

The Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public
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As a manuscript

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**POTENTIAL OF THE INSTITUTION OF SPORTS
IN THE SOCIAL INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS**

STRUCTURAL ABSTRACT

Thesis work for the degree of candidate of sociological sciences

Specialty 5.4.4. Social structure, institute of social processes

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Relevance of the dissertation research topic.

A large number of migrants differing in their ethnocultural characteristics from the local population and experiencing problems with social integration live on the territory of Russia. It leads to an aggravation of inter-ethnic relations, an increase in conflicts, migrantophobia and, in general, threatens the social security of the country.

Since the choice of rigid methods of integration has shown its poor effectiveness, one of the main purposes of Russia's migration policy is solving the problem of social integration of migrants. In these circumstances, scientific conceptualizing of the potential of the institution of sports in the integration of migrants, including a soft corrective effect on the migration process, gains in importance.

Issues of social integration of migrants are important not only scientifically, but also practically since it is impossible to reduce the risks of disintegration and social tension growth in local societies without the successful inclusion of newcomers into the host community. The relevance of studying this issue is determined by the demand for a comprehensive approach to studying the relationship between the institution of sports and the process of social integration of migrants.

The research is aimed not so much at studying the causes and consequences of migration as at finding effective ways of social integration of migrants in the Russian border region against the background of interethnic conflicts escalation, increasing threats of military operations, socio-political subversions and socio-psychological provocations.

Considering the foregoing, the dissertation research of Vladimir Aleksandrovich Tarasov is very relevant.

The aim of the dissertation research is to identify the main obstacles and opportunities, as well as to present an argument for the potential of the institution of sports in achieving successful social integration of migrants based on a complex quantitative and qualitative analysis.

Objectives of the dissertation research:

- To analyze theoretical approaches relevant to the study of social integration of migrants, taking into account the inclusion of the institution of sports in the social integration system;
- To conduct a theoretical analysis of the influence of the institution of sports and its resource potential on the social integration of migrants;
- To determine and justify the function of the institution of sports for the social integration of migrants;
- To carry out diagnostics of the social integration of migrants in the territory of the host country;
- To analyze the obstacles to the social integration of migrants;
- To emphasize possibilities for the future to use the potential of the institution of sports in the social integration of migrants.

The object of the dissertation research is the social integration of migrants.

The subject of the dissertation research is the limitations and potential opportunities of the institution of sports in the social integration of migrants.

Scientific hypothesis of the dissertation research.

Migrants are characterized by low commitment to the physical education and sports activities. At the same time, structural, economic, sociocultural, and personal barriers bar migrants from physical training activities. The potential of the sports institution lies in the fact that it has opportunities for the social integration of migrants who are involved in collaborative physical education with local residents. Expanding and strengthening social contacts within the institution of sports can be an important tactical step in achieving the successful integration of migrants into the host community.

Theoretical and methodological background to the dissertation research.

The methodology is represented by theories, concepts, approaches and scientific ideas that reveal issues of social integration of migrants in general and the potential of social institutions in this process in particular: the theory of structural functionalism of T. Parsons, R. Merton, which became the basis for the study of the

institution of sports, consisting from a complex of elements (infrastructure, human resources, etc.) and fulfilling socially important functions; the theory of institutionalism (T. Veblen), according to which sport is analyzed as a separate institution, and the theory of neo-institutionalism (D. North), according to which the institution of sports, together with other institutions, can perform the socio-political tasks of the state; R. Merton's theory of social functions and dysfunctions, where functions are considered as "observable consequences that serve the self-regulation of a given system or its adaptation to the environment," and dysfunctions are "observable consequences that weaken the self-regulation of a given system," which made it possible to study the functions of the institution of sports and present an argument for the integrative function with the theory of social action, according to which it is believed that the subject initially possesses such a quality as community commitment (M. Weber, T. Parsons); it is possible to consider the physical culture and sports activity of migrants as a basic need; the concept of considering sport as a social institution by P. Bourdieu, who notes the role of sport in social integration and disintegration, which gave reason to the inclusion of the institution of sports in the general system of work with migrants; approaches to emphasizing aspects of migrant integration by R. Alba, U. Bosswick, V. Ni, R. Pennix, F. Heckmann, H. Enzinger, H. Esser, which made it possible to analyze in detail aspects (structural, cultural, etc.) of social integration of internal and external migrants; methodology for analyzing sport as a social institution that fulfils a set of specific functions (V.D. Panachev, P.P. Ryskin, V.N. Supikov), which made it possible to identify the integration function, that consists in regulating the social integration of migrants. Combined application of multidisciplinary methodology and sociological research methods made it possible to study the processes in details, identify existing contradictions, and also give a complete description of the social integration of migrants as a complex social phenomenon. In the process of empirical analysis, quantitative (questionnaire surveys of external and internal migrants) and qualitative (expert interviews with physical education teachers and coaches) methods were used. Data reduction process of empirical sociological research was carried out using

the SPSS for Windows 22 package. The interpretation of the results was carried out using linear frequency distributions, making cross tables and correlation analysis.

Empirical basis of the research.

1. Official, statistical data from regional authorities and state statistical authorities
2. Results of all-Russian studies.
3. Research, conducted with the direct involvement of the author.

Provisions submitted to the defense and having scientific novelty.

1. The institution of sports is presented as an element of the social integration system of adaptation of migrants. The expediency of studying the social integration of migrants in Russia through the institution of sports is shown not only in the structural aspect (the inclusion of the migrant in the main institutions of the host community), but also in the cultural, socio-communicative, identification aspects. (Clause 20. Social institutions, their types, functions and dysfunctions. The role of social institutions in social structure modification. Transformation of social institutions specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

2. As a result of theoretical and sociological analysis (carried out within the theory of social action, ethno-sociological conceptions, resource-based approach), it is proved that the institution of sports has a resource potential for the social integration of migrants: social (helps to expand the access to other social networks and their resources), organizational (creating conditions for expanding integration opportunities), infrastructural (using of sports centers and wellness centers and their material and technical base for the physical and personal development of migrants), value-based (assimilation of traditional values of the host community), informative (informing about achievements, victories, capabilities and prospects of the host community). (Clause 20. Social institutions, their types, functions and dysfunctions. The role of social institutions in social structure modification. Transformation of social institutions specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

3. It is theoretically substantiated that the institution of sports has the potential to fulfil integrative and regulatory functions, manifested in the soft corrective impact of physical culture and sports structures on the integrative cooperation of local residents and migrants included in organized forms of physical culture and sports activity. (Clause 20. Social institutions, their types, functions and dysfunctions. The role of social institutions in social structure modification. Transformation of social institutions specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

4. It is empirically proven that social integration of migrants is differentiated with respect to region of origin and aspects of integration (structural, socio-communicative, cultural and identification). The results obtained are informative for the development of measures to prevent disintegration. (4. Theories and processes of social differentiation/integration. Criteria and factors of social differentiation/integration. New grounds for segmentation of the social structure of the specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

5. A group of objective obstacles is identified (infrastructural-organizational, financial, socio-medical, temporal, socio-cultural), which can be overcome with the help of focused efforts of regional and local administrations, and subjective obstacles (socio-motivational, individual-psychological), the overcoming of which significantly depends on the migrants themselves. (Clause 4. Theories and processes of social differentiation/integration. Criteria and factors of social differentiation/integration. New grounds for segmentation of the social structure of the specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

6. Recommendations for using the institution of sports potential in the social integration of migrants are substantiated in three directions: extension of contacts (increasing the range of social interactions, establishing of constant contacts with the indigenous citizens, including in particular members of one's team or group, the coach, members of other teams, managers and sport fans), receiving individual assistance (gaining support from local athletes on paperwork, employment, education, medical care, social maintenance, renting and purchasing of

accommodation), simplifying access to social services (involvement into the living environment of the host community: employment , education, healthcare, social maintenance, everyday life, through the building of socio-integrative skills in a physical education and sports organization). (Clause 8. Social relations, their formation, dynamics, regulation. Social conflicts of the specialty passport 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes).

Compliance of the dissertation topic with the requirements of the specialty passport of the Higher Attestation Commission.

The topic of the dissertation corresponds to specialty 5.4.4. Social structure, social institutions and processes: Clause 4. Theories and processes of social differentiation/integration. Criteria and factors of social differentiation/integration. New grounds for segmentation of social structure; Clause 8. Social relations, their formation, dynamics, regulation. Social conflicts; Clause 20. Social institutions, their types, functions and dysfunctions. The role of social institutions in social structure modification. Transformation of social institutions.

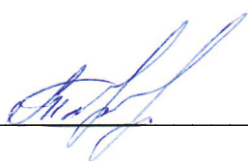
The obtained results of the dissertation research are veracious due to the complexity of the analysis of methodological, theoretical, statistical materials, the use of quantitative and qualitative research methodology (questionnaire survey and interviews), as well as correlation with the results of works carried out by sociologists on related topics.

Theoretical significance of the research results.

The scientific results of the dissertation expand the subject field for further sociological research into the social integration of migrants and the potential of the institution of sports in this process, make a significant contribution to applied research on migration and integration processes. The results of the research can be used in the development of theoretical approaches to study the potential of the institution of sports, as well as other social institutions that have traditionally not been included in the social integration system of migrants.

Practical value of the research results.

The author's conclusions and recommendations may become relevant during the development and implementation of measures aimed at coordination of state and municipal administrative bodies work, business and public organizations which come up within the tasks of migrants integration, as well as physical culture and sports development. The obtained results can be applied in the development of a comprehensive system of social integration of migrants. Sports and recreation organizations of various organizational and legal forms can be harmoniously included in the system.



 V.A. Tarasov