

MIGRATION SECURITY MAP OF UKRAINE

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Introduction

Nowadays, Ukraine is on its way to complete Visa Liberalisation Action Plan (VLAP). The European Mission, which assessed Ukraine's progress in realizing VLAP, has noted with satisfaction the substantial progress in tasks – fulfilment. On official data, successful VLAP implementation confirmed by the European Mission will allow the Ukrainian citizens for visa-free trips to the EU. But there is another factor that can influence on the decision of the EU Member States; it is a level of migration risks from Ukraine.

Resent events in Ukraine related with annexation of Crimea, armed conflict in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, devaluation of hryvna and economic crisis caused deep concern of European politicians around number of asylum seekers and refugees from Ukraine. Among the articles about Donbas people in the EU, the most interesting article of the influential European publishing outfit Euarctiv, quotes Robert Visser's words, the director of the European Office of Asylum Support. He has enrolled Ukraine to the "top six" of countries sending refugees to the EU. Surely this statement is wrong as well as exaggerated attention to the Ukrainians in the EU. This document aimed to substantiate why Ukrainian migration to the EU remains legal and under control of responsible migration services.

1. Asylum seekers from Ukraine into the EU

Part of Ukrainians affected by the conflict directed outside Ukraine. Thereby, the main route for Ukrainian asylum seekers is into Russian Federation (*Picture 1, Table 1*). From the beginning of the conflict there were registered 16 times more Ukrainian asylum seekers in Russian Federation than in whole European Union. The main barriers for moving into the EU member states are the lack of resources, low level of mobility, limited or absence of experience traveling abroad, lack of knowledge of foreign languages. In return, most people from Donbas area are historically and traditionally connected with neighboring Russian Federation.

Picture 1. Map of Ukrainian asylum seekers

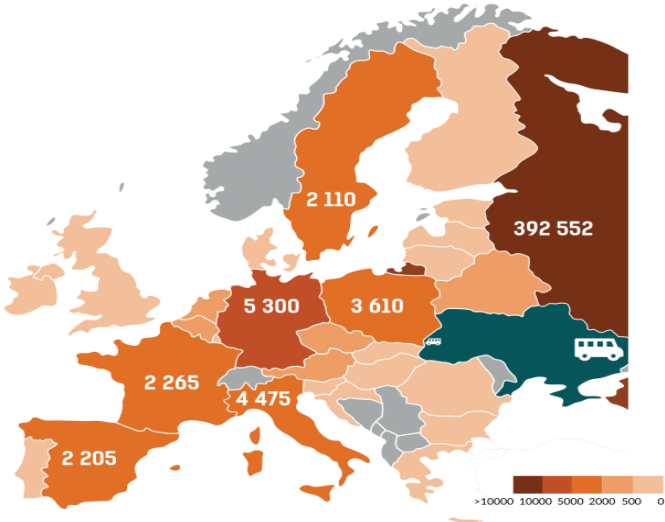


Table 1. Number of Ukrainian asylum seekers in 2014-2015*

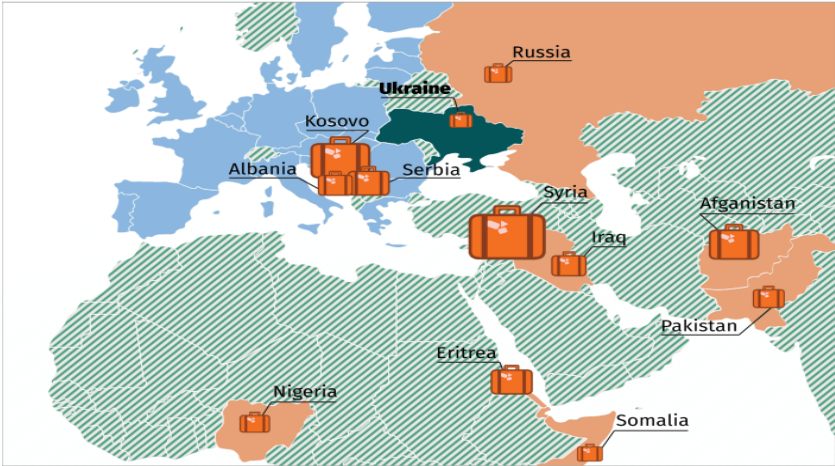
Destination country	Number of Ukrainian asylum seekers
Russian Federation	392552*
Germany	5 300
Italy	4 475
Poland	3 610
France	2 265
Spain	2 205
Sweden	2 110
Czech Republic	900
Belgium	820
Austria	775
Belarus	663**
Netherlands	555
United Kingdom	420
Portugal	400
Finland	335
Greece	245
Denmark	170
Cyprus	135
Estonia	115
Latvia	105
Lithuania	90
Bulgaria	85
Ireland	80
Malta	65
Romania	65
Hungary	50
Luxembourg	40
Slovakia	35
Slovenia	25
Croatia	10

**Data from EU member-states is for 2014 and Q1-Q2 2015, Eurostat¹;
Data from Russian Federation is for 2014-23.09.15, Federal Migration Service;
Data from Belarus is for 2014.*

In 2014 the number of Ukrainians seeking an asylum in the EU-28 increased 13 times compared with 2013 year. Even so, Ukraine is not in the top ten countries of origin of asylum seekers in the EU.

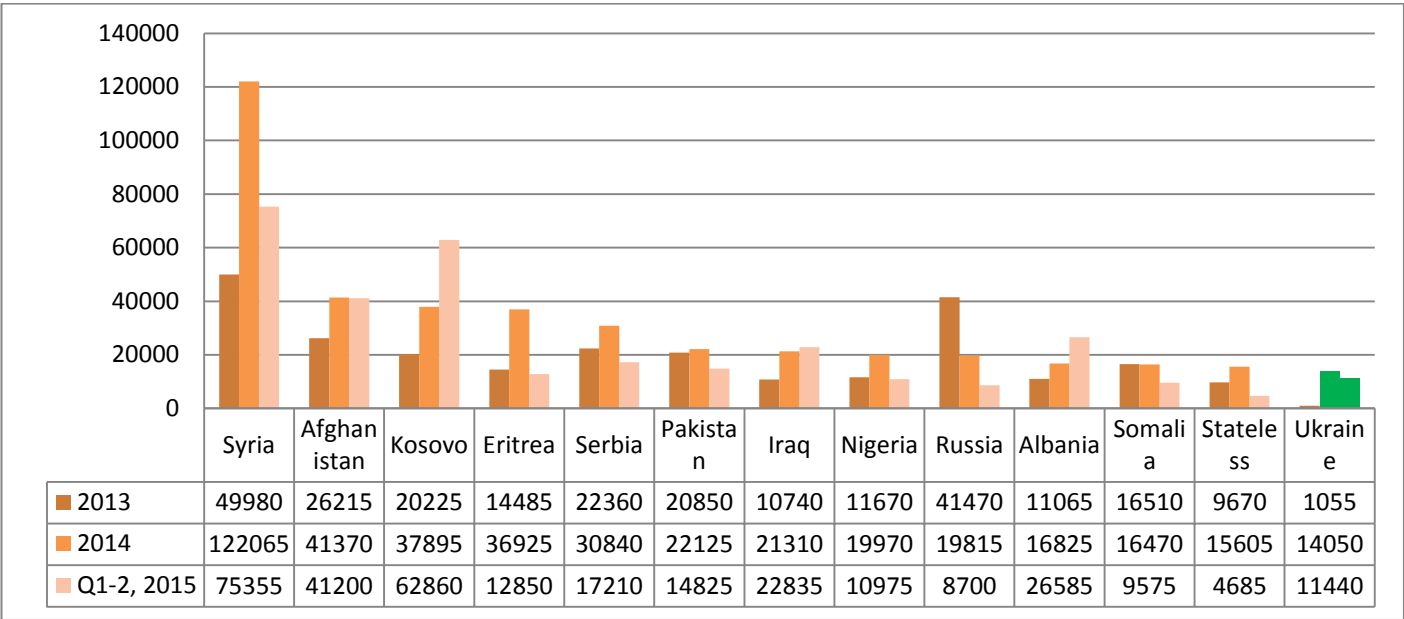
¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/asylum-and-managed-migration/data/database>

Picture 2. Countries of origin for asylum seekers in the EU member states



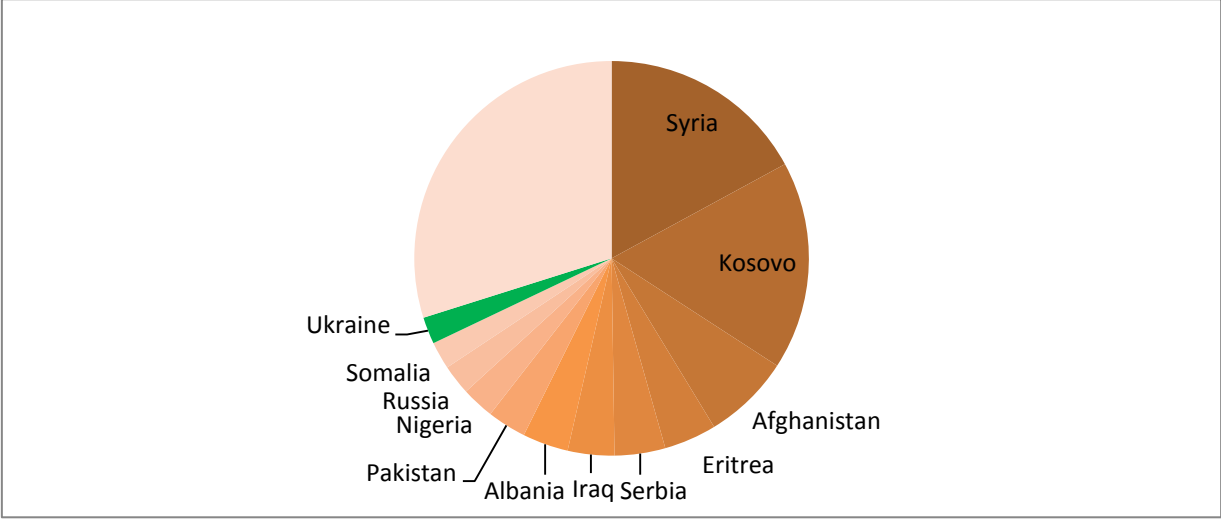
In first half of 2015 situation in the EU with asylum seekers became more complicated. As it is on *Figure 1* number of applicants from such countries as Kosovo, Iraq and Albania exceeded last year's figure. Number of applicants from Syria, Afghanistan, Serbia, Pakistan, Nigeria, Somalia and also Ukraine is more than half of last year's figure. So **increasing of asylum applications in the EU is the general trend in 2015.**

Figure 1. Top 13 Countries of origin of (non-EU) asylum seekers in the EU-28 Member States, 2013, 2014, Q1-2 2015, Eurostat



In 2014-2015 Ukrainian asylum applicants accounted for 2,2% of the total from all non-member countries, while Syrian, Afghani, Kosovars, Eritreans and Serbian applicants accounted for 44% (*Figure 3*).

Figure 2. Share in total number asylum seekers in the EU-28 Member States, 2014, Q1-2 2015, %, Eurostat



Number of Ukrainian asylum applications in the EU-28 remains rather high during 2014 and first half of 2015. But the low speed of processing applications (Figure 3, Table 2) and the vast majority of rejected applications (Figure 4, Table 3) let assume that most Ukrainian applicants are not priority and also are not eligible for refugee status. In eight EU member states level of rejected Ukrainian asylum applications is coming up to 100%, including neighbouring Poland which traditionally accepts the vast number of Ukrainian migrants. For example, in first half of year in Poland there were only 5 positive decisions on Ukrainian applications, when other 925 applications were rejected. The possible explanation for this is that most registered in the EU asylum seekers are Ukrainian labour migrants who try to legalize their further staying in member states. At the very end, share of rejected asylum applications is 78% in 2014 and 74% in Q 1-2 of 2015. Share of asylum seekers who received refugee status is 4% in 2014 and 5% in Q 1-2 of 2015.

Figure 3. Ukrainian first time asylum applicants and decisions, Q1-Q4 2014 and Q1-Q2 2015, Eurostat

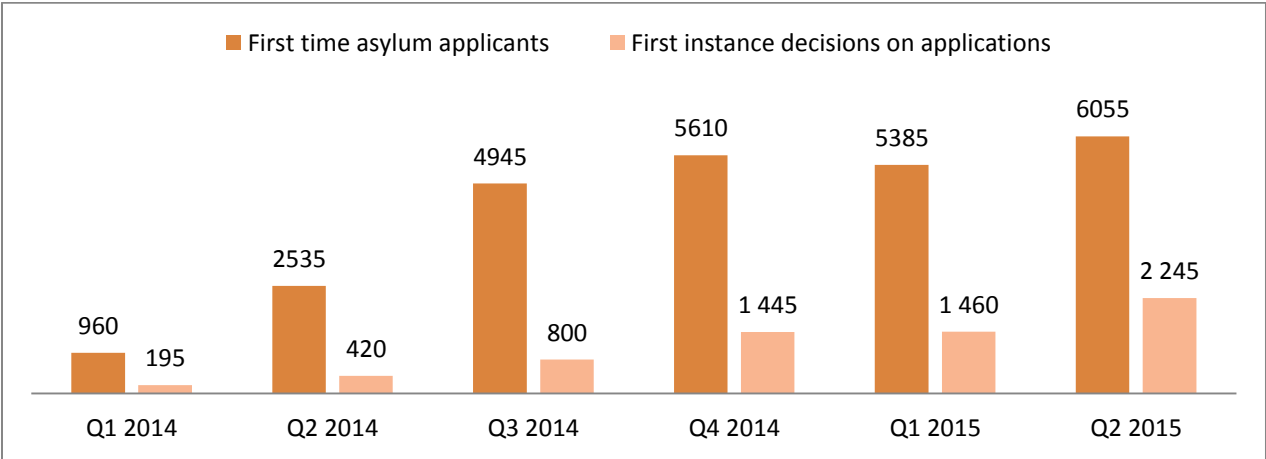


Table 2. Share of decisions for Ukrainian asylum applications, 2014, Q 1-2 2015, Eurostat

Destination country	% of decisions to total number of Ukrainian applications
Belgium	53
Bulgaria	29
Czech Republic	78
Denmark	18
Germany	2
Estonia	22
Ireland	50
Greece	67
Spain	5
France	42
Croatia	50
Italy	20
Cyprus	0
Latvia	10
Lithuania	67
Luxembourg	25
Hungary	60
Malta	38
Netherlands	65
Austria	0
Poland	44
Portugal	5
Romania	85
Slovenia	80
Slovakia	100
Finland	73
Sweden	16
United Kingdom	73

Figure 4. First instance decisions on Ukrainian asylum applications, Q1-Q2 2015, Eurostat

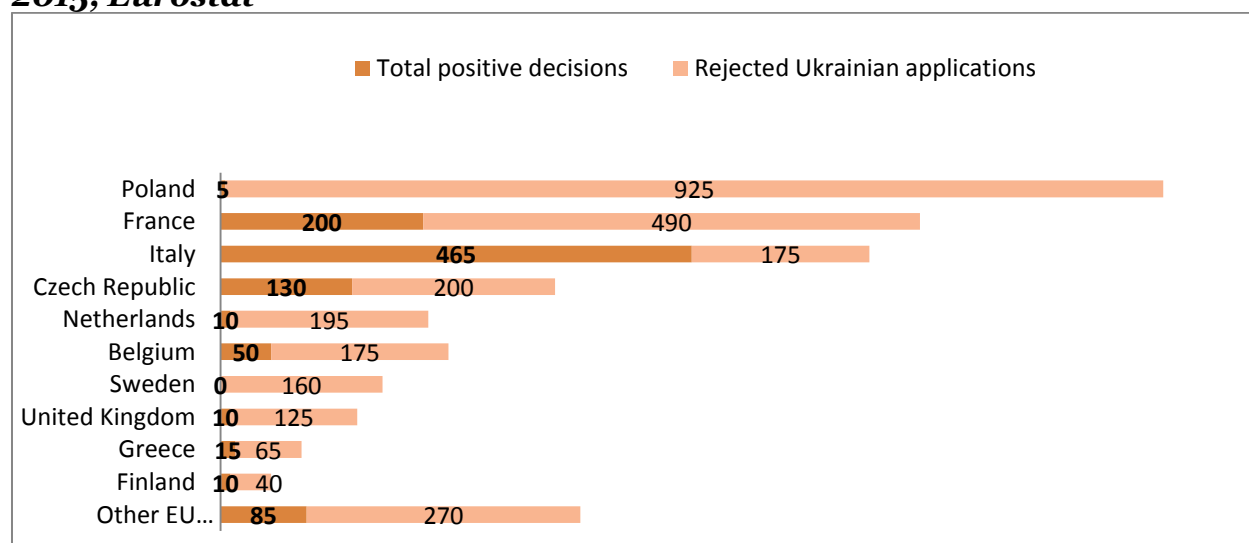


Table 3. Share of rejected asylum applications, 2014, Q 1-2 2015, Eurostat

Destination country	% of rejected asylum applications to number of total decisions
Denmark	100
Spain	100
Slovenia	100
Latvia	100
Poland	99
Sweden	96
Netherlands	96
Finland	94
Ireland	88
Greece	88
Belgium	85
Hungary	83
Bulgaria	80
France	75
Czech Republic	61
United Kingdom	61
Slovakia	56
Germany	55
Luxembourg	50
Romania	45
Italy	29
Lithuania	17
Malta	0
Estonia	0
Croatia	0
Portugal	0
Cyprus	0
Austria	no data

Ukrainians accounted for the highest number of applicants in 3 of the EU-28 Member States (*Figure 5*): Czech Republic, Portugal and Estonia. These three countries are among the least popular countries of arrival of asylum seekers in the EU (Estonia is the 28th from 28, Portugal – 23th, Czech Republic – 20th).

Figure 5. Five main citizenships of (non-EU) asylum applicants in Czech Republic, Portugal and Estonia (number, rounded figures), 2014, Eurostat²

Czech Republic	#	Portugal	#	Estonia	#
Ukraine	515	Ukraine	155	Ukraine	60
Syria	110	Pakistan	25	Sudan	20
Vietnam	65	Marocco	25	Russia	20
Russia	40	Sierra Leone	25	Egypt	10
Cuba	40	Mali	20	Syria	5
Other	375	Other	190	Other	40

Ukrainians accounted for the second highest number of applicants in 4 countries of the EU Member States (Figure 6): Poland, Spain, Cyprus and Latvia. The highest numbers of applicants in these countries are from Georgia, Syria and Russia with 1.5 times more than Ukrainian applicants.

Figure 6. Five main citizenships of (non-EU) asylum applicants in Latvia, Cyprus, Spain and Poland (number, rounded figures), 2014, Eurostat

Latvia	#	Cyprus	#	Spain	#	Poland	#
Georgia	175	Syria	955	Syria	1510	Russia	4000
Ukraine	75	Ukraine	95	Ukraine	895	Ukraine	2275
Syria	35	Egypt	85	Mali	595	Georgia	720
Iraq	20	India	80	Algeria	305	Armenia	135
Afghanistan	15	Vietnam	80	Palestine	200	Kyrgyzstan	120
Other	55	Other	410	Other	2110	Other	770

Ukrainians accounted for the third highest number of applicants in 3 countries of the EU Member States (Figure 7): Finland, Lithuania, Slovakia. The highest numbers of applicants in these countries are from Iraq, Somalia, Georgia, Afghanistan and Syria with 1.5 times more than Ukrainian applicants.

Figure 7. Five main citizenships of (non-EU) asylum applicants in Slovakia, Lithuania and Finland (number, rounded figures), 2014, Eurostat

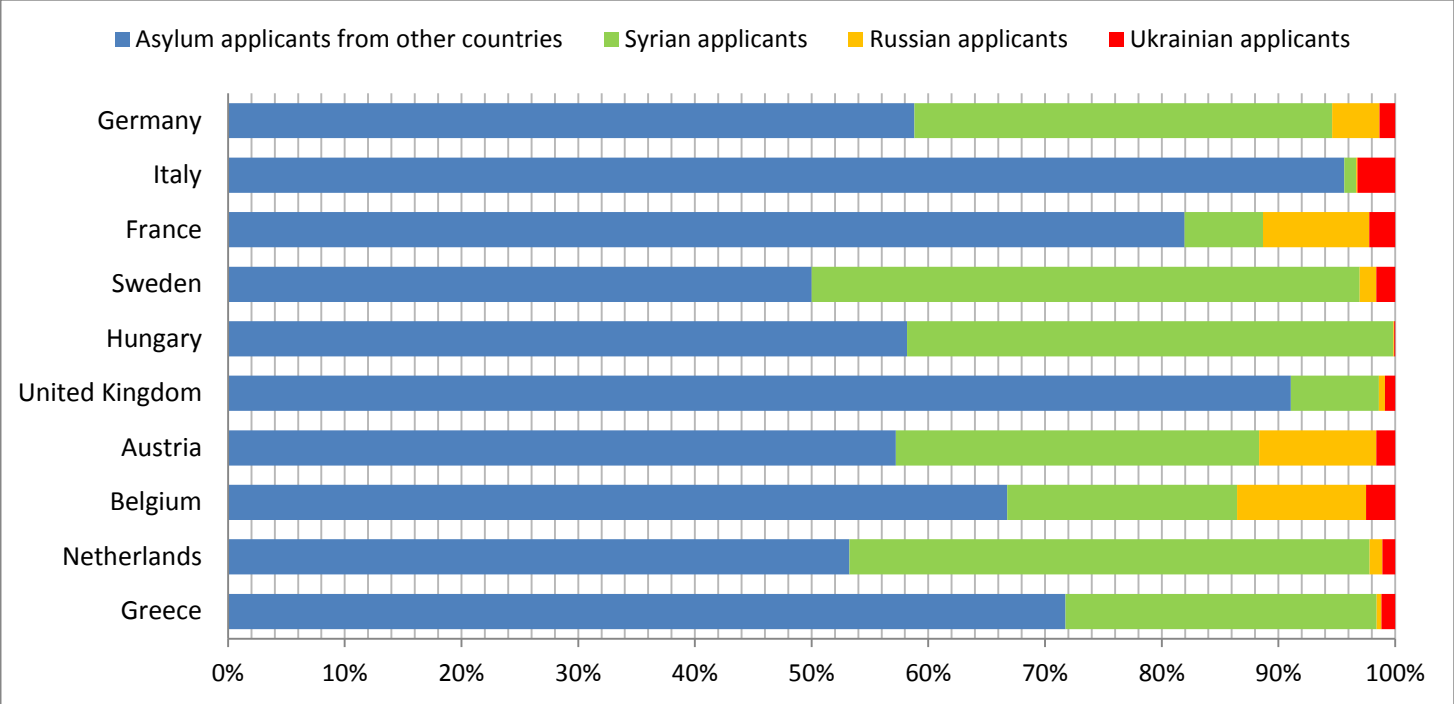
Slovakia	#	Lithuania	#	Finland	#
Afghanistan	95	Georgia	115	Iraq	820
Syria	40	Afghanistan	85	Somalia	410
Ukraine	25	Ukraine	70	Ukraine	300
Vietnam	25	Russia	55	Afghanistan	205
Somalia	20	Vietnam	30	Russia	200
Other	125	Other	85	Other	1685

Considering top ten countries of the EU with the highest number of asylum applicants (Figure 8), number of Ukrainian applicants is mainly much smaller than from Syria or

² http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Asylum_statistics

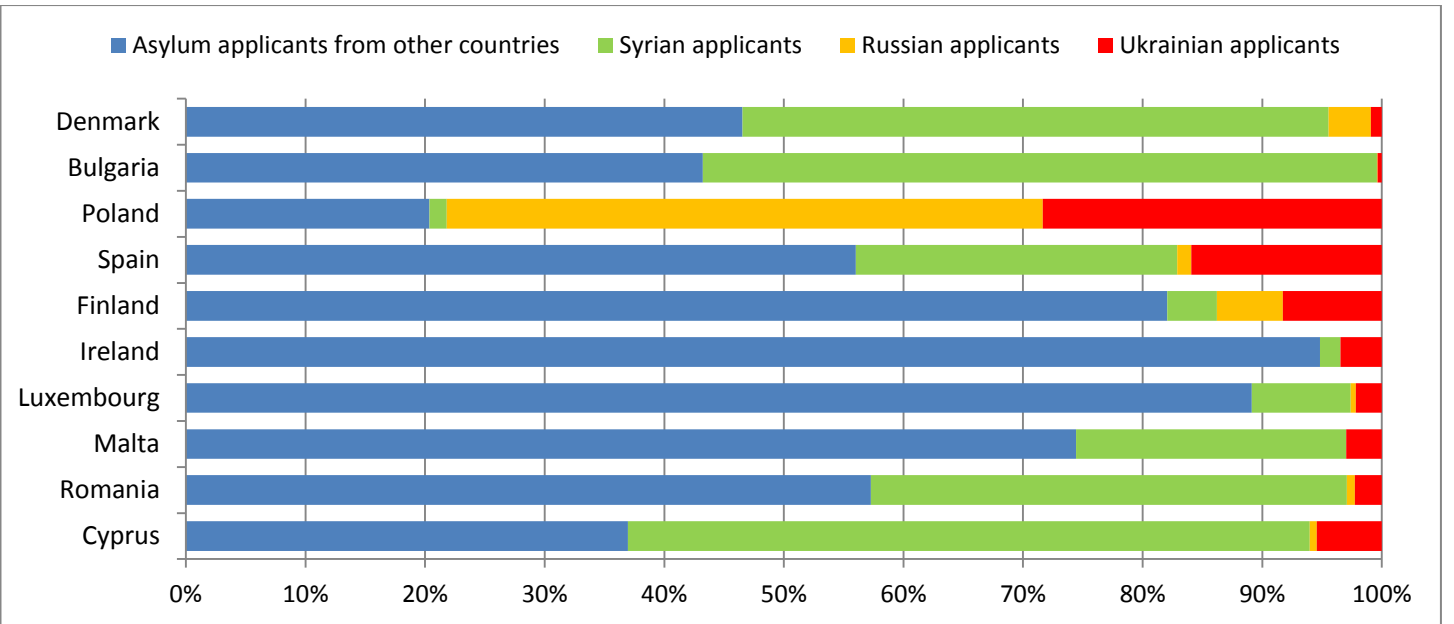
neighbouring Russia. For instance, percentage of Ukrainian applicants does not exceed 8% among these countries.

Figure 8. Top ten countries of the EU with the highest number of asylum applicants, 2014, Eurostat



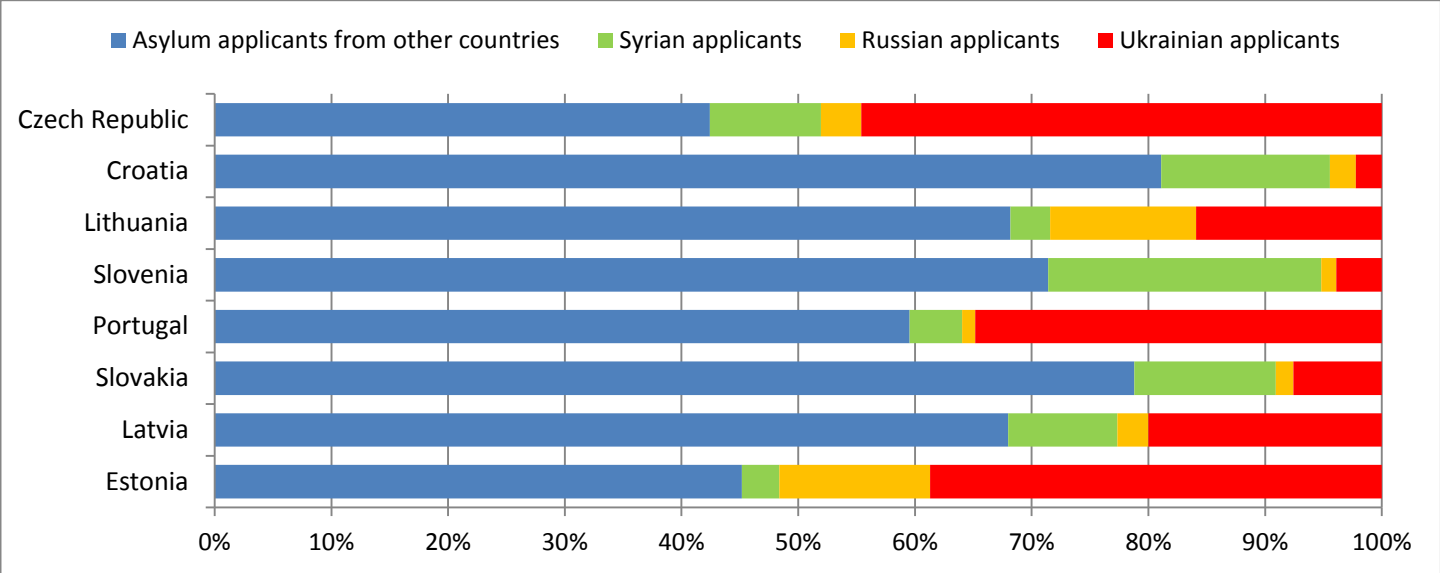
Among countries of the EU with the medium level of asylum applicants (*Figure 9*), number of Ukrainian applicants exceeds both Syrian and Russian only in Finland and Ireland. However, in Ireland number of Ukrainian applicants is 4%, in Finland – 10%. Rather high percentage of Ukrainian applicants is in Poland (28%) and Spain (16%). But number of Russian applicants in Poland (50%) and Syrian applicants in Spain (27%) are still higher.

Figure 9. Countries of the EU with the medium level of asylum applicants, 2014, Eurostat



Among countries of the EU with the lowest level of asylum applicants (Figure 10), percentage of Ukrainian applicants is rather high, especially in Czech Republic (44%), Estonia (38%) and Portugal (35%).

Figure 10. Countries with the lowest level of asylum applications



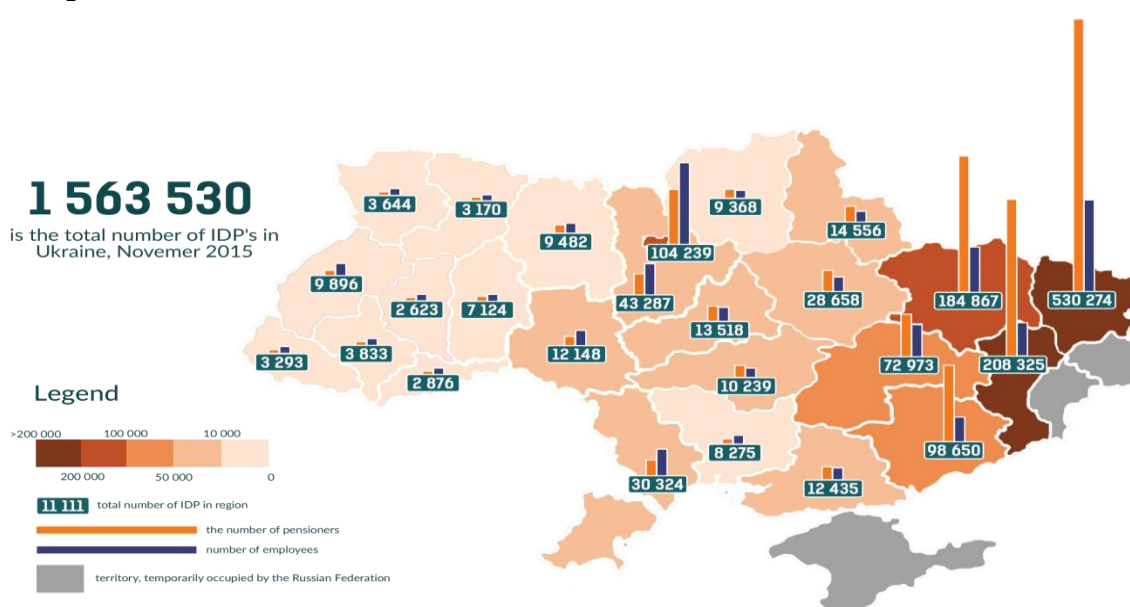
To sum up, number of Ukrainians who sought asylum in the EU-28 in 2014 increased 13 times compared to 2013 year. Even so, Ukraine is not among top ten countries of origin of asylum seekers in the EU. Number of Ukrainian asylum seekers in the EU countries with the highest level of asylum applicants (Germany, Italy, France and Sweden) is not significant. For example, percentage of Ukrainian applicants does not exceed 4% among these countries of destination. Instead, Ukrainians accounted for the highest number of applicants in the least popular countries of arrival of asylum seekers like Czech Republic, Portugal and Estonia. Most likely it happens because of steadily low inflow of asylum seekers in these countries. Finally, the majority of Ukrainian asylum applications were rejected (78% in 2014, 74% in Q 1-2 in 2015). The most likely reason of high level of rejection is the relocation of Ukrainians for economic reasons to the more prosperous European countries.

2. Internally displaced persons in Ukraine

The emergence of internally displaced people in Ukraine is the result of annexation of Crimea and armed conflict in the Eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Lugansk regions). Despite the bilateral ceasefire started from 15 February 2015, the concentrated fighting remains along the frontline. The most unstable situation is near Donetsk city, Lugansk city and Mariupol. Totally, territories occupied by pro-Russian separatists are no more than 5 % of Ukraine.

In accordance with Ministry of Social Policy, on 2 November 2015 there were registered 1,563,530 IDP's³. There are several reasons why this statistic is not accurate:

- Still there are difficulties with the registration of newly arrived IDP's and re-registration of IDPs with expiring certificates.
- Many pensioners have registered as IDP's to be able to receive pension payments from Government of Ukraine, and then moved back home to the occupied territories or to the neighbouring countries (Russian Federation, Belarus). That's why the percentage of pensioners among IDP's in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Lugansk regions and Kharkov and Zaporozhe regions are much higher than working age adults (*Figure 1*).
- Although according to Ukrainian legislation inhabitants of the occupied territories cannot be mobilized to the army, so men in the age of conscription often do not registered as IDP's not to be sent to the army.
- Some IDP's returned to the conflict zones after registration, as the devaluation of the national currency has limited their ability to afford basic living expenses, including rent and food⁴.
- State Emergency Service reported about 999,422 IDPs who were replaced from the beginning of the conflict till 20 November 2015. So, various sources of information provide different data about IDPs⁵.

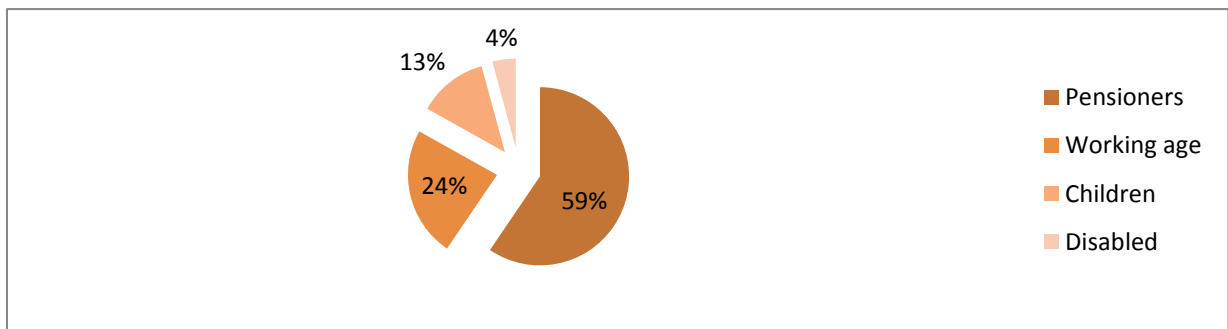


³ http://www.mlsp.gov.ua/labour/control/uk/publish/article?art_id=183027&cat_id=107177

⁴ <http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/reports/2015/05/ukraine-internal-displacement/ukrainian-govt-responses-to-internal-displacement-may-2015.pdf>

⁵ <http://www.mns.gov.ua/news/34232.html>

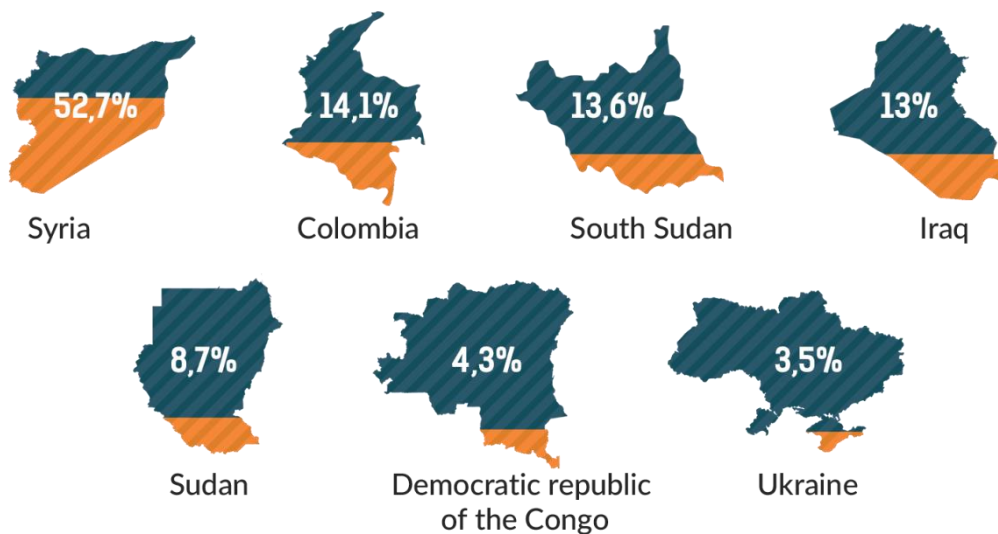
Figure 1. IDPs in Ukraine, July 2015



The last comprehensive research of Kyiv International Institute of Sociology about the IDPs shows that 54% of respondents consider their situation as temporary, and would like to return home. 26% intend to return home during this period, and others are undecided. So the results of research shows that most Ukrainian IDPs have intentions to return home and do not consider to stay in their temporary homes or move outside Ukraine.

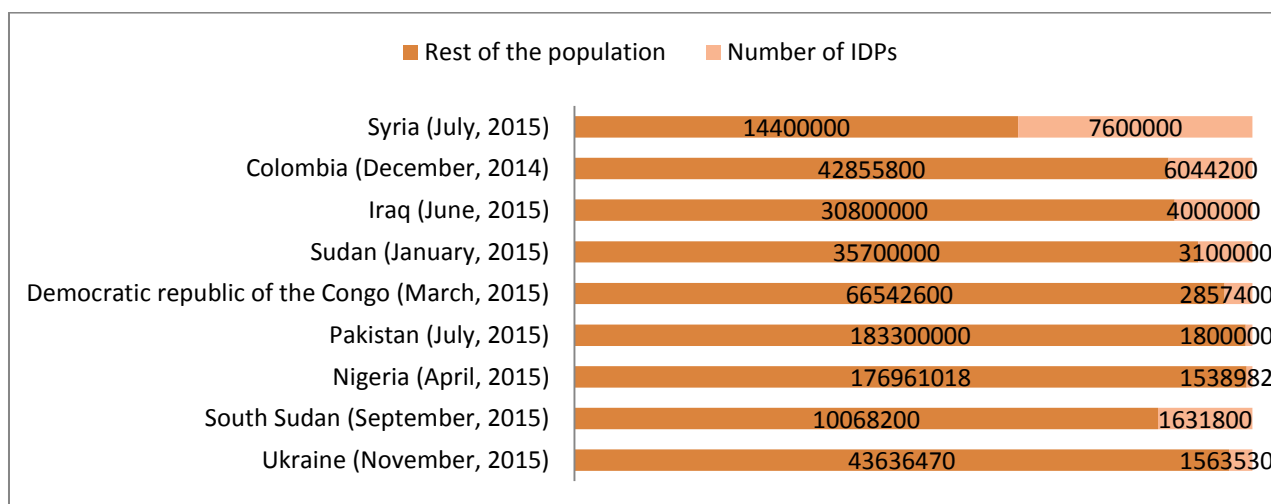
According to Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre⁶⁷, Ukraine is in a top nine countries with the highest number of IDP's after the conflict. However, share of Ukrainian IDP's is 3,5% of the total population and it is much lower than in other countries (*Figure 2*).

Figure 2. Countries with the highest number of IDP's after the conflict



⁶ <http://www.internal-displacement.org/europe-the-caucasus-and-central-asia/ukraine/>

⁷ <http://www.internal-displacement.org/global-figures>



Since March 2015, special law establishes guarantees of the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of internally displaced persons. In October 2014, Resolution 509 established a unified registration system for IDPs, administered by the Ministry of Social Policy. This resolution provided for legal recognition of IDPs, allowing them to access state support and entitlement to government assistance, pensions and free housing for a period of up to six months, with the possibility of extension. Special informational resource for IDP's was created by the Ministry of Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Communal Services of Ukraine. This website included information about contact centres for IDPs, free housing, guidelines for finding work, and suggestions for dealing with other issues.

To sum up, due to annexation of Crimea and conflict between pro-Russian separatist forces and Ukraine in Donetsk and Lugansk regions, 1,5 million internally displaced people appeared in Ukraine. Territories occupied by pro-Russian separatists are no more than 5 % of Ukrainian total area. These territories are far from the Ukrainian borders with the EU states. So the main routes for people affected during the conflict directed to border regions of Ukraine and Russian Federation. Number of registered IDP's, especially pensioners is not accurate. Mostly, IDPs are going to return home.

3. Ukrainian labour migrants

According to the last Labour Migration Survey⁸ 2012, 1.2 million, or 5.7% of the Ukrainian population aged 15-70 were identified as labour migrants, who have been working from January 2010 until June 2012. Almost half of these (48.5%) were short-term labour migrants (circular migration). The Russian Federation was the main focus of Ukrainian migration in 2012 followed by Poland according to the survey.

Number of labour migrants from Ukraine in 2015 increased because of socio-economic reasons. Devaluation of national currency, reducing of number of business entities and the emergence of internally displaced persons affected the unemployment rate. In addition, increased inflation caused the reduction of real wage in Ukraine. There was rapid price increase of utilities, transport fares, medicines and food.

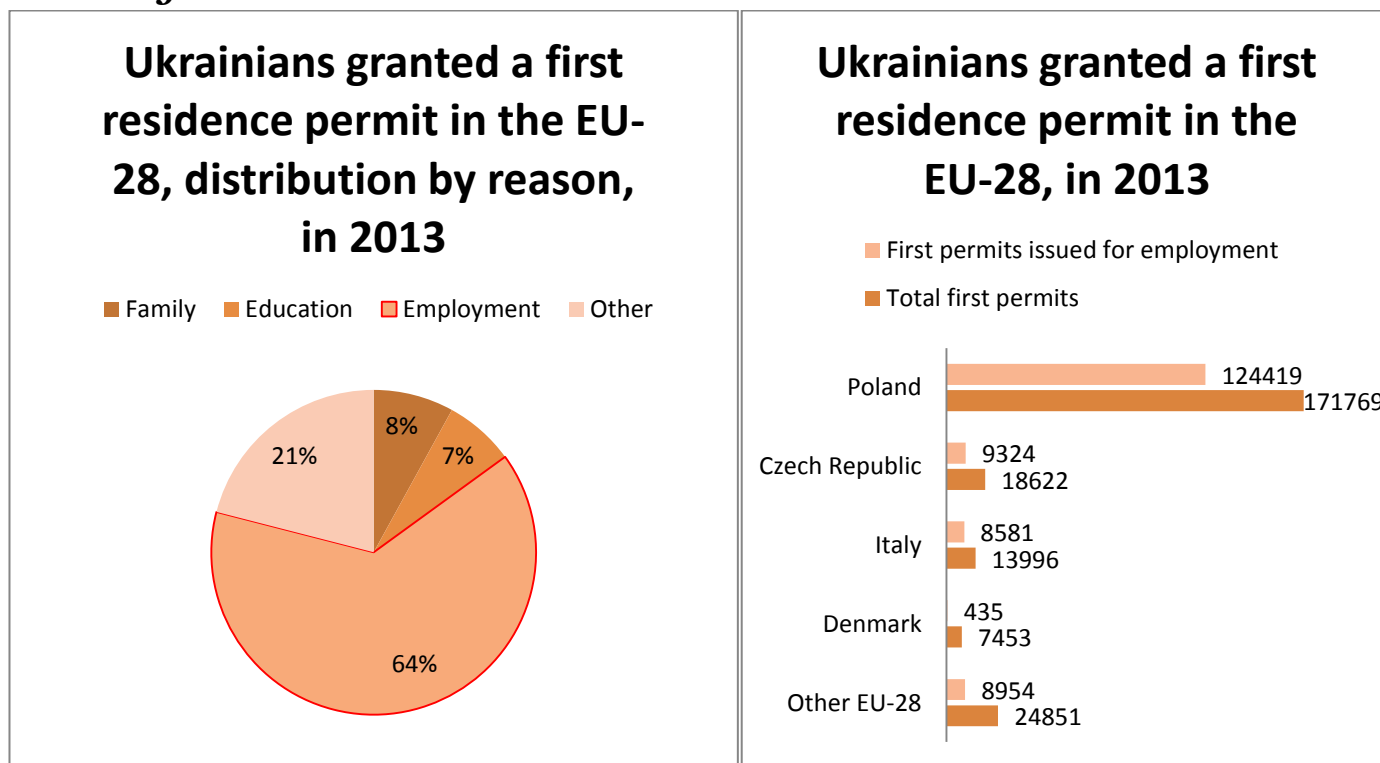
⁸ http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---europe/---ro-geneva/---sro-budapest/documents/publication/wcms_244693.pdf

Picture 1. Destination countries of Ukrainian migrants (%), 2010-2012



However, even before the beginning of conflict situation in Donetsk and Lugansk regions in 2013 Ukrainians were the top non-EU citizens granted first residence permit in the EU (Picture 2)⁹. Most of Ukrainians received an employment related permit and the principal destination country was Poland.

Figure 1



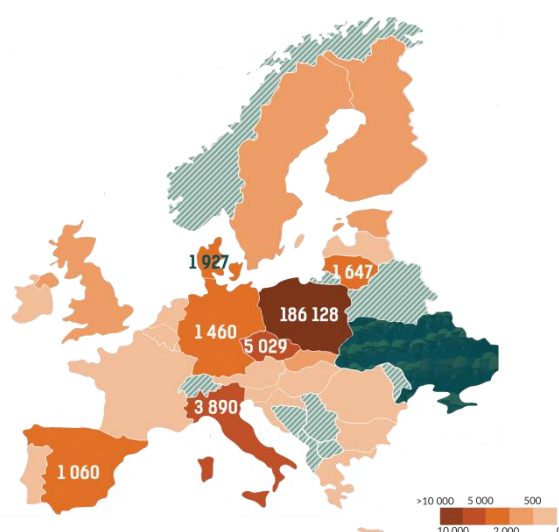
⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Residence_permits_statistics

Picture 2. Top-3 countries of origin with the highest number of first residence work permits in 2013



Data about first residence work permits for Ukrainians shows that most labour migrants in 2014 directed to Poland, Czech Republic and Italy (*Picture 3*). On the other hand, data from all valid employment permits in the end of 2014 suggests that the largest growth took place in Germany (+24%), Poland (+15%) and Slovakia (+17%).

Picture 3. First residence work permits for Ukrainians in the EU-28, 2014, Eurostat



The number of issued employment related permits in Germany and Slovakia mainly increased by permits with 12 months or over duration (*Figure 2*). In Poland number of annual permits also increased, but there was a significant growth in the issuance of seasonal permits (by 25 times), while number of permits from 6 to 11 months duration decreased by 24% (*Figure 3*).

Figure 2

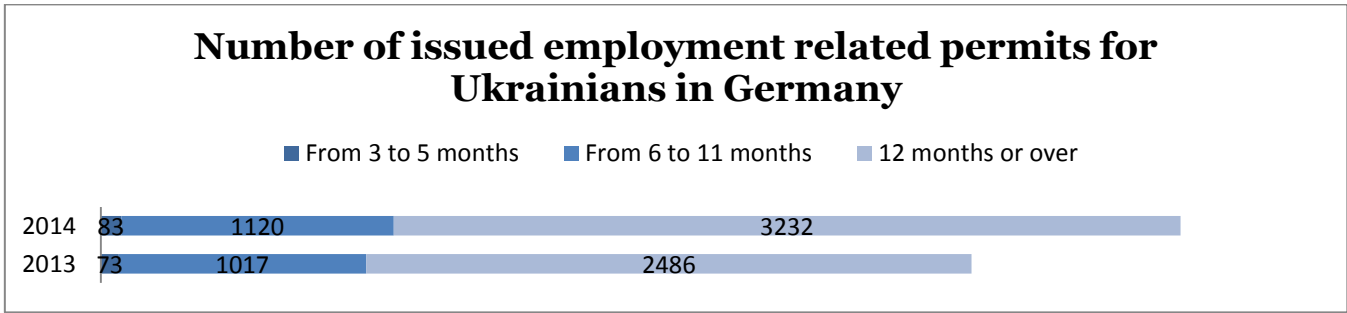


Figure 3



Thus, current number of labour migrants from Ukraine probably is higher than 1.2 million people because of socio-economic causes. One of the possible ways to track the actual number of Ukrainian labour migrants in the EU is to explore residence permit statistics. However, it is necessary to consider that not all labour migrants are working with work permits. Many of them are working without official status, with temporary registration or even having a tourist visa.

According to Eurostat, in 2013 before the beginning of conflict situation in Donetsk and Lugansk regions Ukrainians were the top non-EU citizens granted first residence permit in the EU. In 2013 most of Ukrainians received work permit in Poland. Much more Ukrainians left for work in Poland for a sort-term period (from 3 to 5 months) and in Germany, Slovakia for more than 12 months.

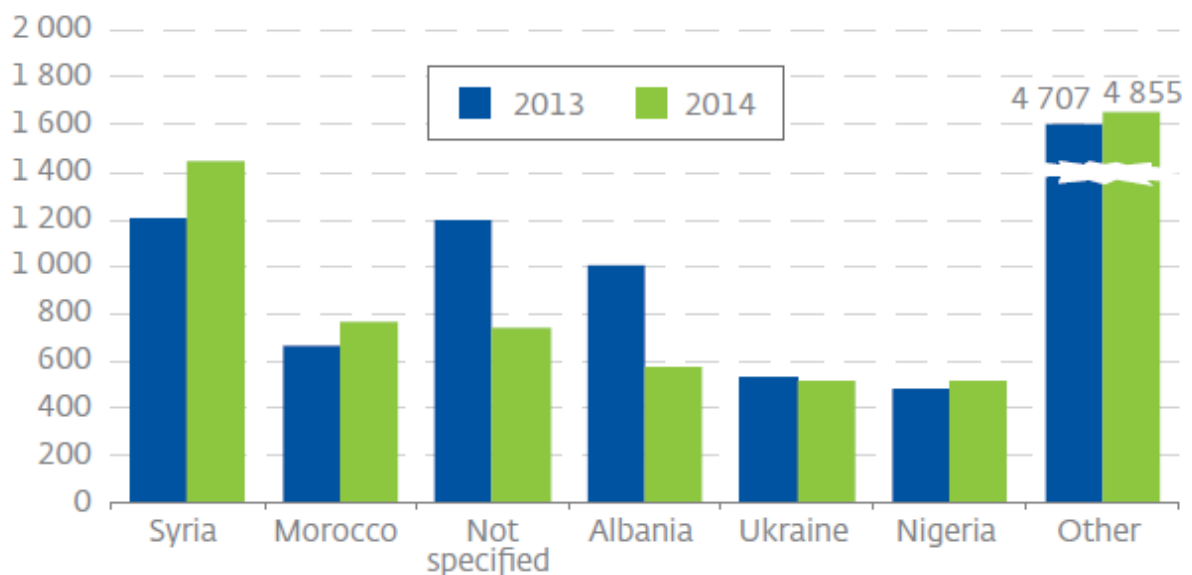
4. Irregular migration from Ukraine to the EU

According to European Migration Network, irregular migration is a Movement of persons to a new place of residence or transit that takes place outside the regulatory norms of the sending, transit and receiving countries.

In the opinion of Migration Policy Centre, in 2013 Ukraine became one of the major transit countries for irregular migrants from former USSR states (Russia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia) to Western Europe. Recent annexation of Crimea and armed conflict in the Eastern Ukraine are important factors affecting population movements. However, these events have not resulted in marked changes in irregular migration movements towards the EU (Frontex).

Frontex experts reported that detections for illegal border-crossing and document fraud remains insignificant along all green border section with Ukraine (*Figure 1*)¹⁰.

Figure 1. Detections of document fraud on entry to the EU area, by nationality of the holder, 2013-2014

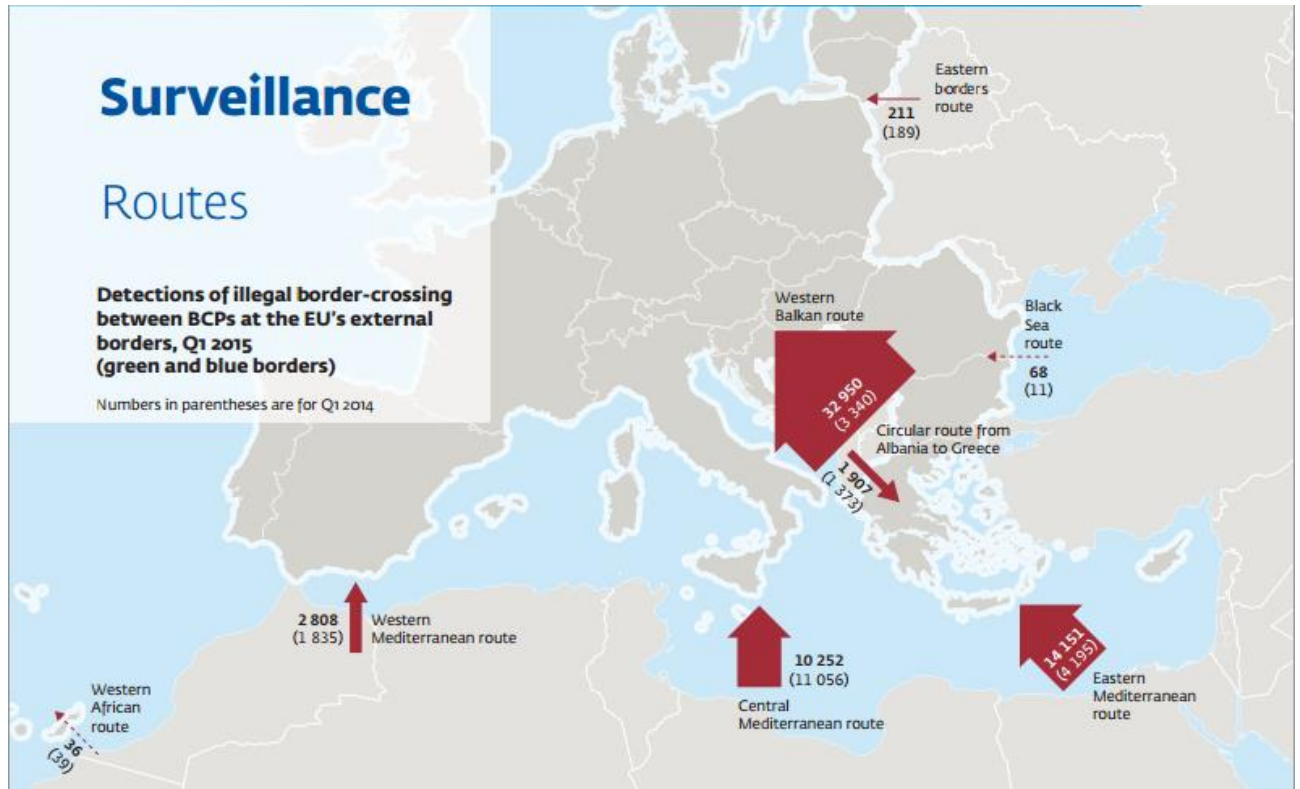


In Quarter 1 2015, only 211 persons were detected illegally crossing the eastern border into the EU, with a majority trying to enter Hungary from the Ukraine (Syrian and Afghan nationals). To compare, 32950 persons were detected on western Balkan route in the same period (*Figure 2*)¹¹

¹⁰ http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/Annual_Risk_Analysis_2015.pdf

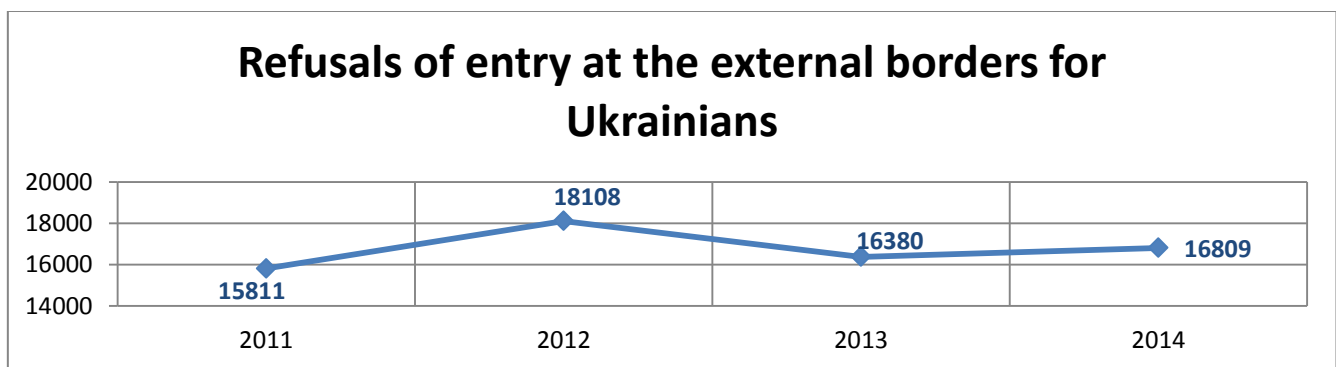
¹¹ http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/FRAN_Q1_2015.pdf

Figure 2



Since 2009 (with the exception of 2013 when Russians of Chechen origins ranked first), most of the persons refused entry at EU borders were Ukrainians. The number of refusals of entry for Ukrainians in 2014 remained comparable to previous years (Figure 3). The same main reasons for refusals of entry were the lack of a valid visa (30%) and the lack of appropriate documentation justifying the purpose of stay (21%).

Figure 3

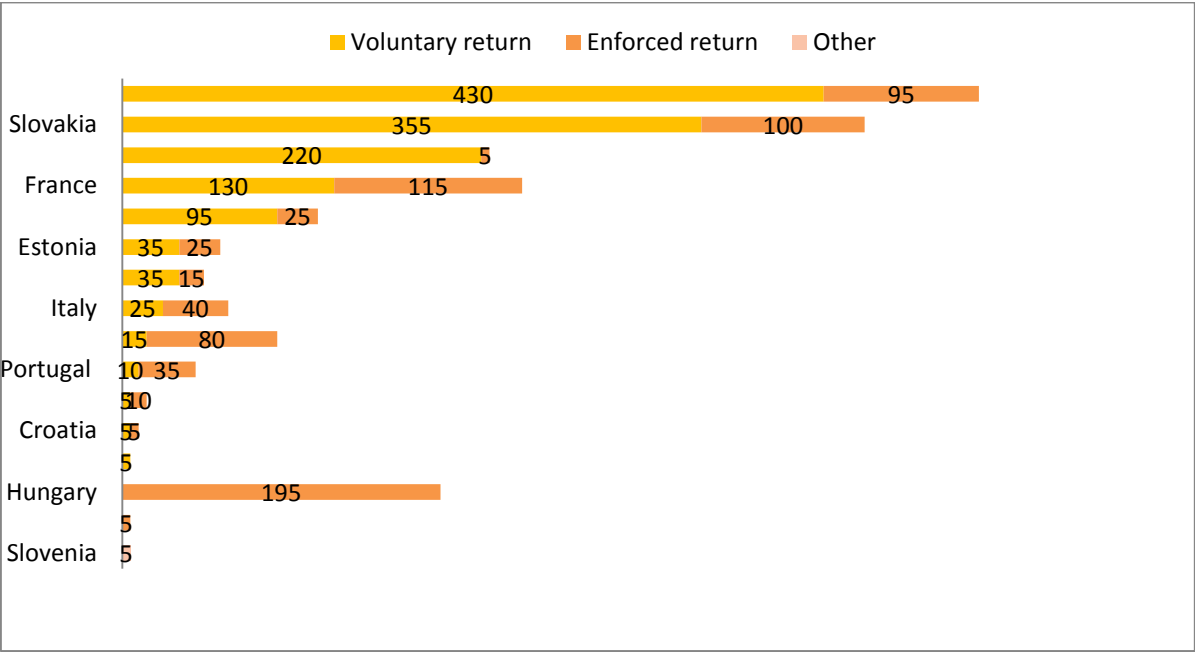


In 2014 more Ukrainians were detected staying illegal in EU countries and then were effectively returned. Frontex experts believe that Ukrainian illegal stayers had entered the EU legally and overstayed or entered the EU through the abuse of legal means, such as fraudulently obtained work or business visas¹². According to Eurostat information on 13 EU Member States, Ukrainians mostly have voluntarily returned to Ukraine from Belgium, Slovakia, Latvia, France, Sweden, Estonia and Romania. Much smaller number of

¹² http://frontex.europa.eu/assets/Publications/Risk_Analysis/EB_ARA_2015.pdf

Ukrainians has perforce returned to Ukraine from other countries in *Figure 4*, except Hungary.

Figure 4. Ukrainians who have left the EU by type of return, 2014, Eurostat

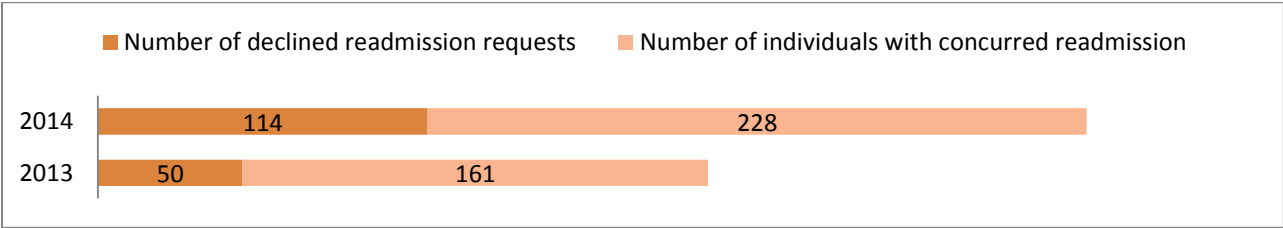


5. Readmission agreements

The Agreement between Ukraine and the European Communities (European Union) on the readmission of persons, which is in force since 2008, allows the authorities of EU Member States to directly readmit third country nationals who have entered the Union illegally from Ukraine. At the end of 2013, Ukraine has signed implementing protocols of the Agreement with Czech Republic, Austria, and Estonia. It also prepared and processed draft implementing protocols with Cyprus, Poland, Portugal and Italy. The negotiations on concluding the readmission agreement with Swiss Confederation, Spain and Serbia were on their final stage.

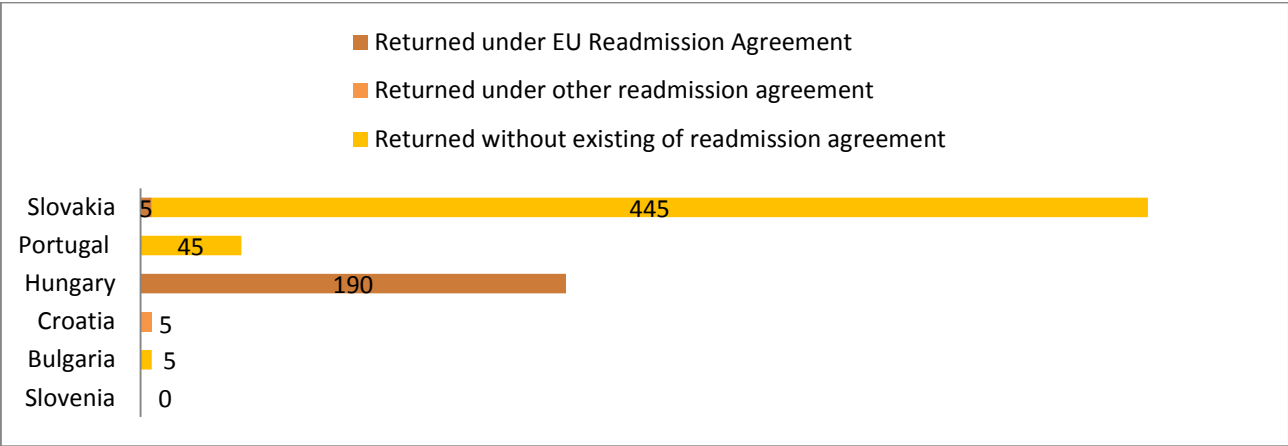
According to State Migration Service of Ukraine, number of total received readmission requests in 2014 increased by 67 % (*Figure 5*). Besides, readmission was concurred for 10% fewer individuals.

Figure 5. Number of received readmission requests in Ukraine (2013-2014), Eurostat



Specific data for Ukrainians and other third country nationals who have left EU Member States to Ukraine by type of readmission agreement procedure is available on Eurostat only for six countries. As it is on *Figure 5*, in 2014 only from Hungary there were returned to Ukraine under EU readmission agreement 190 nationals, from Slovakia – 5 nationals. From Croatia there were returned under other readmission agreement 5 nationals. Probably, data on concurred readmission from State Migration Service of Ukraine is inaccurate and underestimated.

Figure 6. Third-country nationals who have left EU Member States to Ukraine by type of agreement procedure



To sum up, irregular migration from Ukraine to the EU remains comparable to previous years. Primary problem in this sphere is the increased number of Ukrainians staying illegal in EU countries.

6. Assistance projects to help Internally displaced persons in Ukraine implemented by international organizations

United Nation High Commissionaire on Refugees

UNHCR continues to support government and civic society in their response to the displacement, as well as provides aid directly to the most vulnerable.

Technical Assistance to the Government

On October 22, UNHCR, Ministry of Social Policy (MSP) of Ukraine and Georgian Innovation and Development Foundation signed Memorandum of Understanding which envisions technical assistance to MSP in order to develop registration system for IDPs. (total value of 2,5 mln. UAH/160,000 USD).

On November 10, UNHCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine. Within the frameworks of Memorandum, the Agencies agreed to join their efforts to address problems of IDPs. (value of 58,000 USD).

Since March, UNHCR has provided more than 500,000 UAH of technical assistance to local authorities in Kyiv, Luhansk, Kherson, Lviv and Dnipropetrovsk region in mounting a response to internal displacement.

Support to Civil Society

- **250,000 USD** are allocated to establish of a network of legal counselors in Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Lviv, Mariupol, Zaporizhzhia and Zakarpattia through the partner NGO Right to Protect to strengthen the provision of free legal aid to IDPs;

- **176,000 USD** for provision of social assistance to IDPs through its partner Crimean Development Fund (Crimea SOS) in Lviv, Kherson and Kyiv regions;

- **1,300,00 UAH / 87,000 USD** for strengthening capacity of local NGOs assisting IDPs Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Vinnytsia;

[UNHCR has signed a memorandum with Ukrainian National Society of Red Cross to supply NFIs and supplementary food to 5,000 IDPs in different locations around Ukraine. First 625 packages were already distributed in Kharkiv region as a pilot project in July - August 2014, reaching nearly 1,700 beneficiaries.](#)

Non Food Items

As of 20 January, UNHCR has dispatched over 24,700 blankets, 25,000 bed linens, 7,000 towels, 6,800 clothing sets, 2,200 kitchen sets and 8,200 food packages assisting more than 50,000 persons.

In 2015, UNHCR has also established its presence in Donetsk city, and has so far assisted over 8,500 vulnerable individuals affected by the conflict in non-GVT controlled areas (NFI and emergency shelter repairs). In addition, UNHCR delivered NFIs and shelter assistance (incl. construction material, heating, furniture) to 6,000 vulnerable IDPs and others affected by the conflict in northern Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk and Kyiv, including new arrivals from Debaltseve, Avdiyivka and Vuhlehirsk. UNHCR provided 120 beds in two earlier refurbished centers in Artemivsk to accommodate evacuees from Central Donetsk region. Between 25 and 26 January UNHCR also helped with NFIs and plastic sheeting to some 2,900 people whose homes were damaged or destroyed in Mariupol after the shelling.

Distributions, both direct and through partners, took place in conflict affected areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, first-line reception regions – Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia and Kyiv.

Shelter

UNHCR with our partner People in Need plan to repair and make ready for the winter a further 12 collective centres in northern Donetsk and Kharkiv region. This brings the total number of premises under different stages of refurbishment to 47.

The rehabilitation of collective centres in Kharkiv, Luhansk, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhzhia regions is ongoing through direct implementation or partnership with local authorities.

UNHCR delivered 400,000 square metres of enforced plastic tarpaulin to be used for fast repairs in the eastern parts of Ukraine affected by the conflict. UNHCR also started a first batch of 8,580 asbestos-free roofing sheets to cover immediate repairs of destroyed houses.

UN Development Program to support Ukrainian IDPs

United Nations Development Program together with Luhansk and Donetsk employment centers implemented a training program "Development of entrepreneurship skills among IDPs and local population of Donetsk and Luhansk regions". The aim of the program is to facilitate the entrepreneurs, who lost their business in Donbas, to restore their activity in other regions of Ukraine. It is expected to involve about 1200 IDPs.

48 trainings are planned to be conducted in 8 regions of Ukraine with the highest level of IDPs: Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Zaporizhya (and Berdiansk city), Dnipropetrovsk (and Kryvyi Rih), Poltava (and Kremenchuh) and controlled by the government of Ukraine in Kramatorsk, Mariupol (Donetsk region) and Severodonetsk (Luhansk region).

The initiative is a part of the "Rapid response to the social and economic issues of IDPs in Ukraine" program, which is funded by the Government of Japan. Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the State Employment Service and local authorities also joined this project.

Early Recovery of Social Services and Peacebuilding in Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts

Project dates: November 2014 - December 2015

Total budget: \$5 104 211

Geographic coverage: Donetsk and Lugansk oblasts

Focus Area: Social Development

Project Summary

Armed conflict in Donetsk and Lugansk oblasts has adverse impact on social and economic spheres of the country. Due to lack of access to social care services in the region, the vulnerable groups such as lonely elderly people, children, people with disabilities, sick people, homeless, etc. suffer the most.

The overall objective of the Project is to support restoration of critical social infrastructure and services for the most vulnerable groups in Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts.

Rapid Response to the Social and Economic Issues of Internally Displaced Persons in Ukraine

Project dates: August 2014 - February 2016

Geographic area: 8 oblasts: Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Zaporizhia, Odesa, Poltava, the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblast without armed conflict.

Scope of work: Sustainable development pathway

Objective of the Project

The overall objective of the Project is to strengthen the coping mechanisms for improving livelihoods of IDPs in their new locations and, where appropriate, to support reintegration into their home locations.

Specifically, the objectives of the Project are: (i) enhancing capacity of the government on planning, management and coordination of the responses to IDP issues at national and sub-national levels; (ii) improving livelihoods of IDPs in relocated and home places by providing them employment and social services; (iii) promoting social cohesion, reconciliation, and integration/reintegration of IDPs in relocation and home places.

International Organization for Migration

Employment, microenterprise and self-employment

As of December 2015, internally displaced people and host community members living in Odesa, Lviv, Kyiv, Vinnytsya, Khmelnytsky, Zhytomyr, Cherkasy, Kharkiv, Slovyansk, Kramatorsk, Severodonetsk, Sumy, Mykolaiv, Kirovohrad, Zaporizhzhya, and Dnipropetrovsk regions are taking part in the trainings on employment and self-employment organized in these cities by IOM partner NGOs.

The trainings' participants are officially registered displaced persons and host community members of employable age who wished to improve or obtain new professional skills or start own business and to become involved in realization of the projects on communities' stabilization.

Under the guidance of qualified trainers the participants are able to develop business plans for grants to purchase equipment or participate in the training activities. The grants to start their own business or enroll to vocational training will receive those participants who manage to pass all the trainings' and projects' selection stages.

From December 2014 until April 2015 with the financial support of **the European Union**, the International Organization for Migration had provided one-time unconditional cash assistance to 23,264 internally displaced people in Kharkiv city and Kharkiv region. The project identified the most vulnerable groups, including disabled, elderly, single parents and families with many children who were provided opportunity to cover the most urgent needs in terms of resettlement and winter, such as purchase of medicines, warm clothes, paying for housing and food.

More than 27 000 vulnerable IDPs in 16 regions of Ukraine received clothes, shoes, bedding, medical supplies and other assistance **with the financial support of the United States, Norway, Switzerland, Germany, Canada and the United Nations**.

FREE INFORMATION HOTLINE FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS SUPPORTED BY IOM AND FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

The National Toll-Free Hotline to support IDPs was established on 6 March 2015. It is run by the non-government organization Donbas SOS. The hotline operates within the framework of the EU funded project 'Comprehensive Stabilization Support to IDPs and the Affected Population in Ukraine' implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Mission in Ukraine. Since March 2015 the hotline has served about 22,000 calls.

The operators of the Hotline provide information, legal, psychosocial support to IDPs, conduct referrals of especially sensitive inquiries, including on trafficking or SGBV, and liaise with the main state and non-governmental actors providing counseling, rehabilitation and integration services for IDPs.