



Agency for Crimea, IDPs set up in Ukraine

18 August 2014 – Ukrinform

The Government of Ukraine set up the State Service for the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and Internally Displaced Persons, pursuant to decree No.297, available on the Governmental portal. The Ministry of Finance is tasked to develop amendments to the state budget to provide for the costs of the new agency.

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Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine issues first report on internal displacement in Ukraine

14 August 2014 – OSCE

Based on about 400 interviews with internally displaced persons (IDPs), conducted by Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMMU) teams during the period from 18 June to 19 July 2014, the SMMU has issued its first thematic report.

The first part of the report briefly describes the current situation, ongoing efforts to assist internally displaced persons and the normative framework in place to guarantee their rights. The second part of the report gives voice to IDPs themselves – based on interviews with people who moved from Ukraine's eastern regions and Crimea, it outlines the IDPs' own perceptions of their current situation and future plans.

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UN Says at least 285,000 flee Ukraine crisis

5 August 2014 – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty

The UN Refugee Agency says at least 285,000 people have fled their homes because of the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

UNHCR's European director Vincent Cochetel said local Ukrainian authorities have so far registered some 117,000 people leaving the east for other regions of Ukraine. The total of at least 285,000 displaced people marks a 24 per cent jump from figures provided by the UNHCR last month.

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17,000 internally displaced persons from east return home – Ukrainian Social Policy Ministry

27 August 2014 – Interfax-Ukraine

As of 26 August, a total of 132, 593 people had left the flash points in country's east and Crimea and are temporarily accommodated in other regions of Ukraine, among them 44,000 children, said Minister of Social Policy Liudmyla Denysova.

The biggest numbers of displaced persons were hosted by Dnipropetrovsk (16,000), Kharkiv (14,000) and Odesa regions (8,000).

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Belarus receives almost 26,000 Ukrainians – Ambassador

18 August 2014 – Ukrinform

About 26,000 Ukrainian citizens have moved to Belarus over the past two months, Belarusian Ambassador to Ukraine Valentin Velichko said at a press conference.

According to Mr. Velichko, about 500 residents of Ukraine were currently waiting for the receipt of refugee status in Belarus. About 1,500 Ukrainians have already obtained the right of permanent residence in Belarus, which enables them to get a job and education. In addition, about 3,000 Ukrainians are eligible for temporary residence.

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International students from Donetsk and Luhansk regions are recommended to transfer to other universities

6 August 2014 – Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine

Taking into account the difficult socio-political situation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the considerable number of international students there and the need to ensure that they continue their studies, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine recommends the international students who are currently enrolled at universities in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, to transfer to educational institutions in other regions in Ukraine.

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Ukraine prepares for second phase of visa liberalization with EU

21 August 2014 – Interfax-Ukraine

The Government of Ukraine has approved a plan of measures to implement the second phase of the visa liberalization with EU member states, Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers Ostep Semerak informed.

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Arsenii Yatseniuk: biometric passport issuance should be increased

20 August 2014 – Interfax-Ukraine

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arsenii Yatseniuk said that there is a need to increase the number of biometric passports issued to Ukrainian citizens. The current level of about 20,000 passports per month he described as insufficient. Only biometric passport holders will be able to enjoy visa-free travel to the EU.

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Ukraine – Romania border checkpoint to be reopened in September

26 August 2014– Romanian News Agency

The border checkpoint of Vicov between Romania and Ukraine, closed in 2010, will be reopened soon, Romanian Prime Minister Victor Ponta announced. He explained that the step is beneficial to the Romanian community of Bucovina, a cross-border region in Romania and Ukraine, because it will allow travelling from Chernivtsi (Ukraine) to Putna (northern Romania) without detours.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team