

#### Socio-economic Impact of the Migration of Colombia to the United States

Julieth Martinez Bedoya

**Deisy Paola Hernandez** 

University Institution Esumer
International Studies School
Medellín, Colombia
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## Impacto socio-económico de las migraciones de Colombia hacia Estados Unidos Julieth Martinez Bedoya

#### **Deisy Paola Hernandez**

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# Impacto socio-económico de las migraciones de Colombia hacia Estados Unidos

That migration be an "ordered and human process, always respecting the human's rights"

-Felipe Calderón Hinojosa speaking to lawmaker's legislators in California

# Impacto socio-económico de las migraciones de Colombia hacia Estados Unidos

#### **Thanks**

We thank firmly, our consultant Dusan Praj, for his patience, dedication and motivation. It has been a privilege to have your help and support.

## Impacto socio-económico de las migraciones de Colombia hacia Estados Unidos

#### **Summary**

This paper brings together the information needed to give the reader a comprehensive and detailed overview of the trends that has had Colombia migration over time, identifies the motivations of those who plan to settle outside the country, the effects it has had mobility of Colombians abroad, both for the country of origin and destination. Moreover, it is established through statistical and graphical features and profiles of Colombian migrant's data.

It will make use of secondary sources in conducting this study, mainly the official website, Migration Colombia, in order to have updated and secure.

In addition to this, information from other pages, books were taken, and national newspapers.

#### **Keywords:**

Colombia, migration, remittances, economy, United States.

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#### List of Symbols and Abbreviations List of Abbreviations

**TCM** Technical Cooperation for Migration

MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**IOM** International Organization for Migration

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#### Introduction

Over time, migration talking basically meant the movement of people including not only the voluntary transfer but also was taken as a reference to forced displacement. Today, with the phenomena of globalization, market expansion, population growth, the reduction of international barriers and above all, changes in the political dynamics have made the term "migration" a subject of wide discussion, involving all areas of social, cultural, economic and political.

With reference to the above, views on migration have changed the so persistent emphasis on population issues and have passed figures and statisticians to be topics of interest to any area of data. Following this, they have emerged a number of divergent views on the issue of migration, for some, have been well received and are seen as a development mechanism generally to the South, but for others, is a measure that causes social and economic systems in sending countries and receiving damage. Consequently, these setbacks, the issue of migration has been a matter of interest to a question of prevention, management, planning and control to countries in general.

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Moreover, this phenomenon, regardless of how it is made, has caused drastic changes in both social structures and economic issues. Through this work it is to identify the causes, motivations and more significant effects, ranging from the so-called brain drain, remittances, creating international networks, regulators, and mechanisms to protect the migrant population, unstable economies, internal conflict, unemployment, and the fragmentation of families.

## 1. Project Formulation

## 1.1 Background

Many focused on the issue of migration, historians agree that migratory flows have been, and remain, primary focuses of cultural, social and economic change. However, it is not possible to define how many people rightly was "migrants" at a particular time in history, there is evidence styles sedentary and migratory life that lived during all periods of world history.

On the one hand, World War II is often recognized as an important event in the history of migration. A considerable number of people able to benefit from migration programs established by the United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina Lots of people displaced by World War II took advantage of these programs migration.

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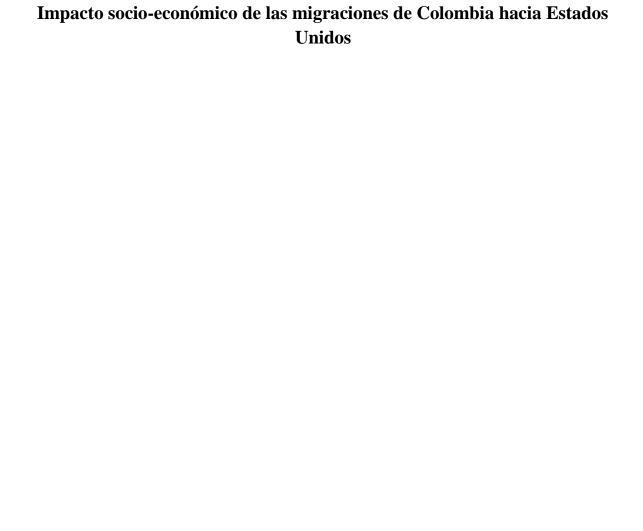
These countries looked at migration as a right opportunity to increase its population and the adequacy of its workforce, at the moment who sought to take full advantage of the economic boom of the postwar period. "It Populate or perish" was one of the slogans raised by those who usually implemented migration programs, plan superior infrastructure development projects, such as dams, hydroelectric plants, and irrigation systems.

A migration industry was created to lead highly subsidized modes of transport and travel logistics and to administer the promotion, mobilization and selection of migrants.

In Colombia, a progressive migration propensity has its beginnings in the sixties, migration corresponds to the end of the bipartisan violence of the fifties is shown. Since the mid-sixties, Colombia began to suffer important migratory waves, which is classified as the country with the largest amount of immigrants in South America.

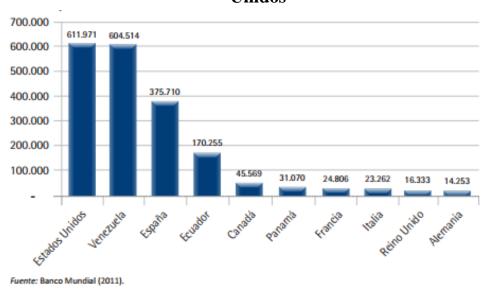
DANE, census from 2005, estimated the number of Colombians living abroad is 3,378,345. There are an estimated 4,700,000, but denies that the official data is thrown by DANE. However, one would expect from the next census in the country is able to renew this data so we can give a more accurate account of the number of Colombians abroad.

Based on DANE data it is obtained that the main destination of Colombians abroad is the United States with 36.4% followed by Spain 20%, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela 3.1%, 2% and Canada. There are also data from the World Bank, which is the same as first target the United States, considering various studies on Colombian migration; we can say that is a predominant economic migration. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2012)



Graphic 1. Top destinations of Colombian migrants according to the World Bank

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According to the DANE, calculated from the 2005 census, "The department with the highest concentration of immigrants corresponds to the Valle del Cauca, with 23.14%, followed by Bogotá, with a 17.59% and Antioquia, with a 17.73%. These are followed Risaralda, with 6.93%; Atlantic, with 5.82%; Quindío, with 3.26%, and Norte de Santander, with 2.56%. The remaining percentage (26.97%) corresponds to other departments "(Migration Profile, 2012, p.44).

According to data released by the Pew Hispanic Research Center (research center dedicated to providing information about various issues and trends in the United States and the world) to 2010 the population of Colombians in the United States was about 972,000 inhabitants, of which 538,000 were immigrants (2012).

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When analyzing the percentage of Colombians in the United States by sex, which is 44.6% men and 55.3% women, which means that women are more likely to be victims of trafficking networks, requested domestic work, many migrant women are single mothers, so that money sent to their country of origin, is the livelihood of their families.

With regard to the geographic location of Colombians in the United States, the Pew Hispanic Research Center 2012 data found primarily in the Northeast in New York 150,000, 99,000 in New Jersey, in the south, 330,000 in Florida, 51,000 in Texas in the west, in the state of California is home to approximately 70,000 Colombians.

Map 1 in the main countries where the Colombians are specified. These figures can be explained because technological advances have reduced transportation costs and travel times, enabling migration, also the demand for labor has increased in industrialized countries, tempting more migrants from countries in developing.

Map 1. Map of the main states where Colombians arrive in the United States

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Sourse: Pew Hispanic Research Center (2012)

In the case of the United States, early immigration was the result of major reforms to immigration law. According Guarnizo "Much of Colombian migrants who came to the United States were university professionals, particularly doctors and engineers" (The state and global migration colombiana.2004. p.85) In the mid-seventies, the migratory flow and diversified and made room not only university graduates but also labor, traders and entrepreneurs middle class.

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#### 1.1.1 State of Art

The challenge of deepening and interpret further, in order to increase the critical value in light of certain theoretical after performing a first collection of data available, appears.

According to the Encyclopedia Universal International migration it is "the social phenomenon that is the movement of population from the native country abroad or vice versa." In ancient times, population displacement mode possibly took apartment without some definite purpose, determined by the search for better living conditions.

The International Organization for Migration provides a consideration of migration in early twenty-first century, exposing it as one of the defining global issues, as in the history of mankind, more and more than ever people are move from one place to another. There are currently about 192 million people living outside their country of origin, which represents about 3% of the world population, this means that one of every thirty-five people in the world is a migrant. (International Organization for Migration, IOM. 2014)

Since then, they are alarming figures, which reflect the imbalance between countries and regions, since these cannot solve internal conflicts, relatively countries appearing in the developing

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world, where uncertainty about the likely solutions to their problems arise, and with it the inability to improve the quality of life in a moderate period of time.

David Heer, in his book undocumented Mexicans in the United States (1993) notes that the determinants of the propensity to migrate are four:

"Factors associated with the area of origin, factors associated with the target area, obstacles involved and personal factors" (p.18).

These factors weigh heavily on international migration of Colombia, whose growth is deeply linked to the global and local situation. The main factors of migration in Colombia are, in search of job opportunities, considering the demand for unskilled labor at low cost, in developing countries, the product of globalization on increasing labor force examines increased allocation in developed countries. It also causes such as family reunification, improved levels of quality of life and offering higher education studies in other states meet.

Consequently, the progressive influence and economic, political and cultural importance of migrants in their own countries of origin is also evidence.

The first migrations are rooted in man's inability to withstand natural phenomena. Sandoval, Eduardo, migration and identity in his book (1993) writes. "The root causes of migration at present,

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which change depending on the needs of the human being, becoming noticeable in the political, cultural, social, economic, demographic and psychological landscape" (p.25).

In this way, it analyzes how the new communities join others already stressed, preventing disintegration, which is a complex issue for migrants, since this depends on a level playing field to which they meet, both in their social relations such as the creation of new work, friendly or amorous ties.

As set Serrow Charles William and Nam, as Handbook on International Migration (1999):

Migration is the most difficult to document properly demographic process. This is because it often does not distinguish the different types of migration, permanent and non-permanent existing mechanisms to collect information and see no information is obtained about the subject, but approximate numbers of migratory flows. (P.13)

It can be said that the calculation of the magnitude of migration flows and the amount of Colombians living abroad is a difficult task. Well, first, although there are countries with mechanisms leading recording these movements, people who leave and enter legally are only included, reflecting the complexity of getting an exact figure of people illegally entering a country.

Although the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) has a program that Colombians living abroad are registered by consulates, these do not occur for different reasons, which involve a

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difficult displacement, or the fact perceive the meeting, which will be judged by the law, it creates fear.

On the other hand, however the population censuses of the countries of destination are a good approach to the number of Colombians abroad, underreporting is also presented for reasons of lawlessness and fear of foreign authorities.

About the different types of migration, the authors: Stephen Castles and Mark Miller in his book The Age of Migration (2004) express. "It is necessary to distinguish between migration motivated by economic issues and forced migration" (p.43) The first is caused by young people, study reasons, employment or tourism, motivated to achieve their goals, in order to have a better lifestyle. The movements are different in the case of people

Migrate voluntarily and those who are obliged, for reasons of threats, violation, coercion or natural causes, forced to leave their country of origin, as set out in this life, to move to commonly poorest countries with an unstable political.

The report the rise of the second generation, calculated: "By 2020 almost half of the growth of the Latino population in the United States come from the second generation, i.e. the children of Hispanic immigrants" (Pew Center for Hispanic Studies, 2014). Thus Hispanics represent the largest group of foreign descent, since they constitute a large percentage of people born to foreign

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parents or mixed couples abroad or at home. The distinction between adult immigrants and children of immigrants is very important to understand the involvement with the criminal justice system.

The report shows that all generations of Latinos will have a huge impact on their quality of life, due to the high birth rate and overpopulation of immigrants, so that they will lower odds of enjoying the benefits of a country, such as it is health, education and employment.

It is indicated that Hispanic children of immigrant parents show the worst indicators of poverty and average salary for housing, when confronted with other groups immigrant parents. Also they suffer increased risk of infant mortality and low levels of health insurance.

Also in the book PICUM Solidarity assistance to undocumented immigrants (2003) speaks of "How the labor market has been increasingly segmented, so much so that today some jobs are directly associated with immigrant labor" (p.18). This shows that the lack of legal status, cause that immigrants are in an increasingly precarious situation, their human rights are violated, thus cites the need for which PICUM (Platform for created International cooperation on undocumented Migrants), which is a non-governmental organization that promotes respect for human rights of undocumented migrants, which aims to prevent and avoid any exploitation towards undocumented workers and their families.

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#### 1.2 Problem Statement

Throughout history, humans have been characterized as essentially nomadic, because it moved in search of food to survive.

For centuries, one of the reasons for migration was the wars and religion. Currently, most of the people who emigrate from their countries of origin do in order to escape poverty or in search of better quality of life, making this problem, most motivating people to migrate to other territories. Although previously, had greater risks, more restrictions and legal requirements to leave the country, migration has been increasing significantly until today.

Currently, the main cause of migration, it is because the distribution of opportunities in the world is extremely uneven. Because of the lack of opportunities, the more likely the result, no doubt, is the massive migration. Migration peaks coincide with structural problems of the economy and the need for migrants to seek alternatives to forced by the difficulty of finding them in their country, region or hometown life. Migration, in this sense, is forced character, because practically is not presented as an alternative but almost as an obligation.

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#### 1.3 Justification

#### **1.3.1 Theoretical justification**

Understand and make an approach to the immigration issue is so complex as to study, mainly because this requires having input from different areas of knowledge, and secondly because they have great importance in the structures of the countries. However, the migration dynamics of Colombia and its importance in the international context, become the subject of migration in a trend of common interest to all the Columbian population.

On the other hand, migration is a topic that eventually comes to involving the entire Colombian population, and are the opportunities; there are those who do not intend to immigrate to another country, but against the needs and the desire to improve, begin to consider the idea of enfrentase into new territory, a new culture, a different economy, one political regime, another religion, and a number of aspects that must be faced.

#### 1.3.2 Social justification

One of the natural tendencies in the Columbian migrations, is the average age of the people who make the decision to leave the country, where young people predominate, could then say that migration went from being an option because few, and became the decision of a large number of people, mainly young, which may indicate this fact, is that maybe this segment of people, mostly young, maybe there are opportunities in the country, may also such opportunities are unknown to them, or else they have opportunities but they are considered sufficient for this market segment.

#### 1.3.3 Justification staff

The migration in Colombia means a loss of citizens who had the opportunity to contribute in the development of the country because of better opportunities abroad either social, occupational,

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professional in general, this made a part interest in knowing such causes and effects that have in both countries and thus provide objective input to this problem has been increasing in recent years.

## 1.4 Objectives

#### 1.4.1 General Purpose

Determine the Socio economic impact caused migration for both Colombia and the United States.

#### 1.4.2 Specific objectives

- Establish what are the economic, social and political factors that influence the decision to migrate.
- Identify treaties and programs relating to emigration and accompaniment Colombians in the United States.
- Ask about the processes of legalization in the United States are carried to determine the importance that Colombia has had to migration.

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## 1.5 Methodological framework

One of the main reasons that increase the migratory problem is the absence of a regulatory system that focuses on the one hand, to information management and other structuring mechanisms to provide to the migrant a guarantee on labor issues, family, social, educational and everything related to the well-being in humans.

In the case of Colombia, there is a need to incorporate an information system conducive to good management of the data, but also identify the problems that the population live outside of Colombia.

The introduction of this mechanism, would give countries the ability to maintain order between inputs and outputs of the country, and would reduce the social and economic consequences posed by both countries of origin and destination.

So far, the country has mechanisms for regulating migration processes, but has not been known until now a mechanism not only provides protection and financial assistance to the immigrant community, but also this gives you the ability to access other opportunities within their country of origin, ie, a mechanism to provide potential migrants other than to leave their country alternatives, and that not only gives them advice, but also make a detailed process monitoring, which reduce the continuous mobility of people across borders and consequently social, cultural and political issues of immigration society, this does not determine the total reduction in migration, only give

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the general public a wider view of the opportunities facing waiting for other countries and which has at its disposal.

#### **1.5.1 Method**

Within the development of this project it is considered important that an analysis of the contexts in which they interact and live Colombians do, the situations you face, the chances of return, regulatory mechanisms, and anything that involves the issue of migration. From this, it will use charts, maps, graphs and information obtained during the performance of work, in order to make a complete and detailed analysis.

#### 1.5.2 Methodology

The type of methodology used for the execution of this project is to literature, research, and analytical type, since it is a topic that has basic information, also, issues related to this are of general interest, due to the importance of this phenomenon of globalization and its impact on economic and social processes in countries

Due to this, relevant information will be collected through books, websites, blogs, virtual platforms, institutions, and physical documentation in general. From the facts that are intimately related to migration, its causes and effects. To answer the huge variety of questions that arise from a research process of this nature requires of course an extensive theoretical reflection,

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comprehensive and innovative design and methodological structuring, and finally the implementation of a research process on the realities concrete where migratory processes occur.

#### 1.6 Scope

This study will explore the migratory flow of Colombians to the United States, through deep research abarracaran mainly social and economic data that affect the processes of both countries. In this research it is to analyze statistical data through the problems and the opportunities presented by the migratory pattern of Colombians to the United States, must provide the features and benefits of integrating technology tools research will be conducted in the city of Medellin in 2015.

## 2. Implementation of the Project

#### Socio-Economic Impact of Immigration in America

The countries currently suffer emigration, are as discussed above, developing countries, which is associated with rates of migrants do not come from the less developed and poorer countries. (Guillermo Ramirez, 2014.p.138).

The social and economic impacts increase in relation to the population involved, the most notorious and obvious effects are undoubtedly social and economic, being a natural consequence of the process, which takes place at international borders, with the opening of new markets, emerge those who do not adapt to change and are adapted, through migration, in search not of the more

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prosperous, but economically and socially stable places, which reveal strength, good trade relations, investment and better opportunities.

Social connections are born through student exchange programs, scholarships, diplomatic missions, trade, granting of new titles and employment, these are some of the incentives, which people decide to emigrate. (Ana Lucia Gazzola, Axel Didriksson, 2003.p.181)

The internationalization process that countries currently live, bring the output of Colombians in search of better opportunities, so it is important to highlight the impact that this can bring about economic development of the issuing country and recipient of migrants.

This topic is the focus discussed visions, which makes greater emphasis on the impact of migration on receiving countries.

The preponderance of illegal immigration, creates disturbing for native social tensions, introducing new social classes, sometimes generating strong resistance, by tradition, such as values, customs and way of relating and relationships native and foreign, tend to become strained, causing conflicts over ethnic, cultural condition, there may be clashes of ideas both in working life and academic, also is the subject of integration which covers the topic of immigrant cultures, for links they are thus more or less.

Also migrants and their families, demanding health services, education, fun, thereby reducing the quality of these, due to demand and increasing costs of these.

Immigration can be an opportunity to learn from other imaginary, of other traditions, thanks to migrants, the US economy has grown significantly. (Roberto Gonzalez, 2013.p.1).

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Thus, migration should be recognized as a positive force for development.

Moreover, it is argued that migration tends to have a rise in unemployment in the host country. (BBVA, 2009).

Upon receiving migratory flows, as presented consequences: increased workforce, declining wages of natives; migrants from competing with for jobs, it is considered that migrants usually are willing to work in low-skilled sector, as is domestic service, cleaning, agriculture, construction, they are hired to perform dangerous work, dirty, heavy, commonly people from the country agree not perform, this does not mean that migrants are unprepared, lack of education or knowledge s to work in another job, the fact of being illegal in another country, without documentation makes these choose to work in an unskilled sector, much higher than that offered in their home country salary, so they are willing to admit reduction of employees, lower wages, in this case workers host country are an unavoidable situation, opting to accept lower wages, resulting in the reduction of wages in the country.

The general consensus about means that in a 10% increase in the proportion of the population of immigrant wages of native workers decreased between 1 and 4% in the US in real terms (BBVA, 2004.p.4).

However, if immigrants lack the skills that employers demand and find it difficult to adapt, immigration can significantly increase the costs associated with maintaining the programs and exacerbate existing in the host country wage differentials. (George Borjas, 1994.p.2).

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The results about the impact of immigration are ambiguous, while some studies indicate negative impacts, others justify a positive impact in the receiving country, such as the rejuvenation of the workforce, bringing with it an improvement in productivity, greater performance and efficiency, suitable for replacing employees who leave, automatically performing a quick removal of excess vacancies restructuring.

If legal immigrants are quickly incorporated into working life, with a stable salary system may be contributing, helping to improve stability in the future finances of the social security systems of the country, such as disability benefits, retirement is They pay the taxes paid by each employee every month. According to a study by a research organization based in Washington. "Increased immigration has the potential to reduce the deficit over the next 75 years to 7.3%." (Center for American Progress, 2014, p.1). Which means that in the long term will improve the financial situation of the system if there is an inclusion of immigrants, facilitating that economic policy making in this way, if immigration increases the labor supply, it contributes to stimulate speed at which the economy spreads, benefiting fiscal policy, in addition to increasing the labor supply, immigration causes labor costs to be sustained without causing significant variations in prices, detensioning tenacity of monetary policy.

So, if immigrants increase, the level of consumption of both goods, such as services, is increased since a large part of these make any type of work, which generate income and thus demand in the market, increasing the use the number of job vacancies for people, both domestic and foreign rises; often immigrants, are their own business, making companies create jobs and

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future, as many of them are entrepreneurs, thus cooperating to increase economic productivity of the country. (Ricard Zapata, Gemma Aubarell, 2004.p.59)

Another example which shows the rise in productivity, the workforce, the host country is enjoying the human capital of migrants, without having made any investment in this, since the studies, the experience that are required, obtained in their country of origin, also these enable people coming, you can perform other activities that require more effort, time and dedication, these employ immigrants in housework and therefore you can spend performing work activities.

Also, immigrants are employees of companies that need to be competitive in prices, which do not have a financial muscle, and therefore are not intended to pay higher wages, thus hire these workers, reducing costs, keeping current workers and may well compete with larger firms.

Colombian immigrants also bring savings, as they have a strong tendency to save, to achieve their goals.

It should be noted that when immigrants with high levels of productivity and quickly adapt to the labor market conditions of the destination can make a significant contribution to economic growth. (George Borjas, 1994.p.2).

Thus, immigration is a component in the increase in total factor productivity of economies, expanding production opportunities, and indeed potential growth.

Socio-Economic Impact of the Emigration to Colombia

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Colombia must understand the migration process from its social and economic dimension. In general, the authors agree in indicating that the escape of labor is harmful to the sending country and if it is highly skilled work, which adversely affects the economic output of the issuing country, since the United States, It offers better job options, scholarships and exchanges to study English and highest in those who currently earn, so you are encouraged to travel salaries.

It states that migrant workers are basically Colombia are among the few qualified jobs in the United States, which is negative product of migration for the economic development of Colombia, these economic consequences of mobility labor, reduce labor supply in the issuing country and the increase in the receiver, which tends to reduce unemployment and wage differentials between the two countries.

Thus if labor productivity is decreasing, it will have as a consequence the differences in per capita income, which also decrease the effect of migration, likewise reducing the likelihood of development of societies of Colombia.

Another example of this is denoted, the Atlantic Development Plan department of Colombia, in which indicators of aging are recognized as the index calculated for 2015 varies in 34 people over 65 for every 100 under 15, higher than in 2005, 29. This causes the leakage of young labor force, leaving model country in order to find more and better opportunities, these flows are due to the lack of employment for the population, coupled with violence and insecurity that occurs in the area, this circumstance has the effect of involvement in the supply of services.

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One of the biggest concerns for Colombia is the loss of human capital, brain drain, which is presented as loss of skilled people, young and dynamic, with entrepreneurship Contributing; the resources invested in their training, in many of the countries of destination, quickly shows the effect, as in the United States, as much of its research and innovation is done by highly qualified foreigners, since they transfer their skills and experiences in their home country.

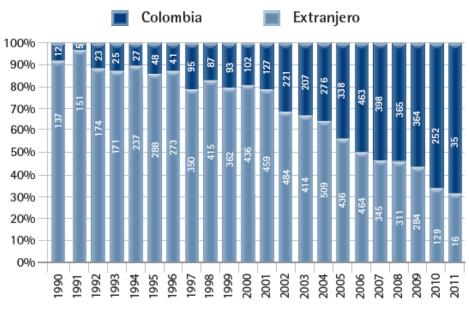
However, it is important to note that Colombia has been a country not only of unskilled migrants, but also with high levels of skilled studio, producing a great impact on the development of the country, some studies show that people prepared more than one title leaving the country to find jobs where they can perform their duties.

The rate of emigration of highly skilled human capital corresponds to 10.4% of the Colombian population, the most interesting fact belongs to the emigration of doctors, which is 2,820, ie 5.7% of physicians trained in country (World Bank, 2011)

In Figure 2 the number of Colombians shown highly trained. (SCIO.2011 Corporation, p.76).

Figure 2. Number of people with doctoral training domestically and abroad, 1990-

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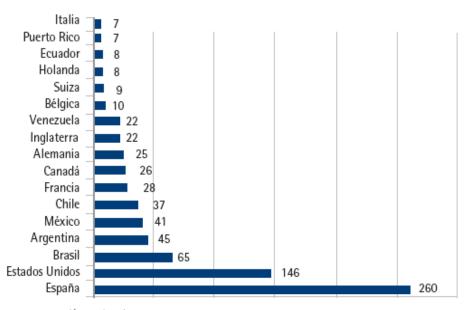


Fuente: Corporación SCIO (2011).

According to this study, the main destinations of highly trained Colombians to emigrate are Spain, USA, France, Germany, Brazil, and Argentina. In Figure 3 the destination countries, which are emigrants from Colombia to study high marks, ranking second US destination are estimated to migrate.

Figure 3. Distribution of countries where they have been highly rated Colombian

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Fuente: Corporación SCIO (2011).

There fore, it proves that Colombia is one of the most affected countries, due to internal policies, since people do not feel valued, or any type of incentive to practice in the country, finding these benefits They go to countries where they offer higher wages, such as the US that promotes the emigration of professionals, technologists and technicians, thus affecting the developing countries as Colombia, which requires professionals with knowledge especially in the field science, industry and technology.

As a result of the large sum of Colombians who are currently in the United States, there is a large amount of remittances. Remittances are "The amount of money earned or acquired by non-

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nationals transferred to the country of origin." (International Organization for Migration, 2006). These are usually sent by a family member with the willingness to take the risk of traveling to the United States to work, to send money and help his family, in order to meet the household needs, which can generate as Accordingly family breakdown, loss of mother or father figure to the children and emotional costs of adaptation.

Another reason, why Colombians are motivated to send remittances to their home country is saving, sending them to someone you trust is a friend or relative, for this you manage your money, invest it as a form of entrepreneurship in some kind of business, property, which may have greater results in their country of origin, where it currently lies.

Also many of the migrants feel obliged, to send money to their families, as these conducted an educational investment, so that he could travel, which can be seen as a re-pay for the investment in human capital.

The monetary remittances to Colombia symbolize one of the most significant flows of money, even surpassing revenue from exports of products such as bananas, flowers, coffee, and textiles, the influx of capital sent by migrant workers, It seems replace numerous deficiencies in developing countries such as Colombia, only the problems of funding or support for the country's

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development, foreign direct investment and have managed to solve. (Colombia.2012 Banking Association).

Remittances currently represent 6.3% of exports of goods (Central Bank, 2012).

In 2011 they entered Colombia remittances worth 4167.66 million US dollars. States and for 2012 in the amount of 4073.77 million US dollars. UU. During the first quarter of 2012, this figure was 960 million US dollars. UU. (Central Bank 2012). Table 1 shows the value of remittances and the perceived notion of some major export products for 2010,2011 and the first quarter of 2012. As can be seen, it presents unique products that exceed the income from remittances are coal and oil.

Table 1. Number of remittances to exports, in millions 2010-2012.

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Año	Café	Carbón	Petróleo	Banano	Flores	Textiles	Remesas
2010	1.883,56	6.015,18	16.485,08	748,10	1.240,48	1.056,64	4.023,49
2011	2.608,37	8.396,87	27.681,01	815,32	1.251,33	1.121,33	4.167,66
2012-1	574,83	2.176,40	8.108,47	154,52	387,49	253,02	960,72

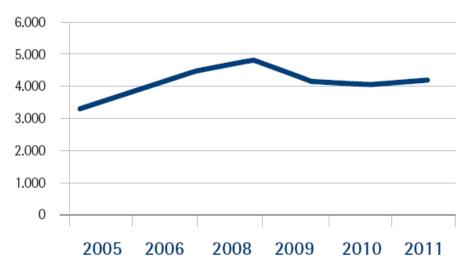
Fuente: Banco de la República (2012).

In 2011 the average value of a consignment was US \$ 374, indicating that about 972,000 monthly operations, equivalent to more than four million beneficiaries were made. (Asobancaria, 2012). The increase in the level of the quality of life of migrants, is one of the gains that migration revealed through remittances they send to their country of origin, as a result of their work and reward for leaving their country of origin, thus contributing to the country most likely to solve poverty.

Figure 4 shows the annual value observed for consideration of remittances in Colombia from 2005 to 2011. With a rise in 2008, which was reduced in the next two years, with an increase again in 2011.

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Gráfico 4. Remesas de colombianos residentes en el exterior (cifras en millones de dólares estadounidenses)



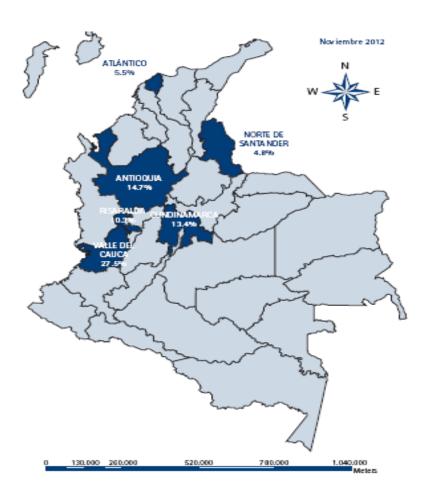
Fuente: Banco de la República (2012).

The value of remittances as a percentage of GDP in Colombia is 1.27%, similar to other countries in the region, including Peru (1.55%) and Panama (1.94%) values. (Asobancaria 2012). Which explains the growth of the Colombian economy, showing dynamism in the market.

For 2011, Figure 5, according to data from the Bank of the Republic (2012), shows the distribution of remittances by country of origin, Spain ranks first with 35%, although in 2012 had a reduction compared to the same quarters of the previous year, due to the situation experienced by the country this year, followed by the US with 33%, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, with 11%, and the UK, with 2, 9%, which showed an increase in 2012.

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Map 1. Percentage of remittances from Colombians for the second quarter of 2012, according to the major duty.



Source: Banco de la República

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In this sense, the evolution of remittances remunerated in part the costs of migration and incorporate benefits and families of emigrants receive additional income produced in the country, at the macro level of the migrant source countries, benefit currency flows and savings that can be mobilized for national development; remittances can symbolize nearly double the minimum wage for families receiving remittances, it influences the growth of the economy through the impact of consumption and aggregate output.

However, increasing remittances are expected to likewise finds an increase in the positive effects, but there are negative impacts that can be generated, such as the "dependency culture" both at the family level and at the level of the country, remittances may create dependence, reaching the point of diminishing the desire to work or effort, also reduces dependence freedom and control of the development process of the country, as this is in the hands of the economic strength of the country where are immigrants, a country may well become very vulnerable to localized crises.

Another impact of remittances is linked with the changes that have consumers receiving remittances, which commonly host ostentatious consumption, for clothes, shoes and electronic equipment are shipped from the outside, people close want to imitate the lifestyle of those who receive them, resulting in an increase in Colombian imports.

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#### Treaties and programs relating to emigration and accompanying Colombians US

Due to the number of Colombian migrants who are outside the country, Colombia and the United States sign an agreement on June 11, 2015, which is a famous of Understanding for the development and security of labor rights of Colombians living in the United States, in order that both employees and employers feel protected by the equal rights and gender, can understand so, what they are their duties and workers' rights, according to US law dictated.

Ambassador Villegas said: This agreement facilitates access to the Colombian community in the United States tools to guarantee their labor, regardless of their immigration status rights.

Likewise they consulates Colombian government may subscribe to as training instruction and training, in order that they can drive and provide guidance on how to exercise their rights.

In order to have a regulatory and support to Colombian migrants, in 2004 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Department of Migration Affairs, Consular and Citizen Service, created the "Colombia Nos Une" program, which was established in order to consider and associate Colombians abroad, making them subject to public policy, implemented activities, through which you can keep track of the migration process, so announced, orderly and free, caring and the protection of human rights, or otherwise provide support in case of an unscheduled return.

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The program focuses on creating connections with Colombians abroad through consulates, making settlements on the issue of capital, and its development of community participation. Structure services proposals and favoritism, through the Colombian state or private entities that cooperate to improve the quality of life of Colombians abroad and their families. It provides variables for people who want to return home Colombia with labor inclusion and training in the new business venture. Make arrangements bilaterally with the United States, to confirm that the migration processes in which Colombia is carried out in a structured way.

Thus departments with high rates of migrants such as the Valle del Cauca, Antioquia and the coffee region have adopted measures to families of migrants and returning migrants, providing them with support.

Likewise, the Plan Community Unites Axis aims to create contact with organizations abroad to identify opportunities that can be found and can be of great contribution to Colombian migrants, thus contributing to the development of the United States, social integration, economy and culture.

In order that these processes are completed, the Foreign Ministry has various multipliers "Colombia Nos Une" greater in countries where no registration of Colombian immigrants, mainly the United States, Spain, Ecuador and the United Kingdom, among others, the function of these is associated with immigrants who come to any consulate, to let them know the Colombian organizations that are on the outside so that migrants can find these support and guidance.

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Therefore, "Colombia Nos Une" financed the Colombian Prosperous / PROMICRO program which was publicly projected by the Consulate General of Colombia in New York in April 2010, which has benefited entrepreneurs and microentrepreneurs through oriented business development services, authentication business, support for expansion, shelter and protection for families, offering their services at no cost and consultancies in Spanish.

Through these programs, provides assistance to Colombia Colombians in their place of residence, identifying the interests and potential, so they can enjoy services and benefits in your country of origin could enjoy.

#### **Genesis of the Colombian migration**

Although migration is an issue that has transcended over time and eventually became a common practice in man, in the case of Colombia, population mobility had its beginnings in the early sixties (mostly to the United States, First Wave), the early eighties (addressed to Venezuela, second wave) and the decade of the nineties (on routes to Spain, third wave). (Foreign Ministry, historical background and causes of migration, 2005)

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In the case of United States, Colombians began to leave the country during the sixties and seventies, this mainly due to economic factors, especially by seeking greater employment opportunities (Foreign Ministry Historical background and context, 2009)

In the case of migration to Spain, there was a considerable increase from the year 1998 which largely reflects the country's economic crisis in 1998-1999 especially in certain regions such as the coffee, this because of the attractive features European country, and on the other hand is also the language easily.

Currently Colombians in Spain are the fourth largest nationality, preceded by Moroccan, Ecuadorian and Romanian.

Colombian migrants in Spain are characterized by mostly women, have an average education level and belonging to middle and lower middle class.

#### Main causes of migration

Colombian migration has become an international phenomenon with causes and consequences are related to local and global situations. The Colombian immigrant has its main reasons. Then shall mention some of them:

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Socio-economic factors:

The social and economic inequality that is growing rapidly, is one of the main reasons why

many people make the decision to migrate in search of economic stability.

It is no secret that the increase in welfare, that is, the standard of living of people, especially

in rich countries, involves an economic burden on the poorest countries, since they would be rich

countries who would benefit from global growth and the lowering of agricultural and industrial

products from poor countries.

Moreover, although there is a demand for low-skilled labor force in many developed

countries much of the Colombian population decides to confront this situation in order to find

greater job opportunities, perhaps in their home country do not have. Generally those who leave

their region or city of origin to another country is often because they have had a life characterized

by poverty, by the political crisis, undemocratic practices.

Family factors:

Families who at some point had to be divided, for work, for the education of children, legal

problems, or whatever the situation, migration allows family reunification.

Catastrophe:

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After disasters like earthquakes, floods, droughts, cycles, tsunamis and epidemics, many people decide to start again in another country, with more beneficial, less likely to disasters and to provide preventive mechanisms.

#### Study opportunities:

Much of the immigrant population chooses to leave the country, when they find abroad a chance to earn a degree and therefore a determinant not only in family welfare, but also personal development. This motivation is much more common in younger people.

#### **Issues of migration**

#### Xenophobia:

Migrants represent a weak group, not only because they come from another country, but also because in most of the time are people who have no preparation to enforce a decent job or a study, although they have equal rights to be many people discriminate the inability to lead a life equal to the rest. This is mainly because they are outside their country of origin, and sometimes have difficulty with language skills, differences in customs and culture, as well as economic and social constraints

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Shares in violation of the rights of immigrants in the United States or any other country, they are usually motivated by a self-sufficient culture and largely by the fear of losing job opportunities.

#### State migration policy

The rulers must have policies that recognize the immigrant as an equal to the other person, to enforce her rights as an employee, citizen, but also as a person. Much of government support discrimination when creating differentiadoras standards between domestic and foreign, are restricted when performing some activity, be in a specific place, when there is difference in pay or some other limitation.

Many governments have focused on regulating migration have forgotten transit and migrant protection, and the creation of state management plans founded on employment, compliance with personal projects, social welfare and basic services.

#### Increased street vendors:

It usually occurs when the immigrant population is not well prepared and are obliged to create their own means a possibility of income. This would mean for the migrant community

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employment opportunities are increasingly difficult, since most of the immigrants live together with other people of the same country or close to it, and that most often aspire to the same jobs.

Increased investment by recipient countries:

The Overseas countries receivers have to experience the arrival of many people, of which most need of care and the provision of services such as health, representing an expense for the country.

#### Environmental differences:

Each country has its location different climates and geographies, a change of environment could pose health problems for the migrant, especially when the body has problems to adapt to the environment. And this does not only involve health issues, but also impossible to have a stable job.

#### Cultural shock:

Culture shock is basically the difficulty people have in adapting to a new way of life, which must adjust their habits to the new culture. One of the limitations experienced by a migrant is that most of the time you plan to return to their country of origin and is forced to adapt, although it is difficult to achieve. One of main causes of culture shock is the language, because generally if a

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prior knowledge of any language you need will always be difficulties when communicating. On the other hand, it is the clothes and the music is sometimes one of the reasons why they are discriminated against immigrants, based on the fact that not only are different in each country, but also what is in each city. Finally this religio, which is also considered a differentiating factor, and which has not only insulted the migrant but also has been despised and killed the worst cases.

#### Positives of migration

#### Ethnic diversity:

For some foreign income a country is synonymous with invasion, this mainly due to the fact when more citizens opportunities in the labor and educational fields will be more difficult to obtain, since there will be more demandad. Furthermore this income who see immigrants as an opportunity to give to the country have a diversity of culture, languages, ideas and all those who can contribute at some point.

#### Economic growth:

Migrants not only increase rates of employability, but also represent a contribution of capital and labor; bring new ideas to the generation of technology and science.

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On the other hand, they may represent a decrease in spending on social investment, because people entering the country in search of a job usually arrive prepared, indicating that the destination country began to receive benefits without investing in education that person. Finally, consumption and increase productivity and thus increase economic growth.

Besides the above, some countries are benefiting greatly in their national economy, with what we call remittances, that is, the money they send to their families in the country each year, which is usually spent on food, other items essential for the family and education.

#### **Colombian Migration**

The peculiarity of the Colombian migration is mainly because it is not only externally but also occurs internally. In the case of internal migration, we refer to forced displacement within the country, on the other hand, external migration is what is usually referred to as international migration, ie mobility of Colombians to other countries.

For this study we will mention only the most important factors of external migration, which has led to much of the Colombian population to settle in another country, and take some statistical data as reference.

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#### Colombian migratory flow variation

The growth trend in migration flows of Colombia, is mainly due to the incorporation of new state, the main one policy: The national development plan proposed in the year 2010-2014, which emphasizes the migrant population, on issues such as extending care services and return. In addition to the internal socio-economic development presented by the country in recent years, these factors are important elements that promote mobility, not only at the outputs of Colombians, but also at the entrance of foreigners.

Moreover, the reduction of barriers, economic and trade integration have caused the same way as there is an increase of mobility in general, mainly by the adoption of proposals that promote tourism and integration, one of which has been decreasing legalizing the entry requirements to other countries, such as visa-free travel, which today are more than 30 countries that Colombians can travel without a visa, in order to advance tourism activities primarily.

The table below corresponds to the migration of Colombians during the period from 2007 to 2014 clearly reflects an upward trend, with an average annual growth rate equivalent to 10%. During the same period of analysis, the share of tickets accounted for 48%, while the output register 52%. It is important to mention that in 2012 presented a variation in mobility of Colombian 25% from 2013, the largest percentage in Colombia in recent years.

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During 2014 a change in the log entries of 9.5% and 8.5% outputs are presented. Migration of all Colombians, corresponding to 3,736,659 entries with a 49% and 51% 3,910,856 outflows. (Annual Bulletin of Statistics, Migration Colombia, 2014)

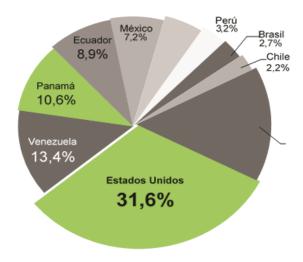
The main destination for Colombian has been to industrialized or otherwise countries with which it has had some historical connection countries. In 2014, the total output of 31.6% Colombians went to the United States as the main destination, followed by Venezuela (13.4%), Panama (10.6%), Ecuador (8.9%), Mexico (7.2%), Spain (5%), Peru (3.2%), Brazil (2.7%) and Chile (2.2%), among others. (Annual Bulletin of Statistics, Migration Colombia 2014).

Graphic 6. Migratory flow of Colombian and variation per year



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Graphic 7. The main countries of destination for Colombians in recent years

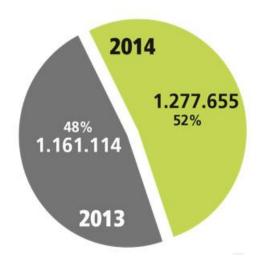


sobre Migración GDEIM

Colombian output to North America in 2014 1.277.655 registration flows, the US being the main destination, with a percentage of 96.6% distributed as follows: for tourism: 18.7% Studio work 15.9% by 14.9%, among others.

Graphic 8. Colombian output to North America

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Based on the document Vision Colombia, which indicates that there is the need to strengthen ties with Colombians abroad and promote the development of the nation.

The Foreign Ministry through the Development Plan, called "prosperity for all" which goes from 2010 to 2014 indicates that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is a coordinating body at the issue of comprehensive immigration policy, which draws as main goal, the design of the policy on legal and fair conditions should be based on treatment of both domestic and foreign, emphasizing the basic needs of families, the hand with the national, departmental and municipal entities.

Also it points to what concerns the integral migratory policies, which will focus on developing strategies to accompany the Colombian living abroad in both the process and the establishment of a possible return. Must likewise expand social services for migrants; managing migration flows on a bilateral basis, to adopt strategies for international cooperation on migration, among others.

Moreover, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs states that comprehensive immigration policy was developed in three stages:

**1.** Preparation of the guidelines, which were established in working together with experts from the National Center of Social Studies of the University of Antioquia.

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2. After the development of guidelines, these were presented to the Colombian National Intersectoral Commission on Migration. To carry out this step, meetings to socialize guidelines PIN (Integral Migration Policy) in the following countries were made:

Quito (26 July 2008); New York (7, 8 and 9 August 2008); Caracas (September 13, 2008); Miami (October 18, 2008); and Madrid (October 25, 2008). (Foreign Ministry, comprehensive immigration policy, 2009) From these socialization, the development of the Comprehensive Document Conpes Migration Policy was initiated.

**3.** Finally, as a third step, the formulation of the document Conpes was performed with the accompaniment of the National Planning Department (DNP)

In early 2009 it was first introduced Document Pre-Compes and affinales the same year the final document to the National Council for Economic and Social Policy, to be presented should be approved. From then on the DPN with the program Colombia Nos Une, working on follow-ups to the commitments agreed in the document Compes 3603. (Chancery comprehensive immigration policy, 2009)

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# 3. Findings

It is considered that from the statistics of migration flows, has been approached from different perspectives, the issue of Colombian migration, through data collection, using variables of analysis to identify the reasons why migrants are encouraged to travel, making determining the impact of migration on the development of sending and receiving countries, these findings confirm that human movements are key for people in search of better opportunities in a developing country, which seek a solidity economic, in exchange for providing services in low-skilled jobs, often marginalized and undervalued exchange for higher than those offered in the home country wages.

Moreover, the rapid growth of Colombian migrants in other countries, has become a topic that generates more and more both positive and negative, on the one hand, with regard to the positive effects are calls remittances and the return of educated and skilled human capital abroad, carrying the country's economy, such as reducing costs and capital income. On the other hand, there are some negative effects are basically the problems and difficulties faced by many Colombians abroad, and which should be given an escort, given the degree of vulnerability in which they find themselves, this means for the government Colombia remains on coordination strategies and offer the required assistance without violating the policies or rules set by each country.

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In this sense, there is a clear need in the creation of institutions and programs that link the countries of origin and destination, allowing for interaction of those involved and, above all, is done in a peaceful and organized manner, in order to provide the support and attention they require any Colombian abroad.

#### 4. Conclusions and recommendations

#### 4.1 Conclusions

Somehow the possibility of mobility to different places and the right to choose a better lifestyle, is one of the basic needs of human beings, which makes that migration is a natural tendency for any individual, for this, we can say that migration has close links with the socioeconomic issues, not only because they are areas in which the human being must always cope, but because these factors represent critical to the development of any culture or society pillars.

Social differences and lack of opportunities have induced Colombians disproportionately to make the decision to migrate to a developed country, which has resulted in personal, social, economic and household changes, however, the lack of recognition the dignity of immigrants is an issue that still has a lot to get through respect for the rights of migrants.

The issue of migration is an inherent phenomenon between Colombia and the United States, since Colombians are in this country an opportunity to fulfill their dreams and goals, with the

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prospect of getting a better quality of life through employment or study, succeeding with more effort than in the country of origin, but with better pay, generally people who take the risk to leave their country, they do in order to help their families.

We can identify the different foci on migration, understanding the impact that both positive aspects and negative for the host country and the issuer, the important role that can have policies, treaties or bilateral migration agreements between countries involved, so that migrants can enjoy the same rights as the natives.

#### 4.2 Recommendations

Discriminatory attitudes towards Colombians clearly express the need for a plan setting out guidelines and strategies to defend, take care and ensure the welfare of the migrant population. In addition, this plan should give special focus to each of the contexts in which migrants move. Moreover, it should implement programs and provide opportunity potential zing the population.

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It is also important that the organizations so far involved in the protection of migrants should monitor the process of movement of people from taking the decision to leave their country, to set out in the intended, in this way would reduce the difficulties that may arise in the process of restoration, in addition to decrease the paperwork in the process of legalization.

The Colombian Government must provide more opportunities to their native, so that people who are intended to exert their studies, find a decent job, a career with lower prices and greater benefits than in their home country, may meet these needs, without resorting to the option of leaving the country, so that they can enjoy better privileges in return for human capital.

Start a strategic plan for education and employment, aimed at promoting legal migration, predominantly the benefits of migrants and their families, so they can leave the country in favorable situations, avoiding risks, consequences and the violation of their rights, problems psychological, preventing family breakdown.

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