



Immigration News Highlights

2022-45, 9 November 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

Peru

Peru Scraps all COVID-related entry restrictions

The government of Peru dropped all COVID related entry restrictions on 1 November 2022. Tourists and foreign visitors are allowed to enter the country regardless of their vaccination status and country of origin.

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United States

Registrations for Diversity Visa to close on 8 November 2022

The registrations for the 2024 Diversity Visa Program, which had opened on 5 November 2022, closed on Tuesday, 8 November 2022. The Diversity Visa Program provides up to 55,000 immigrant visas through random selection.

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Australia

[Streamlined requirements for temporary visa applicants in Australia](#)

The Australian authorities have streamlined requirements for temporary visa applicants. Specified applicants will now have to undertake applicable medical examinations and/or chest x-rays in order to meet health requirements.

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Australia

[Visa processing priorities released](#)

The Australian government released an order stating the processing priorities for different visa types. Healthcare and teaching occupations would be given the most priority, followed by employer-sponsored visa, occupation to be carried out in a designated regional area, and permanent and provisional subclasses.

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Indonesia

[Indonesia Introduces e-Visa-on-Arrival for Nationals Of 26 Countries](#)

Indonesian authorities introduced a new e-Visa on Arrival (e-VOA) to speed up the entry process. This e-VOA will only be available to those entering the country through Jakarta or Bali. It shall be granted to those travelling for tourism, governmental visit, business meeting, trade, or transit.

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Japan

[Fast-track entry procedures relocated](#)

Japanese authorities moved their fast-track entry services to their immigration website from the MySOS mobile application. Foreign nationals will now have to use the Visit Japan website if they wish to register for the expedited COVID-related entry procedures. Foreign nationals entering the country before 13 November 2022 can continue using MySOS if their fast-track registration was done before 1 November, 2022.

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Kuwait

[Tests required for new expats coming to Kuwait](#)

The Kuwaiti Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) has listed the professions for which expatriate workers will be tested, in partnership with the Kuwaiti embassies abroad. These tests will be held in two parts, practical and theoretical. The first phase shall target new work permits, and a generalized test shall be held for those wishing to renew their permits.

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Qatar

[Entry restrictions to Qatar on 1 November - 23 December 2022](#)

Foreign national visitors are not allowed to enter Qatar from 1 November 2022 to 23 December 2022 unless they hold a Hayya card, are a Qatari national or national of a GCC country, hold a valid personal recruitment visa or work permit, or are traveling for humanitarian purposes.

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Saudi Arabia

[Saudi Arabia announces visa-free entry ahead of FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022](#)

Saudi Tourism Authority announced an extension of the Saudi multi-entry visa which allows Hayya Card holders to stay in the country for up to 60 days.

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Taiwan

[Taiwan to further ease border rules for China, Hong Kong, Macau residents](#)

Taiwanese authorities have further relaxed COVID-related entry restrictions for Chinese students and residents of Hong Kong and Macau. Chinese students will be allowed to enter for exchange programs and short-term studies, while people from Hong Kong and Macau will be allowed to enter for work-in-office based positions.

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Europe and Africa

European Union

[EU Council Fully Suspends Visa Waiver Agreement with Vanuatu](#)

The Council of European Union decided to fully suspend the visa-free travel agreement with Vanuatu citing risk posed by the Vanuatu's investor citizenship schemes. A partial suspension of this agreement was already adopted on 3 March 2022.

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Kosovo

[Kosovo Takes Down Last Visa 'Wall' in Balkans](#)

The Prime Minister of Kosovo, along with those of six other Western Balkan nations, signed agreements allowing their citizens to cross borders with only identity cards and ensured mutual recognition of college degrees and certain professional qualifications.

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Portugal

Portugal to Scrap Its Golden Visa Scheme

Portuguese authorities have announced the consideration of scrapping the Portuguese Golden Visa Program. Portugal's Prime Minister said the Program will be scrapped since it has fulfilled its function and is no longer required.

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Portugal

New Visa Regime Permits Stay of 60 Additional Days for Jobs Seekers

Portugal has introduced a new visa regime, allowing migrants workers who have entered legally stay in the country and search for jobs. The visa will be valid for 120 days, with a possibility to be extended by a further 60 days.

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Spain

Spain Introduces New Visa for Foreign Start-Ups & Digital Nomads, Reduces Taxes for Them

Spain approved new law for start-ups and digital nomads which allows anyone from the EU or third countries that haven't been a resident in Spain in the last four years to benefit from a special visa which can be renewed for up to five years.

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