



## Ukraine adopts new Migration Strategy developed with UN Migration Agency support

14 July 2017 – ReliefWeb

The Government of Ukraine adopted a new State Migration Strategy, which will inform national migration policy for the next eight years. The new document was developed to replace Ukraine's 2011 State Migration Concept, which needed to be updated to reflect the latest global and national developments.

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, contributed to the development of Ukraine's Migration Strategy at the Government's request and with the support of the EU. The strategy introduces new elements to the migration policy for the benefit of citizens, Ukrainians abroad and foreigners in Ukraine.

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## EU adopts Association Agreement with Ukraine

11 July 2017 – Deutsche Welle

The EU has formally approved an Association Agreement with Ukraine. The agreement expands cooperation across a host of fields and can pave the way for eventual EU membership. The EU said the deal would formally enter into force on 1 September 2017.

"The Association Agreement is the main tool for bringing Ukraine and the EU closer together: it promotes deeper political ties, stronger economic links and the respect for common values," the European Council statement reads.

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## Ukraine–EU summit in Kyiv focuses on bolstering ties

13 July 2017 – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

At an EU-Ukraine summit in Kyiv, both sides hailed strengthening relations in the wake of the European Union's final approval of an Association Agreement with Kyiv and the bloc's decision to grant visa-free travel to Ukrainians.

European Council President, Donald Tusk, urged Ukrainians to remain united and avoid internal conflicts. "We stand steadfast behind Ukraine," he said.

European Commission President, Jean-Claude Juncker, called on Kyiv to do more to battle corruption.

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## Almost 1.6 million IDPs officially registered in Ukraine

11 July 2017 – Ukrinform

As of 10 July, 1.582 million Ukrainian citizens who had been forced to move from Crimea, Donetsk and Luhansk regions, were registered with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.

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## Leaders of Ukraine and Moldova launch a joint border crossing point

17 July 2017 – President of Ukraine official website

President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, and Prime Minister of Moldova, Pavel Filip, launched the joint Kuchurhan-Pervomaisk customs and border crossing point.

“From now on, Ukrainian and Moldovan border guards and customs officials, together with EUBAM representatives, will work jointly to ensure the security and comfort of our citizens,” President Poroshenko said.

He instructed the State Fiscal Service to facilitate further involvement of the EUBAM mission to ensure transparent and efficient efforts against smuggling and corruption at other border crossing points.

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## No boom in travel to EU after one month of visa-free regime

21 July 2017 – KyivPost

In one month since Ukraine’s visa-free regime with the European Union came into force, demand for travel to the bloc has increased only slightly. In total, according to figures from Ukraine and the EU, some 120,000 Ukrainians have taken advantage of the visa-free regime so far.

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## Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs opposes introduction of a visa regime with the Russian Federation

14 July 2017 – National Radio Company of Ukraine

Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Pavlo Klimkin, responding to the questions asked by members of the parliament on when a visa regime with the Russian Federation will be introduced, said that the usual introduction of visas "will not give the effect we are striving for."

According to Mr. Klimkin, after a detailed analysis, the decision of the National Security and Defense Council was adopted on the establishment of an integrated system that provides for "biometric data about foreigners and stateless persons and effective control over movement in Ukrainian territory, among other measures."

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## Ukraine, Israel to monitor implementation of visa-free regime agreement

13 July 2017 – Ukrinform

Ukraine and Israel agreed to monitor compliance with the interstate agreement on visa-free regime for reciprocal visits of citizens of both countries, as reported by the Department of Consular Service of the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine after the results of the Ukrainian-Israeli negotiations on consular and legal issues were made public.

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## OSCE Counter-Trafficking Coordinator visits Ukraine

10 July 2017 – OSCE.org

OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Madina Jarbussynova, on 7 July concluded an official visit to Ukraine aimed at raising awareness of human trafficking and the risks encountered by vulnerable groups as a consequence of the ongoing crisis. Commencing her five-day visit in Mariupol, she met with representatives of the Donetsk Oblast National Police and briefed staff of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine on best practices in monitoring and reporting human trafficking-related trends.

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## During the first half of 2017, National Police uncovered nearly 150 human trafficking cases

30 July 2017 – National Police Press Service

This year, the National Police of Ukraine identified 144 criminal violations stipulated by Article 149 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (Human Trafficking and Other Illegal Deals Concerning Humans). This number more than doubled in comparison with the first half of 2016, when 60 such cases were registered. From January – June 2017, officers of the National Police in the Counter-Trafficking Department identified 69 criminals involved in human trafficking. Police also identified and provided assistance to 156 victims of trafficking. The majority of them were women (119), the other trafficking survivors were men (37) and the total number included 12 children. At the same time, the National Police experts note that labour exploitation has become more common than sexual exploitation.

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## Forty Ukrainians suspected in irregular migrant smuggling detained in Italy

27 July 2017 – UNIAN

Over the last two years, 40 Ukrainian citizens were detained in Italy on the charges of smuggling irregular migrants, Vasyl Kyrylych, an official representative of the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, told the news agency UNIAN.

All arrested persons informed authorities about the same scheme in relation to their hiring. In certain Ukrainian cities, unknown people posted job announcements on the Internet offering employment providing transportation services for tourists, the Ukrainian official said.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team

