

WELCOME MESSAGE OF THE CZECH CHAIR

Dear Prague Process Partners & Friends,

I sincerely hope that this message finds you and your families well and in good health. As the new Chair of the Prague Process Strategic Group, it is my pleasure to welcome you to this first issue of the Prague Process Quarterly Review in 2021.

Despite the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the Prague Process successfully implemented its projects and activities throughout 2020, culminating in the annual Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) on 16 November. Together with some 80 senior-level officials from 36 countries, the European Union and international organizations, we gathered to discuss and determine which direction the Prague Process shall take in the coming years. For this purpose, the Czech Chairmanship also presented its Road Map for the Future and the accompanying timeline, defining the way forward up to the new mandate for 2023-2027.

We would like 2021 to be the year in which we begin to formulate this new mandate – both at expert-level and during the annual SOM in the second half of this year.

The pandemic does not only affect our daily life but also our debates on the future of migration policy. Online



meetings, webinars and other remote activities do not only have a downside as every cloud has a silver lining. Virtual platforms of communication facilitate our discussions and make information and knowledge sharing easier and more accessible to our partners across the Prague Process region, thus allowing us to pursue one of our main goals – to contribute to the solution of complex migration problems in an inclusive, dialogue-facilitating way.

If the situation allows, we may be able to meet again in-person this year. Meanwhile, I look forward to our continued cooperation and, on behalf of the Czech Chairmanship, thank you for your support and commitment to the Prague Process.

Yours sincerely,

Tomáš Urubek

Head, Unit for International and European Affairs, Department for Asylum and Migration Policy, Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic

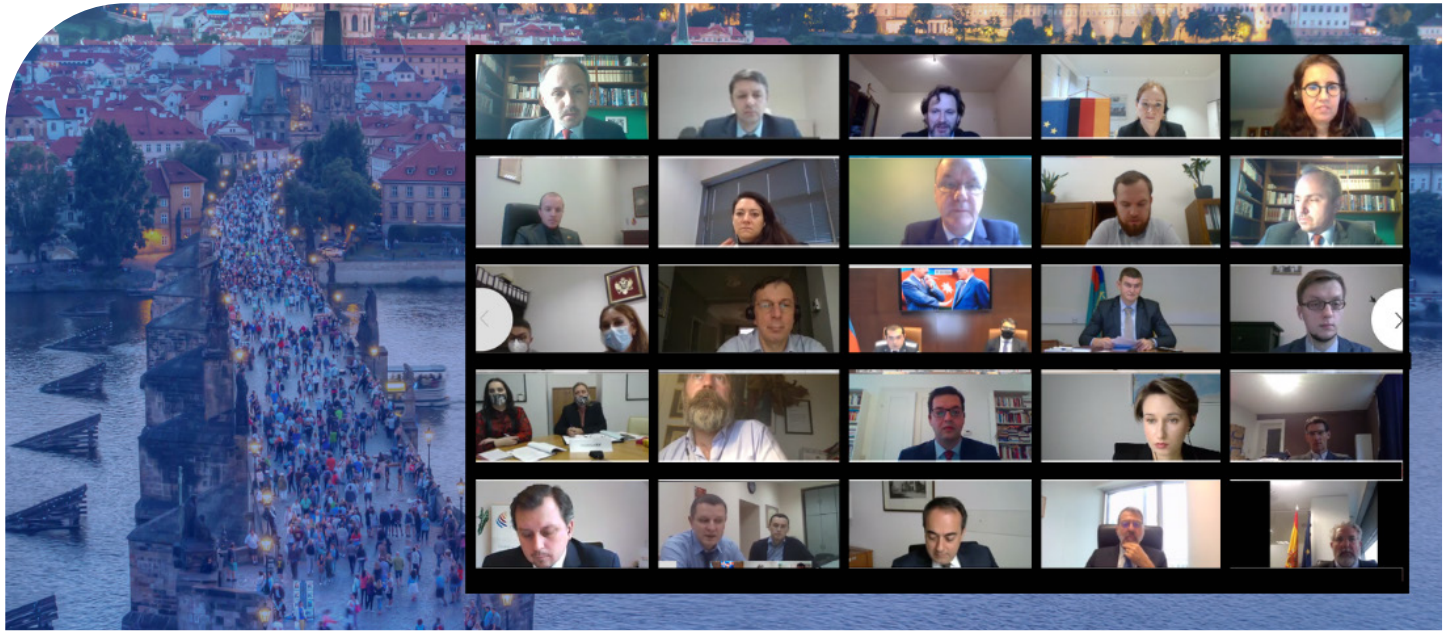
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Looking ahead: upcoming Prague Process activities 2021

- March** ● Webinar 'Introducing the European Centre for Return' (with Frontex)
- 11 March** ● Webinar 'Mobile Long-Term Care in Europe: Facing the Covid-19 Crisis'
- 1 April** ● Webinar 'Which Perspectives for Labour Migration Partnerships in the East? Lessons from EU funded Pilot Projects on Legal Migration'

The Prague Process Senior Officials' Meeting in 2020



This year the annual Prague Process Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) took place in a virtual format on 16 November 2020. Formally hosted by Germany in the course of its Presidency of the Council of the EU, the SOM gathered some 80 senior-level officials from 36 countries, the European Commission, the EU Council, Frontex, IOM and ICMPD. The event provided an opportunity for participating states to share their current migration policy priorities and needs in terms of international cooperation, as well as to take stock of the Prague Process achievements over the past two years and learn about the activities planned for 2021.

The year 2020 has been challenging for every state and individual, yet international cooperation on migration never slowed down. Migration dialogues are not new to crises. They have the experience and institutional flexibility required to adjust to emerging challenges and the particular needs of their participating countries, which is essential both during but especially post-COVID-19.

As mentioned during the welcome session, global phenomena – such as migration and the corona-virus pandemic – require multilateral and concerted approaches. The Prague Process, being a platform for targeted dialogue on

migration, has helped to establish cooperation and ensure trust-building between many different actors. This may sometimes prove more important than formal agreements. The EU's Eastern and South-Eastern neighbours have made significant progress on aligning their standards on migration and asylum to those of the EU. Meanwhile, the philosophy of the EU's New Pact on Migration and Asylum resonates to the existing international partnership and regional cooperation approach pursued among the Prague Process parties.

The past two years saw considerable progress in terms of the activities implemented and results delivered by the Prague Process Training Academy and Migration Observatory. The former provided for three face-to-face trainings, a study visit to Germany, as well as the first Online training, which shall soon be accessible on the forthcoming Prague Process E-learning Platform. Meanwhile, the Migration Observatory further expanded its expert network and produced over 30 analytical publications of different scale and nature. The highlight of 2020 was the launch of the Prague Process webinar series, which attracted considerable attention and received excellent feedback on behalf of the attending state and non-state actors.

The future activities of the Prague Process will be aligned to the priorities identified among the participating states through the survey carried out in 2020. The three thematic priorities include (1) promoting readmission, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration; (2) preventing and fighting illegal migration; (3) legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration.

The SOM also saw the handover of the Chairmanship of the Prague Process Strategic Group from Lithuania to the Czech Republic. Building on Lithuania's successful leadership over the past two years, the Czech Republic introduced its Roadmap for the coming period, culminating in the fourth Prague Process Ministerial Conference, which shall take place during the Czech EU Presidency in the second half of 2022. In 2021, the Prague Process will launch the process for reviewing the political commitments established by the Action Plan of 2011 and the Bratislava Ministerial Declaration of 2016 and pave the way to the definition of a new political mandate for the years 2023-2027.

The next Prague Process Senior Officials' Meeting will take place in autumn 2021.

The Prague Process webinar series

The online events organised during the last quarter of 2020 covered three different thematic blocs starting with return and reintegration, followed by the external dimension of the EU's New Pact on Migration and ending with the potential of the labour migration policy to change the profile of the Western Balkan region.

Beginning of October, during the webinar titled '[Building better return and reintegration programs](#)' Mr Glen Swan presented a short background on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) program principles, discussed current operational challenges and provided recommendations for agile program design. Voluntary return is a rather dignified method of return, but there are often many challenges associated with effectively implementing a successful AVRR program. This webinar looked at related operational and political objectives of the AVRR programs, while outlining the importance of the accurate policy setting.

Later in October, Ms Maria-Myrto Kannelopoulou, Member of Cabinet of EC Vice-President Margaritis Schinas, and Mr Martijn Pluim, Director of Migration Dialogues and Cooperation, ICMPD, had a conversation over the place and role of international cooperation in the EU's New Pact on Migration. While touching upon border management and internal rules, the [Policy Talk](#) mainly addressed the external dimension of the Pact looking at the strengthened partnerships with countries of origin and transit.

Lastly, in December, Prof. Anna Krasteva from the New Bulgarian University, dived into the migration realities of the Western Balkan region torn between the urgency of refugee management and the legacy of forced migration on the one side, and the need to prioritize labour migration as a tool for national and regional development on the other side. During the webinar titled '[From refugee crises to labour migration – and back? Lessons for migration](#)

[policies in the Western Balkans](#)' Prof. Krasteva explained how and whether a labour migration policy could change the existing profile of the WB region, as well as provided related policy recommendations inspired by the EU's New Pact on Migration and Asylum.

The recordings of the online events are available on the [Prague Process website](#).



The 3rd International Border Management Conference: Assessing Future Challenges

The third International Border Management Conference took place remotely on 23-24 November 2020. It focused on the key challenges for border management expected in the future while also addressing the particular challenges related to morphing and biometric technologies. Apart from border guards, police and customs agencies, the third

edition of this ICMPD flagship event also brought together a wide range of other actors from the public and private sectors. During the two thematic roundtables, invited speakers presented their daily practices and achievements, exchanged views and discussed potential developments in border governance as a way to address global risks.

Intimately connected to human activity and mobility, the border management (BM) sector is constantly facing challenges, which are not necessarily linked to the frontier domain, but still require swift and efficient adaption and responses. This was the case in 2015, when hundreds of thousands of people fled Syria, and just recently in 2020



during the outbreak of COVID-19 that led to border closures and various travel restrictions. Following the shock of the first wave of COVID-19 and in anticipation of the second wave, the countries that best managed their borders in terms of a harmonised closure and re-opening recovered fastest. The ability to adapt to such circumstances is key, but it greatly varies depending on the geopolitical context, on the human, financial and technical resources available.

Overall, BM keeps its focus on ensuring border security, trade facilitation and the protection of public health. Nevertheless, technological, procedural and human innovation is inevitable in the context of new specific circumstances. Seamless (and soon likely “touchless”) and automatic border controls are already a reality at a number of land, air and sea border crossing points worldwide. Meanwhile, biometrics-based screening tools at borders play a crucial role in the prevention of terrorism, especially concerning foreign terrorist fighters and returnees. These innovations have a tremendous impact on how the responsible agencies perform border controls and trade facilitation nowadays and in the future. The numerous challenges faced also explain the speed of development in the area of border control, driven by the rapid increase in worldwide travellers and global trade, as

well as by completely unexpected events such as the ongoing global pandemic.

Despite the obvious progress, certain regions are still struggling to meet the basic standards and requirements needed to ensure effective BM. This is mainly due to a lack of human, material and financial resources, but in some cases also due to a lack of political will, an unstable and unpredictable security environment, a lack of delimited and demarcated borders, or the presence of armed conflicts within the vicinity of border areas. Border officials require constant training to provide them with the skills needed to keep up with contemporary challenges and perform their daily duties in a qualified manner. As highlighted by Mr. Maciej Popowski, Acting Director General at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR), *“one should understand the complexity of challenges for border management staff, who, in major airports, have to make decisions on an incoming traveller in about six seconds – based on the blink of an eye and on real-time information appearing on a screen”*.

Given the dynamic nature of the challenges facing BM professionals, the Conference explored how a step change from the management of borders

towards their comprehensive governance may provide the tools needed to meet them. The joint conclusion was that these challenges can only be successfully addressed through close co-operation and coordination between all relevant BM actors. Hence, state borders can be managed more successfully through improved communication, information exchange and mutual assistance between various border agencies, while at the same allowing proper social and economic development. As stated by Mr. Michael Spindelegger, Director General of ICMPD, ‘borders should never turn into obstacles to development’.

The Conference was organised by ICMPD with the financial support of several EU-funded initiatives, including the Prague Process. The fourth International Border Management Conference will take place in November 2021.

Vienna Migration Conference 2020

On 16-19 November 2020, ICMPD hosted its annual flagship event – the Vienna Migration Conference. With the year 2020 being both unique and dramatic, the fifth edition of the VMC titled **‘Schengen, asylum reform and Europe’s migration diplomacy: Has COVID-19 changed everything?’** was broadcasted live under restricted conditions from a special studio in Vienna and bolstered by a richly varied series of contributions from ICMPD duty stations around the world.

The Conference featured rich discussions with ministers, senior officials and experts from Turkey, Central Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Western Balkans and Eastern Europe on everything from the multi-faceted impact of the pandemic to the prospects for reform of the EU’s asylum rules and strengthening Schengen. Daily focus sessions highlighted a broad range of voices and allowed participants to delve deeper into the reasons for divergent border management responses to COVID-19 and the challenge to overcome logistical problems inherent in return of

irregular migrants. A high-level political panel that helped clarify the current geo-political context was complimented with two senior panels, looking at strategies for progress in the area of EU asylum and Schengen, and how to

advance international migration partnerships in the context of post-COVID economic reconstruction.

Find more information and the recordings of the various interventions [here](#).



The place for migration in the new Multiannual Framework 2021-2027

The last quarter of 2020 saw the adoption of the long-term EU budget 2021-2027 and the recovery fund package, jointly totalling an unprecedented €1.8 trillion. The comprehensive financial package will support the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the EU’s long-term priorities, including modernisation, green and digital transformation. Importantly, the areas of migration, border and security, as well as the EU neighbourhood and world initiatives, will receive over 12 % of the envisaged €1074.3 billion long-term budget through its various funds.

The Asylum and Migration Fund will focus on actions related to asylum policy, legal migration and integration, irregular migration and returns, as well as solidarity and responsibility sharing between member states. It will also cover some actions in or concerning third countries. Meanwhile, the Internal Security Fund

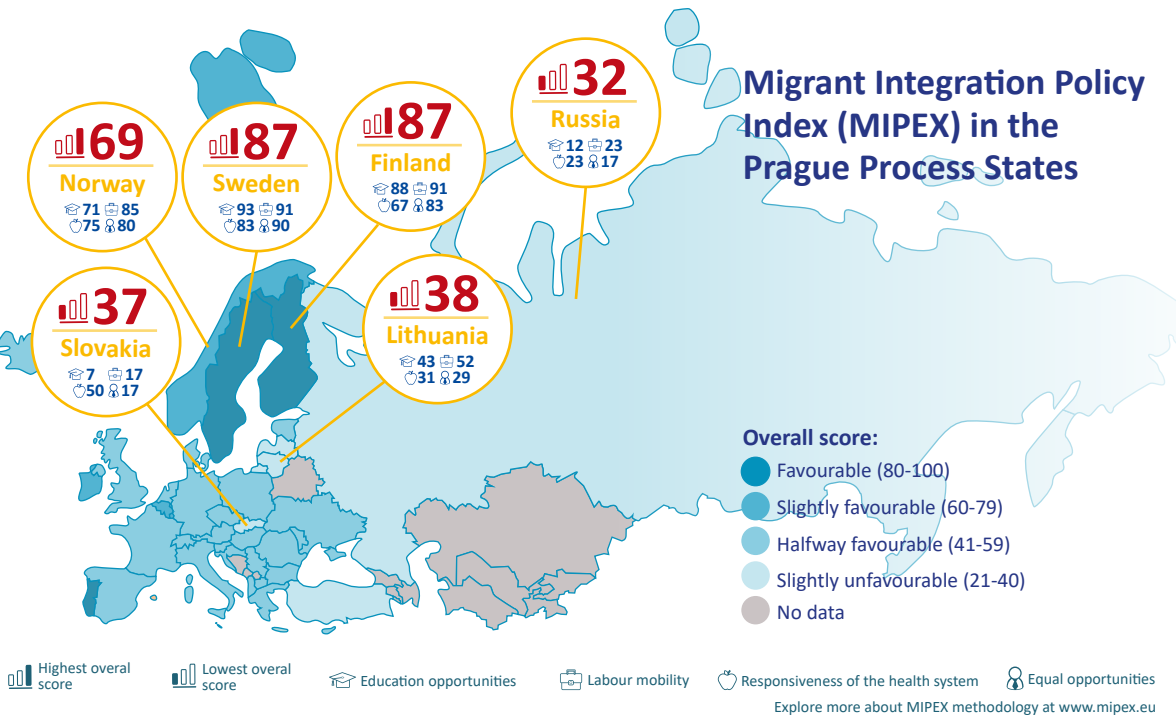
will support measures to improve the exchange of information, to intensify cross-border cooperation, including joint operations on terrorism and organised crime, and to strengthen capabilities to prevent and combat crime. Moreover, to promote the competitiveness, efficiency and innovation capacity of the EU’s defence, technological and industrial base, the EU will establish a new European Defence Fund. Meanwhile, the financial instrument for border management and visa shall ensure the expansion of the European Border and Coast Guard (Frontex), the development and interoperability of large-scale IT systems, such as the European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) and the Entry-Exit System, and the modernisation of the common visa policy.

The agreement to reform the EU Visa Information System (VIS) on 8 December 2020 represented an important first

step in this direction. This reform shall foster the removal of blind spots by allowing access to various databases (e.g. European Criminal Records System) upon receipt of the visa application. The enhanced VIS will also contain more information on residence permit holders and store copies of applicants’ travel documents, including those of children subject to trafficking. The system shall ultimately improve the EU’s external border management, contribute to a more efficient return policy and ensure a better response to evolving security and migratory challenges.

Read more [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).





34.2 mln
EU Inhabitants were born outside the EU (7.7% of the EU population)

In Sweden, Estonia, Luxembourg, Croatia, Latvia, Austria, Malta, Germany

Around or above **10%**

Below **3%**

In Czechia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovakia

26.8% Of migrants are highly educated

38.6% Are overqualified for the job they do

EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027

Key principles and values

- Integration of EU citizens with migrant background and third-country nationals
- Ensure **inclusion for all**
- More emphasis on **early action and long-term integration**
- Enhancing **migrant participation**
- Mainstreaming **gender and antidiscrimination**
- More **multi stakeholder partnerships and closer cooperation** with regional and local authorities

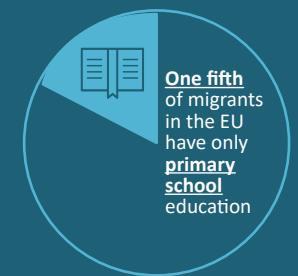
Key areas and actions

Inclusive education and training from early childhood to higher education.

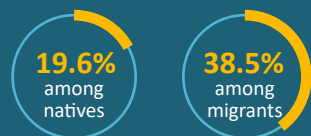
Better employment opportunities, as well as **skills recognition** to fully support and value the contribution of migrants, and women in particular. Promoting labour market integration and supporting entrepreneurship.

Promoting access to **health services** among people with a migrant background. Ensure they are informed about their rights. Recognise the **specific challenges faced by women**.

Promoting access to **adequate and affordable housing**. Sharing experience on fighting segregation and discrimination on the housing market.

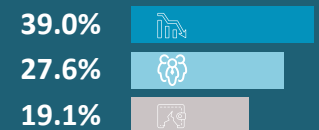


Share of adults (25-64) with **low*** level of education

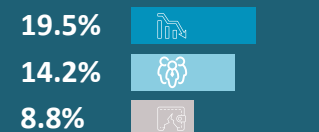


*i.e. primary or lower secondary education (ISCED levels 0-2)

Among migrants



Among natives



Risk of poverty or social exclusion

Risk of overcrowding

Housing cost overburden

Sources: Action plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027 https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/pdf/action_plan_on_integration_and_inclusion_2021-2027.pdf
Overall figures of immigrants in European society https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/promoting-our-european-way-of-life/statistics-migration-europe_en
The EC reveals its new EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion (2021-2027) <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/news/the-ec-presents-its-eu-action-plan-on-integration-and-inclusion-2021-2027>



Fully integrating migrants into the labour market could generate large economic gains, including fiscal profits, contributions to national pension schemes and national welfare in general.

COVID-19 will likely widen the migrant pay gap

The call on the growing labour force shortages has been heard around the globe, with the coronavirus pandemic further accentuating the need for professionals in the health care sector, ICT and agriculture. With the demand for labour migration remaining real, the recent findings of the International Labour Organisation sound particularly bleak: “migrant workers generally earn nearly 13% less than national workers in high-income countries, though the gap can be as high as 42% in some jurisdictions”.

The special ILO report ‘[The migrant pay gap: Understanding wage differences between migrants and nationals](#)’ looked at data from 49 countries hosting nearly half of all international migrants. It revealed that the pay disadvantage experienced by migrant and national workers in some countries has worsened since 2015. Among the researched Prague Process states, this is true for eleven states with Cyprus, Slovenia, Italy, Portugal, Luxembourg and Austria surpassing the 25% line. In practical terms, this means that migrants in Slovenia now earn 33% less than national workers, whereas in 2015 this figure was only 6.9%. In Austria, the wage gap has risen from 15.8% to 25.3%. Meanwhile in Luxembourg, it increased from 14.9% to 27.3%. Overall, a migrant worker doing the same job as a national worker earns around a fifth less. However, the report further suggests that in low- and middle-income countries, such as Albania, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, migrant workers tend to be temporary and highly skilled, earning 17.3% more per hour than non-migrant workers.

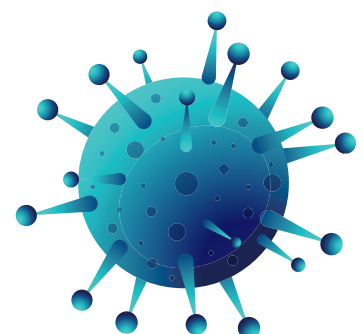
Among international migrants, female migrant workers face a ‘double wage penalty’, both as migrants and women, partly because migrant women represent a significant share (73% or 8.45 million) of domestic workers worldwide. In high-income countries, the pay gap between male nationals and migrant women stood at nearly 21% per hour, while the pay gap between migrant care workers and non-migrant care workers is about 19%.



The skills mismatch is also remarkable, whereby migrants often end up in jobs that do not reflect their skill level or education. It manifests the problem in transferring skills and experience across countries. Nevertheless, the differences in education, experience, age, or location still cannot explain the significant part of the migrant pay gap, thereby pointing to entrenched discrimination against migrants workers concerning pay.

Furthermore, preliminary evidence suggests that migrants are greatly affected by the multiple crises triggered by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. In all countries, migrants face discrimination and exclusion. In times of crisis, such attitudes threaten to increase inequalities and labour market differences between migrant workers and nationals.

The ILO experts further conclude that by addressing discrimination and eliminating the migrant pay gap, countries can cease various “inequalities, including the gender pay gap, substantially reduce poverty, and allow migrant workers to access their fair share of the benefits of decent employment”.



Key migration takeaways of 2020

The year-end is the usual time to look back and take stock. Undoubtedly, the coronavirus pandemic has shaped the year 2020 in its entirety. In the broader migration area, 2020 results look rather grim, but some positive conclusions can be drawn as well. The following section summarises the main takeaways of 2020 concerning migration and migrants.

⇒ Mobility at halt: flows, stocks, visa, asylum and residence permit applications drop

There are **more than 270 million** international migrants in the world today. For the first time in recent history, **the stock of international migrants is likely to decline** as the overall migration has slowed and return migration has increased. Russia, for instance, lost some **five million migrants**, many of whom come from the Central Asia countries. **Ukraine** claimed that some two million Ukrainian nationals returned to the country in spring 2020. Tajikistan saw a sharp return of migrant workers from Kazakhstan and Russia. Similar movements were observed in the EU MS, with e.g. **Finland** reporting the influx of returnees.

The pandemic has also led to a dramatic decrease in the number of visas and residence permits issued. In the **OECD countries**, for example, the number fell by 46% in the first half of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. The same downward trend applies to the **number of asylum applications**. Across the EU+ countries, there were 31% fewer applications than the year before. In the absence of accurate data on the movements of irregular migrants, their number has supposedly also declined. The observed **shift in the European migrant routes** amid heightened border security across the Mediterranean intrinsically point to this assumption.

Experts urge that migration flows **will not reach previous levels** for some time because of weaker labour demand, ongoing travel restrictions and mobility alternatives linked, among others, to the widespread use of teleworking among high-skilled workers and remote learning by students.

⇒ Economic downturn negatively impacts migrant employment, wages, remittances and the overall poverty levels

The **World Bank's Global Economic Prospects** made it clear: the global economy appears to be emerging from one of its deepest recessions. In **most OECD and G20 countries**, the first half of 2020 lockdowns and mobility restrictions caused the largest fall of real GDP in recent history. Largely occupied by migrants, industries requiring physical proximity – such as accommodation, restaurants and transport – were those hardest hit. As a result, **migrants are facing worse consequences** than natives. Almost 60% of the initial surge in unemployment were immigrants. Moreover, the amount of money migrant workers send home **is projected to decline by 14%** globally by 2021 when compared to pre-COVID-19 levels of 2019. Parts of Europe and Central Asia are likely to see the steepest drops, which could have a devastating social impact on the region's economies. Of the 2.4 million people in Europe and Central Asia who may slip into poverty in 2020, **58% – some 1.4 million** – live in Central Asia.

The socio-economic costs of COVID-19 have so far fallen disproportionately on women. In particular, **across Central Asia**, women have felt the secondary effects of the pandemic with increases in domestic violence, drops in employment, increased burdens of unpaid care work and poorer job conditions.

Sectors with higher shares of female employment have been heavily affected. Therefore, women's employment rates have fallen sharply.

⇒ Migrant exposure to infection

Various factors such as a higher incidence of poverty, overcrowded housing conditions and high concentration in jobs with little physical distancing make migrants more susceptible to a COVID-19 infection. **Studies in several OECD countries** found their infection risk to be at least twice as high as that of the native-born population. Among the confirmed cases in Norway, 31% are foreign-born, almost twice as much as their share among the population. In Sweden, 32% of positive cases were immigrants against 19% in the population. In Denmark, immigrants and their children account for 18% of the infected, twice as many as their share in the Danish population. In the Portuguese capital Lisbon, 24% of COVID 19 infections are immigrants. In the United Kingdom, one third of patients critically ill were registered as Black Asian and Minority Ethnic. The death toll among foreign-born populations, between March and April 2020, was also higher, as confirmed by the data from France, Sweden and the Netherlands. Overall, migrants have paid a higher price among the incidence of COVID 19, with higher infection risk and higher mortality, despite having a younger age on average.



⇒ Migration contributions remain vital

In spite of the manifold challenges that migration may pose to policy and decision-makers, one shall not underpin the many ways in which migrants contribute to societies. During COVID-19 lockdowns, it became visible that migrants are vital in sectors that are crucial for the functioning of everyday life. On average, 13% of all key workers in the EU are immigrants. [Migrants play a crucial role in health care](#), where 23% of doctors and

14% of nurses are foreign-born. In cities such as London or Brussels, around half of all doctors and nurses are migrants. Overall, capital regions have the highest share of migrant key workers (20%). Similarly, cities rely more on migrant key workers than other areas, especially in low-skilled occupations, where migrants make up 25% of workers.

Moreover, migrant contributions go beyond performing essential services. [Migrants predominate in innovation and patents](#), arts and sciences awards,

start-ups and successful companies. [Migrant firms were the first](#) to announce COVID-19 vaccinations. Germany's BioNTech, with employees from 60 countries is the firm established by children of Turkish migrants. Moderna has Lebanese-Armenian Noubar Afeyan as a co-founder. Moroccan born Moncef Slaoui heads America's Operation Warp Speed to develop vaccines.

Read more [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

READS

Newly released publications

Analytical report by Glen Swan

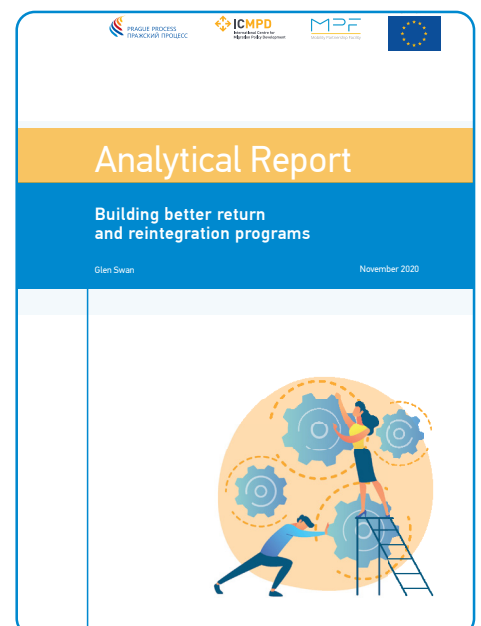
'Building better return and reintegration programs'

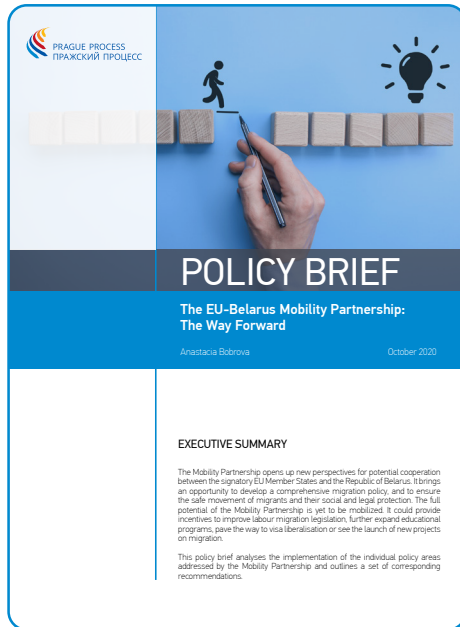
Return and reintegration programs are an important part of overall migration management. Most countries place significant emphasis on entry requirements to regulate migration inflows, and equal emphasis on return and reintegration is necessary. 'Returns' exist in three main categories: forced, voluntary or self-managed.

This report addresses mainly 'voluntary return' and those return programs that link with some form of post-return assistance (reception assistance, post-arrival assistance, reintegration assistance) in the country of origin. It identifies efficiencies and methods that represent best practice and increase performance

of the program, as well as new perspectives and new ways of viewing traditional policy and program settings. Return and reintegration programs are governed by traditional program settings and function in a standardised manner. However, it is important to recognise the limitations of general program settings. This paper examines the function and utility of these programs. Additionally, there is a discussion of major program features and operational challenges. The paper includes findings from a short examination of return and reintegration programs for all fifty Prague Process participant states.

Access [here](#).





**Policy brief by
Anastacia Bobrova**

**'The EU-Belarus Mobility
Partnership: The Way Forward'**

The Mobility Partnership opens up new perspectives for potential cooperation between the signatory EU Member States and the Republic of Belarus. It brings an opportunity to develop a comprehensive migration policy, and to ensure the safe movement of migrants and their social and legal protection. The full potential of the Mobility Partnership is yet to be mobilized. It could provide incentives to improve labour migration legislation, further expand educational programs, pave the way to visa liberalisation or see the launch of new projects on migration.

liberalisation or see the launch of new projects on migration.

This policy brief analyses the implementation of the individual policy areas addressed by the Mobility Partnership and outlines a set of corresponding recommendations.

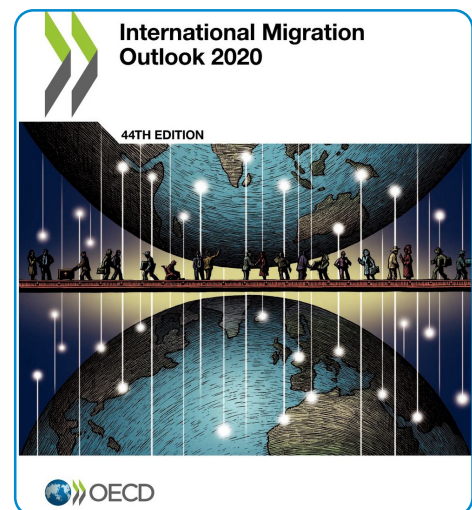
Access [here](#).

Interesting reads

OECD International Migration Outlook 2020

The 2020 edition of International Migration Outlook analyses recent developments in migration movements and policies in OECD countries and some non-member countries, and looks at the evolution of the labour market outcomes of immigrants in OECD countries. It includes a special chapter on the impact of migration on the structural composition of the economy. It also includes country notes and a statistical annex.

Read [here](#).



EC Joint Research Centre 'Atlas of Migration 2020'

Migration remains a top concern for EU citizens. By making global migration data easy to access and use, the Atlas of Migration 2020 addresses one of the priorities of the new European Commission. The Atlas brings together harmonized, up-to-date and validated data on the status of migration and demography in 27 EU Member States and 171 non-EU countries and territories.

Access [here](#).

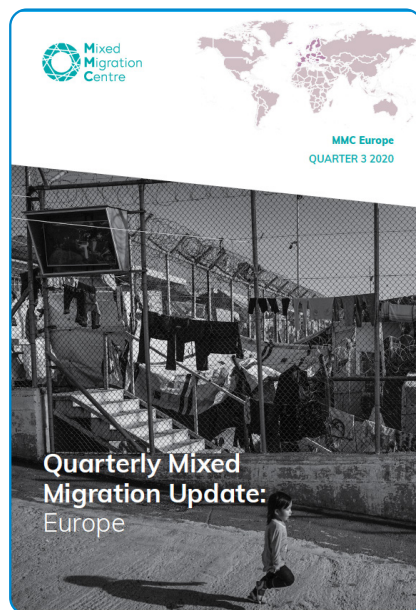
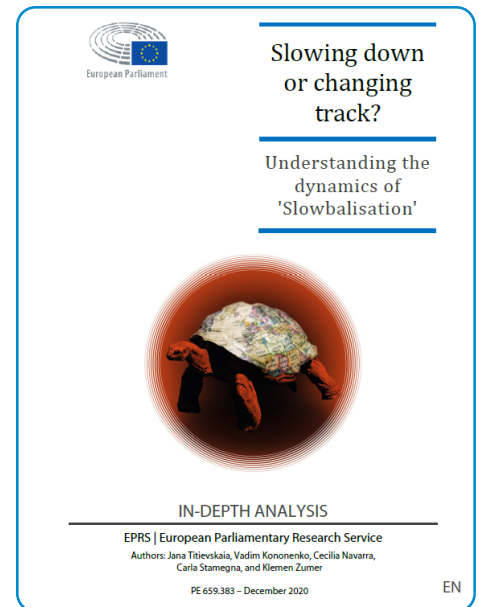
Quarterly review

№ 25, October-December 2020

EPRS In-depth Analysis 'Slowing down or changing track? Understanding the dynamics of Slowbalisation'

Slowbalisation – understood as the slowdown in global integration – is said to have started in the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2007-2008. The coronavirus pandemic brought about a further dramatic fall in cross-border movement of goods, services, capital and people. This paper examines five different pathways of globalisation: international trade, financial openness, increasing inequality, cross-border social movement, and digital exchanges. It finds a non-uniform trend: while international economic globalisation has indeed slowed, the 'digital leap' and continued inequality suggest that globalisation is merely changing form, not disappearing.

Access [here](#).



Quarterly Mixed Migration Update Europe, Quarter 3, 2020

The QMMUs offer a quarterly update on new trends and dynamics related to mixed migration and relevant policy developments. These updates are based on a compilation of a wide range of secondary (data) sources, brought together within a regional framework and applying a mixed migration analytical lens.

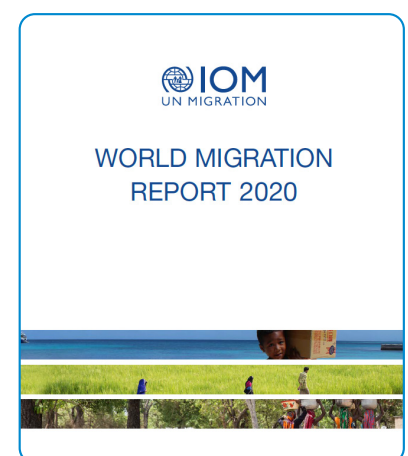
The core countries of focus of this issue are Spain, Italy, Greece and countries along the Balkan migration route. Depending on the quarterly trends and migration related updates, more attention may be given to some countries over the rest.

Access [here](#).

IOM's World Migration Report 2020

The World Migration Report 2020 has been produced to contribute to increased understanding of migration throughout the world. This new edition presents key data and information on migration as well as thematic chapters on highly topical migration issues, and is structured to focus on two key contributions for readers: Part I: key information on migration and migrants (including migration-related statistics); and Part II: balanced, evidence-based analysis of complex and emerging migration issues.

Access [here](#).



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