, it is not always respected by the public (because there are no sanctions)<sup>3</sup>. It is visible also on a local level. Because of high unemployment (in some districts about 25 %) many Slovak citizens live and work in regions of the SR different from the place of their permanent residence. They are living in new regions temporarily, mostly without reporting this fact.

Also, many Slovak citizens are living and working abroad temporarily and without reporting this fact. Thus, there is no information on how many citizens are living abroad temporarily. Only information on inhabitants working abroad from LFS is at our disposal. Emigration is thus underestimated.

On the other hand, sometimes there are also technical and communication problems in the registration of immigrants. For example, decisions on granting residence permits are not always registered in new residence (municipality) and cause problems on the local level.

In Slovakia, the term usual residence is defined. It is used primarily for the purposes of international migration statistics; however, it was also introduced in the census.

The concept of usual residence is not used in practice in the field of internal migration (excluding the census), but data could be constructed using the permanent residence and temporary stay. The population, however, register for temporary residence sporadically because it is not strictly required (no restrictions for failure to fulfill these obligations). Since migration statistics for national purposes are treated on the basis of permanent residence, all the characteristics of migrants are linked only to permanent residence. Usual residence appears neither in the records, nor in the balances.

The Statistical Office of the SR is mapping the situation of migration statistics in the project (specified for INFOSTAT) on the possibilities of usual residence in the Slovak Republic. By comparing the census results in migration based on usual residence and in migration based on permanent residence they want to know how large the differences are in the number and structure of migrants between the two concepts and to propose an appropriate solution for statistical practice.

The use of administrative data for statistical purposes is adjusted to the current trends included in the EU recommendations. There are a couple of undoubted advantages bound mainly to costs reduction, data quality enhancement and decrease of the administrative burden. The partial

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<sup>3</sup> The public perceives an obligation to announce the departure abroad (for more than 90 days) as bullying and the sanctions have not been approved by Parliament. It means there will be no improvement in data collection on temporary stay abroad.

replacement of the data got from questionnaires with the data obtained from administrative sources represents a basic precondition for the generation of relevant census data. The major goal is to combine the traditional census approaches with the data from administrative sources until a further population census in 2021. Therefore, a very efficient integration of the administrative sources to the statistical system is needed.

Hence the incorporation of administrative sources into statistical practice represents a complicated and long-term process. The preparatory phase of using the administrative data for census and age structure statistics should be started as soon as possible. There are some important steps based on a comprehensive approach which should be taken. The legislative changes have to be realized as the first. Among others it is worth also mentioning the following ones: The unified and distinct personal identifier, enhancement of the population register bound with an improvement of data quality, update of some other sources such as a property registry are the main tasks together with the system interconnection of the existing registries.

Information on the knowledge, opinions, attitudes and intentions of the population in the area of reproduction and migration is achieved by special demographic surveys. Such information is inevitable for the creation of population, family, migration and social policy and is used also within the framework of demographic projections and estimates. The study of reproductive behaviour and migration intentions is very important, especially nowadays, when families in advanced countries are planning and influencing their reproductive behaviour and migration has become the usual part of life. The recommendation to survey the reproductive behaviour and migration in particular countries is included also in Key Measures for the further implementation of the Action Programme of Cairo conference, which were adopted on 21<sup>st</sup> separate meeting of the General Assembly of UN in 1999 in New York. Slovakia is currently one of the few European countries where the survey on reproductive behaviour and migration is not carried out nation-wide and regularly under the auspices of top government bodies.

The analysis showed that improvement of migration statistics would require the provision of information about citizens (citizens' registration) who intend to live abroad for more than 90 days and also information about returns from abroad of those Slovak citizens who were away temporarily.

User access to detailed information on migrants needs to be improved and simplified because recently people have to ask the Ministry of Interior for data needed in writing. Users (scientists, students, NGOs) would also welcome an edition of the common publication of the Ministry of Interior and Statistical Office containing demographic and socio-economic characteristics of foreigners living in the SR.

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