

# Left Behind

The impact of economic migration on  
Children Left Behind and their families

Hotel Leopold - European Parliament

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Children Left Behind – The Polish Case  
Based on Mr. B. Walczak study, commissioned  
by Polish Ombudsman for Children

CONFERENCE

# LEFT BEHIND

Education Partner



FONDAZIONE  
PATRIZIO PAOLETTI  
PER LO STUDIO E LA CONVINCAZIONE



in Collaboration with

eurochild

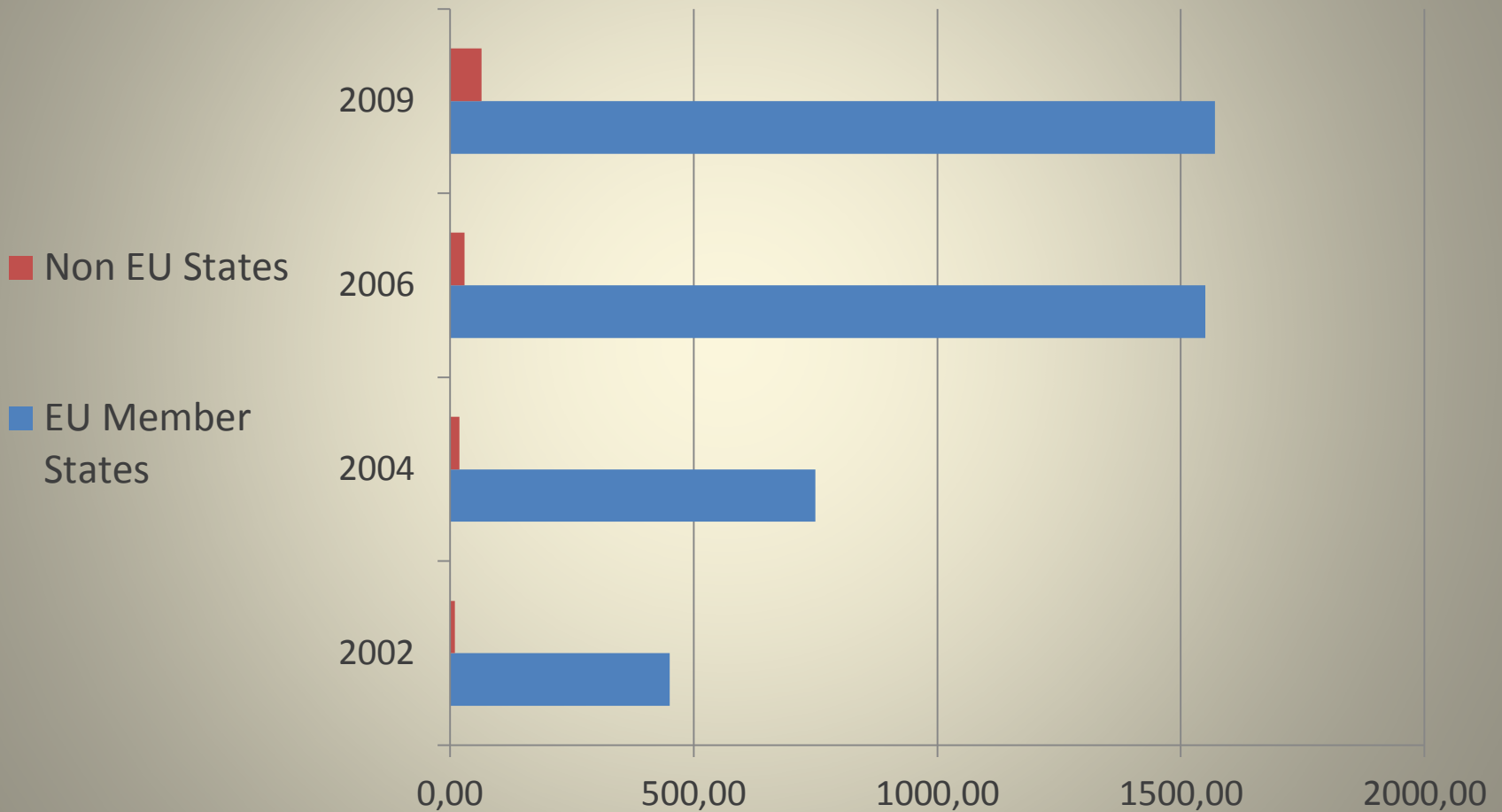
[www.alberodellavita.org](http://www.alberodellavita.org) • [www.ChildrenLeftBehind.eu](http://www.ChildrenLeftBehind.eu)

# Structure of presentation

1. The Scope of The Problem
2. The Analysis of Migrant Families
3. Consequences

# Current Number of Poles Abroad

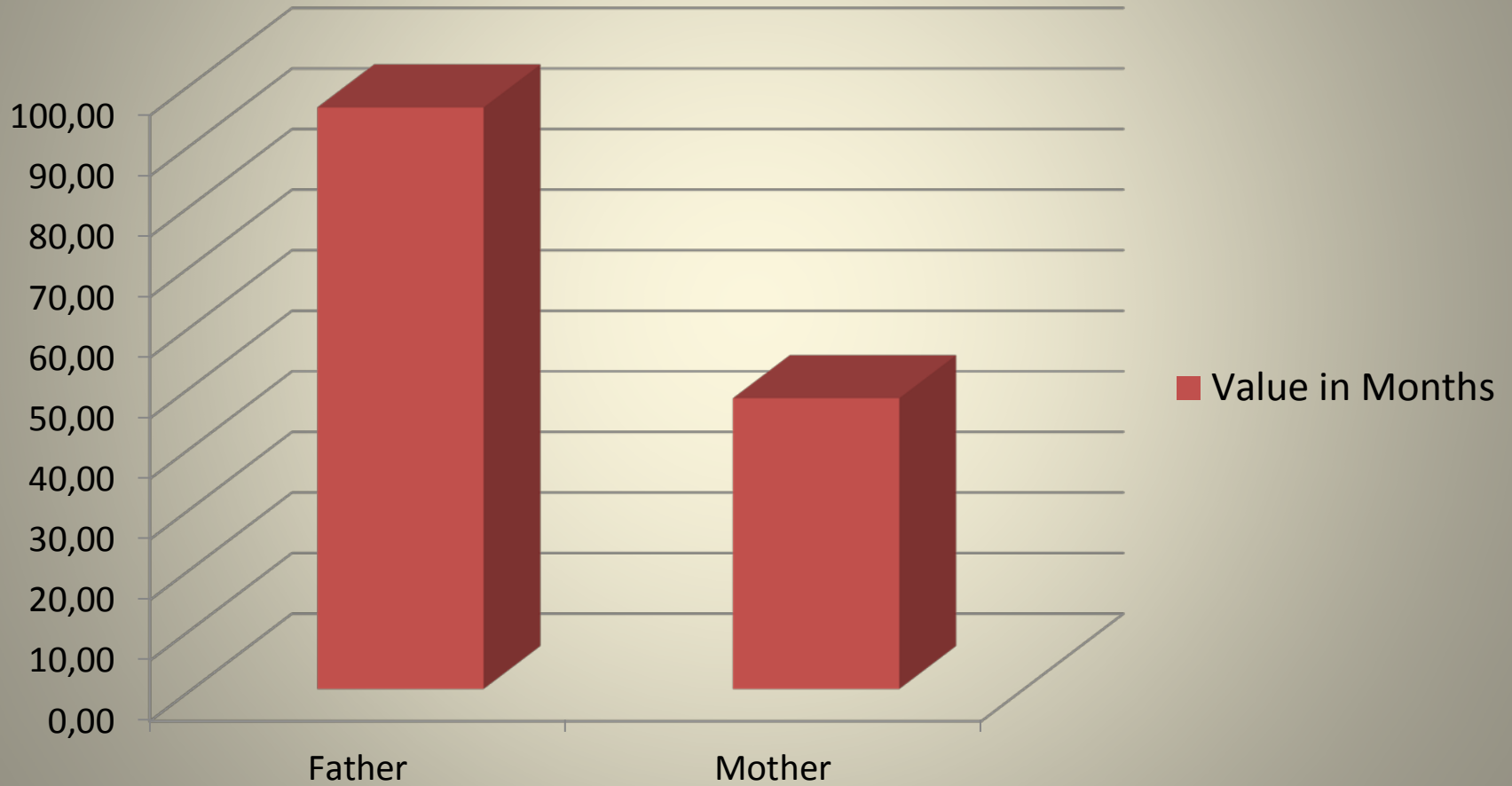
Values in thousands



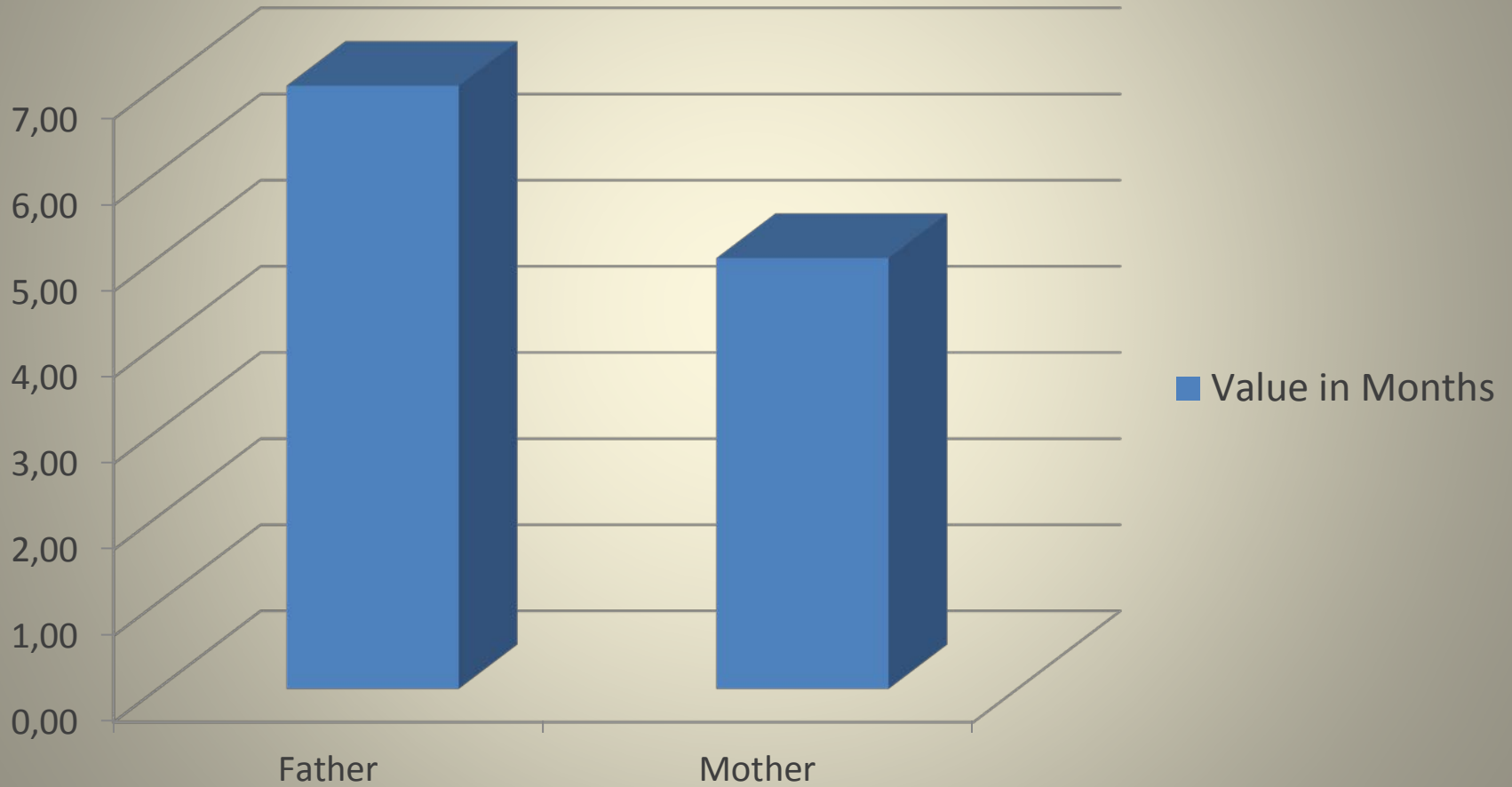
Source: Polish National Statistical Office 2010,

[http://www.stat.gov.pl/cps/rde/xbcr/gus/PUBL\\_lud\\_infor\\_o\\_rozm\\_i\\_kierunk\\_emigra\\_z\\_polski\\_w\\_latach\\_2004\\_2009.pdf](http://www.stat.gov.pl/cps/rde/xbcr/gus/PUBL_lud_infor_o_rozm_i_kierunk_emigra_z_polski_w_latach_2004_2009.pdf)

# Maximum Stay Out of Home

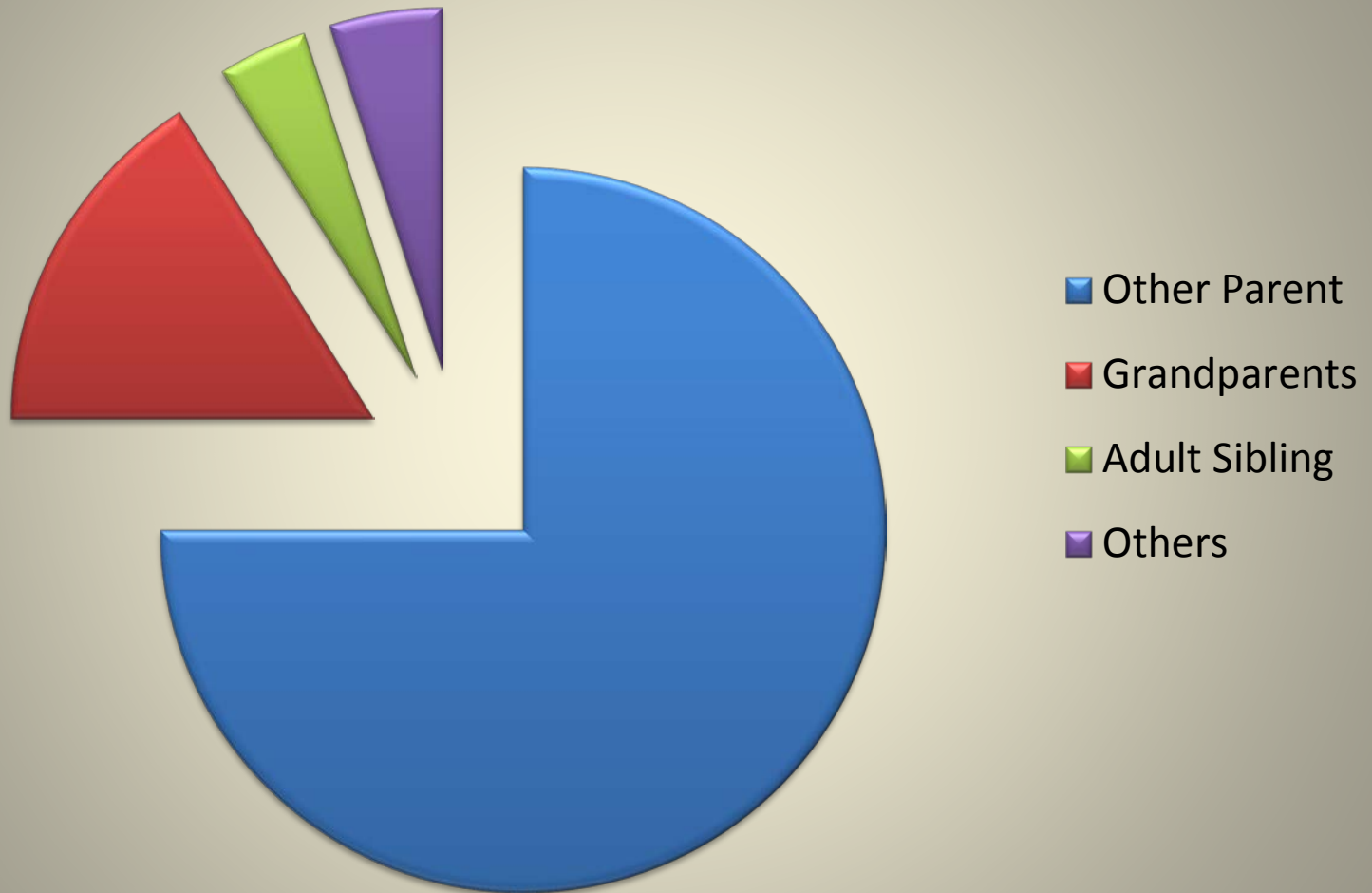


# Average Stay Out of Home



Period of Absence	Impact on Family
Up to 2 months	No significant effect on child nor on family relationships
Between 2 and 6 months	The absence may interfere with the structure of roles within the family and may weaken links between parents and their children
Between 6 and 12 months	Depending on the age of the child, absence has a significant impact. The parent that stays at home assumes frequently the social role of the absent parent. Relationships among family members are significantly changed and there is probability of the traumatic refusal of the absent parent.
Above 12 months	All of the above mentioned effects are strengthened and relation of the family with their social environment is significantly transformed.

# Responsibility Split



# Conclusions

- Scale is significant (over 1 million)
- Absence has a measurable effect from above 2 months
- Absence may cause children to engage more eagerly in criminal activities
- School is not yet prepared to meet challenges of parental professional mobility



Thank you for your attention

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