

# EU Co-operation News

Bi-weekly newsletter of the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine  
Project on Information and PR Activities for the EU and its Programmes in Ukraine

# 8, 11 June 2008

## EU-UKRAINE MIGRATION CO-OPERATION

Ukraine makes up some 500 km of the EU's eastern border and shares borders with three non-EU countries making the country an ideal transit spot for irregular migration to the EU. The EU and Ukraine have a specific Action Plan on Justice and Home Affairs since December 2001. The priorities for co-operation in the field of Justice and Home Affairs include readmission, migration, and border management as well as money laundering, drugs trafficking and trafficking in human beings.

On 15 January this year the Ukrainian parliament ratified the Readmission Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union. The readmission agreement provides facilitation in transporting illegal migrants to their home countries.

The European Commission has allocated EUR 30 million under its ENPI 2007 National Programme for Ukraine for improving infrastructure and procedures related to the accommodation and treatment of irregular migrants (Readmission-related assistance). It is planned to create five additional Migrant Custody Centres in Ukraine.

The EU already provided over EUR 6 million worth of assistance to migration-related projects implemented by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with the Ukrainian authorities. The Capacity Building in Migration Management (CBMM) initiative (see article below) aims to help Ukraine develop a comprehensive migration management system. The project has provided funding for the construction of two Migrant Custody Centres in Volyn and Chernihiv oblasts to be opened this year.

The HUREMAS project is another initiative which focused on supporting the State Border Guard Service (SBGS), including the reform of the SBGS' recruitment process, and providing technical assistance and equipment to enhance Ukraine's ability to address border security challenges. Supported by EUR 4 million of EU assistance, HUREMAS has developed an EU-compliant course for the SBGS as well as rebuilding the dormitory at the training centre in Cherkasy oblast, which was opened by the Head of Delegation, President Yushchenko and other partners in March this year (see EU Co-operation News, Issue 2).



## ANOTHER STEP TO CO-OPERATION

### **GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE SEEKS TO ALIGN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WITH EU STANDARDS AND BEST PRACTICES**

**The Capacity Building in Migration Management Programme (CBMMP) is a joint project of the EU and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The programme closely works with the Ukrainian government to enhance its capacity to manage migration flows and align its migration policy with the EU practices and international human rights standards.**

The first programme component has the following areas of co-operation with the Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs and State Border Guard Service: 1) research and EU study tours as well as training government officials on Best Practices in Accommodation of Irregular Migrants; 2) joint efforts to ensure the rights of migrants in Migrant Accommodation Centres (MAC) and Temporary Holding Facilities (THF) through procuring modern equipment and undertaking refurbishment works based on EU-compliant blueprints and technical requirements; and 3) assessment of Ukraine's migration-related legislation to provide recommendations for legislative amendments. The programme also aims to support the management of Irregular Migration Flows in Ukraine through the establishment of Centres for Migrant Advice. ▶



► The CBMM II project seeks to develop a migration management system through capacity building actions based on international standards. They particularly focus on THF and MAC refurbishment and the implementation of the Assisted Voluntary Return programme. The project's specific objectives include: 1) enhancing the safety and well-being of the migrant population within Ukraine; 2) ensuring international standards in the accommodation and movement of irregular migrants; 3) assisting the government of Ukraine in developing a healthcare system to provide medical assistance to irregular migrants held in MACs and THFs; 4) equipping and refurbishing migrant interview rooms; 5) training for national staff in these facilities.

The project also seeks to build the capacity of civil society to provide counselling to irregular migrants about the option of voluntary return and to provide accurate information to Ukrainian potential migrants on safe migration abroad, residing abroad and returning to Ukraine.

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### **EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS**

#### **UKRAINIAN BORDER GUARDS SEEK FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN BORDER MANAGEMENT TRAINING**

The overall objective of the project on Improving Integrated Border Management: Follow-Up to Reinforcing the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) of Ukraine Human Resources Management (HUREMAS 2) is to assist the SBGS to align itself with the Government of Ukraine's commitment to the EU standards. The project is co-funded by the European Commission and the U.S. Department of State who committed €1,140,000. The International Organization for Migration implements this project with the assistance of the Hungarian Police and Polish Border Guard.



The SBGS of Ukraine intends to pilot a 10-12 officer training course, starting from fall 2008. The training reforms are an important step in the SBGS' effort to transform itself by 2015 into a modern EU/Schengen-compliant law enforcement service.

Partners consider it important that the inaugural group of contract employees do well, as this will create the atmosphere to allow the SBGS to expand the course length and number of students.

The SBGS has been actively engaged in securing regular and adequate funding to cover all aspects of recruitment centres' activity starting from 2009. Likewise, the SBGS is committed to adequately fund the needs of the Training Centre for Junior Specialists of the SBGS in Cherkasy oblast.

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### **WORKSHOP ON IRREGULAR MIGRATION – SODERKÖPING PROCESS**

**On 22-23 May 2008 the Government of the Republic of Latvia hosted a workshop on judicial practice in the field of irregular migration. The two-day workshop was organized within the framework of the Söderköping process ([www.soderkoping.org.ua](http://www.soderkoping.org.ua)), an EU-funded initiative, involving UNHCR, IOM and the Swedish Migration Board. Within this process, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Romania share experience in border management, asylum and migration issues with Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.**

The workshop participants included judges from ten countries, as well as representatives of ministries of interior and border guard services. The role of the judiciary migration management and issues of people smuggling, detention, extradition/expulsion and readmission, were discussed throughout the workshop.

Mr. Jeffrey Labovitz, IOM Ukraine Chief of Mission, pointed out that the topic of the workshop itself was perfectly timed with the current negotiation process on the common policy towards irregular migrants from third countries within the EU.

The recently completed study on Analysis of Legal Regulation on Combating People Smuggling in the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine was presented by Mr. Sergey Mazur. The research was carried out within the framework of the Söderköping Process and provides a comparative overview of criminal and administrative liability for people smuggling in the three countries.



*Mr. Mareks Seglins - Minister of Interior of the Republic of Latvia, Mr. Jeffrey Labovitz - Chief of IOM Mission in Ukraine, and Mr. Per Lilja - Head of Division, Swedish Migration Board.*

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## **PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR CIVIC EDUCATION UKRAINE PROJECT**

The three-year EU-funded project (March 2005-March 2008) managed by Cambridge Education Limited UK has been recognised as an award-winning project by Cambridge Education's parent company Mott MacDonald. The International Team Leader, David Royle, was named as Project Manager of the Year for the Health and Education Unit, one of nine company divisions.

The overall project's objective was to raise the awareness of all subject teachers and the provision of training and guidance in how they can contribute to the development of civic education competencies across the curriculum. The project worked with 110 pilot schools in Kyiv, and Kherson, Vinnytsia and Volyn oblasts.

The project produced a Teacher Training Guide and a Teacher's Resource Manual with supporting CD ROM and pre-service and in-service teacher training programmes. It also developed the concept of civic competencies and a table of target competencies for each stage of education. At the final conference in February 2008 the team leader and two national experts received awards from the Ministry of Education.

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## **TRAINING ON ANALYSIS OF NARCOTIC SUBSTANCES USING MODERN TECHNIQUES**

On 12-16 May 2008 a practical training session on analysis of narcotic substances with use of chromatography-mass spectrometry took place in Kyiv. The training was organized by the joint EU-UNDP Programme for the Prevention of Drug Abuse and the Fight against Drug Trafficking in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova (BUMAD Programme).

Eight representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Security Service of Ukraine had an opportunity to acquire new practical skills in the field of research of narcotic substances. The knowledge obtained will ensure greater efficiency of the forensic expertise actions in the field of the fight against drug trafficking and help develop unified interagency drug research techniques.

This training was the third in a series of BUMAD Programme activities on improving the capacity of forensic personnel in the law enforcement agencies.

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## **INFORMATION CONSUMER CAMPAIGNS: EUROPEAN APPROACH TO CONSUMER PROBLEMS RESOLUTION FOR UKRAINIAN NGOs**

Almost 30 representatives of Ukrainian civil society organisations learned to conduct consumer information campaigns during a training organized on 26-27 May by the joint EU-UNDP Consumer Society and Citizen Networks project in Kyiv.

In particular the training focused on the concept of social marketing, methods of communication, choice of target audiences, formulation of key messages, types and evaluation of social consumer campaigns. After this workshop, the consumer rights activists will foster a wide discussion of consumer issues by means of effective information consumer campaigns in their regions.

The Consumer Society and Citizen Networks project is a joint initiative of the European Union and United Nations Development Programme. Its goal is to promote access of citizens to information on product safety, consumer rights protection, and to results of independent testing, and encourage wide public dialogue on challenges facing the consumer society in Ukraine.

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## **NEWS FROM PROJECT AGAINST CORRUPTION IN UKRAINE (UPAC)**

The EC /CoE joint project "Support to Good Governance: Project Against Corruption in Ukraine – UPAC" assisted the Parliamentary Committee against organised crime and corruption in the preparation of the “anti-corruption package” draft laws for the second reading. UPAC has supported the organisation of a parliamentary hearing on the anti-corruption package on 4 June. 92 participants including MPs, the Minister of Interior, the Deputy Ministers of Justice and of Interior, the Deputy Prosecutor General as well as Council of Europe and other international experts, civil society and private sector representatives participated in the event, broadcasted on the Parliament TV channel. Daniel Thelesklaf, Council of Europe expert underlined the importance of incorporating the international anti-corruption standards into domestic legislation to effectively combat corruption internationally and move forward with adoption of a new anti-corruption framework for Ukraine.

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UPAC also administered a Ukrainian delegation's visit to Paris and Ljubljana on 26-30 May to study models of preventive and law enforcement anti-corruption bodies of France, Slovenia and Croatia. The delegation included representatives of various institutions, including the Parliament, Cabinet of Ministers, Secretariat of the President, National Council for Security and Defense, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Office of the Prosecutor General, Main Civil Service Department and also Ukrainian delegates to GRECO, the Council's of Europe Group of States against Corruption. The main issues discussed included organisation and functioning of specialised bodies, specialisation of police, prosecutors and judges, multidisciplinary approach, interagency cooperation, international cooperation, police performance indicators, statistic data in the anti-corruption field, seizure and confiscation of corruption proceeds.

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For more information see: <http://www.coe.int/UPAC>

## **EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **12-13 June 2008, Pryluky, Chernihiv oblast**

#### **Training seminars on Theory and Practice of Sociological Research for Municipalities**

The Sustainable Local Development in Ukraine project will hold these events for representatives of local self-governments and NGOs.

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### **16 June 2008, Cherkasy and 20 June 2008, Kharkiv**

#### **Presentation seminars of EU-funded Project on Community-Based Approach to Local Development**

The project's Implementation Strategy and Action Plan will be presented to heads of oblast and rayon administrations, media and NGO representatives.

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### **25 June 2008, Kyiv**

#### **Press Conference on Secondary Healthcare Issues in Ukraine**

The press conference organised by the EU-funded project on Support to Secondary Healthcare Reform in Ukraine will take place in the National Press Club.

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### **25 June 2008, Kyiv**

#### **Press Conference on the occasion to the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking**

This event will be organized by the joint EU-UNDP Programme for the Prevention of Drug Abuse and the Fight against Drug Trafficking in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova (BUMAD Programme). The Chief Narcologist of the Ministry of Health and the Head of Drug Control Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs will participate in the press conference.

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This electronic newsletter is produced within the project on  
Information and PR Activities for the EU and its Programmes in Ukraine.  
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