

PRAGUE PROCESS QUARTERLY REVIEW



#42

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025

EDITORIAL

Dear Reader,

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

The work during the third quarter focused on strengthening practical cooperation, building capacities, combating human trafficking, and engaging young professionals. The Prague Process organised a training in Vienna on countering trafficking in human beings together with the Joint Operational Office (JOO) of the Criminal Intelligence Service of Austria, enhancing the capacities of practitioners and reinforcing cooperation across borders. Complementing this, the Austrian NGO LEFÖ shared its experience and cooperation models with government agencies, outlining specific approaches to providing support and counselling to female victims of human trafficking. Furthermore, ICMPD's 2025 International Summer School on Migration gathered students and young professionals from five countries in Armenia, equipping the next generation with up-to-date knowledge and analytical tools on migration issues.

Intergovernmental cooperation also advanced during this period. At Ukraine's request, Czech Republic and Lithuania joined the online consultation on citizenship matters, promoting knowledge exchange and policy dialogue among partner states. Meanwhile, building on years of cooperation with national authorities, ICMPD reached a milestone with the launch of Uzbekistan's first-ever Migrant Resource Centre, offering essential information and support to migrants and their families.

In the meantime, the Migration Observatory continued to strengthen the evidence base for policy and research by updating country factsheets for several EU and Western Balkans states. Finally, the Training Academy expanded its learning opportunities with the Russian-language version of the online course "Introduction to Migration Studies," further broadening opportunities to remote learning.

We hope this issue provides you with useful updates and fresh perspectives on migration issues.

With best regards,

Prague Process Secretariat

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LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING PRAGUE PROCESS ACTIVITIES

- 4–5 November | Yerevan, Armenia
Workshop on Strategic Communication for Migration Governance
- 18–19 November | Amsterdam, the Netherlands
8th International Border Management Conference
- 19 – 21 November | Bucharest, Romania
Thematic Component 3: Study Visit on Labour Migration to Romania

VIENNA HOSTS PRAGUE PROCESS TRAINING ON COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The Prague Process Training Workshop on Countering Trafficking in Human Beings, held from 9–12 September 2025 in Vienna, brought together over 40 experts from 18 countries, along with representatives of INTERPOL, OSCE, and ICMPD, to strengthen joint responses to human trafficking within the broader migration context. Over three and a half days, participants explored topics such as labour exploitation, technology-facilitated trafficking, referral mechanisms, and prevention strategies, combining theoretical sessions with case-based exercises and a study visit hosted by Austria's Joint Operational Office (JOO). Contributions from Austrian NGOs LEFÖ and MenVia highlighted victim-centred approaches and cross-sector cooperation. The workshop reinforced that effective anti-trafficking work relies on collaboration across borders and sectors, keeping survivors' rights and recovery at the core of every effort.

Read more [here](#).

WRITTEN INTERVIEW WITH LEFÖ



LEFÖ–IBF, Intervention Centre for Trafficked Women, is an Austrian NGO that plays a key role in victim protection within Austria's National Referral Mechanism. Following their interventions in the Anti-Trafficking Training held in Vienna (see above), LEFÖ–IBF provided additional information on their comprehensive trauma-informed approach to victim protection. LEFÖ–IBF services range from 24/7 accessibility and safe accommodation to psychosocial, legal, and socio-cultural support, offered unconditionally regardless of residency status or cooperation with law enforcement. The work of LEFÖ–IBF showcases Austria's coordinated, gender-sensitive response to human trafficking and serve as strong examples of NGO–government cooperation.

Read the full interview with LEFÖ–IBF [here](#).

ONLINE CONSULTATION ON CITIZENSHIP WITH CZECH REPUBLIC, LITHUANIA AND UKRAINE

In response to a request from the State Migration Service of Ukraine, the Prague Process held an online consultation on 14 July titled 'Exploring the Complexities of Multiple Citizenship: Benefits and Challenges'. The consultation brought together contributions from Czech Republic, Hungary, and Lithuania, facilitating an exchange of experiences and policy insights. It aimed to support Ukraine's institutions as they implement legislative changes on citizenship and offered valuable practices for Ukraine's continued alignment with European standards.



STUDENTS AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FROM FIVE COUNTRIES GATHER FOR ICMPD'S 2025 INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL ON MIGRATION

From 29 June to 5 July 2025, ICMPD hosted the 12th International Summer School on Migration in Armenia, bringing together 38 students and young professionals from Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, and Ukraine for an intensive week of academic learning and exchange. Organised under the EU-funded STREAMinG 2 project, the Prague Process, and with the involvement of the OSCE, the programme featured lectures and workshops by leading experts from Oxford, Sussex, Maastricht, Vienna, Amsterdam, and ICMPD. Participants explored key migration themes, from theory and governance to integration, citizenship, and public perceptions, combining academic insights with practical exercises. The Summer School has become a flagship ICMPD initiative, fostering cross-border networks and preparing the next generation of migration professionals and policymakers to advance more coherent and humane migration policies across the region.

Read more [here](#).



LAUNCH OF THE FIRST EVER MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE IN UZBEKISTAN

ICMPD in cooperation with the Migration Agency of Uzbekistan launched Uzbekistan's first Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) in Tashkent under the EU-funded PROTECT project ('Improving Migration Management and Migrant Protection in selected Silk Routes and Central Asian Countries'). The centre aims to expand access to information and services on safe and legal migration, raise awareness about irregular migration and trafficking risks, and provide counselling and reintegration support to migrants and returnees. As the third MRC in Central Asia, following those in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, it represents a major step forward in Uzbekistan's migration governance. Supported by the EU and implemented by ICMPD, the centre will serve as a practical hub helping citizens make informed migration choices while strengthening regional cooperation on safe, regular, and rights-based mobility.

Read more [here](#).

Discover more information about ICMPD's MRCs [here](#).



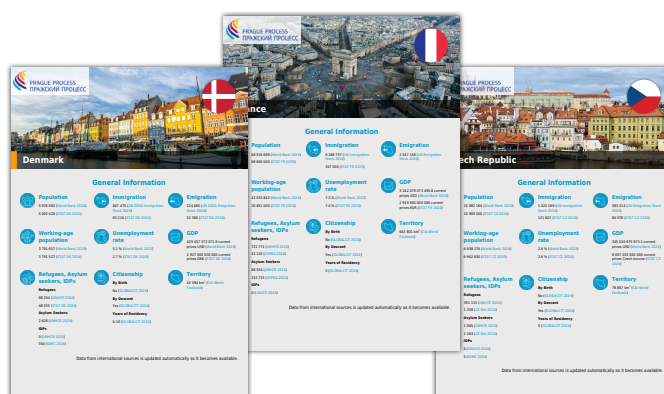
MIGRATION OBSERVATORY: UPDATED COUNTRY FACTSHEETS

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](#).

Every two to three years, 47 country factsheets are updated to include the overview of the most recent developments in terms of migration policy and legislation in each Prague Process state as well as migration data from both national and international sources. The factsheets thus constitute a concise and useful source of information on the migration situation throughout the region.

In the third quarter, we updated the following factsheets: *Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece, Italy, Kosovo*, Malta*.

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



TRAINING ACADEMY: THE E-COURSE 'INTRODUCTION TO MIGRATION STUDIES' IS NOW AVAILABLE IN RUSSIAN

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

The newly released e-course 'Introduction to Migration Studies' is now also available in Russian. 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: Proposal to establish a new Macro Financial assistance loan to Ukraine](#)

[European Commission: Ukraine successfully completes its screening process](#)

[European Commission: New rules for Turkish citizens applying for Schengen visas](#)

[European Parliament: Briefing 'How labour migration affects countries of origin'](#)

[Council of the European Union: Recommendation on the transition out of temporary protection for displaced Ukrainians](#)

[Council of the European Union: Better EU data on population and housing – new rules](#)

[EUAA: Ad hoc Report: Situation in Ukraine and Displacement to the EU+: Trends, Drivers and Future Prospects](#)

[EUAA: Operational plan 2024–2027 agreed by the EUAA and Germany](#)

[EU external borders: irregular crossings down 21% in the first 8 months of 2025](#)

[Frontex launches updated Contingency Planning Handbook to help Member States move from alert to action during border crises](#)

[FRA: Detecting and addressing labour exploitation – A guide for labour inspectors](#)

[FRA: Position Paper 'Countering the instrumentalisation of migrants and refugees and respecting fundamental rights'](#)

[Eurostat: 4.37 million under temporary protection in August](#)

[Clingendael Report, Central Asia Emerging from the Shadows: European Union – Central Asia relations in evolving Eurasian geopolitics, 2025](#)

[Climate Change, Security, and Migration in Central Asia: Vulnerabilities and Strategic Responses. In: Ullah, A.A. \(eds\) Handbook of Migration, International Relations and Security in Asia. Handbooks in Asian Studies. Springer, Singapore](#)

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