



Immigration News Highlights

2024-06, 6 February 2024



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.](#)

The information in Immigration News Highlights is sourced from the independent third parties listed below and shall not be attributed to KPMG. It does not represent the views or opinions of KPMG International Limited or any KPMG member firm. This information is provided for general information only. It is not intended to amount to advice or serve as a substitute for any professional advice, consultation, or service, [and should not be relied on without further consultation].

Although we make reasonable efforts to update this information, we make no representations, warranties or guarantees, whether express or implied, that this information is accurate, complete, or up to date.

[Americas](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

[Europe and Africa](#)



Americas

Canada

Immigration agency unveils guidelines for Digital Nomads entering Canada

The Canadian immigration authority has updated its guidelines about its Digital Nomad Visa Program. This program allows remote workers, whether employed by international companies, self-employed, or providing services to clients outside Canada, to work in Canada for up to six months with just visitor status. If they obtain a Canadian employer, they can also apply for a work permit.

[Read More](#)

United States

USCIS Announces Strengthened Integrity Measures for H-1B Program

The USCIS announced a final rule to strengthen the integrity of and reduce the potential for fraud in the H-1B registration process, including by reducing the potential for gaming the registration

system and ensuring each beneficiary would have the same chance of being selected, regardless of the number of registrations submitted on their behalf.

[Read More](#)

United States

[USCIS issues final rule to adjust certain immigration and naturalization fees](#)

The USCIS published a final rule to adjust certain immigration and naturalization benefit request fees for the first time since 2016. The final rule will allow USCIS to recover a greater share of its operating costs and support more timely processing of new applications.

[Read More](#)



Asia Pacific

Australia

[ImmiAccount security enhancements](#)

Starting from 31 January 2024, all new and current users of ImmiAccount are required to verify their email address. Current users who have not yet verified their email address must do so the next time they log in. Meanwhile, new users must verify their email address upon creating an ImmiAccount. It is essential that users ensure their email address adheres to the security requirements.

[Read More](#)

Indonesia

[Indonesia facilitates Golden Visa requirements for new capital investors](#)

Internationals investing in Indonesia's new capital project, Nusantara (IKN), will be eligible to acquire residency in this country more easily through the Golden Visa Program. Requirements for foreign companies wishing to invest in IKN have been lowered from a minimum investment of US\$25 million to US\$5 million for a stay of 5 years. For a stay of 10 years, it has been lowered from US\$50 million to US\$10 million.

[Read More](#)

Iran

[Iran eases entry rules for 28 countries](#)

An Iranian government has announced that starting from 5 February 2024, nationals from 28 countries who intend to explore Iran as tourists will be allowed visa-free entry.

[Read More](#)

Kazakhstan

[Kazakhstan releases Quota for Foreign Workers](#)

The Kazakhstani government announced the foreign worker quotas (2024) for all work categories and regions.

[Read More](#)

Japan

[Japan introduces Digital Nomad visas for 49 countries](#)

Japan's Immigration Services Agency (ISA) has confirmed that the country will offer six-month visas to digital nomads who earn US\$68,300 or more. The program will permit citizens from a total of 49 countries to stay in Japan under the "specified activities" visa category.

[Read More](#)

New Zealand

[Pinoys can apply for working holiday visas from March 2024](#)

New Zealand has announced that it will start accepting applications for its working holiday visa program for Filipinos starting from 12 March 2024. This visa program allows individuals aged 18 to 30 to travel, study, and work temporarily in New Zealand. The program has a quota of 100 visas per cycle, and the application process usually takes around eight weeks, or until the quota is filled.

[Read More](#)

United Arab Emirates

[United Arab Emirates announces visa-free travel for Armenian citizens](#)

UAE announced a visa-free policy for citizens of the Republic of Armenia, which will take effect from 1 February 2024. Travelers are advised to ensure that their passports remain valid for at least six months from arrival. The visa waiver offers flexibility with a maximum stay of 90 days within 180 days.

[Read More](#)



Europe and Africa

Bulgaria

[Bulgaria names street 'Nomad Place' to attract more Digital Nomads](#)

The Ministry of Tourism and the municipality of Belia in Bulgaria have officially designated a street in Semkovo as "Nomad Place." This street is named after Coliving Semkovo, a residence for digital nomads situated at "Nomad Place 1."

[Read More](#)

Germany

[Germany's Deutschlandticket price will remain EUR49](#)

The German authorities have confirmed that the price of the Deutschlandticket will remain unchanged throughout 2024.

[Read More](#)

Malta

New Migrant Pathway: Specialist Employee Initiative

The Maltese government has introduced the Specialist Employee Initiative for third-country nationals applying for a work permit in Malta, alongside the Ordinary Single Work Permit and the Key Employee Initiative. This initiative aims to streamline the application process for different levels of specialization and remuneration.

[Read More](#)

Poland

Poland suspends work visa programme

Poland has decided to suspend the Business Habor Programme that was created with the aim of attracting foreign IT specialists to the country.

[Read More](#)

South Africa

Immigration concession extended

The South African Department of Home Affairs is facing challenges with visa application backlogs, and the Minister has approved a temporary extension for affected foreign nationals until 30 June 2024, to address the issue.

[Read More](#)

United Kingdom

Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) scheme expanded to include Gulf and Jordanian nationals

The UK has expanded its ETA scheme to include nationals from GCC countries and Jordan. The ETA replaces electronic visa waivers and will apply to all foreigners who don't need a visa to enter the UK by the end of the year.

[Read More](#)

United Kingdom

United Kingdom & Japan will issue more visas under young mobility scheme

The UK and Japan have decided to expand their youth mobility schemes, according to the British Embassy in Tokyo. From 31 January 2024, the number of eligible Japanese nationals for the Youth Mobility Scheme will increase to 6,000. Similarly, starting from 1 April 2024, the number of eligible British nationals for the Working Holiday Scheme in Japan will also rise to 6,000.

[Read More](#)





Thomas Wolf
Head of KPMG's Global
Immigration Network
T: +49 30 530 199-300
E: twolf@kpmg-law.com

[social.kpmg](#)



[Privacy](#) | [Legal](#)

© 2024 Copyright owned by one or more of the KPMG International entities. KPMG International entities provide no services to clients. All rights reserved.

KPMG is a global organization of independent professional services firms providing Audit, Tax and Advisory services. KPMG is the brand under which the member firms of KPMG International Limited ("KPMG International") operate and provide professional services. "KPMG" is used to refer to individual member firms within the KPMG organization or to one or more member firms collectively.

KPMG firms operate in 143 countries and territories with more than 265,000 partners and employees working in member firms around the world. Each KPMG firm is a legally distinct and separate entity and describes itself as such. Each KPMG member firm is responsible for its own obligations and liabilities. KPMG International Limited is a private English company limited by guarantee. KPMG International Limited and its related entities do not provide services to clients. For more detail about our structure, please visit <https://kpmg.com/xx/en/home/misc/governance.html>.