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## Rural settlement Gnjili Potok (Montenegro): Attachment to the study demographic discharge of geo-space

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### ABSTRACT

The population of Gnjilog Potok, as well as most other Montenegrin rural settlements, passed through the period from 1948 to 2017 all the characteristic stages of demographic transition. The maximum number of inhabitants was recorded in 1948 (325), and from the 1961 (281) and 1971 (262) censuses, in the processes of industrialization, the depopulation began - 1981 (199), - 1991 (178). In the post - transition phase in the last two censuses in 2003 and 2011, the number of inhabitants in the settlement was reduced from 111 to 87. The average age of the population is 41.4 years (38.2 in males and 46.1 in females). According to the survey data from 2017, a total of 63 inhabitants live in the settlement. Compared to 1948, the number of inhabitants in 2017 was reduced by 194 %. These demographic processes ring in the alert and seek new, more effective economic (polycentric) and population policies. The situation in which is Montenegrin rural area is located and the exploration of the possibilities for its overcoming is a sufficient motive for the development of this work.

**Keywords:** Gnjili Potok, rural settlement, demographic change, depopulation

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Rural areas are increasingly thought of in terms of opportunity, as engines of growth in a world of economic uncertainty, they are being challenged in terms of their role in providing safe and secure food supplies, and they are being lauded and criticized in terms of climate change and mitigation. The multiple scales of these discussions, and the intensity and increased volume of rural debate that has emerged, see rural geographers occupy an interesting space in terms of conceptualizations, engagement and understanding of rural livelihoods and rural sustainability [see 1]. Urbanization has been a global trend ever since World War II. Cities grow rapidly, especially in the highly developed economies of the world. There are numerous reasons to this phenomenon. People move to cities in search for jobs, education, services, entertainment, social networks and a better life in general. Whether this is a desirable trend is of minor importance to the present study; it may simply be taken as an empirical fact. The backside of urbanization is rural depopulation and decline of minor population centers, some of which may even be located quite close to the urban growth centers [2].

Our research evidence based on similar research Martinović and Šantić [3] indicates that the reduction of the total number of inhabitants and the fragmentation of a large number of settlements in Montenegro, as well as the phenomenon of demographic decline and displacement of rural settlements, is one of the key problems of the country's territorial and spatial - demographic development. This primarily relates to settlements with low traffic connections, located in zones at a greater distance from local and regional centers, as well as in mountainous areas. Thus, a decade - long continuous decline in the overall population and the negative tendencies of demographic and overall development is the basic characteristic of the modern phase of the rural development of rural settlements Gnjili Potok.

The development of the rural population of Gnjili Potok in the second half of the XX and the beginning of the 21st century is characterized by a series of negative demographic processes, among which the most important process of depopulation and the pronounced aging of the population. The present demographic situation is largely the result of long - standing economic, social and cultural changes in the country as a whole, which have led to deterioration of living standards, uncertain future and endangered population's existence. As a consequence we have a significant decline in natural growth, an accelerated process of population aging, gradual cessation of biological reproduction... This state of demographic indicators imposes the need for a detailed analysis of the population of the rural settlement of Gnjili Potok, as well as the definition of possible solutions for their overcoming, in order to base the future demographic and economic development of this rural settlement [see 4].

## **2. AREA RESEARCH**

Our research evidence based on similar research Šantić and Martinović [5] suggests that, considering the numerous, primarily geographical and historical changes, in the current development of Gnjili Potok we can distinguish four main phases: the initial, early, central and modern phase of the development of the settlement. The initial phase of the development of the settlement, covering the ancient and medieval era, has not been sufficiently studied. The population of the settlements in this period is characterized by material traces, mostly

scientifically unexplored, scarce written sources as well as folk tales with a real historical basis. During the initial phase it is difficult to monitor the continuity of the population, for which there are indications that he had some interruptions due to war destruction, robbery... [see 6 - 7]. Early or mono - functional phase of settlement development covers the period of Turkish occupation from the end of the XIV to the end of the XIX century. This is indicated by material traces, the oral tradition of the locals ... With Turkish occupation, the settlement is included in the “spahian” estates. During the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, the settlement process was present. During this development phase, the population of Gnjilog Potoka was exclusively engaged in extensive cattle breeding [see 8 - 9].

The central phase of the development of the settlement lasted from the liberation from the Turks to the Second World War. After the liberation, livestock breeding was one of the most important industries. Extensive cattle breeding and farming, represented by quarry production, often did not satisfy even the needs of rural households, so the population migrated. In addition to the traditional, agrarian function, they also gain other functions - trade, craft, cultural - educational... [see 10 - 11]. The modern or semi -functional phase of the development of the settlement was characterized by the transformation of this exclusively rural environment and the change of the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of the settlement under the interaction of the factual - geographic processes - industrialization, urbanization and deagrarianization. These changes in the settlement in their character were exclusively spontaneous, but there are also social planning interventions in encouraging the development of Gnjili Potok - the opening of a school, a library, the introduction of electricity, an ambulance... [see 12 - 13].



**Figure 1.** Nature that is rarely seen (summer) - rural village Gnjili Potok surrounded by deciduous and coniferous forests Trešnjevika, Lise and Pelinovice

Questions surrounding sustainable communities or rural settlements according to Wegren [14] in developed nations are different from those in low - income states. In developed states, many agricultural processes are mechanized so farm labor is less important to food production. Even so, sustainable rural communities or rural settlements provide a range of services to farms and are important for keeping surrounding areas economically alive. In developing nations, questions about sustainable rural communities or rural settlements relate to the supply of labor and therefore impact food production directly. In developing countries, sustainable rural communities or rural settlements are defined by demographic measures such as birth rates, mortality rates, and family size.

Further, in developing nations, such as Montenegro according to Wegner [14] citing research Lipton [15], Bates [16], Bates [17], Sadowski [18], Special Issue Beyond Urban Bias [19], Thiesenhusen [20] and for a contrary view to urban bias see Byres [21] indicates that the vitality of sustainable rural communities or rural settlements is affected by state policy.

Starting with the work of Michael Lipton in the 1970s urban bias became a powerful paradigm for urban - rural relations in the Third World and one - party states. Urban bias defines urban-rural relationships and the ways in which regimes extract resources from the agricultural sector to the benefit of the non - rural sector. The urban bias argument maintains that states act to protect urban interests and discriminate against rural interests. Urban bias argues that financial, productive, and human resources are deliberately pumped out of the countryside in order to benefit urban dwellers. Food producers are discriminated against on price and resource flows (although there may be variation according to type of production). Urban bias, therefore, leads to extractive and discriminatory policies against the rural sector. Severe urban bias creates incentives for rural dwellers to migrate from the countryside, thereby reducing the supply of labor and endangering the sustainability of rural communities.

Gnjili Potok is located in the southeastern part Andrijevice. It covers the area 42° 44'43" north latitude and 19° 43' 04" east longitude. It occupies an area of 8.83 km<sup>2</sup>. According to statistics from 2017, in a rural village Gnjili Potok lives a total of 63 populations. Traffic - Gnjilog Potok geographical location is unfavorable, since it is located far from major roads. Except for roads Andrijevica -Trešnjevik - Mateševo - Podgorica no other more important does not intersect or touch this rural village. Gnjili Potok is distance of 8 km Andrijevica, Mateševo 15 km, Berane 23 km and Kolašin 28 km. The inclusion of a wider settlement in the economy cannot count the construction of the highway Boljari - Belgrade with a tunnel under Trešnjevik. Construction of the high way would certainly Gnjili Potok experienced economic revival (agriculture, timber industry, small business, tourism). Of course this is closely and directly related to the construction of roads and modernization Trešnjevik saddle with a narrow base Koma, through press and Štavna where the Eco - pasture and through the communication of Trešnjevik over Javorovim Hills and mountains Lise, Bačkog Hill in the direction and Vranještica [see 22].

Stratta Fernández et al [23] according to Farrell [24] indicates some of the most important objectives in rural settlement and what we can point out to the studied settlement: 1) The lack of control in key sectors of the economy, which is necessary in order to achieve an effective planning; 2) The nature and direction of the political leadership, which often lacks of technical and entrepreneurial skills required for implementing development processes; 3) The lack of suitable organizational structures and lack of participation amongst the population in the planning process; 4) The limited knowledge based on which decisions are made. 5) The shortage of personnel and lack of technical knowledge with regards to

planning, implementation and management, and 6) The inefficiencies in terms of creating effective development strategies. Stratta Fernández et al [23] according to Jainarain [25] also state that development planning in rural settlement and what we can point out to the studied settlement: often suffers from the consequences of excessive institutional centralization and the lack of future planning.



**Figure 2.** Oasis of peace (winter) - view of the western part of Gnjilog Potok and the slopes of Trešnjevik

### **3. OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH**

The subject of research in this paper is the analysis of demographic changes and problems in the territory of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok in the second half of the XX and the beginning of the 21st century. Based on this defined subject, using the research by Stričević et al [4], it is possible to realize the basic goal of the research, namely the determination of the current demographic potency of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok, as well as the definition of guidelines for future demographic development. The demographic analysis of the population of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok was done based on the statistical data of the population census in the period from 1948 to 2017.

The analysis covered the following important demographic parameters: the relative change in the number of inhabitants between the census in 1948 and 2011 with the latest survey data of the demographic changes of the population of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok for 2017; age - gender structure of the population; income of the population; number of households and number of members; migration as a factor in the settlement of the geo - space transformation. All demographic data is processed by a statistical method. Surveys were also conducted. Namely, the survey fits in with its objectives in the research because the opinions of the interviewed persons can be collected in a very short time, which can then be used for

deeper analysis of certain causal and consequential connections. With the advantages of collecting, the survey has a number of advantages in the processing process. Its data is significantly more standardized and almost brought to the level of statistical processing.

They should be practically read and entered into a computer, all of which make the survey a quick, economical and modern method [see 26].

### **3. 1. Sample**

The sample included 15 inhabitants of the rural village Gnjili Potok. This makes up 42 % of the total number of permanently settled inhabitants. So this survey research can be considered representative. Sample included people of different age - sex distribution and educational level. Age range covered is from 18 to 60 years and over.

### **3. 2. Instrument**

For research purposes, we have created a curriculum. Questions divided into seven categories: Population movement, age structure of population, age - gender structure of population, income of population, educational structure of population, number of households and number of members and migration. The questionnaire made after the model of an instrument designed for the intentions of this research, using the formulation of rules of inquiry questions: Rajović [27], Bulatović and Rajović [28], Rajović and Bulatović [29], Bulatović and Rajović [30], Rajović and Bulatović [31], Rajović and Bulatović [32]. The survey was, conducted at the end of July 2014 and at the beginning of August 2015 by the author of this text G.R. and J.B. with the full support of Darko Rajović on temporary work in Copenhagen. In this context, in terms of results and their interpretation, we used to study Pospěch et al [33], Grgić et al [34], Zhou et al [35], Baernholdt et al [36].

## **4. ANALYSIS OF RESULTS AND THEIR INTERPRETATIONS**

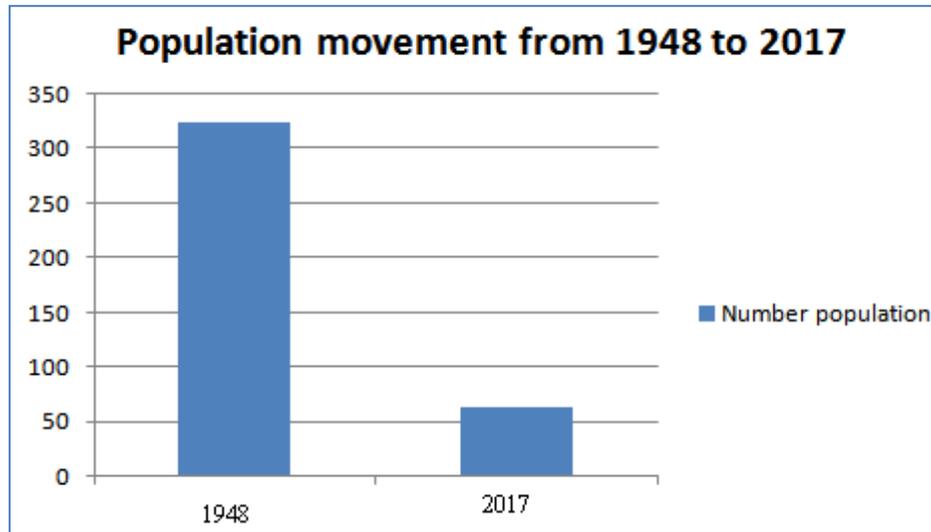
For the purpose of the research, a reference was made based on an instrument designed for the purposes of this research, following the rules of survey research Rajović [27]. The results are displayed graphically and textually. The sample covered 7 households. It was attended by 7 women and 8 men. The age - gender structure of the population was expressed according to age groups from 0 - 19 years, 20 - 39 years, 40 - 59 years and 60 years and more. Respondents showed interest to participate in the survey and provide all available data and answers to all questions.

Based on survey data, in the form of a short summary, we point to the following major findings:

- Population trends show a marked decline. The number of inhabitants decreased from 325 to 63 inhabitants in the period from 1948 to 2017 - 194 %.

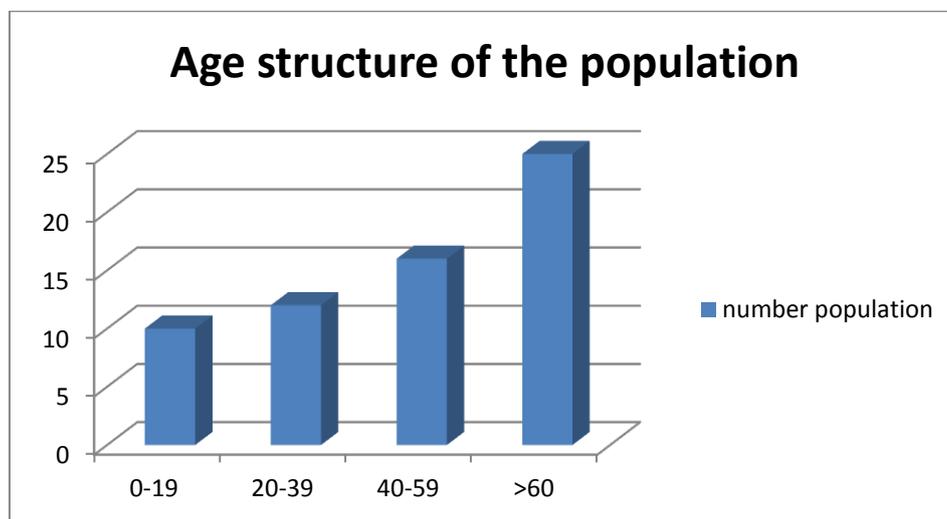
The process of industrialization caused the displacement of the population into the economically developed centers of the former Yugoslavia. Most of the village villagers moved to Belgrade (since settling to date, a total of 23 families with 88 members have been formed). As the emigration was mostly affected by the young population, the most capable of work and natural reproduction, this had a negative impact on the further social and economic

development of the settlement [37]. Such a population movement has its causes in the economic underdevelopment, but the consequences are unfavorable to the economic activity, which will show further analysis of the results.



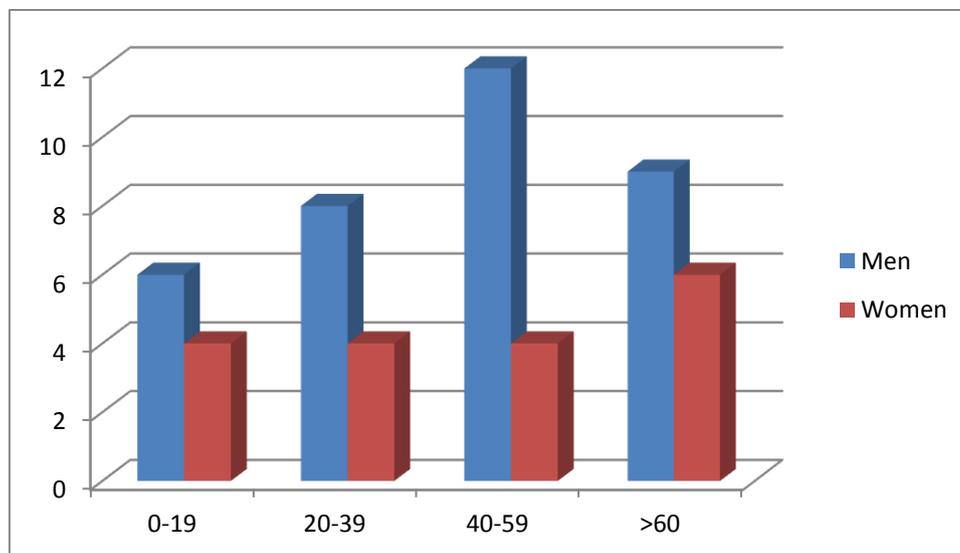
Graph 1. Population movement from 1948 to 2017

- Changes in the age structure of the population of settlements point to the basic empirical type of population - regressive, which is characterized by a greater participation of the old population. Such a disrupted age structure has a backward impact on the movement of the population, but also on all other structures of the population, which are of vital importance for the social and economic activity of the settlement.



Graph 2. Age structure of the population

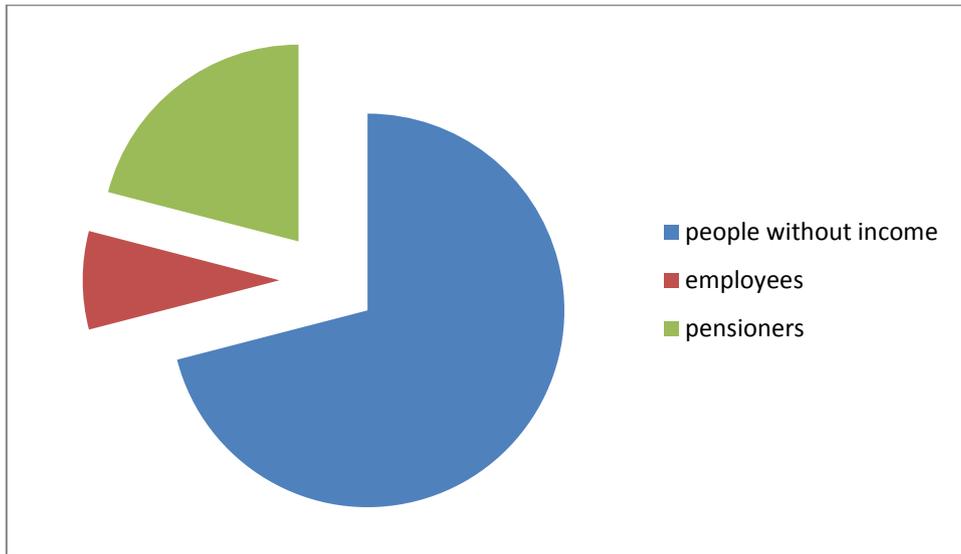
In the age structure, the number of young people aged between 0 and 19 in the total population is 10, the younger middle aged between 20 and 39 is 12, the older middle aged between 40 and 59 is 16, and the age of 60 and over 25. Of the total population, there were 6 men and 4 women for the age group 0 - 19; 20 - 39 years old 8 men and 4 women; 40 - 59 years old 12 men and 4 women; 60 and more years old 9 men and 6 women. Observing the above data, we note that the population of the settlement is old, and that the disproportion of the male and female population was influenced by a greater participation of women in migration, that is, the girls from this settlement went to urban centers and there they married there. It is interesting to note that out of 26 men (20 - 59 years old), 13 is unmarried.



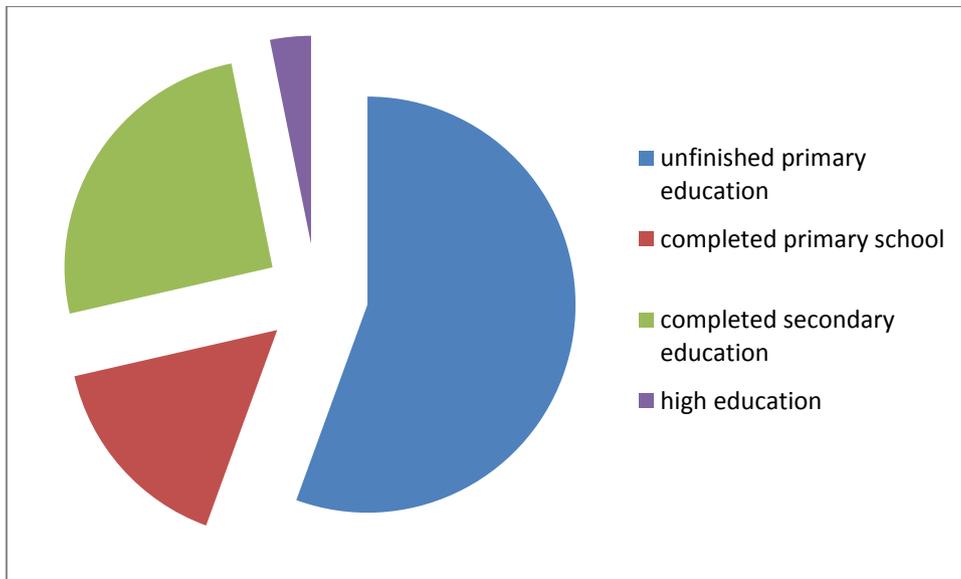
**Graph 3.** Age - full population structure

- What is most worrying about the age structure of the population in the settlement is the number of young people (which may call into question the reproduction of the population) [see 38]. Contingent population during the working period (men from 15 to 64 years - 21) and women from 15 to 59 years of age - 8) is an inadequate demographic framework for the formation of labor force. Namely, the population contingency in the working age of the settlement was due to the migration and aging process of the population. The same reasons for the fertile contingent (female population aged 15 to 49 years - 6) respectively, the share of this contingent in the total population of the settlement is reduced. Extremely high numbers of people without income (44), insufficient residents with income - employees (5), pensioners (13), is mostly a result of economic downturn and not investment in the settlement.
- The low income of the locals does not contribute to the socio - economic development of the studied settlement. The average pension is 124 euros. The monthly income of five employees is around 220 euros. Despite a low living standard, only a third of the inhabitants of the settlement complement the material void with the source of income from agricultural holdings. From this socio - economic stagnation, almost two - thirds of the respondents see the exit, but we must take into account that some of these for leaving the village are an obstacle for years, material resources, not satisfaction with

the existing conditions of life... [27]. Local people see a better and more comfortable life in the construction of rural infrastructure and the development of a small economy (given the large number of workers on temporary work abroad from the settlement) [39] that is, everything that lives in the settlement and the cultivation of agriculture makes not only a decent modern man, but also an attractive one. It is necessary to redirect the development policy towards human needs; motivation and satisfaction [see 40].



**Graph 4.** Population income in 2017.



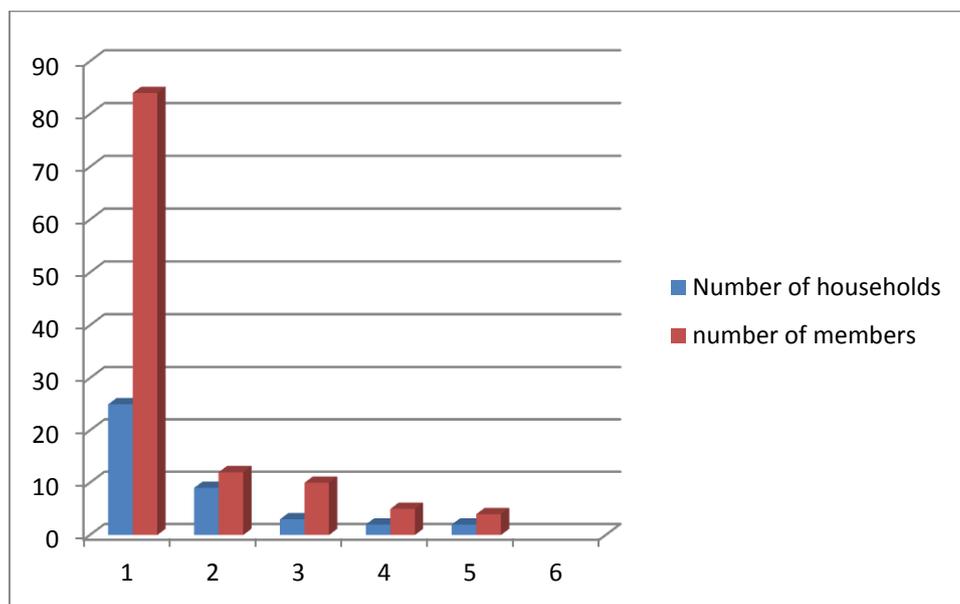
**Graph 5.** Educational structure of the population

- According to the survey for 2017, of the total number of inhabitants, with unfinished primary education there are 35, and with a completed primary school there are 10, which is a result of irregular education. With completed secondary education there are 16 inhabitants, while high education has two inhabitants of the settlement. This qualification structure of the population was created due to the emigration of the educated inhabitants of the settlements to the developed centers of Montenegro, the territory of the former Yugoslavia, or to temporary work in the interior.

If we add that the number of children in the settlement in the age group from 0 to 4 years is three; 5 to 9 years is three; 10 to 14 years is three; 15 to 18 years old one, clearly states that such a state requires urgent social and economic engagement. Three children of locals attend the primary four-year school in the village, while 7 students to the 8-year and high school in Andrijevića, of course, leave and return on foot. Lack of higher and higher schools in the region of northeastern Montenegro condition the departure of young people from the settlement [see 40].

- Different characteristics of the population in one area can be seen through the characteristics of the family or household. Family and household, as primary units of society, are the basis for reproduction of population and economic activity, as well as socialization of young people ... In addition to the family, households also include other communities of persons who live together and spend their own income together, as well as single households. However, in most cases, the family coincides with the household, and through the consideration of the characteristics of the household, the characteristics of the family can be seen. According to Rajković and Stepanović - Miletić [41] and Hajnal [42] in the publication - Group for the History of Population and Social Structure - „The European Marriage Pattern“, consciously two forms of marriage and households of pre - industrial society in Europe: Western Europe and Eastern Europe. Montenegro has the same position in relation to the Hajnal line: it is located east of it, within the eastern - European model of marriage and households. The Eastern European model is so called "joint household systems". Within the Eastern - European model, the Balkan complex household / family according to Rajković and Stepanović - Miletić [41] based on research Mosely [43] have a great influence in the traditional society: it is one of the social instruments, which has a high degree of resilience to social and economic problems. The traditional form of family life that was characteristic of Montenegro is a cooperative; according to Milić [44] is a specific "cultural model of life, behavior and thinking". In the field we observed a large number of aged households and almost half of households with one and two members. Namely, out of the total number of households in the settlement there are 8 households with one member, 3 households with 2 members, 7 households with 3 members, 3 households with 4 members, one household with 7 members and one household with 9 members.

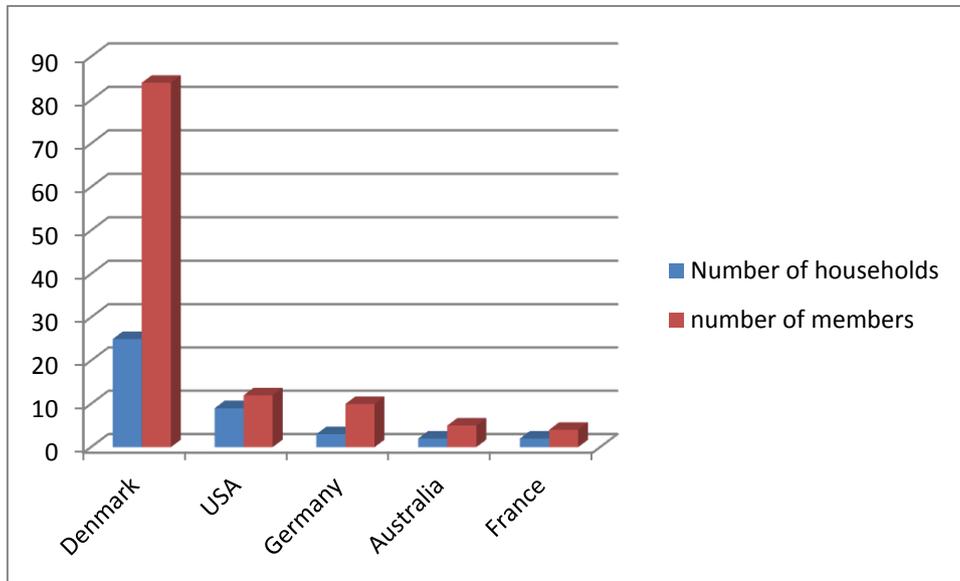
According to the statistical data from 1948, there were 71 households in the settlement and according to a survey of data from 2017, 23 households (permanently resident). The above data indicates that the changes in the number of households in the settlement are very intense. Taking into account that the population of the studied geospace is exclusively engaged in agriculture, it is quite clear that the structure of the households according to the sources of income was also presented in advance [27,12].



**Graph 6.** Number of households and number of members in 2017

- Taking into account migration movements of the population of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok, we will serve in this place research Rajović [10] and Rajović & Rajović [12] i.e., in order to fully analyze the analyzed tendencies, we will group the data into four homogeneous groups: we grouped this group into Montenegro, where the largest number of displaced inhabitants of Gnjili Potok (88 households with 330 family members) is also greatest. An overview of municipalities looks like this: Berane (21 households with 93 family members); Kolašin (6 households with 21 family members); Bar (2 households with 4 family members); Budva (16 households with 53 family members), Gusinje (1 households with 3 family members); Bijelo Polje (1 households with 3 family members); Cetinje (5 households with 17 family members); Podgorica (34 households with 127 family members); Andrijevica (1 households with 5 family members) and Tivat (1 households with 4 family members). This group includes the territory of Serbia: Belgrade (23 households with 88 family members); Priboj (5 households with 20 family members); Priština (3 households with 10 family members); Peć (5 households with 16 family members); Đakovica and Sombor (2 households with 5 family members); Čačak (2 households with 7 family members); Užice and Svilajnac (2 households with 8 family members); Niš and Topola (3 households with 7 family members). Note, after 1999 from the territory of Kosovo and Metohija 9 households with 27 family members, it is displaced in the region of Serbia and Belgrade. This group is composed of Republic Srpske, or Bosnia and Herzegovina (6 households with 20 family members) and Hrvatska (1 households and 1 family members). Overview by settlements: Adzići (2 households with 5 family members); Busovača (1 households with 4 family members); Brčko (1 households with 4 family members); Bihać (1 households with 4 family members) and Zenica (1 households

with 3 family members). After the break-up of the former Yugoslavia, two households with 7 family members returned to Montenegro. Regardless of the fact that the process of migration has taken place here, its intensity is minimal. According to Rajović [12] on temporary work abroad there were 41 households with 115 family members.



**Graph 7.** External migration of the population

Rajović [45] and Rajović & Bulatović [46] state that in Denmark since 1969 years formed 25 households with 84 family members, USA 9 households with 12 members, Germany 3 households with 10 family members, Australia 2 households with 5 family members and France 2 households with 4 family members. We emphasize that in the daily migration 2 inhabitants of the settlement participate in Andrijevića. Seasonal migrations include 7 inhabitants of settlements that mostly perform jobs in catering facilities during the tourist season on the Montenegrin coast.

Globally, according to Ajaero and Onokala [47] (citing research - Adams [48]; Adams [49]; Sherbinin [50]; Haas [51]; Niimi and C.Ozden [52]; Adepoju [53]; Adepoju [54]; Black et al [55]; Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) [56]; Sorenson [57] and Madu [58]) indicates that the nexus between migration and development has remained an issue under vigorous academic debate. Therefore, the process of people migrating to other areas in search of a better life is not a novel one. What has however gained currency is the increasing voluntary movement in quest of better quality of life by low - skill and low - wage workers as well as high - skill and high - wage workers from less developed rural areas to more developed urban areas, especially among the poor in the developing countries. In this regard, rural - urban migration results from the search for perceived or real opportunities as a consequence of rural - urban inequality in wealth. This inequality and/or urban bias in development according to research findings over the years results from the overwhelming concentration of wealth, assets, purchasing capacity, economic activities, and variety of

services in the urban centers as well as the continued neglect and degradation of rural environments or areas [see 47].

In the end, leaving rural settlements according to Babović et al [59] citing research Baumann [60], Xie et al [61], OFID [62], Gregory [63], Pinillaetal [64], Vartiainen [65] is a problem that dates back to the end of the 19th century and reaches a peak in the second half of the 20th century. One of the main reasons for leaving the village is industrialization. During the last century, there was a mass phenomenon of people leaving the city for employment. In Western Europe, rural depopulation has led to a negative development of the population in many rural areas. The point of culmination in Finland and Sweden came in the late 1960s, when the "big age cohorts" began to search for the labor market, while at the same time the economic growth in the centers was very fast. The reasons that led to the disappearance of rural settlements and the reduction in the number of inhabitants in them are similar to the rest of the world. Not even on the Balkan Peninsula. The rural settlement Gnjili Potok in Montenegro - confirms the example of the demographic discharge of geo - space.

## **5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

During the second half of the 20th century, the territory of the rural settlement Gnjili Potok was affected by intense demographic changes. The scope of these changes concerned an intensive decline in the number of inhabitants. The main feature of the current demographic development is marked depopulation. Such a negative development trend is based on increased migration, increased mortality and negative natural growth. Analyzing the data from the population census from 1948 to 2011, i.e. the results of the survey research, we came to the following conclusions: the number of inhabitants continues to decline in the settlement; comparing all the interpersonal intervals from 1948 to 2011 and the results of the survey of 2018, we can conclude that the decline in the number of inhabitants varies temporally and spatially in Montenegro; the rural settlements of Montenegro closer to the municipal center are slowly losing the population; rural settlements in the mountain - mountain part of Montenegro (on higher hypsometric belts) as Gnjili Potok is most affected by the process of depopulation; along with a decrease in the number of inhabitants, there are also changes in other structures of the population [see 66].

Logically, the inescapable outcome of depopulation is what Walser and Anderlik [67] have termed the "vicious cycle of decline." In their analysis, they argue that: "...many (rural) counties may face a self - reinforcing cycle of decline: declining populations lead to decreased economic vitality, and both lead to higher per capita costs (for public services); the higher costs provide incentives for continued out-migration – and the downwardly spiraling quality of life and of the supporting infrastructure in these counties makes it increasingly difficult for the counties to attract new businesses to the area". As the younger generation departs and the remaining population naturally decreases, the impact is increasingly felt in rural counties. With the decrease in population of both the towns and the surrounding farm country, the quality of life for those who remain diminishes [68]. The older population left behind loses access to local health care as rural clinics and hospitals are forced to close or consolidate. The young people who stay and raise families are confronted with the possibility of losing access to convenient education for their children as area schools contemplate consolidation with neighboring school districts to manage expenses. As communities lose schools, businesses

and local health care, outmigration is likely to increase, leading to a spiral of decline which is difficult to reverse [69]. Gnjili Potok is a prominent example of the depopulation of rural settlements in Montenegro. The process of depopulation began during the second half of the 20th century and continued in the middle half of the 21st century. The decrease in the number of inhabitants has led to changes in the age and economic structure of the population. The rural settlement Gnjili Potok has almost passed the threshold of demographic age and in it the process of biological renewal is almost stopped, which jeopardizes its socio - economic development and survival in the perspective [66].

There is interesting thinking at this place Soderberg [70] which we can apply in a particular area. Namely, with continuous urbanization, the smaller rural municipalities such as the municipality of Andrijevica are losing many of their assets. Social capital is lost if few of the inhabitants can, or want to, stay. This leads to a loss of economic capital in tax revenues and loss of potential to provide sufficient public services, which could lead to even more people deciding to leave. Whatever capitals remain are those tied to the place; its history, location and natural resources. Cultural and symbolic capital is available in the forms of history, tradition and location. Historical features are used as place marketing in the municipalities' websites [see 70]. This is a recreational capital tied to the place that will remain regardless of demographic decline. These values are important in the marketing of the municipality, which is what is hoped to be a way to attract more citizens. Examples of the assets that the municipalities want to emphasize in their marketing are: closeness to both nature and to larger cities, free - time activities such as sports facilities and nice affordable housing. When a municipality's population is declining, few companies will want to establish their business there, which leads to fewer jobs and fewer jobs will lead to fewer inhabitants. If the municipality lead were to acknowledge that there is an ongoing population decline that it is likely to continue, it might boost the chain of events even further. There is logic in preventing downfall by not admitting defeat [see 70].

Our research evidence based on similar research Savić [71] indicates that in Montenegro villages which have an able workforce it is currently necessary, with the use of data obtained from the field, to form conditions for a planned approach to the revival of production. It is also important to provide a higher quality lifestyle in old households and the preservation of material values, so that the number of new producers could increase. In Montenegro villages which are dying out, it is necessary to provide a higher quality of life in old households so that a complete demographic demise would not occur, and to preserve the material values for the instigation of organized village tourism within the municipality. If no high quality and well - organized solution is offered soon, in approximately ten years the municipality Andrijevica will lose half of its villages, among which the studied settlement Gnjili Potok. So, the population policy with the provision of a long - term stable economic - social development of the villages over a longer period of time should be organized, as a part of the municipality Andrijevica, with the involvement of interested professionals from the field of economy, sociology, urbanism and tourism, architecture, construction and geography. The applied solutions have to be based on existing resources and the obtained data collected in the field (like this research), and as part of viable solutions, with the activation of spatial potential in collaboration with the capacity of the local authorities.

In countries that have developed a policy of regional and rural development, how extraordinary it concludes Vasilevska [72] rural development as a development priority occurs in almost all national and regional development programs, but its importance, position,

and in particular development measures and means available, are very different, and apart from the institutional and systemic framework and conditions, primarily depend on: the type and structure of the region; regional development priorities and the type and structure of rural areas. While in developed countries, particularly in the European Union, we conclude similarly with Vasilevska [72] rural and regional policy is a strategic issue, in Montenegro the problem of regional and rural development is only considered as one of the important issues of planning and management. In these considerations, scientific research and practical experience of countries in which the processes of regional and rural development and cooperation has dominated for a long time can be a valuable asset for Montenegro, especially given the current national development trends, intentions and commitments [73].

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