



# Global Immigration alert

April 2025

## Kuwait

Kuwait streamlines residency transfers between the public and private sectors

### Executive summary

According to a press report dated 2 March 2025, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) announced significant changes to the residency transfer process for foreign nationals moving from public sector jobs to private sector jobs, simplifying the process and removing the requirement for job roles to align with the individuals' educational qualifications.

### Key developments

The new regulations will allow foreign workers to transition from government contractual arrangements to private sector employment upon the conclusion of their contracts, provided they obtain consent from both their former and new employers. Prior to the recent announcement, foreign nationals working in the public sector could only move to another entity in the same sector. However, following this announcement, the authorities will no longer verify the professions of individuals seeking a transfer from the public sector to the private sector, and there will be no legal basis for rejecting such transfer requests.

### Impact on employers

The new regulations will allow employers in the private sector to access a wider talent pool, including experienced workers transitioning from government positions and senior individuals with diverse backgrounds. This expansion is expected to strengthen Kuwait's workforce composition and enhance overall productivity.

### Key steps

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



Shape the future  
with confidence

EY is building a better working world by creating new value for clients, people, society and the planet, while building trust in capital markets.

Enabled by data, AI and advanced technology, EY teams help clients shape the future with confidence and develop answers for the most pressing issues of today and tomorrow.

EY teams work across a full spectrum of services in assurance, consulting, tax, strategy and transactions. Fueled by sector insights, a globally connected, multi-disciplinary network and diverse ecosystem partners, EY teams can provide services in more than 150 countries and territories.

#### All in to shape the future with confidence.

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).

© 2025 Ernst & Young LLP.  
All Rights Reserved.

EYG no. 002913-25Gbl

2101-3682263  
ED None

This material has been prepared for general informational purposes only and is not intended to be relied upon as accounting, tax, legal or other professional advice. Please refer to your advisors for specific advice.

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

**Roman Gusev**  
Partner - People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration  
Tel: +973 3365 1121  
Email: [roman.gusev@bh.ey.com](mailto:roman.gusev@bh.ey.com)

**Sana Sheikh**  
Director - People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration  
Tel: +971 5593 88963  
Email: [sana.sheikh@ae.ey.com](mailto:sana.sheikh@ae.ey.com)

**Gnani Karthik**  
Manager - People Advisory Services Tax, MENA Immigration  
Tel: +91 897 1325 325  
Email: [gnani.karthik@gds.ey.com](mailto:gnani.karthik@gds.ey.com)