



Approximately 1.6 million IDPs registered in Ukraine

28 August 2017 – Ukrinform

A total of 1,586,135 internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Donbas have been registered in Ukraine, according to the press service of the Ministry of Social Policy. The Ministry also notes that over UAH 1.89 billion was paid as of 28 August 2017 to IDPs receiving assistance.

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Some 162,000 Ukrainians enter EU under visa-free travel, only 55 denied entry

7 August 2017 – Interfax-Ukraine

As of 4 August, more than 162,000 Ukrainian citizens have used their right to visa-free entry to the European Union, the Head of the State Border Service of Ukraine, Petro Tsyhykal said. According to the Tsyhykal, the number of refusals is at 0.03%, with only 55 people denied entry. Of these, 18 exceeded the maximum period of stay and 37 failed to confirm the purpose of their trip.

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Ukraine sees a boom in biometric passports after introduction of visa-free regime with EU

2 August 2017 – Xinhua

The demand for biometric passports in Ukraine is booming after the introduction of the visa-free mechanism with the European Union, the State Migration Service of Ukraine stated. Since the beginning of 2017, the State Migration Service has issued more than 1.8 million biometric passports, which enable their holders to enter the EU without a visa for 90 days in any 180-day period. Overall, about 4.5 million of Ukrainians, or 10 per cent of the country's population, now hold biometric passports.

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Germany issued nearly 2,000 Blue Cards to Ukrainians in 2017

21 August 2017 – Institute of Human Rights and Prevention of Extremism and Xenophobia

As of July 2017, the largest number of Blue Cards was issued to Indians (8,212), Chinese (3,217), Russians (2,901), Ukrainians (1,942), and citizens of the USA (1,560). Germany grants nearly 85 per cent of all Blue Cards issued in the EU.

Residence and work permits for highly skilled foreigners from non-European Union countries is called a 'Blue Card'. It was introduced by the EU in 2012. Since that time, 62,000 foreigners have received these documents.

Blue Cards are issued to specialists, who have labour contracts with a company in the territory of the EU.

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Over 200 Ukrainians became victims of an international human trafficking network – State Border Guard Service

11 August 2017 – Ukrinform

“More than 200 Ukrainian citizens have become victims of an international human trafficking network. Ukrainians, who went to Poland and Lithuania, were ultimately taken to the UK for forced labor,” said Oleh Slobodian, the Assistant to the Chief of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine. According to the Ukrainian State official, this network was organized by traffickers from several countries and has operated since 2012.

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Qatar offers visa-free entry to 80 nationalities, including Ukraine

9 August 2017 – AFP

Nationals of 33 countries will now be authorized to reside in Qatar for 180 days and the other 47 states listed for up to 30 days, periods which are renewable a single time. A 30-day stay in Qatar concerns citizens of Ukraine, Russia, Azerbaijan, Canada, China, Georgia, Moldova, among other states.

The waiver programme, which came into immediate effect, affects countries of the European Union's Schengen zone, other Western states, Latin American and Asian nations.

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Soviet-era programme gives even unoppressed immigrants an edge

26 August 2017 – New York Times

In 2017, in a refugee admissions report to Congress, the State Department said applications for the Lautenberg program had increased substantially since conflict erupted in Ukraine. Nearly 4,000 Ukrainian refugees were admitted to the United States in the first 10 months of this fiscal year, compared with 2,543 for the entire 2016 fiscal year and just 227 four years ago. The 2017 data are dwarfed by arrivals from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq, Syria, Somalia and Myanmar; however since 1 May as the Trump administration began to restrict admissions of refugees, Ukraine has accounted for the second-largest number of arrivals, behind only Congo.

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Estonian migration overview: Most arrivals are from Ukraine, Russia

25 August 2017 – Estonian Public Broadcasting Organization (ERR.ee)

Most of the foreigners that entered Estonia in the past two years were either from Ukraine or Russia. According to data of the Ministry of the Interior, 8,104 people settled in Estonia in 2015 and 10,150 in 2016. Around 3,000 of the new arrivals were Ukrainian and Russian citizens, some 1,500 from Finland, 900 from Germany, and just under 700 from Latvia. The most popular country for those leaving the country is still Finland.

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Canada–Ukraine free trade is now possible

1 August 2017 – Canada-Ukraine Trade & Investment Support Project (CUTIS)

On 1 August 2017, the Canada-Ukraine Free Trade Agreement entered into force. The document provides duty-free access to the Canadian market for 98% of Ukrainian products, and also contains a number of provisions that will stimulate economic rapprochement between the two countries.

Canada eliminated import duties for 98% of Ukrainian exports, and Ukrainian businesses can take part in Canadian government procurement, a market of over CAD 16 billion annually. The process of eliminating non-tariff barriers for export is also being launched to minimize the difference in conformity assessment.

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Compiled by IOM Ukraine Communications team