



## Prague Process

Is a targeted migration dialogue promoting migration partnerships among the countries of the European Union, Schengen Area, Eastern Partnership, Western Balkans, Central Asia, Russia, and Turkey.\*

The Process originated from the EU financed project “Building Migration Partnerships”, and was launched at the 1<sup>st</sup> Prague Process Ministerial Conference, culminating in the signature of the Prague Process Joint Declaration in April 2009.

The participating states thereby agreed to strengthen co-operation in migration management, following a comprehensive, balanced, pragmatic and operational approach, and respecting the rights and human dignity of migrants and their family members, as well as of refugees.

Over the recent years most participating states introduced dynamic changes to their migration legislation. Non-EU states largely adapted their policies to the EU acquis.

This approximation of legal systems and national practices, as well as the continued exchange of knowledge and experience, represent the key achievements of the Prague Process to date.

“The idea that you can solve all migration challenges just in the framework of your national administration is false. If you want to be successful in migration management, you have to cooperate with your neighbours.

- Tomas Urubek, Czech Republic -

## Thematic Areas:

- Preventing and fighting irregular migration;
- Readmission, return and reintegration;
- Legal migration with a special emphasis on labour migration;
- Integration of legally residing migrants;
- Migration, mobility and development;
- Asylum and international protection.



\* The participation of the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation has been suspended in early 2022.

# Governance

The current Prague Process management structure encompasses the network of National Contact Points, the Senior Officials' meetings, the Ministerial Conferences, and the Strategic Group.

## Network of National Contact Points

- Facilitates daily cooperation at expert level
- Agrees on the expert meetings

## Senior Officials' Meetings (once a year)

- Prepare the ground for Ministerial Conferences
- Monitor ongoing actions and evaluate their impact
- Provide recommendations on future policy directions

## Ministerial Conferences

- Take place approximately every 5 years
- Evaluate the results achieved by the Process
- Define the future strategic orientation of Prague Process

## Strategic Group

- Joint management body consisting of selected states with a rotating Chairmanship
- Current composition: CZ, HU, LT, PL, Presidency of the Council of the EU, European Commission & Prague Process Secretariat (ICMPD)

# Projects

**2018 present** Prague Process: Dialogue, Analysis and Training in Action (Funded by the European Commission under the Migration Partnership Facility)

The initiative "Prague Process: Dialogue, Analysis and Training in Action" continues the senior and expert level dialogue and aims at implementing the Bratislava Declaration, in particular focusing on constantly improving the newly established Migration Observatory and Training Academy. The work builds upon the results and achievements of previous actions, working towards the next Ministerial Conference in 2022.

For more projects visit [www.pragueprocess.eu](http://www.pragueprocess.eu).

**The Migration Observatory** aims to provide impartial, evidence-based analysis from across the Prague Process region and in line with the six thematic areas of the Prague Process Action Plan. The established network of experts has provided wide-ranging analyses, which is available in the [Online Repository](#). The country factsheets, containing up-to-date information on the migration dynamics and policies at national level represent another important asset. The Observatory further provides state representatives from the region with an opportunity to exchange in a series of meetings, workshops, study visits, and expert missions.

**The Training Academy** offers tailor-made, high-quality training within the Prague Process' six thematic areas. The Trainer Network and growing number of training materials offered shall assist participating states in addressing their capacity-building needs. The [e-Learning platform](#) launched in 2021 provides state representatives and partners with educational material for self-paced independent remote learning.

# Participants

### States:

- Albania
- Armenia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus (suspended)
- Belgium
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France

- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo\*
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Liechtenstein
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Moldova
- Montenegro

- Netherlands
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russian Federation (suspended)
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Tajikistan
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan

- Ukraine
- United Kingdom (suspended)
- Uzbekistan

### EU bodies:

- European Commission
- European Training Foundation
- Frontex
- EUAA
- EEAS

### Partner organisations

- ICMPD
- IOM
- MARRI
- UNHCR

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.