

# Harnessing the Diaspora for Development in the Europe and Central Asia Region

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# Outline

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Review of the Literature on Diasporas and Development**
- 3. The Size and Composition of the Diaspora Populations from the ECA Countries**
- 4. Review of Current Diaspora Engagement Policies of the ECA Countries**
- 5. Policy Recommendations to Increase Diaspora Engagement in the ECA Region**

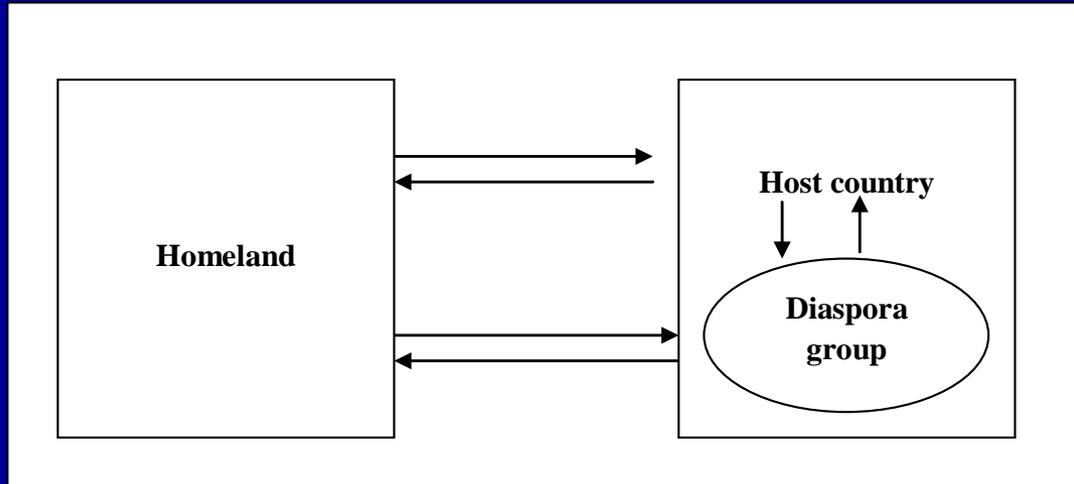
# Unique aspects of ECA diaspora

- ECA diaspora is largest in both absolute and percentage terms of all development regions
- Of the total global stock of migrants of 215.8 million in 2010, 43 million emigrated from an ECA country
- 3.1 percent of the world's population resides outside of country of birth but 10.7 percent of ECA population
- History diasporas in the ECA region is long and complex
- Now 30 countries versus 8 in 1990
- Many measurement and conceptual issues with ECA diaspora

# Types of diaspora engagement

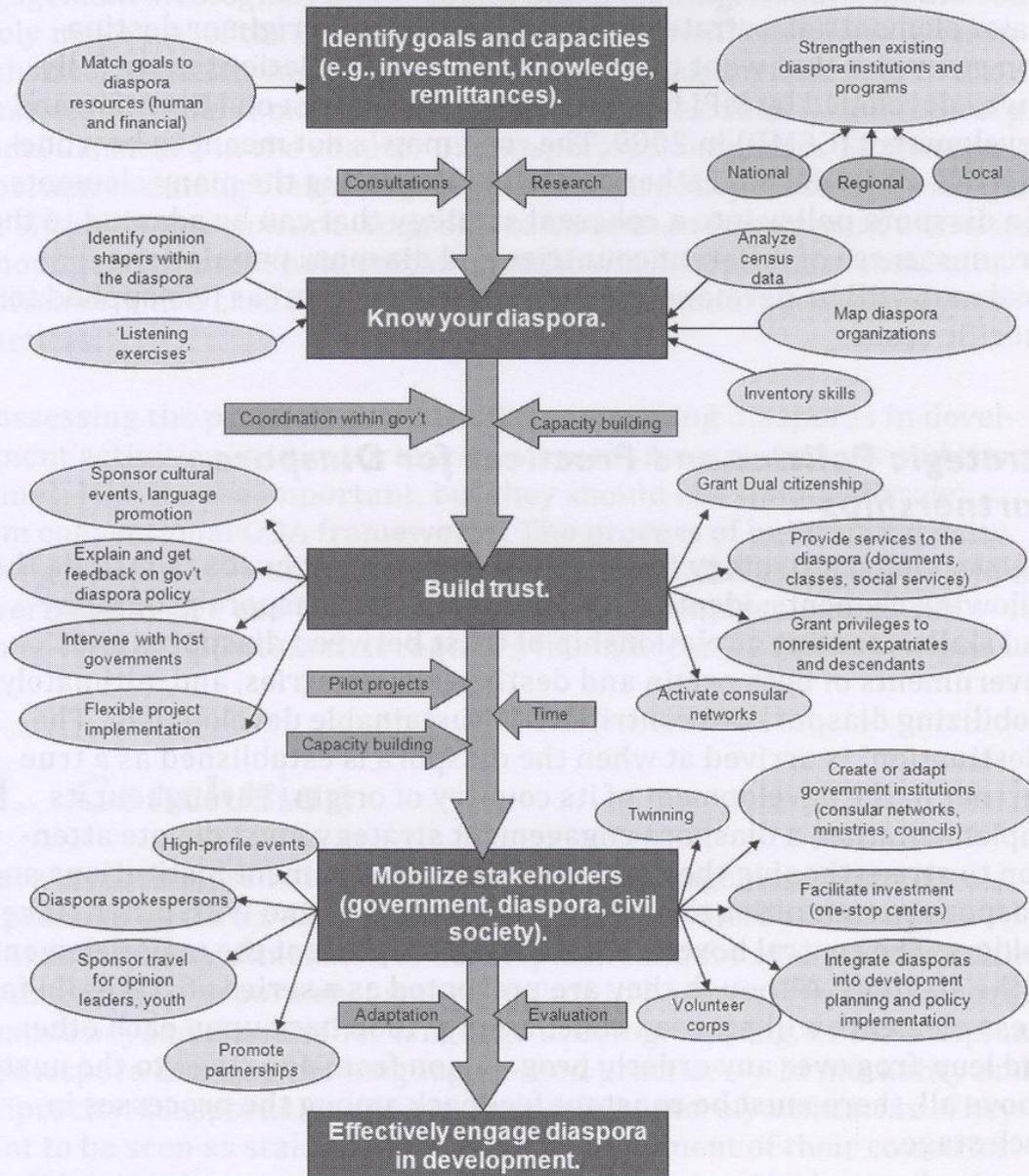
- Tracking of diaspora populations
- Assistance in destination country
- Dual citizenship
- Remittance sending
- Investment and entrepreneurship in homeland
- Diaspora voting and advocacy
- Philanthropy and volunteering
- Knowledge transfer to homeland
- Diaspora tourism and “nostalgia” trade
- Return migration and travel

# Actors and Relationships in Diaspora Migration



- **Diaspora groups – chronology, causes of dispersion**
- **Homeland – attitudes and policies towards diaspora**
- **Host country – treatment of minority groups, legal status**

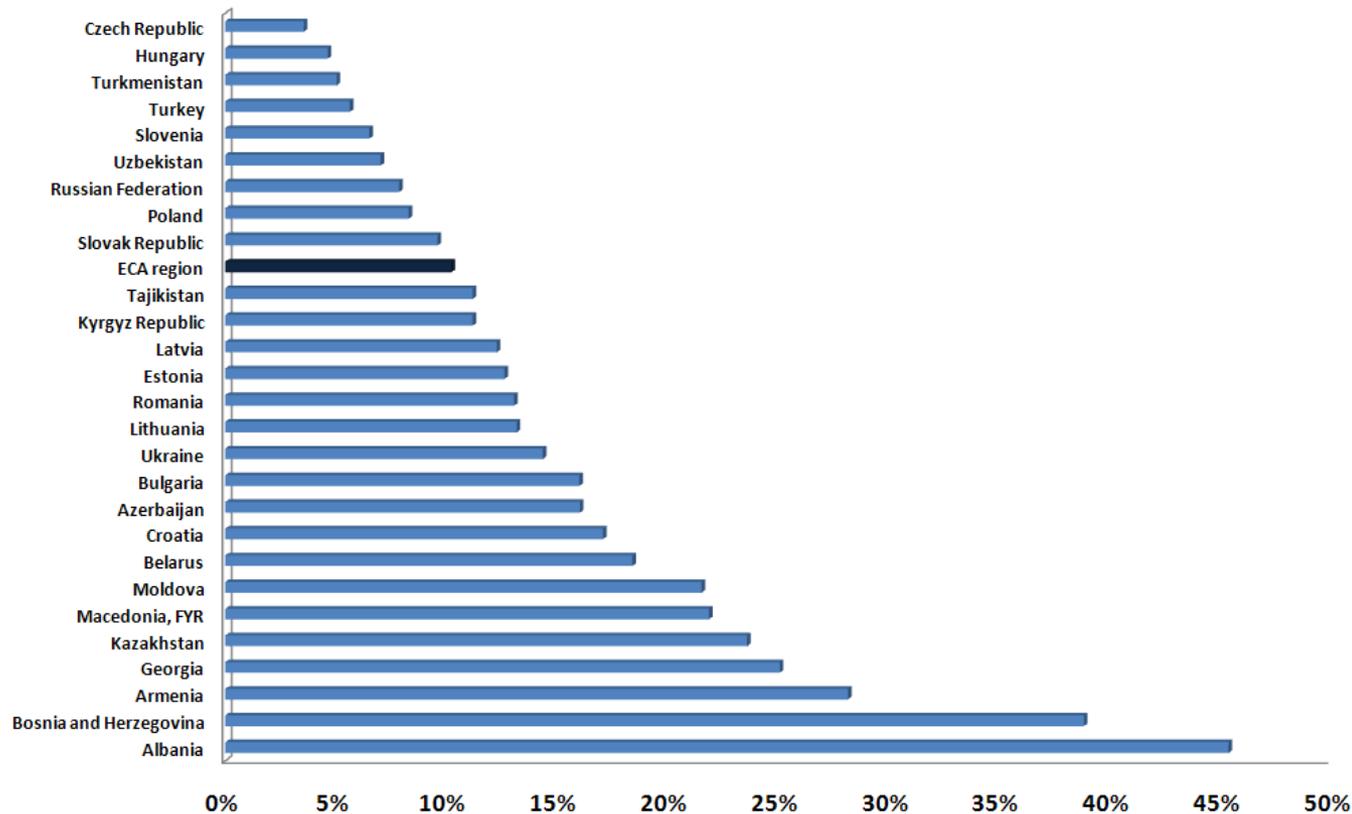
# A Road Map for Diaspora Engagement



# Sources of data on the ECA diaspora

- **United Nations Global Migration Database (mix of foreign-born and citizenship)**
- **World Bank Bilateral Migration Matrix (more comprehensive)**
- **ILO's LABORSTA database (not all of ECA)**
- **Eurostat migration data**
- **OECD migration data (including brain drain)**
- **Foreign born and ethnic diaspora data in Soviet and post-Soviet censuses**
- **Russian census and migration data**
- **The Russian Federal Migration Service (not all labor migrants)**
- **American Community Survey (detailed)**

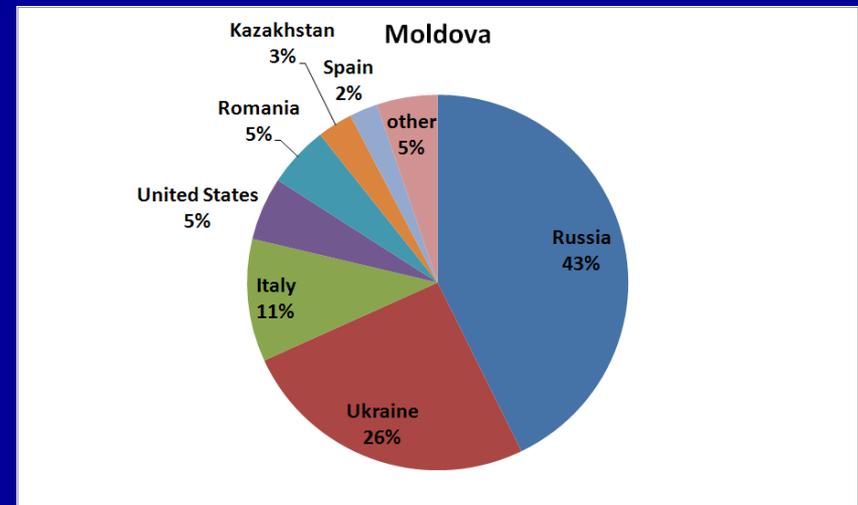
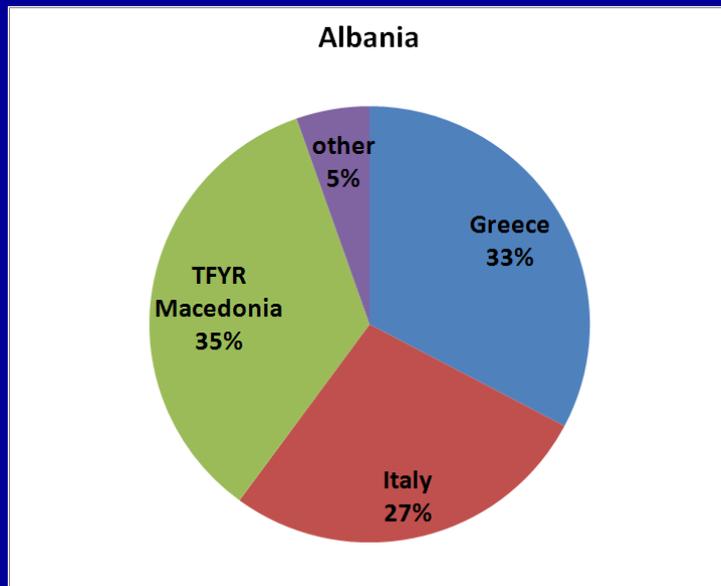
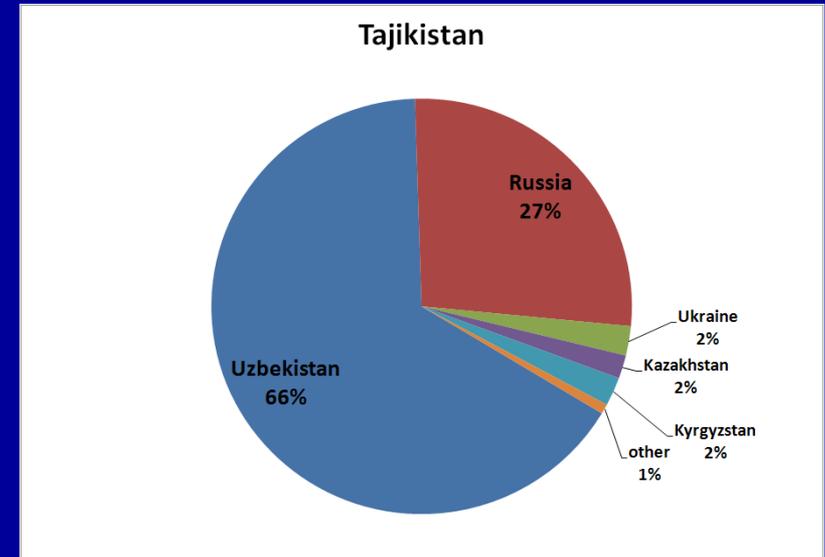
**Figure : Percent of Population Residing Outside ECA Countries, 2010**



- **10 percent of population originating in an ECA country reside outside that country, versus 3 percent globally**
- **Large diasporas could contribute to development**

# Destinations of Diaspora Populations from Selected ECA Countries

- Diaspora from CIS countries migrate within the region
- Western Europe and the United States are primary destinations for the diaspora from western ECA
- Differences in income levels in destination countries are important



# Changing destinations of the ECA diaspora

- Russian diaspora is smaller but more in high-income countries
- FSU - decreases in most non-Russian states, increases in Russia, and small increases in Western Europe and US
- Western ECA -decreases in in Argentina, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Israel, and France and increases in the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Sweden, Norway, and Finland.

**Table 3: Changes in the Russian Diaspora Population in by Region**

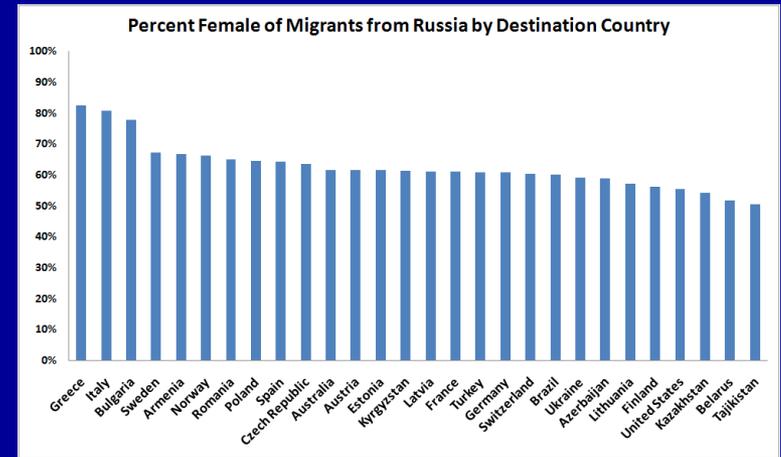
	Year	Total
FSU	early	13,943,667
	later	9,651,806
	Absolute change	-4,291,861
	Percent change	-31%
Other ECA	early	14,808
	later	43,342
	Absolute change	28,534
	Percent change	193%
Outside ECA	early	571,316
	later	761,595
	Absolute change	190,279
	Percent change	33%

Sources and notes:

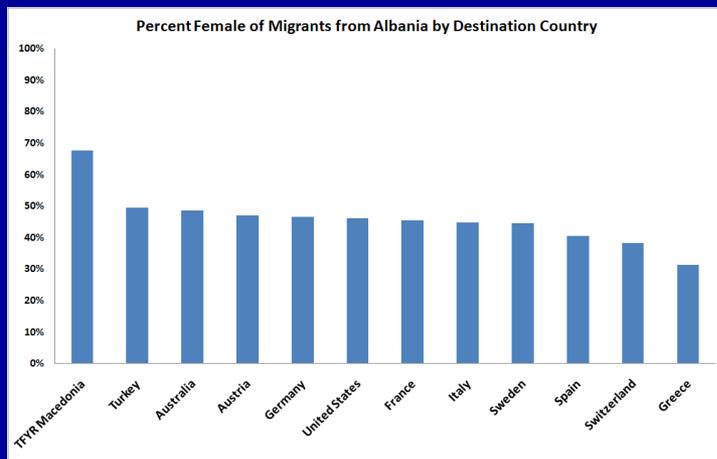
United Nations Population Division, United Nations Global Migration Database v.0.3.6 (<http://esa.un.org/unmigration/index.aspx> accessed March 22, 2011).

# Gender differences by destination country

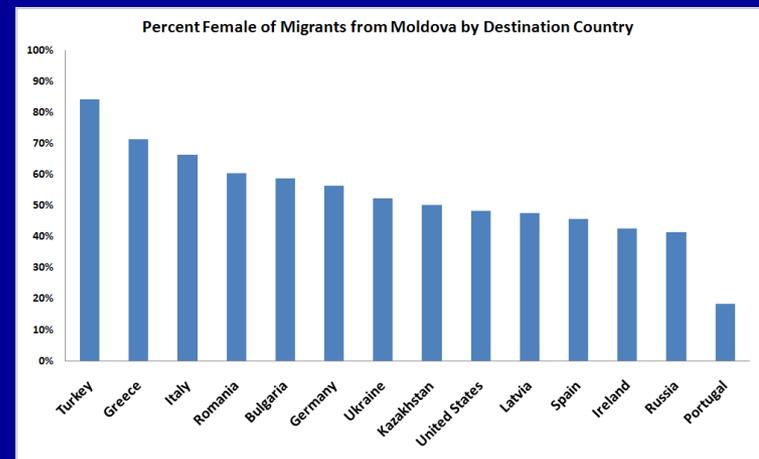
- In FSU, flows are predominantly male
- Overall, increases in female migration



Females to Western Europe, males to FSU



More males to Greece



Females to Western Europe, males to FSU

- ECA countries both send and receive migrants
- Net emigration of 18 million persons from the ECA countries
- Of regions, ECA has the largest share of migrants going to other countries in the region (59 percent) and the lowest share going to high-income countries (41 percent)
- Russia, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovenia, and Estonia are net recipients of migrants

**Table 5: Net Diaspora Flows in the ECA Countries, 2010**

Country	Emigration	Immigration	Net migration
Albania	1,438,451	89,106	-1,349,345
Armenia	870,458	324,184	-546,274
Azerbaijan	1,433,513	263,940	-1,169,573
Belarus	1,765,877	1,090,378	-675,499
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1,460,639	27,780	-1,432,859
Bulgaria	1,201,191	107,245	-1,093,946
Croatia	753,529	699,947	-53,582
Czech Republic	369,737	453,041	83,304
Estonia	169,213	182,464	13,251
Georgia	1,058,300	167,269	-891,031
Hungary	462,418	368,076	-94,342
Kazakhstan	3,719,766	3,079,491	-640,275
Kosovo	25,252	..	..
Kyrgyz Republic	621,076	222,731	-398,345
Latvia	275,177	335,022	59,845
Lithuania	429,016	128,855	-300,161
Macedonia, FYR	447,138	129,701	-317,437
Moldova	770,528	408,319	-362,209
Montenegro	..	42,509	..
Poland	3,155,509	827,453	-2,328,056
Romania	2,769,053	132,757	-2,636,296
Russian Federation	11,034,681	12,270,388	1,235,707
Serbia	196,013	525,388	..
Slovak Republic	519,716	130,682	-389,034
Slovenia	131,895	163,894	31,999
Tajikistan	791,618	284,291	-507,327
Turkey	4,261,786	1,410,947	-2,850,839
Turkmenistan	260,953	207,700	-53,253
Ukraine	6,525,145	5,257,527	-1,267,618
Uzbekistan	1,954,460	1,175,935	-778,525
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48,872,108</b>	<b>30,507,020</b>	<b>-18,365,088</b>

Sources and notes:

World Bank, *Bilateral Migration and Remittances 2010*, November 2010.

# Host countries of the ECA diaspora

The ECA diaspora is concentrated in a few countries

Half reside in just four countries – Russia, Germany, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan

Sizable ECA diasporas in other countries of Western Europe such as Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Greece, and Austria and in the United States and Canada

Nearly half the ECA diaspora population resides in another FSU state, mainly Russia, and about 35 percent reside in a high-income OECD country

**Table: Top Destination Countries of Diaspora Populations from the ECA region, 2010**

Destination	Total Diaspora from ECA	Percent of total ECA diaspora	Main sending countries (top three)		
Total	48,872,144	100%	Russia	Ukraine	Turkey
Russian Federation	11,792,769	24%	Ukraine	Kazakhstan	Belarus
Germany	5,242,767	11%	Turkey	Poland	Croatia
Ukraine	4,932,325	10%	Russia	Belarus	Kazakhstan
Kazakhstan	2,886,178	6%	Russia	Ukraine	Uzbekistan
United States	2,300,921	5%	Poland	Russia	Ukraine
Italy	2,012,929	4%	Romania	Ukraine	Poland
Israel	1,794,384	4%	Russia	Ukraine	Romania
Spain	1,330,495	3%	Romania	Bulgaria	Ukraine
Belarus	1,078,648	2%	Russia	Poland	Ukraine
United Kingdom	969,639	2%	Poland	Turkey	Lithuania
Greece	948,651	2%	Bulgaria	Romania	Georgia
Uzbekistan	830,116	2%	Russia	Tajikistan	Kazakhstan
Austria	818,388	2%	Bosnia	Turkey	Serbia
Canada	743,205	2%	Poland	Romania	Ukraine

Sources and notes:

World Bank, *Bilateral Migration and Remittances 2010*, November 2010.

# Foreign-Born Diasporas in the former Soviet Union

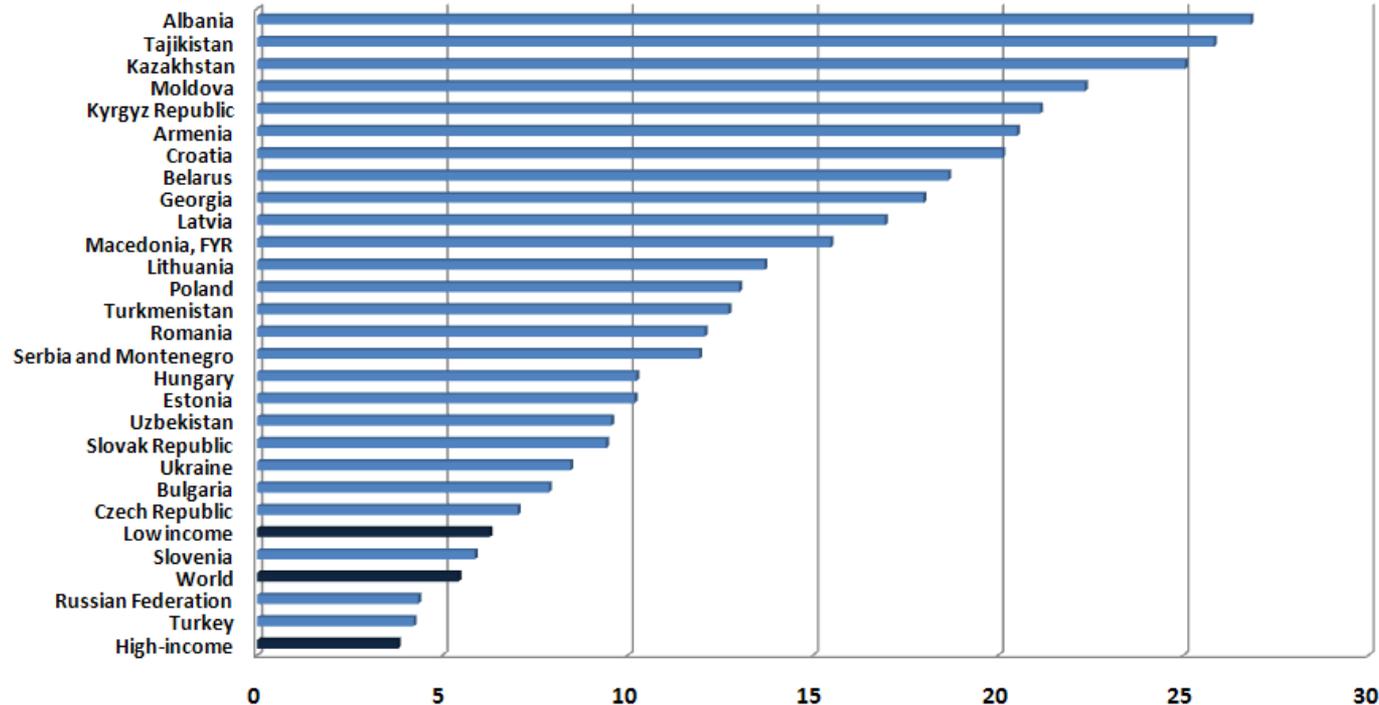
**Table: Estimates of the Foreign-Born Population in the former Soviet Union, 1959 to 1989**

	1959		1970		1979		1989	
	Total (thousands)	Percent of population						
USSR	20,859	10.0	24,332	10.1	26,771	10.2	30,333	10.6
Russia	8,554	7.3	8,916	6.9	9,691	7.1	11,472	7.8
Ukraine	4,927	11.8	6,009	12.7	6,657	13.4	7,120	13.8
Belarus	860	10.7	967	10.7	1,109	11.6	1,269	12.5
Uzbekistan	943	11.6	1,245	10.5	1,464	9.5	1,702	8.6
Kazakhstan	2,457	26.4	3,314	25.5	3,548	24.2	3,750	22.8
Georgia	332	8.2	355	7.6	352	7.0	362	6.7
Azerbaijan	412	11.2	459	9.0	452	7.5	417	5.9
Lithuania	281	10.4	311	9.9	340	10.0	376	10.2
Moldova	386	13.4	490	13.7	551	14.0	596	13.8
Latvia	431	20.6	553	23.4	627	25.1	692	26.0
Kyrgyzstan	407	19.7	546	18.6	608	17.3	672	15.8
Tadzhikistan	214	10.8	293	10.1	362	9.5	443	8.7
Armenia	255	14.5	342	13.7	377	12.4	734	8.1
Turkmenistan	191	12.6	239	11.1	281	10.2	318	9.0
Estonia	208	17.3	294	21.7	353	24.1	411	26.3

Sources and notes: See text for details.

- ‘Foreign-born’ rose from 20.9 million in 1959 to 30.3 million in 1989
- Largest diasporas were Belarus (20 percent) and Kazakhstan (17 percent)
- Smallest diasporas were three Baltic states and three Central Asian countries of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

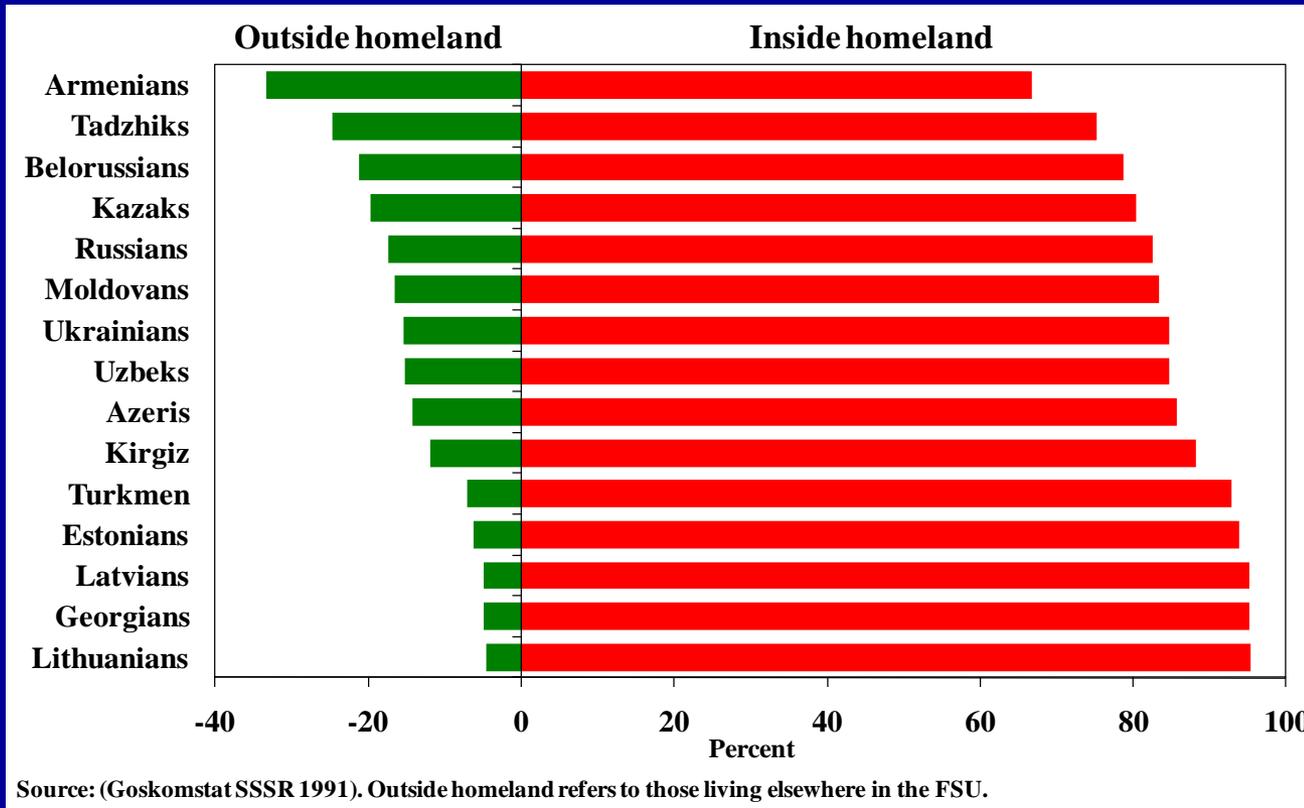
### Emigration rate of tertiary educated in the ECA Region circa 2000 (as percent of total tertiary educated)



Sources and notes: Dumont, Jean-Christophe, Spielvogel, Gilles, Widmaier, Sarah (2010), "International Migrants in Developed, Emerging and Developing Countries: An Extended Profile", OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers No.114, [www.oecd.org/els/workingpapers](http://www.oecd.org/els/workingpapers).

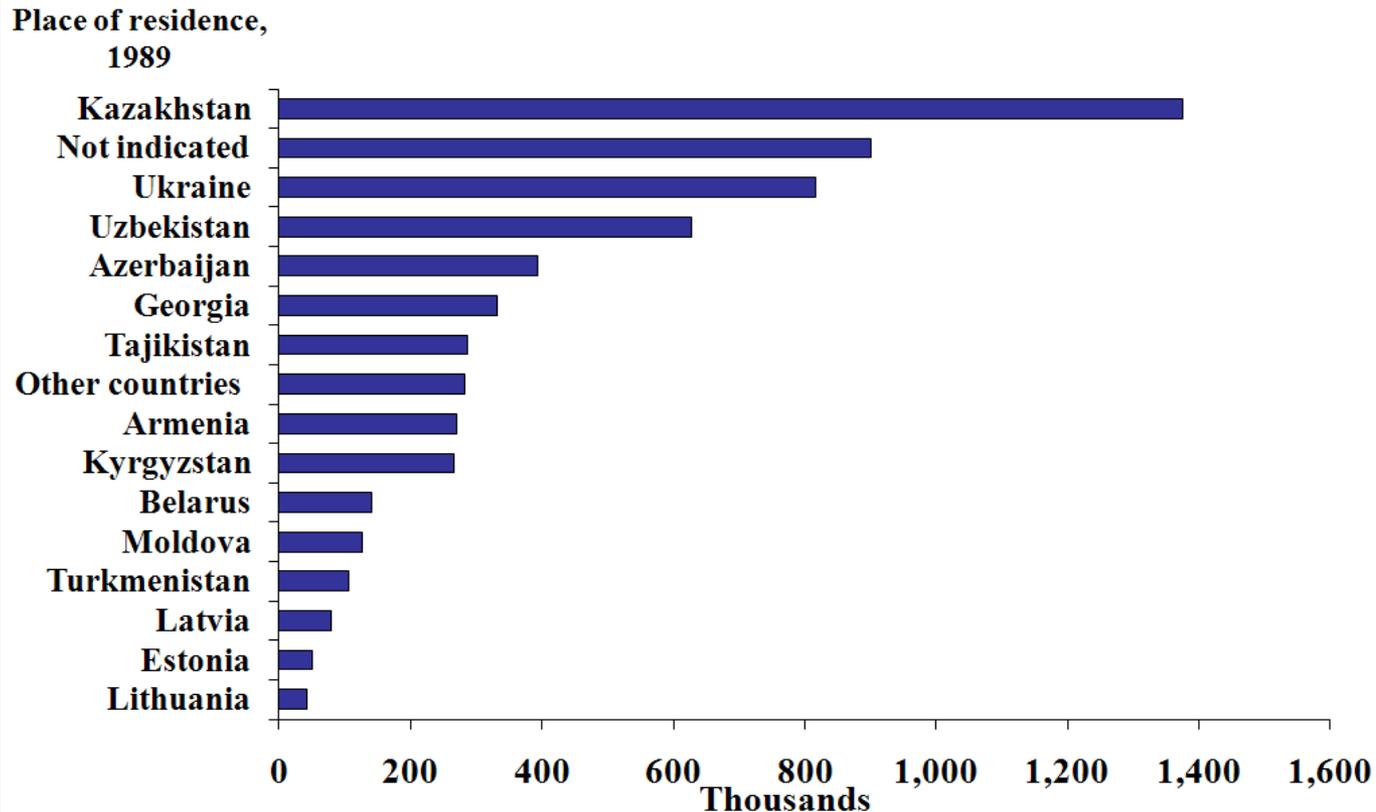
- OECD's brain drain database now includes more ECA countries
- Globally, emigration rate of tertiary-educated is 5.4 percent
- ECA countries follow pattern of smaller and poorer countries having the largest percent of highly-skilled persons emigrate (except Kazakhstan)
- Globally, 21 percent of migrants have a tertiary education. The overall educational levels of ECA migrants are generally much higher than this.

# FSU Nationalities Inside and Outside Homelands, 1989



- Considerable variation among FSU states in terms of ethnic diaspora populations
- Largest were Russians with 25 million in FSU and 5 million or so outside
- One-third of Armenians reside outside of Armenia, not including 5 to 9 million in Europe and USA

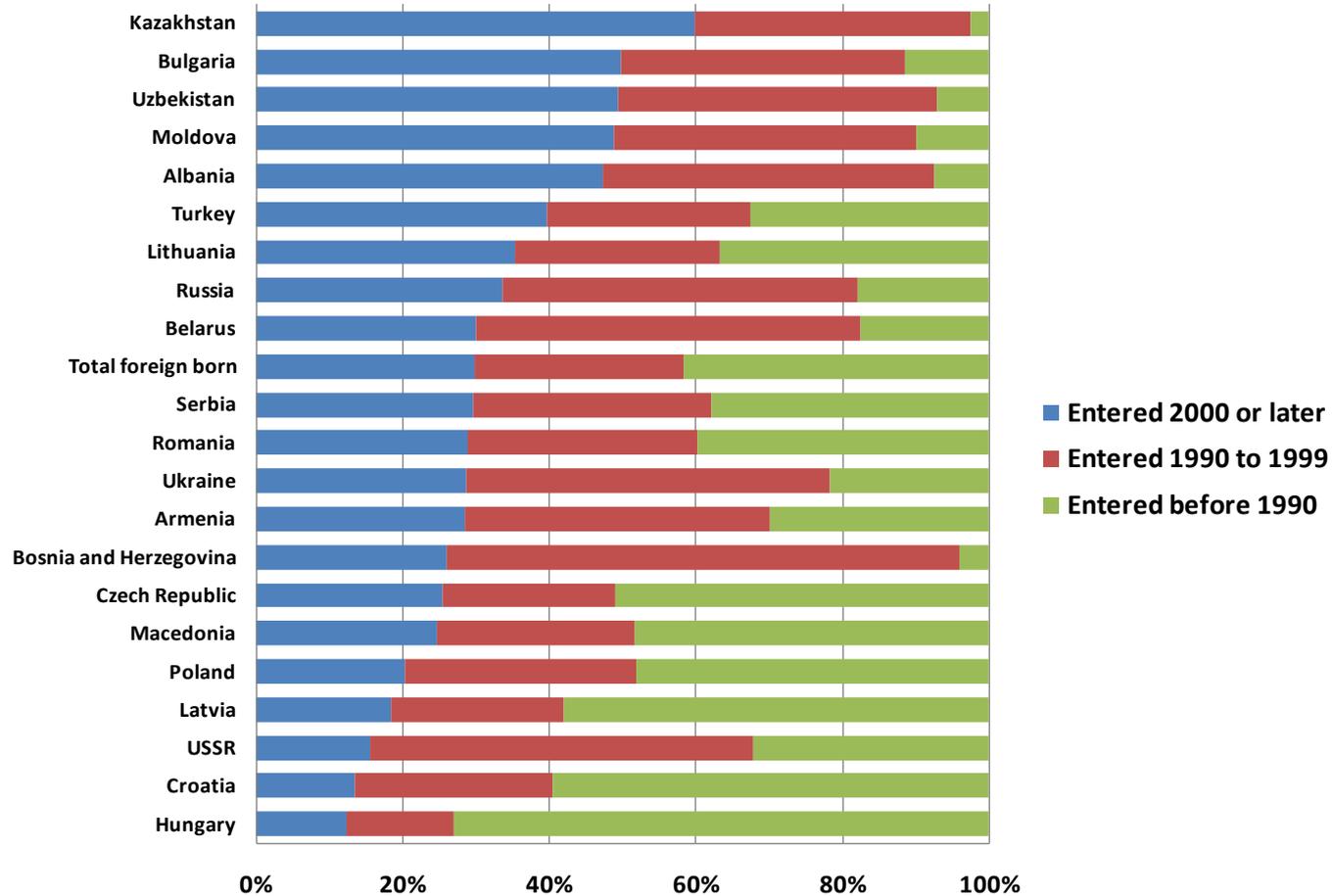
**Figure: Migration to Russia between 1989 and 2002 by Place of Residence in 1989**



Source: Goskomstat Rossii, 2002 Russian Census Results, Table 10-2.

- Over 5 million persons migrated to Russia between the 1989 and 2002 censuses
- Main sending countries were countries where large numbers of Russian diaspora populations resided
- Many were ethnic diasporas but are now foreign-born diaspora

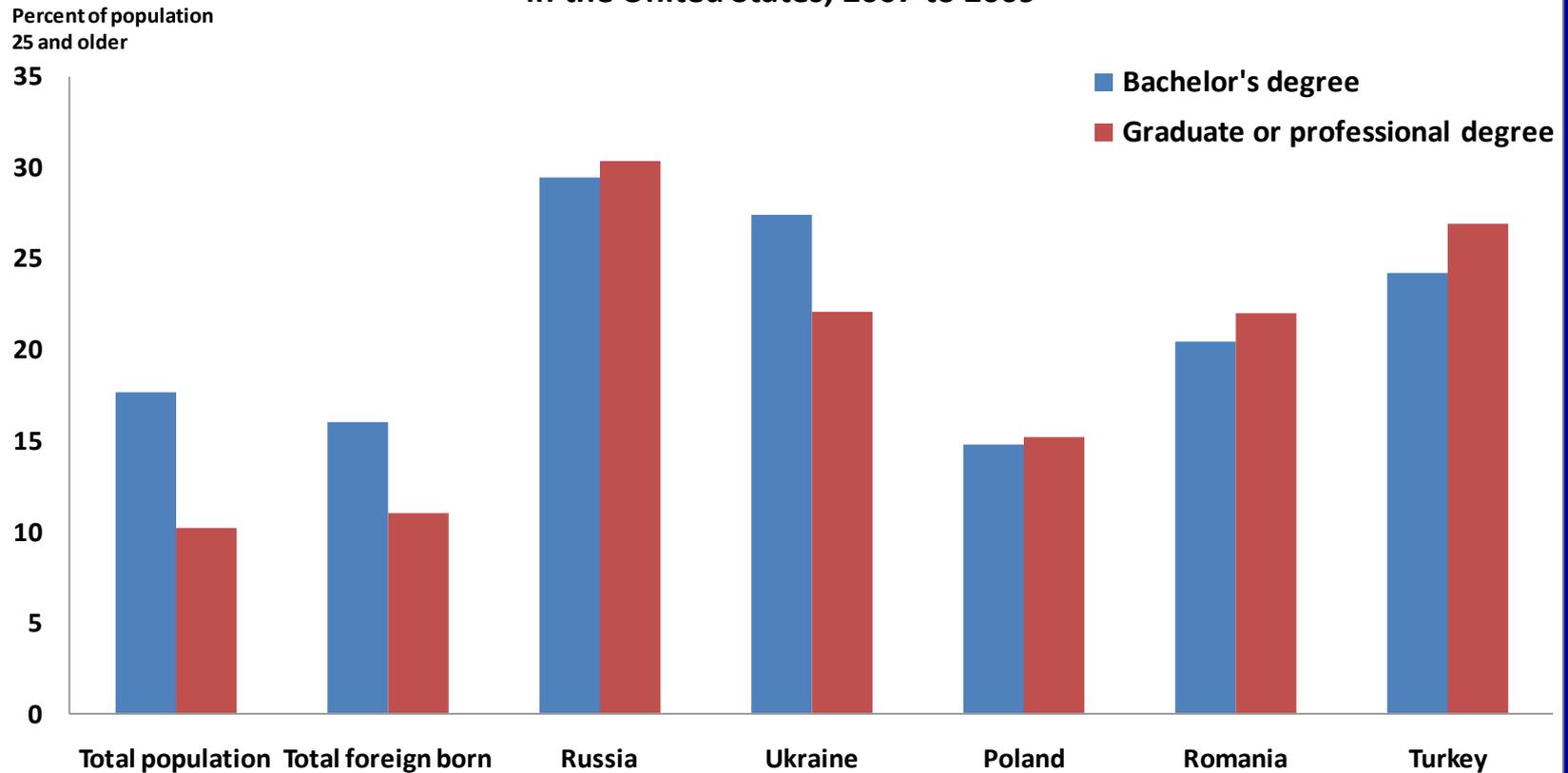
Figure: ECA Diaspora Population in the U.S. by Decade of Entry



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey.

- The ECA diaspora populations are a mix of older and newer populations
- Implications for level of education, earnings, citizenship and ability to assist home country

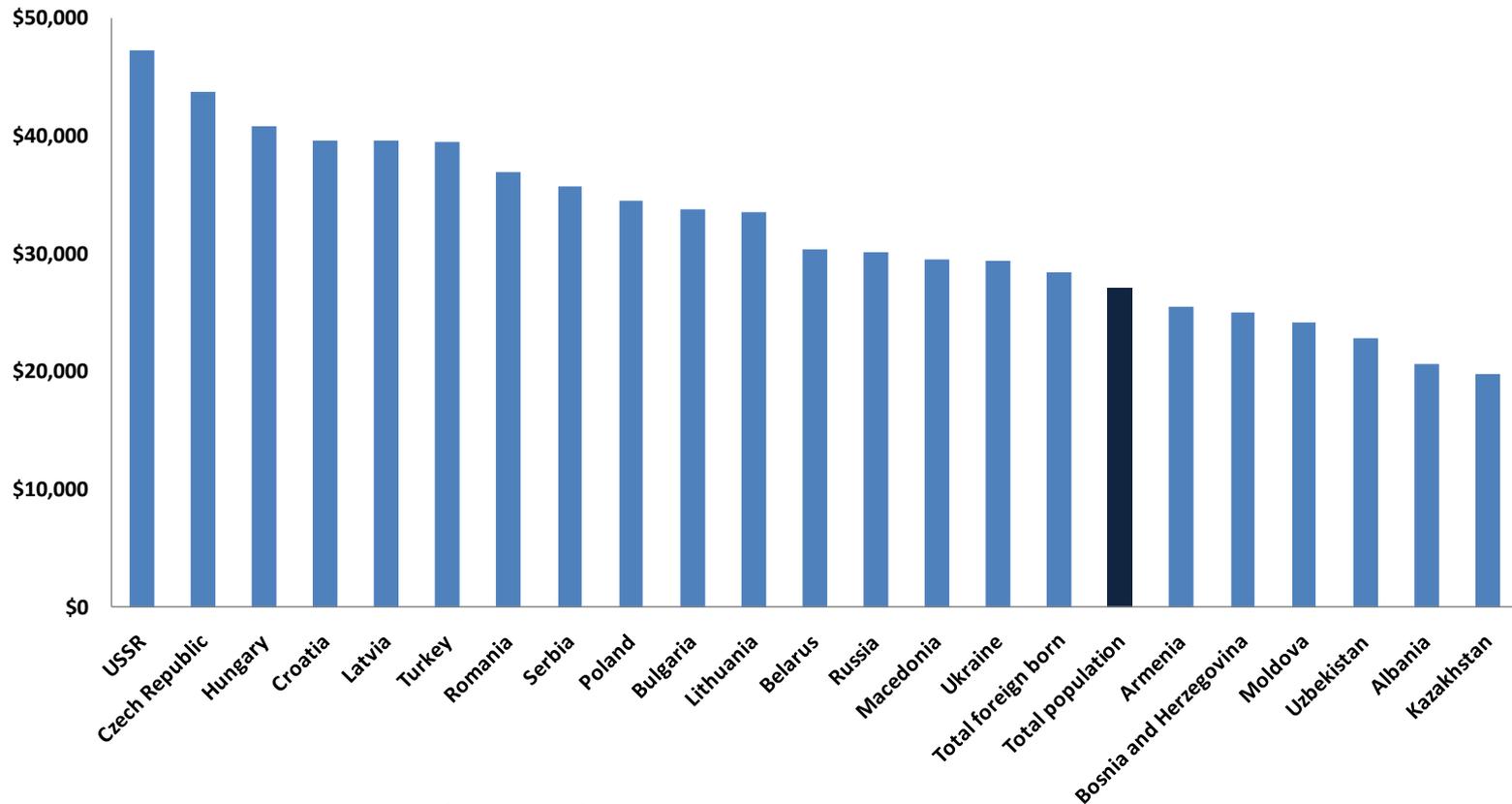
**Figure: Educational Levels of the Largest ECA Diaspora Populations  
in the United States, 2007 to 2009**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey.

- **The ECA diaspora populations in the United States are quite highly educated, more so than overall foreign-born**
- **Also high levels of U.S. citizenship and English-language skills**

**Figure: Per Capita Income of the ECA Diaspora Populations  
in the United States, 2007 to 2009**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007-2009 American Community Survey.

- **ECA diaspora populations are disproportionately represented in management and professional occupations, have higher incomes, and own more expensive homes**

# Diaspora institutions in the ECA region

- **Ministry:** Armenia, Georgia, Serbia
- **Sub-ministry:** Russia, Latvia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Poland, Albania, Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Other:** Ukraine, Lithuania, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Slovakia, Slovenia, Turkey, Hungary
- **No diaspora office:** Belarus, Estonia, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Croatia, Kosovo

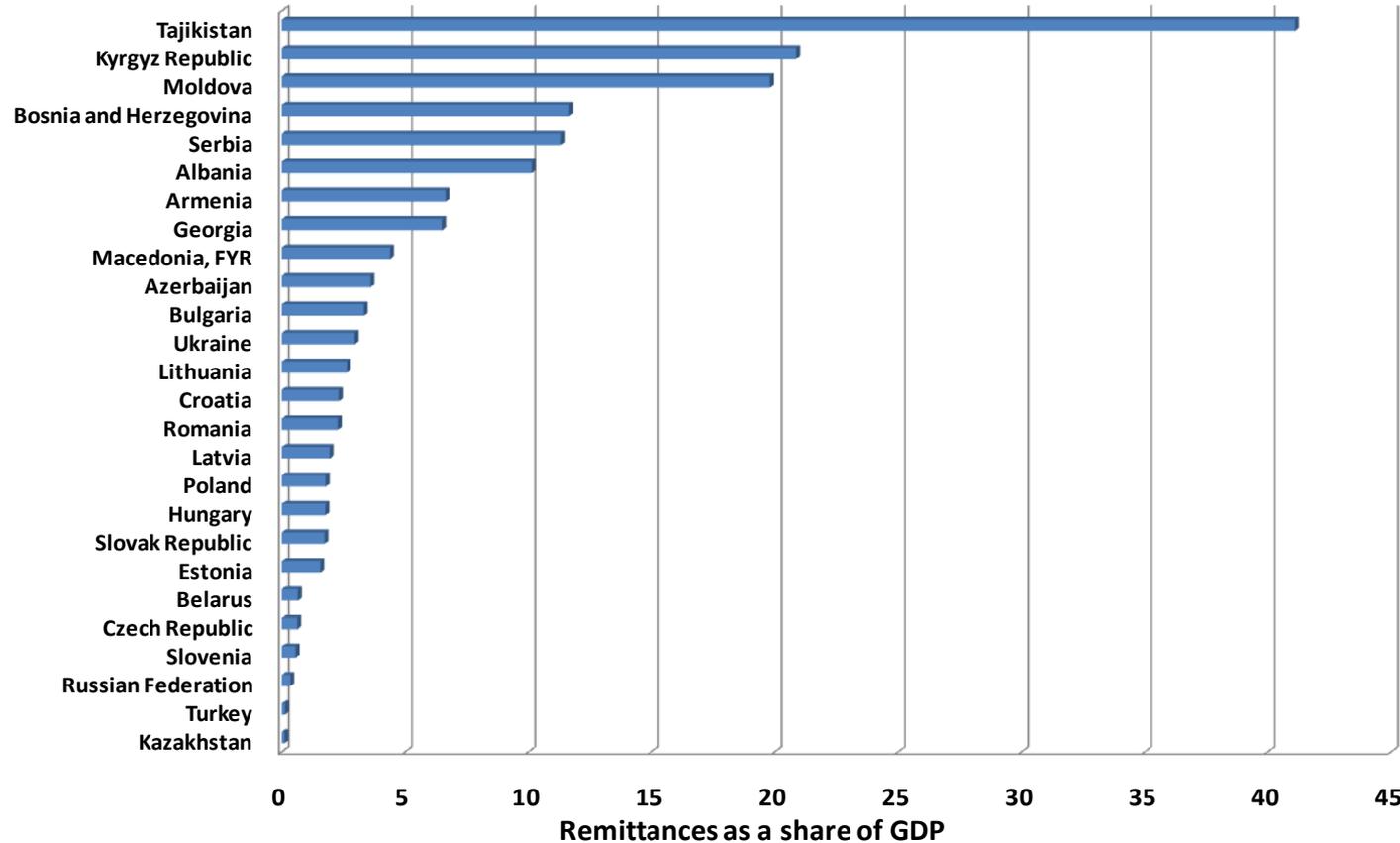
# Issues in ECA diaspora policy

- **Diaspora policies and institutions:** rather new in many ECA countries, many after 2000
- **Most link diaspora policy to foreign policy:** many diaspora agencies in Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Tracking of diaspora populations:** many cite as issue, some do decently (e.g. Bulgaria)
- **Dual citizenship:** some adopting
- **Remittances:** costs are high but declining, not cited as priority by many
- **Trade and investment:** lacking with emphasis on remittances
- **ECA diaspora associations in host countries:** well-developed for most

# Typology of ECA countries by diaspora issues

- **Remittance-dependent:** Moldova, Tajikistan, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Return or engagement of highly-skilled:** Russia, Slovenia, Serbia, Poland
- **Diaspora to compensate for demographic decline:** Latvia, Estonia, Kazakhstan
- **Investment from diaspora:** Azerbaijan
- **Diaspora as EU representatives:** Turkey (was remittances for growth)
- **Diaspora wary of involvement:** Belarus
- **Cultural preservation:** Czech Republic, Slovakia
- **Enlargement of nation:** Hungary
- **Comprehensive diaspora policy:** Lithuania, Armenia, Georgia, Romania, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bulgaria
- **Recently developed diaspora policy:** Ukraine, Croatia, Macedonia
- **Lacking diaspora policy:** Kyrgyzstan
- **Hostile or ignoring diaspora:** Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Figure: Remittances as a Share of GDP in the ECA Region, 2010



- Many ECA countries are highly dependent on remittances
- On average, remittances make up 0.7 percent of GDP
- Need to different diaspora policy based on level of remittances

# Examples of best practice in diaspora policy in the ECA region

- **Lithuania**

- Department of National Minorities and Lithuanians Living Abroad (DNMLLA)
- “The Inter-institutional program for cooperation with Lithuanian communities abroad for the year 2008-2012”
- Targets old and new diaspora differently

- **Armenia**

- In 2008, Ministry of Diaspora was established
- Dual citizenship in 2007
- Different focuses on financial flows, technology transfer and entrepreneurship

- **Montenegro**

- The Diaspora centre within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the main institution coordinating and promoting Diaspora
- Comprehensive “Strategy of Cooperation with Diaspora for Period 2011-2014”

# Migration policies of main destinations for ECA diaspora

- **Russia:** from restrictive to attempts at regulating labor migration and encouraging diaspora, many illegal from FSU
- **Europe:** fears of massive migration are over but doors not completely open
- **Israel:** wary welcome of high-educated ECA Jewish population
- **United States:** broken migration policy but open to educated from ECA region

# Areas for further research

- Improve data on size and characteristics of the ECA diaspora population
- Determine exact levels of involvement of ECA diasporas with home country
- Update information on ECA countries' diaspora policies

# Recommendations for ECA countries on diaspora issues

- **Diaspora goals should be clearly defined and linked to development policy**
- **Better tracking of ECA diaspora populations, both quantitative and qualitative**
- **Draw on experience of other countries (e.g. Philippines, Mexico, other ECA)**

## Recommendations for ECA staff dealing with migration and diaspora issues

- **Distinguish among ECA diaspora populations**
- **Link with other organizations, e.g. IOM, ILO, USAID**
- **Assist ECA countries in study of their diaspora populations**
- **Technical assistance in establishing diaspora organizations**

**Thank you**