Second issue of the “Experts Speaking” rubric released

The Eastern Partnership Panel on Migration, Mobility and Integrated Border Management is happy to present the second issue of the “Experts Speaking” rubric dedicated to the information campaigns on migration with focus on the visa-free regime with the EU.

Please find the key recommendations provided by our experts on how to create a truly successful migration information campaign at the following link.
UN Member States adopt Global Compact for Migration

On 10 December, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration was adopted by leading representatives from 164 Governments at an international conference in Marrakesh, Morocco. The Compact sets out a range of principles, commitments and understandings among Member States. These include considerations of human rights, humanitarian, economic, social, development, climate change, border management and security issues affecting migrants, their countries of origin and transit as well as the communities that host them.

The voluntary framework reinforces nation state sovereignty on migration, while underscoring the human rights of migrants as well as the importance of cooperation on migration at all levels, be it local, national, regional or global.

For further information, please follow this link

Recent ILO estimates show 164 million people are migrant workers

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that 164 million people are migrant workers – a rise of 9 per cent since 2013, when they numbered 150 million.

According to the second edition of the ILO’s Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers, which covers the period between 2013 and 2017, the majority of migrant workers – 96 million – are men, while 68 million are women. This represents an increase in the share of men among migrant workers, from 56 per cent to 58 per cent.

Please find the full report at the following link

European Commission reports on fulfilment of visa-free requirements by the Eastern Partnership countries

On 19 December, the European Commission reported on its assessment of the fulfilment of the visa liberalization benchmarks by a number of countries, including three Eastern Partnership states: Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine. Other countries covered by the report include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

This annual report shows that the visa liberalization requirements for the concerned countries continue to be met, but that action – in some cases immediate – is required for a number of countries in specific areas to ensure this continues to be the case.

Read the Commission’s Second Report under the Visa Suspension Mechanism at the following link
Remittances from Armenia reach over USD 950 million

Money transfers from Armenia to abroad in the first 10 months of 2018 amounted to USD 951 million, having surged by 22 per cent from the same period last year. The amount of private money transfers sent to Armenia through the banks in the same time span for non-commercial purposes grew by 4.1 per cent to more than USD 1.456.2 billion. As a result, the net inflow of money transfers to Armenia decreased by 18.3 per cent year-on-year to USD 505.1 million.

Read the details at the following link

Nearly six thousand Belarusians got permanent residency abroad in 2018

In 2018, about 6,000 thousand Belarusians submitted documents for moving abroad, the Ministry of Internal Affairs reports.

Meanwhile, approximately 1,100 foreigners applied for Belarusian citizenship in 2018, among them 250 stateless persons.

For further information, please follow this link

France approves agreement on labour migration for Georgian citizens

The National Assembly of France has ratified the agreement signed on between the governments of France and Georgia on residence and circular migration of skilled professionals. The agreement has already been signed by the French President. In particular, the agreement regulates the issues of residence permits and job quotas.

Read key provisions of the agreement at the following link
Moldova to launch *Diaspora Succeeds at Home* programme

The Moldovan diaspora is encouraged to support the development of their settlements of origin through the programme *Diaspora Succeeds at Home* (DAR 1+3).

The financing of projects within the programme will be made based on the 1+3 partnership; Diaspora’s financial contribution will be supplemented by the government, jointly with local public authorities, development partners, and donors.

Please find main activities envisaged by the programme by the following [link](http://eapmigrationpanel.org/en/news).

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**UKRAINE | 07/12/18**

**Lithuania, Ukraine sign agreement on employment and labour migration**

On 7 December, Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania signed the agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on employment and cooperation in the field of labour migration.

The purpose of the document is to ensure the protection of labour and social rights of Ukrainian workers in the Republic of Lithuania and Lithuanian workers in Ukraine, as well as to counteract irregular labour migration.

Read the details at the following [link](http://eapmigrationpanel.org/en/news).


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