

## ABSTRACT

**of the dissertation work of Zakarya Rahmetolla on the topic: "The policy of the Soviet government towards European emigrants and immigrants (20-40s of the XX century)", recommended for obtaining a PhD degree in the educational program "8D02206-History"**

**General description of work.** The dissertation work is devoted to the study of the policy of the Soviet government towards European emigrants and immigrants in the 20-40s of the XX century. The research work, based on archival data, examines the legal foundations, prerequisites and course of the policy of the Soviet government towards European emigrants and immigrants, the results, as well as the life and work of European political and labor migrants in the Soviet Union.

**Relevance of the research topic.** The migration process is the migration of people from their place of residence to another place of residence. When historians study the question of the cause of migration, they have to analyze the factors of "expulsion" from the country or "pull" to the country. Attracting people to other places than their own can be influenced by certain circumstances, and there can also be reasons that motivate another country. In this regard, going to another country is called "external migration". External migration is a very complex issue, it has its own flows of political emigration, labor immigration, refugees and more.

Since during the period when Kazakhstan was part of the Soviet Union, the issue of the migration flow was resolved on an allied scale, individual republics played the role of a passive participant in this process. The main directions of migration, the policy towards migrants, the issues of accommodating migrants from outside were also regulated by union institutions, individual republics carried out these decisions. However, migration flows have influenced the social life of these private republics, have made significant changes in the composition of the population. The study of state policy towards migrants in the Soviet period should become a source of experience for today's migration policy.

In the 1920s, the arrival of foreign political emigrants to the Soviet Union became widespread, which coincided with periods of failure of the revolutionary movement in Europe. Many representatives of the first wave of political emigration were considered by the Soviet leadership as the most loyal community of the world communist movement and were placed in government and social positions. Since the end of the 1920s, the nature of emigration has changed, since with the beginning of the implementation of grandiose plans for industrialization, thousands of foreign workers and engineers were needed to work with new equipment purchased from abroad and for the construction of factories. Foreign migrants, in particular engineers and workers, were inspired by the brilliant human ideals of the Soviet Union - the creation of a society of equality and justice, the clear successes of the New Economic Policy and industrialization of the 1930s, the search for and implementation of innovative ideas, economic planning, culture, education and enlightenment, the sphere of social security. In addition, they decided to take advantage of the "opportunities" born in the East in order to avoid

the Western crisis and economic turmoil. During this period, skilled workers, technicians and specialists from the developed countries of the West came and worked in the Soviet Union. By the mid-1930s, the nature of emigration was changing again. In 1933, as a result of the coming to power of the Nazis, a massive emigration outflow of democratic forces from Germany began. In the second half of the 1930s, the policy of the Soviet government towards foreign emigrants changed, and an unscrupulous attitude towards people who arrived from abroad began, considering them counter-revolutionaries and spies. Of course, his end turned into exile. In connection with political changes and wars in Europe 1939-1941. It can be said that the situation of immigration of foreign migrants living in Russia to Kazakhstan is a phenomenon that occupies a special place in the history of Kazakhstan in the twentieth century. Today, science is actively studying the theory of migrationology, types of migration, categories of migrants, however, there remains the study of the history of political emigrants and labor immigrants from Europe who arrived in the Soviet Union, which means a scientific task that has not become relevant today.

**The object of the study** is the migration policy of the Soviet government.

**The subject of the study** is the conditions of formation, stages, evolution, features and significance of the policy of the Soviet government in relation to European emigrants and immigrants.

**The purpose of the research work** is to study the foundations of the formation of the policy of the Soviet Union in relation to European political emigrants and immigrants, the conditions for their adaptation to a society called "socialist".

To achieve the above goal, the following **tasks** are set:

- To identify the legal basis for the policy regarding the migration flow from European countries to the Soviet Union and changes in state regulation of immigration in the first half of the twentieth century;
- Determine the reasons for the resettlement of European citizens in the Soviet Union, the category of migrants and the content of the policy of the USSR authorities in relation to political emigrants and labor immigrants;
- To study the policy of the Soviet government aimed at purposefully attracting qualified personnel from abroad during the period of industrialization;
- Analysis and evaluation of the activities of the Central Committee of the IOAFR of the USSR to support foreign migrants;
- Studying the features of socio-cultural adaptation and political integration of foreign citizens into Soviet society;
- Studying the everyday life of political emigrants and labor immigrants in Kazakhstan;
- Analysis of the reasons for the repression of European migrants in the late 30s-40s of the 20th century.

**Source base of research work.** Materials (directives, decrees, reports and plans, letters, denunciations, statistics, etc.) collected from the archives of Kazakhstan and Russia were taken as the basis of the research work. In archival funds, which store valuable historical archives, research work has been

continuously carried out for a long time, where a lot of materials on the topic have been collected.

**Theoretical and methodological foundations of dissertation research.** The methodology chosen by the researcher determines the direction of the actual cognitive process, so we were guided by the concept of diversity and alternativeness of historical reality, which allows us to reveal the topic of our research in more detail. After the First World War, different paths of social development appeared in Europe. The reason for this is that the entire human society was in a period of crisis of the industrial society, and in this regard, individual countries tried to find alternative ways of development. This in itself led to the creation of a socialist society in Russia, and then in Italy and Germany to the birth of a truly reactionary fascist society. Thus, based on the concept of diversity and alternative historical reality, it is possible to explain why European migrants chose the Soviet Union.

The research work was based on the historical-systemic principle. This principle served as the basis for studying the stages of formation and development of the state policy of the Soviet Union regarding migration in the context of the dynamics of the general domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet government. State policy towards European migrants The issue of changes in the Soviet Union at different stages of the formation of the administrative-command system was considered in the context of domestic policy. And the classified policy of the Soviet government in relation to various categories of emigrants and immigrants was studied against the background of the dynamics of changes in the foreign policy concept of the Soviet Union.

The study uses the basic principles of historical knowledge - historicity and objectivity. According to the historical principle, the studied historical events, objects and socio-political phenomena are considered within the framework of specific historical conditions and time periods of their occurrence and development, and the algorithm for the development of these events and phenomena is determined. The principle of objectivity lies in the fact that considering the object under study as a real reality, the interpretation and analysis of this reality by the researcher helps not to deviate from the historical fact.

The general methods of logical thinking were used as research methods - analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction. Based on comparative-historical, statistical methods, methods of visualization and quantitative processing, it was possible to trace the process of formation of the migration policy of the Soviet Union, to give its quantitative and qualitative characteristics, to create a complete picture of the housing and living conditions of work and life of foreigners.

**Scientific novelty of the research work.** For the first time in the history of Kazakhstan, a step was taken towards a full-fledged study of the policy of the Soviet authorities related to European immigrants and emigrants, which had not previously been considered specifically, had not previously been the subject of a comprehensive analysis. As part of the study, a large number of archival documents were introduced into scientific circulation. While the traditional method of studying migration problems considers migration as an object of demographic

and sociological sciences, our study focuses on the political aspects of this problem.

**Chronological framework and territorial scale of research work.** The studies were devoted to the life and fate of political emigrants and labor immigrants from the countries of Western and Eastern Europe in the 1920s and 1940s throughout the Soviet Union, but taking into account the fact that until 1936 Kazakhstan was an autonomous republic within the Russian Federation, it was selected narrative material, mainly relating to the territory of Russia and Kazakhstan.

**Scientific and applied value of the work.** The scientific significance of the work is manifested in the fact that the narrative material in the dissertation, conclusions with analyzes are a significant contribution to an objective understanding of the history of the Soviet period. The applied value of the dissertation research lies in the possibility of using the materials and conclusions presented here in creating generalizing works on the history of education, lecturing at universities, preparing textbooks, developing special courses on socio-political history, the history of everyday life.

**The main conclusions proposed for defense.** As a result of studying the policy of the Soviet government related to European immigrants and emigrants, the following scientific conclusions are proposed for defense:

1. Numerous documents concerning the legal framework regarding immigrants from Europe indicate that the Soviet state used the migration policy for ideological purposes. This is evidenced by static data: communist immigrants had advantages in employment, receiving social assistance from the state.

2. The migration policy of the Soviet state was purely pragmatic. Documents show that during the period of economic modernization, the Soviet government pursued a policy of preferential selection of labor migrants. Moreover, it purposefully selected specialists and workers, spared no resources to attract them.

3. The IOAFR organization provided material assistance to European migrants. European migrants and their families were provided with an apartment or room to live in and provided with clothing, food and cash assistance. However, despite the efforts of local authorities, the measures taken turned out to be insufficient, which led to strong dissatisfaction among foreign specialists, their disillusionment with the Soviet system, and the return of some migrants to their homeland. The reasons for the constant complaints of foreigners were interruptions in the supply of food, delays in wages and benefits, rude attitude of administrative staff, etc.

4. Many emigrants going to the Soviet Union sincerely believed that they were needed as a force in creating a new society, attaching particular importance to participation in the great experiment of building a socialist state. Although the vast majority of foreigners hoped that a world revolution would happen in the near future, they considered emigration to the Soviet Union as a temporary measure, not a permanent one, and planned to return to their homeland if the world revolution succeeded.

5. In connection with the change in the situation in the international arena, in particular the deterioration of relations between the USSR and some European countries, for many economic and political immigrants, the return threatened them with prison or execution. Some migrants received USSR citizenship and remained in the Soviet Union, which became their “second homeland”.

6. None of the European migrants, whether he accepted the citizenship of the USSR or remained a citizen of a foreign state, had a guarantee against repressive actions by the Soviet government. As documents confirm, a significant number of European migrants were subjected to repression.

7. After the outbreak of the war, many foreign migrants were resettled in Kazakhstan along with other populations of the Soviet Union. The IOAFR department in Kazakhstan placed them in Almaty, Karaganda, South Kazakhstan, East Kazakhstan, Pavlodar, Atyrau and other regions and tried to provide material and financial assistance. Migrants living in Kazakhstan made a huge contribution to the development of various industries in Kazakhstan, some remained in Kazakhstan until the end of their lives.

**Approbation of the research results.** The main results of the research work are comprehensively reflected in the reports made at international scientific conferences: 1 article was published in the journal, which is part of the Scopus Base, 5 articles in publications approved by the CQASHE of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 3 articles in collections of international conferences, 11 articles in total. The dissertation was reviewed and presented for defense at a joint expanded meeting of the Department of World History and External Relations of the Institute of History and Ethnology named after Ch.Ch. Valikhanov and the Department of World History, Historiography and Source Studies of the Faculty of History of the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

**The structure of the dissertation work** consists of abbreviations, introduction, three sections, 8 paragraphs, conclusion, list of data and references and appendices.