

CONSIDERATIONS ON ABORTION, SOCIO- DEMOGRAPHIC POLICY AND DEMOGRAPHIC IMBALANCE IN ROMANIA

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Abstract: *The risks of modern society are of a multiple nature and importance. Fulfilling the role of state responsibility for offering health and education services is a matter of meditation, given the failures in the market for these services. Predominantly, in the industrialized world, abortion was not an offense until a suite of anti-abortion laws were adopted in the second half of the nineteenth century. It was argued in this regard that the fetus is a human being since his conception, and abortion is a form of crime. In particular, Romania has a particularly high rate of abortion, occupying a significant place in Europe from this point of view. Population is a fundamental element that determines the existence of states and their internal dynamics. The demographic issue is critical in the case of Romania.*

Key words: *ethics, abortion, sustainable development, socio-demographic policy, labor shortage*

INTRODUCTION

1. Landmarks of "Ethics" domain

From a historical, evolutionary point of view, ethics has focused on the principles and standards that should govern the social relationships between individuals and organizations, raising the interest in living in a better world, paying attention to the needs and aspirations of others.

Classical studies (Baumhart, 1977) show that 50% define ethics as "*What it feels good*", 25% define it in religious terms such as "*Depending on my religious beliefs*" and 18% define it, "*According to the golden rule*".¹

Moral choice requires that people find themselves in a position of choice, that they have the force or power to change things. The rich enjoy many options, on the contrary, the poor, very few. Wealth is also a prerequisite for charitable activities. Is not this why we expect the rich to take more responsibility than the poor?

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On one hand, "*ethics is the science that studies moral principles, [4] their origin, nature, essence, development and content,*" [8] and on the other hand, "*ethics is the set of moral rules, values and norms [5] that regulate the behaviour of people in society and / or determines their obligations in general or in a certain field of activity in particular.*" [14] *Ethics signifies the science of good and evil.*

The main questions that ethics are trying to answer are: "*What should I do?*", "*How should I live my life?*", "*What are the moral principles that I must follow?*", "*Under what conditions is an action morally correct?*" In its own sense, ethics is a theoretical interpretation of moral foundations. *Ethics* does not attempt to answer the questions

¹ "*The Golden Rule*" or "*Ethics of Reciprocity*" is a maxim, ethical or moral code that expresses the following: (1) the affirmative form of the golden rule - *treat others as you want to be treated*; (2) the negative form of the golden rule - *do not treat others as you do not want to be treated*. "*Alterum in inerea, ne laederis, alterum ne laedas*". Seneca, Lucius Annaeus (4 BC -65 AD), *Epistolae*, 103, 3

formulated from the specific perspective of any particular category of people, but strives to find answers of universal value. [11]

The contemporary world is preoccupied with ethics in a number of areas - financial affairs and mechanisms, sports (where doping and rigged matches eliminate competition), medicine or the media, where information is often biased or manipulated. Ethics is part of our daily newspaper, where verbal or physical aggression is multiplying and violent gestures are growing. In fact, ethics is a set of values that has accompanied the history of mankind. Evil is ubiquitous, its cause is the lack of humanity of human beings, one to the other - the inclination to destroy, the hatred, the pleasure to cause suffering, etc. In many day-to-day situations, ethics are not easy to apply, being confronted with hesitations, remorse, tension, or "labyrinths", really disconcerting situations. Beyond the concern for one's own person, which we all have in a tellurian way, ethics invites us to concern ourselves with our peers and leads us to be responsible in our relationship with them. We can say that from an emotional point of view, we are dependent on the social environment in which we are born and live: we all need adoration, love, appreciation, respect and consideration from our fellow men. Thus, in this context, morality reflects the concern for others, while ethics is related to the decision-making process that includes the interests of others. Recently, the term "*ethics*" has begun to be used to talk about what must be invented in the moral field. Ethics has become the name of the morality, being under investigation, especially in connection with new topics - homosexual marriages, abortion, child protection on the Internet, animal rights, euthanasia or legalization of light drugs. We find a great diversity of ethical rules based on epochs, civilizations, social groups, or beliefs. For example, cannibalism, infanticide or death penalty were considered noble, valuable, and worthy in other times or lands. The truth of yesterday turns out to be an error today.² *Is everything relative?* Not really, I can say, claiming there are general rules - respecting human dignity, not humiliating, not aggressing, inseparable requirements of ethics. *Ethics accompanies us over the ages, changing its style, but without disappearing.* [9]

2. Demographics and sustainable development

Sustainable development is conceived for a very long time; it is about responding to the needs of today's generations without compromising the ability to respond to those of the generations to come. Currently, *the notion implies a triple dimension: economic development, social equity and intergenerational equity.* [7]

If the pace of global demographic growth tends to slow down, the planet shifts from 4.4 billion inhabitants in 1980 to 7.1 billion in 2013 and should reach 8.3 billion in 2030. Due to highly differentiated demographic transition, Southern countries polarize 92.3% of world growth between 1980 and 2012. The recovery of mortality, especially infant mortality and the control of fecundity, by improvements in literacy and primary education, improve the legal and economic status of women and the progress of public health. *Demographics and social and economic development are closely associated.* Human occupation is marked by strong population contrasts - two-thirds of the world's population live on 10% of the world's surface and half of the population occupies 8%. A quarter lives on the coastlines, less than 50 kilometres of coasts. Beyond the powerful inequalities of popularity and exploitation that often fall into very old geo-historical factors, the factors of blockage or development of different world spaces are well-differentiated - resources,

² Taking your very old grandparents away from any habitat and abandoning them in a terrible night of frost, it seems to be a criminal behaviour, but not in the Inuit tradition - a gesture of piety, respect, moral action that allowed the tribe to survive, stopping feeding unnecessary mouths.

valorisation, arrangement. Demographic growth is accompanied by an unprecedented increase in the working age of older people, with an increase of 1.7 billion between 1980 and 2020 (+ 93%), with southern populations polarizing 93% of world growth. More than 50 million new activists arrive each year on the world labour market.

But *the people at work and the worlds of work are very unequal* - jobs, salaries, social protection, training, qualification, social rights. These potentials remain largely underutilized and job and work needs are poorly valued due to poor general development.

So far, *the world economy has seen a particularly polarized growth*. Within an increasingly interdependent world, humanity faces considerable deficits. World Population: 4.4 billion in 1980; 7.1 billion in 2013 and 8.3 billion in 2030. Population is a fundamental element that conditions the existence of states and their internal dynamics. Of geopolitical importance are the demographic size and the degree of homogeneity of the population in relation to the territory, determined on the one hand by its natural characteristics and on the other by the ethnic structure and the presence of the national minorities. As with the surface, the demographic size of states varies very widely: the most populated 10 states of the world concentrate 60% of the world's population, and India and China together hold 27.5%. [6]

More than a third of the world's active population - a billion of human beings, is either unemployed or under-utilized (900 million), while globalization and capital and investment mobility accelerate the competition of the labor force, which pulls down the wage bill and social and wage protection. Within this framework, *the right to work and decent pay, health and education, and the prohibition of child labor, remain universal rights to conquer, defend or strengthen, while production and mastery of knowledge are power and development*.

The active population of developed countries will begin declining, for the first time after 1950, according to UN projections. In 2050, this segment of population will be in advanced states 5% lower than now, with a more pronounced decline in Japan, South Korea, Germany and Italy. These trends pose a challenge for companies and governments, and can have a huge impact on economic growth in some countries. Year 1950: There were 2.5 billion people on Earth, and a woman gave birth to 5 children. Year 2015: There are over 7 billion people on Earth and a woman only gives birth to 2.5 children on average. 2050: There will be nearly 10 billion people, of which only 13% will be in countries with a high standard of living, and the population will grow by 32%, but the active age segment will only grow by 26%. In parallel, the category of people over the age of 65 is becoming more and more numerous in the world. Among the developed economies, the share of older people (over 65) will increase so much that they will become dependent on the external workforce. The active population (15-65 years) in South Korea will be compressed by 26%, in Japan - 28%, in Germany and Italy - by 23%. Similar rates of contraction will record Russia and China - 21%. Increases will occur in India - 33%, Brazil - 3% among emerging economies. The happiest situation in rich countries will be in the US, where the active population will go up by 10 percent. But, as a share in the total population, it will drop from 66% to 60%. People aged 20 to 30 borrow and spend for the house and children. After 40 years, people are gradually paying back their loans and start saving money. After retirement, people consume from their personal reserves and start receiving money from the state (pensions). How large are the economies of the population in a country depends on the difference between the share of the population aged between 40 and 65 in the population and the proportion of those aged over 65. The rise in the number of mature workers relative to pensioners is the main reason for the steady decline in inflation rates adjusted for interest rates. Rates that have fallen in recent decades and have now become

negative in most developed countries. These demographic influences are about to reverse. [19]

The challenges of sustainable development are part of the daily realities of world territories, as exemplified by the three major stakes - water, health and education. [10]

3. Abortion, domain of applied ethics

In most of the industrialized world, abortion was not an offense until a suite of anti-abortion laws were adopted in the second half of the nineteenth century. It has been argued that the fetus is a human being since his conception, and abortion is a form of crime.

At the same time, supporters of women's right to choose abortion have the following assertions: [1] Abortions should be allowed because their prohibition has unwanted consequences; [2] Women have the moral right to choose abortion; [3] The fetus is not yet a person and therefore has no substantial right to life.

Historically speaking, women have paid a terrible price because of the lack of safe and legal contraceptive methods and abortion. They were forced to give birth to many children, at extremely short intervals, they were physically weakened and died young. According to some opinions, unwanted pregnancies increase poverty, infant and child mortality rates and make the resources of families and states subject to severe constraints. Women have to cope with the double responsibility of paid work and domestic chores.

It is argued that long-term access to abortion is essential to the health and survival of not only women as individuals and families, but also of larger biological and social systems on which everyone lives. In addition, the inadequacy of existing contraceptive methods and the lack of access of all women to contraceptives, avoiding general population growth require some form of abortion. The rivals of abortion deny the need for abortion to avoid such undesirable repercussions. It is true that some pregnancies are the result of rape or incest, but they are mainly the result of voluntary sexual behaviour.

Other opinions indicate that sexual heterosexual relationships are not *biologically* necessary for the survival or physical health of women or men. On the contrary, single women or lesbians are less prone to cervical cancer, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. There is also no need for sexual intercourse for the psychological health of both sexes, but the contrary opinion is widespread. It is certain that sex is considered by most women and men to be very pleasant, which has a morally significant effect on most of the consequences of theories.

Obviously, rights are not absolute, but they cannot be violated for greater good. For example, one man can kill in self-defence, but a person cannot kill another person just for the good of others. Fundamental moral rights (the right to life, freedom, self-determination, the right not to suffer bodily harm) are those rights that any person has, in contrast to those that depend on certain circumstances (promises or legal contracts). Prohibiting abortion seems to violate all these primary rights. The lives of women are thus jeopardized. Where abortions are prohibited by law, women tend to resort to unsafe illegal abortions - OMS estimates that 200,000 women die annually from this cause. Moreover, to give a baby to adoption means to live with the unhappy thought that you have a child that you cannot care for and cannot find out if he lives and is well; separation from a child implies a strong and long suffering.

What is the moment in the developmental cycle of a human being in which it acquires a right to life totally and equal to the others? Most contemporary legal systems consider birth as the moment when a new legal person begins its existence.

In the US, the problem of abortion is simply seen as "*women's right to control their own body.*"

In conclusion, abortion is sometimes treated as a problem of only the rights of the fetus, and sometimes as a problem only of women's rights. The denial of legal and safe abortion violates the woman's right to life, liberty and physical integrity, but if the fetus had the same right to life as a person, abortion would be a tragic event and difficult to justify, except in extreme cases. Thus, even those who support women's rights must be concerned about the moral status of the fetus.³

An ethic of respect for life excludes all intentional killings, any killing requires justification, and it is harder to argue for the deliberate destruction of a sensitive being than one who does not (yet) experience. But sensitive beings do not have equal rights. Extending moral status to the fetus threatens women's fundamental rights - unlike the fetus, the woman is already a person and should not be treated differently when she is pregnant. For these reasons, abortion should not be forbidden, and birth, as against a previous moment, marks the beginning of equal moral status. [13]

Apart from this immediate moral option, *the evolution of the demographic phenomenon in the medium and long term* should be reasoned.

4. The issue of demographic accounts. Romania, where to?

As economies are richer, demographic trends change. According to the UN and the IMF, the world is aging, with more visible effects in developing countries than in rich ones. It is estimated that 60% of the world's seniors (over 65) in developing countries will account for 80% by 2050. James Canton states that "there will be more jobs than people to handle by 2015 in the US, Europe and Japan ". In 2025, women / men proportion in the labour force will be 3:1. [2] Population growth has led to urbanization, and urbanization is historically associated with a significant increase in the productivity of the factors of an economy, but the decline of the population is associated with a lower rate of productivity growth. Although economic growth has contributed to the aging of the world, it will still be absolutely necessary to contribute to health care and social welfare. In 2010, those born in the post-World War II are retiring and, as a consequence, the need for pensions and medical benefits will increase.

We have to agree that, in general, economic growth is important for aging societies, as it makes it easier for their governments to respect their promises to the elderly. Senescence involves two aspects of opposite direction:

1. Maturity of the workforce means more experience and productivity;
2. As aging societies are likely to have a small number of young adults without families and dependent children, this reduces the group willing to take risks related to the formation and development of bold projects, i.e., become less entrepreneurial. [1]

Demographic accounts are based on equality between incoming and outgoing flows over a given period of time. Entrances and exits consist of human beings who, in a given period of time, enter or leave a particular country. *These human flows move in two dimensions: time and space*. In any country, this year's population moves partially over time, coming from the previous year, through survival, and partly in space, coming from the outside world through birth and immigration; Comes partly out of space, to the outside world, to death and emigration, and partly, in terms of time, to the next year, by survival. Survivors from the previous period are the initial stock of the population, and the survivors of the following period constitute the final stock. *At any time, the equality between inputs*

³ "Homes ad deos nulla re propius accedunt quam salutem hominibus dando". "By no other thing men are approaching gods more than giving salvation to other people." Cicero, Marcus Tullius (106 AD - 43 BC), political man, philosopher and Roman orator, Pro Ligario, 12, 38

and outputs means that the difference between the initial and the final stocks is equal to the net entry from the outside world. [15]

The concept of '*fertility economy*' essentially means taking into consideration the decision to have children as an economic decision of the family. The decision to have children, their number and their "quality" depend essentially on family income (both a factor influencing preferences and budget constraints) and the level of education of family members. Thus, the "marginal sacrifice" of child growth is compared with the "marginal satisfaction" brought by children to the family, which includes both economic and non-economic factors (affective, social, and cultural). In the category of childcare costs, Schultz includes: obvious consumer costs (health care expenses, education expenses), plus the opportunity cost of activities (whether salary, recreation or education) that parents give up in favour of raising children. In the category of economic benefits (the contribution of children to the family budget) we can exemplify with the case of the families employed in agriculture in the developing countries, and in the category of non-economic satisfactions it becomes relevant to change the social status of the family or to provide future support for the parents (the educational capital invested in children will provide them with higher incomes to enable them to maintain old-age parents). [12]

Demographic Winter (Decline of the Human Family) is a documentary produced in 2007 about the phenomenon of demographic decline that is currently taking place in modern societies.⁴

30 million Romanians by the year 2000 ... This was the demographic plan of President Nicolae Ceausescu. Abortion, methods of contraception and sexual education in schools were banned. Thousands of Romanians died between 1966 and 1989, due to

⁴ In the film are presented the opinions of specialists from demography, sociology, economics and psychology. The population stability is given by the equilibrium factor of 2.1 children born to each woman (one for her and one for the male). Under the 2.1 threshold, the population decreases, and over 2.1 the population is growing. Because there is a likelihood that a child will die before maturity, more than two children are needed to make the population stable.

The 2.1 threshold is given by the low infant mortality rate in developed economies. In underdeveloped countries this factor is higher. Nowadays, in modern societies, this fertility stability factor is steadily decreasing, and is below the 2.1 steady state. Worldwide, natality has halved over the last 50 years. Now we have 59 countries with 44% of the world's population, where the birth rate is below 2.1. The factors that have led to the demographic decline in developed countries are the following: women have jobs and do not have the necessary time and the desire to make children; prosperity makes the individual find other pleasures than to raise a child; the sexual revolution that began in the 60's. Contraceptive pills reduced the number of unwanted pregnancies of married women by 70%; The revolution of divorce has made the divorce accepted by modern society, and is no longer considered to be immoral or illegal, according to the old traditions; erroneous assumptions - over the past 20-30 years, the concept of overpopulation of the planet has struck, and children have been inoculated to have fewer children when they reach maturity. At present people get married much later than in the past, and usually do not have very many children. Currently, the divorce rate is about 50%. Many women put their careers in front of their families and children, and after 35 years it is harder for a woman to give birth. Today, the global population growth trend persists, because the 50-60s fertility rate was still high and people live longer than previous generations. The global fertility rate in 2008 is 2.58 (rising population), but declining compared to 2000, when it was 2.80. Currently, 16% of the global population is over 65, in 2030 it is estimated to be 25% and in 2050 to 30%. 100 years ago, 68% of families enjoyed children, and now only 32% of families have children. The fertility rate in the EU is 1.50, in the United States 2.10 (versus 2.06 in 2000) and in Romania 1.38 (1.35 in 2000). In the United States, the fertility rate was well below the 2.1 threshold if unmarried couples did not have children. Russia is severely affected by this decline, losing about 250,000 people annually. In 1990, the fertility rate was 2.4, and currently stands at 1.4.

Source: Synthesis of <http://www.selfhelp.ro/2008/10/31/iarna-demografica-declinul-familiei-umane/> and <http://www.demographicwinter.com/index.html>

pregnancy disruptions made under difficult conditions. On December 26, 1989, abortion was legalized. The consequence? One million women gave up pregnancy only in 1990. [20]

Between 1990 and 1992, the rate of abortion had a very high average value. Clinics were flooded by women seeking abortion. As a consequence, the legally-induced abortion rate has reached the highest level in the world - nearly 200 per 1,000 women aged 15-44, between 1990 and 1992. This corresponds to an abortion rate of nearly 3 abortions per living birth for the same period. [16]

According to the 2011 census, Romania has a population of 20 121 641 inhabitants, and the natural increase is negative. Population decreases, both because of it and because of negative migration. Thus, the Eurostat report in 2014 showed that Romania was the EU country with the steepest demographic decline between 1994 and 2014, although the 40.8 years of age was still below the European average of 42.2. [25]

Romania's resident population was 19.8 million inhabitants in July 2015, according to the National Institute of Statistics. Given the fact that natural growth is negative and in Romania there are more Romanians who leave than those who come back, we have lost about a quarter of a million Romanians in 2012-2015. According to NIS calculations, in the optimistic version for 2060, Romania could have 16.3 million inhabitants, and in the pessimistic version, only 12.5 million inhabitants. The average (which is the most plausible), indicates a Romania of 13.8 million inhabitants. In all scenarios, Teleorman County loses most people. In the territorial aspect, in the average version, the resident population of all counties will decrease, in the period 2015-2060, with the exception of Ilfov County. [22]

In 2100, Romania will have only 10.7 million inhabitants, according to a report published by the United Nations entitled World Population Prospects. In 1950 Romania had 16 million inhabitants. After 45 years of communism it was over 23 million, an increase of 44%. In 2015, it has 19.5 million, a decrease of 4 million in 25 years. It is estimated that in 2030 there will be 17.6 million people in Romania. In 2050 only 15.2 million people will be in Romania, and in 2100 only 10.7 million. In addition, it will age rapidly. In 2015, 15.5% of the Romanian population are children under 14, 60% are between 15 and 59 years, 24% between 60 and 80 years and 4% over 80 years. In 2050, only 14% of the Romanian population will be children under 14, 49% between 15 and 59 years, 26% between 60 and 80 years, and almost 9% over 80 years. In 1950 Romania was a young country, the average age being 26 years. In 1980 it grew to over 30 years, today it is over 42 years old and it is expected to reach 47 in 2030 and 48 in 2050. The demographic impact is net: the Romanian procreation capacity will weaken enormously by 2050, and will remain staggering until the end of the century. Fertility will decrease, then increase until 2100, but without it becoming surplus in the sense of increasing population growth. Between 1975 and 1980 the fertility rate in Romania was 2.55; it dropped to 1.51 between 1990 and 1995 to 1.45 between 2005 and 2010, reaching 1.48 between 2010 and 2015. The UN forecasts an increase until it reaches 1.82 in 2100.

The demographic problem is probably the most critical issue facing Romania. Guvernul României și clasa politică a țării, nu sunt vădit alarmate. National Institute of Statistics Specialists make a dramatic alarm: if politicians do not get involved in the development of coherent demographic policies, the Romanian people are in danger of disappearing. A UN study suite warns that in the coming decades our country will experience one of the world's highest declining population rates. A galloping decline caused in particular by two factors of a social nature: the steep drop in birth rate since 1990, plus the massive increase in emigration. The migration phenomenon grew after 2007, ie after Romania's entry into the EU. Recently, the number of unskilled people began to

decline, and emigration began to include young people with higher education, looking for better rewards for their work - doctors, engineers, IT specialists, etc. "*Brain Exodus*" is a phenomenon that will seriously affect the future evolution of Romanian society. The number of Romanians abroad grew annually by over 7% from 2000 to 2015, according to UN data. The only country that has had a greater increase in migration was Syria, for obvious reason - the civil war that crumbles that country. Romanians are instead economic migrants and have come to have the largest diaspora in the European Union. UN data show that last year 3,4 million Romanian citizens lived abroad, well above the official estimates made by the Romanian authorities. An estimate of the NBR showed that the GDP in 2014 would have been 50 billion euros higher if foreigners from Romania worked in the same country where they are employed abroad. The demographic decline, much more pronounced in rural areas, will lead to the disappearance of several hundreds of towns and small provincial towns. Decreasing birth rates, doubled by the aging of the population, will drastically change the health care system, which in the coming decades will have to deal more and more with the treatment of degenerative diseases specific to older ages.

In the absence of new generations of young people willing to embrace a military career, the Romanian armed forces will be affected and, implicitly, so will be the national security. [17]

First of all, family and marriage as institutions need to be protected and promoted, both at the value and at the economic level. Secondly, the divorce rate has to be reduced, and cohabitation discouraged. The conclusion of a study by The Economist was that investing in nurseries and kindergartens is the most economically viable solution to boost birth rates. Thirdly, Romanians have to stop killing their future through abortion. Egoism and abortion are not Christian virtues. We have to live not for the moment, but for the future. A small country is not taken seriously. It has no voice. It has no outlet or economy. It has no identity. It has no future. [18]

Romania has already entered the demographic winter: the population decreased by 247 every day in 2016. In Romania, a child under one year of age dies every five hours. Romania is among the EU Member States with the largest population decline in 2015. The working population will decrease by 44% by 2060, reaching about 7.51 million people. Romania will see a population decline of 22.1% by 2050, one of the world's highest falling rates, according to a UN study. [21]

There are 236 daily abortions in Romania, according to INS data. Data released in 2012 by the World Health Organization shows that Romania has the highest abortion rate in Europe: 480 abortions per 1,000 births, which means that almost half of the children conceived are aborted, a rate more than twice as high higher than the EU average.

From the immediate physical consequences of abortion we list: inflammatory genital lesions, abnormal haemorrhage, uterine perforation, infection of the uterus, fallopian tubes or ovaries. The late consequences are: prolonged haemorrhage, pelvic inflammatory disease, menstrual disorders, uterine sinus, problems with subsequent pregnancies, such as sterility, extra uterine pregnancies, spontaneous abortions, premature birth, increased cervical cancer or breast cancer. The psychological consequences, grouped under the generic "post-abortion syndrome", are related to feelings of irresponsible guilt and loss, frustration, depression, pessimism, unwarranted fear, sleep disturbance, emotional liability, loss of self-esteem, even anxious or depressed neurosis, and broken relationship with partner and family, sexual disorders. These symptoms arise because women realize the nature of their loss. It is very different to lose some material, an object, a job, an exam, papers, etc. that can be recovered or replaced, and it is quite another thing to lose a child. Unfortunately, many women are aware of this loss only after the procedure.

On a social level, the high rate of abortions leads to a drastic decrease in birth rates and, implicitly, to the aging of the Romanian population, a serious concern even for the state authorities. [24]

The private obstetrics-gynaecology market enjoyed a huge glare after 1989.

Free market economists are enthusiastic about the benefits of open borders, claiming that they have given businesses access to the cheapest things around the world and provided them with the best deals for consumers. But there is an object of the economic transaction that they are not approaching in the same terms - immigration or the cross-border movement of people. Migrants are generally considered to benefit from immigration - to a large extent, especially if they are moving from a poor country to a rich country. The views are more shared when it comes to the benefits of host countries, but the evidence suggests that they have benefits, albeit to a limited extent.

Certainly, the reality is that countries that send immigrants lose their workforce. This can be a good thing if the country has a high level of unemployment and if the unskilled unemployed are emigrants. The reality is that emigrants frequently emerge - a skilled workforce, a phenomenon known as "brain exodus". One third of immigrants live in developing countries. The main channel through which the country that emits immigrants is affected is the money sent to the country. A significant percentage (60-85%) of these is for current household expenses, thus improving the standard of living of the recipients; money that is not for consumption is invested in small family businesses. The reverse is that the money sent is created with negative human costs, such as family breakdown or neglect of children. [3]

CONCLUSIONS

Ethics is a set of values that has accompanied the history of mankind. Ethicists examine under what conditions a particular action is morally correct or incorrect, trying to provide general criteria in this respect. Ethics accompanies us over the ages, changing its style, *but without disappearing.*

Population is a fundamental element that determines the existence of states and their internal dynamics. *The demographic issue is critical in the case of Romania.* The Romanian government and the country's political class do not seem to be alarmed and there are no immediate, medium and long-term integrated programs on demography, sustainable economic development, education and health. First of all, *family and marriage as institutions need to be protected and promoted, both at the value and at the economic level.* Secondly, *the divorce rate has to be reduced, and cohabitation discouraged.* Thus, investment in health, nurseries and kindergartens is the most economically viable solution for fostering birth rates. Thirdly, *Romanians must stop killing their future through abortion.* Primary education in the first family and Christian dogma should encourage the creation of a new family with many children and good sex education should reduce the rate of abortion. Equally, the issue of ethnic minorities that absorb the sap of the peoples - socially assisted, by education and integration - should also be addressed. It would also be useful to meditate on the problem of trained young people leaving the country in search of better rewards across borders.

There is no universal panacea about what strategies governments should apply to meet these challenges, because the rhythm of senescence is different from one region to another and within a country from one ethnicity to another. Productivity may continue to grow due to IT and service, but to a critical point. What will follow after?

From a different angle, the issue of demographic accounts reflects a current grim reality - major imbalances at the global, regional and even national level, from an ethnic and, implicitly, cultural point of view.

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