EU and UN sign agreement to help partner countries accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goals

The European Union and the United Nations signed yesterday a Contribution Agreement of EUR 30 million to the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda. The Fund is a central component of the ongoing reform of the UN Development System and seeks to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) worldwide. The UN has targeted the Fund’s capitalisation at a minimum of USD 290 million annually.

For further information, please follow this link 😊
ARMENIA | 18/09/19

**Number of Armenians seeking asylum in EU countries drops**

Number of Armenian citizens who sought asylum in the EU countries for the first time has declined by 27% in the first half of 2019 compared to 2018, and by 44% compared to 2017.

Find more statistics at the [link](#)

AZERBAIJAN | 13/09/19

**Quota on employment of foreigners half full**

The Cabinet of Ministers of Azerbaijan set a quota for 6,800 foreign migrants in 2019. According to the Chief of Azerbaijan’s State Migration Service Vusal Huseynov, applications for more than half of the quota for obtaining a work permit have already been accepted.

Eager to know the fee for a work permit in Azerbaijan? Find the answer at the following [link](#)

BELARUS | 20/09/19

**Draft agreements on visas, readmission with EU approved**

Belarus has completed domestic procedures on visa facilitation and readmission agreements with the European Union. The documents should be ratified by the National Assembly of Belarus and approved by the European Parliament before official conclusion.

Find more details on the agreements at the following [link](#)

GEORGIA | 30/09/19

**Agreement on regulation of labour migration with Bulgaria signed**

An agreement of regulation of labour migration between Bulgaria and Georgia was signed within the framework of the first official visit of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria, on 30 September.

Learn the key provisions of the agreement at the [link](#)
IOM, EU help improve Moldova-Ukraine border

Over three million people crossing the Ukraine–Moldova border yearly will benefit from improvements to the Ukraine–Moldova border crossing point in Palanca (Moldova), which came on stream on 6 September.

Jointly operated by the border authorities of Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, the new Contact Point ensures real time exchange of data on persons and vehicles crossing the border, alert lists, emergency situations, and other issues. The Contact Point was equipped and refurbished by IOM with EUR 60,000 funding from the European Union.

Find more details on EU-IOM assistance in Ukraine and Moldova at the link

Long-stay visa fees to be introduced by Estonia for Ukrainians and Belarusians

Fees will be introduced for Ukrainians who apply for long-stay visas to live and work in Estonia.

The state expects approximately 2 million euro to be raised from the introduction of long-stay visa fees, known as D visas, and additional consular fees. In addition, fees will be introduced for accepting applications, issuing documents at foreign missions or through the Estonian consulates.

For further information, please follow this link

Find more news at http://eapmigrationpanel.org/en/news

Should you wish to be excluded from this distribution list or to add your colleagues to it, please do not hesitate to contact eapmigrationpanel-iomkyiv@iom.int