



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

IOM UKRAINE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

- From January till June 2017, the IOM Mission in Ukraine identified and assisted **639 victims of trafficking** who suffered from forced labour and sexual exploitation in 22 different countries, including Ukraine. This represents an increase of **30%** in comparison to the first half of 2016.
- As of the end of June 2017, IOM has assisted **over 190,000** internally displaced persons (IDPs) and **conflict-affected people** in 24 regions of Ukraine. They were provided with humanitarian aid and cash assistance, livelihoods support, or assisted within IOM's social cohesion and community development initiatives.
- We are pleased to announce that IOM Ukraine is now on **Instagram!** Follow **@iomukraine** to interact with us there!



IOM held a fair and forum for micro-entrepreneurs in Kyiv

Over 100 micro-entrepreneurs, representing a variety of business spheres from different regions of Ukraine, gathered in Kyiv on 24 June 2017 for the BizFair – Business Fair & Forum – an event organized by IOM and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The Forum marked the 10-year anniversary of the IOM Micro-Enterprise Development Programme, which seeks to empower migrants and people in need of support. “Over a decade, more than 5,500 people, including internally displaced persons, conflict-affected people and human trafficking survivors, have benefitted from the IOM Programme, establishing micro-enterprises or becoming self-employed in the spheres of agriculture, production, construction, and services,” said Manfred Profazi, Chief of Mission at IOM Ukraine.

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Ukraine adopts new migration strategy developed with IOM support

On 12 July 2017, the Government of Ukraine adopted a new State Migration Strategy, which will steer the national migration policy for the next eight years. The new document was developed to substitute Ukraine's 2011 State Migration Concept, which needed to be updated due to the latest global and national developments. Among them, the unprecedented forced migration from the Middle East, Ukraine's approximation to the European Union and introduction of the visa-free regime between Ukraine and the majority of the EU Member States, as well as large-scale internal displacement in the country, with about 1.6 million people officially registered as internally displaced persons. IOM contributed to the development of the Migration Strategy, upon Ukrainian Government request and with the support of the EU, mainly by promoting adaptation of best international practices to the Ukrainian context.

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Visa-free EU travel for Ukrainians welcomed by IOM



The visa-free regime between the EU and Ukraine entered into force on 11 June 2017. Ukrainians who hold a biometric passport are now able to enter the majority of EU countries without a visa for 90 days in any 180-day period, for tourism, to visit relatives or friends, or for business purposes.

IOM has been supporting the Government of Ukraine on the way to the visa-free regime since the start of the EU-Ukraine dialogue in 2008. IOM's assistance provided to Ukraine in the implementation of its Visa

Liberalization Action Plan (VLAP) included analysis and recommendations for upgrading the migration-related legislation, procedures and practices. IOM also provided training for officials on document security and identity management, while also helping Ukrainian law enforcement agencies and social institutions countering trafficking in human beings. Representatives of Ukrainian law enforcement agencies were trained by IOM on identification, documentation and prosecution of hate crimes which was also one of the VLAP requirements.

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Time to talk about children's rights and dreams

Marking the International Children's Day on 1 June, IOM, with the support of Global Affairs Canada and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and in cooperation with government agencies, civil society organizations and socially responsible businesses, organized an outdoor event for children – the *Alley of Dreams* – to raise awareness about protection of children's rights.

Children from vulnerable categories, those living in family-type homes and foster families, were invited to participate in the event. According to the IOM survey, two out of every five vulnerable children in Ukraine are ready to accept at least one offer that may lead to their involvement in human trafficking. It is important to timely talk to these children about their rights and prospects for their future, in order to prevent risky behaviour.

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