It is no secret that the global migration situation has significantly changed over the last 10 years. The predominance of Syrian and Afghan refugees in Europe has forced almost all the developed countries of the world to rethink the laws of hospitality. It has now become harder for those willing to leave their native country to obtain refugee status and to meet the necessary requirements to become a legal migrant. Ukraine is one of the main suppliers of labor migrants from Eastern Europe, where the number of migrants over the past two years has increased by 10-20% – according to Alex Pozniak, the head of the Department of Migration Research at the Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Research. The extremely unstable economic situation is the main reason for the high level of emigration, Ukrainians say. Low wages, lingering unemployment, degradation of the government healthcare and education, future economic insecurity – all these reasons make people leave their homeland. The protracted military conflict and the discrimination against Ukraine’s own citizens are the main reasons for seeking permanent residence abroad. It is very hard to determine who is working legal and who is not, but here is some scrutiny which shows that in last four years 61% of labor immigrants was working illegal.

Here the list of countries where Ukrainian immigrants usually targeting.

* Russian Federation
* Poland
* Check Republic
* German
* Italy
* Spain

One of the main host countries for Ukrainian immigrants is Poland. If you start looking at the statistics of the issued invitations, starting from 2010 to 2016, the number of issued work invitations has grown by 6.5 times. That is, if in 2010 was issued 180 thousand invitations, in 2016 was issued 1.3 million invitations. Growth is enormous. But how many even on these working invitations works legally in Poland - it is quite difficult to find such figures. Problem for Ukrainian immigrants is also that desires do not always coincide with the opportunities and if Western employers want to see the professionals of engineers, they want to see literate, maybe even marketers, advertisers, they want bank experts to come to them, it's true, workers insurance sphere, everything rests on one simple little detail - total ignorance of foreign languages. And if there is a language barrier, respectively, the biggest problem facing labor migrants, regardless of which country they visit, they understand that they can not communicate in the same language, respectively, are forced to agree to a heavy physical work, where the linguistic contact is the smallest. Here is some assessment 93% of labor immigrates are working in the sphere related to the work with hands - this is construction, this is agriculture, childcare, street cleaning and so on. If we are talking about the IT sphere, doctors, this is 2-3% only.

In this year Ukraine achieves visa-free travel status but it is not radically changed situation. The visa-free status does not give the right to work abroad. It gives the right to came in, admire the beauties of Europe and come back. Nothing prevented the Ukrainians before quietly buy a tour ticket, go to the same Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary and just as well stay there. That is, those who wanted to came illegally had the same opportunity earlier. In principle, in Europe, if a surge was expected, but not labor migrants, and in general, just the arrival of people. They estimated this figure somewhere in plus or minus 10% of what is. Will not lead to an increase in illegal migration of visa-free travel. This needs to be understood by everyone. Because, firstly, Europe is not interested in illegal immigrants. The fines are serious enough. One example - the Czech Republic in March conducted a survey of ten thousand business entities. Of all these enterprises, only 300 illegal immigrants were found, of whom 85 were Ukrainians.

So as the conclusion labour migration from Ukraine to EU countries has increased by 30%: most migrants opt for Poland, Germany, Italy, The Czech Republic and Scandinavia. The number of people wishing to earn a better livelihood in the United States and Canada has also significantly increased. The number of migrants to Russia, on the other hand, is gradually decreasing: today the (official) number of Ukrainians in Russia is estimated at 6% less than in 2011. The annexation of Crimea and military action in the Donbas region in 2014-2015 spurred the number of applications for asylum in the EU with the number of applications from Ukrainians in 2015 surpassing 22,000 – an over 33% increase compared to 2014. Most of the applications were submitted in Italy, Germany, Spain, and Poland. However, very few Ukrainians received positive decisions on their applications. In 2015, 415 Ukrainians received refugee status in the EU, and an additional form of asylum for humanitarian considerations was granted to 1,150 persons.