

Global Immigration alert

April 2025

Sweden

Swedish parliament votes to suspend Track Change Permit and amend deportation rules effective 1 April 2025

Executive summary

On 12 March 2025, the Swedish parliament voted to suspend the Track Change Permit "Spårbyte" and amend the statutory limitation period for deported individuals. These new rules went into effect on 1 April 2025.

Background

As a general rule, individuals must file residence permit applications before entering Sweden. Qualifying holders of Track Change Permits whose asylum applications were rejected could benefit from an exemption from this general rule. These individuals could obtain a residence permit based on work applications from within Sweden, provided they undertook work in Sweden during the period their asylum application was being processed.

Key developments

With the suspension of the Track Change Permit, this exemption from the general rule is no longer available, and the individuals described above are required to leave Sweden to obtain a residence permit based on work. This also means that holders of previously issued Track Change Permits are no longer able to apply for an extension of their existing permit. The new process impacts all applications adjudicated on or after 1 April 2025. No transition period is in place.

In addition, the parliament has amended the rules regarding the statutory limitation period for deportees. Effective 1 April 2025, the statutory limitation period will last for five years starting from the date the deportee leaves the country. Previously, the limitation period began from the date the deportation decision came into effect and was valid for four years. The change aims to discourage individuals from avoiding

the enforcement of a deportation decision to wait until it becomes time-barred and then reapply. The parliament also enabled the Migration Agency to issue longer re-entry bans for deportees who do not leave Sweden on time.

Impact on employers

Employers with employees holding Track Change Permits may verify their employees' right to work to ensure compliance with local requirements.

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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