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Ukrainian migration in Poland: figures and trends.

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1. Main figures

As of mid-September 2015 the number of long-term residence permits issued to Ukrainian citizens totaled 62,000 (for comparison the same number at the end of 2013 amounted to 37,000). In 2015 (by mid-September) Ukrainian citizens submitted 39,000 applications for temporary stay and 6,300 applications for permanent residence and 651 applications for the status of EU long-term resident. In total, Ukrainian citizens submitted 63% of all applications for different type of residence permits. Moreover, in the first six months of this year Ukrainian citizens received 402,000 so-called employer's declarations for short-term labour (complementary scheme for work permits). For comparison, in entire 2014 Ukrainians received 372,000 declarations. As far as asylum applications are concerned, in 2015 (till 24Sept) Ukrainian citizens submitted 1865 applications for international protection (in entire 2014 – 2318).

2. Irregular migration

The estimations related to the possible stock of irregular migrants are unknown. Since the outbreak of armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine no researches on that subject were conducted in Poland. However the irregular migration of Ukrainians to Poland is possibly growing – we can see the increasing number of illegal stay detections and refusals of entry.

3. Main determinants

As *2013-2014 Forecasting migration...* research showed the main pull factors attracting Ukrainian migrants in Poland are: language and cultural proximity, low costs of travel, liberal migration and visa policies. Poland is currently the main destination state for Ukrainian migrants in the EU.

Currently there are no statistical or qualitative evidences to determine whether the growth in migration from Ukraine is stimulated by war-related factors.

4. Migration patters

There are two significantly different types of migration patterns represented by Ukrainians in Poland. The first one is short-term circular labour migration is governed by the liberal rules of short-term access to Polish labour market. Bulk of the Ukrainian migrants who come to Poland come from that group and usually have no intention to stay in Poland. The other group, smaller but constantly growing, these are long-term migrants who look for permanent job in Poland, study or are married to Polish citizens. The specificity of Ukraine's migration in Poland is created by the fact that it is predominated by women (around 60%).