



The recent wave of emigration in the focus of diaspora policies

A developmental perspective for Hungary

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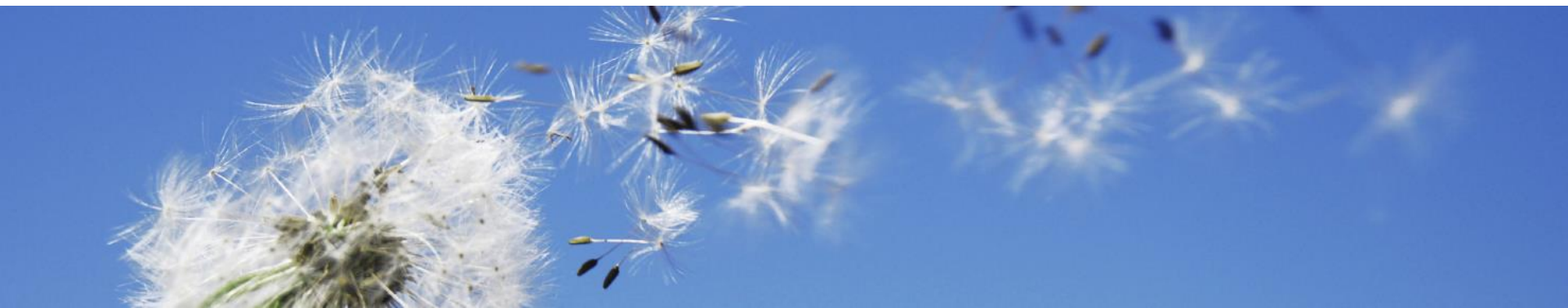
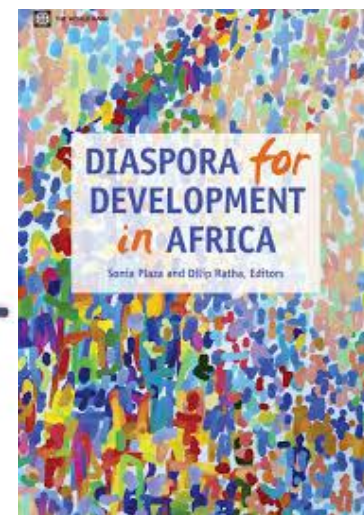
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| Actor | Developmental opportunities from the perspective of the state (of origin) | Developmental tools from the perspective of the state (of origin) | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | If the migrant returns to the country of origin | If the migrant does not return to the country of origin |
| Individual waged worker | Higher wage | Repatriation of savings | Remittances |
| Entrepreneur and/or highly qualified professional | Higher wage Business opportunity/niche Professional development | Investment Know-how transfer Education R&D | Investment Trade Professional networks Lobbying power |
| Migrant association | Organized nationals abroad | - | Lobbying power Agenda setting power Fundraising capabilities |



| Policy field | Policy tool |
|------------------------|--|
| Communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive rhetoric and symbols (transnational concept of the nation) • Cultural promotion • Media outreach, information in native language • Conferences and conventions |
| Institution-building | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministerial level agency for diaspora affairs • Dedicated (and specially trained) bureaucracy • Special consular activities (for concrete policy goals) • Transnational networks |
| Extending rights | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dual nationality • Right to vote • Parliamentary representation (for the diaspora) • Can run for office • Welfare protection |
| Extracting obligations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory payment (expatriate tax or tax on remittances) • Remittance capture programmes • Investment programmes (returning migrants or joint ventures) • Knowledge transfer programmes |

Source: Gamlen [2006, pp. 9 and 19.]



Diaspora policy fields: examples from Latin America

- **Communication:** inclusive rhetoric: "El Quinto Suyu" (Peru) "Departamento 20" (Uruguay)
- **Institution-building:** Diaspora-related units in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs: Viceministry of Human Mobility (Ecuador), Institute of Mexicans Abroad
- **Extending rights:** diaspora members in the parliament (Dominican Republic, Colombia)
- **Extracting obligations:** remittance capture programmes (Mexico, El Salvador), investment programmes (Ecuador), knowledge transfer programmes (Chile, Mexico, Colombia)



An example: Remittance capture through a matching funds scheme in Mexico

- Migrants from **Zacatecas (Mexico)** had a proposal in the 90s: if they do some fundraising in the US for a local development project in their hometown, the state administration should put an equal share to it (1x1).
- Successful scheme, the local governments (2x1) and the federal government (3x1) also joins. The **"3x1 Programme"** became an internationally recognized good practice.
- Original objective: dynamizing economic activity, thus reducing emigration.
- What happened: projects have been **"welfare"**, not **"job-creating"** ones.
- Jobs are created by private enterprises which cannot apply.
- Results: public buildings and community spaces that do not reduce unemployment nor poverty but they improve the quality of living.
- Yet, **migrants were positively involved** in the development of their hometown.
- **A similar mechanism has been implemented in Moldova by IOM (PARE 1+1)**



Diaspora policies in Hungary: a heritage-saving approach

- There are many ongoing diaspora policy activities in the world that have a developmental focus. Yet, this is not the case in Hungary.
- **Hungarian diaspora policy**, for historical reasons, has been focusing on **pre-1989 emigration** and **"sporadic" Hungarian settlements in the Carpathian Basin** (a confusion in terms)
- Programmes of the **State Secretariat for Nation Policy** cover the issue of the diaspora with a **heritage-saving approach**
- Institution-building, linkages, citizenship, lobbying
- It is important as a **"nation policy"**, however, it has a blind spot: post-1989 emigration.



Diaspora policies in Hungary: a developmental approach

- "New emigration": min. 350 000 as of 2013.
- "**Old**" vs "**new emigration**": ties are active, mobility and communication maintain ties alive – at this point, no "heritage-saving" is necessary.
- A large share of the post-1989 diaspora has **high educational attainment and high career expectatives abroad**, and even though the Hungarian government would like to "attract them back", this might not be feasible: **many of them will stay**.
- There is or there might be a possible area for activities where this "new" diaspora can **create linkages** with Hungarian local governments, educational institutions, charity funds and NGOs, very much in a way how university alumni programmes are designed.
- Building a relation of **mutual trust** is fundamental: emigrants should not think that it is an "expectative" – rather, it is an "opportunity" for the positive involvement in the development of the place (locality, institution) where they come from.
- Instead of the national level, **local and particular levels of loyalties** (city or village, educational institution, church etc.) could be explored.





Thank you very much for your attention!

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