

THE TRANSFORMATION OF EU SECURITY ENVIRONMENT DUE TO UKRAINIAN MIGRATION: A SCENARIO APPROACH WITHIN THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC MEASUREMENT

ТРАНСФОРМАЦІЯ БЕЗПЕКОВОГО СЕРЕДОВИЩА ЄС ПІД ВПЛИВОМ УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ МІГРАЦІЇ: СЦЕНАРНИЙ ПІДХІД У ЗОВНІШНЬОЕКОНОМІЧНОМУ ВИМІРІ

The article is devoted to the current aspects of the transformation of the security environment of the European Union (EU) under the influence of Ukrainian migration in the foreign economic dimension. A research methodology was formed to implement the article's main idea in several stages. The first stage involved a review and analysis of migration processes resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The second stage involved establishing key drivers of migration processes, i.e. identifying those factors that have had the greatest impact on migration processes in Europe since the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war. As a result of the analysis, a matrix model of drivers of migration caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war was developed. The third stage required establishing uncertainties, i.e. those factors that are unpredictable, but critically important for the formation of the security environment of the EU and Ukraine, as they have a significant impact on this process. A list of uncertainties and their main causes was formed, which made it possible to form the basis for the scenario method.

Key words: migration, refugees, international economy, foreign economic situation, security environment.

Стаття присвячена актуальним аспектам трансформації безпекового середовища Європейського союзу (ЄС) під впливом української міграції у зовнішньоекономічному вимірі. Метою дослідження стало формування сценарного розвитку міграційної кризи в ЄС спричиненої вторгнення росії в Україну та початком повномасштабної війни. Для реалізації головного задуму статті сформовано методологію дослідження, яка реалізувалася у кілька етапів. Основою методології стало використання методу сценарного аналізу (Shell matrix). Першим етапом став огляд та аналіз міграційних процесів внаслідок вторгнення росії в Україну, в результаті якого було визначено масштаби міграційних процесів, їх динаміку та перебіг, наслідки для ЄС та України. Встановлено наміри українських мігрантів щодо повернення на Батьківщину та проведено аналіз ключових мотивів, які спонукають їх повертатись. Також проаналізовано ставлення мігрантів до соціально-економічних умов та якості різного роду послуг в Україні та ЄС. Другий етап передбачав встановлення ключових драйверів міграційних процесів, тобто ідентифікація тих чинників, які найбільше впливають на міграційні процеси в Європі з початком російсько-української війни. В результаті проведеного аналізу розроблено матричну модель драйверів міграції спричиненої російсько-українською війною. Третій етап потребував встановлення невизначеностей, тобто тих факторів, які є непередбачуваними, проте критично важливими для формування безпекового середовища ЄС та України, оскільки мають на цей процес вагомий вплив. Сформовано перелік невизначеностей та їх основних причин, що дало змогу сформувати підґрунтя для сценарного методу. Четвертий етап передбачав формування потенційних сценаріїв перебігу міграційних процесів. В результаті реалізації цього етапу було виокремлено три базові сценарії: оптимістичний, реалістичний та песимістичний. Ключовими осями сценарної матриці стали: тривалість і завершення війни (вісь X); політика ЄС щодо інтеграції українців (вісь Y). Запропоновано графічну візуалізацію сценарної матриці. Завершальний етап передбачав формування висновків та пропозицій за результатами проведеного дослідження.

Ключові слова: міграція, біженці, міжнародна економіка, зовнішньоекономічне становище, безпекове середовище.

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Hobela Volodymyr¹

Candidate of Economic Sciences,
Associate Professor,
Lviv State University of Internal Affairs
Sahaidak Dmytro²
Postgraduate Student,
Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

Гобела В.В.

Львівський державний університет
внутрішніх справ

Сагайдак Д.М.

Львівський національний університет
імені Івана Франка

Problem statement. With the beginning of the Russian war against Ukraine in 2022, many new challenges have arisen for the democratic world. Moreover, the war has caused even more problems for regional and global development, provoking colossal flows of forced migration of Ukrainian citizens, which, according to researchers, has no analogues and significantly exceeds all previous ones. The mass flow of refugees from Ukraine has added significant problems to the migration crisis in Europe, which was caused by the previous significant influx of migrants from the Middle East and Africa, significantly complicating its humanitarian component.

The difference between this post-war migration crisis and the crisis caused by the Russian military invasion is that now the refugees represent only one country – Ukraine. However, the movement of migrants and refugees from other regions, particularly from the Middle East and Africa, has not completely stopped in the EU.

The sudden displacement of a large number of Ukrainian citizens as a result of the war creates new challenges and increases the existing ones both for the receiving parties (EU Member States) and for the cities and towns of Ukraine from which the outflow of people took place. The relevance of studying these

¹ ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7438-2329>

² ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0002-0037-5243>

processes is constantly growing and proves that migration is not only a social-political and demographic but also a scientific problem that requires significant consolidation of researchers' forces to solve the problems caused by these processes.

Literature review. The issue of population migration, especially since the beginning of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, has become the subject of many scientific studies. Abramovych O. have paid special attention to establishing the consequences of such processes for the EU and Ukraine [1]. The war-triggered migration crisis in the EU has become the subject of scientific studies by scientists Barlai M., Fähnrich B., Griessler C., Rhomberg M. [2]. Moreover, sharing responsibility for Ukrainian refugees has been analyzed in the work of Chachko E., Linos K. [3]. Scientists have also paid attention to environmental problems and their impact on the security environment of the state [4], and moreover, the large-scale impact of the war on the environmental situation in Ukraine. This is now critical, especially in the zone of hostilities [7]. An important vector of scientific research has become ensuring food security in Ukraine and the rest of the world, given the destruction of the main logistic supply chains developed by authors Frunchuk V., Melnyk S., Hobela V. [11]. It should be noted that the issue of migration has been studied by scientists Hobela V., Blikhar M., Syrovackyi V., Maraieva U., Dudiuk V. through the prism of the challenges of the post-pandemic period [6] and the post-industrialization period which was studied by Ortynskiy V., Tsymbaliuk M., Hobela, V., Kashchuk M. [8]. Scientists Melnyk S., Hobela V., Podra O., Batyuk B., Levkiv H., Hynda O. have also studied the impact and interrelationship of migration and the financial sector of the state, in particular the impact of the interrelationship of capital outflow and migration on the security environment of the state [5; 9]. The problems and prospects of the EU migration policy formed the basis of scientific research by Kuryliuk Yu., Rodinova N., Ovchar P. [10], which made it possible to assess the prospects of the foreign economic situation of Ukraine.

Highlighting previously unresolved problems.

Despite the high interest in the issue of migration caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war, a number of problems and areas remain relevant. In particular, we are talking about the use of scenario analysis to determine the development of the EU migration crisis caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war and its potential consequences.

Aims and objectives. To form a scenario for the development of the migration crisis in the EU as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Results. The unexpected mass influx of Ukrainian refugees has exacerbated the European migration crisis and required immediate decisions from the EU

leadership regarding the provision of asylum and humanitarian assistance in general. In total, since the beginning of the large-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine, more than 8 million Ukrainian refugees have been recorded in Europe, including citizens who have returned home or gone to other countries of the world [1; 7]. It is worth noting that the Central and Southern European countries neighboring Ukraine received the first and most difficult wave of forced displacement from Ukraine, although this data does not include information about all countries.

It is also noted that the largest number of refugees moved to the EU in the first month of the active phase of the war – March 2022 (Figure 1). In total, about 70% of migrants left Ukraine in 2022, and more than 50% of migrants left Ukraine in March 2022. In the following years – from the end of 2022 to 2025, the percentage of migrants was 30%.

The second stage of our research – establishing the key drivers of migration processes, those factors that influence migration processes in 2022-2025. To do this, we will use analytical data [1; 7] regarding the expectations of Ukrainian migrants in the EU, and we will present the results graphically in Figure 2.

As we can see, about 2/3 of migrants hope to return to their homeland. About 15% plan to return in the next 3 months and only 6% do not intend to leave the EU and return to Ukraine.

It is also worth establishing the factors that encourage migrants to return to Ukraine. According to studies [1; 7], formed on the basis of systematic surveys of the population of Ukraine, 1.2 million people returned from abroad. Mostly (85%) before returning they were in EU countries. 88% of returnees are women.

The main motive for deciding to return was emotions and a sense of longing for home – 52% (Figure 3). In second place – the desire to reunite with family. Economic difficulties abroad were significant for only 19% of returnees. And, paradoxically, the improvement of the security situation at home was important for deciding to return for only 11% of respondents.

The long stay of Ukrainian refugees abroad contributed not only to the formation of more realistic ideas about life in foreign countries, but also to a certain reassessment of the attitude towards the Motherland. In the summer of 2023, the research [1] conducted a survey of war refugees from Ukraine in 31 European countries in order to find out where is better: in the country of residence or in Ukraine. The survey found that, according to Ukrainians living in Europe, the opportunities to achieve success in Ukraine and abroad are approximately the same. At the same time, corruption is much less widespread in Europe, there are greater opportunities for income generation, better social protection and stronger

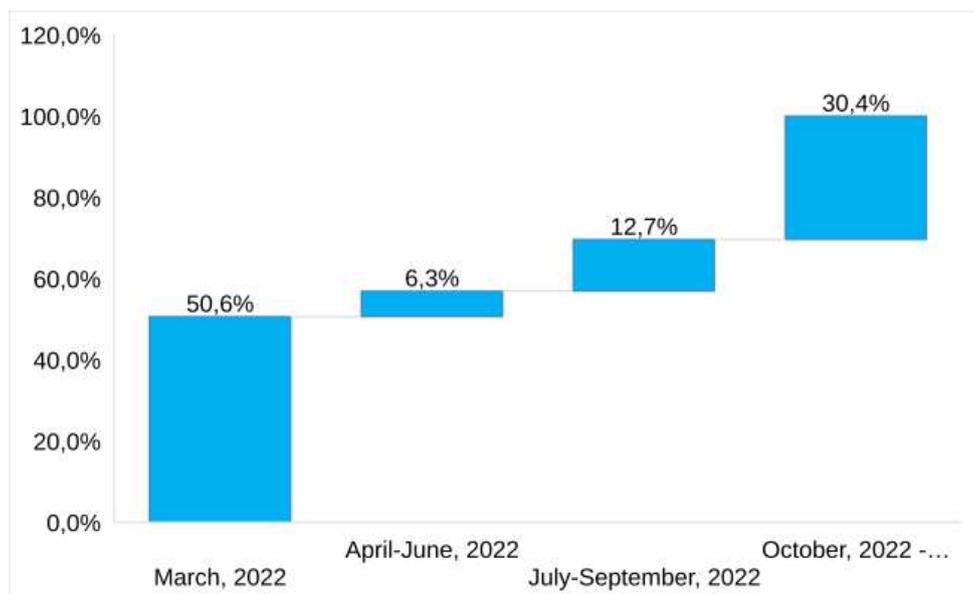


Figure 1. Dynamics of Ukrainian citizens' migration to EU countries

Source: developed based on sources [1; 7]

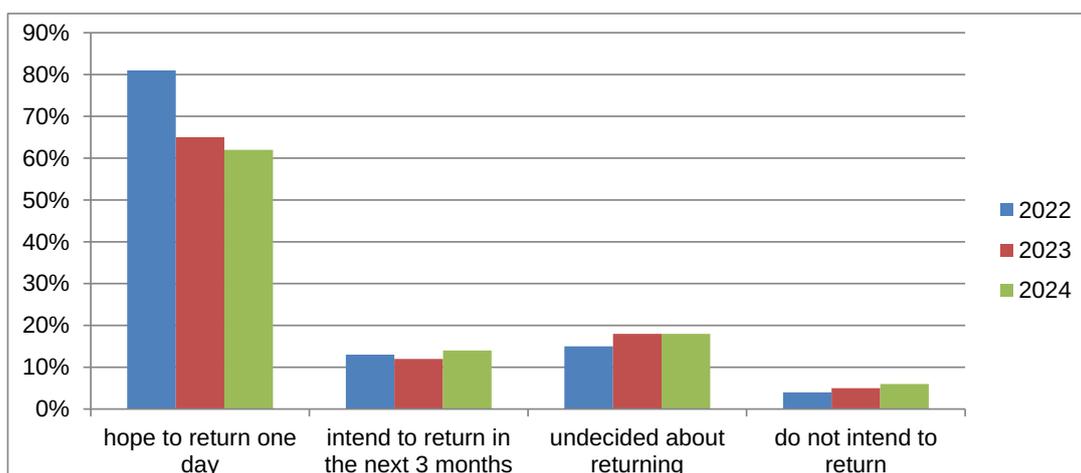


Figure 2. Intentions of Ukrainian migrants

Source: developed based on sources [1; 7]

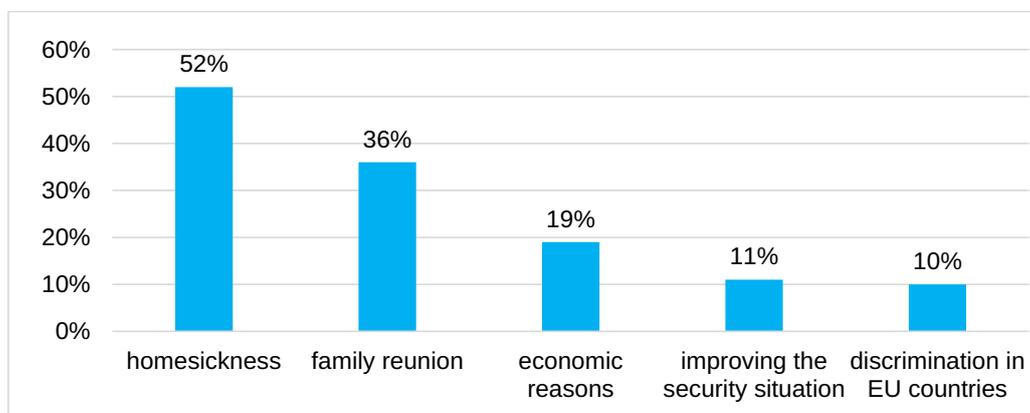


Figure 3. Motives for the return of Ukrainian migrants

Source: developed based on sources [1; 7]

guarantees of human rights and freedoms. At the same time, starting your own business is somewhat easier in Ukraine, the level of bureaucracy, according to refugees, abroad is higher than at home (Figure 4).

Ukrainians rated domestic administrative and banking services, accessibility and quality of medical care higher than in Europe. Respondents also believe that school and preschool education in Ukraine is better, but higher education, in their opinion, is better abroad (Figure 5).

As the survey showed, the domestic service sector significantly benefits compared to the European one: the beauty industry is better in Ukraine, according to 85% of respondents, compared to 5% who preferred Europe; service in cafes and restaurants – 60% compared to 16%; mail and delivery services – 54% compared to 25%; online sales – 51% compared to 22%; the work of stores – 42% compared to 36%. But the organization of public transport, the quality of roads in Europe is much better than in Ukraine:

77% compared to 14% and 85% compared to 5%, respectively. The duration of stay of Ukrainian refugees abroad is increasing, while more and more people realize that they will not be able to wait out the troubles. They must either return or arrange their lives in the country of residence. Making the appropriate decision depends on many circumstances, primarily the security situation in Ukraine. This decision is also influenced by the conditions of the refugees' stay abroad, the difficulties they have to overcome. The importance and prospects for overcoming life's difficulties depend, of course, on the situation in individual host countries, as well as the socio-demographic characteristics of the refugees themselves.

So, the result of this stage of the study will be the establishment of drivers of migration processes caused by the Russian war against Ukraine. Based on the results of the analysis, we will form the announced drivers in the form of a matrix model

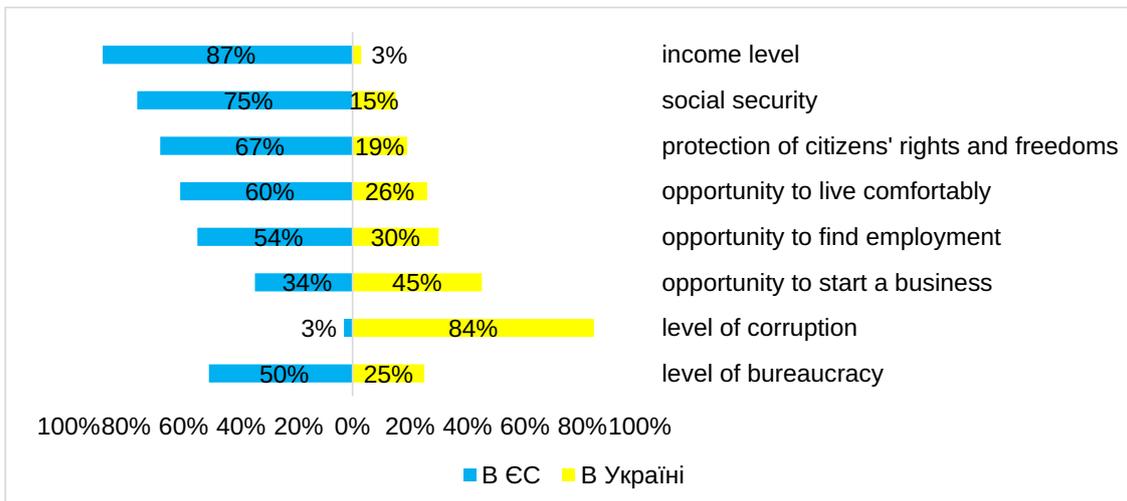


Figure 4. Migrants' attitudes towards socio-economic conditions in Ukraine and the EU

Source: developed based on sources [1; 7]

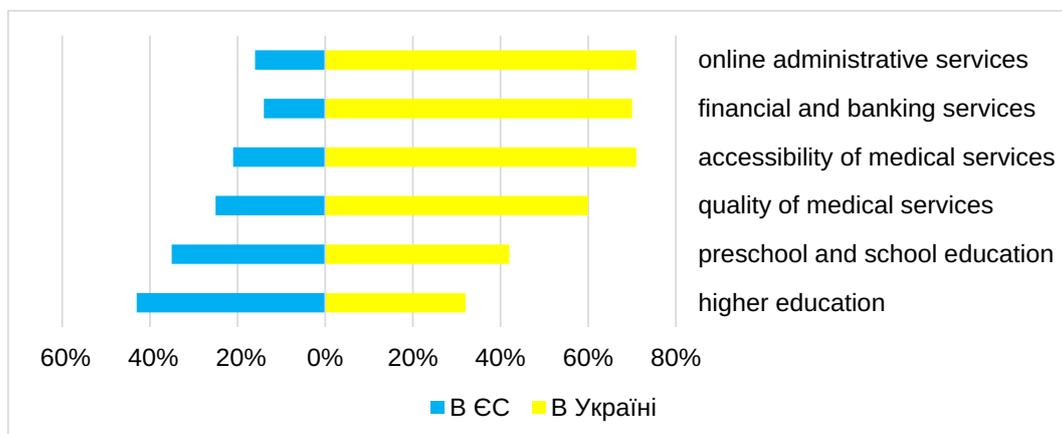


Figure 5. Migrants' attitudes towards the quality of services in Ukraine and the EU

Source: developed based on sources [1; 7]

(Table 1). Note that the model assumes the presence of Push factors – factors that push people out of Ukraine and encourage migration; and Pull factors that attract people to return or adapt abroad.

The next stage of our research, according to the established methodology, is to identify uncertainties, that is, those factors that are unpredictable, but critically important for the formation of security environment in the EU and Ukraine (Table 2).

Having formed the main drivers and uncertainties of migration processes caused by the Russian war against Ukraine, we have a solid basis for implementing

the final stage of scenario analysis– the formation of scenarios for the course of migration processes. The announced scenarios will be presented in the form of a scenario matrix according to the Shell methodology (Figure 6). The key axes of the scenario matrix are:

1. Duration and end of the war (X axis):
 - A: Quick end of the war, stabilization
 - B: Prolonged war, lack of security
2. EU policy on the integration of Ukrainians (Y axis):
 - 1: Limited support, weak integration
 - 2: Full support, active integration.

Table 1

Matrix model of migration drivers due to the war 2022–2025

	Push-factors	Pull-factors
Material / institutional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Danger and armed aggression in Ukraine - Destruction of infrastructure - Loss of income, housing - Limited access to medicine, education - Bureaucracy, corruption 	<p>Before returning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better service in Ukraine (services, medicine, banking) - Easier start for business - Better school and preschool education <p>Before remaining in the EU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social protection, higher wages - Less corruption - Guarantees of rights and freedoms
Socio-psychological / emotional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feeling of uncertainty - Feeling of loss of future for children - Social disintegration in the Homeland 	<p>Before returning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nostalgia, homesickness (52%) - Reunification with family - Reassessment of the significance of Ukraine <p>Before leaving in the EU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fear of returning due to security - New social ties abroad - Integration of children into new systems

Source: developed by authors

Table 2

Key uncertainties (high impact – low predictability factors)

Key Uncertainties	Why Critical	Why Uncertainty
Duration and dynamics of the Russian-Ukrainian war	The security situation is the main background for decisions on return/remaining	Depends on political decisions, military aid, external support, actions of the Russian Federation
Evolution of the policies of the EU host countries towards Ukrainian refugees	It determines the status of residence, access to work, housing, and integration	Political fatigue, rise of populism and anti-immigration sentiment, change of governments
The pace and depth of the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine	Shapes the perception of Ukraine as a space for return and a promising life	Risks of corruption, political disruptions, dependence on Western financial support
The level of social integration of Ukrainians in the EU countries	Influences the long-term decision to stay or return	Integration depends on language, labor market, host society, institutions
The scale of demographic changes in Ukraine (depopulation, female migration)	May cause structural changes in society, reduce labor potential	Related to return decisions, fertility, marriage migrations
The behavior and expectations of the second generation of refugees (children of Ukrainians abroad)	Their socialization in the EU could cement migration trajectories forever	Time factor, education, identity, influence of the host environment
Political stability and unity of the EU in supporting Ukraine	Defines long-term political, security and economic support	Elections in key countries, Russia's influence on European politics, other crises
New conflicts or escalation in other regions (global factor)	May divert attention and resources from Ukraine, change EU priorities	Geopolitical instability, Middle East, China–Taiwan, Balkans, etc.

Source: developed by authors

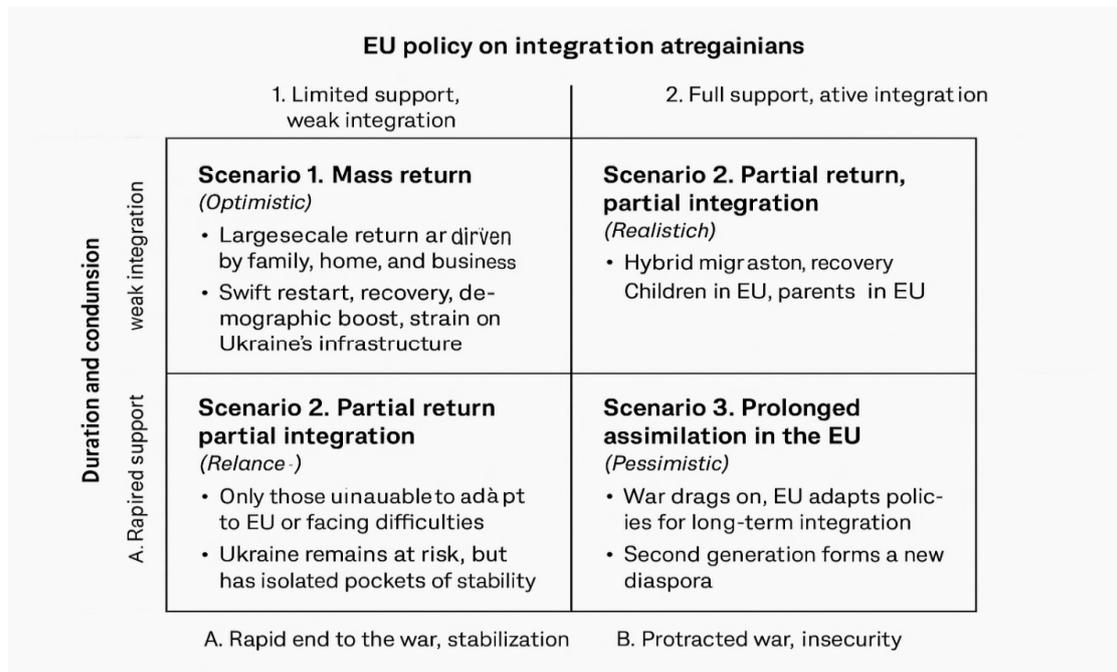


Figure 6. Scenario matrix graphical visualization

Source: developed by authors

Therefore, three scenarios of migration processes caused by the Russian-Ukrainian war have been formed.

Scenario 1 assumes a mass return of migrants under the condition of a quick peace, limited support in the EU. The key motives are longing, the desire to return home, and disappointment in migration. The risks of implementing the scenario are institutional overload, the need for rapid recovery.

Scenario 2 assumes partial return / partial integration under the condition of moderate support from the EU and stabilization of the situation in Ukraine. The key model for implementing such a scenario is flexible migration, i.e. mobility, periodic visits. The risks of implementing the specified scenario are a formed cross-border community, limited capital losses.

Scenario 3 assumes long-term assimilation under the condition of a long-term war and, accordingly, the creation of conditions for full integration. The consequences of such a scenario are a weakening of the demographic resource, depopulation, and integration of the second generation into the EU.

Summarizing, the formed research methodology made it possible to obtain the final result – scenarios of migration processes as a result of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Conclusions. The results of the study showed that the nature of the migration processes under study is multidimensional and flexible. The war caused an unprecedented scale of forced migration,

but the majority of Ukrainians retain an emotional connection with the Motherland. A new hybrid model of migration is being formed: periodic returns, cross-border families, distributed economic activity.

Key drivers of return and assimilation have been identified; emotional factors (longing, family) dominate the motives for return. The socio-economic conditions of host countries are often stronger than those of Ukraine – they can delay or accelerate final integration. However, Ukraine retains certain competitive advantages (service sector, preschool education, medical and administrative services).

Three migration scenarios (Shell matrix) have been formed: Optimistic: mass return under conditions of rapid stabilization and limited support in the EU. Realistic: partial return and partial integration is the most likely option. Pessimistic: Full long-term assimilation, especially of the second generation of Ukrainians. The key to the reintegration policy is the transformation of pull factors into permanent incentives: security guarantees, family support, economic stimulation. It is worth noting that the state needs to actively develop a policy of reintegration, support for remigrants, and reception infrastructure. It is worth creating incentives to maintain ties with the diaspora – "soft return" through remote participation in the economy, culture, and education. The key to the demographic and social recovery of Ukraine is trust, security, and prospects for families who hesitate between returning to their homeland and staying in the EU.

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