

August 2021

See below our Immigration and Global Mobility Update, which shows the changes in global mobility and immigration from around the world over the past two months. We hope you find this information useful and we aim to continue to update you regularly.

<u>Argentina</u>	Finland	<u>Norway</u>
<u>Austria</u>	Greece	Poland
<u>Belgium</u>	<u>Italy</u>	<u>Russia</u>
<u>Brazil</u>	<u>Kazakhstan</u>	<u>Serbia</u>
<u>Chile</u>	<u>Luxembourg</u>	<u>Slovakia</u>
Europe	<u>New Zealand</u>	<u>UK</u>

Country or region:	Argentina
Title:	Update on COVID-19 restrictions on travel
Summary:	Argentina's borders will remain closed until 6 August 2021 inclusive for non-resident foreign nationals.
	The rules on travel and quarantine in Argentina have been amended.
	Until 6 August 2021 the following applies:
	1. Authorisations previously granted for direct flights on air routes from and to the UK and Northern Ireland, Brazil, Chile, African countries and India are suspended for passengers. The Decisions also provide that the Ministry of Transport (through the National Civil Aviation Administration) may expand the list of countries on prior intervention by the national health authority.



<ol> <li>Authorisations previously granted for entry and exit hrough authorised border crossings are suspended.</li> <li>All land border crossings are temporarily closed.</li> <li>Until 6 August 2021, the following categories of beople are authorised to enter Argentina:         <ul> <li>carriers or crew members of any nationality;</li> <li>nationals and residents of Argentina;</li> <li>foreign nationals expressly authorised by the National Directorate of Migrations to carry out a work or commercial activity; to fulfil an official diplomatic mission; to participate in sporting events;</li> <li>foreign nationals declared to be in transit to other countries who will remain at the international airport for less than 24 hours.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Administrative Decisions (2252/2020, 2/2021, 44/2021 268/2021, 342/2021, 437/21, 512/2021 and 583/2021 issued by the Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers)</li> </ol>	
German Capoulat , Partner, Funes de Rioja & Asociados	

Country or region:	Argentina	
Title:	Conditions for entry to Argentina	
Summary:	Electronic Affidavit for entering Argentina	
	All travellers must submit an Electronic Affidavit. It is available on the official site of the National Directorate of Migrations ( <u>www.migraciones.gob.ar</u> ) and must be completed 48 hours before boarding.	



PCR tests
All travellers must take a diagnostic test 72 hours prior to international travel and receive a negative result for COVID-19 to present with the Electronic Affidavit.
Quarantine
All travellers must carry out a COVID-19 test upon arrival in the country and another on the seventh day of entry as a condition of completion of mandatory isolation. Those who test positive must then take a PCR test.
Additionally, those who have a positive result and their 'close contacts' must comply with mandatory isolation in places provided by the national authorities at their own expense, until a safe transfer to their place of residence is carried out, if applicable.
Those who test negative upon arrival, must comply with mandatory isolation for seven days at the address reported for this purpose in their electronic affidavit.
Mandatory isolation will only be completed with a second negative test carried out seven days after landing.
The cost of PCR test upon arrival and PCR test for genomic sequencing must be borne by the person entering the country.
Exceptions to the quarantine requirement (introduced by Administrative Decision 2252/20) will remain in place for:
<ul> <li>international carriers and crew members in the exclusive exercise of their activity;</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>athletes, only to participate in sporting events authorised by the National Directorate of Migrations, with protocols proposed by the organisers, approved by the national health authority and supervised by the Ministry of Tourism and Sports.</li> </ul>
	individuals concerned comply with the protocols set or to be set by the health authority in a timely manner.
	The health authority may order additional measures at any time during the stay of any of the excepted individuals listed above when it suspects the existence of a risk of spreading the virus, especially when these individuals come from countries where a new viral variant is circulating.
	Other and local conditions
	Other requirements relate to special traveller insurance for non-resident foreign nationals, the use of the CUIDAR app for Argentinian nationals or residents or for foreign nationals, the requirements of local destination jurisdictions in Argentina and the strict control of these measures by local jurisdictions.
	The national health authority may adapt the requirements to the evolving epidemiological situation.
Author's name(s) and firm	German Capoulat, Partner, Funes de Rioja & Asociados



Country or region:	Argentina
Title:	COVID-19 update on consular procedure and immigration
Summary:	The suspension of consular visa applications remains in force until further notice. Argentine Consulates abroad are only authorised to issue transitory or temporary visas with a special authorisation from the Immigration Office.
Author's name(s) and firm	German Capoulat, Partner, Funes de Rioja & Asociados

Country or region:	Austria	
Title:	Changes to COVID-19-related entry rules	
Summary:	<ul> <li>Amendments to the new Austrian entry regulation that came into force on 1 July 2021 mean that quarantine is not necessary for arrivals from countries listed in</li> <li>Annex 1 (i.e. countries with a low incidence of infection) if the following two requirements are met:</li> <li>proof the traveller complies with the 3G-rule (vaccinated, tested or recovered); and</li> <li>Proof that they have stayed exclusively in a country listed in Annex 1 or in Austria within the last ten days before entry.</li> <li>If no proof regarding the 3G-rule is available, travellers must register for pre-travel clearance and take a PCR or antigen test within 24 hours after entry.</li> </ul>	



	<ul> <li>Individuals permitted to enter from a virus-variant country (e.g. Austrian citizens, EU/EEA citizens and people living in the same household as these citizens)</li> <li>Iisted in Annex 2 must:</li> <li>Carry with them a negative result of a molecular biology test (PCR test) or a medical certificate of such PCR test;</li> <li>Register for pre-travel clearance (this can be done not earlier than 72 hours prior to entry); and</li> <li>Immediately enter a ten-day quarantine. The quarantine is completed if another negative PCR test is performed on the fifth day after entry (at the earliest).</li> </ul>	
	Passengers entering from, or who have been in, <b>any</b> other state not listed in either Annex 1 or Annex 2 within the ten days before entry must:	
	<ul> <li>Carry evidence they comply with the 3G-rule (vaccinated, tested or recovered);</li> <li>register for pre-travel clearance (this can be done not earlier than 72 hours prior to entry); and</li> <li>immediately enter a ten-day quarantine. The quarantine is completed if another negative PCR or antigen test is performed on the fifth day after entry (at the earliest).</li> </ul>	
	People entering Austria by plane from the Netherlands, Spain or Cyprus must present a negative PCR test or proof of (complete) vaccination starting on 3 August 2021 (a negative antigen test will not be accepted as proof).	
Author's name(s) and firm	Birgit Vogt-Majarek, Partner, Lisa Hittinger, Associate, Schima Mayer Starlinger Rechtsanwälte GmbH	



Country or region:	Austria	
Title:	Implementation of Posted Workers Directive and revision of Wage and Social Dumping Prevention Act	
Summary:	As announced in our <u>last update</u> , a legislative proposal for the general implementation of the EU Posted Workers Directive (2018/957) rules into the Austrian Wage and Social Dumping Prevention Act has been published and was approved by the National Government on 7 July 2021 (specific regulations for the construction industry based on the Posted Workers Directive 2018/957 became effective on 1 April 2021). These new regulations will become legally effective on 1 September 2021.	
	In addition, as a result of the European Court of Justice judgment in <i>Maksimovic ua</i> (C-64/18) the legislative proposal includes an essential revision of the administrative penalty provisions in s26 to 29 of the Wage and Social Dumping Prevention Act. This concerns violations in connection with the reporting and availability obligations or failure to produce wage documents). It was also approved and also comes into force on 1 September 2021.	
	Previously, penalties under the Wage and Social Dumping Prevention Act were provided for and imposed (basically unlimited) per employee and violation. Under the new rules, a single administrative violation by the employer will be penalised regardless of the number of employees involved.	
Author's name(s) and firm	Birgit Vogt-Majarek, Partner, Lisa Hittinger, Associate, Schima Mayer Starlinger Rechtsanwälte GmbH	



Country or region:	Belgium
Title:	Quarantine and test requirements for employees returning from holidays from 1 July 2021
Summary:	An employer cannot oblige an employee to go into quarantine when returning from international travel.
	Upon return to Belgium, employees and their family members must complete the Passenger Locator Form ('PLF' see <u>here</u> ) within 48 hours before arrival in Belgium. The PLF will consider the individual's movements over the last 14 days to determine if mandatory quarantine or test obligations apply. No PLF must be completed if the stay outside Belgium lasted less than 48 hours unless the person travels to Belgium by plane or boat from anywhere or by train or bus from a country outside the EU or the Schengen Area.
	No quarantine nor test obligations apply on return from a green or orange zone. This means access to the workplace cannot automatically be denied to an employee returning from green or orange zones.
	If employees are returning from a red zone or a very high-risk area, as of 1 July 2021, a distinction must be made based on the digital COVID-19 certificate (proof that someone is vaccinated, recently tested negative or recovered from COVID-19). In addition, a distinction must be made between Belgian residents, EU/Schengen residents and non-EU/Schengen residents. In our overview below we assume the employees are Belgian residents as this situation will be the most common for Belgian employers. The rules for EU/Schengen residents and non-EU Schengen residents are not included in our overview below.



	Red zone within the EU/Schen gen	COVID-19 vaccination or recovery certificate = no quarantine or test No COVID-19 vacation or recovery certificate = PCR test on day 1 or day 2, no quarantine if negative Vaccination or recovery certificate = PCR test on day 1 or day 2, no quarantine if negative
	Red zone outside the EU/Schen gen	No COVID-19 vaccination or recovery certificate = mandatory quarantine for 10 days with PCR test on day 1 and day 7. If negative test on day 7 quarantine can be ended.
	Very high- risk area	Mandatory quarantine of 10 days with a PCR test on day 1 and day 7
Author's name(s) and firm	Sophie Maes, Attorney-Partner and Ester Vets, Associate, Claeys & Engels	

Country or region:	Brazil
Title:	Current requirements for entering Brazil
Summary:	On 24 June 2021, Ordinance No. 655 entered into effect establishing COVID-19 testing and quarantine procedures for travellers entering Brazil.
	Entrance by sea or land is prohibited. This does not apply to:



<ul> <li>Brazilian citizens (native or naturalised);</li> <li>immigrants with a residence permit for Brazil, for a fixed or indefinite term;</li> <li>foreign professionals on a mission for an international organisation;</li> <li>foreign officials accredited to the Brazilian Government;</li> <li>spouses, partners, children, parents or guardians of a Brazilian citizen;</li> <li>foreign nationals whose entry is specifically authorised by the Brazilian Government in view of the public interest or for humanitarian reasons;</li> <li>holder of a Brazilian ID Card for foreign nationals;</li> <li>cargo transportation;</li> <li>land entry for individuals coming from Paraguay, as long as the immigration requirements appropriate to their condition are met, including carrying an entry visa when this is required by the Brazilian legal system.</li> </ul> All individuals traveling to Brazil by air need to present to the air company a negative PCR test taken within the 72 hours prior to the scheduled flight and the Traveller's Health Declaration, before they are allowed to board a flight. The following conditions apply:
<ul> <li>The document must be in Portuguese, Spanish or English.</li> <li>The test must be carried out in a laboratory recognised by the health authority of the country from where the foreign national embarks.</li> <li>In the event of a flight with connections or stopovers in which the traveller remains in a restricted area of the airport, the period of 72 hours will be considered in relation to boarding the first leg of the trip.</li> <li>If the journey exceeds 72 hours since the completion of the PCR test the travellers must show a new negative test at check-in for boarding to Brazil.</li> <li>Children under 12 travelling accompanied are exempt from presenting a PCR test provided that all companions provide negative tests taken in the 12 hours prior to boarding.</li> </ul>



<ul> <li>children aged two or over and under 12 travelling unaccompanied must present a negative PCR test performed in the 72 hours prior to boarding.</li> <li>children under two years are exempt from from providing a PCR test.</li> </ul>
Individuals who had COVID-19 in the last 90 days, counted from the date of the beginning of symptoms, who are asymptomatic and still test positive on a PCR test for COVID-19, will be allowed upon presentation of the following documents:
<ul> <li>two positive PCR results, with an interval of at least 14 days, the last one being performed within 72 hours prior to the time of boarding;</li> <li>antigen test with negative or undetectable result, after the last positive PCR result; and</li> <li>medical certificate declaring that the individual is asymptomatic and able to travel, including the date of travel, in Portuguese, Spanish or English with the identification and signature of the responsible physician.</li> </ul>
Exceptions
A number of exceptions to the general rules apply subject to detailed conditions. These include maritime and airline crews, cargo crew and air travellers in Brazil as a result of aircraft technical issues.
The following are also permitted:
<ul> <li>cross-border humanitarian actions previously authorised by the local health authorities;</li> <li>the traffic of border residents in twin cities, upon presentation of a border resident document or other supporting document, provided the neighbouring country guarantees reciprocity in the treatment of Brazilians.</li> <li>Road freight transport, even if the driver does not fit the list above of exceptions.</li> <li>Emergency assistance under current immigration legislation to people in a vulnerable situation resulting from a migratory flow caused</li> </ul>



	by a humanitarian crisis (recognised by an act of the Brazilian President). These provisions also apply to immigrants who entered Brazil between 18 March 2020 and 24 June 2021.
	Exceptionally, foreign nationals in a land border country who need to cross to board a return flight to their country of residence may enter Brazil with an authorisation from the Federal Police. They must go directly to the airport; have an official demand from the embassy or consulate of the country of residence; and present the air tickets to the Federal Police.
Author's name(s) and firm	Gabriela Lessa, Senior Associate, Maria Luisa Soter, Partner, Veirano Advogados

Country or region:	Brazil
Title:	Current travel bans
Summary:	Individuals coming from or with history of passing through Great Britain, North Ireland, South Africa or India in the 14 days prior to travelling to Brazil must quarantine in another country for a 14-day period.
	The exceptions to this rule are Brazilian citizens, (native or naturalised), foreigners already holding a National Migration registry (i.e. residing in Brazil) and foreign citizens who are spouses, partners, children, parents or guardians of a Brazilian citizen. Upon arrival in Brazil, these individuals must self-isolate for a 14- day period.
Author's name(s) and firm	Gabriela Lessa, Senior Associate, Maria Luisa Soter, Partner, Veirano Advogados



Country or region	Chile
Title:	New rules on entering and leaving Chile
Summary:	On 26 July 2021, the Protected Frontiers Plan entered into force establishing new measures to entry and exit Chile.
	Entrance requirements
	<ul> <li>Only Chilean citizens and foreign residents of Chile may enter.</li> <li>Non-resident foreign nationals may only enter the country for imperative reasons such as developing essential activities for Chile or for urgent and qualified humanitarian reasons. They must carry a safe passage document.</li> </ul>
	Borders remain temporarily closed for non-resident foreign nationals (tourists) until 31 August 2021 (may be extended).
	Ten-day mandatory quarantine applies on arrival.
	Passengers with a Mobility Pass (full vaccine scheme), approved by the Chilean government may complete the ten-day quarantine in their own houses. Passengers must be able to arrive at their private residence within five hours of arriving in Chile and may not use public transit. Otherwise, ten-day quarantine in a transit hotel is required.
	Travellers must show a negative PCR test taken 72 hours before boarding (infants under two are excluded from the obligation to have a PCR).



	They must also complete a Health Affidavit prior to entry and complete a tracking form within 14 days of arrival.
	Exit requirements
	Chileans and foreign residents with a Mobility Pass are permitted to leave Chile. This does not include minors with or without a Mobility Pass, who are not allowed to exit even if they are travelling with their parents.
	Chileans and foreign residents without a Mobility Pass, who have an exceptional permit to travel and non- resident foreign nationals with passports from their country of origin are also permitted to leave Chile.
	Exit will only be allowed through the Arturo Merino Benítez Airport.
Author's name(s) and firm	Marcela Salazar, Partner, Munita & Olavarría.

Country or region:	Europe
Title:	European Court of Justice addresses whether a posted worker's daily allowance is part of minimum wage
	A Hungarian transport company granted its lorry drivers a daily allowance ('per diem') for the work carried out abroad. The amount of the daily allowance differed according to whether the posting lasted three, four or five weeks, or more. An information document issued to the drivers stated that the daily allowances were intended to cover the costs incurred abroad.
	The question at issue was whether these daily allowances could be taken into consideration in determining if the French minimum wage is observed.



According to the Posted Workers Directive, allowances specific to the posting are included, unless they are paid in reimbursement of costs actually incurred because of the posting, such as travel, board and lodging.
The European Court of Justice ruled that even though the daily allowance was described as being intended to cover the costs incurred abroad, its amount differed according to the duration of the posting. This lump sum and progressive nature of the allowance seemed to indicate that the purpose of the daily allowance is not so much to cover the costs incurred abroad, but rather, to compensate for the disadvantages resulting from the posting because of the workers being removed from their usual environment.
In addition, the European Court of Justice held it was not apparent from the file that the daily allowance was paid in reimbursement of costs actually incurred. The Court nonetheless recalled that allowances and supplements which are not part of the minimum wage according to the host member state legislation o national practice and which alter the relationship between the worker's performance and the consideration which he receives in return cannot be treated as elements of the minimum wage. It is entirely normal that, a worker receives compensation for additional work or in particular circumstances, without that compensation being considered for calculating the minimum wage.
Since the Court did not have all relevant information, it concludes that the referring Court must carry out the necessary checks.
The Court also ruled that a bonus which is calculated based on fuel savings is allowed, unless it encourages the driver to endanger road safety.



	ECJ 8 July 2021, Case C-428/10 Rapidsped
Author's name(s) and firm	Sophie Maes, Attorney-Partner, Claeys & Engels

Country or region:	Finland
Title:	Changes to the Aliens Act to prevent exploitation
Summary:	Finland has amended the Aliens Act to prevent exploitation of foreign labour and to improve the status of victims. As a result of the amendments, a worker's residence permit may be refused if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the employer or the sponsor intends to circumvent the provisions on entry or residence.
	If there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a foreign national who holds a residence permit has been exploited at work, they will not lose their right to reside and work in Finland, and it does not affect their ability to obtain a residence permit based on another employer.
	The amendments will prevent the exploitation of foreign labour and improve the legal status of victims of exploitation. The aim of the Act is to detect exploitation at work more easily.
	The new provisions will enter into force on 1 October 2021.
Author's name(s) and firm	Nana Karanen, Senior Associate, Dittmar & Indrenius



Country or region:	Greece
Title:	Update on COVID-19-related immigration measures
Summary:	The validity of third-country nationals' definitive residence permits and certificates of submission of an application for a residence permit (blue certificates) that have expired or will expire from:
	<ul> <li>1 January 2020 to 31 July 2020; and</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>1 August 2020 to 31 March 2021 (where validity had been automatically extended pursuant to previous provisions); and</li> </ul>
	from 1 April 2021 to 30 December 2021
	is automatically extended until 31 December 2021.
	Definitive residence permits that are issued in renewal of these residence permits will enter into force the day following the initial expiry date of the extended permit.
	(Ministerial Decision No. 7396/2021)
Author's name(s) and firm	Roubini Michaloudi, Associate, Kremalis Law Firm

Country or region:	Greece
Title:	Update on COVID-19-related travel measures
Summary:	Under a Joint Ministerial Decision valid until 06:00 on 5 August 2021, EU and Schengen citizens as well as the members of their family are exempted from the general COVID-19 travel ban in Greece. Moreover, the travel ban is not applicable to the permanent residents of certain countries. The list is available <u>here</u> . The same Decision sets out exemptions to the travel ban for certain categories of individuals, especially those in



certain professions (e.g. medical and nursing staff) or who hold certain residence permits.
Travellers are allowed to enter from the land borders through the entry gates of Promachonas, Ormenio, Evzonoi, Nymfaia, Exohi, Niki, Doirani, Kristallopigi, Kipi, Kakavia, Kastanies and Mavromatio on a 24-hour basis as well as through the entry gate of Merziani, from 08:00 to 20:00.
From 14 May 2021, quarantine is lifted for passengers who arrive by ferry through all the port entrances. Maritime connections with Turkey are restricted.
Advanced health protection protocols apply.
All visitors must complete an electronic Passenger Locator Form (PLF) <u>here</u> providing their contact details in Greece before arrival. A valid PLF with a QR code is required for entry.
Secondly, all travellers must meet one of the following conditions:
<ul> <li>Have been fully vaccinated against at least 14 days previously and provide a vaccination certificate in Greek, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish or Russian, issued by a public authority, in accordance with the legislation applicable.</li> <li>Present a negative PCR test conducted up to 72 hours before arrival in Greece or a negative antigen (rapid) test conducted up to 48 hours before arrival in Greece, in a reference laboratory of the country of origin or the country of transit or in a public or private laboratory of this country (subject to conditions) and provide a certificate in Greek, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish or Russian with the name and surname of the person, as they appear on his or her passport.</li> <li>Present a certificate proving that s/he tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 30 to 180 days, after a PCR or antigen test. The relevant</li> </ul>
certificate is issued 30 days after the day of the



	<ul> <li>first positive COVID-19 test and is valid for 180 days after it. The certificate must be in Greek, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish or Russian and include the name and surname of the person, as they appear on his or her passport.</li> <li>Present a digital EU COVID-19 certificate electronically or on paper, in accordance with the Greek or other EU member state provisions, certifying s/he is fullly vaccination tested negative for COVID-19 or tested positive and recovered.</li> </ul>
	Finally, all visitors of Greece can be subject to random PCR or rapid testing and should respect the emergency measures for the prevention of the spread of the coronavirus, during their stay in the country.
Author's name(s) and firm	Roubini Michaloudi, Associate, Kremalis Law Firm

Country or region:	Ireland
Title:	Ireland adopts Digital Covid Certificate
Summary:	Since 19 July 2021, Ireland has been operating under the EU Digital COVID Certificate (DCC) for travel originating within the EEA. A distinction is now made for travel originating inside and outside the EEA.
	For travel originating from within the EEA, individuals will be required to complete a passenger locator form indicating what they are relying on for travel (i.e. proof of vaccination or negative PCR test within the 72 hours of arrival or recovery). The DCC can be used to prove the individual's travel status. For travel originating outside the EEA, the individual will have to consider Department of Foreign Affair's travel advice for travel and on return may be subject to specific entry requirements and restrictions depending on their individual travel status and the country from which they have travelled.



Author's name(s) and firm	Declan Groarke, Associate, Lewis Silkin Ireland
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Country or region:	Italy
Title :	Mandatory quarantine after returning from holidays abroad
Summary:	As the holiday period approaches, an interesting decision of the Court of Trento may be relevant to employers. The Court found that an employee who had been absent from work for 14 days to comply with mandatory quarantine after returning from holidays abroad was lawfully dismissed by his employer on disciplinary grounds.
	The Court found the dismissal to be fair because the employee had willingly decided to go on holiday abroad, knowing that this would entail an absence significantly longer than the one agreed with his employer, without informing the employer beforehand or taking into account the negative consequences that this would have on the business.
Author's name(s) and firm	Valeria Morosini, Partner, Toffoletto De Luca Tamajo e Soci

Country or region:	Italy
Title:	The Italian COVID-19 green pass and EU digital COVID certificate
Summary:	The Italian COVID-19 green pass system has now started and can be used to take part in public events or



	ceremonies, and to move in and out of areas that would be classified as 'red zone' or 'orange zone'.
	In addition, starting from 1 July, the Italian COVID-19 green pass is valid as an EU digital COVID certificate and makes it easier to travel to and from all EU countries.
	Additional and detailed information regarding the Italian COVID-19 green pass can be found <u>here</u> .
Author's name(s) and firm	Valeria Morosini, Partner, Toffoletto De Luca Tamajo e Soci

Country or region:	Kazakhstan
Title:	Kazakhstan preserves restrictive quarantine measures with tightening in several cities.
Summary:	When entering Kazakhstan, all travellers arriving must submit a certificate with a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 that is no more than three days old (children under five are exempt from this requirement, provided that the people accompanying them have certificates). All travellers (except for residents of Kazakhstan and individuals with permanent residence permit in Kazakhstan who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in Kazakhstan, providing documentary confirmation) must <u>fill in the questionnaire and pass</u> temperature monitoring.
	Individuals arriving in Kazakhstan with normal body temperature, having provided a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 or a document that confirms vaccination against COVID-19 in Kazakhstan, are given an explanation of the possible symptoms of COVID-19, which should be followed by a corresponding acknowledgement document, then they may resume travel to the point of destination. Those

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that arrive to Kazakhstan with elevated body temperature, regardless of any PCR test or vaccination documentation are subject to isolation in a contagious inpatient facility.

Starting from 1 November 2020, Kazakhstan <u>resumed</u> <u>issuing visas and other permitting documents for</u> <u>foreign nationals' stay in Kazakhstan</u>.

Until 31 December 2021, the unilateral visa-free regime for the citizens of 57 countries has been <u>suspended</u> (except for the EAEU countries and other countries with visa-free entry under international agreements).

The <u>procedure for staying</u> in the Kazakhstan is determined by special algorithms for each category of organisation, depending on the specifics of activities.

In the spring of 2021, Kazakhstan launched the Ashyq project, which involves the use of a special mobile application for access to business facilities by individuals in Kazakhstan. The list of such facilities includes the airports of Nur-Sultan (from 12 May 2021) and Almaty (from 21 May 2021).

In the period from 2 to 16 August 2021, the activities of all organisations that do not participate in Ashyq, irrespective of the form of ownership, (except for central government bodies, law-enforcement agencies, healthcare organisations, media sources, food stores, pharmacy and life support organisations) will be suspended in the cities of Nur-Sultan, Almaty, Shymkent, Karaganda, Atyrau.

Work outside Ashyq is permitted for construction projects, industrial enterprises, contactless service companies, flower shops, travel agencies, insurance companies, accountants, notaries, lawyers, consulting

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	companies, advertising agencies, exchange offices, pawnshops, bailiffs and real estate agencies.
	The application checks for data on COVID-19 and PCR tests and reflects a risk rating, divided into:
	<ul> <li>red (full restriction of movement: strict self-isolation regime);</li> <li>yellow (partial restriction of movement: the user is identified in the PCR database as a contact person);</li> <li>blue (no restrictions on movement, except for places where PCR analysis is mandatory, for example, at the airport); and</li> <li>green (there are no restrictions on movement and this user is identified in the database as having passed PCR testing with a negative result for COVID-19) statuses.</li> </ul>
	Foreign citizens must download the app and register on it. On entering a place, such as an airport terminal, the user must scan the QR code and show it to a security officer. If a person does not use a smartphone and does not have an application, then s/he must show their passport to the security officer in order for him to check the status in the system. Visitors with 'yellow' and 'red' statuses will not be allowed to enter the terminal building. You can check your status in advance by using a neutral QR code on the website <u>www.alaport.com.</u>
	(https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc_id=37545753).
Author's name(s) and firm	Yuliya Chumachenko, Partner, AEQUITAS

Country or region:	Luxembourg
Title:	Current restrictions on travel to Luxembourg



Summary:	Following the European Commission recommendations on temporary restrictions on non-essential travel to the EU, a Law and related regulations provide for:
	<ul> <li>The extension of the temporary ban on entering Luxembourg for third-country nationals until 30 September 2021 inclusive.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>An exemption from this ban applies for citizens of San Marino, Andorra, Monaco and the Vatican/Holy See, and their family members.</li> </ul>
	• Some categories of third-country nationals are authorised to enter Luxembourg territory due to their status or the purpose of their travel.
	<ul> <li>There is a regularly updated list of third countries for which the temporary restrictions have been lifted and whose residents are exempted from the temporary ban on entering Luxembourg. Currently, it covers: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China, Hong Kong and Macao (subject to reciprocal agreement with the EU), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kosovo, Lebanon, Montenegro, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Republic of North Macedonia, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, United States of America, Taiwan, Ukraine.</li> <li>From 1 January 2021, these restrictions also apply to third-country nationals residing in the UK, including UK nationals who do not fall under the provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement (see FAQs).</li> </ul>
	The health measures set out below currently apply to travel to Luxembourg by air.
	Until 14 September 2021, anyone, regardless of nationality, aged 12 or over, wishing to travel by air to Luxembourg must present upon boarding:



<ul> <li>either a vaccination certificate attesting to a completed vaccination course issued by an EU Member State or Schengen Area public or medical authority; or</li> <li>a recovery certificate issued by an EU Member State or Schengen Area practitioner or national authority of an EU Member State or Schengen</li> </ul>
Area for persons individuals who have had a recent SARS-CoV-2 infection within six months prior to travel and who have completed the applicable isolation period in the respective that country with resolution of all symptoms of infection; or,
<ul> <li>the negative result (on paper or electronically) of a COVID-19 test by PCR/TMA/LAMP carried out less than 72 hours before the flight by a medical analysis laboratory or any other entity authorised for this purpose or of a rapid antigen test carried out less than 48 hours before the flight by a medical analysis laboratory or any other entity authorised for this purpose. The negative test result must be presented, if necessary accompanied by a translation, in one of the administrative languages of Luxembourg or English, Italian, Spanish or Portuguese.</li> <li>This applies to all departures to Luxembourg, including those from EU states or the Schengen area. The negative test result requirement also applies to individuals residing in a third country currently exempt from the ban on entering Luxembourg, including for non-essential travel (see above).</li> </ul>
A 'complete vaccination course' means any course that defines the number and interval of injections necessary to achieve sufficient protective immunity and is complete upon administration of the required doses if multiple doses are given or, for single-dose vaccines, after a 14-day interval. For individuals who have recovered and have been vaccinated within 180 days of the first positive NAAT test result, the vaccination course is complete 14 days after the administration of the single dose of any vaccine administered.
Some exemptions apply concerning:
<ul> <li>individuals employed in the transport sector and airport transit passengers;</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>individuals making a return air journey, for less than 72 hours, from Luxembourg to a Schengen or EU Member State, provided that they have not left the Schengen area or the territory of EU Member States during this period;</li> <li>diplomats, staff of international organisations and people invited by international organisations whose physical presence is required for the functioning of these organisations, military personnel, development cooperation personnel, humanitarian aid workers and civil protection personnel in the exercise of their functions.</li> </ul>
	Additional sanitary measures including a testing and quarantine obligation apply for any person over 12 years of age who has stayed in India during the 14 days preceding their arrival in Luxembourg, regardless of their nationality, the duration of the stay in India or the means of transport. This applies until 14 September.
Author's name(s) and firm	Dorothée David, Paralegal, Head of Knowledge, CASTEGNARO-lus Laboris

Country or region:	New Zealand
Title:	Temporary changes to Essential Skills Work Visa
Summary:	
	On 19 July 2021, a number of temporary changes to the Essential Skills work visa policy came into effect. These include:
	<ul> <li>increasing the duration of Essential Skills work visas, for jobs paid below the median wage, from 12 months to 24 months;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>removing the requirement for employers to satisfy the labour market test where an employee is applying for an Essential Skills</li> </ul>



	<ul> <li>work visa to remain in the full-time position which they currently hold;</li> <li>removing the requirement for applicants to provide medical and police certificates if that information has been provided to Immigration New Zealand before.</li> <li>These temporary changes to Essential Skills visa requirements are expected to apply until mid-2022.</li> </ul>
Author's name(s) and firm	Simon Lapthorne, Executive Partner, Meilun Chen, Senior Solicitor, Kiely Thompson Caisley

Country or region:	Norway
Title:	Current COVID-19-related entry and quarantine rules
Summary:	COVID-19-related entry rules are subject to rapid change and should always be verified prior to travelling to Norway.
	However, at the time of writing (3 August 2021), the COVID-19-related entry and quarantine rules can be summarised as follows:
	1. Individuals residing in the EU/EEA/Schengen or the UK
	Individuals that reside in a green country/area (see the Norwegian Institute of Public Health's map) and have stayed in a green country/area for the last ten days, or can demonstrate by way of EU's digital COVID certificate that they are either fully vaccinated or have



	been infected with COVID-19 during the last six
	months, may enter Norway.
	Individuals traveling from orange, red or dark red areas/countries in the EU/EEA/Schengen and the United Kingdom must fall within the ambit of a particular exception (there are 22 in total), such as residing in Norway, in order to enter Norway.
	2. Individuals residing outside the EU/EEA/Schengen or the UK
	Individuals residing outside the EU/EEA/Schengen or the UK must fall within the ambit of a particular exception (22 in total), such as having a valid residence permit and residing in Norway, in order to enter Norway.
	3. Test, quarantine and registration rules
	In addition to the entry-related rules, there are detailed restrictions regarding testing, quarantine and registration.
	In summary, most individuals must complete a digital registration form prior to arrival and take a test at the border.
	Many will also be required to provide documentation of a negative test result, in general taken less than 24 hours prior to entry to Norway. In addition, most individuals will be subject to a ten-day quarantine.
Author's name(s) and firm	Claude A. Lenth, Partner, Jonas Thorsdalen Wik, Associate, Advokatfirmaet Hjort DA



Country or region:	Poland
Title :	Current COVID-19 travel restrictions in Poland
Summary:	Entry to Poland
	The external (non-EU) borders of Poland remain closed for tourists. The Polish authorities have published an exhaustive list of cases in which individuals travelling directly from non-EU countries may enter Poland. Exceptions apply, such as for foreign nationals travelling in the course of professional activities and specified third-country nationals (such as Belarus and UK nationals). The Polish borders with EU countries remain open.
	Every individual travelling to Poland by plane is obliged to fill out Passenger Locator Form (PLF). The PLF has to be filled out before border control checks. The PLF is available in paper and electronical formats.
	Quarantine
	Individuals crossing the Polish border must undergo a ten-day quarantine. A list of cases indicates what categories of individuals may enter Poland without quarantine. This includes, for example, individuals:
	<ul> <li>who come from Schengen countries for professional reasons;</li> <li>who come from Schengen countries and have a negative result of a PCR or antigen test for COVID-19 performed within 48 hours before crossing the border counted from the moment of the test result;</li> <li>who were vaccinated for COVID-19 with vaccines authorised for use in EU;</li> <li>who have undergone isolation or have been hospitalised due to COVID-19 infection and are crossing the Polish border no later than six</li> </ul>



	months from the end of that isolation or hospitalisation.
	In the event of border control checks, documents confirming exemption from quarantine obligation must be provided (e.g. confirmation that individual has been vaccinated).
Author's name(s) and firm	Michał Kacprzyk, Senior Associate, Head of Immigration & Global Mobility Practice, Raczkowski

Country or region:	Romania
Title:	Amended exceptions from quarantine when entering Romania
Summary:	
According to a recent decision of the High Court of Cassation and Justice, the extent of exceptions from the rule of quarantine when returning from high epidemiological risk areas is reconsidered, under certain circumstances.	The High Court of Cassation and Justice has annulled a prior decision of the National Committee of Emergency Situations setting out the quarantine rules for individuals returning to Romania from areas of high epidemiological risk. According to this decision, on entering Romania, individuals arriving from high epidemiological risk areas who could present a negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test result performed no more than 72 hours before only had to quarantine for ten days (compared to the general 14-days quarantine rule).
	Following the ruling mentioned above, according to the current provisions, presenting a negative RT-PCR test performed no more than 72 hours before complete exempts individuals returning from 'yellow area' countries (with cumulative incidence rate of COVID-19



	cases in the latest 14 days between 1.5 and 3 per 1000 inhabitants) from quarantine.
	For individuals returning from 'red area' countries with a cumulative incidence rate of COVID-19 higher than 3 per 1000 inhabitants, derogations may apply based on presenting a negative RT-PCR test performed as above, but subject to different conditions, such as, if the person spends less than 3 days (72 hours) in Romania.
Author's name(s) and firm	Roxana Abrasu, Head of Employment Practice, NNDKP
	Gabriela Dinu, Managing Associate, NNDKP

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	Terms for migration permissions further extended
Summary:	On 15 June 2021, the Russian President signed a Decree prolonging the temporary suspension of migration terms that was set on 18 April 2020.
	According to this Decree, the validity period of migration documents (such as visas and residence permits) for foreign nationals legally residing in Russia is automatically extended if they expire from 15 March 2020 until 30 September 2021. For foreign nationals from states with which air traffic has been resumed, the extension of the period of validity of migration documents is only authorised for 90 days from the date of the resumption of flights with the relevant country.
	Terms of temporary and permanent residence in Russia have been suspended from 16 June 2021 until 31 December 2021. During this period, it is also permitted to apply for a work permit or migration patent (for visa-



	free states), conclude employment and civil contracts with citizens of Eurasian Economic Union states regardless of the declared purpose of the initial entry.
Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	List of states whose citizens can currently enter Russia extended
Summary:	Starting from 1 August 2020, the Russian Government has gradually supplemented the list of countries whose citizens can enter Russia from the state of their citizenship or residence, in addition to individuals with a residence permit. Between May and July, the list was extended to include the UK, Turkey and Tanzania. The temporary suspension of flights to these countries valid until 1 June 2021 expired and was not extended.
	In addition to these countries the list is currently: Iceland, Malta, Mexico, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Austria, Hungary, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Morocco, Croatia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Jordan, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus, China, Lichtenstein, North Macedonia and US.
	From 9 August 2021, flights will also resume from Bahrain, Dominican Republic and Moldova.
	Travellers arriving from these countries and Russian citizens are exempted from the compulsory 14-day self- isolation. However, foreign nationals must have a pre- travel negative PCR test that is a maximum of 72 hours old. Russian citizens may undergo COVID-19 testing within three days after arrival (the rules do not apply to those who have completed vaccination or have recovered from COVID-19 within the past six months).



Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD
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Country or region:	Russia
Title:	New categories of foreign citizens are allowed to enter Russia
Summary:	According to a Russian Government Order, dated 18 May 2021, the list of foreign citizens, who may enter Russia has been expanded to include the following:
	<ul> <li>owners or heads of companies operating in Russia;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>foreign citizens entering to participate in negotiations on implementation of investment projects.</li> </ul>
	Business visa invitations for these individuals will be issued only if the Ministry of Economic Development gives prior approval for these foreign citizens' entry.
Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	Simplified requirements for highly-qualified foreign specialists from 'open' countries
Summary:	Within a trend toward lifting or at least relaxing other restrictions and additional requirements introduced as part of COVID-19 prevention strategy, from 24 May 2021, some territorial migration authorities no longer require ministerial approval for the entry of highly- qualified foreign specialists and their family members from 'open' countries. Previously, they were obliged to



	pass the same steps as those from 'closed' countries, which was not in line with Government's intentions.
Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	Vaccination of foreign nationals
Summary:	Starting from 27 June 2021, some Russian regions launched vaccination of foreign employees on an individual basis or within organised groups. Currently, vaccination is available for all foreign nationals regardless of their employment status. However, the specific centres where foreign nationals can be vaccinated vary depending on the latter criterion.
	The service is provided on a paid basis, using Sputnik- Light, which is the only vaccine available for foreign nationals, and costs approximately RUB 1,400 (approximately EUR 16).
Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD



Country or region:	Serbia
Title:	Current entry requirements for Serbia
Title: Summary:	<ul> <li>Current entry requirements for Serbia</li> <li>To enter Serbia, foreign nationals must have either: <ul> <li>a negative PCR test or a negative FIA Rapid Antigen test for US citizens that is no more than 48 hours old;</li> <li>confirmation of vaccination issued by Serbia, or foreign country which has concluded an agreement on acceptance of vaccination with Serbia (Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey, UAE, Czech Republic) or has <i>de facto</i> reciprocity in acceptance of vaccination; or</li> <li>certificate of COVID-19 infection indicating the foreign national has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last six months.</li> </ul> </li> <li>However, this does not apply to: <ul> <li>citizens of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Hungary, North Macedonia and Montenegro, when entering from these countries;</li> <li>other foreign nationals with approved residency in the countries mentioned above, if they deliver a negative PCR or Antigen test to public health institute within 48 hours from crossing the Serbian border;</li> <li>foreign citizens in transit through Serbia for a period not longer than 12 hours from India.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Domestic and foreign citizens entering Serbia for business reasons are allowed to enter Serbia if they notify the Serbian Chamber of Commerce prior to arrival and submit a negative PCR test or negative FIA Rapid Antigen test to the Serbian Chamber of Commerce within 24 hours of crossing the state border.</li> </ul>



	The same rules regarding conditions for entering Serbia apply to domestic citizens and foreign nationals with approved residency, except that confirmation of vaccination is accepted irrespective of whether Serbia has concluded an agreement on reciprocal acceptance with the relevant country.
Author's name(s) and firm	Milena Papac, Partner, Karanovic & Partners

Country or region:	Slovakia
Title:	Constitutional Court ruling on discrimination at border crossing
Summary:	On 13 July 2021, the Constitutional Court of Slovakia suspended the effect of regulation allowing individuals vaccinated with only the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine to return to Slovakia without undergoing a compulsory quarantine. The regulation imposed compulsory quarantine for unvaccinated individuals.
	According to Constitutional Court's decision, the first dose of vaccine does not guarantee protection against COVID-19. Therefore, it is not possible to take a different approach to unvaccinated individuals and those only vaccinated with a first dose.
	Among other arguments, the Constitutional Court also pointed out that the EU Regulation governing digital COVID certificates ((EU) 2021/953) underlines the need to prevent direct or indirect discrimination against unvaccinated individuals. In the meantime, the regulation has been amended and the exception for individuals vaccinated with a first dose has been removed (with a specific transition period, which was also contested).



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	NITSCHNEIDER & PARTNERS, advokátska kancelária, s. r. o.

Country or region:	United Kingdom
Title:	New documentary requirements for EEA/Swiss nationals entering the UK
Summary:	From 1 July 2021, EEA family permits issued under EU law are no longer valid for travel to the UK. Affected individuals outside the UK must wait for their relevant EEA/Swiss national family member to be granted status under the EU Settlement Scheme (if the EEA/Swiss national does not already have this) and then apply for an EU Settlement Scheme family permit to enter.
	From the same date, residence cards issued by the UK to non-EEA national family members are no longer valid for travel to the UK unless the holder has status under the EU Settlement Scheme, or has applied under the scheme on or before 30 June 2021. In practice, if a person arrives at the border with an invalid residence card, an immigration official may grant immigration bail to enable the person to make a late application in-country within 28 days. This outcome is not however guaranteed.
	Also from 1 July 2021, EEA national frontier workers must hold a frontier worker permit issued by the UK Home Office to be able to enter the UK to continue their employment or self-employment.
Author's name(s) and firm	Andrew Osborne, Partner, Lewis Silkin





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