Polish migration policy in relation to Ukrainian refugees: promotion of Poland as a target country for refugees in the practice of diplomatic and consular bodies

The main purpose of this thesis is to diagnose actions undertaken by diplomatic and consular bodies in Ukraine in order to support the influx of selected migrant groups into Poland. The inspiration to undertake this research issue is based on the conclusions of the government document titled *Polish Migration Policy – Current Situation and Postulated Actions*, which indicates the necessity of stimulating the influx of migrants from Eastern Europe as an important factor increasing the developmental and demographic potential of the country. According to the accepted hypothesis, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its satellite offices, using available legal, institutional, organizational and political resources and instruments, can actively support strategic migration interests of Poland in the East.

This thesis consists of an introduction, four chapters and a conclusion. The introduction presents four goals and assumptions of the thesis, characterizes primary and secondary sources, and discusses research methods implemented in the paper. The first chapter reviews definitions, division criteria and modern theories explaining international migration processes formulated by various social sciences. This chapter also contains a diagnosis of the current migration situation in Poland, as well as social and political conditions that justify undertaking proactive approaches in order to attract selected migrant groups to Poland. The second chapter contains characteristics of migrant flows from Ukraine to Poland. It specifies priority migrant groups whose influx into Poland should be deemed as particularly desired. It describes main instruments of the country's migration policy and proposes an optimal model for the activities of Polish diplomatic and consular bodies in Ukraine in the context of the promotion of Poland as a target country for migration. The third chapter reviews actions undertaken by Polish diplomatic and consular posts in Ukraine that stimulate the flow of people into Poland. It mainly covers such issues as: visa policies, execution of the Pole's Card agreement, promotion of knowledge about the labour market in Poland and educational offerings of Polish universities, creation of a positive image of Poland abroad, reduction of the illegal immigration phenomenon. The fourth chapter resumes the analyses of the previous chapter, but actions of diplomatic and consular personnel aimed at promoting Poland as the target country for migration among Ukrainian citizens are presented in the form of a case study - the activity of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Lutsk. The final part of this paper summarizes the gathered research material along with conclusions and recommendations.