

From Migration Profile to EMN's Annual Reports

Migration Profile

[Migration Profile](#) (Profile) is an information-analytical document reflecting migration trends in Georgia. It contains migration statistics, which are generally analysed in terms of impacts on different areas. The document also presents an institutional framework for migration management in the country and actions implemented in the field of migration by the member agencies of the [State Commission on Migration Issues](#) (SCMI / Commission). Based on practical approaches defined by the [long-term](#) objectives (2016-present) of the [Visa Liberalization Action Plan with the EU](#) (VLAP, 2013-2015) and the [EU-Georgia Association](#) Agenda, as a rule, the Profile was updated once in every two years.

- The very first Migration Profile in Georgia was developed by IOM in 2008;
- The process of developing the Migration Profile was taken over by the ICMPD in 2010 and in 2011 the first Extended Migration Profile was prepared. Later, in 2013 it was updated under the coordination of the relevant state agency of Georgia;
- In 2013, the SCMI started independent development of Profiles through technical assistance of the EU. This could be largely attributed to the launch of the VLAP implementation and EU-Georgia Association Agenda;
- The SCMI started producing the [Medium Migration Profile](#) (MMP) in 2015. The MMP is considered to be a Georgian *know-how* and has played an important role in the process of development and promotion of these types of documents in the field of migration by that time;
- After 2015, [Migration Profiles](#) of this format were prepared regularly (2017, 2019 and 2021) under the coordination of the SCMI Secretariat. However, over time, the structure of the Profiles had been significantly modernized and more attention was drawn to the visualization of statistical data;
- In 2016, the Secretariat also started developing the Brief Migration Profiles, which are produced in between MMP updates (2016, 2018, 2020, 2022) and focus on specific thematic areas;
- In contrast to previous years, the structure and content of the 2021 MMP has changed significantly and it has been partially adapted to the model of the [European Migration Network's](#) (EMN) [Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum](#). The latest (2021) Profile presents the 10 major thematic areas that are fully in accordance with the EMN Reports and, at the same time, add thematic sections that are relevant to Georgia;
- Such an approach was conditioned by Georgia's accession to the EMN as an [observer country](#) in 2021, which uses a common European reporting model for this kind of documents, that was partially replicated in Georgia as a 2021 MMP.

EMN Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum

The EMN ([26 EU Member States except Denmark](#)) prepares its Annual Reports on Migration and Asylum (ARM), outlining the significant reforms and policy developments implemented by member states during the reporting period. The information is mainly presented from the perspective of the country of destination of migrants (immigration) and mostly consists of the narrative part. The Report is also accompanied by a Statistical Annex representing the latest statistics on immigration and asylum

in the EU Member States. A shorter version of the Annual Report is the Country Factsheet, which provides a relatively brief and generalized overview of major migration policy developments in thematic areas and is accompanied by statistics from the latest years;

- The EMN ARM is prepared by completing a special questionnaire, which is proceeded by the European Commission¹ and produced as a Synthesis Report (based on a compilation of information provided by EMN Member States). The Statistical Annex to the Report is prepared by Eurostat based on its own databases;
- For the first time, since November 2021, Georgia has been involved in the preparation of the EMN 2021 Report on Migration and Asylum. A specialized questionnaire was completed by the SCMI member agencies and submitted to the European Commission by February 2022. The final version of the ARM is published by default in Summer every year and is usually presented at a conference dedicated to the EMN day;

New Approaches

Due to the fact that, after joining the EMN, the SCMI has been simultaneously working on a substantially very similar Migration Profile, EMN's ARM and Country Factsheets a probability of a potential thematic overlaps as well as duplication of work for the SCMI member agencies has emerged. Hence, as the development of EMN Reports play a significant role in terms of implementing the newest approaches and methodology of preparing analytical products applied in the EU, since 2023 Migration Profiles have been replaced by more modified, annually updated EMN Reports on Migration and Asylum. At the same time, the production of thematic Brief Profiles, which is a proven practice in the Commission, will continue and further expand the scope of the review.

The production of reports similar to the EU Member States is a significant in the process of sectoral integration with the EU considering that by preparing EMN Annual Reports the country has already switched to the EU reporting model and the latest approaches to the production / publication of migration statistics, whereas the development of Migration Profiles is a relatively outdated approach initiated by the EU at that time, mainly designed for post-Soviet countries operating various instruments of rapprochement and cooperation with the EU (Black Sea Economic Cooperation, Prague Process, Eastern Partnership, etc.).

¹ EMN's activities are coordinated by the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs of the European Commission.