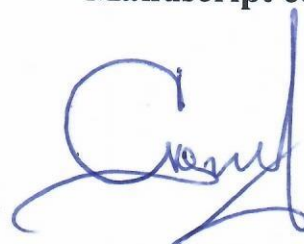


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**STATE POLICY ON THE VOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT
OF COMPATRIOTS TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION: REALIZATION
FEATURES AND WAYS TO IMPROVE**

Postgraduate specialization 5.5.3. Public administration and sector-specific policies

Abstract
of the dissertation for a Candidate Degree in Political Science

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The relevance of the research is based on the fact that crises of varying depths and durations are experienced by all states, but the consequences of these phenomena are individual for all nations and depend on the degree of its readiness to resist negative processes. One of the indicators of the crisis' depth is the migration of the population. Migration is a process that directly affects the quality of life of the population, as well as the economic and demographic situation in the country, influencing both the social and political spheres of state activity.

It is necessary to speak about a process that is currently of great importance for Russia in social, economic and political terms considering the state policy of voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation. An effective resettlement policy aimed at promoting the integration of compatriots into Russian society will strengthen the country's national interests and improve living standards. The resettlement of compatriots is one of the types of migration, which makes up a significant part of the migration processes in Russia.

Because of the broad socio-political, rather than purely legal interpretation of the item "compatriot", which includes identity with Russia, the Russian language and Russian culture, several expert estimates indicate about 40 million potential compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation. At the same time, more than 1 million people arrived in Russia through the program of voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad from 2006 to 2022, according to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.

Such an enormous quantitative potential allows to consider the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad as one of the ways to solve the problem of population reduction in Russia, as well as eliminate the shortage in the labor market, including in the framework of attracting highly qualified specialists, the need for which is currently especially felt by the Russian economy. However, the implementation of such an approach requires a significant revision of the existing political and legal framework, primarily in terms of creating fundamentally new repatriation programs. Thus, as part of the formation of such

repatriation programs, it seems necessary to formulate conditions for attracting in demand compatriots.

The state policy implemented by the Russian political elite in relation to the resettlement of compatriots living abroad in modern socio-political conditions of functioning and development involves not only the operation of special procedures provided for in administrative regulations and the execution of appropriate official powers by public authorities, but also the expansion of the semantic and optional limits of the interinstitutional dialogue construction, drawing attention of public activists, and the harmonization of interethnic relations in general.

Such political trends and tendencies present updated, and sometimes even transformational requirements regarding the stabilized and correctable component of the current Russian political course within the framework of optimizing ethnocultural communication, establishing bilateral contacts and ties with citizens of former Soviet republics, promoting the common political and historical path of fraternal peoples, etc.

With this consideration in mind, the formulation of appropriate tools for the implementation of state policy on the resettlement of compatriots living abroad, taking into account the understanding of the possibilities and limitations of the formation and change of the modern migration situation not only in the Russian Federation, but also in the world, is of particular scientific and research importance.

Therefore, the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation is an important instrument for strengthening Russia and developing its demographic potential.

The puzzle is to identify ways to improve the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation at the present stage.

Research objectives are:

1. To explore approaches to the formation of state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad within the framework of basic migration theories.
2. To identify specifics of repatriation as a model of state policy for the voluntary resettlement of compatriots.
3. To analyze the conceptual foundations of the policy of resettlement of compatriots at the present stage of development of the Russian Federation.
4. To define the tools of political and legal regulation of resettlement policy in the Russian Federation.
5. To consider the experience of implementing state policy of voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to Russia.
6. To formulate new conceptual approaches to the policy of resettlement of compatriots in the realm of economic and demographic issues relevant to Russia.

The object of the research is the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad.

The research subject is the specifics of the formation and implementation of the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots in the Russian Federation.

The hypothesis of the study is that the state policy program currently being implemented in Russia for the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad filibusters the solution of the economic and demographic problems associated with the decline in the population of the Russian Federation, due to the fact that it does not create the effect of mass migration attractiveness among compatriots living abroad belonging to the “Russkij mir” (primarily in the countries of Western Europe, the USA, Canada and the Baltic States) and at the same time, it is being transformed into one of the mechanisms for the legalization of migrants from the Central Asian region in Russia, which prompts individual subjects of the Russian Federation to refuse to participate in the relevant federal program.

The theoretical and methodological frameworks of the study are formed in the paradigm of understanding the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad as an integral part of the state's migration policy, which determines the use of approaches characteristic of various disciplines to the study of migration as an interdisciplinary phenomenon.

In terms of the American and Western European scientific schools, migration is considered at the intersection of sociology, law, political science, demography, economics, history and anthropology.

Until recently, the Russian scientific school was characterized exclusively by economic and demographic approaches, but in recent times, due to the extreme intensification of migration processes it's possible to talk about the political and legal vector of migration research, considering the formation and implementation of state migration policy and its components.

The flagship approaches to scientific research adopted at the level of classical political science used in this work are:

- a systematic approach that made it possible to consider the policy of resettlement of compatriots living abroad from the point according to socio-political system of the state and interaction with it;
- an institutional approach that gave the opportunity to analyze the processes of formation of state policy on the resettlement of compatriots living abroad from the point of inclusion in the problems of the work of public and political institutions;
- a comparative approach, which made it possible to analyze various practices of implementing state policy on the resettlement of compatriots.

The research also reflects such general scientific methods as induction, deduction, analysis and synthesis.

Academic novelty of the research:

1. It is proved that the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad, being an integral part of the state's migration policy, and thereby having the opportunity to influence the demographic indicators of the

state as well as the needs of the national labor market, makes it possible to convert the opportunities of attracting external migration resources, including labor, to the admitting state, and also formulate criteria for their relevance.

2. It has been established that the determining condition for the effectiveness of the voluntary repatriation program is its compliance with the national goals and objectives of the host states, declared at the level of systemic management tasks of demographic, economic and spatial development, on the one hand, and the availability of effective control mechanisms for their implementation, resource support and effective practice of socio-cultural adaptation and integration, on the other.

3. It is revealed that the concept of “Russkij mir” in the conditions of confrontation between Russia and Western civilization is becoming the fundamental political and socio-cultural direction of the formation of a new model of state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to modern Russia.

4. It is determined that the effectiveness of the implementation of the state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation is the result of the correlation of adopted legal acts, the creation of accessible appropriate information support, transparent differentiation of levels of support for various categories of compatriots and the availability of a resource component (material and non-material) provided both at the level of the federal center in the status of the program coordinator, so it is at the level of sub-federal entities of the Russian Federation, interested in attracting compatriots.

5. It is elucidated that the existing practices of implementing the policy of voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad to the Russian Federation are focused on the post-Soviet space, where the resettlement potential of Russian-speaking compatriots is practically exhausted compared to the period of the 90s of the XX century (with the exception of the Baltic countries) and do not take into account the potential of repatriation from the states of the so-called “Collective West”, where in the conditions of further secularization of society, its distance from

traditional family values, as well as manifestations of Russophobic sentiments, such a request is becoming even more relevant.

6. The ways of further development of the resettlement policy of the Russian Federation related to the prospect of creating an independent executive authority in the field of repatriation and integration in order to coordinate the activities of federal executive authorities and sub-federal entities are described, which will allow to approach the process of forming and implementing state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots as an independent branch of public administration, considering the resettlement policy as one of the resource components of the human capital development of the Russian Federation.

Dissertation's provisions submitted to defense:

1. The migration situation in the modern state is the result of formation and subsequent implementation of the state migration policy in general and the policy of voluntary resettlement of compatriots in particular, which is carried out with the purpose of a set of tasks implementation in the field of demography, labor market, regional development, increasing the quantitative and qualitative composition of human capital, preserving linguistic and cultural community, national-state identity and religious integrity through an array of tools for managing emigration and immigration processes. The priority of solving the aforesaid issues, in turn, forms a relevant migration agenda, based on the actual ranking of one or another direction of state migration policy regarding the consensus of the interests of the state and society, and also determines the criteria for migration in demand, including compatriots from abroad, the procedure for their engagement in relevant programs and provided in this regard the regime of possible migration preferences.

2. Repatriation as a model of state policy for the voluntary resettlement of compatriots proves its effectiveness both for repatriates and for the host society in the context of solving national problems in the field of developing the potential of human capital, adjusting the demographic scenario, strengthening national identity. At the same time, effective repatriation is ensured by the implementation of a set of measures of material and non-material support for repatriates, allowing

them to become full members of the host society in the shortest time, not only within the framework of their political and legal, but also social status.

3. Russian Federation's state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots, implemented within the framework of the concept of "Russkij mir", allows to expand the space for the dissemination of Russian culture and the Russian language beyond the modern borders of the Russian Federation, establishing appropriate links with compatriots living abroad. At the same time, such a socio-cultural approach focuses not only on its role in the formation of identity, but can also be interpreted as a tool for the formation of a civilizational community, or an institutional phenomenon.

4. Public administration in the field of formation and implementation of state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad in the Russian Federation has a fairly effective and developed political and legal framework, presented both in strategic planning documents and in local regulatory legal acts of the federal and sub-federal entities levels. However, the current array of tools is allocated to a greater extent in the realm of an administrative and legal mechanism directly related to the implementation of state policy in the existing legal field, for example, in terms of determining criteria for compliance with the concept of "compatriot", the procedure for implementing relevant programs at the federal and sub-federal entities levels and other activities within the framework of the institutions of state power, and does not affect the process of formation resettlement policy, which currently focuses on the value-civilizational identification of immigrants with a potential ingroup community, which will subsequently significantly simplify the solution to the problem of implementing programs for socio-cultural adaptation and integration of repatriates into the host society.

5. The project-oriented approach accomplished within the framework of modern Russian resettlement policy is the optimal way for making political decisions in resettlement policy necessary for understanding and managing the processes of repatriation of compatriots in order to solve strategic problems of state development, including adjusting the demographic scenario and forecasts,

human capital development, balanced regional and territorial development, which is the goal setting of the resettlement policy. Monitoring the process of achieving the set goals of resettlement policy allows to quickly identify both positive and negative trends, to adjust strategies and tactics, to plan actions of authorities and management, as well as to search for new objects of influence of resettlement policy.

Taking into account the fact that migration in general is an instrument of influence, primarily on the demographic situation, and since resettlement policy is an integral part of migration policy, it seems necessary to focus on the fact that the policy of voluntary resettlement of compatriots living abroad is not a random order of measures to accept migrants, but a carefully thought-out, targeted mechanism for adjusting the demographic scenario by attracting external resources from among not only Russian-speaking citizens of other countries, rather than foreigners close to the Russian cultural and civilizational code, as well as by motivating highly qualified specialists from among the figures of science and culture, health and medicine, civil engineers, entrepreneurs of various fields of activity, investors, etc. to relocate. Such conditions will require the development of new criteria for repatriation in migration legislation in terms of creating appropriate preferences and developing more effective programs for the socio-cultural integration of repatriates, in order to increase the overall migration attractiveness and create appropriate favorable economic and socio-cultural conditions for them. In this regard, it seems necessary to create a single executive authority on repatriation and integration, which would monitor and coordinate activities in these areas of public policy, which would greatly simplify the process and increase its effectiveness.

The theoretical validity of the research lies in the fact that the main provisions and conclusions obtained during the study contribute to the identification of new approaches to the scientific understanding of the resettlement policy of the modern state, which can be used in the field of political science, public policy and management, demography, economics, law, psychology and sociology. The revealed specifics of the state policy on the voluntary resettlement

of compatriots helps to explain the need to take certain measures of political and state management of the processes of repatriation and integration of repatriates. The new approaches proposed in the study make it possible to expand the understanding of the conceptual foundations of resettlement policy in a modern state and predict the prospects, as well as certain trends in its development and ways of improvement.

The practical implications of the research are that the research materials obtained, as well as empirical data introduced into scientific circulation, may be of significant interest to public authorities competent in the development and implementation of state policy on the voluntary resettlement of compatriots, in terms of standard-setting and administrative management activities, authorities of the subjects of the Russian Federation, as well as public organizations. The research materials can be used in taught courses in the field of Political Science, Political Management, State and Municipal management.

Approbation of the dissertation:

The main provisions and conclusions of the research were presented at three all-Russian and three international research to practice conferences and forums. The main outcomes of the dissertation presented were also published in politic-oriented scientific reviews recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission under the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, as well as other publications with a total volume of 7.86 (p.s).

Scope and structure of the dissertation:

The dissertation consists of an introduction, three chapters (six paragraphs) and a conclusion, set out on 163 pages. The list of references consists of 122 items, including legislative acts of the Russian Federation, academic literature in Russian and foreign languages, Internet sources.