



# IOM UKRAINE

## MEDIA ROUND-UP

International Organization for Migration  
MIGRATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

May 2014

### Commissioner Malmström welcomes progress in the visa liberalization process with Ukraine

23 May 2014 – Europe without Barriers

“Ukraine’s path towards visa liberalization is moving ahead. Over the past few months the Ukrainian authorities have made important efforts to put in place the necessary legislative, policy and institutional framework and fulfill the first-phase requirements of our visa dialogue,” stated the European Commissioner for Home Affairs Cecilia Malmström. She underlined that the legislation passed and other measures adopted in Ukraine are sufficient to consider that the country has been able to meet the first stage benchmarks of the visa liberalization action plan. “I suggest to my colleagues in the Commission that we move to the second phase, where we will be checking the implementation of all these rules,” said Cecilia Malmström.

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### Parliament of Ukraine adopts all laws needed to implement first phase of the EU visa liberalization action plan

13 May 2014 – Europe without Barriers

Ukraine has completed the implementation of the first phase of its action plan on visa liberalization with the European Union.

The Parliament of Ukraine on 13 May 2014 adopted the remaining four bills needed for the transition to the second (implementation) phase of the action plan to simplify the visa regime with the EU. In particular, the parliament passed the bills on improving the protection of the rights of refugees, on the fight against corruption, on the activity of the ombudsperson on the protection of personal data, as well as on anti-discrimination in Ukraine.

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### Ukrainian Border Agency will receive USD 7 million worth equipment from U.S. Department of Defense

13 May 2014 – State Border Guard Service of Ukraine

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine will receive an additional support package of USD 7 million from the United States Department of Defense to cover security needs on the border. Part of the equipment has already arrived within an international technical assistance project, namely: petrol pumps, barbed wire, vehicle batteries, repair parts, binoculars, and communications tools.

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## Oleksandr Turchynov signed law on renewal of rights of deported persons

8 May 2014 – Institute of Human Rights and Prevention of Extremism and Xenophobia

The Acting President of Ukraine and Speaker of the Parliament of Ukraine, Oleksandr Turchynov, signed into law the bill “On the Renewal of Rights of Deported Persons by their Ethnic Origin”.

This law, adopted on 17 April, defines the following terms: “deportation”, “deported person”, “members of the family of a deported person”, and “compensation”. Moreover, it defines the persons recognized as deported individuals, the mechanism of the provision of the status of deported person, state guarantees for deported persons and members of their families who returned to Ukraine for permanent residence, procedures of compensation for property confiscated as the result of deportation, etc.

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## Over 13,000 migrants from Crimea and Donbas put on state voters’ register

25 May 2014 – KyivPost

Over 13,000 migrants from Crimea, Sevastopol city, Donetsk and Luhansk regions have been registered in the state register of voters, the Minister of Social Policy Liudmyla Denysova informed.

“As for migrants who came from Crimea, Sevastopol city, and some from Donetsk and Luhansk regions, they are voting. Over 13,000 such citizens have been included into the state register of voters,” the Minister said.

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## EU and IOM help Ukraine to gather better data for a better migration policy

26 May 2014 – European Neighbourhood Info Centre

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has presented the results of its migration data assessment recently conducted in Ukraine in the framework of the EU-funded MIGRECO project (Strengthening Migration Management and Cooperation on Readmission in Eastern Europe). “It is obvious that for developing a proper migration policy, a country needs accurate and up-to-date information about foreigners living in the country, and its own countrymen and women broad. However, collecting and properly analyzing this data is more challenging than one would expect,” an IOM press release said. The analysis on how Ukrainian state bodies collect and systematize migration-related data was conducted by two leading Ukrainian experts in this field. The results of the assessment demonstrate a need to further enhance inter-agency cooperation in collecting information on migration processes, as well as to make this work more migrant-focused.

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## Introduction of biometric foreign passports is possible this year

15 May 2014 – State Migration Service of Ukraine

Deputy Head of the State Migration Service (SMS) of Ukraine Tetiana Nikitina informed that the SMS is ready to start issuing biometric passports by the end of this year given the budgetary financing necessary for purchase of equipment.

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## “Richness in Diversity” photo exhibition starts its tour in Ukraine

22 May – European Neighbourhood Info Centre

The mobile photo exhibition on ‘Richness in Diversity’ has started its tour of 10 communities within the Kyiv Region. The photo exhibition – which will last until 17 July – is organized by the GURT Resource Centre and is supported by the European Union within the Eastern Partnership Culture Programme. It is a part of a project aiming to preserve cultural diversity and support the culture of minorities by strengthening the capacities of local authorities, managers of culture institutions and local communities.

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## First migration research platform launched in Ukraine

16 May 2014 – Europe without Barriers

A digital database <http://www.migration-research.com/> with a collection of three hundred research articles, dissertation abstracts, monographs, analytical reports, and theses on Ukrainian external labour migration was presented in Lviv, at the Lviv Polytechnic National University.

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## Poll casts light on attitudes to migration across the EU Neighbourhood

22 May – European Neighbourhood Info Centre

An overwhelming majority of people in the Neighbourhood do not intend to move to another country in the next two years, according to an EU Neighbourhood Barometer on issues of mobility and migration. The survey was conducted over the period December 2013 – January 2014 interviewing 1,000 respondents per country face to face. Overall, only 14 per cent of respondents across the Maghreb region (Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia) said they were likely to move in the next two years, with 9 per cent in the Mashrek (Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine), and just 8 per cent in the Eastern Neighbourhood (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine).

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team