



### **IOM to continue supporting development of Ukrainian migration sphere**

10 October 2016 – Interfax

William Lacy Swing, the Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), stated at a meeting with Maksym Sokoliuk, the Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine, that IOM will continue to provide capacity building support in migration related issues. Mr. Swing pointed out the progress made first of all, bringing legislation and migrant accommodation centres in line with best international practices.

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### **Almost 1.7 million of IDPs registered in Ukraine**

12 October 2016 – Ukrinform

As of October 2016, the number of internally displaced persons in Ukraine has reached almost 1.7 million, including 236,000 children, Serhii Ustymenko, Deputy Social Policy Minister, informed during the parliamentary hearings on children rights in Ukraine.

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### **Visa-free regime not included in EU parliament's agenda in November**

31 October 2016 – Kyiv Post

Voting on the abolition of visa requirements for Ukrainian citizens has not been included into the draft agenda of the 21-24 November plenary sessions of the European Parliament. Earlier, Petro Poroshenko, the President of Ukraine, said he expected that the issue of granting visa-free regime to Ukraine can be voted by European MPs before the EU-Ukraine summit, which will take place on 24 November.

As reported on 5 September, the European Parliament Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs heard the report on the liberalization of the visa regime with Ukraine, and proposed to approve the proposal to include Ukraine in the list of countries with which the EU will introduce the visa-free travel regime. On 7 July, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of European Parliament voted to recommend to the European Parliament to abolish visa requirements for citizens of Ukraine, Georgia and Kosovo for short-term travel in the Schengen zone as soon as possible.

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### **European Commission reaffirms full support in fast introduction of visa-free regime with Ukraine**

18 October 2016 – UA Today

The European Commission has reaffirmed its full support in the swift introduction of a visa-free regime with Ukraine, while Kyiv reported progress in the implementation of reforms, underlying the fulfillment

of all the requirements set out in the Visa Liberalization Action Plan. This was reported by the [press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) after the Minister Ukraine's top diplomat Pavlo Klimkin had visited Brussels to meet the First Vice-President of the European Commission for the Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, Rule of Law and Charter of Fundamental Rights Frans Timmermans.

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## **EU Ambassador: Migration crisis in Europe has no direct implications for visa-free regime for Ukraine**

10 October 2016 – Interfax

New head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine, Ambassador Hugues Mingarelli stated that though the issue of the provision of the visa-free regime to Ukraine is not related to the migration problems in Europe, the latter create 'hostile environment' for the Ukrainian issue. Speaking at a briefing in Kyiv, Mr. Mingarelli said that currently the issue of migration is one of the most difficult ones that European politicians have faced in recent years. The EU ambassador hopes that Ukraine will soon receive a visa-free regime with the EU, but he pointed out that it was out of his competence to speak about any specific dates.

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## **Ukrainians consider Poland as the most popular destination country for labour migration**

24 October 2016 – Ukrinform

The respective agreement was signed by the governments of the two countries on 6 May, and approved by the Ukrainian Government on 8 September. It envisages free-of-charge registration of long-term visas, and should help intensify bilateral contacts in the social, economic, cultural, and humanitarian spheres.

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## **777 cases of human trafficking recorded in Ukraine this year**

13 October 2016 – Ukrinform

Since the beginning of 2016, international organizations have recorded 777 cases of human trafficking, Iryna Lutsenko, Ukrainian Parliament Member, announced at a press conference. She stressed that the Ukrainian national legislation in the field of preventing and combating trafficking in human beings is one of the best in Europe, but more efforts are needed to solve the problem.

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