

# Migration from Russia amid mobilisation

Over 300.000 Russian nationals left Russia in two weeks since the country announced 'partial mobilisation' on 21 September 2022. Other reports allude to **700.000**.\*

## Kazakhstan

visa-free up to 90 days



Featuring a 7.600 km long land border with Russia, Kazakhstan faces considerable flows of Russians fleeing mobilisation. RU companies and corporate businesses are relocating operations and people to Central Asia. The capacities of smaller Kazakh towns have been overstretched. President Tokayev urged the population to welcome newcomers and ensure their safety, while also announcing the plan to hold talks with RU about the influx. KZ region of Pavlodar plans to open centres to coordinate the inflow of Russians.

## Georgia

visa-free up to 1 year



Georgia has become the second most popular destination for Russians crossing on land. Despite high inflows, some 60-70% of RU nationals leave GE soon after arrival. On 28 Sep, the RU North Ossetia Republic restricted the entry of passenger vehicles, except for cars registered in North Ossetia, South Ossetia and Georgia. Tbilisi saw high demand for accommodation and rising housing prices. The increased flows aroused anti-Russian sentiment and criticism towards the government.

## European Union

visa required



Some 66.000 Russian citizens entered the EU during 19-25 Sep, a 30% increase compared to the preceding week. The flow started to decline thereafter, especially since Finland, the key entry point for Russians to the EU, introduced restrictions on 29 Sep. The majority of Russians hold valid residence permits, visas or dual citizenship. Frontex anticipates an increase in irregular border crossings at the EU external borders with RU, and a rise in irregular stays by RU citizens already present in the EU.

## Mongolia

visa-free up to 30 days



Mongolia has not been a destination for Russians in the past. Since 21 Sep, anywhere between 6.000 to 12.000 RU nationals, mostly from the neighbouring RU Buryatia Republic, crossed into Mongolia. The country reported an increasing number of RU citizens applying for temporary residency status or, in some cases, an extension of stay. With few economic opportunities to offer, Mongolia is likely to be only a temporary destination and a transit point en route to other Asian countries.

- entry on internal passports allowed
- registration required for stays above 30 days

- easy to prolong stay beyond the first visa-free year
- no direct flights from/to RU

- EE, FI, LT, LV, PL introduced restrictions to entry on land. CZ will join the effort on 25.10
- no direct flights from/to RU

- visa extension in Mongolia allowed
- temporary permit easy to obtain



The Azerbaijan State Border Service puts the number of visitors from Russia between Dec 2021 and Aug 2022 at 263.000, 70% higher than the same period last year. The AZ-RU land border remains closed since the start of the pandemic.

Since 24 Feb 2022, 50.000 Russians have applied for residency in TR. RU citizens were the number one investors in real estate in Aug 2022. Istanbul has turned into one of the key travel hubs given the scarcity of flights from Russia.



Over 132.000 RU citizens arrived in Armenia in Sep, while 128.000 left. Overall, from Jan to Aug 2022, 654.648 Russians entered Armenia, while 615.808 left. Since then about 39,000 people remain in the country.

**Economic burden.** Pressure on the real estate market of receiving countries. High rental prices, the lack of accommodation, profit race among landlords increasing rents and evicting tenants amid high demand.

Boost to **economic development** due to the inflow of capital, creation of businesses and workplaces.

**Political and security risks.** Public concerns over hosting a considerable number of Russians, which may become a pretext for actions on behalf of the Russian state in the long term.

**Brain gain.** Taking in high-skilled Russian professionals, especially Russia's much-vaunted tech elite, but also health, finance and education professionals, could boost the economies of receiving states. KZ, UZ have already opened special hubs for IT specialists, KG launched a nomad visa.

**Limited institutional and infrastructure capacities** to receive considerable flows.

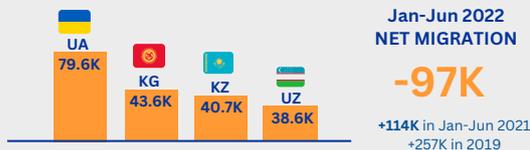
**Demographic gains** for countries featuring declining populations.



## Jan-Jun 2022 OUTFLOW

**419.085**

202.562 in Jan-Jun 2021  
384.602 in 2019



## Jan-Jun 2022 NET MIGRATION

**-97K**

+114K in Jan-Jun 2021  
+257K in 2019

Over 192.000 RU nationals entered KG between Jan and Sep 2022. According to various sources, some 30.000 to 40.000 RU citizens remain in the Republic. Few of them are ethnic Kyrgyz who naturalised in Russia.



According to media sources, 40.000 to 60.000 RU nationals arrived in Uzbekistan this year. Among others, the flow included some 6.000 IT specialists and Russian companies that relocated operations to UZ.

Russia may lose 15% (over 15.000) of its millionaires this year. UAE and Israel are likely to become the prime destination among rich Russians. Around 35.000 RU nationals reside in Israel and the country expects another 36.000 to arrive after Sep 2022.



Most of the observed movements are transit and temporary. Some Russian emigrants, especially those who will not find new sources of income abroad, will most likely return to Russia when they feel it is safe. How many will eventually reside in new destinations remains to be seen.