



# EASTERN PARTNERSHIP

## Panel on Migration and Asylum

## News Digest

### Issue 26 (November 2017)

### EaPPMA News

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18/10/17

#### Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration and Asylum meets in Warsaw to discuss economic integration of migrants

On 14-15 December 2017, the Panel Meeting on Economic Integration of Migrants will be held in Warsaw. Experts from the EU Member States, the Eastern Partnership countries, EU institutions, international organizations, representatives of civil society and academia will gather to assess the effectiveness of existing policy frameworks and tools in the sphere of economic integration at both the EU and national levels. In addition, the experts will discuss such issues as facilitation and measuring of migrants' economic integration, protection of migrant workers from abuse and exploitation, the importance of education and recognition of qualifications and skills for successful integration, as well as the role of well economically integrated diaspora in building and harnessing the potential of the migration-development nexus.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)

### Highlights: Country News

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#### Armenia

24/11/17

#### Armenia and European Union signed a comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement

The agreement seeks to boost, preserve and strengthen peace and stability at both regional and international levels, including combining efforts for eliminating sources of tension, through enhancing border security as well as cross-border cooperation.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)



The Project is funded by the  
European Union



IOM • OIM  
The Project is implemented by  
International Organization for Migration



[www.eapmigrationpanel.org](http://www.eapmigrationpanel.org)

## Azerbaijan

17/11/17

### International experts gathered in Azerbaijan to share experience on countering irregular migration

The UN Migration Agency (IOM) organized a technical meeting for participants from various national institutions from the Republic of Azerbaijan, country representatives from France, Romania, the United Kingdom, Belarus, Indonesia, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan, as well as IOM experts from the IOM Headquarters, Global Migration Data Analysis Center and Regional Office in Vienna. The meeting included discussions on challenges, experiences, and new approaches, in responding to such forms of irregular migration as smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)

14/11/17

### Inflow of visitors to Azerbaijan has grown by 20%

Over the first ten months of the current year, 2,604,276 foreign nationals visited Azerbaijan. The Ministry of Culture & Tourism of Azerbaijan (MCTA) communicated that out of them, 727,577 people are from the Russian Federation, 439,305 from Georgia, 320,904 from Iran, 249,210 from Turkey, 81,742 from UAE, 54,242 from Iraq, 49,809 from Ukraine, 31,821 from Saudi Arabia, and remaining 321,994 are nationals of other countries.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)

## Belarus

23/11/17

### Belarus and UAE to abolish visas for holders of service and special passports

Belarus ratified a protocol on amendments to the Belarus-UAE intergovernmental agreement on the abolition of visas for holders of diplomatic passports. The protocol was signed in Minsk on 10 May 2017, to foster visa facilitation for Belarusian and UAE citizens with valid diplomatic, service, and special passports.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)



## Moldova

08/11/17

### Moldova and Ukraine to start implementation of joint border control

Once Moldova and Ukraine complete ratification of the bilateral agreement signed in October 2017, joint control at the inter-State border will commence. The authorities of both countries will prioritize the order of border checkpoints in which joint control will be initiated.

Joint control will also be applied along the Transnistrian segment, where the “Cuciurgan-Pervomaisc” crossing point was set up on 17 July 2017.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*

02/11/17

### Moldova signs social security agreement with Germany

Moldovan citizens working legally in Germany will obtain social security benefits such as pensions, according to the agreement on social security between Moldova and Germany.

The purpose of the Agreement is to provide social security benefits for migrant workers from Moldova who legally work or have worked and who reside on the territory of one or both of the contracting states.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*

## Ukraine

20/11/17

### Biggest number of EU residence permits issued to Ukrainians

According to the Eurostat data, citizens of Ukraine were top-receivers of residence permits in the EU Member States in 2016. Most of the EU residence permits for Ukrainians (87%) were provided by Poland – more than 512,000 in total. Most Ukrainians received their permits due to valid employment. Other countries issuing a substantial number of residence permits to Ukrainians are the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Lithuania and Estonia.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*



15/11/17

### **Ukraine's State Border Guard Service strengthens protection of border with Slovakia**

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine has decided to strengthen protection of a section of the Ukrainian-Slovak border due to increased irregular migration.

At present, at-risk sections of the State border are bolstered by additional personnel, equipment and service dogs in order to counter irregular migration and other unlawful actions.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*

13/11/17

### **National Bank of Ukraine publishes remittances statistics**

Over the last five years, Ukrainians transferred about USD30 billion remittances through banks and international payment systems from around the world. According to the National Bank of Ukraine, more than USD 5 billion were cash transfers.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*

## **EU Spotlight**

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24/11/17

### **Eastern Partnership countries agreed on joint declaration at summit in Brussels**

In the framework of the Eastern Partnership Summit, which took place in Brussels on 24 November, a number of agreements were advanced, including a new bilateral agreement between the European Union and Armenia; Common Aviation Area Agreement with Armenia; and the extension of the EU's Trans-European Transport (TEN-T) network to Eastern Partnership countries.

*For further information, please follow [this link](#)*

03/11/17

### **30,000 failed asylum seekers went missing in Germany**

About 30,000 failed asylum seekers due for deportation are unaccounted for within Germany's refugee processing system. The authorities think that some may have left for other European countries but many are



believed to live under the radar, protected by family or friends in an environment that police and other agencies find difficult to penetrate.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)

## Global Spotlight

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10/11/17

### **More than 5,000 migrant deaths recorded globally since the beginning of the year**

IOM reports that 155,856 migrants and refugees entered Europe by sea in 2017 through 8 November, with just over 73 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder landing in Greece, Cyprus and Spain. This compares with 340,934 arrivals across the region through the same period last year. Worldwide, IOM's Missing Migrants Project recorded the deaths of 5,005 people migrating in 2017 through 8 November.

For further information, please follow [this link](#)

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