

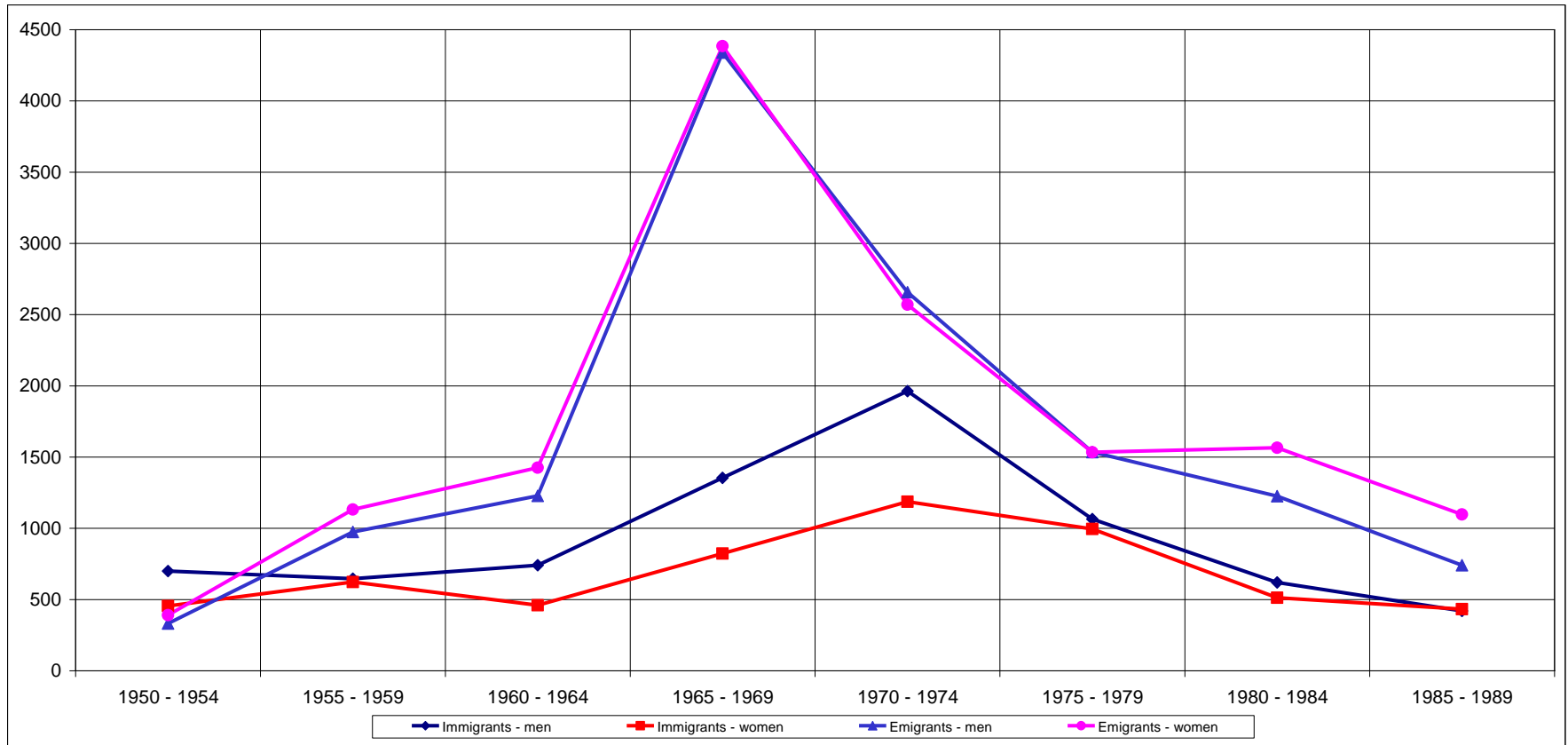
Foreigners in the Social System of the Czech Republic

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2nd Demographic Conference of Young demographers

Actual Demographic Research of Young Demographers (not only) in Europe

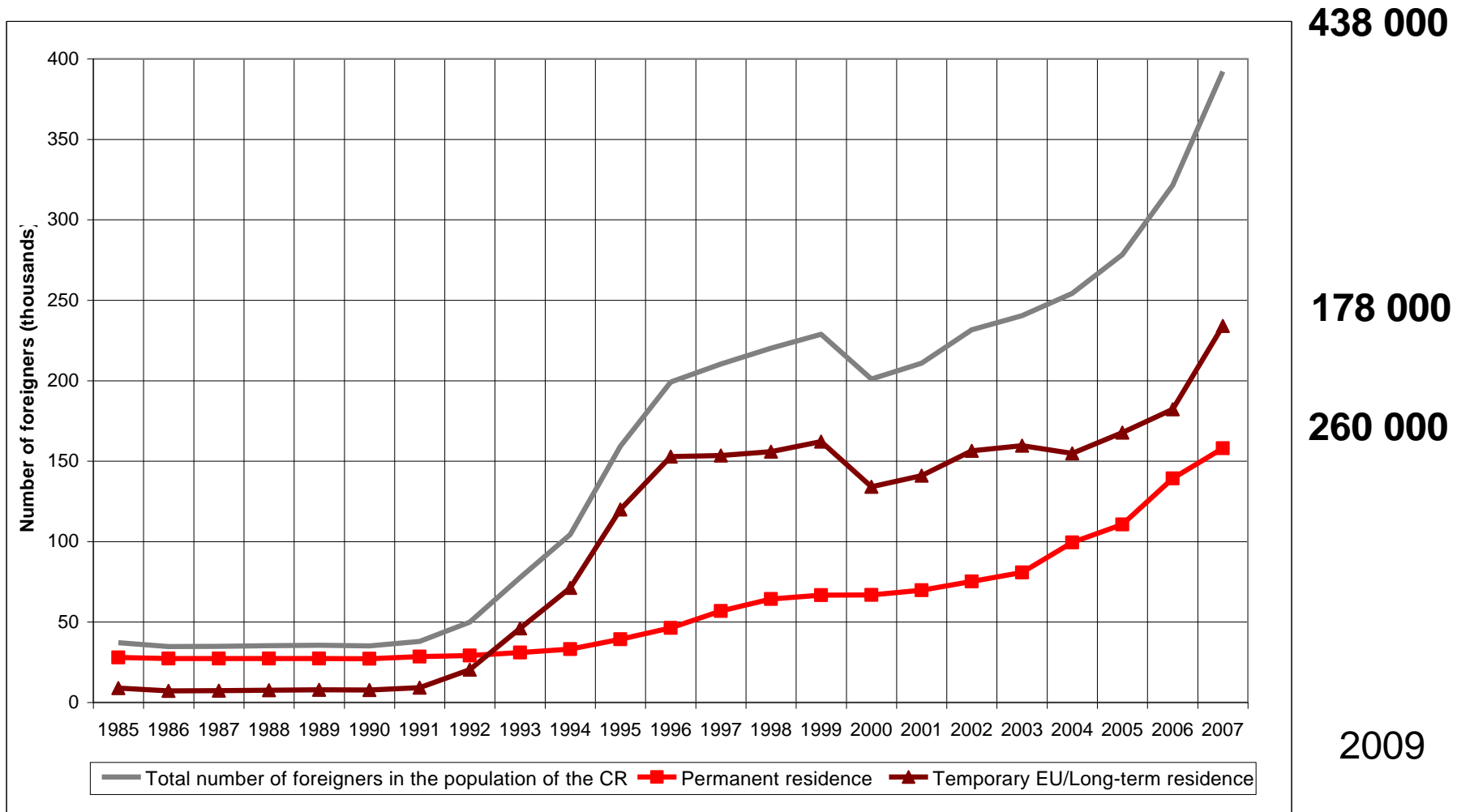
Figure 1. International migration in the Czech Republic, by sex, 1950-1989



Source: Srb [2001].

Note: The numbers are the means for each of the five-year periods.

Figure 2. Foreigners in the Czech Republic by type of residence permit, 1985-2007



438 000

178 000

260 000







2009

Source: Czech Statistical Office at <<http://www.czso.cz>>.

Notes: The figure does not include foreigners who have been granted asylum.

The category 'temporary/long term residence': in 1985–1999 this refers to long-term residence; in 2000–2003, a visa for 90 days or more; since 2004, temporary EU, long-term residence, or a visa for 90 days or more.

Facts and figures:

-  The majority (67%) of officially registered foreigners came from outside the EU.
-  Six out of ten migrants today are men.
-  The share of women out of all foreigners has been more or less stable in the past 8 years (about 40%).
-  The largest groups of immigrants:
 -  Ukrainians (30%), Slovaks (17%), Vietnamese (14%), Russians(7%), Poles(5%)
-  Roughly 70% of all officially registered foreigners in the Czech Republic are economically active.

Introduction:




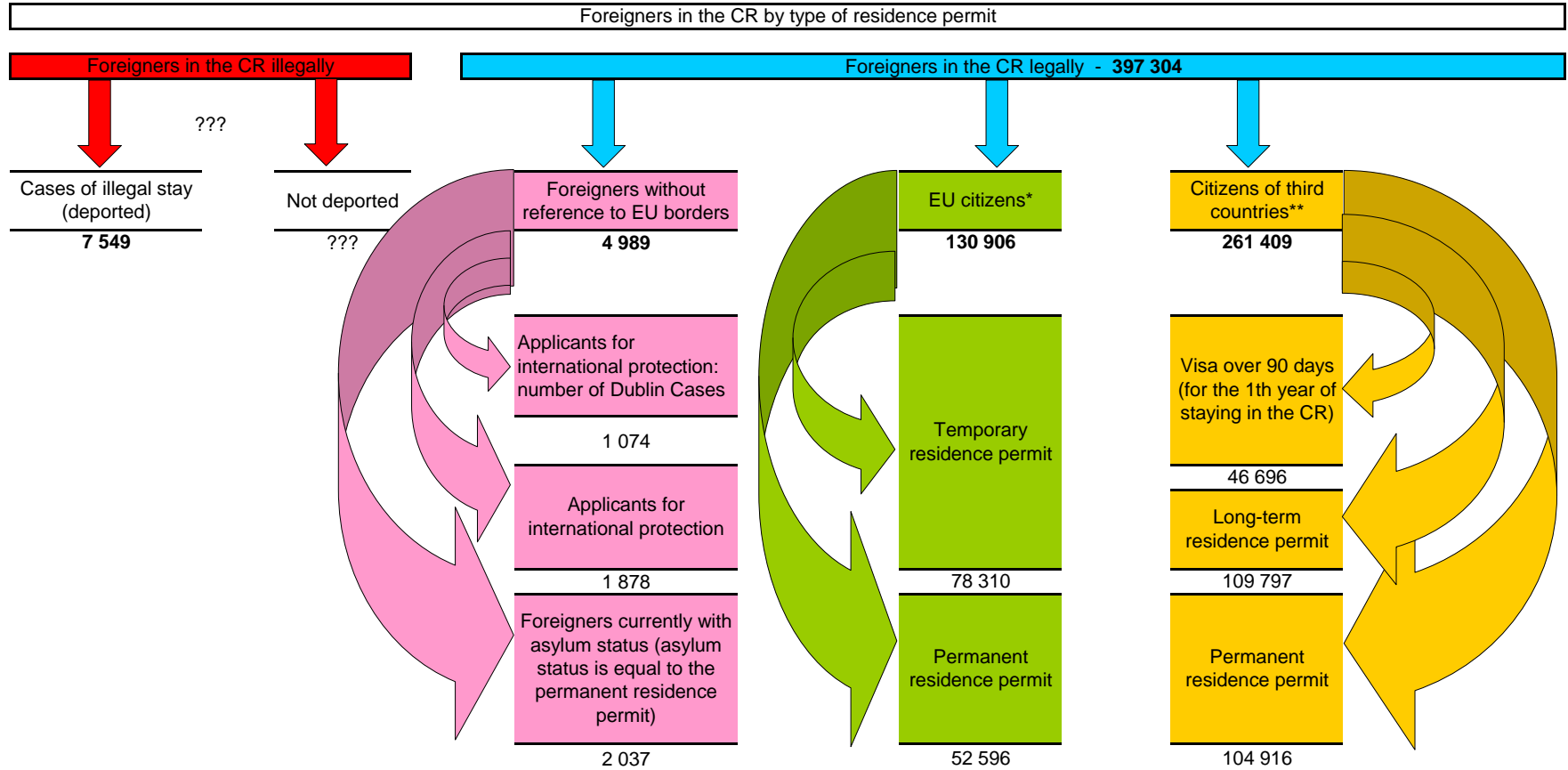
-  The integration of the foreigners and their political and civic participation remain challenges and problematic issues for the Czech Republic:
 -  There are two main types of residence permit in the Czech Republic: temporary and permanent.
 -  The Czech Alien Act distinguishes between three categories of foreigners: EU citizens, citizens of third countries, and other foreigners, with no reference to the EU border.

Figure 6.3. Foreigners in the Czech Republic by type of residence permit in 2007



Source: Czech Statistical Office,
<http://www.czso.cz>, 31/12/2007

* Citizens of EU member states, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

** Citizens of countries outside the EU.




Real - life situation 1

- Elena is a 25-year old, Belarusian.
- Who came for the purpose of family reunification with her husband Oleg.
- Elena is four months pregnant. When the baby is born, the family will not be entitled to any social support benefits because Elena has resided in the Czech Republic for less than one year.
- Both the child and the mother are required to have commercial health insurance, but the insurance premiums for pregnant women, as a high-risk group.
- It is important to note that the situation would be the same even if Elena's husband were Czech.

Real - life situation 2

- A 28-year old Ukrainian, six years living in CR.
- After graduating from a Czech university, she started to work as an interpreter and got a long-term visa for the purpose of entrepreneurship.
- Anna is not entitled to public health insurance.
- A subsidiary company suggests she purchase a complex care insurance product for CZK 1900 a month.
- In order to extend her visa Anna would then have to pay CZK 45 600 for two years in advance.

Conclusion:

-  The Czech Republic is already facing demographic problems and currently has one of the most rapidly ageing populations in Europe.
-  The effectiveness of immigration as an instrument for solving demographic problems and preventing labour market deficits has often been questioned.
-  The social distance between immigrants and the majority population is still substantial.

Literature:

Leontiyeva Y., M. Vojtková. 2009. „Foreigners in the Social System of the Czech Republic“. Pp 211-230. In: Hašková H., Uhde Z. (eds.) *Women and Social Citizenship in Czech Society: Continuity and Change*, Praha: Sociologický ústav AV ČR, v.v.i.

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Thank you for your attention

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