



## Ukraine: Jamala becomes UN Goodwill Ambassador against human trafficking

13 October 2017 – ESC Today

Ukrainian artist and 2016 Eurovision winner Jamala is the latest United Nations Ambassador of Goodwill in the battle against human trafficking.

Jamala supports the work of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations Migration Agency, and she will star in a special Ukrainian media campaign. The advertisement will appear on Ukrainian TV-channels starting from 18 October 2017, the European Day against Human Trafficking.

Human trafficking and modern forms of slavery are a global problem, and also harms the Ukrainian people.

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## EUR 5 million boost for UN Migration Agency livelihood programme in Ukraine

3 October 2017 – ReliefWeb

IOM, the UN Migration Agency, and KfW Development Bank, on behalf of the German Government signed an agreement in Kyiv to implement a two-year project that will support some 2,000 conflict-affected Ukrainians develop new, or improve existing income opportunities.

The initiative will target people who are first-time business developers but have viable and economically feasible self-employment plans, as well as existing small business owners, who may have previously received limited grant funding but need additional resources.

IOM will train selected candidates on financial management, business law, accounting, marketing and business plan development. Following the approval of promising business plans, beneficiaries will receive in-kind grants ranging from EUR 650 to 5,000.

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## Ukrainian border guards increase staff at the border with EU

20 October 2017 – Interfax-Ukraine

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine has taken more than 300 servicemen and women out of reserve to strengthen the protection of the state border with the countries of the European Union within Volyn, Lviv, Zakarpattia and Chernivtsi regions, as part of the active phase of *Operation Border 2017*.

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## Kyiv and Warsaw agree on opening four new border checkpoints

23 October 2017 – KyivPost

Verkhovna Rada Chairman, Andrii Parubii, and Marshal of the Sejm of Poland, Marek Kuchcinski, have called for an increase in the number of checkpoints on the Ukrainian-Polish border.

“Today we agreed that the next stage will be four more border crossing points – one in Zakarpattia, two in Lviv Region, and one more in Volyn Region,” Mr. Parubii told reporters after inspecting a section of the Ukrainian-Polish border with Mr. Kuchcinski, where the Malhowice-Nyzhankovychi checkpoint is to be built.

Mr. Parubii noted that the Polish Government envisaged PLN 100 million next year for the construction of the Malhowice-Nyzhankovychi border crossing point.

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## Canadian MP urges to provide Ukraine with visa-free regime

24 October 2017 – Ukrinform

Member of the Canadian Parliament, Linda Duncan, urged to provide citizens of Ukraine with visa-free travel to Canada in her speech at the Parliament. "A visa-free regime will facilitate trade between our peoples and will increase opportunities for supporting democratic reforms in Ukraine," Ms. Duncan said as she urged the Canadian Government to "immediately take measures for introducing a visa-free regime with Ukraine."

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## Prime Minister Groysman: Kyiv-Toronto direct flight to be launched next summer

31 October 2017 – Ukrinform

Prime Minister of Ukraine, Volodymyr Groysman, said that regular direct flights from Kyiv to Toronto will be launched in the summer of 2018. The relevant agreement was achieved following his meeting with the Premier of Ontario, Kathleen Wynne, reports the government's press service.

"This will not only significantly contribute to the strengthening of human relations, but will also open new opportunities for business development, especially in the context of the entry into force of the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement on 1 August 2017," said Mr. Groysman.

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## OSCE extends Observer Mission mandate on Ukraine-Russia border

19 October 2017 – OSCE

The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) extended the mandate of its Observer Mission at the Gukovo and Donetsk Russian checkpoints on the Ukraine-Russia border for another three months.

The mandate of the Mission, which is comprised of 22 staff, remains unchanged.

Operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency, the observers will monitor and report on the situation at the two Russian checkpoints, as well as on the movements across the border.

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## Spain backs Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations

30 October 2017 – Ukrinform

Spain supports the EU aspirations of Ukraine and its allying with NATO, Spanish Foreign Minister, Alfonso Dastis, said at a joint briefing with Ukrainian Foreign Minister, Pavlo Klimkin, in Kyiv.

"Spain has supported and will continue supporting Ukraine. We are not just friends; we are allies in many spheres, including our European and Euro-Atlantic projects. We share the same values, and we face the same challenges," Mr. Dastis said.

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## EU States agree on 'aspiration' declaration concerning Ukraine, Georgia, and Moldova

11 October 2017 – Radio Free Europe-Radio Liberty

EU ambassadors have agreed to recognize the European aspirations of Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, according to a draft statement of next month's Eastern Partnership summit made available to RFE/RL. Ambassadors from the 28 European Union Member States agreed on the language of the draft declaration during a meeting in Brussels on 11 October.

"Summit participants acknowledge the European aspirations and the European choice of the partners concerned, as stated in the Association Agreements," the document reads, referring to Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine – countries in the Eastern Partnership that have concluded the agreements with the EU in recent years.

The text of the draft declaration is not expected to undergo major changes ahead of the 24 November Eastern Partnership summit in Brussels.

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## Government of Ukraine approves plan to implement Association Agreement with the EU

25 October 2017 – Interfax-Ukraine

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved an action plan to implement the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement with a three-day revision by the requisite ministries.

The decision was made at a government meeting on 25 October. Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Ivanna Klymush-Tsintsadze, said that the plan envisages 2,016 tasks and around 5,000 events.

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## Ukrainian passport as an advantage: without a visa to 120 countries

26 October 2017 – The Quebec Times

Ukraine ranked 32nd out of 94 places in the *Passport Global Index 2017*. This is the annual analysis of the documents most convenient for travel, conducted by the company *Arton Capital*. The Ukrainian passport scored 120 "free" points – the amount of countries Ukrainian citizens may enter for a certain time without a visa. The leader of this year's rating is Singapore.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team