



European Parliament's Committee supports report on visa liberalization for Ukraine

27 September 2016 –Ukrinform

The European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs supported a report and draft resolution on granting Ukraine a visa-free regime with the European Union. The voting on the report took place on 26 September. The document approved a decision on putting Ukraine on the list of the third countries for whose nationals visa requirements for short-term travel within the European Union (except the UK and Ireland) are abolished.

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President of Ukraine insists on creation of international tools to protect IDPs' rights

20 September 2016 – National Radio Company of Ukraine

"It is necessary to develop such an international mechanism of responsibility as soon as possible along with binding international frameworks to protect IDPs' rights," Petro Poroshenko said at a UN General Assembly meeting on refugees and migrants. "It is time to re-establish the position of a Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on IDPs," he added. The President of Ukraine also stressed that an unprecedented migration crisis and the flow of refugees have become an important test for all mankind.

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Poland needs Ukrainian workers to compensate labour shortage

08 September 2016 –Ukraine Today

According to the Polish Ministry of Labour, Poland could lose up to 1.35 million workers, or 10 per cent of the working population, by 2020. Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Labour Mateusz Morawiecki says that the Government needs to compensate this deficit as soon as possible. The Minister has a suggestion: to invite workers from Ukraine. Morawiecki mentioned that labour migrants working abroad could support the Ukrainian economy during the next several years. Some of them might stay in Poland, but the majority will return home, assures Morawiecki.

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Israel to engage foreign workers from Ukraine

19 September 2016 – Hamodia

An Israeli delegation from the Centre for International Migration and Integration (CIMI) left for Ukraine on 18 September in order to expedite bringing more labourers to Israel in the framework of an Israel-Ukraine bilateral agreement intended to enable the arrival of thousands of much-needed construction workers to Israel in a regular and authorized manner. There are currently 81,500 regular foreign workers in Israel, and most of them (48,000) are employed as caregivers. There are an additional 21,000 working in agriculture, and 8,200 labour migrants who work in construction.

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The Ukrainian Government approves action plan on implementing Integrated Border Management Concept

06 September 2016 – Ukrinform

The Government of Ukraine has approved an [action plan](#) on implementing an integrated border management concept on 31 August 2016. It is aimed at strengthening the security of the state border and ensuring its openness for the legitimate cross-border activities and people who travel and bringing international, border and interdepartmental cooperation to a new level, the Government reports.

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Government approves agreement with Romania on revoking long-term visa fees

15 September 2016 – Interfax

The respective agreement was signed by the governments of the two countries on 6 May, and approved by the Ukrainian Government on 8 September. It envisages free-of-charge registration of long-term visas, and should help intensify bilateral contacts in the social, economic, cultural, and humanitarian spheres.

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Canada Immigration Minister: No visa exemption for Ukrainians in near term

21 September 2016 – UNIAN

Canadian Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship John McCallum says Canada will not review requirements for Ukrainian nationals to be exempted from visas in the near future. "Given the importance of Canada's relationship with Ukraine, officials have been closely monitoring migration trends and country conditions in Ukraine. At this time, Ukraine falls short of the thresholds Canada uses to gauge suitability for a visa exemption," reads a letter from the minister in response to an e-petition submitted to Canada's House of Commons on 6 June 2016. As a result, the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada Department has no plans to formally review Ukraine's visa requirement in the near term, the letter said.

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Rebuilt checkpoint opened at Ukraine–Poland border

09 September 2016 –Ukrinform

Pavlovychi checkpoint was opened at the Ukraine-Poland border on 9 September after refurbishment. The reconstruction of the checkpoint was conducted in the framework of an international technical assistance project of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. The checkpoint was first opened in 1939. The length of the border area its staff is responsible for is over 22 km.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team