

# **MEDIA RELEASE**



## **MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

The Hon Julie Bishop MP

## **MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION**

The Hon Scott Morrison MP

5 February 2014

### **VISA PROVISIONS FOR UKRAINIAN NATIONALS**

Given the volatile situation in Ukraine, Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and Immigration Minister Scott Morrison today announced visa provisions to allow Ukrainian nationals in Australia to temporarily remain while their nation is under threat.

Ukrainian nationals who are currently in Australia on a visa due to expire and who may be affected by the unrest in the Ukraine will be able to approach the Department of Immigration and Border Protection to make an application and receive an extension of their visa for a temporary period.

Subsequent applications may also be made if the situation of unrest in the Ukraine is further deemed by the Government at that time to warrant a further extension.

Australian Government travel advice issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade was upgraded overnight for Ukraine. Australians thinking of travelling to Ukraine and the surrounding area, and those already there, are urged to reconsider their need to travel and are encouraged to log on to the Government's Smartraveller website.

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*Immigration Minister's Office Julian Leembruggen - 6277 7860*  
*DFAT Media Liaison - 6261 1555*