






Most important current issues:

- ➔ The Amendment of the Special Act on Assistance to Citizens of Ukraine (Special Law on Ukraine) is awaiting the signature of the President. It is expected to enter into force as planned.
- ➔ The impact of Ukraine's new mobilization laws
- ➔ Recent developments at the Polish-Belarusian border and the related actions taken by the government to address the escalating situation



The impact of Ukraine's new mobilization laws:

-  Ukrainian consulates continue to provide their assistance to men at conscription age.
-  In order to receive assistance they are obliged however to provide their full data along with their Polish address.
-  HNLAC continues to receive a high number of requests for information from Ukrainian men, asking about the possibility of lodging an asylum claim (initiating international protection procedure)



Recent developments at the Polish-Belarusian border:



According to gov.reports the situation at the border is extremely volatile. Recent escalation of violence has prompted the government's response.

Recent Incidents (according to Polish Press Agency and Border Guard):

- **June 3, 2024:** A Border Guard officer was injured after being struck on the head with a branch by foreigners attempting to illegally cross the border. He sustained a skull base fracture and an orbital injury.
- **Since the beginning of the year:** A total of 8 Border Guard officers have been injured in similar attacks while patrolling the Polish-Belarusian border.
- **Other injuries:** Polish soldiers serving at the border have also been injured, including one hospitalized soldier who was stabbed.



Government's Response:



Additional Measures: Several hundred additional officers from police prevention units have been deployed to the border.


- **May 29, 2024:** A draft regulation was published regarding the introduction of a temporary ban on staying in a designated area in the border zone adjacent to the state border with the Republic of Belarus (**EXCLUSION ZONE**)

Proposed Regulation:

- **Duration:** A temporary 90-day ban from the date the law comes into effect.
- **Specified Area:** Defined in the annex to the regulation, indicating districts or their parts in the municipalities of the Podlaskie Voivodeship.
- **Stated Purpose:** To limit the presence of bystanders in the area of operation of the services.



Justification for the Regulation:

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- Increasing number of illegal border crossing attempts.
 - Deliberate pressure creation by Belarusian authorities as part of destabilizing actions.
 - Use of dangerous tools by foreigners attempting to cross the border, posing an increasing threat to Polish officers.

Current Status and Concerns:

- **Implementation Date:** The regulation was planned to come into effect on June 4. However, the draft regulation is still being processed and has not yet come into force.
- **Consultations:** Ongoing consultations with residents, entrepreneurs, and social organizations are causing the delay.
- **Social Organizations' Concerns:**
 - Potential hindrance in monitoring law enforcement by officers.
 - Difficulties in documenting abuses and human rights violations.