

SUPPORT FOR MIGRATION AND ASYLUM MANAGEMENT IN UKRAINE (IMMIS)



Funded by the
European Union



Implemented by the International
Organization for Migration

Monitoring of migration situation and developments in migration and border management

August 2018

Main events and trends of the month

- Situation around migrants and refugees, who arrive at the EU by sea from the Middle East and Africa, remains tense. Italy refuses to accept migrants rescued away at sea, despite its commitments under Operation Sophia.
- Economic situation in the EU keeps on improving; real GDP keeps on growing, Greece has successfully completed the ESM programme, Germany, Lithuania and Latvia report strengthening of their labour markets.
- The Head of the Ukrainian Society was expelled from the Committee for Commemorating the Struggle and Martyrdom of the Institute of National Remembrance in Lublin, and the Director of the Open Dialogue Foundation was deported to Ukraine.
- The number of foreigners, who temporarily live in Ukraine, keeps on declining, and the number of immigrants keeps on growing. Compared to the previous month, twice as many seekers of international protection have applied in Ukraine, and the number of foreigners arrested for illegal crossing of the border has substantially increased.
- Foreign passports for Ukrainian nationals are issued within the time limits as set by legislation. As from the beginning of the year, over 3 million foreign passports have been processed while over 280 thousand persons failed to appear on time to the SMS offices to obtain their documents.
- The Government approved 2018-2021 Action Plan for implementation of the State Migration Policy Strategy of Ukraine for the period up to 2025.
- Leadership of the agencies responsible for the migration policy, continue to emphasise that the challenge of unregulated migration threatens state security.
- Under the TWINNING project, development of the National mechanism for assessment of the status of integrated border management in Ukraine was completed and presented to the SBGS leadership.

1. FACTORS AFFECTING MIGRATION SITUATION AND MIGRATION POLICY IN UKRAINE

1.1. Social-political situation in the world

On 31 August, Albania, Montenegro, Norway and Ukraine joined the extended sanctions of the EU against the Russian Federation imposed as the result of violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine¹. The European Council, by the decision of 5 July, extended the restrictive measures, which prohibit subjects in the EU from doing business with the Russian banking, financial and energy sectors, for another six months, to 31 January 2019².

In the end of August, Austria, at the closed-door meeting in Vienna, proposed to use armed forces to assist the border guards in prevention the migrants with an unregulated status from entering the territory of the bloc³. Austrian Minister of Defence, Mario Kunasek, presented his plan and underlined that the police should supervise the activities of the military at the borders. Austria, which from 1 July 2018 holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, determined migration as one of the priorities.

Situation around migrants and refugees, who arrive at the EU by sea from the Middle East and Africa, remains tense. Despite the agreement reached between the EU member states on the distribution of 141 migrants from the nongovernment ship *Aquarius* previously prevented from entry to the ports of Malta and Italy⁴, the disagreement between the parties went on in respect of the Italian coast guard ship *Dichotti* having 177 migrants on-board⁵, which operates under Operation Sophia, the EU operation in the Mediterranean. Operation Sophia was launched in 2015, and Italy then agreed to accept migrants rescued away at sea. Now, official Rome demands change in the rules and calls upon the other member states to accept the migrants, but the decisions on distribution of migrants are to be adopted by the Ministers of Interior or the EU leaders⁶.

At the same time, migration situation remains acute at the Spanish border: in early August, 395 migrants who had tried to reach Spain from Morocco were rescued in the Mediterranean⁷. On 22 August, over 100 migrants from Africa were able to overcome the fence at the border and break into Spanish territory of Ceuta enclave⁸. Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte stated on 25 August that the European Union

¹ <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2018/08/31/declaration-by-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-the-alignment-of-certain-third-countries-concerning-restrictive-measures/>

² <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/31/7086314>

³ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/30/7086251/>

⁴ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/14/7085615/>

⁵ <https://p.dw.com/p/33Obj>

⁶ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/30/7086263/>

⁷ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-spain/almost-400-migrants-rescued-off-spanish-coast-this-weekend->

[idUSKBN1KQ09X?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews&utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Reuters%2FworldNews+%28Reuters+World](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-spain/almost-400-migrants-rescued-off-spanish-coast-this-weekend-idUSKBN1KQ09X?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews&utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Reuters%2FworldNews+%28Reuters+World)

⁸ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/22/7085925/>



had failed to adopt new decisions in the sphere of migration at the European Commission's urgent meeting dedicated to migration problems⁹.

On 31 August, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency Frontex presented its first liaison officer with the EU member states with the view to enhancing cooperation between the agency and national authorities responsible for border management, readmission and coast guard functions. The first liaison officer will work in Bulgaria. In total, there will be 11 officers who will work in various countries on strengthening of the EU internal security¹⁰.

According to the data published by the Eurostat, in mid-August, real GDP growth in the EU, based on the results of the second quarter, was 2.2% compared to 2017. Economies of Poland (5%), Hungary (4.4%), Romania (4.2%), Latvia (4.2%), Slovakia (3.9%), Cyprus (3.9%) and Lithuania (3.7%) showed the fastest rates of growth¹¹. With the successful completion of the ESM programme, crisis in Greece subsided not only for the country itself but for Eurozone in whole¹². Substantial wage hike was declared by Lithuania¹³ and Latvia¹⁴.

German job vacancies hit record high (1.21 million) in the second quarter, which shows a strong labour market with the deficit of qualified cadre¹⁵, even despite the fact that 300 thousand refugees have already been employed in the country¹⁶. With the view to overcoming a long-standing labour power crisis, a proposal is being drawn up in Germany to make it easier for skilled workers from outside the European Union¹⁷. According to the study of Ukrainians in the Polish labour market published in August, 59% of them are ready to work in Germany if the latter opens its labour market¹⁸.

In the end of August, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic and the leader of ANO, Andrej Babiš, stated that his country would not accept refugees coming to the EU across the Mediterranean because it accepts people from Ukraine, and that a comprehensive action plan aiming at elimination of uncontrolled migration is needed¹⁹. Similar statements where labour migrants are called refugees were also made by the Polish government: Poland had accepted millions of Ukrainians, and therefore, refuses to accept asylum seekers from Africa and Middle East²⁰. Ukraine had refuted those statements by publishing official figures²¹.

⁹ https://www.facebook.com/GiuseppeConte64/posts/468441820304455?_tn=-R

¹⁰ <https://frontex.europa.eu/media-centre/news-release/frontex-sends-first-liaison-officer-to-eu-member-state-E21I7y>

¹¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/9105264/2-14082018-BP-EN.pdf/e28c60ea-1ad0-47fd-b7e1-668cdb9ba016>

¹² <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/20/7085808/>

¹³ <https://ru.delfi.lt/news/economy/zarplaty-v-litve-rastut-nevidannymi-tempami.d?id=78878041>

¹⁴ <https://skaties.lv/zinas/latvija/videja-bruto-darba-samaksa-parsniegusi-1000-eiro-robezu/>

¹⁵ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-germany-economy-vacancies/german-job-vacancies-hit-record-high-in-second-quarter-idUSKBN1KS0ZN?il=0>

¹⁶ <https://p.dw.com/p/33T5P>

¹⁷ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-germany/germany-looks-at-easing-immigration-laws-to-fill-skilled-labor-gaps-idUSKBN1L2178>

¹⁸ <http://www.workservice.com/pl/content/download/6771/49986/file/Postawy%20obywateli%20Ukrainy%20wobec%20polskiego%20rynku%20pracy%20-%20raport%20Work%20Service.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://www.radio.cz/ru/rubrika/novosti/chexiya-ne-primet-bolshe-ni-odnogo-bezhenca-tak-kak-prinimaet-lyudej-iz-ukrainy-zayavil-ababish>

²⁰ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/news/2018/08/29/7190477/>

²¹ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2017/12/31/7075627/>



On 13 August, the border guards prohibited the President of Open Dialogue Foundation Lyudmila Kozlovska, who arrived at Brussels, from leaving airport and deported her back to Ukraine²². According to her and her Polish husband, Bartosz Kramek, the deportation is closely linked with his open criticism of the current Polish government's actions²³. The press secretary of the Ministry of Interior explained the reason for deportation by the negative conclusion of the Internal Security Agency's Counterintelligence Department, which raises serious doubts as to the sources of funding of an organisation led by the Ukrainian national²⁴.

The Head of the Ukrainian Society of Poland, Hryhorii Kupryianovych, was expelled from the Committee for Commemorating the Struggle and Martyrdom of the Institute of National Remembrance in Lublin, which the representative of the Ukrainian minority perceives as a manifestation of discrimination²⁵. Criminal proceedings were also initiated against Mr. Kupryianovych for the alleged violation of the Law on the Polish Institute of National Remembrance by mentioning Ukrainian victims of the punishing actions of Armia Krajowa²⁶.

On 20 August, the Moldovan government approved the mechanism for granting citizenship in exchange for investments. According to the calculation of the authorities, it will make it possible to have 1.3 billion euro invested in the country's economy by 2024²⁷. Persons not convicted by the International Criminal Court, not prosecuted by the Interpol, not posing a potential threat to Moldova's independence and national security, who have not derived income from criminal activities and have not been convicted of committing terrorist acts, may take part in the new citizenship programme²⁸. At the same time the European Commissioner for Justice, Věra Jourová advocates for moderation in granting citizenship on the ground of investments in the economy or acquiring expensive real estate. The European Commission is planning to publish recommendations on granting citizenship to the people from outside the EU before the end of autumn²⁹.

In mid-August, massive anti-government protests took place in Romania. Romanians who live abroad and have left the country because of corruption and low wages and lack of opportunities, have joined the protests, calling the government for stepping down and early election³⁰. The meeting dissolved when the police interfered with it³¹.

In Sweden, a Ukrainian woman, who had lost her leg in a terrorist act of 7 April 2017, got refused a permanent residence permit. For a duration of a court trial, the Ukrainian woman, together with her daughter, moved to Sweden³², and in June 2018 the proceedings before the court were completed, and the migration council took a decision that she and her daughter had to leave the country. The Ukrainian

²² https://zik.ua/news/2018/08/15/ukrainku_lyudmylu_kozlovsku_ne_vpustyly_u_yes_cholovik_kazhe_shcho_cher_ez_1387023

²³ <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/29447698.html>

²⁴ https://zik.ua/news/2018/08/20/polshcha_nazvala_prychynu_deportatsii_gromadyanky_ukrainy_kozlovskoi_1390165

²⁵ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/30/7086256/>

²⁶ <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/news-klimkin-sprava-kupriianovycha/29445281.html>

²⁷ <https://mei.gov.md/ro/content/au-fost-stabilitate-cerintele-si-criteriile-de-eligibilitate-solicitantilor-programului-de>

²⁸ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/22/7085939/>

²⁹ <https://www.welt.de/politik/ausland/plus180656756/Verkauf-von-Paessen-EU-geht-gegen-EU-Laender-vor-die-mit-Paessen-handeln.html>

³⁰ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/11/7085497/>

³¹ <https://www.romania-insider.com/diaspora-protest-bucharest-ends-violent-intervention-riot-police/>

³² <https://www.bbc.com/ukrainian/news-45191214>

is planning to challenge the above decision because she will not be able to receive the same medical care in Ukraine as she had in Sweden.

In the end of August, at the border between Germany and Poland, the German police arrested a 31-years-old Ukrainian who had used forged Polish ID and labour permit and had a Hungarian visa for cultural workers unlawfully issued³³.

In the beginning of August, US Department of Justice announced that 3 Ukrainian nationals suspected of membership in a hacking group known as FIN7 had been arrested. The Ukrainian nationals are suspected of hacking into thousands of computer systems and stealing millions of customer bank card numbers³⁴.

1.2. Military conflicts and emergencies in the world

On 20 August, in Chechnya, minors committed three assaults on the police officers. In a knife attack on district police station in Shali town two officers were injured. A suicide bomber attempted to blow himself at police post in Merker-Yurt village. Islamic State (ISIS) claimed responsibility for the attacks³⁵.

On 10 August, in a wave of airstrikes in Idlib and neighbouring Hama and Aleppo provinces by the Russian air force, together with the airplanes of Bashar al-Assad' regime, at least, 29 people were killed. Also, on 31 July and 1 August, Jordanian army opened fire on the ISIS militants as those approached Jordan's border, killing several of them. In an Israeli airstrike on the Golan Heights in the night from 1 to 2 August seven ISIS militants were killed³⁶. In late August, intense fighting erupted in Libya's capital Tripoli between militias linked to the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA) for control over the territories and establishments³⁷.

Because of strong floods as the result of rains in Mali, 18.8 thousand persons suffered; three people perished and 3.2 thousand dwellings were ruined. Also, 1.8 thousand of cattle stock was lost³⁸. On 17-18 August, in Armenia, hail damaged virtually entire harvest in the Shirak Province. According to the government, 1.1 thousand households had lost from 80% to 100% of their harvest³⁹. A fresh outbreak of Ebola was registered in the Democratic Republic of Congo. As of 22 August, 76 confirmed and 27 suspected sickness cases were registered⁴⁰.

In August 2018, situation in Syria, Mali and Chechnya was the most tense. Conflicts in other countries and regions remained at about the same level as they had been the previous month.

No other emergencies, including in the countries neighbouring Ukraine, which could affect the migration situation in Ukraine, were identified.

1.3. Events in the JFO area and in occupied Crimea, and other emergencies in Ukraine

The situation in the JFO area and in occupied Crimea in August 2018 was tense. The overview of the key developments which happened during the month may be found at the Information Analysis Centre of the National Security of Ukraine's official website⁴¹. In total, a number of fire attacks along the JFO front-

³³ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/30/7086261/>

³⁴ <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/three-members-notorious-international-cybercrime-group-fin7-custody-role-attacking-over-100>

³⁵ <https://www.crisisgroup.org/crisiswatch>

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/fl-2018-000140-mli>

³⁹ <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/ot-2018-000146-arm>

⁴⁰ <https://reliefweb.int/disaster/ep-2018-000129-cod>

⁴¹ <http://mediarnbo.org/>

line in August 2018 were 1,010, which is 269 greater than in July 2018. Intensiveness of fire assaults declined in the end of the month. More detailed information on the fire assaults, wounded, killed and emergencies in the JFO zone, can be seen on the JFO's official Facebook page⁴².

In July 2016, three farmers suffered in explosions of the mines which they hit with their field engines while being at their fields. Two children were also killed in the explosions of the mines in the unmarked mine fields. The number of civilians who suffered from the hostilities in July 2018 was 18 persons, which is 20 less than in June 2018⁴³. On 24 August, as the result of the shell hit of a private house, a 34-years-old resident of the village Vrubivka, Popasna raion, Luhansk oblast, was killed⁴⁴.

During August 2018, three events, which are classified by the State Emergency Service as emergencies, happened in Ukraine, but the scale of those events would not necessitate any population shifts^{45,46}. During monitoring of the National Police of Ukraine's official website, no emergencies capable to cause population movements were identified⁴⁷.

2. MIGRATION SITUATION

2.1. Demographic situation

As of 1 July 2018, the estimated population of Ukraine is 42,263.9 million (excluding the temporarily occupied territory of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol)⁴⁸. The chart that shows reduction in the population from January to June 2018 by 122.5 thousand people was published in the express edition of the State Statistics Service⁴⁹. According to the data of the State Statistics Service, the death/birth rate ratio was 100 to 55 during the period from January to June 2018, which resulted in the natural decline in population by 133.7 thousand people⁵⁰.

From January to June 2018, the number of arrivals (235.6 thousand persons) was greater than the number of departures (224.4 thousand people), and positive migration balance was 11.2 thousand persons (according to the data on registration/de-registration). Calculations based on the State Statistics Service of Ukraine's data on registration and de-registration (excluding the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Sevastopol and part of the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts) show that in June 2018 in Ukraine, the number of arrivals was 52.6 thousand persons, and the number of departures was 51 thousand persons. Largest gain in June 2018 was observed in Kyiv (2.5 thousand persons), Kharkiv (0.39 thousand persons), Odesa (0.26 thousand persons) and Dnipropetrovsk (0.21 thousand persons) oblasts. The largest population loss in June 2018 was observed in Donetsk (0.5 thousand persons), Luhansk (0.34 thousand persons), and Chernivtsi (0.2 thousand persons) oblasts⁵¹.

⁴² www.facebook.com/pressjfo.news

⁴³ https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ukraine_humanitarian_snapshot_20180820.pdf

⁴⁴ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/oos/na-luganshhini-vnaslidok-obstrilu-bojovikiv-zaginuv-miscevij-meshkanecz/>

⁴⁵ <http://www.dsns.gov.ua/ua/Dovidka-za-dobu/82262.html>

⁴⁶ <http://www.dsns.gov.ua/ua/Dovidka-za-dobu/81344.html>

⁴⁷ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/>

⁴⁸ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/ds/kn/kn_u/kn0618_u.html

⁴⁹ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/123.pdf>

⁵⁰ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/ds/pp/pp_u/pp0618_u.html

⁵¹ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/ds/mr/mr_u/mr0618_u.html

Data on the numbers of able-bodied population, and of the population of age under 15 years, rural and urban population were presented in the report for June 2018.

*Demographic risks*⁵²

Considering moderate decline in Ukraine' population, increase in death rate compared to birth rate, reduction of working-age population and reduction of population of age under 15 years, with ongoing deceleration of urbanisation, it may be said that the level of demographic risks is disturbing.

2.2. Social and economic situation

As it was set out in the report for June 2018, according to estimations of the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, gross domestic product in Q1 2018 increased by 0.9% as compared to the previous quarter, and by 3.1% compared to Q1 2017⁵³. In July 2018, as compared to June 2018, seasonally adjusted index of industrial production was 98.7%, and as compared to July 2017, it amounted to 102.3%⁵⁴.

In July 2018, the number of registered unemployed persons continued to decrease and was 298 thousand persons (1.2% of working-age population), which was 5.9 thousand persons less than in June 2018 (303.9 thousand persons), and 18 thousand persons less than in May 2018 (316 thousand persons)⁵⁵. Job demand in July 2018 grew (86.8 thousand vacancies) compared with June 2018 (82.4 thousand vacancies)⁵⁶.

Data on employment and unemployment in the first quarter 2018 calculated based on the ILO methodology are presented in the report for June 2018.

Average nominal wage in July 2018 was UAH 9,170, which was 2.5 times greater than the minimum wage (UAH 3,723). The pace of average nominal wage growth was 100.3% as compared to June 2018, and was 124.9% as compared to July 2017. Real wage index in July 2018, as compared to June 2018, was 101%, and was 114.7% as compared to July 2017⁵⁷. As of 1 August, wage arrears amounted to UAH 2,733.6 million. (100.4% compared to 1 July 2018)⁵⁸, which amounts to 3.8% of wage pool (the same as in June 2018)⁵⁹.

Consumer prices in July 2018 had reduced by 0.7% compared to the previous month. At the same time, they had increased by 3.6% since the beginning of the year, and basic inflation in July 2018 was – 0.1% as compared to the previous month and was – 3.4% as compared to the beginning of the year. On an annualised basis, inflation in July 2018 somewhat slacked and was 8.9% (compared to 9.9% in June 2018⁶⁰)⁶¹.

⁵² Here and further in the text the risks are assigned one of the following grades: “critical”, “disturbing” or “acceptable”, where “critical” is a risk with the highest probability, and “acceptable” is the risk with the lowest probability.

⁵³ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/06/102.pdf>

⁵⁴ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/127.pdf>

⁵⁵ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/rp/sz_br/sz_br_u/kzbr_m_u2018.htm

⁵⁶ https://www.dcz.gov.ua/sites/default/files/inf/files/1._profesiyunnyy_sklad_bezrobitnyh_ta_vakansiy_5.xls

⁵⁷ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/134.pdf>

⁵⁸ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/133.pdf>

⁵⁹ http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/operativ/operativ2018/gdn/Fop_ed/Fop_ed2018_u.xlsx

⁶⁰ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/07/104.pdf>

⁶¹ <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/116.pdf>

In July 2018, 2,182.6 thousand households received household subsidies that compensated utility fees. In January-July 2018, 2,667 thousand households were registered as eligible for subsidies, and the number of such households decreased by 54.9% as compared to the same period of 2017⁶².

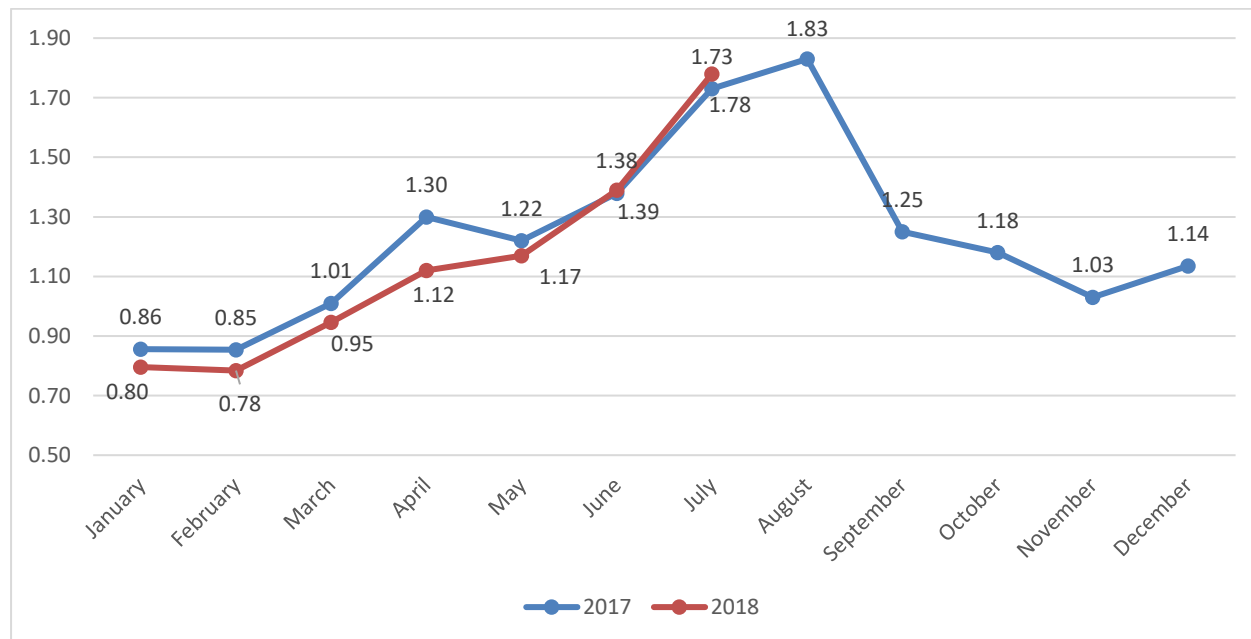
Risks in social and economic sphere

Increase of the GDP, creeping inflation, advancing in the *Doing Business Index*, increase in the amounts of sold industrial products, high rating in *Human Development Index*, and increase in amounts of private money transfers to Ukraine from abroad enable a conclusion to be drawn that the risk level in social and economic spheres is acceptable.

2.3. Border crossings

According to the SBGS, nationals of 176 foreign countries and stateless persons 1,778 thousand times entered Ukraine in July 2018⁶³.

Number of border crossings by the foreign nationals and stateless persons (FSPs) entering Ukraine (million times, January 2017 — July 2018)⁶⁴:



Most border crossings in July were made by the nationals of Belarus (430.1 thousand times), nationals of Moldova (412.7 thousand times), nationals of Russia (155 thousand times), and the nationals of Poland (102.9 thousand times)⁶⁵.

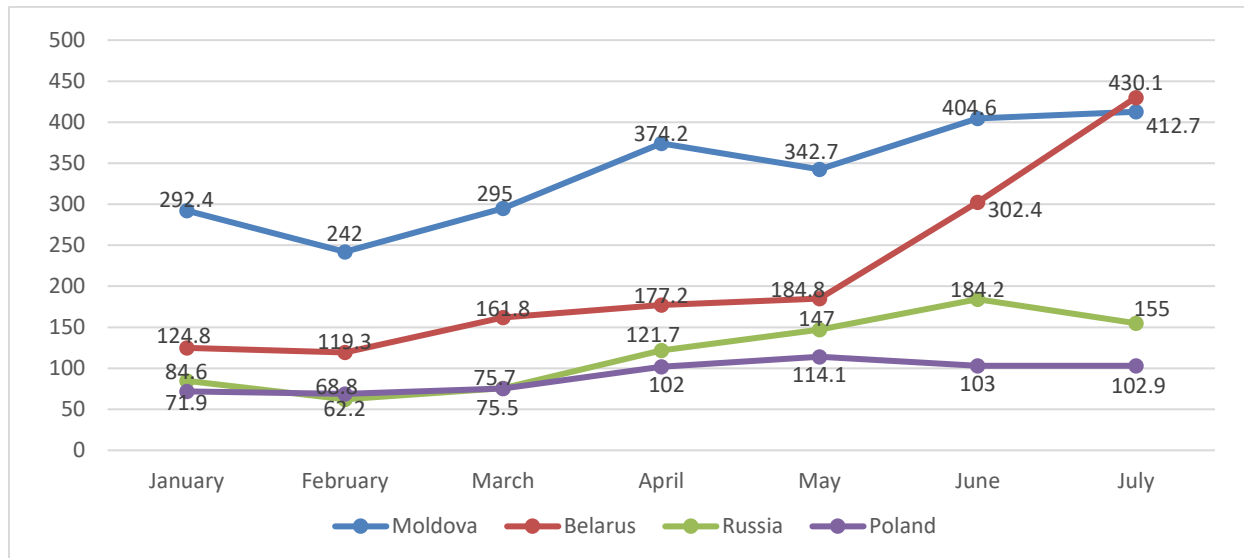
⁶² <http://www.ukrstat.gov.ua/express/expr2018/08/125.zip>

⁶³ According to the data received from the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine on request.

⁶⁴ Ibid.

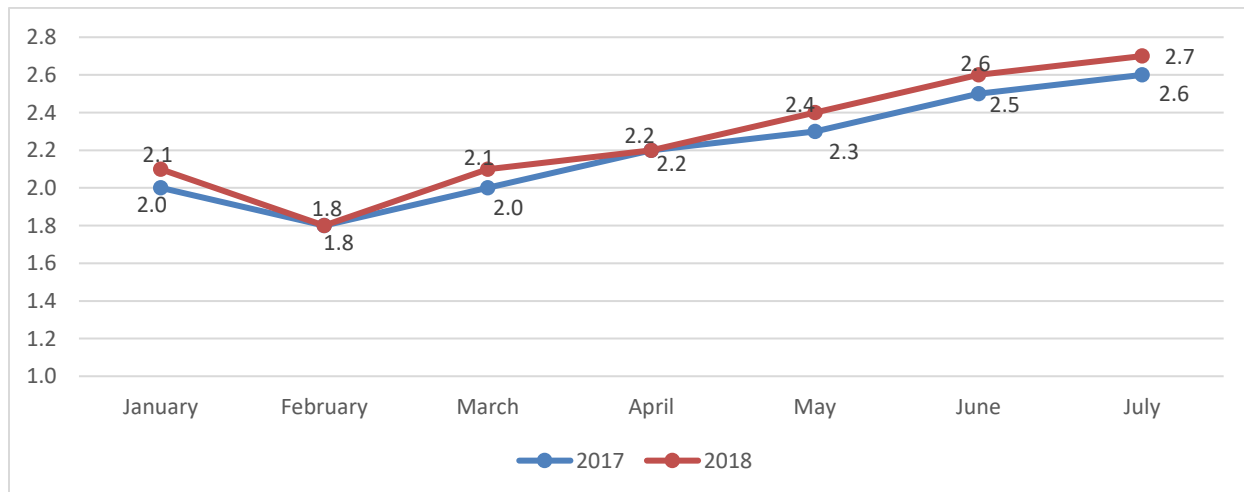
⁶⁵ Ibid.

Number of border crossings by the nationals of Moldova, Belarus, Russia and Poland, entering Ukraine (thousand times, January-July 2018)⁶⁶:



According to the SBGS, Ukrainian nationals crossed the border 5,590.7 thousand times in July 2018, of these — 2,471.6 thousand times departing Ukraine. When departing Ukraine, in 78.2% of cases, Ukrainian nationals crossed land border, in 21.6% they did it by air, and in 0.2% – by sea⁶⁷.

Number of border crossings by the nationals of Ukraine departing from Ukraine (million times, January-July 2017, 2018)⁶⁸:



Based on the data requested from the SBGS, UNHCR monitors, on the monthly basis, crossings of demarcation lines between Ukraine and Crimea, Ukraine and Donbas. During July 2018, 1,643 thousand crossings of demarcation lines in both directions were recorded, out of these, 826 thousand were entries into Ukrainian held territory, and 817 thousand were departures⁶⁹. Compared to June 2018, increase in

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

⁶⁹ <https://bit.ly/2ipWCBf>

total number of crossings by 15.8% was recorded. On 20 August, OCHA published a report on the situation at the entry/exit checkpoints, including monthly dynamics of the crossings of the demarcation lines and key reasons for travels⁷⁰. As of 23 August 2018, 1,628 FSPs applied to the regional offices of the SMS for special entry permits to the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, and during the same period, 1,593 permits were issued, and in four cases refusals were issued⁷¹.

2.4. Foreigners temporarily and permanently residing in Ukraine

In January-July 2018, 7,142 applications for immigration permits were processed, and in 150 cases⁷² there were refusals of issuing immigration permits.

Immigration permits and permanent residence permits issued (pcs, January-July 2018)⁷³:

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Immigration permits issued	Total	990	1,200	1,243	1,279	1,367	1,027	1,127	8,233
	to immigrants, within quotas	160	183	160	139	237	156	197	1,232
	to immigrants, outside quotas	830	1,017	1,083	1,140	1,130	871	930	7,001
Permanent residence permits issued		1,708	1,441	2,098	2,175	2,511	1,980	2,417	14,330

Vast majority of permanent residence permits was issued to the immigrants falling outside quotas on the following grounds: marriage to Ukrainian nationals for over two years; they were Ukrainian nationals' children or parents; they were entitled to Ukrainian citizenship by their territorial origin. Since the beginning of the year, 11 immigration permits had been issued to "Foreign Ukrainians", as well as to their spouses and children⁷⁴.

In July 2018, 273,415 immigrants were registered in Ukraine, which is 0.65% of the population of Ukraine. Most of them are nationals of Russia (150,830 persons), Moldova (18,467 persons), Azerbaijan (12,378 persons), Armenia (11,813 persons), Georgia (10,494 persons) and Belarus (8,876 persons), or are stateless persons (5,061 persons)⁷⁵.

Temporary residence permits issued to FSPs in Ukraine (pcs, January-July 2018)⁷⁶:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Temporary residence permits issued	4,783	2,963	3,076	2,626	2,466	2,987	4,230	23,131
Temporary residence permits extended	1,858	1,997	2,136	1,693	2,086	953	163	10,886
Foreign nationals and SPs registered (as of the specified month)	91,264	91,916	93,496	94,422	94,923	94,859	92,522	92,522

⁷⁰ https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/ukraine_humanitarian_snapshot_checkpoints_20180820.pdf

⁷¹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/assets/files/statistic/week/immi-23-08-2018.pdf>

⁷² According to the data requested from the State Migration Service of Ukraine.

⁷³ Ibid.

⁷⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ Ibid.



Main reasons for temporary residence of the foreign nationals in Ukraine: studying (55.7% of all foreigners registered), family reunification with the Ukrainian nationals (27.3%), employment (10%). Number of foreigners and stateless persons registered has been declining since June⁷⁷.

Also, over the period from January to July 2018, the State Migration Service of Ukraine had received 3,332 applications for Ukrainian citizenship. Over that period, 11,782 persons obtained Ukrainian citizenship by birth, 1,876 — by their territorial origin, 244 persons were naturalised by a decree of the President. Citizenship of 11 persons was terminated based on a decree of the President⁷⁸.

Immigration risks

Increase of the number of countries (other than the migration risk countries) whose nationals are entitled to visa-free entry into Ukraine (from 66 to 67); increase in the number of FSPs' arrivals in Ukraine by 11.7% compared to the previous month; decline in the number of foreign students who study in Ukrainian universities; minor changes in the number of FSPs who permanently or temporarily reside in Ukraine in terms of countries and regions of origin; increase in the number of permits for immigration to Ukraine for the FSPs; decline in the number of criminal cases against foreigners and stateless persons, and increase in the number of persons prosecuted for administrative offences under Article 203 of the CUAO by 8% compared to the previous month make it possible to estimate the level of immigration risks as disturbing.

2.5. Foreigners temporarily and permanently residing in Ukraine

Over the period from January to July 2018, the State Migration Service of Ukraine issued 4,872 exit permits to Ukrainian citizens who wished to permanently reside abroad⁷⁹.

Emigration data (January-July 2018)⁸⁰:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Exit documents for Ukrainian citizens going abroad for permanent residence issued	562	608	666	631	892	847	666	4,872
Emigrants returning to Ukraine for permanent residence	102	109	143	121	136	130	166	907

Over the period from January to July 2018, Ukrainians mainly left for permanent residence to the USA (2,038), Germany (669), Russia (664), Lithuania (275) and Hungary (240) and returned mainly from Israel (249), Russia (179) and the USA (115). There is ongoing trend concerning pensioners departing for Hungary (97.1% of all emigrants to the above country) and to Russia (60.1% of all emigrants to the above country)⁸¹.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

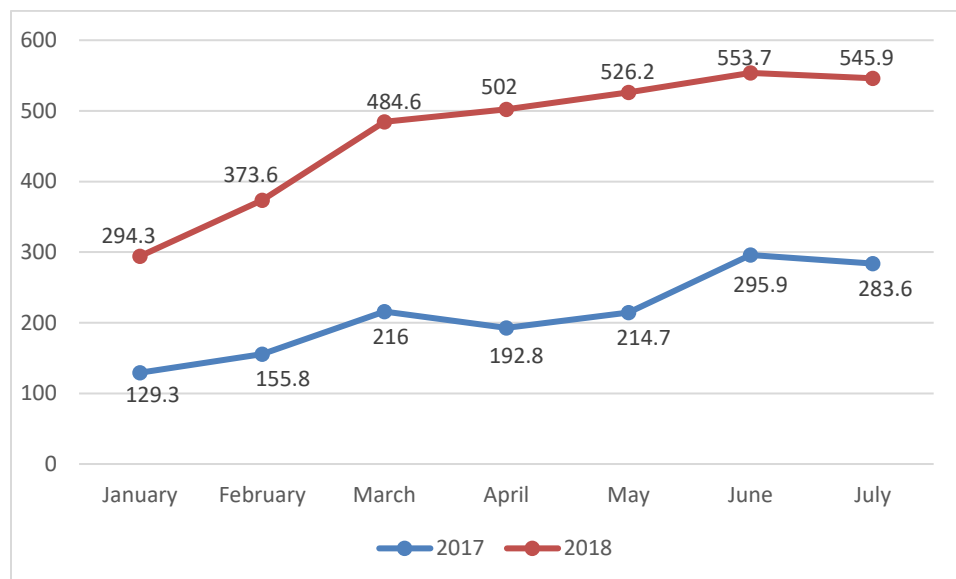
⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ Ibid.

Processing and issuing foreign passports for Ukrainian nationals (thousand pcs, January-July 2017, 2018)⁸²:



From January to July 2018, 3,280,260 foreign passports for Ukrainian nationals had been processed and issued. Number of processed and issued foreign passports for Ukrainian nationals had been increasing since the beginning of the year, but reduced in July 2018 compared to June 2018⁸³.

In July, the State Migration Service announced elimination of queues for the foreign passports. In August, the SMS published information showing that since the date when the passports of the Ukrainian nationals with the contactless electronic chip (since January 2015 till August 2018) about 9.5 million of biometric documents had been processed in Ukraine⁸⁴. At the same time, as of June 2018, there are over 280 thousand persons who had paid for processing of a foreign passport, passed a registration procedure but had failed to arrive at the SMS offices on time to obtain it.

Emigration risks

Expansion of the list of the countries with developed economies which Ukrainian nationals may visit on a visa-free basis, increase in the number of the Ukrainian nationals' foreign travels by 5%, decline in the number of the permits for Ukrainian nationals' departure abroad for the permanent residence, and increase in the number of the Ukrainian nationals who returned to Ukraine, enable to assess the level of emigration risks as disturbing.

⁸² Ibid.

⁸³ Ibid.

⁸⁴ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/135-tisyach-bukovincziv-ne-zabrali-vchasno-gotovi-zakordonna-pasporti.html>

2.6. Labour migration and money remittances to and from Ukraine

As of July 2018, 9,286 FSPs were registered in Ukraine for the purpose of employment, which is by 1% (93 persons) greater than in June 2018⁸⁵.

Data on the FSPs who reside in Ukraine for the purpose of employment (January-July 2018)⁸⁶:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
FSPs who temporarily reside in Ukraine for the purpose of employment (as of the moment, persons)	8,372	8,444	8,606	8,802	8,857	9,193	9,286	9,286
Temporary residence permits with the purpose of employment issued (over the period, pieces)	358	399	456	502	526	654	830	3,725
Temporary residence permits with for the purpose of employment extended (over the period, pieces)	219	287	360	256	337	73	19	1,551

As of June 2018, the majority of the FSPs who resided in Ukraine for the purpose of employment were the nationals of Turkey (1,576), Russia (1,144), Belarus (573), China (495), Azerbaijan (477), USA (417) and Israel (321). The majority of those FSPs were registered in Kyiv (49.6%), in Kyiv oblast, (14.3%), in Odesa oblast (6.5%), and in Lviv oblast (6.1%)⁸⁷.

The Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine updates the list of the entities having a licence for providing agency services in the sphere of employment on a regular basis, indicating a country of employment, and specialisations⁸⁸. As of 1 September, 1,649 undertakings had such a licence⁸⁹.

The National Bank of Poland published a report, according to which the immigrants working in Poland sent 3.4 billion zlotys (i.e. over USD 920 million USD) in the 1st quarter 2018, which is 700 million zlotys greater than the previous year; 86% of the above funds (i.e. 2.9 billion zlotys) were sent to Ukraine. In most cases, those funds are sent by the Ukrainians who work in Poland on the temporary basis. In the previous year, the amount of their transfers was 2.4 billion zlotys⁹⁰.

Labour migration risks

Moderate decline in the numbers of working-age population of Ukraine, growth of average wages over the reference period faster than the consumer price index, moderate increase in the number of unemployed working-age population and moderate increase of unemployment, moderate growth of wage arrears, and stability of the balance between wage arrears and wage pool, slow growth of the number of FSPs who work in Ukraine on the temporary basis, make it possible to assess the level of the labour migration risks as disturbing.

⁸⁵ According to the data received from the State Migration Service of Ukraine on request.

⁸⁶ Ibid.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/content/perelik-subektiv-yaki-mayut-licenziyu-z-poserednictva-u-pracevlashtuvanni-za-kordonom.html>

⁸⁹ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/files/licenzuvanna/p0309.xls>

⁹⁰ https://www.nbp.pl/publikacje/bilans_platniczy/bilans_platniczy2018_1.pdf?v=2

2.7. Educational migration to and from Ukraine

As of July 2018, 51,495 FSPs were registered in Ukraine for the purpose of studying, which is 2,738 persons less than in June 2018. Educational migrants are registered at the biggest educational centres of Ukraine: Kharkiv oblast (28.1%), Kyiv (17.1%), Odesa oblast (12.3%), and Dnipropetrovsk oblast (7.6%)⁹¹.

Data on the FSPs who reside in Ukraine with the purpose of studying (persons, January-July 2018)⁹²:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
FSPs who temporarily reside in Ukraine with the purpose of studying (as of the moment, persons)	53,547	53,746	54,802	55,097	55,131	54,233	51,495	51,495
Temporary residence permits for the purpose of studying processed (over a period, pieces)	3,307	1,458	1,377	991	665	818	1,158	9,774
Temporary residence permits for the purpose of studying extended (over a period, pieces)	724	631	650	469	558	300	70	3,402

Top ten countries of origin of the migrants who enter Ukraine with the purpose of studying, have somewhat changed since the previous month (with Uzbekistan in the top ten now): India (10,561), Morocco (5,395), Nigeria (3,122), Turkmenistan (2,925), Egypt (2,590), Turkey (2,483), Jordan (2,047), Azerbaijan (1,887), Uzbekistan (1,844), China (1,842). The number of students from the EU member states is very limited: from one from Luxembourg to 59 students from Germany. Poland is an exception: 501 Polish nationals of those who reside in Ukraine, have come here to study⁹³.

2.8. Irregular migration

FSPs apprehended for illegal border crossing (persons, January-July 2018)⁹⁴:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total	
Total	117	79	84	134	198	160	246	1,018	
Part of the border with	with Poland	24	29	30	18	56	44	73	274
	with Slovakia	24	4	0	22	46	48	63	207
	with Hungary	16	1	14	3	20	4	11	69
	with Romania	0	0	0	1	0	10	21	32
	with Moldova	37	31	30	64	43	29	37	271
	with Russia	9	12	7	22	20	10	33	113
	with Belarus	4	1	1	4	9	6	5	30
	by sea or by air	3	1	2	0	4	9	3	22

⁹¹ According to the data received from the State Migration Service of Ukraine on request.

⁹² Ibid.

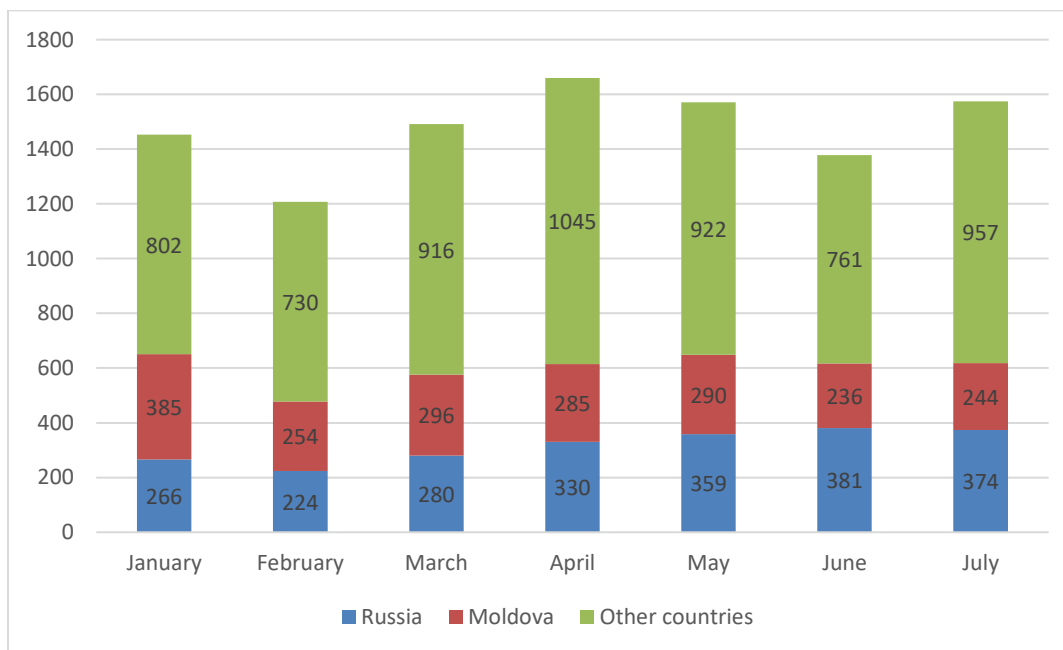
⁹³ Ibid.

⁹⁴ According to the data received from the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine on request.

Like in the previous month, it is mainly Vietnamese nationals apprehended at the Slovak part of the border (38 out of 246 FSPs). At the same time, 2,615 Ukrainian nationals were apprehended in July for illegal border crossing. These are mainly the persons who have crossed the border with Russia not through the official border-crossing points, and returned to Ukraine through the official ones.

In July 2018, the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine apprehended for different violations predominantly the nationals of Moldova (492), Russia (333), Hungary (264), Azerbaijan (223), Turkey (194), Georgia (142), Romania (112), Belarus (106), Israel (105), Uzbekistan (90), Turkmenistan (84), USA (82), Armenia (75), China (57), India (51), Poland (50) and Vietnam (47)⁹⁵. In most cases, FSPs were apprehended for violation of the rules for foreigners' stay in Ukraine.

Number of FSPs denied entry to Ukraine, by top countries of their citizenship (January-July 2018)⁹⁶:



Despite the fact that the Russian nationals (compared to Belarusian and Moldovan nationals) less often cross the border, they are pretty often denied entry to Ukraine — mainly because of unconfirmed purpose of travel (42.5% cases in July 2018), invalidity of documents (24.9% in July 2018), restrictions as to entry/exit (19% in July 2018), and failure to comply with the time limits set for the period of registration (8.6% in July 2018)⁹⁷.

Irregular migrants⁹⁸ detected and brought to responsibility (January-July 2018)⁹⁹:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Irregular migrants detected	419	807	1,296	1,062	610	612	618	5,424
Held administratively liable	406	795	1,288	1,033	595	608	588	5,313

⁹⁵ Ibid.

⁹⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷ Ibid.

⁹⁸ The term 'irregular migrant' shall be used in this monitoring report to indicate an 'illegal migrant' in the meaning used in the legislation of Ukraine, reporting of the public authorities and in their publications, as being in conformity with the practices of the International Organization for Migration.

⁹⁹ According to the data received from the State Migration Service of Ukraine on request.

Decisions on forced return taken	by territorial bodies	401	738	1,246	1,018	589	595	574	5,160
	by courts	25	53	82	59	26	33	50	332
Decisions on detention taken, with subsequent placement of a person to the Foreigner Temporary Detention Facility		20	41	72	42	14	25	50	264

Totally, over the period from January to July 2018, the State Migration Service of Ukraine had detected 5,424 irregular migrants, of whom 3,748 were males and 1,676 were females. 5,313 irregular migrants had been held administratively liable under part 1 of Article 203 of the Code of Ukraine on Administrative Offences “Breach by the foreign nationals and stateless persons of the rules of stay in and transit through Ukraine” over the period from January to July 2018. Of these, 20.8% were the nationals of Russia, 16.9% – the nationals of Azerbaijan, 8% – the nationals of Moldova, 7.7% – the nationals of Georgia, 7.2% – the nationals of Armenia, and 7% – the nationals of Uzbekistan. Most of the migrants identified (98.5%) evaded departure from Ukraine upon expiry of the relevant period of stay¹⁰⁰.

According to the monthly monitoring over the period from January to June 2018 by the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, Frontex, Ukrainians 44 times attempted to illegally cross the border with the European Union, which is 40 attempts less than over the same period in 2017¹⁰¹.

The table below shows the statistics of offences investigated under Article 332 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine “Illegal transfer of persons across the State Border of Ukraine”.

Offences investigated under Article 332 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine “Illegal transfer of persons across the State Border of Ukraine” (January-July 2018)¹⁰²:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Criminal offences registered	25	22	27	34	29	20	31	188
Criminal offences in whose respect a notice of suspicion has been presented to the persons	3	6	6	26	6	5	10	62
Criminal offences where the cases (with an indictment) have been referred to the court	1	4	1	6	22	6	1	41

Therefore, as of July 2018, the number of cases referred to the courts was 21.8% of the overall number of criminal offences committed over that period (from among those registered in the Unified Register of Pre-trial Investigations). In 2017, that percentage was 20.1%, in 2016 – 18.6%, in 2015 – 31.6%, in 2014 – 44.5%, and in 2013 – 38.6%.

Irregular migration risks

Increase in the number of FSPs detained for illegal border crossing, existence of the irregular migration routes to/from Ukraine, decline by 3.3% in the number of detected irregular migrants, unchanged number of detected cases of human trafficking, decline in numbers of victims of human trafficking, and unchanged number of persons handed over by the territorial bodies for the purpose of readmission – make it possible to assess the level of unregulated migration risks as disturbing.

¹⁰⁰ Ibid.

¹⁰¹ <https://frontex.europa.eu/along-eu-borders/migratory-map/>

¹⁰² https://www.gp.gov.ua/ua/stst2011.html?dir_id=113653&libid=100820#

2.9. People seeking international protection

As of 1 July 2018, there were 2,339 refugees and 674 persons in need of complementary protection registered in Ukraine.

People seeking international protection (January-July 2018)¹⁰³:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total ¹⁰⁴
Number of persons who applied for a status of a refugee or a person in need of complementary protection	64	60	65	44	72	46	103	454
Number of detected unaccompanied children who applied for a status of a refugee or a person in need of complementary protection	3	3	4	7	8	9	19	53
Decisions on recognition as a refugee taken¹⁰⁵	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
Decisions on recognition as a person in need of complementary protection taken¹⁰⁶	0	2	12	5	2	6	6	33
Decisions of refusal of granting protection in Ukraine taken¹⁰⁷	0	17	18	19	21	25	12	112

Risks relating to persons seeking international protection

Increase in the number of persons who have applied to the bodies of the SMS for a status of a refugee or a person in need of complementary protection, moderate increase in the number of the FSPs who have been granted protection in Ukraine, and increase in refusals to grant protection make it possible to assess the level of risks related to international protection seekers as disturbing.

2.10. Internal forced migration and internally displaced persons

As of 27 August 2018, according to the data provided by subdivisions of social protection authorities subordinated to oblast administrations and Kyiv City State Administration, 1,518,283 resettlers from the occupied territories of Donbas and the AR of Crimea had been registered, which is 0.1% greater than in the end of July¹⁰⁸. For more statistics on the internally displaced persons, please, see materials published by the UNHCR¹⁰⁹.

¹⁰³ According to the data received from the State Migration Service of Ukraine on request.

¹⁰⁴ Data may subsequently be refined.

¹⁰⁵ Data for July: <https://dmsu.gov.ua/assets/files/statistic/week/ref-03-08-2018.pdf>

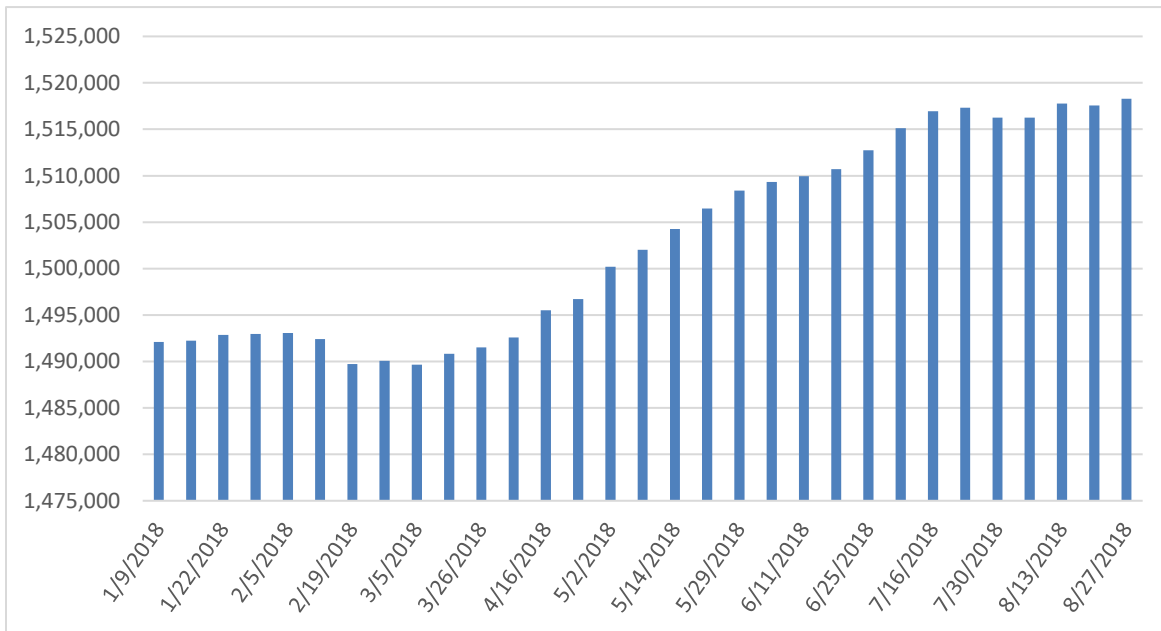
¹⁰⁶ Ibid.

¹⁰⁷ Ibid.

¹⁰⁸ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/news/15786.html>

¹⁰⁹ <https://bit.ly/2CZaLzr>

Number of registered resettlers (persons, January-August 2018)¹¹⁰:



Internal migration risks

Continuous fire assaults in the JFO zone, moderate increase in the number of the internally displaced persons, and growth of internal migration make it possible to assess the level of internal migration risks as disturbing.

2.11. Trafficking in human beings

The table below shows the statistics of offences investigated under Article 149 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine “Human trafficking and other illegal agreements regarding transfer of persons”¹¹¹:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Criminal offences registered in the reporting period	51	28	29	22	28	18	18	194
Criminal offences where a notice of suspicion has been presented to the persons	19	16	18	12	13	14	9	101
Criminal offences where the cases (with an indictment) have been referred to the court	7	4	7	3	20	15	1	57

¹¹⁰ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/timeline/Novini.html>

¹¹¹ https://www.gp.gov.ua/ua/stst2011.html?dir_id=113277&libid=100820&c=edit&_c=fo#



3. MIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT

3.1. Migration policy and legislation of Ukraine, court practice

Detailed list of the regulatory acts which entered into force in August, and of the legislative initiatives published in August, and their short summary, are available at the IOM official website¹¹². UNHCR has published legislative monitoring report for July 2018 concerning the internally displaced persons¹¹³.

State Migration Policy Strategy of Ukraine for the period up to 2025 adopted on 12 July 2017¹¹⁴ is transforming into practical steps. On 29 August, 2018-2021 Action Plan, describing the first stage of the Strategy implementation, entered into force¹¹⁵. During the above period, it is planned to develop a systemic approach to migration processes management, create a proper information support and bring domestic legislation in line with the international standards.

In August, the Government approved the Action Plan on implementation of the Concept of e-governance development in Ukraine¹¹⁶ which provides for sectoral programme for IT development of the MIA and central executive authorities' systems, whose activities are directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine through the Minister of Internal Affairs. According to the Action Plan, development of the e-governance involves linking information on a person in the state and unified registers, other state databases, to a common identifier — a unique entry number in the Unified State Demographic Register administrated by the SMS. In order to make functioning of the system of the diplomatic service more effective and prompt, it is planned to automate provision of consular services by means of introduction of the system "E-Consul" by 2020.

The Government works on the migration policy in the global context. The Cabinet of Ministers, at its meeting on 21 August, considered the draft ordinances of the President of Ukraine "On the delegation of Ukraine to participate in the negotiations under the aegis of the UNO concerning the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration" and "On the delegation of Ukraine to participate in the negotiations under the aegis of the UNO concerning drafting the Global compact on refugees"¹¹⁷. Work on a compact started in September 2016, when the UN General Assembly passed New York Declaration which launched a process of negotiations on the text of the above compact, which was finally agreed on 13 July 2018. The Intergovernmental Conference, during which the compact will be signed by the representatives of the countries, is planned to take place in Marrakech on 10 and 11 December¹¹⁸.

The policy in respect of the persons who illegally visit temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, remains unchanged. Since the beginning of the year, the SBGS officials had processed reports on breach of the procedure of entry to the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine in respect

¹¹² http://iom.org.ua/sites/default/files/lm_august_2018_ukr.pdf

¹¹³ <http://www.unhcr.org/ua/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2018/08/2018-07-Legislative-Update-final-UA.pdf>

¹¹⁴ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/482-2017-%D1%80>

¹¹⁵ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-zatverdzhennya-planu-zahodiv-na-20182021-roki-shchodo->

¹¹⁶ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/617-2018-%D1%80>

¹¹⁷ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/meetings/zasidannya-kabinetu-ministriv-ukrayini-21-08-2018>

¹¹⁸ <http://www.un.org/en/conf/migration/>



of 600 persons¹¹⁹, and had taken decisions on 3-year ban to enter Ukraine for illegal border crossing through closed BCPs in respect of 740 foreigners¹²⁰. On 30 August, officers of Kharkiv Border Detachment prevented entry of the Russian diplomat banned from entering Ukraine until 2023; the latter planned to enter Ukraine through “Kharkiv Pasazhyrskyi” checkpoint by train Moscow-Kharkiv¹²¹.

Leadership of the agencies responsible for the migration policy, continue to emphasise that the challenge of unregulated migration threatens state security. On 15 August, in Chernihiv region, First Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Serhii Yarovy, stated: “The results of the preventive action “Migrant” have shown that the migrant problem in our country is acute. Mass influx of illegal migrants is critical, and soon it will threatened national security”¹²². In her turn, Head of the Directorate for Foreigners and Stateless Persons Issues, Nataliia Naumenko, informed that the SMS was developing “emergency action plan in case of massive influx of illegal migrants into Ukraine”, which would be presented to the MIA leadership soon¹²³. First Deputy Head of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine Vasyl Servatiuk stated that the Russian side was violating international readmission agreements because they did not accept “illegal” migrants coming from their country. He also noted that “the SBGS realised their responsibility, and that all resources are committed to strengthening of eastern part of the border, because it is where the illegal migrants come from”¹²⁴. One of the main reasons for such tendencies, according to the officials, is strengthening by the European Union, and by individual states, of the restrictive policy towards migrants who start to consider different paths, including ones going through Ukraine¹²⁵.

Government continues implementation of the child protection policy. The amendments to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers adopted on 23 August have settled an issue of providing the orphaned children deprived of parental care, with housing at the children’s place of origin or residence, or at the place of registration of such children as internally displaced persons¹²⁶. The amendments made on 22 August settle certain aspects of issuance of a conclusion report as to confirmation of the child’s residence for the period of settling an issue of its temporary departure abroad¹²⁷. On 28 August, a revised procedure for taking children abroad entered into force¹²⁸. On 22 August, the list of the cases which make temporary departure abroad of a child accompanied by one of the parents possible without a notarised consent of the other parent was supplemented, and a list of the necessary relevant documents was attached¹²⁹. On 31 August, the amendments making it possible to settle an issue of the

¹¹⁹ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/740-inozemcyam-zaboroneno-vizd-v-ukrainu-cherez-nezakonne-vidviduvannya-timchasovo-okupovanih-teritoriy/>

¹²⁰ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/740-inozemcyam-zaboroneno-vizd-v-ukrainu-cherez-nezakonne-vidviduvannya-timchasovo-okupovanih-teritoriy/>

¹²¹ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/prikordonniki-ne-propustili-rosiyskogo-diplomata-yakomu-zaboroneno-vizd-do-2023-roku/>

¹²² <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/dms/sergij-yarovij-problema-nelegalnoj-migracij-zagrozhue-derzhavnij-bezpechi.html>

¹²³ http://mvs.gov.ua/ua/news/15109_Sergij_YArovij_Problema_nelegalnoj_migracii_zagrozhu_derzhavnij_bezpe_ci_FOTO_VIDEO_.htm

¹²⁴ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/news/sergij-yarovij-problema-nelegalnoyi-migraciyi-zagrozhuje-derzhavnij-bezpechi>

¹²⁵ https://dt.ua/UKRAINE/u-dpsu-poperedzhayut-pro-navalu-nelegalnih-migrantiv-v-ukrayini-pislya-zakrittya-yes-282685_.html

¹²⁶ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro--do-punktu-64-poryadku-provazhennya-organami-opiki-ta-pikluvannya-diyalnosti-povyazanoi-iz-zahistom-prav-ditini>

¹²⁷ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/620-2018-n>

¹²⁸ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/v-ukraini-udoskonaleno-poryadok-vivezennya-ditey-za-kordon/>

¹²⁹ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/619-2018-n>



child's departure abroad for rest and recuperation within an organised group, provided there is a notarised consent of one of the parents, entered into force¹³⁰.

On 28 August, amendments to the Procedure for completion, issuance, exchange, cancellation, submission, withdrawal, return to the State, invalidation and destruction of a temporary residence permit, entered into force¹³¹. From now on, the foreigners and stateless persons, who, in accordance with international treaties to which Ukraine is a party, are not bound to obtain a long-term visa to have a temporary residence permit processed, and who have obtained a permit for the foreigners' and stateless persons' labour service no later than within 30 days from the date of the last entry to the territory of Ukraine, have the right to submit documents for a temporary residence permit without a need to exit Ukraine, subject to meeting relevant time-limits.

Case law

On 7 August 2018, the court, having allowed in part the appeal of Serhii Mazur, a suspect in a pogrom at the Roma camp on the Lysa Hora hill in Kyiv, based on numerous positive references to the suspect, replaced a restrictive measure in the form of full-time house arrest with the house arrest during night-time¹³².

The appeal by the person who practices Islam, for invalidation of the refusal on the part of SMS to accept an application for replacement of the passport and to bind the SMS to make a new photograph of the above person wearing hijab for the passport, was dismissed. The court, aligning its position with the decision of the Higher Administrative Court of Ukraine of 2013¹³³, noted that digitised image of a person's face, without a headwear, is an integral element of a passport which helps to identify a person by visual features¹³⁴.

On 4 July, the Supreme Court of Ukraine delivered a judgement on issuance of a permit for a child's temporary travel abroad without the consent of one of the parents. The principle of ensuring the child's best interests was recognised as taking precedence over the principle of equality of parental rights in respect of a child. The court noted that in absence of the consent of one of the parents the permit may be issued based on the court decision for a certain period of time with indication of the beginning and the end thereof. A proper attention must be paid to a child's opinion, account taken of the latter's age and maturity¹³⁵.

Since during the pre-trial investigation into abuse of powers by former high officials entailing unlawful detention of archbishop Oleksandr (Drabinko), the pre-trial investigation called in question of availability of an original Decree of the President on granting citizenship, with the President's original signature, in the SMS's case-file on granting citizenship to the people's deputy Vadym Novynskyi, and since there was a need to study authenticity of Novynskyi's signatures and inscriptions on the documents that had served as the ground for granting citizenship to him, the Pechersk district court of Kyiv authorised the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine to seize the materials of the case-file for subsequent checks¹³⁶.

¹³⁰ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro--6-poryadku-organizaciyi-viyizdu-ditej-za-kordon-na-vidpochinok-ta-ozdorovlennya>

¹³¹ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/651-2018-n>

¹³² <http://reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75891790>

¹³³ <http://reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/33799533>

¹³⁴ <http://reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75929802>

¹³⁵ <http://www.reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75266002>

¹³⁶ <http://www.reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75605544>



Odesa Administrative Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the first-instance court and found that the fact that the SMS had, based on the results of internal investigation, taken a conclusion concerning the grounds for processing of a passport of the Ukrainian citizen after 13 years following issuance thereof, was interference with the person's private life. The court noted that the SMS had failed to substantiate lawfulness of the decision on invalidation and seizure and subsequent destruction of the passport of the Ukrainian citizen, and stated that the above decision of the SMS may result in the person, who refused the passport of the Republic of Moldova 13 years ago, actually becoming a stateless person¹³⁷.

On 1 August, the Supreme Court of Ukraine dismissed the SMS's appeal in cassation in the case involving invalidation of the blank passport of the Ukrainian citizen belonging to the native-born Palestinian who obtained such passport in 2012 in Simferopol. The court substantiated its decision by the fact that the Guidelines on completion, registration, transfer and destruction of the blanks of strictly accountable documents in the SMS of Ukraine as approved by the order of SMS of Ukraine of 18 July 2012 No. 153 on which the SMS relied, had not been registered with the Ministry of Justice, and therefore, was not a legally-binding document but rather the SMS's internal document instead¹³⁸.

The ECHR website published its press release on a new inter-State application brought by Ukraine against Russia before the ECHR¹³⁹. The application concerns Ukrainian nationals arrested and prosecuted by the Russian Federation on charges of membership of organisations banned by Russian law, incitement to hatred or violence, war crimes, espionage and terrorism.

3.2. Allocation and distribution of resources, infrastructure developments

The Ukrainian ambassador to the USA expressed his bafflement concerning a large-scale purchase of helicopters from the French company *Airbus Helicopters*, which are planned to be used, *inter alia*, in securing guarding of the state border. He thinks that when the state aims at rearmament and has limited funds, then it has to prioritise, foresee responses of the other partners and keep balance. In particular, the USA which provides 90% of military assistance raises the question, why assistance to Ukraine should be non-refundable¹⁴⁰. In its explanation, the MIA emphasised that it was an intergovernmental civil law contract, and that the helicopters were needed, first of all, for MIA ambulance, rescue, observatory civil missions¹⁴¹.

On 29 August, amendments to the action plan on the technical equipment of the state border between Ukraine and Russia and Ukraine and Moldova, and of the territories adjacent to the areas of the Anti-Terrorist Operation and the Autonomous Republic of Crimea entered into force. The amendments are introduced in connection with completion of the Anti-Terrorist Operation, account taken of the real rates of performance of works in 2015-2017; the validity period was extended till 2021¹⁴². During a working trip to Sumy and Kharkiv oblasts, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, Vadym Troian, noted that equipment of Kharkiv part of the border would be completed as soon as this year: "In Kharkiv oblast, length of the border is 270 kilometres, of which 220 have been already equipped. Sumy part of the

¹³⁷ <http://reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75957354>

¹³⁸ <http://www.reyestr.court.gov.ua/Review/75678535>

¹³⁹ <http://hudoc.echr.coe.int/eng-press?i=003-6172867-7998333>

¹⁴⁰ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/interview/2018/08/31/7086255/>

¹⁴¹ <http://mvs.gov.ua/ua/news/15328> MVS Ukraini Vertolitniy kontrakt iz Airbus Helicopters vigidniy Ukraini MVS prodovzhu robotu iz Franciyu.htm

¹⁴² <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-vnesennya-zmin-do-rozporядzhennya-kabinetu-ministriv-ukrayini-vid-14-travnja-2015-r-439>



border would be the next phase of equipment of the Ukrainian-Russian border. Presently, this process is at the stage of coordination with the local authorities”¹⁴³.

In the end of August, the amendments to the Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Poland on credit arrangement in accordance with the conditions of the related assistance¹⁴⁴, which will make it possible to finance the projects related to construction, reconstruction and major repairs of motorways in the western region with the view of further proper linking them to the motorways of the Republic of Poland, development of the subdivisions of the border guard, border road infrastructure, and equipment of the checkpoints at the border between Ukraine and Poland, to be funded under the preferential credit in the amount of EUR 100 million. Those amendments provide for extension of the time-limits for concluding contracts with Polish companies for the works and provision of services, until 31 December 2019.

In August, certain complications emerged with operation of the entry-exit checkpoint Maiorsk. On 9 August, because of the fire attack of the border guard position, passage across in this part of the demarcation line was closed for two hours. As the result of a fire attack, an armoured vehicle “Cougar” and one of the shelters were damaged. There were no victims among the servicemen and civilians¹⁴⁵. However, on 23 August, another fire attack with the use of a sniper rifle was reported, with one of the module structures used for registration of individuals damaged as the result. From 24 to 27 August, passage of individuals and motor vehicles across the demarcation line at the above entry-exit checkpoint was temporarily suspended¹⁴⁶.

In August, via the web-portal *prozorro.gov.ua*, the State Migration Service of Ukraine completed tenders it had earlier announced, for construction of service housing¹⁴⁷ and design works on construction of communication lines of the SMS transportation network. The SMS also announced tenders for services on organisation of forced expulsion from Ukraine of the irregular migrants¹⁴⁸. During August, tenders for setting up of some integrated information security systems were cancelled, and particularly for: the Unified information and analytical migration processes management system¹⁴⁹, software and hardware package “Register of Territorial Communities”¹⁵⁰ and the Unified State Demographic Register¹⁵¹.

Services involving processing of documents are improving, and the number of venues where they can be obtained is increasing. As from 10 August, territorial subdivisions of the SMS Department in Sumy oblast have been connected to the service “e-queue”; in order to use the services on processing of the passport of the Ukrainian citizen and foreign passport of the Ukrainian citizen at the raion subdivisions of Sumy regional department, it is sufficient to check in the e-queue by selecting a convenient time and a date for visiting the relevant office¹⁵². In accordance with the Action Plan for implementation of the State

¹⁴³ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/vadim-troyan-pobuvav-u-pidrozdilah-shidnogo-regionalnogo-upravlinnya-derzhprikordonsluzhbi/>

¹⁴⁴ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-pidpisannya-protokolu-mizh-urya>

¹⁴⁵ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/teroristi-vidkrili-vogon-u-napryamku-kontrolnogo-posta-mayorsk/>

¹⁴⁶ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/u-kpvy-mayorske-vidnovlyatsya-propuskni-operacii/>

¹⁴⁷ <https://www.dzo.com.ua/tenders/2712780>

¹⁴⁸ <https://prozorro.gov.ua/tender/UA-2018-08-23-000326-b>

¹⁴⁹ <https://www.dzo.com.ua/tenders/2607936>

¹⁵⁰ <https://www.dzo.com.ua/tenders/2607908>

¹⁵¹ <https://www.dzo.com.ua/tenders/2607935>

¹⁵² <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/onlajn%EF%BC%8Dservis-elektronna-cherha-vidteper-dostupnij-dlya-meshkancziv-usix-rajoniv-sumskoj-oblasti.html>



Migration Policy Strategy a service “Electronic queue” must have been established in all the SMS’s territorial bodies and territorial subdivisions by the end of 2018¹⁵³.

On 14 August, in Bukovyna an official place for processing and issuance of a passport of the Ukrainian citizen for the first time and of a foreign passport was opened as part of the Centre for Provision of Administrative Service (CPAS) a in the village territorial community ¹⁵⁴. On 21 August, in Nemyriv, Vinnytsia oblast, a workstation for processing and issuance of passports of the Ukrainian citizen and of foreign passports was opened in the local CPAS¹⁵⁵. On 1 August, Fastiv territorial subdivision of the SMS (Kyiv region) moved to a new location and will accept people in a more comfortable place¹⁵⁶.

On 3 August, in Donetsk oblast, the tourist police began their operations; they will patrol river banks, riding bicycles and horses¹⁵⁷. On 18 August, under the operation “Migrant”, a mobile unit for inspection of motor vehicles using European number plates with the view to prevention of unregulated migration was established¹⁵⁸.

On 20 August, a honorary consulate of Ukraine opened in the Croatian city of Split ¹⁵⁹. New additional consulates are also to be opened in Wroclaw, Poland,¹⁶⁰ and in Edmonton, Canada¹⁶¹.

The situation of Ukrainians arrested in Greece and Italy for smuggling migrants remains complicated, so that the MFA announced that it would open the National centre for prevention of involvement of Ukrainian seamen in illegal activities abroad, which should become a preventive component of the crisis management¹⁶². In the beginning of August, the MFA informed that there were around 250 Ukrainian seamen detained in Italy and Greece¹⁶³.

On 31 July a new Regulation on the temporary reception centres for the refugees entered into force¹⁶⁴. It better addresses the issue of stay in the temporary reception centres of the persons who applied for a refugee status or a status of the persons in need of complementary protection, in whose respect a decision was taken to process documents for settlement of an issue on recognising them as refugees or as the persons in need of complementary protection, and who have been recognised as refugees or as the persons in need of complementary protection.

According to the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories, 2,673 calls were received via the helpline for the IDPs, with the total number of requests amounting to 3,468. Requests received from the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts amounted to 23.2% of the total number

¹⁵³ <https://www.kmu.gov.ua/ua/npas/pro-zatverdzhennya-planu-zahodiv-na-20182021-roki-shchodo->

¹⁵⁴ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/na-bukovini-vidkrito-pershu-robochu-stancziyu-na-bazi-cznapu-silskoj-teritorialnoj-gromadi.html>

¹⁵⁵ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-misti-nemiriv-vidkrito-cznap-z-nadannya-poslug-po-linij-migracijnoj-sluzhbi.html>

¹⁵⁶ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/vidkrittya-novogo-primishhennya-fastivskogo-rv.html>

¹⁵⁷ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/novini-z-regioniv-ta-in-sajtiv/na-donechchini-zapraczyuvala-turistichna-policziya-priberezhni-rajoni-patruyuvatimut-na-bajkax-velosipedax-ta-konyax/>

¹⁵⁸ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-ramkax-operacij-migrant-na-chernigivshhini-organizovano-mobilnij-punkt-dlya-provedennya-perevirok-na-avtoshlyax-oblasti.html>

¹⁵⁹ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/20/7085828/>

¹⁶⁰ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/27/7086092/>

¹⁶¹ <https://ua.interfax.com.ua/news/political/527864.html>

¹⁶² <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/13/7085554/>

¹⁶³ <https://ampua.org/novyny/v-grecii-ta-italii-zareshtovano-250-ukra/>

¹⁶⁴ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0788-18>



of requests. The majority of people were concerned about payment of pensions and access to social benefits, processing documents for the IDPs, procedure of crossing of the demarcation line etc¹⁶⁵.

The important focus area is providing internally displaced persons with housing. On 31 July, in Kharkiv oblast, in the village of Bohodukhiv, 30 IDPs obtained free accommodation fitted out in a repaired dormitory¹⁶⁶. It became possible due to assistance of the German government; thanks to the grant, 97 resettlers had already obtained public welfare homes, and in the coming months, another 650 IDPs will obtain accommodation in Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts.

3.3. Organizational and managerial changes

On 22 August, Natalia Naumenko was appointed First Deputy Head of the SMS of Ukraine¹⁶⁷. Before the above appointment, she held the position of Director of the SMS Department for Foreigners and Stateless Persons Issues.

During celebration of Ukraine's Independence Day, the SBGS's officials strengthened the state border and entry-exit checkpoints at the demarcation line in the JFO zone in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and at the administrative border with the temporarily occupied AR of Crimea, with additional border patrol units. In order to prevent provocations, the border guards were in continuous communication with the National Police, National Guard, State Emergency Service of Ukraine and Security Service of Ukraine¹⁶⁸.

In the end of August, trade unions of the bodies subordinated to the Polish Ministry of Interior announces there might be problems with crossing of Ukrainian-Polish border. Failure of the negotiations on the labour conditions with the Ministry of Interior forced Polish border guards to take a decision to use elements of so called "Italian strike" for their protest, which may complicate movement across the borders; the trade unions, in particular, warned that there might be longer checks and queues¹⁶⁹.

On 10 August, the Procedure for individual reception of citizens by the SMS¹⁷⁰, which aims at improving the system of handling public petitions, was published for public hearings.

The SMS's territorial bodies continue to summarise the outcomes of their work: On 3 August, in Rivne oblast, migration service's work outcomes for the first half 2018 were summarised¹⁷¹.

During August, specialised exercises for the agencies responsible for the implementation of migration policy, took place. On 9 August, in Vinnytsia, the SMS representatives took part in a workshop "Prevention of and revealing corruption in public authorities", during which provisions of anti-corruption law of Ukraine were explained to the officers¹⁷². On 16 August, training exercise in the use of the Unified

¹⁶⁵ <http://mtot.gov.ua/garyacha-liniya-dlya-vpo-u-lypni-nadijshlo-2673-dzvinkiv/>

¹⁶⁶ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/news/15692.html>

¹⁶⁷ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/552-2018-p>

¹⁶⁸ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/derzhavniy-kordon-posileno-dodatkovimi-naryadami-pid-chas-svyatkuvannya-golovno-go-svyata-kraini-/>

¹⁶⁹ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/28/7086131/>

¹⁷⁰ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/diyalnist/konsultacziy-z-gromadskisty/gromadske-obgovorennya/proekt-nakazu-mvs-pro-zatverdzhennya-poryadku-organizacziy-ta-provedennya-osobistogo-prijomu-gromadyan-u-derzhavniy-migracziynij-sluzhbi-ukrajni.html>

¹⁷¹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/na-rivnenshini-pidbili-zagalni-pidsumki-roboti-migracziynoj-sluzhbi-za-i-pivrichchya-2018-roku.html>

¹⁷² <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/na-vinnichchini-vidbulisya-zanyattya-z-vivchennya-antikorupcziynogo-zakonodavstva.html>



information and analytical migration processes management system was held for the officers of the SMS's territorial bodies in Chernivtsi oblast¹⁷³.

In the premises of the Western regional department, learning and teaching training camp for the chiefs of state border guard units was held. The aim of the above training camp was arranging unified approaches to organisation and management of operations and official activities of subordinated state border guard bodies and units¹⁷⁴. 25 border guard inspectors upgraded their competences in identification of forged documents¹⁷⁵. Female representatives of the SBGS took part in a training session "Gender in security sector, and in particular, in law-enforcement bodies" organised with the support of an organisation UN Women in Ukraine for the members of the Ukrainian Association of Women in Law Enforcement¹⁷⁶.

Under a "New Face of the Border" project, since 1 August till 29 September, acceptance of the application forms for the 'Parkhomenkove' (Volyn oblast) and 'Kharkiv-Airport' border guard units has been going on at the State Border Guard Service. Registration is also open for the positions in the units 'Rava-Ruska', 'Krakivets' and separate BCP 'Kyiv'.¹⁷⁷ This year, 370 graduates of general educational institutions and servicemen under the contract with the SBGS (with 37 females among them) became the cadets of the National Academy of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine¹⁷⁸.

Fight against corruption inside public authorities is going on. On 31 August, the National Police and the State Border Guard of Ukraine exposed the officials of migration service in Odesa oblast involved in illegal legalisation of foreigners, who, in 2014–2015, made and issued forged passports of Ukrainian nationals to the foreigners¹⁷⁹. In August, the officers of the SSU Department in Lviv oblast took part in a special operation aiming at revealing of a criminal group whose members illegally smuggled foreigners to the EU member states; the group included a former and a present officials of the SMS¹⁸⁰.

On 17 August, the Procedure, which determines the mechanisms for the second-line border checks on the foreign nationals and stateless persons at the BCPs by the authorised officers of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, entered into force¹⁸¹. The second-line checks are to be performed based on the results of the risk analysis and assessment during the first-line border checks, where an officer has doubts as to compliance by a foreigner or a stateless persons with the requirements for entry to Ukraine.

On 10 August, the Guidance on the procedure of payment of military pay to the servicemen of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine was approved¹⁸².

¹⁷³ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-chernivczyax-navchalisya-pitanniam-gromadyanstva-ukrajini-ta-koristuvannya-eias-ump.html>

¹⁷⁴ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/na-bazi-pidrozdiliv-zahidnogo-regionalnogo-upravlinnya-proyshli-navchalno-metodichni-zbori-kerivnikiv-pidrozdiliv-ohoroni-derzhavnogo-kordonu/>

¹⁷⁵ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/inspektorskiy-sklad-derzhprikordonsluzhbi-pidvishchiv-kvalifikaciyu-u-viyavlenni-pidroblenih-dokumentiv/>

¹⁷⁶ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/dlya-predstavnic-pravoohoronnih-organiv-proyshov-trening-ender-v-sistemi-sektoru-bezpeki-zokrema-u-sistemi-pravoohoronnih-organiv/>

¹⁷⁷ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/nove-oblichchya-kordonu-triva-vidbir-u-prikordonna-pidrozdili-parhomenkove-ta-harkiv-avia/>

¹⁷⁸ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/pershiy-krok-do-zirok-dlya-370-kursantiv-i-kursu-rozpochalas-pochatkova-viyskova-pidgotovka/>

¹⁷⁹ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/korupczija/nacjonalna-policzija-ta-prikordonna-sluzhba-ukrajini-vikrila-posadovcziv-migracijnoji-sluzhbi-odeshini-u-nezakonnij-legalizaczi-inozemcziv/>

¹⁸⁰ <https://www.facebook.com/SBULviv/posts/1791742910861037>

¹⁸¹ <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0869-18>

¹⁸² <http://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0854-18>

3.4. Interagency cooperation

Organisation of work on countering irregular migration remains an important issue for the Ukrainian state authorities. From 26 July till 31 August, a series of preventive actions called “Migrant” had been carried out. In particular, in August information on detecting groups containing from 2 to 12 persons in Khmelnytskyi¹⁸³, Ivano-Frankivsk¹⁸⁴, Zaporizhzhia^{185,186}, Zakarpattia¹⁸⁷, Ternopil¹⁸⁸, Chernivtsi¹⁸⁹, Odesa¹⁹⁰ oblasts, in the cities of Poltava¹⁹¹ and Kyiv¹⁹² was communicated. The preliminary summary was made in Bukovyna¹⁹³, in the city of Kyiv¹⁹⁴, in Donetsk region¹⁹⁵, and in Kherson oblast¹⁹⁶.

Blocking the channels of smuggling of foreigners into Ukraine and other migration-specific offences is another priority objective. On 14 August, in Kyiv, the National Police officers arrested the organizers of smuggling of foreigners to the Schengen area¹⁹⁷. On 23 August, Odesa regional police blocked the international channel for trafficking Ukrainian women into sexual slavery¹⁹⁸. On 27 August, law enforcement authorities in Odesa oblast detected a criminal group which provided paid services to foreigners with the view to granting Ukrainian citizenship by means of sham marriage¹⁹⁹. On 27 August, the police arrested an organiser of “sex-tours” to Ukraine, who recruited minor girls²⁰⁰.

In Poltava oblast, several interagency meetings dedicated to provision of services by the SMS to the persons in conflict with law were held^{201,202}. On 2 August, a working meeting with the leadership of the

¹⁸³ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/na-teritorij-xmelnichchini-viyavleno-4-gromadyan-narodnoj-respubliki-bangladesh-pid-chas-zdijsnennya-profilaktichnix-zaxodiv-pid-umovnoyu-nazvoyu-migrant.html>

¹⁸⁴ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/za-ostannij-chas-na-prikarpatti-viyavleno-majzhe-chotiri-desyatki-nelegalnix-migrantiv.html>

¹⁸⁵ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/10-migrant.html>

¹⁸⁶ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/v-kurortnij-zoni-zaporizhchini-znovu-viyavili-nelegaliv.html>

¹⁸⁷ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/migrantiv-bez-dokumentiv-viyavili-na-prikordonnij-uzhgorodshhini.html>

¹⁸⁸ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-zakladi-gromadskogo-xarchuvannya-u-ternopoli-viyavili-dvox-nelegaliv.html>

¹⁸⁹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-chernivczyax-viyavleno-chotirox-porushnikov-migracijnogo-zakonodavstva-z-azerbajdzhanu.html>

¹⁹⁰ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/novini-z-regioniv-ta-in-sajtiv/pravooxoronczy-vikrili-nelegalnix-migrantiv-na-odnomu-iz-zavodiv-v-ovidipolskomu-rajoni/>

¹⁹¹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-poltavi-znovu-viyavleno-nelegaliv-z-bangladeshu.html>

¹⁹² <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/torgivlya-lyudmi/u-kijevi-policzejski-viyavili-u-xostelax-bilshe-10-nelegaliv/>

¹⁹³ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/na-bukovini-pidbili-poperedni-pidsumki-operacij-migrant.html>

¹⁹⁴ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/v-kievi-rozpochato-profilaktichni-zaxodi-operacij-migrant.html>;

<https://www.facebook.com/dmsukvg/photos/a.1813530602252968/218143345462679/?type=3&theater>

¹⁹⁵ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-doneczkomu-regioni-provodyatsya-czilovi-profilaktichni-zaxodi-pid-umovnoyu-nazvoyu-migrant.html>

¹⁹⁶ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/inozemczy-porushuyut-migracijne-zakonodavstvo-na-xersonshhini.html>

¹⁹⁷ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/torgivlya-lyudmi/policziya-kijeva-zatrimala-organizatoriv-nelegalnogo-perepravleniya-inozemcziv-do-krajn-shengenskoji-zoni/>

¹⁹⁸ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/torgivlya-lyudmi/policziya-odeshini-perekрила-mizhnarodnij-kanal-vivezennya-ukrajnok-u-seksualne-rabstvo/>

¹⁹⁹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/dms/na-odeshini-pravooxoronczy-perekрили-kanal-nezakonnogo-perepravleniya-inozemcziv-v-ukrajnu.html>

²⁰⁰ <https://www.npu.gov.ua/news/novini-z-regioniv-ta-in-sajtiv/u-dnipri-policziya-zatrimala-organizatora-seks-turiv-do-ukrajini-yakij-verbuvav-nepovnitnix-divchat/>

²⁰¹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/obgovorennya-shlyaxiv-vzaemodij-mizh-spivrobotnikami-probaczij-pa-praczivnikami-derzhavnoj-migracijnoj-sluzhbi-z-metoyu-nadannya-poslug-kompleksnoj-dopomogi-klientam-probaczij-vidpovidno-do-jx-potreb.html>



Department of Justice, dedicated to access to the State Register of Acts of Civil Status took place in the premises of the SMS Department in Rivne oblast²⁰³.

In the context of implementation of the Strategy of Protection and Inclusion of Roma Ethnic Minority in the Ukrainian Society for the period to 2020, a series of meetings took place in Donetsk oblast. First, representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, Pavlo Lycianskyi, and the Deputy Chair of an Inter-ministerial working group on the protection and integration of Roma into Ukrainian society, and Council of Europe project manager for national minorities' rights, Zola Kondur, took part in the meeting in the town of Vuhledar, dedicated to the rights of national minorities²⁰⁴, and then, in the city of Mariupol, they, together with the Chief of the SMS Main Department in Donetsk oblast, Yevhen Mykytenko, discussed general situation of Roma ethnic minority in Ukraine and the issues of registration of Roma people²⁰⁵.

In August, the Memorandum of cooperation between the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and the Republican Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre for the Consequences of Neurotraumas was signed. Its aim was to establish the unified interagency approach to rehabilitation of servicemen: ATO participants who suffered as the result of hostilities in the east of Ukraine²⁰⁶.

3.5. International cooperation

Ukraine continues its legal fight against the Russian Federation as regards the defence of Ukrainian citizens in international courts. On 10 August, Ukraine lodged a claim with the European Court of Human Rights against Russia because of violation of the rights of the Ukrainian political prisoners, where it described violations against 71 political prisoners²⁰⁷. Ukraine also filed five claims against Russia in relation with the Russian annexation of Crimea and conflict in Donbas: two cases relate to violation of human rights in Crimea, two cases relate to violations of human rights in Donbas, and one more case relates to moving children from the occupied territories to Russia²⁰⁸.

Hungary persists in its unfriendly policy in relation of Ukraine, deciding to establish a ministerial post with the responsibility for development of Zakarpattia oblast and for the programme for development of kindergartens of the Carpathian region²⁰⁹. The MFA expressed its protest against unfriendly statements and handed a note over to a Hungarian ambassador, requiring explanations, because the responsibility of the above commissioner included a part of sovereign territory of Ukraine²¹⁰. Ukraine also announced its readiness for more decisive action, up to entry ban for the Hungarian official²¹¹. In the end of August,

²⁰² <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/vidbulasya-robocha-zustrich-z-pitan-dokumentuvannya-pasportom-gromadyanina-ukrajni-zasudzhenix.html>

²⁰³ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/v-upravlinni-dms-ukrajni-v-rivnenskij-oblasti-vidbulasya-robocha-zustrich-z-kerivnicztvom-upravlinnya-yusticzij-po-pitannyax-dostupu-do-reestru-oderzhannya-vidomostej-z-draczs.html>

²⁰⁴ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-m-vugledar-vidbulas-narada-z-pitan-prav-naczionalnix-menshin.html>

²⁰⁵ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/region/u-m-mariupoli-obgovorili-problemi-naczionalnix-menshin-v-ukrajni.html>

²⁰⁶ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/prikordonniki-prohoditmut-reabilitaciyu-u-respublikanskomu-centri-likuvannya-ta-reabilitacii-naslidkiv-neyrotravmi-ministerstva-ohoroni-zdorovya-ukrajni/>

²⁰⁷ <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10156391613210498&set=a.10153407112890498.1073741828.743310497&type=3&theater>

²⁰⁸ <https://minjust.gov.ua/news/ministry/ivan-lischina-ukraina-gotue-shostiy-pozov-do-espl-proti-rosii>

²⁰⁹ <https://pershij.com.ua/uhorshchyna-stvoryla-posadu-uriadovoho-upovnovazhenoho-vidpovidalnoho-za-rozvytok-zakarpatskoi-oblasti/>

²¹⁰ <https://mfa.gov.ua/ua/press-center/news/66511-komentar-mzs-ukrajinishhodo-antiukrajinsykih-vislovyuvany-kerivnictva-ugorshhini>

²¹¹ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/3/7085175/>



Hungarian MFA announced that by way of accommodating Ukraine's request, Hungary was ready to change the title of the commissioner for Zakarpattia²¹².

Ukraine and Georgia are finalising an agreement on mutual travels: the Ukrainian ambassador to Georgia, Ihor Dolhov, informed on 28 August that Ukrainian agencies had already agreed the text of the draft agreement on mutual travels of Georgian and Ukrainian nationals based on domestic passports; the documents would be officially submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia²¹³.

On 30 August, a meeting between the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Lyudmyla Denisova, and the Italian Ambassador to Ukraine, Davide La Cecilia, took place. The latter informed that 108 Ukrainian nationals are now in Italian prisons for smuggling of migrants. However, some of them had been recognised as the victims of human trafficking, and five persons had already been set at liberty by court decisions²¹⁴. Lyudmyla Denisova informed that the MFA of Ukraine was working with the view to establish who exactly of the detained Ukrainians was a victim of human trafficking and that the relevant documents were on the way. At the same time, new arrests were taking place; in the end of August, two Ukrainians, who had shipped 44 Afghan migrants from Turkey, were arrested in Italy²¹⁵.

The Ukrainian Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Natalia Halibarenko, informed about the start of the dialogue on the visa issues with the United Kingdom. On the one hand, the British side acknowledges that there are certain problems in visa practices, but now, the case is only about remedying the problems rather than facilitation of visa requirements for Ukraine²¹⁶.

From 6 to 10 August, in the premises of the SBGS Administration, another event under the TWINNING project took place, which signalled completion of development of the National mechanism for assessment of the status of integrated border management in Ukraine, and the latter was presented to the SBGS leadership²¹⁷. With the organisational and financial assistance of the European Union Advisory Mission for assistance towards a sustainable reform of the civilian security sector (EUAM), a series of regional practical trainings dedicated to assessment of border vulnerability and risk profiling for the analysts of the state border guard units were held^{218,219}.

Head of the State Border Guard Service, Colonel General Petro Tsyhykal, visited Lithuania with a working visit. He met with the Commander of the State Border Guard Service under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior, General Renatas Požėla and familiarised himself with the state border guard system of the country. During the visit, Petro Tsyhykal noted that thanks to the existing cooperation with the Lithuanian colleagues, improvement of the operative capacity of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine took place, and that an integrated system of border management in Ukraine was introduced,

²¹² <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/31/7086313/>

²¹³ <https://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-politics/2526083-ukraina-i-gruzia-gotuut-ugodu-pro-vzaemni-poizdki-za-idkartkami-posol.html>

²¹⁴ <https://www.facebook.com/denisovaombudsman/photos/a.708811965858222/2124563917616346/?type=3&theater>

²¹⁵ http://www.ansa.it/english/news/politics/2018/08/29/ukrainian-migrant-traffickers-nabbed_017d4a8c-b78c-4980-acee-d24019c1a39c.html

²¹⁶ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/news/2018/08/28/7086116/>

²¹⁷ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/v-administracii-derzhprikordonsluzhbi-prezentovano-instrukciyu-shchodonacionalnogo-mehanizmu-ocinyuvannya-stanu-integrovanogo-upravlinnya-kordonami-v-ukraini/>

²¹⁸ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/na-odeshchini-eksperti-eubam-proveli-praktichniy-navchalniy-trening-dlya-analitikov-pidrozdiliv-ohoroni-derzhavnogo-kordonu/>

²¹⁹ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/prikordonni-analitiki-prodovzhuyut-implementaciyu-krashchih-vropeyskih-u-sferi-bezpeki-derzhavnogo-kordonu/>



together with the standards, models and best practices of the EU member states. Effectiveness of the TWINNING project was also emphasised²²⁰.

First Deputy Head of the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine Vasyl Servatiuk had a meeting with the new Head of Law Enforcement Section of the US Embassy to Ukraine, Stephanie Holmes, who replaced Christopher Smith. During the meeting, the sides discussed the status of joint projects for reformation of a mobile border unit “DOZOR”, “New Face of the Border” project, and cooperation towards improvement of anti-corruption management system.

In the end of August, an inception visit of the Ukrainian delegation, composed of the representatives of the SMS, the SBGS and the National Police to the Kingdom of the Netherlands under the IOM project “Support for Migration and Asylum Management in Ukraine” whose aim is familiarisation with the issues of using biometric identification and verification in the migration management process²²¹.

On 24 August, the officers of the SBGS had a meeting with the delegation of Toronto Regional Department of the Canada Border Services Agency, during which the sides outlined specific features of their activities and main tasks of the border guard agencies, and also discussed situation at the borders²²². On 26 August, the female representatives of the State Border Guard Service took part in work of the 56th International Association of Women Police Conference held in Calgary, Canada²²³.

Public authorities cooperate actively with the international organisations on the issues concerning IDPs. On 30 August, in the premises of the Ministry of Social Policy, a meeting between the specialists of the Directorate for Social Services and Integration and representatives of the UK Embassy and of the Danish Refugee Council took place; it was dedicated to the issues of registration and database of IDPs, and the database of the persons who had suffered from the armed aggression of the RF etc.²²⁴

3.6. Mass media coverage, researches, public opinion on the migration issues

Kyiv International Institute of Sociology published the report made under the project *Work on Digital Labour Platforms in Ukraine: Issues and Policy Perspectives*, where it was noted that in 2013-2017, Ukraine held the first position in Europe and the fourth position in the world in terms of work on the digital platforms, which was measured based on the amounts of financial flows and numbers of the tasks executed on those platforms; Ukraine also rated first in the world in terms of ‘IT freelance’²²⁵.

The labour migration was discussed at Radio Liberty^{226,227}, and on Espresso TV²²⁸. The material ‘How trade migration may result in the decline in population’ was prepared by the Hromadske TV²²⁹. Honorary President of Kyiv School of Economics, Tymofiy Mylovanov, speculated on the ways to stop labour migration for the edition ‘Liga. Finance’²³⁰. The material on the migration of the medical professionals

²²⁰ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/ochilniki-prikordonnih-sluzhb-ukraini-ta-litvi-obgovorili-pitannya-spivpraci/>

²²¹ <https://dmsu.gov.ua/news/dms/vizit-delegacij-ukrajni-do-korolivstva-niderlandi.html>

²²² <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/u-den-nezalezhnosti-delegaciya-derzhprikordonsluzhbi-ukraini-zustrilasya-z-predstavnikami-agencii-prikordonnoi-sluzhbi-kanadi/>

²²³ <https://dpsu.gov.ua/ua/news/predstavnici-derzhprikordonsluzhbi-ukraini-berut-uchast-v-56-shchorichnij-mizhnarodnij-konferencii-zhinok-pravoohoronnih-organiv/>

²²⁴ <https://www.msp.gov.ua/news/15820.html>

²²⁵ <https://www.kiis.com.ua/?lang=ukr&cat=reports&id=777&page=1>

²²⁶ <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/29415578.html>

²²⁷ <https://www.radiosvoboda.org/a/29415636.html>

²²⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zUK2AqBUSU>

²²⁹ <https://hromadske.ua/posts/iak-vyizd-ukraintsiv-na-zarobitky-vplyvaie-na-demohrafiu>

²³⁰ <https://finance.liga.net/ekonomika/opinion/ukraintsy-za-rubejom-kak-ostanovit-trudovuyu-migratsiyu>



was released by the editorial team of the BBC.Ukraine²³¹. ‘Novoie Vremia’ released the material about the Ukrainians who, due to variety of reasons, left Ukraine and now live and work in Poland²³². BBC.Ukraine published the material on the number of Ukrainians in the Czech Republic²³³.

Systemic view of migration policies in the world and in Ukraine was presented in a new monograph by Olena Malynovska *Migration Policy: A Global Context and Ukrainian Realities: Monograph*²³⁴.

Edition ‘Ukrayinska Pravda. Zhyttia’ released material with the clarification of the new rules on taking a child abroad²³⁵, and on subtleties regarding exits where one of the parents remains in Donbas or Crimea²³⁶. An opinion of the archaeologists regarding construction of the ‘Stina’ object (The Wall) on the border with Russia was asked by the journalists of Hromadske Radio²³⁷.

The edition ‘Novoie Vremia’ published an interview with the director of Ptukha Institute for Demography and Social Studies, Ela Libanova, majorly dedicated to a future census in Ukraine²³⁸. The edition ‘Den’ (The Day) collected expert opinions on the census²³⁹.

A journalist of the National Press-Club ‘Ukrainian Perspective’ released an interview with the Government Commissioner for Gender Policy, Kateryna Levchenko, where the issues of human trafficking were covered²⁴⁰.

‘Vostok SOS’ NGO published a July overview of violations of human rights in the occupied areas of Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts²⁴¹. The website of the UN Refugee Agency published a topical report *Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Ukraine*²⁴².

A material on gradual recovery of tourist sphere in Kyiv and growth of foreign tourism flows was prepared by the Internet-edition ‘Nash Kyiv’ (Our Kyiv)²⁴³ and by ‘Ukrayinska Pravda’²⁴⁴.

The edition ‘Yevrpoiska Pravda’ published the material on the exacerbation of relations between Ukraine and Hungary²⁴⁵, and considered possible ways to resolve the situation²⁴⁶. ‘Yevrpoiska Pravda’ explains why the Romanian diaspora opposes corruption²⁴⁷.

²³¹ <https://www.bbc.com/ukrainian/features-44889924>

²³² <https://magazine.nv.ua/journal/3224-journal-no-30/iskhod-v-polshu.html>

²³³ <https://www.bbc.com/ukrainian/features-45346887>

²³⁴ http://www.niss.gov.ua/content/articles/files/Migration_Politic_Print-fin-3178a.pdf

²³⁵ <https://life.pravda.com.ua/society/2018/07/12/232142/>

²³⁶ <https://life.pravda.com.ua/society/2018/08/2/232454/>

²³⁷ <https://hromadske.radio/podcasts/kyiv-donbas/budivnytvo-stiny-derzhprykordonsluzhba-mala-uzgodyty-z-arheologamy-predstavnyky-nanu>

²³⁸ <https://nv.ua/ukraine/events/perepis-na-planshetakh-direktor-instituta-demografii-rasskazala-kak-pereschitajut-naselenie-v-2020-m-hodu-2489173.html>

²³⁹ <https://day.kyiv.ua/uk/article/cuspilstvo/yak-robytymut-portret-naseleniya-ukrayiny>

²⁴⁰ <https://np.pl.ua/2018/08/genderna-nerivnist-odna-z-prychyn-torhivli-lyudmy-uryadova-upovnovazhena-z-pytan-gendernoi-polityky/#>

²⁴¹ <http://vostok-sos.org/prava-lyudyny-v-okupovanykh-donetskii-ta-luhanskii-oblastiakh-lypen-2018/>

²⁴² <http://www.unhcr.org/ua/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2018/08/2018-08-UNHCR-UKRAINE-Refugee-and-Asylum-Seekers-Update-FINAL-UA.pdf>

²⁴³ https://nashkiev.ua/novosti/otkouda-i-skolko-priezzhal-touristy-v-kyev-za-poslednie-polgoda.html?in_parent=novosti

²⁴⁴ <https://www.pravda.com.ua/news/2018/08/27/7190288/>

²⁴⁵ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/articles/2018/08/3/7085170/>

²⁴⁶ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/articles/2018/08/10/7085478/>

²⁴⁷ <https://www.eurointegration.com.ua/articles/2018/08/14/7085579/>