



## **UN relief wing cites major access challenges in eastern Ukraine, where millions need supplies ahead of winter**

30 August 2015 – UN News Centre

Sounding the alarm on behalf of relief agencies working to meet ongoing needs and jump-start critical preparations for winter in strife-riven eastern Ukraine, the UN humanitarian wing has reported that aid organizations are facing major challenges in getting access to the most vulnerable of an estimated 5 million people affected by the conflict that began in the region in April 2014. According to the [latest monthly update](#) from the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), access challenges vary from security concerns, bureaucratic impediments, and logistical and legal constraints.

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## **Ukrainian President approved additional measures on the establishment of the visa-free regime between Ukraine and the EU**

20 August 2015 – Visa-Free Europe Coalition

The President of Ukraine signed a Decree to enact the decision of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine of 20 July 2015 “On Additional Measures to Establish a Visa-Free Regime between Ukraine and the European Union”. Under the decision, the Government of Ukraine should immediately take additional steps to ensure the implementation of recommendations from the Fifth Progress Report on the Implementation by Ukraine of the Action Plan on Visa Liberalization.

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## **Ukrainians are increasingly vulnerable to threats of human trafficking, IOM-commissioned survey reveals**

30 July 2015 – United Nations in Ukraine

On the occasion of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) released new data about the threats of irregular migration and human trafficking in Ukraine. According to a new IOM-commissioned survey, the number of Ukrainian migrants working abroad unofficially has rapidly increased to almost 41 per cent compared to 28 per cent in 2011.

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## **Human trafficking attempt prevented at the border with Poland**

1 August 2015 – Ukrinform

An international channel for human trafficking was blocked by Ukrainian police and border guards, the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) of Ukraine reports. "At the checkpoint of Shehyni in Lviv Region, the officers of the Investigative Operations Unit of the State Border Guard Service along with the police officers from the Counter-Trafficking Department of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine have thwarted an attempt to bring the citizens of Ukraine to Poland for the purpose of their sexual exploitation," the SBGS informed.

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## Nearly 21,000 Ukrainians left Crimea for other Ukrainian regions – President's Mission in Crimea

11 August 2015 – Interfax

As of early August this year, 20,844 Crimean residents were forced to move from Crimea and to settle in mainland Ukraine. Based on the results of the monitoring conducted in cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and regional state administrations, Crimean residents mainly settled in Lviv (3,233 people), Odesa (2,043), Kyiv (1,217), Mykolaiv (1,045 people), Kharkiv (898 people) regions and Kyiv (4,665 people).

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## EU provides Ukraine with EUR 8.55 mln to support its border management

14 August 2015 – UNIAN

The European Commission has provided Ukraine with the fourth tranche of EUR 8.55 million under the "Support for Border Management Sector Policy in Ukraine" programme. Through this sector policy support programme, the EU contributes to the modernization of the State Border Guard Service and the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine by improving the legal and regulatory framework, introducing better control mechanisms and modernizing border crossing infrastructure in line with the EU standards. The programme also supports the efforts of the Ukrainian Government to achieve an effective balance between secure borders and legal movements of persons and goods in line with the EU standards and best practices.

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## Ukraine to reduce number of controlling agencies at the border

20 August 2015 – UNIAN

As a part of reform of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, as well as the state border crossing procedures, Ukraine intends to reduce the number of controlling bodies at checkpoints from nine to two, Prime Minister of Ukraine Arsenii Yatsenyuk said during the presentation of a new biometric data control system at Boryspil International Airport. According to Arsenii Yatsenyuk, only the representatives of the State Border Guard Service and State Fiscal Service of Ukraine will be tasked with carrying out border control procedures.

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## EU names new head of EUBAM

18 August 2015 – EU Neighbourhood Info Centre

The EU has named Andrew Tesoriere as the new head of the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM). A press release of EU Delegation to Moldova said: "he is taking up this position at a crucial time for the Mission, when strengthening regional border security has never been more vital." Tesoriere was previously Deputy Head of Mission and before joining the EUBAM served as British Ambassador to Albania, Algeria and Latvia, and Chargé d'Affaires to Afghanistan and Syria.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team