



## NEWS FROM UKRAINE

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine: reintroducing visas for EU citizens not on agenda

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine doesn't plan to reintroduce a visa regime for the EU citizens, Switzerland and Liechtenstein. This was announced at a briefing by the Ministry's spokesman, Yevhen Perebyinis.

Mr. Perebyinis stressed that the visa-free regime, introduced in Ukraine in 2005 for the EU and other partner countries, remains in force.

"Today, the introduction of visas is not necessary," the Ministry's spokesman stated.

**Read more: UNN, 14 January 2014**

<http://bit.ly/LvWkDe>

### European integration hotline opened by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine opened a hotline on European integration. As the press service of the Government of Ukraine reports, "now citizens can get detailed information on Ukraine's steps towards European integration directly from experts."

The hotline operates on Tuesday from 11 am till 1 pm and on Thursday from 2 pm till 4 pm.

In order to find answers to questions about the political aspects of the European integration of Ukraine, citizens can call +38 044 279 78 97. On visa dialogue issues, you can call +38 044 238 18 12.

**Read more: ForUm, 14 January 2014**

<http://en.for-ua.com/news/2014/01/14/125358.html>

### Almost 19,000 Ukrainians changed citizenship over year

In 2013, 18,700 Ukrainians renounced Ukrainian citizenship for citizenship of other countries. This is more than twofold increase compared to 2012, the State Statistics Service of Ukraine informed.

In search of a better life, Ukrainians are moving to European Union countries, the U.S., Canada, Australia and Israel.

At the same time, the number of persons receiving Ukrainian citizenship reduced. Over the previous year, 41,600 persons received Ukrainian passports, which is 20 per cent less than in 2012.

**Read more: The National News Agency of Ukraine, 6 January 2014**

<http://bit.ly/Lw8s7g>



## **In 2013 Ukrainians obtained 51,000 patents to work in Russia**

In 2013, 51,000 patents were issued to citizens of Ukraine, allowing them to be employed by Russian individuals, the Deputy Head of the Federal Migration Service Department on the Organization of Work with Foreign Citizens Dmitry Demidenko, informed.

There are two types of documents in Russia providing foreign citizens with the right to work — work permits and patents. Work permits are issued for employment with organizations and enterprises, while patents authorize non-business or non-entrepreneurial-related employment with individuals. The cost of a patent is RUB 1,216 per month (about USD 35).

Mr. Demidenko emphasized that obtaining a patent is “the simplest way to legalize extended stay in the Russian Federation” for labour migrants.

**Read more: Institute of Human Rights and Prevention of Extremism and Xenophobia, 15 January 2014**

<http://bit.ly/LvWwCm>

## **Russian entry and stay requirements amended**

Ukrainian citizens may stay in Russia without migration registration for 90 days out of 180 days, the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine informs.

The Ministry reminds that the respective law of the Russian Federation came into force on 1 January 2014.

The law stipulates that the period of temporary stay in Russia for foreign nationals, who arrived without a visa (including citizens of Ukraine), may not exceed 90 days in total for each 180 days, except if such period is extended in accordance with the law. If foreigners previously exceeded the term of 90 days in total for a 180-day period, they will be denied entry to the Russian Federation for three years.

**Read more: ForUm, 2 January 2014**

<http://en.for-ua.com/news/2014/01/02/115629.html>

## **EU takes stock of progress in customs cooperation with Eastern Neighbours**

EU ministers have taken stock of the progress in customs cooperation between the EU and its eastern neighbouring countries, and proposed a range of initiatives that would foster cooperation in the three priority areas, namely developing safe and fluid trade lanes, promoting risk management and the fight against fraud, and investing in customs modernization in the region.

The Conclusions, adopted by the Economic and Financial Affairs Council meeting in Brussels, invited the European Commission and member states to step up customs cooperation with the eastern neighbours, in particular, launch pilot projects on exchanges of advance customs information between Member States and Eastern Neighbouring Countries, “leading to better targeted controls and trade facilitation.”



The Council welcomed the extension of the mandate of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) till 30 November 2015.

**Read more: EU Neighbourhood Info Centre, 28 January 2014**

<http://bit.ly/Lh3xpZ>

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