

# NEWS DIGEST

PANEL ON MIGRATION, MOBILITY  
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## Enjoy brief analytical reviews of the World Happiness Report 2018

Did you know that the happiest migrants live in Finland, and immigrants across the globe evaluate the quality of their lives on average higher after migration? The authors of the World Happiness Report 2018 decided to look at the reasons prompting people to move, to study the positive impact and negative consequences of migration in order to understand whether migration helps the majority of people reach their life goals.

The EaP Panel on Migration, Mobility and IBM has prepared a series of analytical reviews, hoping to bring the most interesting facts from the report to your table. By spending less than ten minutes on reading you will get a grasp of the whole report, learn the answers to the above questions, the latest facts and statistics. **Overview of the first chapter is available at the link** [➔](#)

## GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT

13/07/18



### Final draft of the Global Compact for Migration released

The UN Migration Agency (IOM) on 13 July heralded the completion of the Global Compact for Migration as an important milestone that would improve international cooperation on migration.

The Compact sets out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among the Member States, affecting nearly 260 million international migrants and the communities that host them, including considerations relating to human rights, humanitarian, economic, social, development, climate change and security issues.

**Please find the final draft of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration at the following link** [➔](#)

## EU SPOTLIGHT

24/07/18



### European Commission expands on controlled center concept

Following the call by EU leaders at the June European Council, the Commission is expanding on the concept of controlled centers as well as short-term measures that could be taken to improve the processing of migrants being disembarked in the EU, and giving a first outline of the possible way forward for the establishment of regional disembarkation arrangements with third countries. Regional disembarkation arrangements should be seen as working in concert with the development of controlled centers in the EU: together, both concepts should help ensure a truly shared regional responsibility in responding to complex migration challenges.

**What are the main features of controlled centers? Find the answer here** [➔](#)



## Visa-exempt travelers to the EU will be pre-screened

Non-EU nationals exempt from visa requirements will have to get an authorization before travelling to the EU, under new rules backed by the European Parliament on 5 July.

Nationals of more than 60 countries and territories exempt from visa requirements to enter the EU will have to fill in an electronic form prior to their intended travel with their personal data (including name, date and place of birth, sex and nationality), travel document information (validity, country of issue), home address and contact information, and the EU country of first intended entry.

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

## EaP COUNTRY NEWS



ARMENIA | 03/07/18



## Armenia to hold a regular census of population in 2020

In 2020, Armenia will conduct a census of population. This is stated in the government's decree, which was presented on 4 July at the regular meeting of the executive authority.

According to the document, the government will approve the initial estimate of activities at the expense of extra-budgetary funds, as well as amendments to the state budget for 2018.

Do you want to know the population dynamics in Armenia? Please follow the link [→](#)



AZERBAIJAN | 14/07/18



## Azerbaijan simplifies rules of residence for foreigners and stateless persons

New amendments to Azerbaijan's migration legislation have entered into force. . According to the amendments to Article 21 of the Migration Code, registration at the place of residence will be available for foreigners and stateless persons intending to stay in Azerbaijan for more than 15 days. To date, this period was limited to 10 days.

More about the amendments you can learn at the following [link](#) [→](#)



**BELARUS** | 12/07/18



## Belarus to reconstruct checkpoint at the Belarus-Lithuanian border

According to the Chairman of the State Customs Committee of Belarus the reconstruction of the Belarus-Lithuanian border checkpoint Kamenny Log is supposed to begin in 2019.

In particular, plans have been made to adjust the infrastructure of the border checkpoints located at the Belarusian-Lithuanian border. The main reconstruction purpose is to triple the throughput checkpoint capacity up to 6,000 vehicles daily (3,500 cars, 2,400 trucks, and 100 buses).

Eager to know all other details of the reconstruction plan? Please follow this [link](#) ➔



**GEORGIA** 19/07/18



## Germany puts Georgia on the safe country list

On 18 July, the federal government of Germany has approved a bill initiated by the German Interior Ministry, which supports putting Georgia on the safe country list.

German and Georgian officials believe that putting Georgia on the list will decrease the number of Georgian asylum seekers in Germany, as well as the irregular stay of Georgians in the country, which may create threats for the Georgia-EU visa waiver.

Georgia is already regarded as a safe country by seven other countries. Which ones? The answer is [here](#) ➔



**MOLDOVA** | 10/07/18



## Moldovan State Chancellery to implement phase II of migration project

On 10 July, the government of Moldova approved the Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between the State Chancellery of Moldova and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation on Program "Realizing the Migration Potential in the Republic of Moldova".

According to the government's communication and protocol department, Phase II of project "Strengthening the Institutional Framework of the Republic of Moldova in the Field of Migration and Development" (MIDIDOM) within the program "Realizing the Migration Potential in the Republic of Moldova" will be fully managed by the State Chancellery of Moldova.

Read more about this project [here](#) ➔



## The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine changed border crossing rules for minors

The Cabinet of Ministers supported the introduction of changes to the government resolution concerning the rules of border crossing for minors. The corresponding decision was passed on 4 July 2018 at the government meeting. Relevant amendments were conditioned by the necessity to implement the requirements of Article 32 of the Law of Ukraine "On Child Protection" concerning the adoption of measures to combat the irregular movement, kidnapping, trafficking and smuggling of orphans and children, deprived of parental care.

The main details of the amendments can be found at the following [link](#) ➔

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