

RUS_FAM project seminar : Behaviour patterns of immigrant Russians in comparison to origin and destination countries in the framework of ESAK 10 'Estonia 100 – towards openness?'



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Behaviour patterns of immigrant Russians in comparison to origin and destination countries

Irina Troitskaya - Moscow State University, (Russia) Senior Researcher; Alain Blum , INED, Senior Researcher / EHESS, (France) Professor

Household structures and marital behaviour of Russian immigrants in France

"The paper represents the results of analysis of family structures and marital behavior of Russian immigrants in France. Our study is based on the data from the French censuses as well as on the nationally representative panel survey EDP (Echantillon Démographique Permanent, Permanent Demographic Sample).

Our first results show that the Russian immigrants represent about 0.1% of French population, and two thirds of them are women. Since marriage was a main reason of admission for residence of native Russians in France in the 2000s, we analyze such characteristics of marital behavior as type of partnership, mean age at marriage, frequency of remarriage and union dissolution among Russian immigrants. We also analyze the size and structure of households including at least one member born in Russia."

Fabrykant Marharyta - Institute of Sociology of Russian Academy of Sciences (Minsk, Belarus); Vladimir Magun - Institute of Sociology of Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia)

Gender and Family Normative Attitudes in Russian-Speakers in Estonia and Latvia Compared to Ethnic Estonians and Latvians and to Russians.

Gender and family normative attitudes play a twofold important role – first, as factors reflecting sociodemographic initial positions and affecting individual behavioral choices translating into the society' demographic pattern and, second, as indicators of general level of conservative vs modern value orientations. Our research confronts both these roles by analyzing gender and family normative attitude in Russian-speakers in Estonia and Latvia in comparison, on one hand, to ethnic Estonians and Latvians respectively, and, on the other hand, to Russians in Russia. We used the relevant items

of the European Values study collected in 2008 to test our main hypothesis that Russian-speakers in Estonia and Latvia share more conservative gender and family normative attitudes than ethnic Estonian and Latvian, but relatively less conservative than Russians in Russia. The results show, however, that Russian-speakers in both countries are significantly more conservative compared not only to ethnic Estonians and Latvians, but also to Russians in Russia. These results suggest the primary influence of the so-called “overshooting” – the attempt of Russian-speakers to strengthen their identity of an ethnolinguistic minority by being more Russian (and less Estonian or Latvian) than Russians themselves. The additional argument in favor of this interpretation is the difference between the two countries demonstrating a curious polarization effect: ethnic Estonians are the least, and Russian-speakers in Russia, the most conservative of the five samples. At the same time, the results of the regression analysis with interactions show the effects of basic sociodemographic independent variables on various measurements on gender and family normative attitudes do not differ significantly between the five samples. Thus, the revealed difference in normative attitudes reflect not so much the difference in the life circumstances of various sociodemographic groups, but general value orientations, which may affect behavior in the ways eventually leading to differences in life circumstances for the future generations.

Ekaterina Mitrofanova - National Research University Higher School of Economics, (Moscow, Russia) Junior, Research Fellow

Matrimonial and Reproductive Behaviours of Young Russians.

This research is devoted to the changes in Russians’ matrimonial and reproductive behaviour which started after the breakup of the Soviet Union. Using a panel of the Russian part of the “Generations and Gender Survey” (GGS; 4,595 respondents), we compare in this paper the demographic behaviour of people socialised in Soviet Russia with that of people socialised in modern Russia. Our results confirm that the demographic behaviour of Russians is modernising: demographic events are postponed by modern generations; the percentage of people in a partnership and bearing a child in a partnership is rising among young people; the intervals between matrimonial and reproductive behaviours are increasing, which means separation of these behaviours. All these indicators show that Russia is experiencing the second demographic transition.

Elena Churilova - National Research University Higher School of Economics, International Laboratory for Population and Health, (Moscow, Russia) Research Fellow

Fertility in high-order unions in Russia and Estonia: differences among Russians and Estonians.

The collapse of the USSR, transition to market economy and structural changes in society had given start to the family and marriage transformation in Russia and post-soviet countries of Eastern Europe. Estonia is one of examples of rapid deinstitutionalization of marriage, widespread of cohabitations and nonmarital births. At the same time, since post-war years Estonia accepted the Russian migrants throughout a long time. Researches show that adaptation of the Russian migrants in Estonia proceeds slowly, and patterns of matrimonial behavior of the Russian population and their descendants are closer to patterns observed in Russia. In this article the Generations and Gender Survey data were used to estimate and compare the impact of high-order unions in fertility among the Russian and Estonian population in Estonia and Russians in Russia. Our results show that the contribution of births in the high-order unions in total number of births significantly and equally

increased both at Estonians and Russian population in Russia and the Russian migrants in Estonia. However, the reproductive behavior of the Russian migrants has common features with behavior of the Russian population in Russia: the share of births in the unregistered unions is less, and length an interval between the first and second births in the continuous union is more, than for Estonians.

*Sergei Zakharov - Institute of Demography, Higher School of Economics
(Moscow, Russia), Deputy Director*

Trends and Ethnic Differentials of Fertility in Russia in Last Decades.

Over the past 35 years, Russia's Central Statistical Office conducted 7 large-scaled interviewing of Russian women on the number of children born. The question about the number of ever-born children was asked in four general population censuses (1979, 1989, 2002, 2010) and three microcensuses (1985, 1994, 2015). After termination of collection and centralized processing of birth registration data by ethnicity in Russia, only censuses and sample surveys remain a source of information about the ethnic differentiation of fertility. The conclusions are: (1) the preservation of the historical downward trend of fertility for 32 of 34 nationalities based on the average number of children born by age 50; (2) the decline in fertility occurred most rapidly in recent decades among ethnic groups who were undergoing through an active phase of the First Demographic Transition; (3) the microcensus 2015 shows the on-going reduction in ethnic differentiation in fertility in Russia for women in their forties and fifties. At the same time it is quite possible that in some cultures the recent pronatalist demographic policy since 2006 intensified the youth stimulus to childbearing, especially in ethnic groups, which still have ideals and illustrative examples of large families. Also possible that the results of these changes still have to unfold, as generations get older, in the growth of indicators of their ultimate fertility. As a result, the issue of the demographic effectiveness of today's pronatalist policy in Russia remains open not only for the general population, but also for certain ethnic groups living in Russia.

Bronnikova Olga - University Grenoble Alpes, (France) Associate Professor

The double stigma of Russian women migrants. The case of France.

The so-called "bride migration" from Russia to France started by the end of the 1990s. My qualitative research was conducted in socially precarious Russian migrants milieu in Paris and Grenoble. In my presentation, I will focus on the gendered perception of this migration from the point of view not only of the host country, but also of Russian migrants men. While some of the women I interviewed mentioned that they experienced the contradictory stereotypes of being perceived as, in the one hand, almost prostitutes, and, on the other hand, "perfect wives" for "Western men", some of the Russian men, facing the lowering of their social status and forms of precarity due to migration, intend to "disqualify" this "Western man" by attributing him the gendered category of "feminized man". Even if not characteristic of Russian migrations only, this situation does have some peculiarities. These women are the object of a double stigma: due to the image of the "Russian bride" in the host country, but also to the claim by Russian migrants men that to marry a Western man is for her a form of "humiliating integration"

Vladimir Kozlov - National Research University - Higher School of Economics,
(Moscow, Russia) Associate Professor

Name "Mixed partnerships of Russians in Estonia and Kazakhstan"

The research is devoted to the analysis of the mixed couples' formation (preferences for partners among different ethnic groups and the determinants) in Kazakhstan and Estonia based on the Census and Surveys (GGS and DHS) data. The method we use for the preliminary analysis (preferences) is the cross-ethnic differences approach (Soroko, 2014). The results show the differences between ethnic preferences of Russians in Estonia and Kazakhstan. In Middle Asian Republic the Kazakh prefer the partnerships with the nationalities from Asian ethnic groups (Uzbek and Uygur), while in case of Russians the distance between European ethnic groups (Tatars, Ukrainians and Germans) is closer. In Estonia (especially if we talk about cohabitations, but in case of marriages the situation is almost the same) the distance between Russians and Estonians is much 2 times closer in comparison with Russians and Kazakh in Kazakhstan. In case of marriages a bit closer distance is observed between Finns and Estonians and Russians and Belarussians, Ukrainians and Tatars, but in case of cohabitation the distance is the closest. Age and cohort effect (the growing convergence) could be one of the explanations. Now we are finding the factors influencing the ethnic couples' formation.

Leen Rahnu - Estonian Institute for Population Studies, Tallinn University, Researcher;
Allan Puur - Estonian Institute for Population Studies, Tallinn University, Research Professor ;
Luule Sakkeus - Estonian Institute for Population Studies, Tallinn University, Senior Research Fellow;
Liili Abuladze - Estonian Institute for Population Studies, Tallinn University, Project Manager

Dynamics of mixed partnerships in Estonia.

This study investigates the dynamics of ethnically mixed partnerships in Estonia. Despite the relatively high proportion of immigrants and their descendants in the population, existing research into the formation and stability of majority-minority unions between Estonians and ethnic minorities of mainly immigrant background is limited. Whereas earlier analyses drew their evidence from cross-sectional census data, this study uses detailed lifehistory data. To obtain a sufficiently large sample, we pooled the Estonian Family and Fertility Survey and the Estonian Generations and Gender Survey. The results obtained from employing multiple and single decrement proportional hazards models lend support to the view that the integration of migrant populations through mixed partnering is a prolonged process. In Estonia, the experience of second-generation migrants indicates a stalling trend in the incidence of mixed partnerships between the majority population and migrant groups; the modest incidence of mixed unions extends to the third and higher generations. Second, the results identify multiple factors that can hinder or facilitate interethnic partnering. Apart from the size of the minority groups and their residential proximity to the majority population, the study underscores the salience of early acquisition of the host society language, in the parental home or at school. Third, with regard to partnership dissolution, the study contributes evidence pertaining to the reduced stability of interethnic unions. However, it also indicates that the excess risks associated with ethnic exogamy may not extend to all types of mixed partnerships.

Gender attitudes, division of childcare and fertility intentions of immigrant Russian women in comparison to origin and destination countries.

This paper focuses on the relations between gender attitudes, gender division of childcare tasks and fertility intentions of Russian women in Estonia in comparison with Russian women in Russia and Estonian women. Our research questions are the following: (1) whether and to what extent gender attitudes and gender division of childcare among immigrant Russians are more similar to the attitudes and childcare division of Estonian population than of Russian population in Russia? (2) Whether and to what extent the effect of gender division of childcare on fertility intentions is different between Russians in Russia and Russians and Estonians in Estonia? We base our analysis on the first wave of Generations and Gender Survey, conducted in 2004 in Russia and 2005 in Estonia. Working samples include women aged 18-44 years old with coresident partners, and one or two children, among whom the youngest is under 14 years old (N=1608). We have found that immigrant Russian females have more similarities with Estonian females than with Russians in Russia with regard to their gender attitudes and, to a lesser degree, gender division of childcare. There are more egalitarian attitudes and egalitarian couples in both Russian and Estonian families in Estonia than in Russia. At the same time, fertility intentions of immigrant Russians do not significantly differ from fertility intentions of Russians in the origin country. Regressions show that gender division of childcare significantly influences fertility intentions, but interaction with ethnic groups is insignificant.