

# Global Immigration alert

May 2025

## Slovakia

Delays in appointment slots for foreign employees and other third-country nationals

### Executive summary

Third-country nationals who seek to work or reside in Slovakia are currently experiencing challenges with the immigration process due to the limited availability of appointment slots for several application types, including business permits and residence on the basis of family reunification.

### Key developments

As of early May 2025, limited resources within the Slovak foreign police have created significant challenges for individuals who seek to book appointments and timely submit their applications. Those seeking business permits or family reunification permits may experience delays with respect to their arrival in Slovakia, while many individuals already in the country have seen their permits expire as a result of not being able to renew their permits due to the unavailability of appointments with the Slovak foreign police. The resulting lack of valid documentation may lead to difficulties for third-country nationals, such as banks suspending their accounts if they cannot provide a new residence permit card, as well as difficulties in accessing health insurance.

In December 2024, immigration application processes changed to allow third-country nationals to renew [certain residence permits](#) electronically. The new processes allow applicants to insert their Slovak residence card, which also serves as an ID, into a special reader, log into the government portal and sign off on their applications using a qualified electronic signature. However, the transition has faced challenges due to faulty chips in some residence permit cards, rendering them ineffective. Applicants are still required to visit the Slovak foreign police in person in order to submit supporting documents in hard copy and complete a biometric scan after submitting their applications

electronically. This requirement has added confusion and led to further delays.

### Impact on employers

Local companies and impacted foreign workers (e.g., with expired/expiring permits) may be subject to penalties for non-compliance. Employers may stay informed about appointment availability and provide support to employees with completing all required processes as promptly as possible to minimize disruptions to business operations.

### 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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