



Addressing COVID-19-related challenges faced by Georgian nationals stranded in Europe

With the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, visa-free travel to the EU has been replaced by the concerns of Georgians stranded in Europe.

IOM's Migrant Resource Centres (MRCs), promoting safe and informed migration, respond to the following interests and challenges faced by Georgian nationals:

Pre COVID-19: labour migration, visa-free travel, study abroad, asylum
Post COVID-19: return to Georgia, consular assistance, flight tickets

In response to these evolving needs, IOM has scaled up the outreach through the public Facebook page "Visa-Free to Europe", in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.

Fear of overstay

Frustration with purchasing tickets online

Lack of food and accommodation

Psychological distress and anxiety

Lost jobs and dwindling funds

Difficulties to get in touch with consular offices

No or limited access to health services



Target audience for information dissemination and counselling



Top countries:



The Government of Georgia has facilitated the return of up to 6,000 citizens and continues to support stranded compatriots in destination countries in the EU.

IOM Missions in EU serve as information hubs to consult Georgian stranded migrants, working closely with Georgian embassies to identify safe return opportunities



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