



EU-UKRAINE AVIATION RELATIONS

Ukraine is an important aviation partner for the EU. A "horizontal" agreement which removed nationality restrictions on the bilateral air services agreements was signed in 2005 and negotiations on a Common Aviation Area (CAA) began in December 2007. The CAA agreement would give Ukraine a clear roadmap on the way for integration into the EU internal market and it is hoped that progress in these negotiations will accelerate.



The EU-Ukraine Action Plan contains a commitment to "co-operate on safety and security issues". Nevertheless there are still serious concerns about the safety of aviation in Ukraine. Four Ukrainian carriers are on the EU "black list" and these banned carriers have not been able to demonstrate that they are able to resolve their safety problems.

The EU has worked closely with Ukraine's State Administration and earlier this year concluded the Twinning project "Harmonisation with EU Norms of the Legislation and Standards of Ukraine in the Field of Civil Aviation". The project ran from September 2007 until June this year and was implemented by the French Directorate General for Civil Aviation and the Polish Civil Aviation Office.

The EU-funded project "TRACECA Civil Aviation Safety, Security and Environment" (see below) will cover 10 countries including Ukraine and will implement a programme of training courses for aviation personnel. A capacity-building programme will be implemented and specific expertise provided to improve regulatory frameworks. This programme will also enhance technical and institutional monitoring systems in compliance with international regulations and standards (European Aviation Safety Agency, International Civil Aviation Organisation).

OPENING EVENT OF THE EU PROJECT ON CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY, SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENT

On 27-28 October the EU-funded project "TRACECA Civil Aviation Safety, Security and Environment" held an opening seminar in Kyiv. The event gathered 15 senior aviation officials from Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, as well as representatives of the EC Delegation and other stakeholders. The project experts presented the project's organisation and objectives; its environment and security components; and EU external air transport policy and its objectives.



The project's experts will conduct trainings, strengthen the administrative capacity of the respective civil aviation authorities and promote closer regional cooperation between the beneficiary countries. A programme of training courses for aviation personnel from the administrations and operators (in the sectors of safety, security and environment) of 10 countries will be implemented to strengthen their technical skills and their English language knowledge in the relevant areas.

The training programme has two components: a technical training component and managerial trainings. The technical training is designed to provide a wide range of training activities required for development of English proficiency, greater air safety, and enhanced aviation security, and promotion of better ecology of air transport. The other part of the training programme will build capacity of civil aviation authorities.

More information at <http://www.tracecavilaviation.org/>

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EU-FUNDED PROJECT AWARDED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN UKRAINE

On 18 October the EU-funded project "Sustainable Integrated Land Use of the Eurasian Steppe" received an award from the Luhansk State Tourism and Resorts Service. Ruslan Markov, the project coordinator in Luhansk region received the award for influential achievements in professional activities, high professionalism, dedicated work during many years and making a valuable contribution to tourism development in Ukraine.

During last year the project has been working closely with the Culture and Tourism Department of the Luhansk State Regional Administration conducting workshops in order to discuss and complete the development of the green rural tourism strategy of the region. The Luhansk region is the pioneer in this field in eastern Ukraine along with Ivano-Frankivsk region in the west of the country. The workshops organised by the project coordinator for tour agents, guides, cultural centres and owners of private houses were aimed to discuss the strategy content and to give their own proposals. The work was combined with the field visits to demonstrate market advantages and risks. A tourist map for the northeast part of the region was developed with active involvement of the local branch of Green Rural Tourism Association and local activists.

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EC/COE PROJECT ORGANISES SEMINARS ON ANTI-CORRUPTION LEGISLATION

The joint EU/Council of Europe project against corruption in Ukraine (UPAC) organised a series of seminars in cooperation with the Kharkiv Institute of Applied Humanitarian Research and the Ministry of Justice. On 22–23 October and 28–29 October four seminars were held in Simferopol and Zaporizhzhia with the support from the Council of Judges of Ukraine and the Appellate Courts of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Zaporizhzhia.

These events, moderated by leading Ukrainian legal experts from the Supreme Court and the National Prosecutors Academy contributed to raising awareness of the novelties of the anti-corruption package of laws among prosecutors and judges. Similar regional seminars are planned in Kharkiv, Odesa, Lviv and Kyiv.

More information at www.coe.int/upac

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EU AND IOM PROMOTE RIGHTS-BASED APPROACHES TO IRREGULAR MIGRANTS AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

On 26–27 October the EU-IOM project "Technical Cooperation and Capacity Building for the Governments of Ukraine and Moldova for Implementation of Readmission Agreements with the European Union (GUMIRA)" organised the third Observatory Mechanism monitoring visit to the Mukacheve Dormitory for Women and Children and Chop Temporary Holding Facility in Zakarpattia Region, administered by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGS). The visit was led by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in partnership with the SBGS.

A number of diplomatic missions participated in the visit including the EC Delegation. Also present were international organisations, central and local Ukrainian authorities and non-governmental organisations. The monitoring visit toured the facilities and met with SBGS officials to discuss their findings and recommendations on identifying and accommodating vulnerable migrants, special approaches to children in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, furnishing a wide sphere of quality legal and translation services for migrants and asylum seekers and providing trainings for SBGS staff on work with irregular migrants. Targeted monitoring visits will be conducted regularly under the project in 2009–2010. These visits are a tool for conducting joint assessments of standards compliance and quality control at Temporary Holding Facilities and Migrant Accommodation Centres for irregular migrants in Ukraine.

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EU-UKRAINE BORDER CO-OPERATION PRIOR TO EURO 2012

On 30 October the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) and State Border Guard Service (SBGS) held a press conference to present the results of the International Conference "Border management and the European Football Championship 2012". The conference took place on 29-30 October in Kyiv aiming on coordinating efforts in border management among European border services prior to EURO 2012.



During the press event the representatives of EUBAM, SBGS and delegations from border services of Austria, Germany and Poland presented the key achievements of the conference. The heads of Austrian and German delegations shared the experience of the border services of their countries in organising large scale football tournaments such as EURO 2008 and World Football Cup in 2006. In addition, the Polish border guard presented the state of their preparations toward EURO 2012.

The press conference started with the ceremony of handing over 10,000 copies of a Ukrainian-English phrasebook for Ukrainian border guard services. The publication was developed by the Federal Police of Germany to use during the World Football Cup in 2006 and translated and printed by EUBAM and adapted by the SBGS.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

11 NOVEMBER, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, KYIV

Kick-off meeting of the EU- funded Twinning project "Support to the development and improvement of the civil servants training system in Ukraine"

More information at <http://twinning.com.ua/>

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14-15 NOVEMBER, HOTEL RUS, KYIV

Finals of Knowledge Competition among Secondary School Students on European Integration "Europa Nostra"

More information at <http://www.europanostra.info/>

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19 NOVEMBER, HOTEL RADISSON SAS, KYIV

Third Annual Conference on Twinning Operations

More information at <http://www.center.gov.ua/>

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