

# PRAGUE PROCESS QUARTERLY REVIEW

#41

APRIL-JUNE 2025

## EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to present the April-June 2025 edition of the Quarterly Review, featuring the latest updates from the Prague Process.

The last three months saw a strong focus on border management and return, anti-trafficking efforts, and peer learning. A dedicated workshop on border surveillance brought together officials and experts to exchange best practices and operational experiences on managing borders more effectively. Meanwhile, a study visit to Denmark offered valuable insights into the country's structured approach to return, readmission, and reintegration.

Furthermore, preparations for the upcoming Prague Process training workshop on countering trafficking in human beings progressed through an online consultation. In June, the Prague Process supported the OSCE's regional simulation-based training on combating trafficking in human beings held in Central Asia.

This issue also features the first information session on the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, organised to enhance non-EU partner countries' understanding of this key reform package and its implications, and provide a platform for discussion. It also presents insights from the Identity Week Conference 2025 and a document security training, tailored to the needs of participating states.

The newest publications of the Migration Observatory explore the challenges Ukraine and Moldova face in aligning their migration, asylum, and border management policies with EU standards, as well as look into Belarus' migration trends and their implications for the EU. Finally, this issue also highlights the newest opportunities for remote learning offered by the Training Academy and its e-Learning Platform.

We trust you will find this edition an engaging and insightful read.

With best regards,

Prague Process Secretariat

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## LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING PRAGUE PROCESS ACTIVITIES

- 9-12 September | Vienna, Austria  
Thematic Component 1: Training on Countering Trafficking in Human Beings
- 7-8 October | Warsaw, Poland  
Senior Officials' Meeting
- 4-5 November | Yerevan, Armenia  
Workshop on Awareness Raising Campaigns for Migrants
- 18-19 November | The Hague, Netherlands  
8<sup>th</sup> International Border Management Conference
- 19-21 November | Bucharest, Romania  
Thematic Component 3: Study Visit on Labour Migration to Romania

## PEER LEARNING IN ACTION: EXPLORING DENMARK'S APPROACH TO RETURN, READMISSION AND REINTEGRATION

On 29-30 April, representatives from 21 Prague Process states took part in a study visit to Denmark, hosted by the Danish Ministries of Immigration and Integration, and Foreign Affairs. Organised within Thematic Component 2 (Return and Reintegration), the visit offered a hands-on look at Denmark's structured and agency-led approach to return policy. Participants explored how Denmark aligns its return strategy with foreign policy instruments through legal clarity, inter-ministerial coordination, and strategic partnerships. Visits to the Danish Return Agency showcased operational practices balancing enforcement with support, including incentives for voluntary return and reintegration assistance. The visit confirmed the value of Denmark's adaptive model in strengthening return systems across the region.

Read more [here](#).



## STRENGTHENING COOPERATION ON BORDER MANAGEMENT: PRAGUE PROCESS WORKSHOP ON BORDER SURVEILLANCE

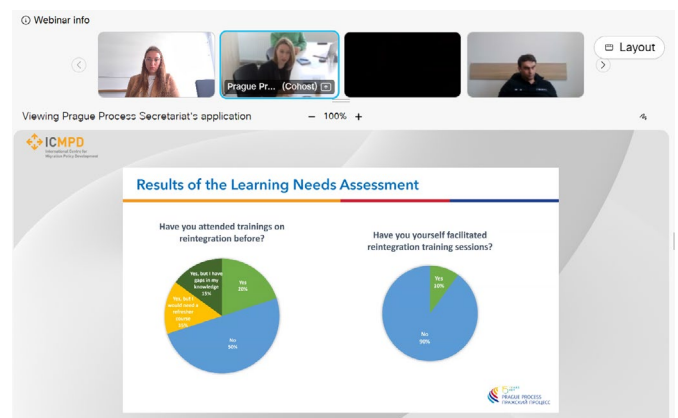


On 8-9 April, representatives from 16 Prague Process countries gathered in Belgrade to share good practices, challenges, and recent policy developments related to border management, irregular migration, and migrant smuggling. Organised within the Thematic Component 1 (Irregular Migration), the workshop addressed integrated border management, cross-border coordination, digital tools, and the implications of the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum. By linking operational experience with strategic policy considerations, this activity strengthened the practical cooperation and network among the participating states and key international stakeholders.

Discover good practices and lessons learnt [here](#).

## ONLINE CONSULTATION: TOWARDS THE TRAINING WORKSHOP ON COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

In May, an online consultation presented the outcomes of the 2024 needs assessment survey and helped shape the agenda for the upcoming Training Workshop on Countering Trafficking in Human Beings taking place in Vienna in September. By identifying priority training needs and outlining key focus areas, including labour exploitation, cybercrime, referral mechanisms, and prevention, the session laid the groundwork for targeted knowledge exchange and practical cooperation among the participating states.





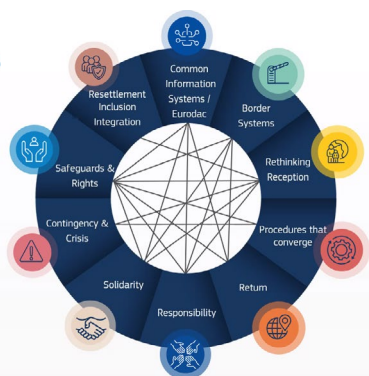
## FIRST INFORMATION SESSION ON THE EU PACT ON MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

In June, the Prague Process launched its first information session on the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum to enhance non-EU partner countries' understanding of this key reform package and its implications. The European Commission (DG HOME) and the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA) provided an overview of the Pact's main pillars, implementation timeline, and external implications, including opportunities for cooperation under the Asylum and Migration Management Regulation. The session also provided an opportunity for exchange, helping to identify key interests for future discussions and reinforce alignment between EU and partner country priorities. More information sessions will be organised as per the needs of the Prague Process states.

### 10 building blocks

#### ACTORS

- Member States
- Commission
- EU Agencies
- Other stakeholders



## INSIGHTS FROM THE IDENTITY WEEK CONFERENCE 2025 AND TRAINING ON DOCUMENT SECURITY

In June, 24 participants from 12 Prague Process states attended the Identity Week Europe 2025 in Amsterdam, which amongst others focused on digital identity verification, border security, and document fraud prevention. Frontex highlighted a significant shift toward pre-emptive border management in Schengen, underscored by the upcoming implementation of the Entry/Exit System (EES) in October 2025 and the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) in late 2026. After the conference, participants engaged in a tailor-made advanced Training on Identity Verification and Document Authentication provided by the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND). The training featured expert insights and practical exercises with authentic and counterfeit breeder documents, enhancing participants' skills in detecting document fraud.

For more information click [here](#).

## STRENGTHENING REGIONAL ANTI-TRAFFICKING COOPERATION THROUGH SIMULATION-BASED TRAINING IN CENTRAL ASIA

In June, over 130 practitioners from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Türkiye gathered at Lake Issyk-Kul in Kyrgyzstan for a five-day simulation-based training exercise on combating trafficking in human beings. Organised by the OSCE with support from the Prague Process, the training focused on real-life scenarios of exploitation and forced criminality, promoting multi-agency investigations and cross-border coordination. Participants identified both effective practices and structural gaps, while proposing future actions such as AI-supported risk tools and harmonised protocols. The exercise manifested the value of simulation-based capacity building and regional cooperation in addressing trafficking risks.

Read more [here](#).



## MIGRATION OBSERVATORY: TWO NEW PUBLICATIONS

The [Prague Process Migration Observatory](#) continues to support informed policy-making by providing impartial, evidence-based analysis across the Prague Process region and in line with the six thematic areas of the [Prague Process Action Plan](#). Here are the recently released publications:

### Analytical Report 'The EU Accession Path for Ukraine and Moldova: Anticipated Reforms on Migration, Asylum and Border Management'

Read in [English](#) or [Russian](#)

### Policy Brief 'From Belarus to the EU: Migration Trends and Strategic Responses'

Read in [English](#) or [Russian](#)

All publications in both languages are stored in the [repository](#) on the Prague Process website.



## TRAINING ACADEMY: NEW E-COURSE 'INTRODUCTION TO MIGRATION STUDIES'

The [Training Academy](#) continues to provide tailor-made and high-quality trainings addressing the priorities of the [Prague Process Action Plan](#). Since 2021, the [e-Learning Platform](#) has served the participating states and partners with educational material for self-paced independent remote learning.

Since June 2025, the Platform contains the newly released e-course '*Introduction to Migration Studies*'. The course is currently available in English, with a Russian version to follow soon. Developed in cooperation with Emeritus Professor Ronald Skeldon, one of the most renowned voices in the field, the e-course offers a structured and comprehensive introduction to the complex and multidimensional field of migration. Designed for professionals working in migration and asylum, the course caters to learners at all levels, from entry-level staff to mid-career practitioners and early-stage policymakers, who seek to understand migration as both a demographic phenomenon and a socio-political process. This e-course equips participants with the analytical tools and conceptual frameworks needed to interpret migration trends, design informed policies, and recognize the limits and opportunities of governance in an increasingly mobile world.

In addition, the platform offers the following courses: [Integrated Border Management](#), [Combating Trafficking in Human Beings](#), [Labour Migration](#), while also providing access to the course [Holistic Approach to the Integration of Migrants and Refugees](#) (available in English).

We invite representatives of the [Prague Process states and partner institutions](#) to take advantage of this remote learning opportunity as part of their continuous professional development. Access to all courses is granted to eligible representatives upon [registration](#) on the platform.



## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

European Commission: EU provides 20 million EUR in humanitarian support for vulnerable refugees in Türkiye

European Commission: Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions 'State of play on the implementation of the Pact on Migration and Asylum'

European Parliament Research Service (EPRS): Transitioning out of temporary protection for displaced people from Ukraine

European Parliament Research Service (EPRS): Fact Sheets on the EU 'Management of the external borders'

European Parliament Research Service (EPRS): Fact Sheets on the EU 'Immigration Policy'

European Parliament Research Service (EPRS): Fact Sheets on the EU 'Asylum Policy'

European Parliament Research Service (EPRS): Fact Sheets on the EU 'The European Neighbourhood Policy'

Frontex: The Annual Risk Analysis (ARA) Report

ICMPD Annual Report 2024

ICMPD: Vienna Migration Conference Report 2024

ICMPD: Policy Paper 'Four million people, one crossroads: Charting the future of temporary protection'

ICMPD: Report 'Diaspora Engagement Report: Case Studies and Best Practices for Ukraine'

ICMPD: Publication 'Roadmap for Entrepreneurial Mobility between Belgium and Georgia'

The Finding Agreement in Return (FAiR) project: Policy Brief 'Returnee Voices Matter: Towards More Inclusive Return Policies'

