



Global Immigration alert

December 2024

Slovakia

Slovakia amends regulations impacting residence authorization and Schengen Visa applicants

Executive summary

On 28 November 2024, Slovakia approved several amendments to its regulations governing residence authorization processes and Schengen Visa requirements, among others.

Key developments

The following changes will be introduced via amendments to Act No. 404/2011 Coll. on the Residence of Foreigners and Act No. 480/2002 Coll. on Asylum. Most of these changes will go into effect on 15 December 2024, while those impacting Ukrainian nationals' accommodation policies will be implemented on 1 March 2025:

- ▶ *Electronic application submission.* Individuals will be able to submit electronic applications for the following residence-related documents and processes, provided they have already submitted their biometrics to the authorities: renewal of temporary residence or EU Blue Cards, permanent residence, long-term residence, registration of residence for EU citizens, other residence documents and passports.
- ▶ *Simplified Schengen Visa requirement.* Companies in Slovakia that issue invitation letters to Schengen Visa applicants will be able to submit proof of their bank account balance, instead of a three-month bank statement, for letter verification purposes.
- ▶ *Temporary protection*
 - ▶ Temporary protection status applicants will receive a plastic ID card instead of a paper-based document. Those who already hold the current paper-based ID document will also be able to apply for a plastic ID card. To do so, these individuals will need to book an appointment with

the Slovak foreign police and pay a fee. The authorities have not yet announced a deadline for these individuals to obtain plastic cards.

- ▶ Beginning 1 March 2025, the regulations related to accommodation for Ukrainian refugees will be revised. Among other changes, the government will issue an accommodation allowance to these individuals for 60 days only (down from 120 days).

Impact on employers

The changes relating to electronic application submission and Schengen Visa requirements are expected to benefit employers by streamlining various immigration processes for third-country nationals.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.



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ey.com

Marian Biz
Partner - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +421 910 492 208
Email: marian.biz@sk.ey.com

Vadim Bogomolov
Senior Manager - People Advisory Services, Global Immigration
Tel: +421 910 820 232
Email: vadim.bogomolov@sk.ey.com

Ben Willis
Partner - People Advisory Services, EMEA Immigration Leader
Tel: +44 20 7951 9589
Email: ben.willis@uk.ey.com

Seema Farazi
Partner - People Advisory Services, EMEA Immigration Leader
Tel: +44 20 7951 7122
Email: seema.farazi@uk.ey.com