



## Number of internally displaced people in Ukraine close to 100,000

25 July 2014 – Reliefweb

UNHCR spokesman Dan McNorton told reporters that the number of people who have left the conflict zone for other Ukrainian regions was now close to 100,000. "They are mainly from the Lugansk and Donetsk regions. Those are figures that have risen in recent weeks," Mr. McNorton said. The numbers, dating from July 18, are the most recent available, he underlined. The number of people who have fled the fighting but remained within Ukraine has nearly doubled from the figure of 54,000 released by the UNHCR at the end of June. Those fleeing within Ukraine include at least 12,000 Tatars from Crimea.

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## EU, Ukraine at final stage of talks on visa cancellation

11 July 2014 – Ukrinform

The EU is considering the question of the abolition of the visa regime for Ukrainian citizens, the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Fule said in an interview with Radio Liberty/Radio Free Europe. "I think a lot of work has already been done. We have discussed this for some time, for two or three years now, with some good results. We're currently at the final stage of these talks, the implementation of the legislative work that was done... I'm talking about abolishing visa requirements. It has been on the table for some time," Stefan Fule said.

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## Norway and IOM support Ukraine's efforts to reintegrate victims of human trafficking

30 July 2014 – United Nations in Ukraine

As the United Nations commemorates the first World Day against Trafficking in Persons, the Mission of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Ukraine is launching a three-year project titled, *Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Victims of Trafficking in Ukraine*. The project is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, which is providing 18.2 million Norwegian Kroner to support the Government of Ukraine's and civil society's efforts in fighting modern-day slavery and to improve access of victims of trafficking and persons at risk to protection and assistance.

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## **‘Safely to Success’: IOM and the Swiss Confederation raise awareness of young Ukrainians about safe migration**

21 July 2014 – IOM Ukraine

IOM Ukraine is launching an information tour titled, ‘Safely to Success!’ to raise awareness about the risks of human trafficking. The campaign, funded by the Swiss Confederation, will target youth and other at-risk groups through social media, TV and press, and on-ground activities to be conducted in four towns – Ismail (Odesa Region, on 26 July), Sambir (Lviv Region, on 2 August), Dolyna (Ivano-Frankivsk Region, on 10 August), and Dniprodzerzhynsk (Dnepropetrovsk Region, on 16 August). These regions are considered risk-prone areas due to a traditionally high level of migration and, since recently, an increasing number of internally displaced persons who have sought refuge there.

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## **IOM and partners to monitor the situation of readmitted migrants**

4 July 2014 – IOM Ukraine

A few years ago, when Ukraine was preparing to sign its readmission agreement with the EU, there were many discussions on possible consequences for the country. However, the first three years of its full implementation have shown that the number of third-country nationals sent back to Ukraine under the agreement is quite low and has been decreasing with time. According to the information provided by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, while 398 third-country nationals were readmitted from neighbouring countries under the accelerated procedure in 2010, less than 100 persons were similarly readmitted in 2013. The number of returning Ukrainians is also not as high as it was earlier expected (decreasing from 638 in 2010 to 347 in 2013).

Whilst equipped with statistical data, the EU and Ukraine were lacking information about the human aspect of the agreement’s implementation. Do those Ukrainians and third country nationals returned to Ukraine under the readmission agreement enjoy full access to available social services? Are their rights protected? Literally, is a Ukrainian standing at an EU-Ukraine border crossing point able get safely to his or her home a few hundred kilometers away, find a job and successfully reintegrate? To find the answers to these questions, the European Union has initiated a pilot project to monitor the situation of readmitted persons in Ukraine and Pakistan, which is implemented by IOM in partnership with the UNHCR. The local partner in Pakistan is the STATT network.

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## **Can EU expect a rise in migration from Eastern Europe?**

14 July 2014 – EUObserver

Research indicates that the inflow of migrants from Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova – even after visa liberalization – will be modest.

The Polish Centre for Eastern Studies, altogether with seven other research institutions from Central and Eastern Europe, has recently concluded research aimed at forecasting possible future migration from

eastern Europe to the EU and to 'new' EU member states in particular.

According to the findings, no large influx of labour migrants from Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova to the EU should be expected in the nearest future.

However, the 120 migration experts questioned for the study suggested that ending the visa regime (meaning no visas are needed for travel for up to 90 days) will have some consequences. These include temporary growth in circular migration, more long term settlement migration, inclination to family reunification, tendency for regularization of irregular migrants already staying in the EU, and growth in migration for educational purposes.

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## Latest asylum trends in Europe

7 July 2014 – EUReporter

In the first five months of 2014, there was a 19% rise in the number of applications for asylum in the EU compared with the same period last year. This follows the 30% increase seen in numbers of asylum applications in 2013 compared to 2012.

New trends seem to be emerging. Numbers of Syrian asylum-seekers continue to rise; there has been a substantial increase in the numbers of Eritreans in recent months; applications from citizens of the Russian Federation have declined significantly since 2013. Since March 2014, there has been a significant rise in the numbers of Ukrainian citizens applying for asylum in the EU plus (member states plus Norway and Switzerland).

In the last 20 years the average number of applications was of roughly 100 applicants per month. From March to May, over 2,000 applications were made. The new applications are in large part (over 95 per cent) from first time applicants (i.e. persons who have never applied before in the EU) and are widely distributed throughout Europe.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team