



Immigration News Highlights

2022-18, 4 May 2022



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below.



Chile

[Chile – COVID-19: Entry Requirements Updated](#)

Effective April 14, the international vaccine scheme approval is no longer mandatory for travel purposes. Additionally, travelers will not be required to produce a negative PCR test upon arrival, although testing is recommended. [Read more.](#)

United States

[USCIS Increases Automatic Extension Period of Work Permits for Certain Applicants](#)

The USCIS announced a Temporary Final Rule to increase the automatic extension period of up to 540 days for employment authorization and Employment Authorization Documents (EADs). The increase is effective from 4 May 2022 and intends to avoid gaps in employment for noncitizens with pending EAD renewal applications. [Read more.](#)



Hong Kong

[Coronavirus: Hong Kong to ease quarantine period for passenger aircrew to 3 days from May 1, provide more hotel rooms for isolation purposes](#)

From 1 May 2022, Hong Kong reduced the mandatory quarantine period for passenger flight crews from 11 days to 3 days. Further, cargo crew will be exempt from mandatory quarantine and only undergo 14 days of medical surveillance. [Read more](#)

India

[India, Germany to ink partnership on migration and mobility](#)

India and Germany plan to sign a migration and mobility agreement to facilitate two-way movement of students, professionals, and researchers. [Read more](#)

Malaysia

[Malaysia to resume visa-on-arrival facility for Indian travellers](#)

Malaysia will reintroduce visa on arrival for Indian travelers to attract more travelers from India. Further, Malaysia will relax pre-entry COVID-19 restrictions and issue e-visas to promote tourism in the country. [Read more](#)

Malaysia

[Immigration dept to end online appointments, extend counter hours](#)

The immigration department will abolish the online appointment system (STO) for application and renewal of the Malaysian International passport. Only passport renewal requests will be made online. [Read more](#)

New Zealand

[Broadened criteria for returning visa holders](#)

New Zealand broadened the ability for residence class visa holders to reenter the country. From 6 May 2022, all unvaccinated New Zealand Permanent Residents, and Australian Citizens ordinarily resident in New Zealand are allowed to free enter and exit New Zealand. [Read more](#)

Oman

[Oman, Vietnam sign mutual visa exemption agreement](#)

The Sultanate of Oman has signed a visa exemption agreement for holders of diplomatic, special, service, and official passports, allowing them for a visa-free travel for these passport holders between the two countries. [Read more](#)

Russia

[Russia to lift entry restrictions for citizens of Kyrgyzstan through overland checkpoints](#)

From 16 May 2022, all entry restrictions for citizens of Kyrgyzstan traveling to Russia and citizens of Russia traveling to Kyrgyzstan will be removed. Thus, citizens can enter through land border crossing checkpoints. [Read more](#)

South Korea

[South Korean tourists to be allowed to visit Peru without a visa](#)

The suspension of the visa waiver agreement between Peru and South Korea was lifted on 1 May 2022. Thus, visitors from the two countries can enter the other country without a visa. The Agreement was suspended in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more](#)

Taiwan

[Permanent residency plan for migrant workers to launch Saturday](#)

Taiwan launched a permanent residency pathway on 30 April 2022. The pathway allows migrant workers, and foreign and overseas compatriot students who earn an associate degree in the country to immigrate in the country. [Read more](#)



Europe and Africa

Bulgaria

[Today Bulgaria Ends All COVID-19 Related Travel Restrictions](#)

From 1 May 2022, travelers can enter Bulgaria without presenting a vaccination, recovery, or test certificate. [Read more](#)

European Union

[EU Plans to Create Easier Schengen Visa Application Procedures Through Digitalization](#)

The European Union Commission proposed digitalization of the Schengen visa process and introduce the possibility of submitting visa applications online. Further, the Commission plans to harmonize and unify visa application procedures within the Schengen Area. [Read more](#)

European Union

[EU Commission Proposes Waiving Visa Requirements for Qatar & Kuwait Nationals](#)

The European Commission proposed the abolishment of visa requirements for Qatar and Kuwait nationals considering that these countries have met the necessary criterion for irregular migration, public policy security, and economic benefits. Once approved, the visa will allow Qatar and Kuwait nationals to travel all countries in the European Union for a 90 day stay in any 180-day period for business, tourism, and family purposes. [Read more](#)

Germany

[Travel: Germany Extends Current Entry Restrictions Until the End of May](#)

Germany extended pre-entry entry restrictions until the end of May current the COVID-19 situation in the country. The restrictions were extended considering the spread of COVID-19 infections in the country. [Read more](#)

Greece

[Greece Has Officially Removed All COVID-19 Entry Rules](#)

On 1 May 2022, Greece abolished the pre-entry requirement of providing either of a certificate of recovery, certificate of vaccination, or a certificate of a negative COVID-19 test. The measure aims to increase the tourism in the country. [Read more](#)

Italy

[Italy Lifts Passenger Locator Form Requirement, Extends Other COVID-19 Entry Measures](#)

On 1 May 2022, the Italian Ministry of Health abolished the requirement of filling the Passenger Locator Form before entering the country. However, pre-entry restrictions of furnishing either of a certificate of recovery, certificate of vaccination, or a certificate of a negative COVID-19 test result still apply until 31 May 2022. [Read more](#)

Lithuania

[All Travelers Can Now Enter Lithuania Restriction-Free](#)

From 1 May 2022, all travelers are allowed to enter Lithuania without being subject to pre-entry restrictions. Travelers can enter Lithuania without presenting a valid vaccination, recovery, or test certificate. [Read more](#)

Malta

[Malta Applies Facilitated COVID-19 Rules from Today, May 2](#)

From 2 May 2022, incoming travelers to Malta are no longer required to complete or present the Passenger Locator Form. However, passengers are still required to present valid COVID-19 proof upon their arrival. Further, mandatory quarantine is only required for those who have tested positive. [Read more](#)

Norway

[Norway to Reduce Waiting Time for Family Reunification](#)

Norway intends to improve immigration administrative practices to reduce the processing time for family reunification visas. Further, lower requirements will be imposed for the proof of identity if the biological family relationship can be made credible. [Read more](#)

Serbia

[Serbia scraps COVID-19 entry requirements](#)

On 3 May 2022, the Serbian government removed all COVID-19 entry restrictions and requirements. Thus, travelers entering the country are no longer required to show either of a proof of vaccination, recovery, or a negative COVID-19 test. [Read more](#)

Spain

[Spain Prolongs Existing COVID-19 Entry Restrictions Until May 15 – Here’s What Travelers Should Know](#)

Switzerland will ease COVID-19 entry restrictions from 2 May 2022. All travelers will be allowed a restriction-free entry regardless of their vaccination or recovery status. [Read more](#)

Switzerland

[Switzerland Has Now Removed COVID-19 Entry Restrictions for All Travelers](#)

On 19 April 2022, Turkey signed a degree abolishing the visa requirements for Polish citizens. The visa exemption will allow Polish citizens to visit Turkey for tourist and transit purposes with a maximum residence period of 90 days within 180 days. [Read more](#)



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