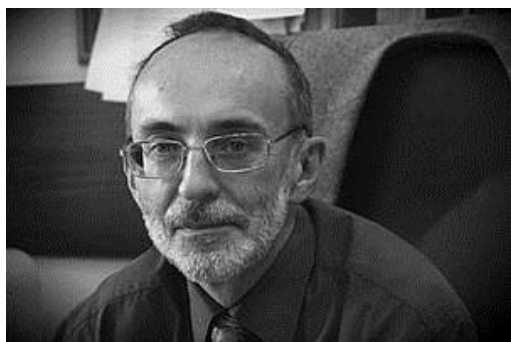


Director's welcome message

It is my utmost pleasure to announce the first issue of the Prague Process Quarterly Review!

The Review will systematically provide you with the information on current activities implementing the Prague Process Action Plan 2012–2016, undertaken not only within the framework of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative but also outside of this important project.



The Review is to support the information exchange between the National Contact Points (NCPs) in the 50 countries involved in the Process, hence NCPs build a very important group of target readers of the publication. Nevertheless, having said this, I would also like to encourage you to spread information about the Review so that our readership could be expanded and information about the Prague Process could reach an audience representing not only national authorities of states participating in the Prague Process, but also academia, civil society and other relevant groups as well as migrants themselves.

I am strongly convinced that the Review will provide a valuable source of information about the Prague Process.

I wish you a good read!

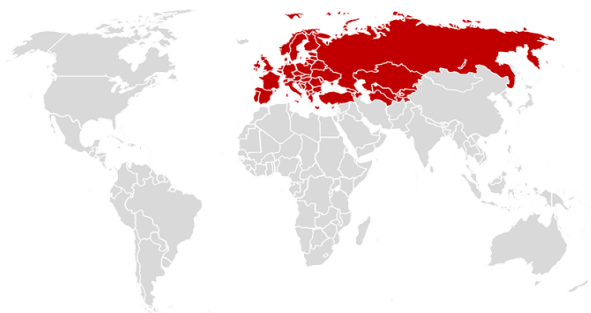
Faithfully yours,



Piotr Mierecki
PP TI Director

Excursion to the history

The Prague Process is a relatively young intergovernmental process on migration with a great potential. It has existed since April 2009 when the countries agreed on working together towards joint interests in the area of migration. In the years 2009–2010 the 50 countries jointly shared their views on migration, described their migration landscape and formulated their priorities and the path towards addressing them in the Prague Process Action Plan in November 2011. To bring the ministerial document to life, the implementation of selected priorities of the Action Plan started in August 2012 through the Prague Process Targeted Initiative, which will last till January 2016, as well as the "Prague Process Umbrella" projects, starting in 2013. The year 2013 saw a number of activities, workshops, expert missions, study visits and trainings under the pilot projects of PP TI and under the objective establishing the Prague Process Knowledge Base. There has been progress on both practical and policy levels when experts jointly worked on formulating the Prague Process standards in the given four areas addressed by PP TI and when decision makers discussed and agreed upon next steps on Senior Official level and Ministerial level in the coming years.



Since 2012 under the Prague Process there have been organised a Senior Officials' Meeting, 4 Kick-off workshops, 10 workshops including conferences, 7 trainings, 8 study visits, 3 expert missions, 1 thematic NCP meeting and 2 Core Group meetings which brought together hundreds of professionals. Even more interesting events are planned for this and the next years.



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This year

The year 2013 was focused on the process of working towards objectives. The year 2014 will be the year when the results of the work of the active states will be finalised, agreed among the participating states in the respective pilot projects of the Prague Process Targeted Initiative and presented to Senior Officials to consider them as standards relevant to all Prague Process participating states. 2014 will also bring new Migration Profiles Light and updated Extended Migration Profiles that serve as the basis of the Knowledge Base aiming at being a useful tool for policy makers, decision makers and researchers, who could make use of state-owned, up-to-date and comparable descriptions of migration realities of partner states.

The Prague Process is a state-led intergovernmental dialogue and the states will set its future direction through the Senior Officials' Meeting in Berlin in October 2014 but also at the 3rd Ministerial Conference in 2016. The Process does have its place among other existing processes and it should serve its owners in the way they jointly shape it.

Feedback and evaluation

With the aim to strive for improvement, every activity of the Prague Process has been evaluated and the leading states and the Secretariat appreciate any feedback. Positive feedback, like the one provided by Ms. Irine Hakobyan from the Armenian State Migration Service below, or ideas for improvement are welcome.

"As a whole, the impression from the study visit to the Netherlands implemented within the framework of PP TI PP 4 "Quality and training in the asylum processes: the European Asylum Curriculum (EAC)" is amazing. It was well-planned, with taking into account all our requests and well-implemented, that gave us a chance to get maximum information of the asylum system of the Netherlands within five days.

There are things at every stage of the asylum procedure in the Netherlands that might be taken over. We came back to Armenia with new experience and knowledge, which are very useful and encouraging, and I hope will be put into good use in Armenia."

Key activities in 2014

- ❖ Pilot Project 4 – Asylum and International Protection: Final Conference, Nuremberg, 19–20 March
- ❖ Pilot Project 2 – Legal migration and Pilot Project 3 – Migration and Development: Joint Workshop, Yerevan, 6–7 May
- ❖ 3rd Core Group meeting, Warsaw, 24 June
- ❖ Pilot Project 1 – Illegal migration: Concluding Workshop, Warsaw, 8–9 July
- ❖ Pilot Project 2 – Legal migration and Pilot Project 3 – Migration and Development: Joint Concluding Workshop, Prague, September
- ❖ Senior Officials' Meeting, Berlin, 28–29 October



Where else can you find information?

www.pragueprocess.eu
www.facebook.com/pragueprocess
www.imap-migration.org
www.icmpd.org
www.eap-sippap.eu
www.eapmigrationpanel.org



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