LOW FERTILITY AND LOW MORTALITY:
OBSERVABLE REALITY AND VISIONS OF THE FUTURE
International Conference,
Research University Higher School of Economics, Institute of Demography
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LOW FERTILITY:
DIVERSITY UNDER THE MASK OF UNITY

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Russia
The largest Non-Western newcomers into the global zone of sub-replacement fertility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year of entry</th>
<th>GDI per capita, $</th>
<th>Population (2013), mln</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>1990-95</td>
<td>7945</td>
<td>1357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1990-95</td>
<td>7772</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>2000-05</td>
<td>2970</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2000-05</td>
<td>10965</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India (10 sub-replacement states)</td>
<td>Before 2010</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>2020-25</td>
<td>1785</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2025-30</td>
<td>4154</td>
<td>249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2513</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**West – non-West asymmetry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>West</th>
<th>Non-West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Production and import of ideologies and academic conceptions</td>
<td>Political innovations based on {radical} reinterpretation of the Western-made ideologies and academic conceptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid phenomena produced by the mass immigration from the non-West</td>
<td>Hybrid phenomena produced by transformation of the Western conceptions and practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family policy based on welfare state and priority of individual autonomy</td>
<td>There is no welfare states. Both mighty state interventions and failed states leave no room for individual autonomy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Non-Westerners in a low fertility zone: in search of the theoretical conceptualizations

- Non-European Conceptualization of Modernity (*N. Mouzelis*, 1997)
- The theory of multiple modernities (*S. Eisenstadt*, 2000; *B. Wittrock*, 2000 and others)
- The studies of governmentality after *M. Foucault*, the late 1970s; in demography see, e.g. (*Greenhalgh*, 2003); (*Greenhalgh*, *Winkler*, 2005)
Fundamentals

- There is no the single modernity
- There is no the single way from pre-modern to modernity
- There is no the single demographic transition (or the chain of demographic transitions, the 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 3\textsuperscript{rd} and so on)
- There is a lot of the ways from pre-modern to multiple modernities
- There are a lot of demographic and demographic-related trajectories from pre-modern to modern
- European way ("classic" 1\textsuperscript{st} demographic transition, then the 2\textsuperscript{nd} demographic transition) is unique, not universal
Multiple trajectories, multiple modernities...

Pre-Modern

Trajectory of the 1st type

Modernity of the 1st type

Trajectory of the 2nd type

Modernity of the 2nd type

... 

Trajectory of the nth type

Modernity of The nth type
The reasons why the theory of the 2\textsuperscript{nd} demographic transition cannot succeed the “classic” demographic transition theory in non-Western countries

- The state-individual relations in Non-Western societies differ strongly from those in the West
- The global North/South inequality
- The sizable groups of underprivileged population in the non-Western countries
- The lack of resources to create welfare state in the Non-Western countries
Percentage of the global population involved in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} demographic transition will likely stabilize, then shrink.

OBSTACLES TO THE SPREAD OF THE 2\textsuperscript{ND} DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION

*World in general: the increase of the share of the non-Western countries in the world’s population*

(a) Obstacles in the Western countries

- Mass immigration from the developing countries
- The pace of integration is slower than the growth of migration stock
- The sizable groups of original population are in the ideational opposition to the 2\textsuperscript{nd} demographic transition and its values (e.g. Republicans and pro-life in the U.S.)
Percentage of the global population involved in the 2nd demographic transition will likely stabilize, then shrink (continuation)

Obstacles to the spread of the 2nd demographic transition

(b) Obstacles in the non-Western counties

- A poverty excludes the “Maslovian postmaterialist values” in the sizable groups of population;
- State interventions in fertility are believed to be more or less acceptable or even desirable;
- Religious opposition
A concept of *gouvernmentality* encompasses *inter alia* the way of:

1. problematizing (at government levels);
2. governance and decision-making (at government level);
3. subordinating and submitting, that are peculiar to the society under review.
The demographic role of the state: different patterns

It is a state population policy (or its failure, or absence) that shapes and reshapes world population and its structure over last half a century

- Generous welfare state (*Northern an Western Europe*)
- Mighty state interventions (*China, India 1975-77*)
- Moderate state interventions (*India 1978 onward, Indonesia, Russia*)
- Failed state (*some countries in Sub-Saharan Africa*)
### Has all aforesaid relevance to demography? It depends…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer is <strong>No</strong> if to presume that</th>
<th>Answer is <strong>Yes</strong> if to presume that</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Demographic changes at the national level are independent on the wider society.</td>
<td>- Demographic changes are determined by the <strong>wider country context</strong>, which includes “<strong>legacy, policy and circumstances</strong>” (McNicoll, 2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Demography must promote this view and warns politicians against the attempts to influence these changes.</td>
<td>- Demography must help in carrying out the national population policy, which is optimal in the given national economic, political and cultural context</td>
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