EU Partnership to Strengthen Ukraine's Border Management and Asylum System

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Cornelia Riehle

AUTHOR

Cornelia Riehle

Deputy Head of Section
Academy of European Law

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On 8 October 2026, Frontex, the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) launched a partnership with Ukraine to bring Ukraine's border management and asylum system closer to EU and Schengen standards in preparation for EU accession. The *EU4IBM and Asylum Partnership* will run for 36 months and receive €7.5 million in EU funding under the Ukraine Facility, which supports Ukraine's recovery, reconstruction and reforms. The project will be implemented in cooperation with Ukrainian authorities, particularly the State Border Guard Service and the State Migration Service.

Frontex will support Ukraine in improving cooperation between border guards, customs authorities, police and other services, including through the further development of its integrated border management strategy, risk analysis and contingency planning. The project also aims to strengthen Ukraine's national border coordination centre, established in 2024, to enable the gradual exchange of information through the European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR). Training activities will include aligning border guard training with EU standards and improving the detection of forged travel documents.

The EUAA will assist Ukraine's State Migration Service in aligning asylum legislation, procedures and reception conditions with EU standards. This includes training for officials responsible for examining asylum applications and for courts hearing asylum appeals. In addition, the EUAA and Ukrainian authorities have developed a roadmap for cooperation covering the period 2026–2029.

The IOM, which has been active in Ukraine for 30 years and maintained an operational presence throughout Russia's full-scale invasion, will support the implementation of project activities in Ukraine alongside Frontex.

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