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THE EUROPEAN UNION POLICY ON THE INTRODUCTION OF VISA-FREE REGIME FOR THE CITIZENS OF UKRAINE.

THE ENSURING OF THE VISA REGIME IN UKRAINE NOW.

The Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation was signed on June 18, 2007 (entered into force on January 1, 2008) [1]. The provisions of the Agreement have set preferences for all categories of citizens of Ukraine in respect to the visa fee (35 euro) and the duration of visa procedures (10 days in ordinary cases, 2 days – in urgent), as well as simplification of visa procedures for certain categories of citizens of Ukraine. This in particular concerns the unification of documents confirming the purpose of the trip and the criteria for issuing multiple-entry visas. The document has also abolished visa requirements for the holders of diplomatic passports. 14 categories of Ukrainian citizens received the right to free Schengen visas.

Wives / husbands, parents and children of the citizens of Ukraine who have permission to stay in the EU member states, businessmen, journalists, officials of central and local governments, members of the Constitutional and Supreme Courts, and permanent members of official delegations are entitled to five-year multiple-entry visas. Annual multiple-entry visas are issued to prominent figures of science and culture, athletes, professional conveyors, members of train crews, and participants of exchange programs between the twin cities. If these categories of people have used annual multiple-entry visas during the last two years, they have a right to receive multiple entry visas valid for 2 to 5 years.

Free visas are issued to wives / husbands, parents and children of the citizens of Ukraine who have permission to stay in the EU Member States, pupils, students,

citizens who travel with humanitarian goal, disabled persons and persons accompanying them, athletes and their accompanying persons, journalists, professional conveyors, train crew members, pensioners, children under 18 years of age and dependent persons under the age of 21, members of official delegations, representatives of central and local governments, and participants of exchange programs between twin cities.

“The total number of issued visas (multiple, short-term and C type) has almost doubled if we compare years 2010 and 2013. The number of multiple-entry visas has also increased significantly (twice), and their share in the total number of visas issued has increased from 28.9% in 2010 to 39% in 2013” – these data are cited by the Eurostat [2]

“We have a very low refusal rate for visas to the EU, and it constantly decreases, today it is below 3% and approaches 2%. Refusal occurs when a person cannot prove the purpose of his/her trip. Young people usually can prove the purpose of their trips, and this allows the consulates issue such visas without any difficulties” – said the director of the EU Department of the MFA of Ukraine Vsevolod Chentsov. According to him, almost all the students and scientists receive the necessary visas for their studies or research activities. In addition, the EU has reduced the list of documents that must be submitted by Ukrainians to obtain visas. Now only 4 or 5 documents are needed: their passport, a certificate of income (or a certificate confirming that they have a sufficient sum of money for their stay abroad), a hotel reservation or an invitation from their host. Also, the term of consideration of the visa question was shortened from 10 to 7 days for Ukraine. It became easier to get certain visa categories at the consulates. For example, since April 2, 2014, the Czech Republic has simplified the issuance of short-stay visas for Ukrainian citizens. The Ukrainians who have Czech origin, young people under 26 years of age and pensioners over 60 years of age are exempt from fees for processing visa applications. Germany has abolished visa fees since July 1, 2014 too. However, the Germans, unlike the Czechs, abolished

fees also for national long-term visas. Most often, experts cite the example of Moldova, which spent only four years to get a visa-free regime for its citizens [3].

“In Ukraine 10 million citizens have international passports. The average number of passports issued reaches 1500000 per year”, – said Alexander Sushko, the research director of the Institute of Euro-Atlantic Cooperation [4].

In order to monitor the implementation of the Agreement provisions, the Joint Committee of Experts on the implementation of the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation was created. It meets twice a year, alternately in Brussels and Ukraine.

On July 23, 2012 in Brussels, an agreement was signed between the EU and Ukraine amending the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation.

This Agreement provides for:

- further expansion of the categories of Ukrainian citizens eligible to simplified issuing of free multiple-entry visas (among them representatives of non-governmental organizations, religious groups, professional associations, students and graduate students, and participants in official eu programs for cross-border cooperation);
- further improvement of the procedure for issuing visas to members of the media;
- clear definition of the expiry dates of multiple entry visas and visa interviews with the applicants;
- improving the regulation of the visa intermediaries' activities;
- introduction of visa-free regime for the holders of service passports of ukraine after biometric data are entered in them.

Presently in Ukraine and the European Union internal procedures are carried out for the ratification of the Agreement between the EU and Ukraine on the amendments to the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation. The key element of the Agreement is the provision for the future introduction of a visa-free regime for the Ukrainian citizens.

The development of the visa-free dialogue between Ukraine and the EU.

The Ukraine- EU Action Plan in the field of justice, freedom and security, in force since 2001 and revised in 2007, provides the overall framework for cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the field of justice, freedom and security. At the ministerial meetings in the format of Ukraine-EU Justice, Freedom and Security, and at the Subcommittee on Justice, Freedom and Security, the implementation of its priorities is monitored regularly. As the first sequential step towards the long-term visa-free travel regime recognized in the Action Plan, the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation and readmission of persons was entered into force on January 1, 2008.

During the EU-Ukraine summit (September 9, 2008, Paris), the parties decided to “start a visa dialogue with a view to developing appropriate conditions for the introduction of visa-free regime between the EU and Ukraine in the long term”. The visa-free dialogue between Ukraine and the EU to examine the conditions of visa-free travel for citizens of Ukraine to the EU in the long run was officially started on October 29, 2008 in Brussels. Ukraine has already abolished the visa regime for EU citizens since May 1, 2005.

The Eastern Partnership Summit (May 7, 2009, Prague) confirmed the long-term goal of full EU visa liberalization for individual partner countries on an individual basis, on the conditions of observing the requirements of safe and orderly movement of people.

The participants of the EU-Ukraine summit (December 4, 2009, Kiev) assessed the progress of the visa dialogue and approved the transition to “structured visa-free dialogue that will focus on the priority order of the activities and recommendations to the Ukrainian authorities”.

During the meeting in the format of Ukraine-EU Justice, Freedom and Security on June 9, 2010, the parties endorsed the transition to full-scale operational phase of visa-free dialogue on the basis of the Action Plan, which will install all the technical conditions to be met by Ukraine before the possible introduction of visa-free travel.

The visa-free dialogue was held at the level of senior officials (from Ukraine – the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, from the EU – the Director General of the “Internal Affairs” Directorate-General of the European Commission) and relevant experts.

The results of the work done by the experts and senior officials in the framework of the visa-free dialogue were submitted for review and/or adoption at the Ministerial meetings of the EU-Ukraine on the issues of justice, freedom and security, as well as discussed at the meetings of the Subcommittee number 6 “Justice, Freedom and Security” of the Committee on Cooperation between Ukraine and the EU.

The main result of the visa dialogue in the first half of 2010 was the coordination by the senior officials of the recommendations for the transition to the so-called “Operational” stage of dialogue on the basis of the Action Plan with clear criteria for the introduction of the EU visa-free travel for the citizens of Ukraine.

This agreement of the senior officials was endorsed at the meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) of the EU Member States on May 19, 2010 and approved during the Ministerial Meeting of the Ukraine-EU Justice, Freedom and Security on June 9, 2010 in Brussels. At this last event, it was decided to prepare a draft Action Plan for Ukraine.

On October 25, 2010 the EU Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs passed the political decision that the visa dialogue with Ukraine will continue to develop on the basis of the Action Plan with a list of criteria that must be met by Ukraine before the introduction of the visa-free regime.

At the EU-Ukraine summit on November 22, 2010 in Brussels, Ukraine was granted an Action Plan for the introduction of a visa-free regime for short trips of the Ukrainian citizens to the EU Member States. Ukraine became the first country to which the European Union has provided such a document.

The provision of the Action Plan to Ukraine meant a transition from abstract discussions to substantive and purposeful work with a clear prospect of visa-free travel for the citizens of Ukraine to the EU countries. The document took into

account the progress made by Ukraine in the dialogue on the visa-free regime, and covered four blocks of issues of the visa dialogue:

- security of documents, including the introduction of biometric data;
- struggle against illegal migration and provision of readmission;
- public order and safety;
- international relations.

The Action Plan, in particular, provides for introducing biometric passports, withdrawing the passports that do not meet the ICAO standards from circulation, strengthening the measures to combat illegal migration, improving border management, bringing the asylum legislation and policies in accordance with international standards in this field, deepening international legal cooperation in the fight against organized crime, drug trafficking and human trafficking. The Action Plan was developed according to the logic and philosophy of “road maps” that were provided by the EU to the Balkan countries a few years ago and have already led them to the cancellation of the visa regime by the EU.

The Action Plan creates an appropriate framework for the continuation of work focused on adjusting national policies and practices in the respective fields to European standards. The implementation of the Action Plan will be carried out in Ukraine in two stages. During the first stage the necessary legislation, conceptual and policy documents in certain fields will be adopted. During the second stage practical steps will be taken to implement these legislative and program documents and to adjust the national practices to the European standards. After Ukraine implements all the criteria of the Action Plan, the European Commission, according to the legislative procedure provided in the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (“Treaty of Lisbon”), will submit to the European Parliament and the EU Council the proposal to abolish the short-term visa regime for the Ukrainian citizens (holders of biometric passports) by amending the EC Regulation № 539/2001.

Thus, the rate of approach to the liberalization of the visa regime will depend largely on the progress reached by Ukraine in fulfilling the specified conditions.

The Action Plan provided to Ukraine was developed by the European Commission, taking into account the positive experience that has proved the effectiveness of similar “road maps” provided to the Balkan States. On the results of implementing such “road maps” visa-free travel to the EU was allowed to the citizens of Serbia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The implementation of the Action Plan on the liberalization of the EU visa regime by Ukraine.

On February 7, 2011 the Government of Ukraine adopted the resolution on establishing the Coordination Centre for the Action Plan to liberalize the EU visa regime for Ukraine [5].

On April 20, 2011 the President of Ukraine approved the National Plan for the implementation of the Action Plan on the liberalization of the the EU visa regime for Ukraine [6].

The first assessment of Ukraine's implementation of the Action Plan was made on June 16, 2011 during the Ministerial meeting in Kiev in the field of justice, freedom and security. The European side welcomed Ukraine's report on the implementation of the first phase of the Action Plan and urged Ukraine to complete the settlement of other issues in order to meet the standards of the first phase.

For the purpose of a detailed analysis of the legislation adopted for the implementation of the Action Plan, on October 24-27 and November 8-10, 2011 the missions of experts of the EC and its Member States were carried out. On October 24-28 and November 8-10, 2011, 3 expert missions of the EU worked in Ukraine in order to assess the compliance with the European Union standards of the results achieved by our state within the tasks of field 2, “Managing migration”, field 3, “Public order and security”, and field 4, “External relations and fundamental rights” of the first phase of the Action Plan. The expert missions included representatives of relevant departments of the European Commission, the EU Delegation in Ukraine, as well as Belgium, the UK, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Slovenia and Finland.

The first conclusions made by the EU experts on the results achieved by Ukraine, in general were positive and balanced and reflected the real situation in the respective areas. At the same time, EU experts drew attention to the fact that at the background of the obvious positive changes in our country, there still were a number of insufficiently or not fully resolved issues. First of all, this concerned issues of combating corruption, human trafficking, discrimination, protection of personal data, management of migration and asylum policy.

On November 15, 2011 the Ukrainian side presented to the EU the second national report on the implementation of the first phase of the Action Plan. Its evaluation was generally positive. On the results of processing the materials of the above mentioned missions and the national report of Ukraine, on February 9, 2012 the second report of the European Commission on the progress of Ukraine in the implementation of the first (legal) phase of the Action Plan was released. In July 2012, the updated information on the performance of the tasks scheduled in the first phase of the Action Plan was presented to the European Commission. The conclusions contained in the report were discussed in detail by the parties at the meeting of senior officials of Ukraine - EU visa-free dialogue, which took place on April 17, 2012. At this stage, the most fundamental issues which remained unresolved included the improvement of the law on the prevention of discrimination, reforming anti-corruption legislation in accordance with the recommendations of GRECO, agreements on cooperation with the Eurojust and on operational cooperation with the Europol, the accession to the Protocol of 2001 to prevent the illicit manufacturing and trafficking firearms, their parts and components and ammunition. On November 15, 2013 the European Commission published the third report on the progress of Ukraine in the implementation of the first phase of the Action Plan.

After the completion of the first phase criteria by Ukraine, the European Commission prepared a report which contained recommendations on the transition to the second phase, as well as evaluation of the impact of the visa-free regime for the Ukrainian citizens. These report and evaluation formed the basis for the

decision of the Member States (the Working Group on Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia – COEST) on the transition to the second phase of the Action Plan. After the full implementation of the Action Plan, the European Commission will express in its Report on the Progress of Ukraine in the Implementation of the Second Phase of the Action Plan its proposal to grant the visa-free regime for the Ukrainian citizens. On these grounds it will make a proposal to the European Parliament and the EU Council on amending the EU Regulation №539 / 2001 of 15.03.2001, with the aim of including Ukraine in the list of countries whose citizens do not need visas for short-term visits to the territory of the Schengen zone.

The President of Ukraine Peter Poroshenko hopes to complete all the preparatory steps for the introduction of visa-free regime with the European Union before the Riga summit of the EU and the Eastern Partnership countries, scheduled for the first half of 2015. He said this at a joint press conference with Federica Mogherini in Kiev. “We have reached agreements, and I am sure that Ukraine will demonstrate its decisive actions to complete the implementation of the visa regime liberalization by the time of the Riga summit”, – the President of Ukraine Poroshenko emphasized [7].

Ukraine and Georgia may get visa-free regime to the Schengen zone in 2015. “There is a good chance that this will happen at the summit of the EU Eastern Partnership program in May, which will be held in Riga”, – said the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia Edgars Rinkevichs [8].

On the eve of the Eastern Partnership Summit in Riga the Government of Lithuania initiated an appeal to the European institutions, to accelerate the introduction of visa-free regime for the partner countries. “Lithuania has initiated a letter from some EU institutions, signed by seven foreign ministers, to speed up visa liberalization for the partners on the eve of the Riga Summit of the Eastern Partnership”, – wrote the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania Linas Linkevičius [9].

Thus, at the EU-Ukraine summit on November 22, 2010 in Brussels, Ukraine was granted an Action Plan on visa liberalization. Over the years, in the framework of this plan almost 40 laws of Ukraine were adopted, more than 50 resolutions and orders necessary for full implementation of the laws were passed, dozens of conceptual framework and planning documents were developed, relevant international agreements and conventions were concluded and ratified.

Experts draw attention to a complexity – the work on demarcation and delimitation of the borders with neighbor countries, in particular, with Belarus and Russia. This will require, as estimated for 2008, more than 40 billion hryvnia. There also is one other problem – the reforming of certain powers of the Border and Migration Services.

The Head of State Peter Poroshenko expects the decision on the introduction of visa-free regime with the EU to be made at the Riga Summit in May 2015. “There is no excuse for refusing to grant us the report on the completion of Ukraine's obligations concerning the visa-free regime as soon as possible. And at the Riga Summit in May the decision should be made on the visa-free regime with regard to Ukrainian citizens and the EU”, – said Poroshenko [10].

The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Elena Zerkal predicts that the Ukrainian citizens who have biometric passports will travel to the EU countries without having to obtain a visa in September-October 2015. “Now we are determined to ensure that on May 2015 we obtain the EU decision on granting Ukraine the visa-free status, and in September-October to ensure that Ukrainians will be able to travel with biometric passports, without having to obtain a visa”, – she said on the TV channel Inter. [11].

Biometric passports for the citizens of Ukraine.

A biometric passport is a document that grants the right to travel outside the country and enter foreign countries. A biometric passport is different from the usual one in that it has a special built-in microprocessor chip that contains information about its owner: a two-dimensional photo of the owner and data

concerning him/her (surname, first and patronymic name, date of birth, passport number, date of its issue and expiry date).

The Ukrainian international passport issued today is valid for 10 years (the expiry date is specified in the passport), and even after the introduction of the new model documents, such a passport will be valid until the specified expiry date. The citizens can freely cross the border with such passports, obtain visas in them, and the like. At the same time, if a citizen wishes, he/she will be able to exchange this passport for a passport of a new model by contacting the offices of the State Migration Service of Ukraine (SMS of Ukraine).

According to the spokesperson of the SMS Sergei Gunko, at the first phase in January 2015, there will be only 30 workplaces for officials who collect the biometric data in Ukraine. Later 600 such workplaces will be equipped. We have provided secure communication and purchased the necessary equipment, but it has not yet arrived in Ukraine due to late allocation of money. We expect that roughly on January 20, 2015 the equipment will arrive in the country, and the acceptance of documents for biometric passports will be held in full. It can be stated that in February 2015, all the units of SMS which today issue the international passports will also draw up chip (biometric) documents [12].

The head of the State Migration Service Sergei Radutny noted that the cost of issuing a biometric passport in Ukraine will be 518 hryvnia, and the cost of its urgent issuing will be 775 hryvnia. Previously issued passports can be still used; their replacement with biometric ones is optional. The expected term of a biometric passport issuing is 20 days. In January, 2015, only 30 stations of their registration have operated, but soon biometric passports will be issued by all branches of the State Migration Service [13].

At a government meeting, the Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk stated that the Government has allocated 150 million hryvnia for the purchase of terminals, which by the end of January, 2015 will supply Ukrainians with biometric passports complying with the international and European standards. This answers one of the key conditions for the Ukrainians who own these passports to

enter the EU visa-free. According to him, in the previous years in Ukraine 1.5 million international passports were issued annually, whereas in 2015, 2.5 million passports will be issued. The passports of the old model will remain valid. The passports that people have now, can be used during the trips abroad, there is no need to deliver them up or change them, until a person decides on his/her own to get a new biometric passport. Children will get passports valid for four years instead of other travel documents. This complies with all the relevant European standards, Yatsenyuk told at the government meeting. According to him, in February, 10,000 citizens would receive biometric passports, and beginning with March 200,000 Ukrainians would receive them monthly. In addition, he promised that the price for obtaining this document will be lower than in all the neighboring countries and will not require payment of any additional money. Almost in every district there will be an appropriate terminal [14].

The first person to get a biometric passport in Ukraine was the President of Ukraine Peter Poroshenko. Other citizens who made contributions to the development and strengthening of the state got biometric passports together with the President. Mr. Poroshenko stressed that the documents of the new model were given to the “the team that has the right to represent Ukraine”. In particular, new passports were given to the activists of Maidan – Olesya Zhukovskaja, Eugene Nischuk, Gennady Druzenko Anna Kovalenko; to Christina Mikhailichenko – the laureate of international competitions, which has won at the International Piano Competition in the Netherlands, as well as her mother Natalia Mikhailichenko. The world-famous writer Andrey Kurkov, the filmmaker and director of the film “Tribe” Miroslav Slaboshpitsky, the vocalist of the ensemble Brunettes Shoot Blondes, whose clip became a worldwide sensation of social networks and has received more than 6 million views on YouTube, Andrei Kovalev, have also become owners of new biometric passports. Among the people who got biometric passports first in the country were also the journalists Andrew Tsaplienko and Alexander Argatov [15].

Conclusions.

The Ukraine-EU Action Plan in the field of justice, freedom and security, in force since 2001 and revised in 2007, provides an overall framework for cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in these fields. The Ministerial meetings in the format of the EU-Ukraine on the issues of Justice, Freedom and Security and the Subcommittee on Justice, Freedom and Security regularly monitor the implementation of its priorities. On January 1, 2008 the Agreement between Ukraine and the EU on visa facilitation and readmission of persons came into force. During the EU-Ukraine summit (September 9, 2008, Paris), the parties decided to “start a visa dialogue with a view to developing appropriate conditions for the introduction of visa-free regime between the EU and Ukraine in the long term”. The visa-free dialogue between Ukraine and the EU to examine the conditions of visa-free travel for the citizens of Ukraine to the EU in the long term officially started on October 29, 2008 in Brussels. Ukraine has already abolished the visa regime for the EU citizens since May 1, 2005.

At the EU-Ukraine summit on November 22, 2010 in Brussels, Ukraine was granted the Action Plan on visa liberalization. Ukraine became the first country to which the European Union has provided such a document.

The Action Plan creates an appropriate framework for the continuation of work focused on adjusting national policies and practices in the respective fields to the European standards.

The implementation of the Action Plan was to be carried out in Ukraine in two stages. At the first stage, necessary legislation, conceptual and policy documents in certain areas had to be adopted. At the second stage practical steps had to be taken to implement these legislative and policy documents, and to provide the adjustment of national practices to the European standards.

After Ukraine performs the steps to answer all the criteria of the Action Plan, the European Commission, according to the legislative procedure provided in the

Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (“Treaty of Lisbon”), will submit to the European Parliament and the EU Council a proposal to abolish the visa regime for the short trips of Ukrainian citizens (holders of biometric passports) to the EU, by amending the EU Regulation № 539/2001.

The introduction of biometric passports was the last step that Ukraine had to take to achieve the visa-free regime with the EU at the Eastern Partnership Summit to be held in Riga in May 2015.

Resources:

1. Угода між Україною та Європейським Союзом про спрощення оформлення віз: набула законної сили для України з 1 січня 2008. An electronic resource was used: http://search.ligazakon.ua/1_doc2.nsf/link1/MU07131.html/

2. Статистика Євростату. An electronic resource was used: <http://ukranews.com/news/152629.Evrostat-tseni-v-evrozone-snizilis-vpervie-za-pyat-let.ru/>

3. Прес-служба президента України. Директор Департаменту Європейського Союзу МЗС України зустрівся у Вільнюсі з віце-міністром закордонних справ Литовської Республіки Вітаутасом Ляшкявічюсом.

An electronic resource was used:

<http://mfa.gov.ua/ua/news-feeds/foreign-offices-news/11147-direktor-departamentu-jevropejskogo-sojuzu-mzs-ukrajini-vsevoloda-chencov-zustrivsyau-vilynyusi-z-vice-ministrom-zakordonnih-sprav-litovsykoji-respubliki-vitautasom-lyashkyavichyusom/>

4. Александр Сушко. Демократичні ініціативи.

An electronic resource was used: <http://censor.net.ua/tag/2884/>

5. Про утворення Координаційного центру з виконання плану дій щодо лібералізації Європейським Союзом візового режиму для України: Постанова Кабінету Міністрів від 7 лютого 2011 р. № 77.

An electronic resource was used:

<http://news.liga.net/news/politics/517210-kabmin-sozdal-koordinatsionnyy-tsentr-po-uproshcheniyu-vizovogo-rezhima-s-es.htm>

6. Про Національний план з виконання Плану дій щодо лібералізації Європейським Союзом візового режиму: Наказ президента України від 20 квітня 2011 №494 / 2011. An electronic resource was used:

<http://golovbukh.ua/regulations/2337/348705/>

7. П. Порошенко. Отношения Украины с ЕС перешли на качественно новый уровень. An electronic resource was used:

http://lb.ua/news/2014/12/17/289553_poroshenko_otnosheniya_ukraini_es.htm/

8. Прес-служба президента України. Президент України провів зустріч з Міністром закордонних справ Латвії Едгарсом Ринкевичсом.

An electronic resource was used: <http://galinfo.com.ua/news/181566.html/>

9. Прес-служба президента України. Голова МЗС Литви закликав ЄС скасувати візи для українців у травні 2015 року.

An electronic resource was used:

http://ipress.ua/news/golova_mzs_lytvy_zaklykav_ys_skasuvaty_vizy_dlya_ukraintsiv_u_travni_100588.html/

10. Прес-служба президента України. П. Порошенко сподівається, що візи з ЄС скасують під час Ризького саміту. An electronic resource was used:

<http://www.day.kiev.ua/uk/library/books/marshrut-no1-vypusk-27-rizdvyani-karpaty/>

11. Олена Зеркаль. Українці зможуть поїхати в ЄС без віз з вересня 2015 року.

An electronic resource was used:

<http://ua.korrespondent.net/ukraine/politics/3450136-ukraintsi-zmozhut-poikhaty-v-yes-bez-viz-z-veresnia-2015-roku-mzs/>

12. Сергій Гунько. За біометричними паспортами громадяни утворили величезні черги. An electronic resource was used:

<http://podrobnosti.ua/society/2015/01/13/1010933.html>

13. Сергій Радутний. Міграційна служба прийняла вже 15 тисяч заяв на біометричні паспорти. An electronic resource was used:

<http://cheap-trip.eu/2015/01/22/mihratsijna-sluzhba-pryjnyala-vzhe-15-tysyach-zayavok-na-biometrychni-pasporty-i-planuje-vyhotovlyaty-jih-po-200-tysyach-namisyats/>

14. Арсеній Яценюк. Візи в ЄС зможуть отримати тільки істинні громадяни України.

An electronic resource was used: <http://ukranews.com/news/118674.---.uk/>

15. Прес-служба президента України. П.Порошенко отримав біометричний паспорт. An electronic resource was used:

<http://www.pravda.com.ua/news/2015/01/12/7054798/>