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# IOM UKRAINE NEWSLETTER



Women and children displaced from Donetsk and Luhansk regions to the city of Mariupol (Eastern Ukraine) received heaters and other aid from IOM

## FROM EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS: IOM EXPANDS ASSISTANCE TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

REPORT ON PAGE 3

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MIGRATION  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL  
International Organization  
for Migration (IOM)  
Mission in Ukraine



## AUTHORS TEAM

## CONTENTS

## SPECIAL REPORT

From emergency response to long-term solutions: IOM expands assistance to displaced persons in Ukraine      **/// page 3**

## WHAT'S GOING ON

Invisible in Plain Sight: IOM's art installation raises awareness of human trafficking      **/// page 10**

Safely to Success: Frank dialogue with young Ukrainians about migration and human trafficking      **/// page 12**

Practical steps in the EU–Ukraine visa-free dialogue: Ukrainian practitioners trained by Dutch experts on document security      **/// page 15**

IOM and partners to monitor the situation of readmitted migrants      **/// page 17**

The rhythm of diversity      **/// page 20**

Innovations for IOM Ukraine's Migration Health Unit      **/// page 22**

IOM and EUBAM engage students in migration dialogue      **/// page 24**

## GIVING MIGRATION A HUMAN FACE

From trafficking to justice: IOM-supported victim defends herself and starts a new life      **/// page 26**

Varvara Zhluktenko  
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The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As the leading international organization in the field of migration, IOM works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management, advance understanding of migration issues, encourage social and economic development through migration, and uphold human dignity and the well-being of migrants.

**Disclaimer:** Views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the view of IOM or its Member States.

# SPECIAL REPORT

## FROM EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS: IOM EXPANDS ASSISTANCE TO DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

PROJECT FUNDED BY:



HUMANITARIAN  
AID AND CIVIL  
PROTECTION



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY  
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
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THE U.S.  
DEPARTMENT  
OF STATE



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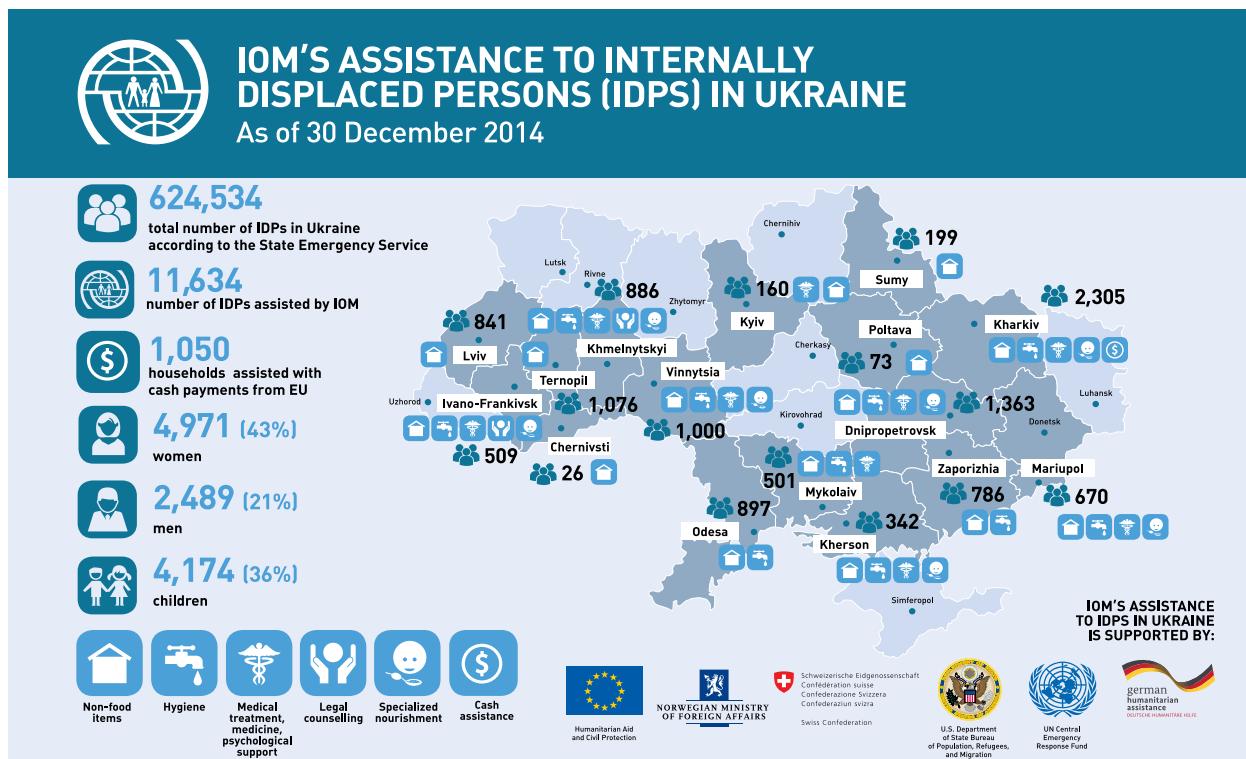


german  
humanitarian  
assistance  
DEUTSCHE HUMANITÄRE HILFE

As the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) exceeded half a million at the end of 2014, IOM, supported by its donors, expanded its urgent assistance to vulnerable people from Donbas and Crimea to reach 20,000 more IDPs. This humanitarian

intervention is supported by the European Union allocating EUR 6.5 million and EUR 680,000 contribution from Germany.

IOM provides direct cash payments to over 5,300 vulnerable families and disabled to meet their





IOM helps internally displaced persons to stay warm by purchasing coal for those of them staying in private houses. Pictured: coal distribution near Mariupol, Donetsk Region

urgent needs in Kharkiv Region, which was chosen for the project given its proximity to Donbas and its status as the leader amongst IDP hosting regions, serving as a safe haven for over 120,000 IDPs. The intervention is funded by the EU's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO).

"Cash assistance proved to be the most effective practice in such circumstances to meet vulnerable families in the most dignified way and offers them an opportunity to cover their needs such as rent payment, warm clothes, medicines and other vital items," says ECHO Head of Office in Ukraine, Mamar Merzouk.

In order to scale up its assistance in the East of Ukraine, IOM also opens a sub-office in Kharkiv.

Assisting IDPs through income-generating activities and supporting those communities which host large numbers of IDPs is the focus of another EU-funded programme IOM launched at the end of 2014. Community and IDP representatives in 34 post-conflict and displacement locations will

**"We are strengthening our field presence for assessing the needs of IDPs and providing immediate humanitarian assistance, as well as developing long-term solutions for the social and economic integration of displaced populations and host communities in Ukraine."**

**Manfred Profazi,**  
IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission

be encouraged to jointly decide on small social or public infrastructure projects, like the renovation of a school or a kindergarten, or improvement of a first-aid station. In doing so, the project aims at boosting social cohesion and understanding among communities and IDPs. Another 1,000 displaced persons will benefit from a self-



**Heaters are distributed to IDPs in many regions of Ukraine**

employment scheme or participate in professional training courses, making them self-sufficient and contributing to the well-being of their families and host communities.

Additional warm clothes, winter shoes, blankets, heaters, bed linen and other household items were provided to another 1,400 IDP families under a new German-funded contribution to IOM's humanitarian assistance programme. The German contribution also covered improvement of living conditions in collective centres. According to the estimates, collective centres house about 10% of the total IDP population in Ukraine, often lacking proper heating, sanitary and other types of facilities which the project seeks to improve.

Since the beginning of the crisis till the end of 2014, over 11,500 IDPs in 16 regions of Ukraine have been assisted by IOM and received warm clothes, shoes, blankets, household and hygiene items, as well as medicine, psychological and other forms of assistance with funding provided by the U.S., the UN, Norway and Switzerland.



**First beneficiaries of an EU-funded project receiving cash assistance in Kharkiv in December 2014**



As people left their homes with minimal belongings, IOM supported dialysis-dependent IDPs with warm blankets and robes

## Life stories

### RELOCATED FOR DIALYSIS

When going to the Luhansk city hemodialysis<sup>1</sup> centre on a hot summer day at the end of July 2014, Tamara\*, 58, could hardly imagine that she would neither come home that evening nor for the next three months. Together with the other 50 hemodialysis patients there on that balmy afternoon, she was spirited from the hospital straight to the railway station and transferred to Dnipropetrovsk by the hospital's medical staff. That was perfect timing, as the very next day the station came under withering artillery fire.

In one sense, the patients were relieved to depart Luhansk, since the dialysis center was beginning to be appropriated for the treatment of wounded combatants. Dnipropetrovsk city hospital #4, which agreed to host the patients, sent ten ambulances to meet them at the railway station

upon arrival. That was the beginning of their new life and hospital #4 became their new home.

Tamara and her fellow patients are wholly dependent on dialysis. Like most of the patients at her advanced stage of kidney failure, she has to spend up to six hours three times a week undergoing this blood filtering procedure pending a kidney transplant. Dialysis is expensive, and requires advanced equipment and medical supplies.

Only a few of the patients from Luhansk can afford to live in Dnipropetrovsk due to their unstable financial situations, says Tamara. From Siverodonetsk (Luhansk Region), she worked for most of her life as a librarian at the local research centre before retirement. She had to commute to Luhansk for hemodialysis more than 100 kilometers one way because of the lack of a similar centre in her town, which already placed quite a financial burden on her shoulders. Now, since the onset of hostilities, her son has had to move his family of wife and two toddlers to Kyiv Region. He is struggling to make a living working at a small local factory there and

waiting for the chance to return to Siverodonetsk. Tamara cannot ask for money from him. And most of the patients are in a similar situation, in that their families cannot support them financially. Moreover, some of them do not even have a place to return to, as their houses have been destroyed.

"We are so grateful to everyone who tried to help us, and especially to the Dnipropetrovsk charitable NGO 'Promin', the IOM partner organization in the city who brought us bathrobes and duvet covers. We left Luhansk in the middle of the summer, had no warm clothes with us and the hospital covers are so thin," said Tamara. Though she found herself in an unexpected and dire situation, she didn't panic, and not only kept her composure but also managed to lead coordination with other patients and assist in volunteer work. She says they would stand to benefit from improved nutrition and a sufficient supply of medicine.

Most of the IDPs from Luhansk and Donetsk wish to return to their homes soon but don't know whether this could be possible, admits Tamara.



**Aid distribution in Odesa (South Ukraine):  
vulnerable IDPs getting bed linen and blankets**

[1] In hemodialysis, an artificial kidney is used to cleanse the patient's blood by remove waste, extra chemicals and fluid.

\* Name has been changed to protect privacy



**Displaced persons on hemodialysis are visited by IOM partner NGO  
in Dnipropetrovsk (Eastern Ukraine)**

## BORN DISPLACED

Only weeks after she had to flee from Crimea, Niyara\* gave birth to her ninth child. The boy was born in the Western Ukrainian city of Vinnytsia in late July, on the eve of the Muslim holiday of Uraz-Bayram (Eid al-Fitr). We met her in front of her room at the maternity hospital. The young woman, an economist and child psychologist by education, seemed to be quite satisfied with the nurses, the city of Vinnytsia and the steamy weather those days.

A Crimean Tatar, Niyara was born in exile in Uzbekistan and she and her parents could only move back to their Crimean homeland in 2001. Her parents refused to leave Crimea again, as they felt they had to protect their property. Niyara says that childbirth has provided the most vivid moments in her life. Back home, she and her husband Mustafa always dreamt about their own big house and almost managed to finish the renovation. "I've always been fond of people, liked to have guests, cooked for them and was never tired," recalls Niyara. However, life was turned upside down when Niyara and her husband had to leave Crimea after the outbreak of the crisis. To make things worse, Niyara's husband was diagnosed with a rare disease

which requires expensive care and treatment. As a result of the stress and the fear when the situation in Crimea became more and more unbearable for them, his health started to rapidly deteriorate.

Niyara's five elder children were able to enroll in school in Vinnytsia and teachers and new classmates helped them to adapt. But the boys and girls do miss Crimea and summertime with their grandparents.

"I was expecting to face many challenges, but people's attitudes in Vinnytsia were a pleasant surprise," says Niyara. "Passers-by stopped to tell us something nice, a market vendor gave us potatoes and raspberries for free..."

Despite Niyara's optimism, the community's capacity to help IDPs in need of accommodation, food, medicine, winter clothing and other assistance has been stretched. The issue of employment is also far from being solved. As displaced persons' basic needs are not yet fully covered, the ability to integrate so far remains vague.

Talking to another group of IDPs from Crimea, they beam when we ask them about Niyara: "She is an example for all of us, as she never complains and is never depressed," says Aishe, one of the women staying with their husbands and children



A Crimean Tatar boy tries to get cozy in a dormitory in Vinnytsia Region



**Displaced persons from Crimea, currently residing in Vinnytsia Region, receiving refrigerators, microwaves, washing- and sewing machines, ovens and other assistance from IOM (July 2014)**

in the remote village an hour drive outside of Vinnytsia. IOM supported them with refrigerators, microwaves, washing and sewing machines, ovens and other necessary items.

For another displaced Crimean Tatar woman, Elmira, whom IOM has provided with a sewing machine, the first orders came from her own community, as she creates traditional Muslim head-covering which is difficult to buy in mainland

Ukraine. Elmira's main concern is her son's health: the six-year-old boy has autism and needs special schooling.

There are many children amongst the IDPs and Niyara's youngest is not the only newcomer: "Six babies were born in Vinnytsia from our community's women," counts Aishe proudly, "six little Ukrainians."

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\* Name has been changed to protect privacy

## BACKGROUND ON THE CRISIS //

In April 2014, armed groups in the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk) began to seize buildings and arms. As a result of ongoing fighting between armed groups and government forces, as well as the events which occurred in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC) in March 2014, people have been forced to flee their homes and have become increasingly vulnerable. Most have left with few belongings and are in need of shelter, food and non-food assistance, as their savings are often meager, social benefits take time to re-register, and livelihoods options may be restricted. Concurrently, while grassroots volunteer organizations, civil society and host communities have provided a robust response to the immediate needs of IDPs, the economic crisis in Ukraine has hampered their capacity to provide humanitarian assistance and more durable solutions, in part through employment and community stabilization. Those staying in Donbas Region, particularly in areas affected by fighting, face imminent security threats. The provision of basic services has been disrupted, supplies are increasingly limited, and economic activity has been crippled. Ongoing daily ceasefire violations continue to be reported, despite the ceasefire agreed from 5 September and the nine-point Memorandum agreed in Minsk on 19 September.

# WHAT'S GOING ON

## INVISIBLE IN PLAIN SIGHT: IOM'S ART INSTALLATION RAISES AWARENESS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

PROJECT FUNDED BY:



Canada



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
Swiss Confederation

On the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, 2 December, IOM Ukraine opened a public art installation in Mariinsky Park in Kyiv. The installation, titled *Invisible in Plain Sight*, seeks to raise awareness about trafficking in human beings and tell the real stories of its victims who live amongst us, but often remain unseen. The

exhibition will travel to other regions of Ukraine throughout 2015.

The 120 silhouettes represent the over 120,000 Ukrainians who have fallen prey to human trafficking since 1991, according to IOM-commissioned research. The twelve stories of human trafficking on the silhouettes are based on the testimonies of real



Real stories of trafficking victims interested everyone from media representatives to school students



trafficking survivors. The silhouettes were produced by a former victim of trafficking, who as part of the IOM reintegration programme started his own furniture and woodwork business.

The exhibition was officially opened by the then Deputy Minister of Social Policy Natalia Fedorovych, Ambassador of Canada to Ukraine H.E. Roman Waschuk, USAID Acting Mission Director for Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus Ann Marie Yastishock, Embassy of Norway to Ukraine Deputy Head of Mission Richard Scarborough, Swiss Cooperation Office in Ukraine Country Director Guido Beltrani, and IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission Manfred Profazi.

"The current situation in Ukraine, with the ongoing conflict in Donbas and a high number of internally displaced people and people who went abroad, leads to higher risks of exploitation for those who left their homes," noted Mr. Beltrani.

"This installation represents hope as well. The hope that more people will become sufficiently aware of the dangers that are posed to at-risk populations and ways to prevent the spread of this modern form of slavery," added Ms. Yastishock.



**Passers-by learning about  
trafficking dangers in Ukraine  
from IOM staff**



**Opening the installation (from left to right): IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission Manfred Profazi, Embassy of Norway to Ukraine Deputy Head of Mission Richard Scarborough, Ambassador of Canada H.E. Roman Waschuk, the then Deputy Minister of Social Policy Natalia Fedorovych, USAID Acting Mission Director Ann Marie Yastishock, and Swiss Cooperation Office Country Director Guido Beltrani**

# SAFELY TO SUCCESS: FRANK DIALOGUE WITH YOUNG UKRAINIANS ABOUT MIGRATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING



IOM-produced youth bracelets with migrant advice hotline number were distributed at the events



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

PROJECT  
FUNDED  
BY THE SWISS  
CONFEDERATION



1+1 Channel anchor Yuliia Borysko hosting  
the road-show in Sambir, Lviv Region



Counter-trafficking event at the Dolyna Town Day (Ivano-Frankivsk Region)

conducted in four towns – Ismail (Odesa Region), Sambir (Lviv Region), Dolyna (Ivano-Frankivsk Region), and Dniprozherzhynsk (Dnipropetrovsk Region), in July – August 2014, reaching out to over 5,000 people. These regions were considered risk-prone areas due to a traditionally high level of migration and, since recently, an increasing number of internally displaced persons who have sought refuge there.

Intending to reach out to as many Ukrainians as possible, IOM and the implementing PR-agency Action Global Communications Ukraine employed an interactive roadshow format. IOM experts and trained volunteers explained how to travel safely and avoid falling prey to traffickers, either abroad or in Ukraine. Mobile comic exhibitions, thematic competitions, games for teenagers, and the screening of documentary films were arranged to bring the message of safe migration to people in highly-frequented public areas. Social media groups and webpages were created to perpetuate the project and engage a larger audience.

Radio Era FM and the Day newspaper partnered on this initiative. Ukrainian media figures also supported raising awareness on modern-day slavery. The road-show hosts were “TSN News” anchors Yuliia Borysko and Yehor Hordeyev (1+1 Channel). “I have joined this project because I love good news. TSN is always ready to help people in trouble, but I hope that thanks to this wonderful initiative, there will be fewer people in dangerous situations,” states Yuliia Borysko. She adds that



The campaign crisscrossed the country

**“Ukraine is a country with a big development potential. Many people are moving within the country and across borders, from one place to another, striving for better livelihood opportunities. Our aim is to empower them with knowledge, information, and awareness, so that the individual can make a safe choice concerning her or his future.”**

**Petra Widmer,  
Deputy Director of the Swiss  
Cooperation Office in Ukraine**



IOM's Borderland comics telling real stories of victims of trafficking attracted the attention of many passers-by (photo from Dolyna)



Yehor Hordeyev, 1+1 Channel anchor, with Andrii, the winner of the quiz in Dolyna

she was surprised by the young audience of the road-show events giving precise answers to the quiz questions. "I am now more confident of their future," says Yuliia.

"The 'TSN News' team shows the stories of external and internal migration every day. The current situation in Ukraine is very difficult, so it is necessary to explain the rules of safe travel," says Yehor Hordeyev. The TV host was especially

impressed by a young winner of the quiz in the town of Dolyna, ten-year-old Andrii. The gifted boy has his own story about migration, as his mother currently works in Italy. "Andrii's answers were so profound, that I cannot help but think about them and the road that lay before him."

\* Ukraine has been a significant source, transit and increasingly destination country for human trafficking since the early 1990s. According to an IOM-commissioned survey, over 120,000 Ukrainians have suffered from modern-day slavery over the last 24 years. Since 2000, IOM and its partners have been able to assist over 10,500 victims of trafficking, with over 900 people assisted annually during 2012-2013. Current worrying tendencies show that men and women of all ages might suffer from trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation, as well as for forced begging and other forms of inhumane treatment, abroad and internally in Ukraine. Moreover, according to a survey commissioned by IOM in 2013, 9% of Ukrainians claim that they, their relatives or friends were facing situations or attempts of trafficking.

# PRACTICAL STEPS IN THE EU-UKRAINE VISA-FREE DIALOGUE: UKRAINIAN PRACTITIONERS TRAINED BY DUTCH EXPERTS ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

PROJECT SUPPORTED BY:



EUROPEAN UNION



KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

IOM and the Embassy of the Netherlands organized a four-day training on document security for practitioners from the regional departments of the State Migration Service and the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Etched out letters, stamps showing signs of tampering and even modified perforated passport numbers – this is what one of the participants in the training recalled from her experience in detecting fake and forged documents. At the same

time, as stressed by EU Delegation Sector Manager Stephan Dahlgren, fostering document security is an important part of the EU – Ukraine visa free dialogue. In order to support Ukrainian state actors working in this field, IOM already organized a study visit to the Netherlands for the specialists from the State Migration Service of Ukraine in July. And now two Dutch experts, Eric Geestman and Ronald Gerardus van Ham, from the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Ministry of Justice and Security of the Netherlands, came to Kyiv upon the request of the Ukrainian partners.

The comprehensive training they conducted covered many issues, starting from important fundamentals, such as paper making and printing techniques, progressing all the way to modern



Dutch expert Ronald Gerardus van Ham (at the left) sharing experience with Ukrainian colleagues



Participants trying to detect forged passports



Fake or real?

types of document fraud. The training participants were enthused by the materials the trainers brought with them, such as specimens of identity documents and confiscated forged documents. It is also envisaged that after the training Ukrainian specialists would be able to share their knowledge and newly-gained expertise with their colleagues, so some sessions were dedicated to sharpening their presentation skills.

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\* The training was conducted in the framework of the MIGRECO project (*Strengthening Migration Management and Cooperation on Readmission in Eastern Europe*), funded by the European Union. MIGRECO assists Ukraine to develop a comprehensive migration management system in line with EU best practices, which will support Ukraine's efforts in progressing in the visa-free dialogue with the EU.

# IOM AND PARTNERS TO MONITOR THE SITUATION OF READMITTED MIGRANTS



PROJECT  
FUNDED BY  
THE EUROPEAN  
UNION

A few years ago, when Ukraine was preparing to sign its readmission agreement with the EU, there were many discussions on possible consequences for the country. However, the first three years of its full implementation have shown that the number of foreigners sent back to Ukraine under the agreement is quite low and has been even decreasing over time. According to the information provided by the State Border

Guard Service of Ukraine, while 398 third-country nationals were readmitted from neighbouring countries under the accelerated procedure in 2010, less than 100 persons were readmitted in 2013. The number of returning Ukrainians is also not as high as it was earlier expected (decreasing from 638 in 2010 to 347 in 2013). Whilst equipped with statistical data, the EU and Ukraine were lacking information about the human aspect of the agreement's implementation. Do those Ukrainians and third country nationals returned to Ukraine under the readmission agreement enjoy full access to available social services? Are their rights protected? Literally, is a Ukrainian standing at an



Lawyers working at Ukrainian migrant accommodation centres and temporary holding facilities take a close look at the accommodation conditions and legal status developments of readmitted third country nationals



**IOM Ukraine's specialist reviewing the statistics on irregular migrant short-term detention together with an officer of the Mostyskyi Border Detachment in Lviv Region**

EU-Ukraine border crossing point able to get safely to his or her home a few hundred kilometers away, find a job and successfully reintegrate? To find the answers to these questions, the European Union has initiated a pilot project to monitor the situation of readmitted persons in Ukraine and Pakistan, which is implemented by IOM in partnership with the UNHCR. The local partner in Pakistan is the STATT network.

Both Ukraine and Pakistan were chosen for the pilot project due to the importance of the EU readmission agreements concluded with these countries for the management of migration flows to the EU.

"While in Ukraine all administrative procedures are in place, it remains necessary that the human rights of readmitted persons are closely monitored," says Andrii Fedoseiev from the Office of the Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights.

In Ukraine, the project is based on an IOM-led observatory mechanism platform: from 2009 to early 2013, civil society and the international community, together with the state authorities, jointly monitored the situation in migrant accommodation centres and temporary holding facilities. IOM has been actively cooperating with the State Border Guard Service, the State Migration Service, the Office of the Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (the Ombudsman), the Ministry of the Interior, the Prosecutor's Office and other governmental bodies in order to support Ukraine implementing the best European practices in migrant accommodation. In the framework of the MONITOR project, three lawyers working at the Chernihiv and Volyn migrant accommodation centres, as well as at the Chop and Mukacheve temporary holding facilities, take a close look at the accommodation conditions and legal

## ▼ WHAT'S GOING ON

status developments of readmitted third country nationals, while the monitoring mechanism for observing the situation of own nationals is under development.

"IOM does not participate in forced return, but our global goal is to support humane and orderly migration and migrants' rights protection," says IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission Manfred Profazi.

The first international monitoring meeting of the project took place in summer 2014 close to the EU-Ukraine border, in the city of Lviv. Over 30 participants, representing relevant Ukrainian governmental bodies, as well as the European Commission and IOM, also visited the Mostyskyi Border Guard Detachment and a temporary holding facility. The participants also conducted the first monitoring visit to the Volyn Migrant Accommodation Centre (MAC) in the village of Zhuravychi, which hosted nine readmitted third country nationals among a total of 99 migrants held in the facility. All members of the monitoring group noted good accommodation conditions



**Ukrainian flag, drawn by a migrant  
in detention at the Volyn MAC**

at the facilities. Some existing challenges were also discussed, for example the identification of undocumented readmitted persons and avoiding prolonged detention.

Similar monitoring trips were conducted to the Chop and Mukacheve temporary holding facilities and to the Chernihiv MAC to help Ukraine identify challenges and strengthen the protection of readmitted migrants' rights.



**The well-being of children of migrants in detention has been closely watched by IOM. The Mission's staff regularly collects hygiene items, warm clothes, toys and other donations for them**

# THE RHYTHM OF DIVERSITY

How are music, race and African migration linked in the Ukrainian context? – ‘Through hip-hop culture,’ answers Adriana Helbig, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Pittsburgh, ethnomusicologist and researcher of race, class, and minority rights in Eastern Europe, in her book presented at IOM Ukraine’s office.

Adriana collected data on how hip-hop culture emerged in Ukraine, and analyzed its roots in Kharkiv city music culture and the role hip-hop played in social and political transformations of the Ukrainian society at the beginning of the 21st century. This research begat the book *Hip-Hop Ukraine: Music, Race and African Migration*, which was recently published in the U.S. and is expected to be translated into Ukrainian next year.

“Hip-hop is a platform for interracial encounters among African students, African immigrants, and local populations in Ukraine, for example in Kharkiv clubs. There is no such phenomenon in Russia, Georgia or Poland,”

emphasized Adriana at an IOM-organized roundtable titled, “Music of Intercultural Dialogue”.

Two musicians profiled in the book, Steven Dee from the Afro-Ukrainian band *Chornobryvtsi*, and Oleh Mykhailiuta, the frontman of the group *Tanok Na Maydani Kongo*, joined the discussion as well. “Conflicts arise where there is a lack of information,” stated Steven Dee. “In order to coexist, we have to study each other’s culture. Through preserving our own culture and studying other cultures, we enrich our lives. This world is beautiful because it is diverse.” He also expressed his dismay that Ukrainian artists do not tour in Africa and African artists, who sometimes even perform in China, do not hold concerts in Ukraine.

Oleh Mykhailiuta recalled his first encounters with hip-hop from abroad and *Chornobryvtsi* in Kharkiv, as both groups originated from Ukraine’s second-largest city, and spoke highly of Adriana Helbig’s work, as her book is not just about hip-hop in Ukraine, but also sheds light on deeply-



Adriana Helbig, U.S. ethnomusicologist, (at the right) shared her findings about the role of hip-hop the in cultural and social process in Ukraine



**Steven Dee from the Afro-Ukrainian band *Chornobryvtsi*, Adriana Helbig, U.S. ethnomusicologist, Oleh Mykhailiuta, the frontman of the group *Tanok Na Maydani Kongo*, and Stephen Rogers, IOM Ukraine's Programme Coordinator, supporting Diversity Initiative's message on the importance of intercultural dialogue**

rooted insecurity and fear of the unknown, including other cultures. "It is very easy to blame 'others' for your own faults or misfortunes, and unfortunately there are some nasty guys trying to use this," he stated.

IOM Ukraine's Programme Coordinator Stephen Rogers noted that according to an IOM-commissioned survey, and contrary to some public misperception, the majority of migrants residing in Ukraine are employed, educated and actively communicating with the local population. Half of the migrants surveyed by IOM stated their desire to obtain Ukrainian citizenship.

"To be able to say that you really know your friends, you should know what songs they sing when they are sad and what music they like when they are happy," summarized Steven Dee.



**After a brief autograph session**



**Charles King Asante-Eboa, African Centre in Ukraine Head, joins the discussion**

\* IOM promotes migrant integration and cultural diversity in Ukraine, *inter alia* through coordinating a voluntary Diversity Initiative platform together with UNHCR (<http://diversipedia.org.ua>) and implementing interactive programmes for Ukrainian youth.

# INNOVATIONS FOR IOM UKRAINE'S MIGRATION HEALTH UNIT



**IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission  
Manfred Profazi and UNHCR Regional  
Representative Oldrich Andrysek**

In July, IOM Ukraine marked the opening of the new Migration Health Centre in Kyiv.

As of this date, all health assessments are conducted at the new facility at 16-V, Horkoho Street, at the clinic of IOM partner Healthy and Happy. The location of the new premises, in the Kyiv city center, will benefit applicants, as it is located within walking distance of two metro stations as well as several other means of public transport.

Since its inception in 1997, IOM Ukraine's migration health department has provided health assessment services to more than 200,000 migrants. An evaluation of the health status of individuals obtaining a visa or going abroad for resettlement, international employment, or enrolment in specific migrant assistance programmes, is conducted to ensure that migration does not endanger the health of the migrants or pose a public health risk during travel or upon



**IOM Migration Health Unit staff and senior management**



IOM Regional Migration Health Officer Dr. Jelena Cmiljanic showing the premises to the guests

arrival. IOM Ukraine performs health assessments for Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States of America and the United Kingdom.

At the new clinic's opening ceremony, in the presence of Mr. Henry Hand, U.S. Consul, Mr. Tim Kilbourn, Immigration Programme Manager, Canadian Embassy, Ms. Natalia Tihipko, Healthy and Happy president, as well as IOM medical and senior staff, IOM Ukraine's Chief of Mission Manfred Profazi thanked partners for entrusting IOM with this sensitive and crucial task for the proper and secure processing of their visa and immigration programmes.

In order to serve the migrants even better, IOM Ukraine's medical staff in September 2014 underwent training on conflict resolution and prevention.

"IOM medical staff discussed the definition of conflict, types of conflicts, stages of conflict and how to solve them at each stage. Practical exercises proved to be very useful and relevant to our daily work and dealing with clients," says IOM's Regional Migration Health Physician Jelena Cmiljanic. "We believe that the knowledge and skills acquired during the training will benefit both our staff and applicants, as the medical staff has become more prepared than ever to provide high quality services."



Healthy and Happy clinic president  
Natalia Tihipko



IOM Ukraine's medical staff at a conflict resolution and prevention training

# IOM AND EUBAM ENGAGE STUDENTS IN MIGRATION DIALOGUE



EUBAM Summer School participants brainstorming about prevention of human trafficking among displaced persons



PROJECT  
FUNDED BY  
THE EUROPEAN  
UNION

Migration was on the agenda at the EUBAM Summer School “Borders of Europe”\* this year. With an IOM expert’s assistance, students from Ukraine and Moldova had a chance to dispel stereotypes about migration and migrants and to find themselves in the shoes of practitioners, drafting a plan to assist vulnerable displaced persons from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine. Those willing to deepen their knowledge of migration-related issues were invited to participate in a student essay competition organized by IOM.

Anna Savchenko, Odesa National University International Relations Department student, and Mykola Demchuk from the National University “Odesa Law Academy”, were awarded with diplomas and IOM souvenirs.

“A benefit from migration to another country may be return to the country of origin after getting some professional experience and useful knowledge, contributing to the changes and modernization in the native country,” wrote Anna in her essay. “Migration also means cultural exchange between different people, nations and countries, learning traditions and sometimes results in bringing changes to the society itself.”

Mykola chose migrants’ integration as the topic for his contribution: “Integration can be seen

as a two-way process involving mutual recognition and interaction between persons belonging to minority and majority groups. The human rights aspects of integration include fostering democratic participation, protecting minority identities, strengthening freedom of religions, ensuring non-discrimination and combating racism and intolerance."

\* IOM has been the implementing partner of the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) since the end of 2013. EUBAM's summer school, regularly organized in Odesa, is an interdisciplinary course aimed at sharing the knowledge about the European Union, its current developments and policies with Ukrainian students and academic community. The students are able to participate in training sessions on leadership, PR and intercultural and social competence.



Anna Savchenko, a winner of a student essay competition, joined IOM's #MigrationMeans social media campaign



As usual, students were also willing to learn more about the activities of international organizations working in Ukraine

# GIVING MIGRATION A HUMAN FACE

## FROM TRAFFICKING TO JUSTICE: IOM-SUPPORTED VICTIM DEFENDS HERSELF AND STARTS A NEW LIFE



PROJECT  
FUNDED BY  
USAID

Oksana\* was residing in Vinnytsia Region with her mother and daughter before her trafficking journey begun. Unemployed at that time, she made her living through informal work, picking apples and cutting and trimming trees. One day, while being out in the fields, she met Roman. Roman took an interest in her and was kind, one day suggesting that Oksana should go to Kharkiv to work as a waitress. He promised her that the café would provide a salary of UAH 2,000, as well as free accommodation and boarding. Oksana accepted the offer, and Roman drove her to Kharkiv with three other women. But suddenly it turned out that they were heading to the Russian border. Oksana tried to refuse, but Roman told her that she would work in Moscow for USD 400 per month. As she had no money for a return ticket, she crossed the border with her traffickers and ended up in Kursk.

Oksana had to stay in a rented flat near a forest with five other women. All of them were forced to beg with children's photos and signs stating, "Please help for medical treatment". When she protested, Oksana was badly beaten and told that she owed

UAH 3,000 to her traffickers, who had "bought" her for this sum.

Finally, Oksana managed to contact her mother and a friend in Ukraine. The man sold his village house to gather the necessary UAH 3,000 to save Oksana. The money was transferred to the wife of one of the traffickers in Ukraine, and the traffickers brought Oksana to Kharkiv.

When she returned to her village in Vinnytsia Region, she contacted the police and started looking for a job to pay back the debt to her rescuer. The police and the Vinnytsia Regional State Administration referred Oksana to the IOM partner NGO "Spring of Hope". Her reintegration started in the IOM Rehabilitation Centre for victims of trafficking in Kyiv, where an IOM psychologist supported her to regain her mental strength to pursue the truth and bring her traffickers to justice.

After returning from the IOM rehabilitation centre, Oksana was able to build a greenhouse with funds provided by IOM. The NGO also bought her family an oven so Oksana's mother, working at a café, could cook some pies to sell and earn an additional income. Oksana's daughter was provided with shoes, clothes and school supplies.

But, the family was still facing many challenges, as the traffickers kept threatening Oksana and her daughter and demanding that she withdraw her complaint to the police. Oksana's first attempt to receive the official status of a victim of trafficking

\* Name has been changed to protect privacy

- Вас силою примушували працювати?
- Відбирали паспорт, особисті документи?
- Не відпускали додому чи обмежували у пересуванні?
- Погрожували чи залякували?
- Не виплатили обіцянних грошей?

## ВИ МАСТЕ ПРАВО НА ЗАХИСТ І ДОПОМОГУ!

### Підтримка постраждалих від торгівлі людьми:

- ПРАВОВА, ПСИХОЛОГІЧНА, СОЦІАЛЬНА ТА МАТЕРІАЛЬНА
- ВІДНОВЛЕННЯ ДОКУМЕНТІВ
- СПРИЯННЯ У ПРАЦЕВЛАШТУВАННІ
- МЕДИЧНЕ ОБСТЕЖЕННЯ ТА ЛІКУВАННЯ

**Допомога безкоштовна та конфіденційна**

**ЗВЕРТАЙТЕСЬ ДО МІСЦЕВИХ ДЕРЖАВНИХ АДМІНІСТРАЦІЙ:**

**ТАКОЖ МОЖНА ЗВЕРНУТИСЬ ДО ГРОМАДСЬКОЇ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ:**



ІМО  
Інтернаціональна організація з міграції та розвитку

USAID  
Україна

IOM's poster informing potential victims of trafficking about assistance opportunities in Ukraine

was unsuccessful, and the criminal case was closed as the police saw no evidence of trafficking. After that, IOM provided Oksana with legal counsel, which led to her filing a suit. One-and-a-half years after Oksana was trafficked, the court sentenced her recruiter to four years in prison with a three-year probation period. Oksana was eventually granted

the official status of a victim of trafficking by the Ministry of Social Policy after several attempts.

"Oksana is a hero as she managed to fight for so long to defend herself and punish her offenders. IOM and we were supporting her as much as we could, but first and foremost this is her victory," says the head of the IOM partner NGO Alla Studilko.

\* IOM Ukraine started assisting Ukrainians who had become victims of trafficking in 2000. Together with a network of partner NGOs throughout Ukraine, from January 2000 to September 2014, IOM provided comprehensive reintegration assistance to over 10,500 victims of trafficking, which, depending on the individual needs of each beneficiary, included legal consultation and representation in criminal and civil court, medical care, psychological counselling, shelter, vocational training, and a small-grant programme supporting those trafficking survivors who aspire to set-up their own business and other forms of assistance. During the nine months of 2014, IOM Ukraine identified and assisted 642 victims of trafficking who suffered from exploitation in nine different countries, including Ukraine. The Russian Federation remained the top destination country for trafficking from Ukraine, with 80% of victims referred to IOM Ukraine in 2014 returning from this country (77% in 2013). The EU is the second largest destination, with 15% of victims returning from its member countries (Poland, Germany and the Slovak Republic in 2014). IOM also supports further geographical expansion and strengthening of the state-led National Referral Mechanism for Assisting Victims of Trafficking, established in Ukraine in 2012.



Migration  
for the Benefit of All

# IOM'S ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN UKRAINE

MONTHLY REPORT

DECEMBER 2014

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea and Donbas (Eastern Ukraine) exceeded 560,000 as of 17 December, according to the State Emergency Service of Ukraine.
- USD 189 million is required by Ukraine Humanitarian Country Team to aid about 900,000 people in need over 2015.
- IOM assisted over 9,500 vulnerable IDPs in 15 regions of Ukraine as of mid-December.
- In total, about 65,000 people received in-kind winterized assistance (over 100,000 blankets and 30,000 articles of warm clothing) from humanitarian agencies.
- At least 4,634 killed (including 298 from flight MH-17) and 10,243 wounded in Eastern Ukraine as of 7 December (source: OHCHR/WHO).



Enlarged version of the map on page 4

## IOM'S RESPONSE TO DATE

As the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) exceeded half a million, IOM supported by the EU and Germany will expand its urgent assistance to vulnerable people from Donbas and Crimea to reach 20,000 people more. This humanitarian intervention is supported by the European Union allocating EUR 6.5 million and EUR 680,000 contribution from Germany. IOM will provide direct cash payments to over 5,300 vulnerable families and disabled to meet their urgent needs in Kharkiv Region, which was chosen for the project as bordering with Donbas and hosting about one-fourth of the total Ukrainian IDP population. The intervention is funded by EU's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO).

*"Cash assistance proved to be the most effective practice in such circumstances to meet vulnerable families in most dignified way and offers*



*With the first frost coming IOM helps internally displaced persons to stay warm by purchasing coal for those of them dwelling at private houses. Pictured: coal distribution near Mariupol, Donetsk Region*

1

International Organization for Migration, Mission in Ukraine

[www.iom.org.ua](http://www.iom.org.ua)

Since November 2014, regular reports on IOM's assistance to internally displaced persons in Ukraine are available at our website <http://iom.org.ua>. We are interested in your opinion on this and other information materials of IOM Ukraine – please provide your comments to [iomkievcomm@iom.int](mailto:iomkievcomm@iom.int).

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