

Mobility: Immigration alert

September 2022



Denmark

Suspension of the visa facilitation agreement with Russia

Executive summary

The Danish Government recently suspended its visa facilitation agreement with Russia, making it more challenging for Russian nationals to enter Denmark for business visits and other short-term stays. In addition, Russian nationals must now travel outside of Russia to apply for Danish Work and Residence Permits, with limited exceptions.

Business and Tourist Visas

Effective 10 September 2022, Russian nationals have been reclassified as “Main Group 5” nationals, subjecting them to stricter entry requirements, higher application processing fees and lengthier visa processing times. Main Group 5 nationals are limited to receiving single-entry visas, and they may enter Denmark for business or tourism only if there are extenuating circumstances (e.g., death or terminal illness of a family member living in Denmark or specific justified cases for business). Prior to this suspension of the visa facilitation agreement between Denmark and Russia, Russian nationals were classified as “Main Group 3” nationals. In general, Main Group 3 nationals may be issued multiple-entry visas for business or tourism and are subject to more lenient requirements than “Main Group 5” nationals.

Work and Residence Permits

The Danish Embassy in Russia recently announced that it has closed temporarily due to staff shortages and is currently not accepting new immigration applications from Russian nationals. Russian nationals who seek to apply for Work and Residence Permits, and their accompanying dependent family members, are now required to travel outside of Russia to submit their

applications and biometrics at a Danish Embassy or Consulate in another country and to collect their Entry Visas. They are no longer eligible to directly travel to Denmark to collect their Entry Visas. Russian nationals who already hold a Schengen Visa will still be able to travel directly to Denmark or any other Schengen country to submit their biometrics.

Russian nationals who receive offers of employment from [Fast-Track certified](#) Danish companies that sponsor Work Permit applications under the Fast-Track Scheme may travel to Denmark to submit their biometrics. Successful applicants will be issued a Provisional Work Permit on the spot and allowed to start working immediately, provided their employment start date is no more than 30 days after the issuance of the Provisional Work Permit.

Impact on employers

Danish employers that hire Russian nationals are expected to face significant delays in immigration application processing, as impacted applicants will have to travel outside of Russia to complete their application process.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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ey.com

Morten S Dalsgaard

Partner/Principal - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: 0045 5158 2771
Email: morten.s.dalsgaard@dk.ey.com

Rikke Wolfsen

Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: 0045 2529 5138
Email: rikke.wolfesen@dk.ey.com

Randi Christiansen

Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: 0045 2529 5509
Email: randi.christiansen1@dk.ey.com