About the Influence of Population Growth, Unemployment on the Crime Situation in the Cities of Astana and Almaty

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the study is to draw an analogy with the criminological aspects of unemployed migrants' delinquency in Astana and Almaty, based on the example of the criminal US cities, to develop a solution on the basis of the information received and solutions to emerging conflicts. The article presents solutions in order to improve the efficiency of social and legal control over unemployment and migration flows. The article reviews the main causes of crime, and the comparative analysis between the level of crime and unemployment has been undertaken. There were given recommendations how to normalize those aspects and improve crime situation in the cities. The author raises the question of migratory flows, their importance for the economy and the urban crime. Recommendations for improving the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the migration service were given as well as ways of proper managing and administering migration flows. The paper provides the theoretical recommendations for combating unemployment and improving the lives of migratory flows in order to solve conflict situations and reduce the impact of crime on the basis of the received data about given cities of Kazakhstan.

Introduction

Unemployment is interrelated to crime, and it ceased to be a ground of the crime (Kovacheva, 2014). Unemployment is one of the causes of crime in contemporary society. Changes of the level of recorded crime with opposite vectors occur rapidly, and it is ensured even at low level of the economy (Tauova, 2014). An unrecorded crime is a specific aspect of the study and data analysis,

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and it based on the population growth, the information on registered residents, migrants and emigrants, the measurement of the living standard of an average person, and the overall economic health of the country (World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends, 2016). Emerging economies distinguish with the high rate of citizens who had migrated and the permanent drop in crime rates fluctuations (Keski, 2015). Objective assessment of criminological situation prevailing today, allows to note that the current status of crime and the level crime prevention are among the main factors that destabilize the socioeconomic and political situation (Organized Crime in Kazakhstan: State and Solutions, 2015).

Literature Review

According to the analytical data of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the slowdown in the growth of unemployment and the elimination of the global jobs crisis would not be seen in 2016 and 2017. In this particular case, the emerging markets would take the biggest casualties. According to the ILO report "Prospects for employment and social protection in the world: Trends 2016", it is probable that in 2017 the number of unemployed persons in the world will increase by 1.1 million people. Whereas, in 2015 unemployment in the world made total 197.1 million people, which is 27 million more than before the crisis in 2007 (Organized Crime in Kazakhstan: State and Solutions, 2015).

Spontaneous migration of rural people to the cities occupies a self-contained niche (African migration in the context of contemporary international relations, 2015). This flow is not regulated by state bodies due to the fact that migrants do not consider to register themselves in the territorial bodies of justice. As a result, social tension and crime situation are growing, and it is escalated by the unavailability of housing and low standards of living (Keski, 2015).

In today's context, the flow of illegal immigration continues to increase (Organized Crime in Kazakhstan: State and Solutions, 2015). Approximate percentage of illegal immigrants is 15-20% of the total number of migrants in the world and amounts 30-40 million people. The United States have the largest number of illegal migrants – 10-11 million, or 30% of the total population born outside its national territory. In Europe, the number of illegal immigrants is estimated at the level of 7-8 million people (African migration in the context of contemporary international relations, 2015). Worsening of the migration situation in Europe and growth in the number of illegal immigrants from North Africa and the Middle East are also important problems (International Journal of Economics and Finance, 2014). Especially it concerns African migrants in the United States, where the situation is intensified by a resolution for immigrants to cross the borders of the country (International migration and demographic development, 2016).

Social problems and the rise of difficult economic conditions lead to increasing of the level of youth emigration to other cities (International Journal of Economics and Finance, 2014). As a consequence, there is the extinction of cities and economic burden on neighboring countries. The deterioration of the economy cause a declining in the level of education, morals, and as a consequence the race of violent crimes. The falling of US famous cities (Detroit and St. Louis) illustrated catastrophic mistakes and the way of cities' extinction, that could become the "American dream" and help the economy (Key indicators

of the labor market in the Republic of Kazakhstan). Similar cities form a "Rust Belt" and unsolved problem only worsen the situation. According to the governor of Michigan, one-third of the residents of Detroit (city that declared its bankruptcy and which is one of the most criminal cities in the United States) are living in poverty, one in five – unemployed, 78 thousands abandoned buildings are existing (Davey & Wash, 2013; Committee for Legal Statistics and Special Accounts of the State Office of Public Prosecutor of the Republic of Kazakhstan).

While analyzing the works in the field of criminology and sociology, the main attention is paid to the gathering of statistical data of offenses, demographic mortality / birth and migration fluctuations (Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2015; Producer Price Indexes, 2016; The Metropolitan Police Department). The spatial examination of the problem gives a vague understanding about a person as a potential offender or potential fictitious worker.

Aim of the Study

The purpose of the research lies in the study of criminological aspects of the status of unemployed and migrant criminality in Astana and Almaty. After the analysis of received data, theoretical recommendations that are submitted to improving the effectiveness of social and legal control over unemployment were formulated.

Research questions

What is the migration impact on the growth of unemployment and crime?

Methods

The study of different aspects of the research is possible on the ground of combining different commonly used methodologies, such as systematic, historical and legal, comparative, axiological methods and special approaches like statistical method, methods of classification, systematic and structural analysis, and synergetic methods.

Data, Analysis, and Results

The economically inactive population consists of classes of individuals who could be able to work under certain conditions: flexible hours, part-time working day, and light labor. Those classes are:

1. pupils and students, attendees and cadets who go educational institutions;

2. persons receiving an old-age pension and at reduced rates, a survivor's pension when they reach pension qualification age and a disability pension (I, II, III categories);

3. persons engaged in housekeeping, caring for children, sick relatives etc.;

4. discouraged workers, in other words, persons who have stopped searching for job, having exhausted all the potentialities of its obtaining, but who are able and willing to work;

5. Other persons, who do not need to work, regardless of the source of their income.

On the recommendation of the International Labor Organization, unemployment rate is calculated by relation of the total number of unemployed to the number of labor force, formulated as a percentage. The unemployment rate in Kazakhstan is calculated with using of statistical information received through the questionnaire (survey) population of the state. To determine the number of unemployed people in the Republic of Kazakhstan a special a technique "Method of determining the number of self-employed, their level of monthly average income and unemployed population" have been developed (Producer Price Indexes, 2016).

By using this technique, the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan provide unemployment figures for the period 2014-2016 years (fig. 1).

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2014												
Economically active population, thous. peop	9051,7	9050,9	9050,8	9103,8	9116,7	9114,7	9135,5	9137,2	9137,4	9109,6	9109,6	9109,9
Working population, thous. people	8586,9	8587,1	8587,3	8641,8	8655,4	8654,9	8677,1	8679,4	8679,3	8651,2	8651	8651,1
Unemployed population, thous. People	464,8	463,8	463,5	462	461,3	459,8	458,4	457,8	458,1	458,4	458,6	458,8
Rate of unemployment, %	5,1	5,1	5,1	5,1	5,1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
2015												
Economically active population, thous. peop	8933,6	8866	8890,2	9023,4	9023,9	9024,1	9076,9	9080,5	9077,8	8959,3	8959,4	8966,7
Working population, thous. people	8483	8420	8444,3	8574,9	8575,3	8575,7	8630,9	8637,4	8635,5	8512,8	8508,4	8510,9
Unemployed population, thous. people	450,5	446	445,7	448,5	448,6	448,4	446	443,1	442,3	446,5	451	455,8
Rate of unemployment, %	5	5	5	5	5	5	4,9	4,9	4,9	5	5	5,1
2016												
Economically active population, thous. peop	8909,6	8902,3	8909,7	8954,5								
Working population, thous. People	8460,1	8459,7	8470,4	8515,2								
Unemployed population, thous. People	449,5	442,6	439,3	439,3								
Rate of unemployment, %	5,1	5	4,9	4,9								

Figure 1. Key figures labor market by months 2014-2016.

As the result, in terms of the city of national significance, according to officially declared unemployment rate of 5.1% in Astana and 5.4% in Almaty, 662 thousand of people do not actually have a job, and one of the three does not have a steady income or lives on social allowance. Such balance is extended to the whole Kazakhstan.

Throughout Kazakhstan, the number is 5.48 million people (economically active population of 9.1 million people.). As of the current date, the employment rate for the population in the age of 15 and older in Kazakhstan amounts 67.5%. Unoccupied or unproductively employed persons are 1.89 million people, the economically inactive population are 3, 59 million people (Producer Price Indexes, 2016).

Due to reported crime statistics of the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan (The Metropolitan Police Department) the data on reduction of the criminality over the period of 2014-2016 was received (Fig. 2).
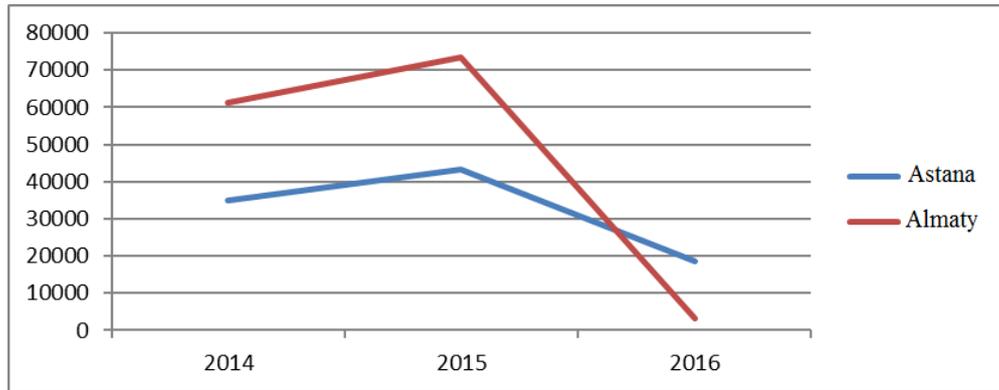
Figure 2. Indicators of crime in Astana and Almaty for 2014-2015.

As stated above, unemployment is directly related to criminal activity. In order to prove it, the official data on labor market indicators should be taken and compared with rates of crime indicators in selected cities.

City of St. Louis

The official labor market data on the employed and unemployed population and the unemployment rating over the period of 2014-2016 are given below by month (Fig. 3).

Year	Period	labor force	employment	unemployment	unemployment rate
2014	Jan	1436685(R)	1331097(R)	105588(R)	7.3(R)
2014	Feb	1451518(R)	1338823(R)	112695(R)	7.8(R)
2014	Mar	1455163(R)	1348435(R)	106728(R)	7.3(R)
2014	Apr	1452351(R)	1367032(R)	85319(R)	5.9(R)
2014	May	1460374(R)	1369432(R)	90942(R)	6.2(R)
2014	Jun	1472935(R)	1377879(R)	95056(R)	6.5(R)
2014	Jul	1477290(R)	1378966(R)	98324(R)	6.7(R)
2014	Aug	1456973(R)	1364889(R)	92084(R)	6.3(R)
2014	Sep	1452308(R)	1370093(R)	82215(R)	5.7(R)
2014	Oct	1462815(R)	1386699(R)	76116(R)	5.2(R)
2014	Nov	1459268(R)	1382109(R)	77159(R)	5.3(R)
2014	Dec	1452213(R)	1377999(R)	74214(R)	5.1(R)
2015	Jan	1458738(R)	1374538(R)	84200(R)	5.8(R)
2015	Feb	1466058(R)	1380644(R)	85414(R)	5.8(R)
2015	Mar	1469120(R)	1385846(R)	83274(R)	5.7(R)
2015	Apr	1479788(R)	1405956(R)	73832(R)	5.0(R)
2015	May	1492826(R)	1415038(R)	77788(R)	5.2(R)
2015	Jun	1497433(R)	1418502(R)	78931(R)	5.3(R)
2015	Jul	1500235(R)	1418569(R)	81666(R)	5.4(R)
2015	Aug	1484321(R)	1411325(R)	72996(R)	4.9(R)
2015	Sep	1477176(R)	1410892(R)	66284(R)	4.5(R)
2015	Oct	1487365(R)	1421950(R)	65415(R)	4.4(R)
2015	Nov	1481282(R)	1416021(R)	65261(R)	4.4(R)
2015	Dec	1482730(R)	1419341(R)	63389(R)	4.3(R)
2016	Jan	1480125	1404061	76064	5.1
2016	Feb	1492862	1415204	77658	5.2
2016	Mar	1490985(P)	1415543(P)	75442(P)	5.1(P)

Figure 3. Basic indicators of labor market of St. Louis (monthly) over the period of 2014-2016.

R: The data was revised April 15, 2016

P: Preliminary

After receiving the data from the reports of the local police of St. Louis, the criminal activity can be monitored and compared with the indicator of employment in the city (Fig. 4) (Yu Peng Lin, 2014).

2016	2015	2014
66	188	159

Figure 4. Official data of criminal offenses in St. Louis over the period of 2014-2016.

The rate of unemployment in St. Louis remains high, and criminal activity remains in the first place among all cities in the USA.

Detroit

According to police sources, in comparison with 2014 violent crimes against property have decreased.

City authorities reported about a decline of stolen cars by 23%, from 10.356 in 2014 to 7,938 last year; 18% reduction in robberies, from 3,806 to 3,103, and a reduction by 15% of burglaries, from 10,600 to 9.027 (Key indicators of the labor market in the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2013; Office of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation).

Statistics of crime rates were received due to official labor market data on employment of the population of Detroit and the security reports of city police (Fig. 6).
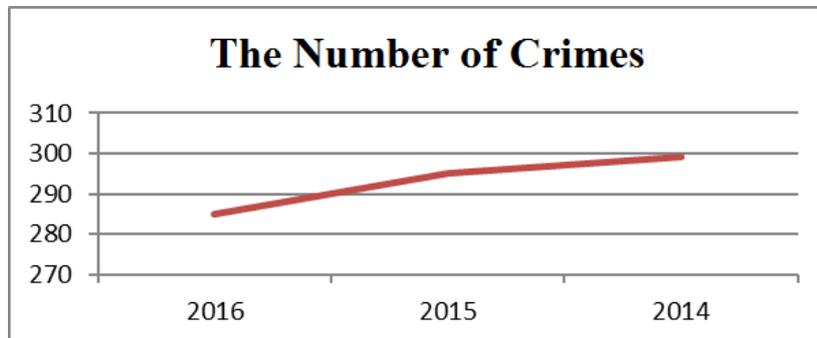
Figure 5. Figures of crimes in Detroit 2014-2016

In addition, the Detroit Police Department (2011) reports that the murder rate declined by 1% from 2014 to 2015. If we take the statistics for the last two years, the percentage of murders reduced to 11%, which is the lowest figure in the last 50 years (Key indicators of the labor market in the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2013; Criminology: Text edition, 2013).

Outside of above mentioned, the impact of illegal migration flows in the development of crime in the countries and visitors' impact on unemployment in the cities should be emphasized. Considerable migration flows have a significant impact on the criminological situation. They create additional difficulties for the operational and preventive activities of law enforcement agencies.

Forced migration typically associated with the migrants' loss of social status, loss of homes, jobs or finding a better life. In the places of arrival,

housing and employment became a topical issue for them. The question of finding a job toughened in terms of unemployment. Such migrations differ from organized migrations, which are dictated by the operational need. As a rule, in such case, the migrant is guaranteed jobs, wages and housing.

By contrast, internally displaced persons who already have suffered considerable economic and social losses. In the new places of living, they are even in the worst conditions, what makes the process of adaptation more complicated. These external factors of the social environment interact with the personal attributes of the migrants. Many people are stressed. These objective and subjective reasons make migrants most vulnerable target for all sorts of negative influences. They commit crimes by themselves, or can easily become victims of it.

From the history of the city's development, formation and decline can be lined up in the chain (Tokubaev, 2015). Detroit and St. Louis were the economically strong cities with vast territories and had the interest of the tourists. At this date, according to statistics and figures in the world, these cities are abandoned and almost deserted. Nevertheless, the trend of decline can be reviewed on their example.

1. Such social feature as uncontrolled migration of the Afro-American population causes the so-called "White flight". In other words, it means immigration of the solvent population to the city outskirts, where they live calmly and with a less numbers of migrants.

2. Economic "starvation". Due to the fact that city centers have become empty because of the increase of crime level committed by immigrants, income-productive shops, entertainment complexes begin to close. The economic situation does not allow to recondition roads, to get a decent income in order to redirect it to the needs of the city.

3. The decline of educational level. The level of education begins to go down, not receiving revenues from the city budget, and it leads to a shortage of specialists.

4. Unemployment.

5. The jump in crime and the final decline of the economy.

The cities of Astana and Almaty are in the similar situation. The number of incomers to Almaty from other regions of the Republic and foreign countries have increased by 2.2 times, compared to the relevant period of 2014. Positive migration balance was 10.8 thousand people.

It should be noted that the sectoral laws introduce legal restrictions in the case of a criminal record in employment. On the basis of item 1.9 of article 31 of the Labor Code, the note on existence or absence of a criminal record is given only at the conclusion of the contract in the field of education, childcare, recreation and health, physical culture and sports, health care, social services, culture and art in case of the participation of minors. However, the facts of unjustified denial of employment subjected to a criminal record, including expired or expunged, are noticed in other fields.

In order to avoid such incidents, and to observe item 3 of article 26 of the Labor Code, we propose to exclude criminal record certificate from the list of necessary documents for the conclusion of an employment contract. At the same time, we believe it is appropriate to oblige the organization in the fields related

to the participation of minors, independently seek information on accounting of Committee for Legal Statistics and Special Accounts (CLSSA) without the participation of a person who getting a job. In other cases, after receiving a request from legal bodies from other fields of work, to refuse in providing the required information. In addition, within the framework of the state service "The providing of information about the presence or absence of data about commission of an offence on CLSSA accounting", we believe it is necessary to exclude the provision of information on expired or expunged criminal records and the facts of the criminal prosecution. The unemployed persons officially unregistered in this status have the highest rate of criminal activity. Therefore, the entire spectrum of treatment should be directed to them. The people from marginal segment should be involved in different kinds of public works; thereby they would be given an opportunity to earn money fast. In addition, the positive experience of foreign countries shows the possible involvement of unemployed persons to the protection of public order, patrolling the streets for a certain charge.

Taking into account, the influence factors of low-skilled migrants on the example of the American cities, effective ways to control unemployment and criminological factors are suggested.

The experts of the International Organization for Migration of Kazakhstan offered a number of mechanisms for the integration of migrants into society. It was recommended to develop special programs involving employing centers and the akimat. Social services of special assistance to migrants should be facilitated since the arrival of a person, giving him accommodation, registration, legal assistance, job search, etc. They should be located near the railway and bus stations. General preventative activity is important for both the local population and for the various contingents of visitants, including foreigners. However, along with this, it is important to make the proper legal regulation of foreigners' stay in the country.

Regulation of unemployment among young people is also a very important factor. Due to the absence of an active social position at this age, young people should be stimulated to look for work through a wide access to information about vacancies and other opportunities of legitimate income through television, radio, media and other sources of telecommunications, in crowded places.

In pursuing these aims to create a unified government database of vacancies (on a one-window basis). At the moment, social programs exist to help the population, especially in the need of state support – "Road Map for Employment – 2020". However, the targeted social assistance persons under the age of 25 years with secondary education should be strengthened under this program. Since the criminological portrait of an offender was composed, the peak of criminal activity at the age from 18 to 26 years has been distinguished. Alternatively, young people without work experience should be assigned to work in large enterprises within the framework of the state order (quotas) (for example, with the regular staffing of 100 people). Certain minors, who reached their psychological sustainability, can be involved in volunteer activities on a fee basis

There is a need of the formation of conditions for employment growing of population around big cities in case of supplying the provisions. The building of small greenhouses, milk processing factories, creameries and other similar

objects funded from the State budget is possible, with the possibility of further transmission in operative administration. The right of the privatization should be revised, after particular time, with the effective implementation of the activities. Otherwise, the objects should be given to other aspired individuals.

Discussion and Conclusion

Concluded the methods and recommendations to the problem of increasing of the criminal activity among young people, we compared them with the decisions of G. Sovetovna (Kovacheva, 2014). Crime statistics in Kazakhstan is marked in her work, and special attention is focused on the analysis of criminals taking into account adequacy of the family. The author proposes a methodology based on humanism and legislative frameworks: the mitigation of the procedures and conditions for serving sentences, the using of conditional release, the decriminalization of penalties by increasing severity, but without isolation from society, the abolition of capital punishment, the revision of life imprisonment, the legislative regulation of punishment for certain categories of prisoners (juveniles).

The emphasis of this work has placed on the solution to a cause of youth crime and on the addressing unemployment as a factor that leads to the commission of offenses.

There were also analyzed works of another author, in which he proposed the creation of a single system to combat organized crime, the involvement of the society in such a system, and the learning from international experience (Crime Statistics in Detroit).

On the basis of analyzed works of this type, the following thing was noticed. None of the works does not give such statistics on cities and a comparative analysis on the basis of law enforcement data, and does not used historical references. This work is characterized by the fact that not only shows the statistics and description, but also a deep analysis of offender, the ability to solve problems and challenges of demographic order. Defined methods fight not only against an increase in crime among the population, but also against the cause of violations of the young population.

During the work on the issue, statistical analysis of the American cities that have the biggest levels of crime and decay have been carried out. Studying the history of these cities, typical mistakes and social features, leading to the destruction of the economy, uncontrolled migration and increased crime have been marked out. This example demonstrates how solutions and recommendations for cities of this type were withdrawn, spheres of influence, criminal motives; possible preventive measures and explanation of selected recommendations were described. The analysis of the main criminological factors of Astana and Almaty was undertaken. The socio-legal and criminological characteristics of the unemployment and migration consequences were studied and adduced; and the review of the legal means and organizational measures to prevent unemployment and migration was carried out.

The article offers theoretical methods to combat crime and reduce unemployment in the big cities.

Implications and Recommendations

The decline in production, rise of unemployment, increased social tension will contribute to the high-level crime danger. The decisive role in the crime prevention among the unemployed belong to the national response measures taken to address the systemic social crisis. Specific attention should be paid to measures that contribute to the improvement of relations in the spiritual and moral sphere. The effectiveness of crime prevention among the unemployed is provided through the combination of preventive, economic, social, legal, ideological and organizational measures.

The level of unemployment and crime can be reduced by improving the information support of the labor market. One should encourage young people to find work by means of providing wider access to information on job vacancies in the media, through the establishment of unified national database of vacancies (according to the one-window principle).

The paper determined that the dependence of crime on unemployment in its brightest manifestation related to the offenses conducted by the unemployed. The study defined patterns and trends of that type of crime, personal characteristics and qualities, crime prevention specificity.

The presented analysis of qualitative indicators of unemployment rate indicates a serious mismatch between supply and demand in the labor market. The paper provided a set of actionable recommendations, the implementation of which would improve the crime situation. In addition, it considered the problems of migration and their impact on the crime increase.

Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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