

# Mobility: Immigration alert

December 2022



## Portugal

Portuguese consular workers announce global strike as of 5 December 2022

### Executive summary

The Union of Consular Workers, Diplomatic Missions and Central Services of the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (“the Union”) announced on 2 December 2022 that their negotiations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were not successful and therefore Union members working at Portuguese consular offices worldwide will go on strike starting on 5 December 2022. According to the notice delivered by the Union, the strike is expected to last until 12 January 2023.

### Key developments

While the announcement from the Union indicates that the strike will impact all Portuguese consulates worldwide, EY has learned that consular workers in some locations do not plan to join the Union in the strike, or do not plan to participate in the strike until 12 January 2023.

### Impact on employers

The delivery of consular services is expected to be significantly impacted in locations where Union members participate in the strike. Companies and individuals seeking to submit immigration and related applications to impacted Portuguese embassies and consulates may be prevented from filing their applications due to lack of consular staff, or they may encounter significant delays in consular processing. In addition, the processing of applications filed with Portuguese consulates on or before 2 December 2022 may also be significantly delayed.

### Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments and provide further updates as more information becomes known. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

## EY | Building a better working world

EY exists to build a better working world, helping create long-term value for clients, people and society and build trust in the capital markets.

Enabled by data and technology, diverse EY teams in over 150 countries provide trust through assurance and help clients grow, transform and operate.

Working across assurance, consulting, law, strategy, tax and transactions, EY teams ask better questions to find new answers for the complex issues facing our world today.

EY refers to the global organization, and may refer to one or more, of the member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, does not provide services to clients. Information about how EY collects and uses personal data and a description of the rights individuals have under data protection legislation are available via [ey.com/privacy](https://ey.com/privacy). EY member firms do not practice law where prohibited by local laws. For more information about our organization, please visit [ey.com](https://ey.com).

Ernst & Young LLP is a client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited operating in the US.

© 2022 Ernst & Young LLP.  
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 010679-22Gbl

2101-3682263  
ED None

**[ey.com](https://ey.com)**

### **Anabela Silva**

Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Tel: +351936079620  
Email: [anabela.silva@pt.ey.com](mailto:anabela.silva@pt.ey.com)

### **Bhavik Chunilal**

Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Tel: +351936105838  
Email: [bhavik.chunilal@pt.ey.com](mailto:bhavik.chunilal@pt.ey.com)

### **Yasser Tavares**

Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Email: [yasser.tavares@pt.ey.com](mailto:yasser.tavares@pt.ey.com)

### **Madalena Hatton**

Senior Consultant - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Email: [madalena.hatton@pt.ey.com](mailto:madalena.hatton@pt.ey.com)

### **Sanne Van Kints**

Senior Consultant - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration  
Email: [sanne.van.kints1@pt.ey.com](mailto:sanne.van.kints1@pt.ey.com)