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News Digest Issue 3

Highlights: Country News

22/04/2013

Füle: EU-Armenia readmission agreement key to increased mobility

Successful implementation of the EU-Armenia readmission agreement is a “key to moving towards further enhancement of mobility,” Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Füle told Armenia’s Foreign Affairs Minister Edward Nalbandian after the signature ceremony of the Agreement in Brussels.

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

03/04/2013

International organizations to help tackle work migration issues in Armenia

Yerevan hosted a presentation of a 3-year program on Social Response to Work Migration in Armenia, initiated by the EU Mission in Armenia, UNICEF, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and Territorial Administration Ministry.

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

24/04/2013

Migration trends discussed at 46-th session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development

The 46th session of the United Nations Commission on Population and Development started its meeting in New York on 22 April. This year session’s topic is “New trends in migration: demographic aspects” and is meant to bring a multidimensional approach of the migration subject, in the context of setting up a new UN post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

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

13/06/2013

Azerbaijani Parliament adopts migration code

Milli Majlis (Parliament) of Azerbaijan adopted a Migration Code at the third reading at an extraordinary session. The updated draft was presented by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Policy and State Building Ali Huseynli.

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

17/05/2013

Azerbaijan, EU to sign visa facilitation agreement in autumn

Azerbaijan and the EU are preparing to sign an agreement on visa facilitation in November, Azerbaijani Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Mamedguliyev stated. He said that Azerbaijan and the EU intend to sign the agreement during the summit of the Eastern Partnership in Vilnius on November 28-29.

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

04/04/2013

Azerbaijan launched e-visas issuing procedure

Up to 30 travel companies have been given the opportunity to carry out the procedure of issuing e-visas for foreign nationals online for arrival in Azerbaijan, the Minister of Culture and Tourism Abulfaz Garayev told journalists.

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

19/06/2013

Belarus to improve legal framework for forced migrants

The Interior Ministry of the Republic of Belarus has come forward with an initiative to improve the legal framework in part that pertains to displaced persons. The relevant statement was made by Deputy Head of the Citizenship and Migration Department of the Belarusian Interior Ministry Alexander Tatura.

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

18/04/2013

Belarus claims openness to mutual cooperation with EU

Belarus is ready and is open to cooperation and dialogue with the European Union based on the principles of mutual respect and benefit, Belarusian Premier Mikhail Myasnikovich stated at the Belarusian-Lithuanian economic forum in Klaipeda.

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

19/06/2013

MFA: Main part of association agreement between Georgia and EU to be agreed

The main part of the agreement on association between of Georgia and the EU has been agreed, with tiny issues still to discuss, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Maia Panjikidze said.

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

19/06/2013

OSCE, Georgia discuss problems of refugees

Georgia's Minister for Refugees and their Accommodation David Darakhvelidze held an official meeting with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities Knut Vollebaek.

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

19/04/2013

EU travel restrictions to be eased for Ukrainians and Moldovans

Travel to the EU is set to become easier for citizens of Ukraine and Moldova after Members of the European Parliament approved plans for visa exemptions for holders of biometric service passports and

a simplification of requirements demonstrating the purpose of their journey. EU citizens are already exempt from visa requirements when travelling to these countries.

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

25/06/2013

New visa liberalisation report for the Republic of Moldova

The fourth Commission report on the implementation by the Republic of Moldova of the Action Plan on Visa Liberalisation was published.

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

25/06/2013

EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council takes stock of Ukraine's progress ahead of Eastern Partnership summit

The EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council has taken stock of Ukraine's progress in meeting EU targets with a view to the possible signing of the Association Agreement by the time of the Eastern Partnership Summit in November.

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

20/06/2013

EU urges Ukraine to improve refugee protection system

The European Union urges Ukraine to adopt legislative acts that will improve the system for granting asylum to refugees, stated deputy chairman of the EU Delegation to Ukraine Mariya Yurikova.

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

19/06/2013

Ukrainians become the biggest migration group in European Union

Ukrainian citizens were the most numerous migration group in the European Union countries in 2011 according to the annual European Commission report on migration and refugees, which was published in Brussels on June 17.

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

Highlights: EU Spotlight

19/06/2013

UN says 7.6 million people became refugees in 2012

The UN says 7.6 million people became refugees in 2012, with the total number now higher than at any time since 1994. It also found that developing countries now hosted 81% of the world's refugees, 11% more than a decade ago.

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

17/06/2013

Annual Report on Immigration and Asylum

The Commission published its report on the 2012 and early 2013 developments in the area of immigration and asylum.

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

14/06/2013

Improved free movement across borders with new Schengen rules

The European Union should be a safe space against terrorism and organized crime, but can not be a fortress against migrants. This is the spirit of the legislative packages for border control and asylum applications adopted by the European Parliament, this week.

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

12/06/2013

The EP votes on the Common European Asylum System

A crucial step towards a common system for handling asylum applications in the EU has been taken as the European Parliament adopted several measures that form the future Common European Asylum System. These include common procedures, the creation of a basic set of rights for asylum seekers arriving in the EU and a proposal to stop transfers to member states struggling to cope with the number of asylum seekers and related responsibilities.

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

25/05/2013

EU presents views on migration contribution to development

The Commission Communication “Maximising the Development Impact of Migration” adopted today will provide the basis for a common position of the EU and its Member States at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, organised by the United Nations General Assembly on 3-4 October 2013.

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



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