

The Prague Process is a targeted migration dialogue and policy process promoting migration partnerships among the countries of the European Union, Schengen area, Eastern Partnership, Western Balkans, Central Asia and Türkiye.

Milestones

PHASE I

2009/April

The 1st Ministerial Conference "Building Migration Partnerships" in Prague. Signature of the inaugural Prague Process **Joint Declaration**.

2011/November

The 2nd Ministerial Conference "Building Migration Partnerships in Action" in Poznan. Adoption of the **Action Plan 2012-2016**.

PHASE II

2016/September

The 3rd Ministerial Conference "Addressing Challenges Together" in Bratislava. Adoption of the **Ministerial Declaration** and establishment of the Process **Migration Observatory** and **Training Academy**.

PHASE III

2022/October

The 4th Ministerial Conference "Migration Partnerships - Way forward in times of new challenges" in Prague. Adoption of the **Ministerial Declaration** and **Action Plan 2023-2027**.

PHASE IV

The Process originated from the EU-financed project "Building Migration Partnerships" and was initiated during the Czech EU Presidency at the 1st Prague Process Ministerial Conference in April 2009, culminating in the endorsement of the **Prague Process Joint Declaration**.

In the Joint Declaration, serving as a common political framework, the participating states agreed to strengthen cooperation in migration management, to explore and develop agreed principles and elements for close migration partnerships between their countries, following a comprehensive, balanced, pragmatic and operational approach, and respecting the rights and human dignity of migrants and their family members, as well as of refugees. In the context of the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM), being the overarching framework of the EU external migration and asylum policy, the Prague Process has been given a **priority** as a regional dialogue process towards the East.

Over the recent years, most participating states introduced dynamic changes to their migration legislation. Non-EU states largely adapted their policies to the EU acquis. This approximation of legal systems and national practices, as well as the continuous exchange of knowledge and experience, represent the **key achievements of the Prague Process to date**.

Thematic Areas:

- ▶ Preventing and fighting irregular migration;
- ▶ Readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration;
- ▶ Legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration;
- ▶ Integration of legally residing migrants;
- ▶ Migration, mobility and development;
- ▶ Asylum and international protection.

Governance

The Prague Process management structure encompasses the network of National Contact Points of 47 partner countries, the Senior Officials' meetings, the Ministerial Conferences, and the Strategic Group.



The Senior Officials' Meeting is the decision-making body of the Prague Process. The Strategic Group, that prepares and pre-discusses the agenda for SOM decisions, is currently composed of the Czech Republic (Chair), Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, the acting Presidency of the Council of the EU, the European Commission and the Prague Process Secretariat. ICMPD serves as the Secretariat of the Prague Process.

Main pillars of work

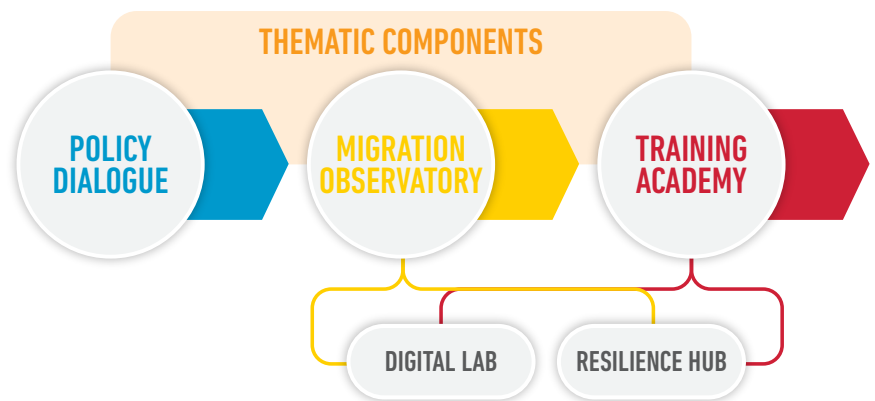
The **Policy Dialogue** sustains and strengthens the senior- and expert-level dialogue and cooperation among the relevant authorities of the Prague Process states.

The **Migration Observatory** offers impartial, evidence-based analysis, covering key thematic areas and national migration trends and policies through country factsheets and publications in the [Online Repository](#).

The **Training Academy** provides tailor-made, high-quality training, supported by a Trainer Network and an expanding library of training materials for capacity-building. Its [e-Learning platform](#), launched in 2021, offers self-paced online learning for state representatives and partners.

In response to the transformative impact of digitalisation on migration management and the broader field of migration, as well as to bolster states' preparedness for migration-related crises, the Prague Process Migration Observatory and Training Academy gradually works on building up a **Digital Lab** and **Resilience Hub** to gather knowledge and enhance capacities on these important transversal topics.

The Thematic Components target selected provisions of the [2023-2027 Action Plan](#) to support its implementation, aligning with the Process's three pillars and tackling cross-sectional issues in a mutually reinforcing way.



Financing

The European Commission financially supports the implementation of the Action Plan through the [Migration Partnership Facility](#). The Prague Process states provide in kind contributions throughout the implementation of the Action Plan.

States and Partners

EU Member States	Georgia	Moldova	Switzerland
Albania	Kazakhstan	Montenegro	Tajikistan
Armenia	Kosovo*	North Macedonia	Türkiye
Azerbaijan	Kyrgyzstan	Norway	Turkmenistan
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Liechtenstein	Serbia	Ukraine
			Uzbekistan

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

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