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ROBERT SCHUMAN CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

MIGRATION POLICY CENTRE



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Migration Facts Ukraine

On the web: www.migrationpolicycentre.eu

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Introduction. During the Soviet period, external migration was generally not allowed. Migration from and to the Republic was limited to the territory of the USSR. Post-Soviet migration flows were mainly directed to the US, the EU, the Russian Federation and Israel. Return ethnic migration from the Russian Federation predominated. Currently, Italy and Poland are the leading receiving countries of Ukrainian migrants. Outward female migration prevails. In terms immigration, Ukraine is currently a destination country for temporary workers from the CIS states.

Demographic-Economic	
Outward Migration	Inward Migration
STOCK	
Ukrainian emigration stocks - year 2011 (a)	
Total emigrants: 1,880,333	
Five top countries of residence: United States: 351,793 Israel: 258,487 Italy: 191,942 Russia: 167,264 Poland: 155,496	
Sex: Males: 41.6% Females: 58.4%	Age group: Less than 15: 6.3% 15-64: 71.6% 65+: 22.1%
Level of education (year 2006): primary or below (25.8%); secondary (34.4%); tertiary (39.8%)	
Occupation (year 2006): professionals (21.2%); elementary occupations (20.7%); service workers and shop and market sales workers (19.9%)	
Notes: (a) Ukrainian emigrants are defined according to the country of birth (best option) or country of nationality criterion according to countries of residence. In the post-Soviet zone, the country of nationality is used Source: destination countries' sources (population census/population register/household survey)	
Immigration stocks in Ukraine - year 2001 (b)	
Total immigrants: 276,666 (stateless persons: 30.6%) (0.6% of the total resident population)	
Five top countries of nationality (c): Russia: 103,728 Moldova: 15,087 Armenia: 10,686 Azerbaijan: 8,479 Georgia: 6,446 (c) Irregular migrants are not included	
Sex: Males: 53.2% Females: 46.8%	Age group: Less than 15: 14.2% 15-59: 72.0% 60+: 13.8%
Level of education: primary or below (17.4%); secondary (66.2%); tertiary (16.3%)	
Notes: (b) Immigrants are defined according to the country of nationality criterion Source: Ukrainian population census – 2001	
Job sector (year 2011): trade, repair of cars, household appliances and personal items (22.7%); processing industry (18.9%); construction (18.1%)	
Source: Ukrainian State Employment Service	
FLOWS	
Outflows of Ukrainian nationals to selected countries of destination – year 2011	
Total outflows: 217,863	
Five top countries of destination: Poland: 156,088 Italy: 15,409 Russia: 6,829 United Kingdom: 5,392 Spain: 4,411	
Source: flow data are proxied by granted first residence permits (EU MS + Norway), issued visas (US + Australia) and the number of registrations to a place of permanent residence (post-Soviet zone)	
Inflows of foreign nationals in Ukraine – year 2011	
Total inflows: 17,450	
Five top countries of nationality: Russia: 8,275 Moldova: 1,325 Georgia: 847 Armenia: 843 Azerbaijan: 813	
Source: flow data are proxied by the number of registrations to a place of permanent residence in Ukraine.	

Legal and political framework governing migration and mobility

General legal references

2012 Law on the Legal Status of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons
 2012 Law on Refugees and Persons in Need of Subsidiary and Temporary Protection
 2012 Action Plan on Integration of Refugees until 2020
 2011 Concept of Migration Policy of Ukraine
 2011 National Plan on Implementation of the EU-Ukraine Action Plan on visa liberalization
 2011 Action Plan on Integration of Migrants and Reintegration of Ukrainian Migrants in Ukraine for 2011-2015
 2001 Law on Immigration

Outward Migration and Mobility	Inward Migration and Mobility
Visa	Visa
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU-Ukraine Visa Facilitation Agreement signed in 2007 for all EU MS except the UK, Ireland and Denmark. - Ukrainian citizens are exempted from the visa requirements in the CIS countries except Turkmenistan, Albania, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, China, Columbia, Croatia (until July 2013), Ecuador, Georgia, Guatemala, Hong-Kong, Israel, Macedonia (May-October), Malaysia, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Seychelles, Serbia (tourist voucher or invitation), Uruguay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 types of visa: 'B' – transit visa with a maximum 5 day stay; 'C' – short-term visa for stays up to 90 days; 'D' – long-stay visa for 45 days during which a foreigner or a person without citizenship must apply for a resident permit at the State Migration Service. - Citizens of the CIS countries except Turkmenistan, the EU, the USA, Canada, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei, Croatia, China, Hon-Kong, Israel, Japan, Korea, Macedonia (cancelled temporary until March 15, 2013), Montenegro, Paraguay, Serbia and Turkey are exempted from a visa requirement for short stays (maximum 90 days).
Labour	Labour
<p>Bilateral agreements regulating different aspects of labor migration concluded with the Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Libya, Moldova, Russia, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and Vietnam.</p>	<p>UA does not pursue an active immigration policy. Labour immigration is possible for foreigners and stateless persons. Work permits are obligatory in all cases, except for volunteers and foreign citizens working at the branch of a foreign company/ bank, registered by the Ministry of Economy of Ukraine. Work permits are issued upon request of an employee by the State Centre of Employment of Ukraine.</p>
Rights	Rights
<p>Acc. to the constitution, citizens enjoy the protection of their State both at home and abroad, as well as the right to freedom of movement. Ukraine concluded agreements in the field of social security and social protection with Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Romania, Slovakia and Spain.</p>	<p>Aliens have equal social and economic rights with the citizens of Ukraine, with the exception of political rights and the rights to free medical treatment at state and municipal healthcare facilities. Permanent residence permit may be issued to aliens that received an immigration permit.</p>
Readmission Agreements	Irregular Migration
<p>Readmission agreements and agreements on the transfer and admission of persons across the common state border or persons illegally staying on the territory of the states are in place with the EU, Armenia, Georgia, Denmark, Hungary, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Vietnam, and Uzbekistan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The illegally staying aliens may be forcibly returned to the country of origin according to the decision of the State Security Service, the State Border Guard Service, State Migration Service or administrative court. - Aliens under the administrative process of forced removal are detained at the Centre for temporary detention of illegal migrants. - Illegal transfer, organization of or assistance in the illegal transfer through the state border are criminal offences (penalty of confinement for 3-9 years).
Diaspora	International Protection
<p>Regardless an important numbers of emigrants, UA does not pursue an active emigration and diaspora policy. Central state authorities responsible for contacts with diaspora:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; - Ministry of Culture of Ukraine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ratification of The United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees in 2002. - A permanent mission of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Ukraine. - Forms of protection granted: refugee status, complementary protection, temporary protection.
Multiple Citizenship	Citizenship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dual or multiple citizenships are not allowed for the citizens of Ukraine. - If a citizen of Ukraine becomes a citizen of a second country, he/she is recognized in relation to Ukraine only as its citizen. 	<p>Preconditions of the naturalization are: min 5 years of permanent lawful residence (3 years for refugees, 2 years for persons married to Ukrainian citizens); knowledge and observance of the constitution and laws; knowledge of the state language; lawful sources of subsistence; renunciation of the other citizenship.</p>