





July - September 2025

NEWS FROM THE EU NEWS FROM EMN MEMBER AND OBSERVER COUNTRIES

- 1. General developments
- 2. Legal migration
- 3. International protection including asylum
- 4. Unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups

- 5. Integration and inclusion
- 6. Citizenship and statelessness
- 7. Border management and irregular migration
- 8. Trafficking in human beings
- 9. Return and readmission
- 10. Migration and development
- 11. EU legislation transposition

RECENT AND UPCOMING EMN PUBLICATIONS

NEWS FROM THE EU

On 9 July, the European Migration Network (EMN) launched its <u>2024 EMN Asylum and Migration Overview (AMO)</u>, offering a comprehensive analysis of migration trends and policy shifts across Europe. The report, accompanied by a Statistical Annex from Eurostat, offers an in-depth look at migration and asylum during 2024, in an interactive format to enhance accessibility.

From 1 July to 31 December, Denmark holds the <u>Presidency of the Council</u> of the EU under the slogan 'A strong Europe in a changing world'. On migration the Danish Presidency is prioritising strengthening the EU's external borders and tackling irregular migration.

On 16 July, the European Commission proposed a new <u>Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)</u> totalling nearly €2 trillion. Funding for migration, border management, and internal security was set to triple, enabling EU Member States to implement the Pact on Migration and Asylum, digitalise border controls, and strengthen law enforcement under the recently adopted <u>Protect EU – Internal Security Strategy</u>.

On 10 September, in her annual <u>State of the Union address</u>, President von der Leyen reaffirmed the EU's commitment to building a more effective and humane migration management system. She underscored the proposal to increase funding for migration and border management, and stressed the importance of returning rejected asylum seekers to their countries of origin.

On 25 September, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU reached a <u>provisional political</u> <u>agreement</u> to amend the Europol Regulation, reinforcing the agency's role in tackling migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings.

Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) confirms that EU Member States must uphold asylum seekers' basic needs, even during an unforeseen influx of asylum seekers.

On 1 August, the <u>CJEU</u> ruled that an EU Member State cannot invoke an unforeseeable influx of asylum seekers to avoid their legal obligation to meet those individuals' basic needs. While EU law allows temporary adjustments to reception conditions in exceptional circumstances, such derogations must be justified, time-limited, and cannot compromise the fundamental rights of applicants.

CJEU confirms that a decision not to grant a period of voluntary departure must be open to judicial review

On 1 August, the CJEU <u>ruled</u> that a decision not to grant a period for voluntary departure under the Return Directive must be open to judicial review. In Joined Cases C-636/23 and C-637/23, the Court found that such a refusal is not merely an enforcement measure but a core component of the return decision, with direct consequences for detention and entry bans. The judgment reinforces the right to effective remedies under Article 47 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights and confirms that any unlawfulness in granting or refusing a voluntary departure period renders the return decision invalid.

Figure 1: First-time asylum applications in the EU-27 (January to June 2025)

Source: Eurostat migr asyappctzm, first-time asylum applicants, extracted on 16 October 2025.

NEWS FROM EMN MEMBER AND OBSERVER COUNTRIES

1. General developments

Belgium

Filing fees for appeals before the Council for Alien Law Litigation rise

On 1 September, the <u>filing fee</u> for appeals before Belgium's Council for Alien Law Litigation increased by around 35%. The fee for parties wishing to intervene in ongoing cases also increased. Those eligible for free or partially free assistance can still obtain support for appeals, including pro bono representation before the Council.

Estonia

New migration statistics dashboard

In September, Statistics Estonia and the Ministry of Culture developed a <u>tool for monitoring</u> Estonia's migration statistics – the <u>Migration Statistics Dashboard</u>. The consolidated data provides an overview of migration trends affecting Estonia, as well as indicators on residence permits and Estonian citizenship.

Germany

Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation with the United Kingdom

In July, the UK and Germany signed the <u>Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation</u> that includes implementing a comprehensive Joint Action Plan to increase action against migrant smuggling and irregular migration. Additionally, school groups will be able to travel visa-free in future.

Ireland

Publication of the National Asylum and Migration Management Strategy for Ireland

Published on 16 July by the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration, the <u>National Asylum and Migration Management Strategy</u> outlines existing and planned activities related to asylum and migration management in Ireland. There are six strategic objectives including: effective management of the asylum and migration system aiming at a reduction of migratory pressure on the basis of a comprehensive

approach; effective management of external borders; preparedness and contingency planning among others.

Latvia

Psychological support course extended to Ukrainian emergency service officials

On 22 July, the Cabinet of Ministers issued an <u>order</u> on amendments to the Plan of Measures for Providing Support to Ukrainian Civilians. The updated plan includes access to a psychological support course for officials of the State Border Guard of Ukraine and members of the State Emergency Service. This initiative aims to strengthen mental health support for those responding to the ongoing crisis.

The Netherlands

Personal contribution of Ukrainian displaced persons increased

On 4 July, the Dutch government announced that, starting on 1 October, the <u>personal contribution</u> from Ukrainian displaced persons who have an income will be increased to €244.22 per month per person (aged 18 years and above), reducing the difference compared to other groups, such as those on minimum income or asylum seekers. The personal contribution for catering, when provided, remains unchanged.

Poland

Extension of the legal stay of Ukrainian citizens

At the end of September, an amended <u>Law</u> extending the legal stay of Ukrainian citizens who arrived after 24 February 2022 was enacted. The new provisions, valid until 4 March 2026, preserve access to employment, education, and healthcare, while introducing <u>conditional access</u> to social benefits based on economic activity and the school attendance of children.

Slovenia

New Act on Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons

On 19 July, the new Act on Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons entered into force, regulating the rights and obligations of individuals granted temporary protection, simplifying procedures and clarifying the link between temporary and international protection. The law enables beneficiaries to transition to other residence permits once protection ends and establishes the legal basis for a newly operational registration platform. It also refines rules on accommodation, financial aid, education, healthcare, and labour market access, with tailored support for vulnerable groups.

Norway

Increase in Ukrainians seeking protection

In the run-up to the end of September, Norway saw a sharp <u>increase</u> in Ukrainians seeking protection, especially young men aged 18–22, as new rules allowed them to leave Ukraine legally. In response, the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) is expanding capacity in reception centres by 750 places.

2. Legal migration

Belgium

Family reunification rules tightened

On 18 August, new and <u>stricter rules</u> for family reunification took effect. Changes include a higher minimum age for spouses, a revised definition of adequate housing, higher income requirements, and updated conditions for family reunification with stateless persons and beneficiaries of international or temporary protection.

Cyprus

EU Blue Card scheme for key sectors launched

On 7 July, Cyprus <u>began accepting applications</u> for the EU Blue Card, following the transposition of Directive (EU) 2021/1883 into national law in mid-2024. The <u>scheme</u> targets highly qualified professionals in Information and Communication Technologies, pharmaceutical and the maritime sectors.

Czech Republic

Registration for special national long-term residence opened

On 8 September, the Ministry of the Interior <u>launched</u> <u>registration</u> for a special national long-term residence for economically self-sufficient Ukrainians. About 80 000 people have expressed interest, with 15

000 meeting the criteria. Eligible applicants with at least two years of temporary protection can apply via the Foreigners' Information Portal until 31 December 2025, offering a more stable legal status in Czech Republic.

Estonia

Act regarding appeal of visa decisions amended

Effective 18 July, <u>amendments</u> to the Alien Act giving applicants the right to appeal visa refusals in court entered into force. The law replaces the previous two-stage review with a mandatory single-stage procedure, after which both the visa and review decisions can be appealed to an administrative court. The appeal fee will rise from &80 to &160.

Visa application process eases for students from several Latin American countries

From 30 September, students from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Chile can apply for long-stay Estonian visas directly from their home countries. This followed a <u>cooperation agreement</u> between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and VF Worldwide Holdings Ltd, enabling applications at VFS Global visa centres.

France

Civic and language requirements strengthened in France's integration contract

Two decrees were issued in July amending France's <u>Republican Integration Contract (CIR)</u> for foreigners applying for multi-year residence permits or residence cards. The updated CIR now reflects new <u>civic and language requirements</u> introduced earlier. Language training is capped at 600 hours, targeting level A2 proficiency, while civic training consists of 24 hours delivered over four sessions.

Greece

New provisions for residence permits on exceptional grounds

New provisions under <u>Law 5226/2025</u> amend the conditions for granting residence permits on exceptional grounds. The clause allowing permits for individuals residing in the country for seven consecutive years has been removed. Permits are now limited to cases involving serious and verifiable humanitarian grounds, such as a parental link to a minor national, to prevent misuse.

Procedure for humanitarian residence permit applications updated

A new <u>joint ministerial decision</u> issued on 22 September clarifies the form, content, and submission procedure for residence permit applications on humanitarian grounds, in line with the provisions of the Migration Code to streamline the application process and ensure consistency in handling humanitarian cases.

Ireland

Immigration fees waived for victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

In September, the Minister of State for Migration signed into effect <u>regulations</u> to facilitate arrangements for survivors and victims of domestic abuse which exempts them from migration registration fees. Anyone who experiences domestic abuse and whose permission to be in Ireland is linked to the perpetrator of that abuse can apply to the Immigration Service for a separate independent immigration permission.

Latvia

Biometric passports

On 15 July, a <u>decision</u> came into effect to recognise biometric passports of the Russian Federation citizens as the only valid travel documents to enter Latvia. Citizens of the Russian Federation with a valid Schengen short-stay visa but without a biometric passport will not be able to enter. Those who entered Latvia before 15 July 2025 will be able to remain in Latvia and leave during the validity period of their Schengen visa. Russian citizens with valid Latvian long-stay visas or residence permits may continue to enter, stay or leave Latvia and have until 15 January 2026 to replace unrecognised travel documents with biometric passports.

Malta

Migration policy updated to support retention and streamline procedures

A July migration <u>policy document</u> outlined several changes to migration procedures, to improve retention of third-country workers, reduce vulnerability, and streamline processes. Changes a more flexible approach to actions and grace periods following employment termination, a reduced €150 renewal fee for unchanged single permits, and fixed fees for health and care roles. Partners and parents of nationals under 23 are exempt from the standard single permit process. Applications for a single permit from third-country nationals present in Malta on non-work visas will be rejected.

The Netherlands

Fines for labour exploitation increased

In July, the government decided to significantly increase <u>fines for companies</u> violating labour laws. This was done to combat the exploitation of EU nationals and labour migrants and promote fair working conditions.

Slovak Republic

New visa regulation for Chinese nationals linked to investment

A <u>regulation</u> effective 1 July allows up to 1 000 Chinese nationals annually to obtain national employment visas linked to investment projects. The measure aims to strengthen business relations and support investment development between the two countries.

Amendment to the Act on the residence of foreigners

From 1 July, <u>amendments</u> to the Act on the residence of foreigners were announced. Changes include new rules and quotas for temporary residence for the purpose of business, extended validity of national visas, updated conditions for changing the purpose of residence, and procedural adjustments.

Spain

Management criteria published for the new Aliens Regulation

In August and September, the Directorate-General for Migration Management published <u>management criteria</u> aiming to standardise the interpretation and application of the new Aliens Regulation, covering issues such as changes to residence statuses, residence documents in international adoption, and medical certificates.

Georgia

Labour Migration Law Amended

On 1 July, <u>amendments</u> to the Law of Georgia on Labour Migration were published, coming into effect on 1 March 2026. It aims to strengthen enforcement mechanisms, better regulate labour migration. It introduces mechanisms for data exchange and a monitoring system for overseeing foreigners' labour activities in Georgia. These changes bring Georgia's labour migration rules in line with EU standards.

3. International protection including asylum

Austria

Family reunification suspended for six months

On 2 July, a new <u>regulation</u> entered into force, suspending for six months the obligation of authorities to decide on family reunification applications from beneficiaries of international protection. Exceptions apply only in urgent cases under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Belgium

New laws treat applications already processed elsewhere as subsequent, limit reception aid

On 23 July, two new laws were published aiming to reduce the burden on international protection procedures and limit access to reception for certain applicants. The laws redefine which applications are considered subsequent and include those who have already received protection or a final decision in another EU Member State. They limit access to reception facilities and material assistance for this group.

Czech Republic

Asylum and return rules tightened

On 2 September, an <u>amendment</u> to the Asylum and Foreigners Acts was published. The amendments enable faster returns of foreigners without residence rights, introduce mandatory residence in asylum facilities, expand security vetting, and limit state-covered benefits for applicants who fail to cooperate or demonstrate problematic behaviour.

France

2025 target of 3 000 resettled refugees

On 26 August, in a <u>note</u> on the resettled refugees reception policy, the Ministry of the Interior set the target for 2025 at 3 000 resettled refugees, to be distributed across the entire metropolitan territory except

for Île-de-France and Corsica. In 2024, the initial target of 3 000 had been reduced to 2 000 due to the Olympic Games, but 2 220 people were ultimately received.

Stricter rules introduced for administrative detention

<u>Law No. 2025-796</u>, adopted on 11 August, strengthens the framework for the administrative detention of foreign nationals convicted of serious offences or considered at high risk of reoffending. It authorises the collection of fingerprints and photographs without consent for identification purposes, clarifies detention procedures, and permits the detention of asylum seekers who pose a threat to public order or risk absconding.

Germany

Suspension of family reunification for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection

On 24 July, suspension of family reunification for beneficiaries of subsidiary protection came into force for the next two years. The law aims to relieve the burden on reception and integration systems.

Greece

Use of AI and procedural clarifications in international protection

Law <u>No. 5226</u> of 8 September introduced provisions to enhance the international protection procedure. It allows receiving and examining authorities to use artificial intelligence systems in the exercise of their duties. On subsequent applications, it focuses on legal clarity, alignment with EU law, and applicants' stay during pending proceedings.

Asylum applications from sea arrivals temporarily suspended

Following a surge in Mediterranean crossings that overwhelmed reception capacity in Crete, Greece temporarily suspended asylum applications for third-country nationals arriving illegally by sea from North Africa. The measure, outlined in Article 79 of Law 5218/25, appliesfrom 14 July to 14 October and aims to deter dangerous trafficking practices while addressing the emergency situation.

Ireland

New addition to accelerated processing list for international protection applications

In July, Pakistan was added to the <u>accelerated processing list</u> for international protection applications, which was introduced in November 2022. The process applies to applicants from 15 safe countries of origin, as well as those from a country with a high caseload of applications.

Poland

Right to asylum remains suspended at border buffer zone

The Minister of the Interior and Administration announced that the <u>buffer zone</u> along the Polish-Belarusian border would remain in force until 4 December. This extends the suspension of the right to asylum at the border introduced earlier this year, justified to prevent illegal crossings and strengthen border control.

Sweden

Decision-making in Syrian cases resumed

In September, the Swedish Migration Agency lifted its <u>freeze on decisions</u> on Syrian asylum applications and will be making decisions on cases involving applicants from Syria again.

Georgia

New Law on International Protection adopted

A <u>new Law on International Protection</u> was adopted on 26 June, and published on 7 July to prevent asylum abuse by introducing an initial screening process, with only eligible cases proceeding to full examination. It includes accelerated review for specific cases, a simplified electronic decision process, and a border procedure to assess asylum claims without granting entry if national security is at risk.

Structural changes within the Migration Department

Based on the new Law on International Protection above, the Migration Department within the Ministry of Internal Affairs underwent <u>structural changes</u>. On 1 September, specialised divisions for reviewing applications for international protection under both regular and accelerated procedures were established.

Serbia

Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia for 2024

On 3 July, the 14th Migration Profile of the Republic of Serbia was published - a <u>general overview of</u> statistics on migration and asylum in the country.

4. Unaccompanied minors and other vulnerable groups

Greece

Age assessment procedure for asylum seekers revised

In August, the age assessment procedure was revised in a <u>Joint Ministerial Decision no.147627/2025</u> introducing the use of a combined method for verifying the age of asylum seekers who claim to be minor: a medical evaluation of physical development, a psychosocial assessment and a wrist/hand X-ray to estimate bone age.

Italy

Report tracks trends among unaccompanied foreign minors

On 7 August, the biannual <u>in-depth report</u> on unaccompanied foreign minors in Italy was published. The report tracks unaccompanied minors: their presence, traits, arrivals, departures, asylum requests, family surveys in origin countries, and residence permit changes at adulthood.

The Netherlands

Policy adjusted on returns of unaccompanied minors to Ethiopia and Gambia

Following recent <u>investigation</u>, the authorities concluded that <u>adequate reception facilities</u> for unaccompanied minors are available in Ethiopia and The Gambia. The Immigration and Naturalisation Service may now consider returns of unaccompanied minors to these countries if their asylum applications are rejected.

Slovak Republic

Access to legal aid for unaccompanied minors in asylum proceedings

On 1 July, new <u>legal provisions</u> came into force stipulating that unaccompanied minors applying for asylum through a guardian or custodian shall have access to free legal aid from the start of the procedure.

Spain

The government approves a new emergency declaration that allows the health care of sick or injured Gazan children

On 9 September, the Council of Ministers adopted the <u>fourth emergency declaration</u> after the World Health Organization's call for the reception of children from Gaza with serious illnesses who need emergency medical treatment.

5. Integration and inclusion

Austria

Statistical yearbook highlights migration and integration data

In July, the Statistical Yearbook 'Migration & Integration 2025' was published by Statistics Austria and the Federal Chancellery with key data on integration.

Estonia

Support groups for independent language learning

In September, <u>support groups</u> for independent Estonian language learners started in Tartu, Narva, and online, running until March 2026. Participants meet weekly with a tutor for 78 academic hours. The programme targets adults from diverse backgrounds, including new migrants and returnees.

Greece

Decision issued to support refugee labour market integration

On 20 August, <u>Joint Ministerial Decision</u> was published, setting out the terms and conditions for implementing the 'Integration of refugees into the labour market' project. The initiative is funded by the Recovery and Resilience Fund to regulate specific aspects of refugee employment support.

Italy

Annual Report on Foreigners in the labour market published

On 22 July, the 15th <u>Annual Report</u> on Foreigners in the labour market in Italy was published. The report showed that in 2024, the employment rate for non-EU foreigners was 57.6%, compared to 61.6% for nationals. A significant gender gap persists, with non-EU women facing an employment rate of almost 30 percentage points lower than non-EU men.

Agreement on social security with Albania

On 1 July, the <u>agreement</u> on social security between Italy and Albania entered into force. The agreement coordinates the laws of the two states to ensure the transferability of social security rights on issues such as pensions, unemployment, sickness and maternity benefits, among others.

Luxembourg

Literacy project to support migrant children integration

On 11 July, the government approved the roll out of the <u>ALPHA</u> – Growing Together project in primary schools from the 2026/2027 school year. Pupils will be able to choose German or French as their literacy language to reflect Luxembourg's growing linguistic diversity and support integration for migrant children.

Slovenia

Regulations in relation to the new Act on Temporary Protection of Displaced Persons

In July, <u>two new regulations</u> entered into force concerning beneficiaries of temporary protection. One regulates how their rights to accommodation, food, healthcare, financial aid and pocket money are ensured, the other house rules for accommodation centres and other accommodation capacity.

6. Citizenship and statelessness

Belgium

Naturalisation fee increased to €1 000

On 18 July, a <u>law</u> was adopted raising the fee for acquiring Belgian nationality from €150 to €1 000. This applies to the declaration procedure and naturalisation applications submitted via municipal administrations or the Naturalisation Committee. The new fee took effect on 29 July and will be indexed annually.

France

Reforms to the procedures for acquiring and restoring French citizenship

<u>Decree No. 2025-648</u> adopted on 15 July introduced stricter rules for acquiring, restoring, or being granted French citizenship. Applicants must now demonstrate B2-level proficiency in French and pass a civic exam covering national history, culture, and society. The changes also aim for greater efficiency of application processing procedures.

7. Border management and irregular migration

Cyprus

Grant agreement to develop national ETIAS system

On 23 June, Cyprus signed a <u>Grant Agreement</u> to develop and operate its national ETIAS system (CYETIAS), aligning with Regulation (EU) 2018/1240. The system will connect with the central ETIAS and complement existing national border management tools.

Estonia

New regional command office for Frontex opened

On 10 July, Frontex launched a <u>regional command office</u> in Estonia to reinforce border security across eastern and northern Europe. The centre will coordinate operations in eight countries, supporting national authorities in managing irregular migration and cross-border crime.

Additional EU funding for border protection

On 28 August, the government <u>approved amendments</u> to the implementation plans for EU Home Affairs Funds, enabling Estonia to access € 53 million to implement reform in asylum and migration management.

France

France-UK agreement on migrant returns

On 10 July, France and the UK concluded an agreement to organise the return of migrants between the two countries, in force from 6 August until June 2026. The <u>respective decree</u> was published on 11 August. The agreement establishes the so-called `one-in, one-out´ rule, to deter foreign nationals who have arrived in France from illegally crossing the English Channel to reach British territory.

Poland

Temporary border controls with Germany and Lithuania extended

In September, Poland extended <u>temporary border controls</u> with Germany and Lithuania until 4 April 2026 to better monitor the migration route from the Baltic States through Poland to Western Europe.

8. Trafficking in human beings

Greece

Annual Report for 2024 on traficking in human beings published

The Hellenic National Referral Mechanism for the Protection of Human Trafficking Victims published its <u>2024</u> <u>Annual Report</u>, revealing a continued rise in cases. In 2024, labour exploitation was the most common form. Women and girls made up the majority of identified victims.

Latvia

Human Trafficking Prevention Plan

On August 26, the Cabinet of Ministers approved the Human Trafficking Prevention Plan for 2025–2027, to strengthen institutional capacity and prevent trafficking in human beings by targeting human traffickers, improving the identification and referral of potential victims, and providing appropriate support to victims.

Malta

Permit fee removed for trafficking victims

<u>Labour Migration Policy</u> published in July, stipulated that, as of 1 October 2025, third-country nationals identified as victims of trafficking in human beings in Malta are no longer required to pay application fees for residence permits. The permits now have one-year validity—up from six months—and can be renewed for the full duration of any ongoing judicial proceedings related to their case.

Georgia

Georgia maintains top ranking in US trafficking report

On 29 September, Georgia retained <u>Tier 1 status</u> in the US State Department's annual Trafficking in Persons Report for the tenth consecutive year, reflecting its sustained efforts and performance in this field.

9. Return and readmission

Austria

Deportations to Somalia and Syria resumed

On 2 September, Austria deported two individuals to Somalia for the first time in nearly 20 years, making Austria among the first EU Member State to <u>resume returns</u> to Somalia. Between July and October, Austria deported three individuals to Damascus - the <u>first returns</u> in recent years. The European Court of Human Rights had lifted a temporary ban, ruling that the individual was not at proven risk of harm under Articles 2 and 3 of the Convention. Austria is the only EU Member State currently conducting deportations to Syria.

Greece

Return procedures reformed

<u>Law 5226/25</u>, published on 8 September, updated the legal framework for returning third-country nationals staying illegaly and reformed the previous provisions transposing the Directive 2008/115/EC into Greek legislation, in accordance with the fundamental rights guaranteed by EU and International Law.

Treland

Reintegration support for early voluntary returns increased

The Department of Justice, Home Affairs, and Migration temporarily increased <u>reintegration assistance</u> for individuals in the international protection process before 28 September. Eligible persons opting for voluntary return at an earlier stage may receive up to €2 500 per person, capped at €10 000 per family.

Malta

Expanded outreach on voluntary return options

Malta's Returns Unit has launched a multilingual information campaign to provide clear, accessible information to third-country nationals considering voluntary return. In quarter 3 a video explaining the return process was produced and will be shared via the <u>Voluntary Return Malta</u> website and social media.

Sweden

Project initiated to increase voluntary returns to Afghanistan

On 10 September, the government approved a <u>pilot project</u> to increase the number of voluntary returns by Afghan citizens with no right to stay in Sweden and improve reintegration in Afghanistan.

Georgia

Readmission Agreement with Armenia signed

On 21 July, an <u>Agreement</u> between Georgia and Armenia on the `Readmission of Persons Residing without Authorisation' was signed to enhance bilateral cooperation on return and irregular migration.

10. Migration and development

Spain

Memorandum of Understanding on labour migration with Paraguay

On 23 July, Spain and Paraguay signed a <u>Memorandum of Understanding</u> to enable the selection of Paraguayan workers in their country of origin to work temporarily in Spain in sectors facing labour shortages.

Declaration of Intent on social security with Mauritania signed

On 16 July, the government signed a <u>Declaration of Intent</u> with Mauritania on social scurity and technical and institutional cooperation to strengthen the protection of workers in transit between the two countries.

11. EU legislation transposition

Slovakia

Amendment to the Act on Employment Services

On 1 September, an <u>amendment</u> to the Act on Employment Services entered into force, introducing measures to align Slovak legislation with Directive 2014/36/EU on seasonal workers.

Georgia

Enhanced expulsion procedures introduced

On 26 June, Georgia amended its <u>Law</u> on the legal status of foreigners and stateless persons to align with EU Directive 2008/115/EC. The changes simplify expulsion procedures, introduce re-entry bans, raise fines for immigration violations, and strengthen the Migration Department's operational capacity.

RECENT EMN PUBLICATIONS

- EMN-OECD joint inform: Responsibilities and access to rights for beneficiaries of temporary protection
- EMN-OECD-CoE joint inform: <u>Language and literacy support measures for beneficiaries of international protection</u>
- EMN inform: Access to education for migrant children
- EMN inform: <u>Distribution of international protection accommodation centres and relationship</u> management with local communities
- EMN study: Family reunification of third-country nationals: State of play of law and practice

UPCOMING EMN PUBLICATIONS

- EMN Observer Countries Statistical Annex
- EMN study: Labour migration in times of labour shortages
- EMN inform: Vocational education and training of applicants and beneficiaries of international protection