

REPUBLIC OF POLAND
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS



Introduction

Poland fully supports the statement made by Austria on behalf of the European Union. Let me just add a few more comments on our national experience in the field of international migration and development.

Poland still remains a country where the number of emigrants exceeds the number of immigrants (data from 2004: the emigration: 18 800; the immigration: 9 500). However, in 2004 the highest number of immigrants since 1960 and the lowest number of emigrants since 1993 were noted.

The main directions of the permanent emigration of Poles are: Germany, the United States

moderate. And opening up the labour market by Sweden, Ireland and the United Kingdom did not bring about negative social and economic effects either. The economies of these countries have even gained substantial profits from the immigration from the new Member

legalization of the status of many people already present on these markets before the EU enlargement.

The membership of the EU did not change the traditional directions and specificity of labour migrations from Poland, which focuses on seasonal jobs, especially in sectors like agriculture, horticulture, fruit farming, stock-breeding, forestry, construction, catering and

tourist services. A significant number of seasonal workers base their employment on permanent, long-term contracts with their employer. On the basis of the approximate data it can be stated that in 2004 around 600 000 Polish workers started working in the EU. The

for a residence permit and for a settlement permit were submitted by citizens of

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

neighbouring countries (Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Germany).

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