



Immigration News Highlights

2022-23, 30 August 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. [Click here](#) to find all issues of the Immigration News Highlights on the GMS Flash Alert: Immigration page.



Americas

Canada

[Canada relaxes rules for international students troubled by visa delays](#)

The Canadian authorities announced relaxed rules for international students facing problems due to delays in visa approvals. Students are now permitted to attend their classes remotely, and also apply for a post-graduation work permit until 31 August, 2022, while being stationed outside Canada. [Read more.](#)

Cayman Islands

[COVID related entry protocols abolished](#)

The Cayman Islands announced the elimination of all COVID related protocols for travelers. Incoming visitors shall no longer be required to provide a certificate regarding their vaccination status. Unvaccinated travelers can enter without having to quarantine. [Read more](#)

United States

[Doubt over the conduction of a second H-1B visa lottery](#)

Authorities in the United States have expressed uncertainty over the conduction of a second lottery for H-1B visas for the year 2023. This decision has been taken because the country has already issued several non-selection notices, which is done when there shall be no more lotteries. [Read more.](#)



Asia Pacific

China

[Issuance of visa to Japanese students resumed](#)

The Chinese authorities have announced the resumption of the visa issuing process to student applicants based in Japan. The move comes in after a two year ban on the same. [Read more](#)

China

[COVID protocols for international arrivals changed](#)

Chinese customs authorities have announced the dropping of some reporting requirements for international travelers, although pre-departure COVID tests and quarantine requirements remain in place. [Read more](#)

China

[China permits entry for foreign students and APEC card holders](#)

The Chinese government announced that students and Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) card holders shall now be permitted entry into the country. Earlier, APEC card holders were required to possess a special permission to enter China. [Read more](#)

Israel**[Travel restrictions extended for ten more days](#)**

Israeli authorities have announced that they will be extending travel restrictions, which includes an entry ban for all international travelers, for an additional 10 days in order to curb the further transmission of COVID and its new variants. [Read more](#)

Japan**[Border measures to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)**

Japan has announced the easing of COVID related entry protocols for foreign arrivals from 7 September, 2022. Travelers having a valid vaccination certificate will no longer be required to submit proof of a negative pre-departure COVID test. [Read more](#)

Singapore**[COVID related border measures to be eased](#)**

According to a new announcement by the national authorities, upon their arrival, travelers who are not fully vaccinated shall no longer be required to complete the seven-day Stay-Home-notice (SHN). PCR test requirements have also been abolished. [Read more](#)

Singapore**[New elite category visa announced](#)**

The Singapore authorities have announced the launch of a new five year visa, targeted to attract high-earning foreign nationals. The visa shall allow such individuals to work at multiple companies. [Read more](#)

Vietnam**[Authorities make move to resolve non-acceptance of Vietnamese passports](#)**

The Vietnamese government, in a bid to solve the issue of denial of Vietnamese passports, has announced the addition of the place of birth in the appendix of the newly issued passports. [Read more](#)

**Europe and Africa****Germany****[Student visa requirements of amount for a blocked bank account to be changed](#)**

German authorities have announced an 8.5% increase in the amount required to be deposited in a blocked bank account in order to obtain a student visa. Students will now be required to show a minimum deposit of EUR11,208 instead of the current EUR10,332. [Read more](#)

Germany**[Indonesian passports without signature of bearer column declared acceptable](#)**

Germany shall now be accepting the new Indonesian passports which do not contain the signature of bearer column, under the condition that it has been endorsed with the additional signature of the bearer on the endorsement page. [Read more](#)

Greece**[Greece to Start Recruiting Bangladeshi Seasonal Workers This Fall, Migration Minister Confirms](#)**

Greek and Bangladeshi authorities signed a memorandum of understanding, according to which Bangladeshi workers shall be provided with a temporary 5 year work permit, enabling them to be hired for work in the Greek agricultural sector. [Read more](#)

Norway**[Norway Cancels Advice Against Travel to Sri Lanka](#)**

On August 26, 2022, authorities of Norway lifted the travel advice against Sri Lanka since the situation in Sri Lanka has been declared more stable. The state of emergency in the country was lifted on 18 August, 2022. [Read more](#)

Norway**[Filipino passports ready to be released](#)**

The Embassy of Philippines in Norway has announced the release of new passports. Applicants need to bring their old passport and original official receipt to the embassy in order to collect their new passports. [Read more](#)

Slovakia

[Slovak authorities to simplify residence permit procedures for foreigners](#)

Slovakia has approved a proposal for the simplification of the residence permit procedures that are required to be followed by foreigners in Slovakia. The renewed rules are expected to apply from 1 January, 2023. [Read more](#)



Thomas Wolf
Head of KPMG's Global
Immigration Network
T: +49 30 530199-300
E: twolf@kpmg-law.com

[social.kpmg](#)



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