

EPRS | European Parliamentary Research Service
Transcript of an EPRS Podcast
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PODCAST [visa Ukraine](#)

Voice 1: Sarah

Voice 2: Brian

JINGLE to open intro to podcast

VOICE 1

You're listening to the European Parliamentary Research Service podcast on visa liberalisation for Ukraine.

VOICE 2

45 million Ukrainian could soon be able to enter the EU's Schengen area for short stays without a visa! But first, the Parliament needs to approve it... Stay with us!

END OF JINGLE

VOICE 1

The issue of visa liberalization has been on the agenda of EU-Ukraine relations for a long time...

VOICE 2

Their Moldovan and Georgian neighbours acquired their visa-free travel rights in 2014 and 2017 respectively, so if Ukraine finally gets transferred from the visa-obliged list of countries to the visa-exempt list, Ukrainian citizens holding a biometric passport will be able to enter the EU's Schengen area for ninety days within a one-hundred-and eighty-day period, for business, tourism or family purposes, but not to work.

VOICE 1

The visa waivers being negotiated by the EU with several of its neighbouring countries apply to all EU member states (except Ireland and the UK), plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

VOICE 2

But they come with an added safeguard: a suspension mechanism introduced in 2013 and newly revised in 2017 allows the temporary reintroduction of a visa requirement in the event of migration surges or risks to public security.

VOICE 1

In September last year, the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs noted that the rate of EU visa refusals for Ukrainian citizens was below 2%, and the readmission agreement in force since 2008 is working very efficiently, so all seems set for a positive vote during next week's plenary!

VOICE 2

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MUSIC JINGLE TO CONCLUDE