



PRAGUE PROCESS QUARTERLY REVIEW

#37

APRIL-JUNE 2024

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

We are delighted to share with you the April-June 2024 edition of the Quarterly Review, providing the latest updates from the Process.

The past three months saw the successful implementation of several important activities, including those co-organised with the European Migration Network (EMN), following the recently launched cooperation between the Prague Process and EMN. Meanwhile, the cooperation agreement with the EU Agency for Asylum (EUAA) resulted in the joint Kick-off Workshop of the Thematic Component 4 on Asylum and International Protection at the EUAA headquarter in Malta. Furthermore, the Prague Process Training Academy, in partnership with the EUAA, rolled out two foundational modules of the European Asylum Curriculum for asylum and reception officials from the Eastern Partnership and Central Asian states.

This issue also covers insights from the World Border Security Congress 2024 and Identity Week Europe 2024, as well as the tailor-made training on identity verification and document authentication, spotlighting challenges, and advancements in border security, identity verification and document authentication.

The Prague Process Migration Observatory continues to offer detailed research and analysis on key region-specific developments. It has released three new policy briefs on the dynamics of forced migration from Ukraine, the wider impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Central Asia, as well as the situation of displaced Afghans in Central Asia. All these and other updates, including the curated reading recommendations, prominently feature in this issue.

The second quarter of 2024 confirmed the strong state commitment to fostering cooperation on migration across all key strands of the Prague Process, gearing up for the upcoming 15th Anniversary Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) in September 2024. The SOM will reflect on the journey so far, focus on several pressing challenges, and assess the implementation of the [Action Plan 2023-2027](#).

We trust that you will find this issue both enriching and informative!

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LOOKING AHEAD: UPCOMING PRAGUE PROCESS ACTIVITIES

- 7-12 July | Georgia**
International Summer School on Migration
- September | Online**
Strategic Group Meeting
- 24-25 September | Chisinau, Republic of Moldova (tbc)**
15th Anniversary Senior Officials' Meeting
- 15-17 October | Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic**
Thematic Component 1: Workshop & Study visit on Irregular Migration
- 5-6 November | Luxembourg**
EMN-PP Capacity-building Workshop 'Forecasting and new technologies in migration and asylum governance: state of play and new developments'
- 20-24 November | Tunis (tbc)**
International ICMPD Border Management Conference
- 3-5 December | Prague, Czech Republic**
Thematic Component 2: Training on Reintegration

INSIGHTS FROM THE KICK-OFF WORKSHOP OF THE THEMATIC COMPONENT 3 ON LEGAL AND LABOUR MIGRATION; EMN NATIONAL CONFERENCE 'NAVIGATING A CHANGING LABOUR MIGRATION LANDSCAPE IN LITHUANIA AND EMN COUNTRIES'



On 23 April 2024, the Prague Process organized the Kick-off Workshop under the Thematic Component 3 (TC): Legal and Labour Migration, in Vilnius, Lithuania. The first activity of this TC gathered experts from 24 Prague Process states as well as representatives from the European Commission, OECD, ILO, IOM, ICMPD, GIZ, Austrian Counselling Centre for Migrants and EMN, featuring two key thematic sessions: one on labour migration as a response to evolving market needs and another on enhancing capacities for better migration management. Following the workshop, on 24

April 2024, representatives of the Prague Process took part in the EMN Lithuania Conference 'Navigating a Changing Labour Migration Landscape' marking a start of the structured cooperation between the Prague Process and the EMN. The conference was attended by more than 100 participants from 30 different countries.

Read more about the Workshop and EMN Conference [here](#).

IMPRESSIONS FROM THE WORLD BORDER SECURITY CONGRESS 2024

From 24-26 April, representatives from eight Prague Process states attended the 10th World Border Security Congress (WBSC) in Istanbul, Türkiye. The event gathered over 400 participants from 60 countries, including senior border officials, international organizations like IOM, UNODC, and INTERPOL, and private sector exhibitors. Discussions focused on current and future policies for secure border and migration management, addressing issues such as migrant smuggling, human trafficking, and cross-border crime. Panels covered topics like migration management and technological innovations, including the use of AI and digitalization.

For more details, visit the Prague Process website [here](#).



The latest issue of the Border Security Report (November/December 2023), published by the WBSC organizers, is available [here](#).

STRENGTHENING ASYLUM CAPACITIES: KICK-OFF WORKSHOP OF THE THEMATIC COMPONENT 4

On 4-5 June 2024, representatives from 13 Prague Process states, the European Commission, EUAA, Frontex, UNHCR, and ICMPD gathered in Malta for the Kick-off Workshop of Thematic Component 4: Strengthening Capacities on Asylum and International Protection. Hosted at the EUAA Headquarters, the workshop focused on enhancing cooperation and sharing best practices in asylum management. Keynote speakers highlighted the EUAA's role in harmonizing asylum practices and the importance of collaborative efforts. The event featured thematic sessions on asylum trends, national management systems, and future challenges.

Read more [here](#).



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL IDENTITY: IDENTITY WEEK EUROPE 2024 AND TRAINING ON IDENTITY VERIFICATION AND DOCUMENT AUTHENTICATION

On 11-12 June 2024, nearly 30 participants from 13 Prague Process states attended Identity Week Europe 2024 in Amsterdam, joining over 3,000 attendees from 112 countries. The event focused on digital identity verification, border security, and document fraud prevention. One of the highlights was the European Commission's keynote on the European Digital Identity Framework detailing the EU's legislative progress for digital IDs. On 13 June, following the conference, participants engaged in a tailor-made Training on Identity Verification and Document Authentication organized together with the Dutch Immigration and Naturalisation Service. The training featured expert insights and practical exercises with authentic and counterfeit documents, enhancing participants' skills in detecting document fraud.

For more about the Identity Week Europe and Training click [here](#).



EMN CYPRUS AND PRAGUE PROCESS WORKSHOP ON RETURN AND REINTEGRATION

On 18-19 June 2024, representatives from 19 Prague Process states, the European Commission (DG HOME), Frontex, IOM, Samuel Hall and ICMPD gathered in Larnaca for the Workshop within the Thematic Component 2. Hosted by EMN Cyprus, this event constituted the second joint activity of the Prague Process and EMN offering a valuable platform for exchanging insights and experiences among both networks. The first day focused on evidence-based reintegration programs and operational support, while the second day featured an EMN Return Expert Group (EMN-REG) workshop on counselling, reintegration, and incentives, building on previous work concerning the EU strategy on voluntary return and reintegration.

Read more [here](#).

MIGRATION OBSERVATORY: NEW PUBLICATIONS

Policy Brief 'Impacts of Russia's War in Ukraine on Migration in Central Asia'

This Policy Brief explores the status quo of migration in and out of Central Asia two years since Russia invaded Ukraine, focusing on anticipated and unexpected developments that continue to shape migration realities in this part of the Prague Process region.

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

Policy Brief 'Displaced Afghans in Central Asia: Barriers, Risks and Future Prospects'

This Policy brief provides an overview of the situation of Afghans exiled in Central Asia, the responses of local governments and the international community. Looking towards the future, the brief also outlines what policies are needed to address the needs of Afghans in the region.

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

Policy Brief 'Scenarios of War and Forced Migration from Ukraine: How many more Ukrainians could flee if Russia wins?'

This is the third Prague Process Policy brief on the topic of forced migration from Ukraine as the direct result of Russia's military aggression. In this iteration, the brief deliberates forced migration flows from Ukraine under four potential war scenarios, informed by the migration patterns observed to date. The methodology developed by the author in 2021 allowed to predict the number of forcibly displaced in early 2022 with a high degree of accuracy. Subsequently, this method has been continually refined to account for newly available data.

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

WEBINAR 'HOW MANY MORE UKRAINIANS COULD FLEE IF RUSSIA WINS THE WAR?'

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has precipitated a significant displacement crisis, resulting in millions of Ukrainians and hundreds of thousands foreign residents and immigrants fleeing the country. The potential for further displacement looms large if Russia gains more ground or if Ukraine loses the fight for its sovereignty. In this webinar, Dr Franck Düvell presented the latest Prague Process Policy Brief on forced migration from Ukraine (see above). As highlighted, the number of displaced individuals could reach up to 19 Mio under the most severe scenario.

Watch the webinar in [English](#) or in [Russian](#).

PRAGUE PROCESS WEBINAR
HOW MANY MORE UKRAINIANS COULD FLEE IF RUSSIA WINS THE WAR?
SCENARIOS OF WAR AND FORCED MIGRATION

VIDEO RECORDING

FRANCK DÜVELL, PHD
Senior Researcher,
Osnabrück University

RADIM ŽÁK, DR. PHIL.
Head of Region
EECA, ICMPD



TRAINING ACADEMY: UPDATES

The [Training Academy](#) aims to provide tailor-made, targeted, high-quality trainings in line with the six thematic areas set out by [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. As of April 2024, the Platform contains six e-courses: Integrated Border Management, Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Labour Migration, Identification and Profiling at the Border, Return and Reintegration as well as Holistic Approach to the Integration of Migrants and Refugees.

State representatives are invited to seize this opportunity for capacity enhancement through remote learning. All courses (but for integration) are available in English and Russian. Participants can flexibly revisit the courses to fit their individual schedules without the concern of losing progress. Upon successful course completion, participants are awarded a certificate. Access to all courses is granted upon [registration](#) on the platform. If you encounter any problems, please feel free to contact pragueprocess@icmpd.org.



Integrated Border Management

Developed in collaboration with ICMPD's Border Management and Security Programme, this course covers a broad spectrum of IBM elements, from basic concepts to crafting a national IBM Strategy and Action Plan. Designed for an intermediate level, it strengthens the capabilities of state actors in border and migration management, emphasising the protection of fundamental rights. The course also tackles vital operational challenges such as corruption or training of staff.



Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

This e-course was developed with ICMPD's Anti-Trafficking Programme and targets migration and asylum practitioners with intermediate knowledge on human trafficking and associated crimes. Differentiating between human trafficking and migrant smuggling, the course covers global trends and legal frameworks. It further examines vulnerabilities in mixed migration flows, state responsibilities, and victim issues such as identification, assistance, risk assessment, and repatriation.



Labour Migration

Featuring Professor Rainer Munz, a leading migration expert, this course covers essential definitions and categories, theories of labour migration and mobility, the interests of both sending and receiving countries, as well as migrants themselves. It further delves into national and international frameworks regulating labour migration, along with policies and administrative practices to improve outcomes.



A Holistic Approach to the Integration of Migrants and Refugees

This e-course assesses various integration strategies, including through case studies from various countries, designed to equip policymakers with effective integration tools. It consists of 18 modules featuring videos, quizzes, and readings to foster critical thinking and self-reflection. Participants will understand key integration elements and learn how to adapt policies for better migrant inclusion. Interested Prague Process states and partners can enrol by submitting their name, surname, country, and professional affiliation to pragueprocess@icmpd.org by 15 August 2024. The course is only available in English. Candidates will receive credentials to access the course hosted on the Moodle Platform of the Training Institute on Migration Capacity Partnership for the Mediterranean.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

The adoption of the EU's Pact on Migration and Asylum

Read the press release of the Council [here](#) and European Parliament [here](#)

European Commission's Common Implementation Plan for the Pact on Migration and Asylum

Read more [here](#)

Migration Textbook: A Comprehensive Guide for Azerbaijan's Practitioners and Academics

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

Migration Curriculum for academia and training centres of related migration authorities

Read in [English](#)

International Day for Protection of Children (1 June): A Call to enhance Anti-trafficking efforts

Read more [here](#)

ICMPD publication 'Guardianship Solutions and Services for Unaccompanied and Separated Children under Temporary Protection in the EU: The case of Ukrainian children' authored by Pierre Cazenave

Read the paper in [English](#)

ICMPD publication 'Challenges related to the reception of unaccompanied children from Ukraine in Poland – legal representation issues' authored by Adam Chmura

Read the paper in [English](#) or in [Polish](#)

ICMPD Migration Podcast 'How migration is driving the EU elections'

Listen to the episode [here](#)

World Refugee Day 2024 (20 June): A call for solidarity with refugees

Read the overview by the European Parliament [here](#)

European Commission Joint Research Centre publication 'Migration of Talent: Implications for Countries of Origin'

Read more [here](#)

European Commission proposal for extension of temporary protection

Read more [here](#)

The EUAA Annual Report

Read [here](#)

IOM publication 'Migration in the Context of Climate and Environmental Changes within Central Asia and to the European Union and the Russian Federation'

Read [here](#)

American University of Central Asia, the Hanns Seidel Foundation 'Migration Yearbook: Central Asia and Russia – 2023'

Download [here](#)

