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General Certificate of Education
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Geography

Assessment Unit A2 1

assessing

**Human Interactions and
Global Issues**

[AG211]

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY, MORNING



AG211

RESOURCE BOOKLET



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RESOURCE 1

CHANGING PATTERNS OF MIGRATION FROM ALBANIA

When Albania was part of the Ottoman Empire, Albanians traditionally migrated within Eastern Europe; this mobility, known as *kurbet*, reflected the poverty of their mountainous, agro-pastoral homeland and the lack of alternative employment options. *Kurbet* was a male phenomenon, summed up by an old Albanian proverb: “a man becomes a man out in the world (i.e. by migrating in search of work), a woman becomes a woman rocking the cradle”.

When the interior of the United States of America was opened up for settlement during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, significant numbers of Albanians migrated there instead.

However, from the 1940s to the early 1990s during the period of communist government in Albania, emigration was regarded as treason, punishable by imprisonment or death for those who tried to leave.

In the 1990s the communist regime collapsed, a dramatic political event which saw massive migration amongst the liberated people, especially given the long-term background of economic stagnation in rural areas where most Albanians lived. Three major migratory episodes occurred.

- It is estimated that 200 000 people left during the chaos that followed the fall of communism (1991–1992).
- In 1997 violence erupted after a series of financial scandals, which bankrupted a large number of households and many families left the country.
- In 1999 unrest in neighbouring countries destabilised northern Albania. Boatloads of migrants arrived on the Italian coast during “the exodus”, as it was portrayed in the international media, but even more migrations took place across the mountainous border with Greece.

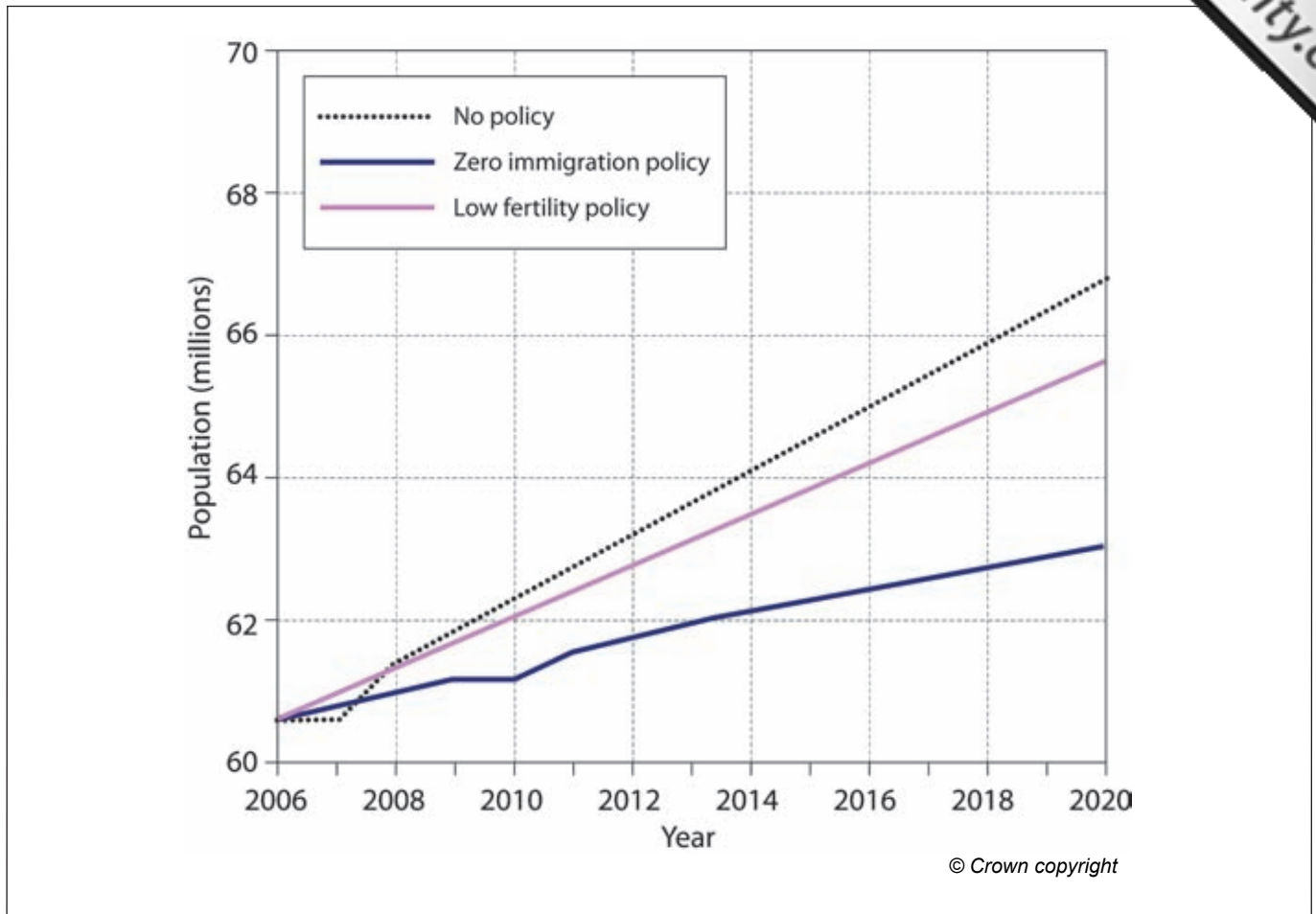
Migration took place at a steadier rate between these emigration pulses and continues to do so.



Adapted from: © *The Intersections of Gender and Generation in Albanian Migration, remittances and Transnational Care* by Prof. R King & Dr J Vullnetari, published by *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography* Volume 91, Issue 1, pages 19-38, March 2009

RESOURCE 2A

UK POPULATION PROJECTIONS BASED ON DIFFERENT POLICY OPTIONS



RESOURCE 2B

THE OPTIMUM POPULATION TRUST'S GLOBAL POPULATION (FERTILITY) POLICY PROPOSALS, 2002–2007

An international agreement has been proposed, in which by peaceful and democratic means every country should:

1. have a population policy that is environmentally sustainable at local and global scales;
2. act urgently to make family planning services easily accessible to all men and women;
3. act urgently to improve women's rights and education, including removing barriers to women's control over their own fertility;
4. encourage parents to voluntarily "stop at two" children;
5. ensure that its own population has full access to employment, and that older people are enabled to extend their working lives; and
6. put its population policy into action alongside environmental policies to curb emissions and reduce consumption and resource depletion, to ensure global environmental survival.

© www.populationmatters.org

RESOURCE 3A

KOLKATA (CALCUTTA) ORDERS OLD VEHICLES OFF ROAD

Thousands of ageing petrol and diesel vehicles were ordered off the streets of Kolkata, eastern India's largest city, over the weekend in an attempt to ease the city's chronic air pollution. The Kolkata High Court had given owners of commercial vehicles that are older than 15 years a one-year deadline that ended yesterday.

"This is a green-letter day for the city," said Subhas Dutta, an environmental activist whose legal battle against the city's polluters brought about the court order last year.

According to government records, more than 60,000 vehicles, including three-wheeled rickshaws, buses, taxis and trucks will be phased out in the city of 15 million people. The government is also encouraging new rickshaws and taxis to use compressed natural gas as fuel.

Source: adapted from The Independent on Sunday, 2 August 2009

RESOURCE 3B

VILLO BIKES IN BRUSSELS

Villo bike stands are found throughout Brussels. For a small price people obtain an electronic pass, which enables them to hire a bicycle to use in the city. They need not be returned to the same rack.



FRAIS D'ACCES - TOEGANGSKOSTEN - ACCESS FEES		
Abonnement annuel Jaarabonnement Yearly membership	30 €	Abonnement hebdomadaire Weekabonnement Weekly membership
		7 €
		Abonnement 24 heures 24 uur abonnement 24 hours membership
		1,50 €
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Première ½ heure - Eerste halfuur - First ½ hour	Gratuit - Gratis - Free	
Première ½ heure supplémentaire - 1 ^{ste} bijkomend halfuur - First extra ½ hour	0,50 €	
2 ^{ème} ½ heure supplémentaire - 2 ^{de} bijkomend halfuur - 2 ^d extra ½ hour	1 €	
A partir de la 3 ^{ème} ½ heure supplémentaire - Vanaf het 3 ^{de} bijkomend halfuur From the 3 rd extra ½ hour	2 €	
www.villo.be		

Source: Chief Examiner

RESOURCE 4

INCREASING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH KOREAN CITIES

In the 1970s and 1980s South Korea became one of the Asian “tiger economies”, when rapid industrialisation and development lifted this agricultural and war-torn country from poverty. This was at some cost to the environment, particularly in the cities, which became ugly and polluted. In recent years, Korea’s increasingly affluent middle classes began to demand improvements to urban environments. In 2002 Seoul’s mayor, Lee Myung Bak, was elected on a manifesto that demanded environmental change to this capital city of about 10 million people. An elevated highway that ran through the centre of the city was removed and the Cheonggyecheon River, which had been covered over in the 1960s, was re-opened in 2005 and restored to become a valued urban feature.

In Seoul and other South Korean cities attention has been paid to improving the appearance of the streets, while urban parks have been added, some of which celebrate Korean culture. Transport systems have been made more environmentally friendly.



Housing units in Jeju City from the Asian “tiger” period



Exercise equipment, Shammu Park, Jeju City



New urban park celebrating local cultural traditions in Jeju City

Source: Chief Examiner

RESOURCE 5

TERRITORIAL DIVISION OF SERBIA CREATES KOSOVO

The people of Kosovo felt they had much to celebrate when the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Hague declared that Kosovo’s unilateral declaration of independence from Serbia in 2008 was legal. Kosovo was formerly an autonomous region within Serbia but its 2 million people, mostly ethnic Albanian, had campaigned for separation from Serbia since the breakup of the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s. Serbia opposed this claim and withdrew autonomy from Kosovo. This led to a bitter civil war between Serbia and a number of terrorist organisations in Kosovo. In response to claims of atrocities and ethnic cleansing, NATO launched air strikes against the Serbian army, eventually forcing Serbia to withdraw from Kosovo. In the aftermath of this civil war, Kosovo became a protectorate of numerous international organisations including NATO and the UN. The region remained relatively peaceful but there were sporadic outbreaks of ethnic violence. Kosovo eventually declared independence in 2008.

Long before the ICJ announced its decision, Kosovo had already adopted many of the trappings of statehood including its own constitution, passports, national anthem and had created its own army. However, the jubilation in Kosovo may be short-lived as the new state struggles to meet new challenges. The international community has been slow to recognise the state of Kosovo, partly through fear of claims for independence from the ethnic communities within their borders. Without international recognition, Kosovo cannot gain membership of international organisations such as the UN and the EU. Kosovo is also one of the poorest regions in Europe with an annual GNI per capita of just US\$2346 and is heavily dependent on trade routes through Serbia. Furthermore, there are still some unresolved border issues with Serbia. A sizeable minority of Serbs and Albanians have been left on the “wrong side” of the border between Serbia and the newly independent Kosovo. Already there are campaigns for “territory swaps”.



Source: Principal Examiner

RESOURCE 6

MULTICULTURAL ISSUES IN EUROPE

In recent decades a multicultural approach was widely accepted in most European countries. However, in October 2010 the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, claimed that Germany's attempts to create a multicultural society had failed. She argued that "the idea of people from different cultural backgrounds living happily side by side did not work." In her view, ethnic minorities should do more to integrate into German society. As a first step towards integration she believed all ethnic minorities should learn to speak German.

The German Chancellor is not alone in her views regarding multiculturalism in Europe. Recent electoral breakthroughs in 2010 in the Netherlands, Sweden, Austria, France and Italy for parties with anti-immigration policies reflect a backlash against ethnic minorities. Many want to ban the visible display of ethnic identity – such as the wearing of the hijab* – in public places in order to create a more integrated society.



Source: Adapted from articles by Ian Traynor and Matthew Weaver in *The Guardian* online October 17 2010

*Note: the hijab is a headscarf worn by some Moslem women.

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