



Immigration News Highlights

2022-43, 26 October 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](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

[Europe and Africa](#)



Americas

Canada

2022 intake for parents and grandparents' program

The Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada announced that it has invited all potential applicants under for parents and grandparents' program and has thus, closed its 2022 intake.

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United States

USCIS Extends COVID-19-related Flexibilities

The USCIS extended COVID-19 related flexibilities through 24 January 2023, to assist applicants, petitioners, and requestors. Under the flexibilities, the USCIS considers a response received within 60 calendar days, after the due date set forth for certain notices or requests, as inclusive, provided such request or notice was issued between 1 March 2020 and 24 January 2023.

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Hong Kong

[Hong Kong offers new visa to woo talent amid brain drain](#)

Hong Kong unveiled a new visa scheme to combat brain drain in the country. The 'Top Talent Pass Scheme' will allow those earning an annual salary above HKD 2.5 million or above and graduates from the world's top universities to work or pursue opportunities in the country for two years.

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Malaysia

[New Investor Visa introduced](#)

The Malaysian government introduced a Premium Visa Program (PVIP) for investors to live, work, or study in Malaysia for up to 20 years. Applicants must earn at least MYR 40,000 per months, open a fixed deposit account of at least MYR 1 million, and pay application fee of MYR 200,000 for the primary applicant and MYR 100,000 for each dependent to be eligible for the program.

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South Korea

[Visa-free entry fully resumed for Japan, Taiwan, Macau visitors](#)

From 1 November 2022, visitors from Japan, Taiwan, and Macau will have a permanent visa-free entry access to South Korea.

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United Arab Emirates

[UAE slams visa ban on all citizens of Nigeria, Ghana, 17 other African countries](#)

The United Arab Emirates announced that it will be no longer be posting 30- days visa applications for select African nationalities from 18 October 2022. Thus, any application sent from the select countries would be cancelled or sent back.

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Europe and Africa

Germany

Germany sets cornerstones for liberal migration reforms

Germany plans to change the immigration system to attract more skilled workforce and combat the labor shortage in the country. The reform proposed introduction of an opportunity card which would allow people to look for jobs in Germany based on a points-based system built on language competency, professional experience, and connection to Germany

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Guernsey

Guernsey job restrictions cut in bid to encourage migration

Guernsey proposed ending rules for restriction of job types available for foreigners from British and EU nationalities to all nationalities. The restrictions currently apply to all jobs in the construction and hospitality industries. Further, the proposal aims to increase the validity of employment permits from five to eight years.

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Norway

Norway Tells Its Citizens to Refrain from Travelling to Palestine

The Norwegian Foreign Ministry issued a travel advisory asking its citizens to avoid travelling to Palestine due to security concerns.

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Spain

Students From Ecuador Will Now Be Permitted to Work up to 30 Hours per Week in Spain

Students from Ecuador pursuing their studies in Spain would be allowed to work for up to 30 hours per week from 7 November 2022. The measure aims to help Ecuadorian students to financially support themselves in Spain

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Spain

Brits No Longer Need COVID Certificates to Travel to Spain

From 21 October 2022, all passengers coming from a non-EU country are no longer required to present a valid negative test, vaccine certificate, or a recovery certificate before entering Spain.

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Ukraine

Government adopts visa-free agreement with Guatemala

On 18 October 2022, the Government of Ukraine adopted an agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Guatemala on mutual visa exemptions that allows visa-free entry and stay of citizens in the other country for a period of 90 days within 180 days.

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United Kingdom

Brits Advised to Check Validity of Their Passport Before Travelling to European Holiday Destinations

United Kingdom has updated its travel advice asking British passport holders to confirm that their passport was issued less than 10 years before the date of entry into an EU country and to also ensure that passport would be valid for at least three months after the date of departure.

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United Kingdom

United Kingdom eliminates visa requirement for Colombia, Guyana, and Peru

From 9 November 2022, citizens of Colombia, Guyana, and Peru are allowed a visa-free entry into the United Kingdom for tourism and business purposes. Further, the children of British National (Overseas) status holders can now apply independently for the British National (Overseas) route provided they have one parents who holds a British National (Overseas) status, are at least 18 years old, were born on or after 1 July 1997, and live in Hong Kong, the United Kingdom, or certain British territories.

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