

## President of Ukraine signs law on status of internally displaced persons

20 November 2014 – Ukrinform

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko signed the law on ensuring the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons (No. 4490a-1), the presidential press service reported. The head of state signed the document at a meeting with citizens who were forced to leave their homes because of the situation in Donbas. According to Petro Poroshenko, the new law will protect people from discrimination and forced return.

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## Number of displaced persons in Ukraine reaches almost half a million

28 November 2014 – UNIAN

The number of Ukrainians displaced from Crimea, Sevastopol and the Donbas conflict zone now amounts to 490,000 people, MP Iryna Heraschenko said at a briefing in Kyiv on 28 November 2014. "Nearly 19,500 people have been displaced from Crimea and Sevastopol to other regions of Ukraine. The number of people displaced from the [Donbas conflict] zone is 470,545, including 124,701 children and 98,286 disabled people and pensioners. In last 24 hours, this figure has increased by 2,295 people," Ms. Heraschenko informed.

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## Government announces compensation for housing damaged during Donbas hostilities

17 November 2014 – National Radio Company of Ukraine

Ukraine's government has prepared a resolution to compensate households' losses due to hostilities in Ukraine's east, Luhansk governor Hennadiy Moskal said while visiting the region's Stanychno-Luhansky district, where he examined destroyed and damaged houses in the villages of Stanytsia Luhanska, Makarove and Valuyske.

After the resolution has been passed, people will get the compensation and will be able to repair or buy new housing in a safe location," he said." To receive compensation, one should document the damage," he said.

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## EU steps up humanitarian assistance and recovery aid to conflict-affected communities in Ukraine

13 November 2014 – EU Neighbourhood Info Centre

The EU is providing an additional EUR 3.3 million to help the most vulnerable population affected by the ongoing conflict in Eastern Ukraine to meet their basic needs and prepare for the winter. This increases the Commission's humanitarian funding to EUR 11.05 million since the beginning of the crisis, a press

release said, adding the new relief effort will address the most acute needs by providing shelter for the coming winter, food and non-food assistance, health services and protection.

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## Biometric passport to cost EUR 15

20 November 2014 – Ukrinform

The cost of a biometric passport, which Ukrainians will be able to get early next year, will be about EUR 15, the time for its production will be up to 20 days, Ukrainian State Migration Service spokesman Serhii Hunko announced on Hromadske TV.

"From 1 January, units [responsible for biometric passports issuance] will start working in every region, and in the near future we will significantly expand their number. A person comes, submits an application, gets photographed and has his or her fingers scanned – and that's all. The standard procedure for the production of a biometric passport takes 20 working days. According to preliminary information of the manufacturer, the price will be about EUR 15 in the hryvnia equivalent. There is also an accelerated procedure – seven working days with a double fee," Serhii Hunko said.

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## State Migration Service reports over 2,300 violators of migration legislation identified since January

6 November 2014 – Institute of Human Rights and Prevention of Extremism and Xenophobia

Since the beginning of the year, the State Migration Service of Ukraine (SMS) has identified over 2,300 violators of the migration legislation, Director of the SMS Department for foreigners and stateless persons Natalia Naumenko informed. Among those are about 600 persons irregularly staying in Ukraine, she noted.

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## Ukraine and Denmark agree to simplify visa regime

10 November 2014 – National Radio Company of Ukraine

Ukraine and Denmark have agreed on visa facilitation, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin said at a press conference with his Danish counterpart Martin Lidegaard in Kyiv on November 10.

Mr. Lidegaard stated that the new agreement on visa facilitation is symbolic. He also said that his country would continue supporting Ukraine.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team