

**CONSIDERATIONS ON THE DEMOGRAPHIC DECLINE OF
THE POPULATION IN THE NORTH DEVELOPMENT REGION,
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

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The aim of the paper is to evaluate the demographic decline of the population of the North Development Region, at the level of administrative-territorial units, in the period 1990-2021. The North RD is the territory of the republic where the demographic transition, towards the simple and narrow reproduction system, was registered as early as the late 90s, the region being marked by the greatest demographic decline during the period of state independence. The data obtained as a result of the processing of the information regarding population inflows and outflows allowed us to identify the size of the demographic decline, as well as that of the stabilization of the population, in this sense a typology of geodemographic dynamics was created in the analyzed interval. The socio-demographic indicators analyzed confirmed the hypothesis of the greatest population decline in practically all regional localities, the intensity of the decline being different at the level of urban and rural human habitats, peripheral and polarized around the larger cities of the region. Thus, out of the total number of localities, only 23 human habitats (two cities, district centers, one small town and 20 rural habitats) register an increase in the numerical population, which constitutes 7,3% of the total number of localities in the region, and 92,7% of localities registered a decline in population. RD North remains the most affected development region in the Republic of Moldova, with significant population losses, as a direct effect of the decrease in birth rate, increase in mortality and emigration, both internal, but especially external. The current state of demographic decline in the region represents a sensitive and important subject with real negative effects on socio-economic transformations in the coming period, but the situation in the future perspective may change, taking into account the global pandemic situation from 2019-2020, as well as of the 2022 military conflict in Ukraine.

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