



## **Ukraine “Europe’s largest crisis”: IOM Regional Director on visit to Eastern Ukraine**

12 June 2018 – The UN Migration Agency

Argentina Szabados, IOM Regional Director for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, visited Ukraine from 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June. She reiterated the UN Migration Agency commitment to further support conflict-affected communities through humanitarian aid, self-employment training and grants, initiatives aimed at social cohesion and peacebuilding, as well as through rehabilitation of social infrastructure. IOM Regional Director met with IOM staff, partners, donors and beneficiaries in Kyiv and in the field. “Ukraine is the largest displacement crisis in Europe since the Balkan wars,” according to Argentina Szabados.

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## **U.S., Canada condemn deadly attack on Roma camp in Ukraine**

25 June 2018 – Reuters

The United States and Canada said they were horrified by an attack on a Roma camp in Western Ukraine in which one man was killed and several wounded, including a ten-year-old boy. Police have detained ten teenagers suspected of involvement in the violence, which saw a 24-year-old Roma man stabbed to death and four others wounded at a camp on the outskirts of the city of Lviv. The incident is the deadliest in a spate of recent attacks by nationalist radical groups. Rights organizations say police have rarely launched investigations nor have perpetrators been prosecuted following at least two dozen violent attacks or threats by radical groups since the start of 2018.

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## **Bill on 'migration amnesty' for Ukrainians introduced in Russian Federation's Duma**

25 June 2018 – UNIAN

The draft law, introduced by Duma member Konstantin Zatulin, is designed to legalize "temporary refugees from Ukraine" through "migration amnesty." The explanatory note to the document says that a citizen of Ukraine whose term of stay in the Russian Federation has expired "has the right to extend the term of temporary stay without leaving the territory of the Russian Federation within 180 days after this federal law comes into force." In addition, "temporary refugees from Ukraine" who have legalized their stay in Russia shall be given a residence permit without an intermediate stage of permission for temporary residency and then they will be eligible to apply for Russian citizenship under a simplified procedure.

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## **Ukraine opens 56 new visa centres worldwide**

14 June 2018 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

56 new Ukrainian visa centres, which will provide services to foreigners willing to visit Ukraine, will start working in different countries of the world from June to August this year, the Consular Service Department of the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) announced. The MFA is committed to further improving current visa procedures, implementing best practices and opening Ukraine to the world.

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## **Over half a million Ukrainians benefitted from visa-free agreement with EU**

11 June 2018 – President of Ukraine

On 11 June, Ukraine marked the first anniversary of visa-free regime with the European Union. According to President Poroshenko, over 555,000 Ukrainians crossed the border with EU without getting a visa. The Head of State stressed that over the year 20 million border crossings were registered in total.

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## Ukrainian workers could replace EU nationals post-Brexit

27 June 2018 – The New European

Migrants from Ukraine could take the place of EU workers in the aftermath of Brexit, Michael Gove, the UK Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, has said. He noted that industries could in future have to "think about looking further afield" when recruiting staff. Some sectors of the UK economy, such as food production and the hospitality industry, have employed a large number of workers from other European countries. In Scotland in particular soft fruit growers and fish processing firms have employed high numbers of workers from other European nations. In the run-up to Brexit concerns have been raised about the impact leaving the EU could have on their workforce.

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## National Bank: Large-scale labour migration from Ukraine requires new census

13 June 2018 – KyivPost

The scale of migration from Ukraine requires that the authorities hold the second-ever All-Ukrainian population census, earlier planned in 2012 and then postponed for 2013, 2016 and now, 2020. It is impossible to keep accurate records of labour migrants, according to a financial stability report by the National Bank of Ukraine.

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## No one in Ukraine knows how many moved abroad

20 June 2018 – VoxUkraine

According to the [State Statistics Service data](#), over the past 12 years Ukraine has been experiencing migration population growth – over the said period 230,000 more people entered the country as compared to those who left. At the same time, [according to UN statistics](#), Ukraine is among the top ten countries with the highest emigration levels and the numbers have increased in recent years. State Statistics Service estimates the number of migrant workers at 1.3 million, while experts say the number varies between 2 and 4 million. The discrepancies emerge both because of different understanding of what "migrant" means and different data collection methods. A poor understanding of the "mathematical component" leads to confusion and speculation.

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## Ukrainians in Poland receive almost same wages as Poles – study

5 June 2018 – UNIAN

More Ukrainians in Poland receive the same wages as the Poles, while employers do not rule out they will pay Ukrainians even more, according to a study on labour migration in the first half of 2018, conducted by the Personnel Service. Some 24 per cent of Polish employers admit they are ready to pay to Ukrainian workers more than the Poles. According to 89 per cent of Polish employees, Ukrainians do not "steal" jobs from the Poles.

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## Czech labour ministry prepares to engage more migrant workers from Ukraine

22 May 2018 – UNIAN

The number of Ukrainians who will be issued two-year work permits is expected to be increased to 19,600 people, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of the Czech Republic, Jaroslava Němcová, announced on a visit to Ukraine. The aim of her visit was to agree on simplification and acceleration of the procedure for issuing work permits.

Now, more than 260,000 jobs in the Czech Republic remain vacant. Primarily, this refers to nurses and social workers, as well as technical and construction workers.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team