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February 2022

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.

Argentina Germany Poland Austria Greece Russia **Belgium** India Serbia **Brazil** <u>Ireland</u> **Slovakia Europe Spain** Italy **Finland Kazakhstan Turkey**

France <u>Mexico</u> <u>United Kingdom</u>

Country or region:	Argentina
Country of region.	Argentina
Title:	Conditions for travel to Argentina
Summary:	
Summary.	Argentina's borders reopened on 1 November 2021. New entry requirements took effect on 29 January 2022.
	Electronic Affidavit
	All travellers must submit an Electronic Affidavit. It is available on the official site of the National Directorate of Migrations (www.migraciones.gob.ar) and must be completed 48 hours before boarding.
	Testing and vaccination Argentines and foreign residents with a course of vaccination completed at least 14 days before their arrival will not need to present a COVID-19 diagnostic test and will be exempted from quarantine. Those who cannot show a complete course of vaccination must present a negative PCR result within 72 hours or a negative antigen test within 48 hours before boarding time and complete a seven-day quarantine. Under 18s are exempt from compliance with quarantine and are not required to have a complete course of vaccination. Unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated minors between six and 18 must present a PCR or antigen test on arrival. Children under six need not submit PCR or antigen tests.



	Foreign nationals who have spent the last 14 days in neighbouring countries must present a complete vaccination scheme and COVID-19 medical insurance. Non-resident foreign nationals from non-border countries must present a complete course of vaccination, a negative PCR within 72 hours, or antigen test within 48 hours before boarding and COVID-19 medical insurance. Those who do not present evidence of a course of vaccination completed 14 days before arrival must present COVID-19 medical insurance, a negative PCR within 72 hours or antigen test within 48 hours before arrival, quarantine for seven days, and show consular certification of their vaccination exemption. Those who have been infected in the 90 days before arrival must present evidence of a positive PCR or antigen test and on arrival it must be at least ten days since the date of onset of symptoms or their diagnostic test. Compliance with all entry requirements will be verified by international travel operators. During the first 14 days of stay, those who enter the country must carry their COVID-19 test result, COVID-19 vaccination certificates, and COVID-19 health insurance, as these may be requested by the authorities.
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:	From 1 November 2021, Argentinean Consulates abroad are authorised to issue transitory or temporary visas without prior authorisation from the National Directorate of Migrations.
Author's name(s) and firm	German Capoulat, Partner, Funes de Rioja & Asociados

Country or region:	Austria
Title:	Changes to COVID-19-related entry restrictions
Summary:	



	Austria has introduced the following changes to COVID-19-related entry regulations. Given the already-extensive spread of the Omicron variant in Austria, entry restrictions on (former) 'virus-variant' countries are lifted. Since 24 January 2022, every individual entering Austria (regardless of the country from which the entry takes place) must present the following:
	 Proof that the individual is vaccinated or has recovered from COVID-19 as well as a valid negative PCR test (not older than 72 hours) in both cases. Entrants who can prove they have received a booster (i.e. usually three times) vaccination do not have to present a (negative) PCR test. Individuals without a valid negative PCR test or booster must register and remain in home quarantine until a negative PCR test result is received (this can be done immediately). Non-vaccinated or not-recovered individuals are allowed to enter the country but have to stay in mandatory quarantine for ten days. They can only leave on receipt of a negative PCR test result. The test cannot be done before the fifth day of quarantine.
Author's name(s) and firm	Birgit Vogt-Majarek, Partner, Stefan Burischek, Attorney-at- Law, Schima Mayer Starlinger Rechtsanwälte GmbH

Country or region:	Austria
Title:	Renewal and change of purpose for residence permits simplified
Summary:	From 14 January 2022, the process for renewing or changing the purpose of a residence permit has been simplified (by amendments to the by-law of the Austrian Settlement and
	Residence Act). For applications for renewal and for change of purpose of residence permits as long as freedom of movement or
	interpersonal contacts are restricted due to governmental measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the authority will:
	 not take fingerprints from applicants and issue residence permits without this biometric feature, provided there is no reasonable doubt about the foreign national's identity;



	 not request original documents and evidence for the application, unless there is reasonable doubt as to their authenticity and accuracy.
Author's name(s) and firm	Birgit Vogt-Majarek, Partner, Stefan Burischek, Attorney-at-Law, Schima Mayer Starlinger Rechtsanwälte GmbH

Country or region:	Belgium
Title:	New rules for foreign self-employed workers in Flanders
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain:	A new economic migration policy entered into force on 1 January 2022 for non-EEA/Swiss self-employed workers in Flanders. The new rules aim at attracting start-ups and innovative entrepreneurial talent. They provide for clear admission criteria, a new application form and appeal procedure and enforcement measures and penalties to fight against abuses.
What has happened Why it matters.	The new admission criteria allow the authorities to determine whether the project delivers innovative, economic, sporting, artistic or cultural added value for Flanders.
	Sophie Maes, Partner, Claeys & Engels

Country or region:	Belgium
Title:	Permit for temporary intra-group transfers finally in force
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration	From 16 December 2021, group companies are able to obtain a work and residence permit for the temporary postings of certain non-EEA/Swiss nationals employed by a



law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.

Please explain:

- What has happened
- Why it matters.

company outside the EU to a Belgian company belonging to the same group of companies. It is also possible for thirdcountry nationals who already hold an ICT (intra-company transfer) permit in another EU Member State and who come to Belgium as a second Member State:

- to reside and work in Belgium for maximum 90 days in any 180 days period;
- to obtain a 'long-term mobility permit' to live and work in Belgium for more than 90 days.

Further, holders of an ICT permit granted in Belgium may use their mobility to reside and work for a short or long period in another Member State. However, the conditions for this type of mobility should be verified according to the rules of the Member State in question.

Since this matter is partially regionalised, the conditions to obtain an ICT permit depend on the relevant Region (Flanders, Brussels or Wallonia). However, the common conditions can be summarised as follows:

- The Belgian host entity and the company established outside the EU must belong to the same company or group of companies.
- The employee must have a certain level of seniority prior to the transfer and have worked as a manager, specialist or trainee worker.
- The employee must have a certain level of professional qualification: a higher education diploma (at least three years after secondary school) for managers and specialists; and a university degree for trainees.
- The proposed remuneration may not be less favourable than that of employees in comparable positions. The applicable remuneration threshold must be verified in the relevant Region.

The ICT permit is valid for a maximum of three years for specialists and managers, and one year for trainees.

Sophie Maes, Partner, Claeys & Engels

Country or region:	Belgium
Title:	New tax regime for incoming taxpayers and researchers
Summary:	



Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or	From 1 January 2022, a new legal framework for taxpayers and researchers in Belgium who are from other countries has entered into force.
other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	The main advantage of this new scheme is the possibility for the employer to grant, under certain strict conditions, the incoming worker a tax-free allowance of up to 30% of gross annual remuneration, without exceeding a maximum of EUR 90,000 per year.
Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	90,000 per year.
Author's name(s) and firm	Sylvie Dumortier, Tax Counsel, Claeys & Engels

Country or region:	Brazil
Title:	New 'Digital Nomads' regulation
Summary:	New rules regulate the issue of residence permits and temporary visas without a local employment agreement, for foreign nationals known as 'digital nomads' taking part in activities which can be carried out remotely. 'Digital nomads' can now apply for a Temporary Visa directly at the Brazilian Consulate overseas, with proof of valid health insurance in Brazil. They can also file the request for a residence permit while already in Brazil as a visitor or do so to regularise the situation of someone who is in Brazil and not compliant with immigration rules. The initial period of the visa or residence permit will be for up to one year, renewable for an additional year. An employment or service contract signed by a foreign employer or service contractor will be required, as well as proof of income, from a foreign paying source, of at least USD 1,500 per month or bank statements as proof of funds showing a minimum amount of USD 18,000.



	(General Coordination of Labor Immigration Resolution No. 45).
Author's name(s) and	Maria Luisa Soter, Partner,
firm	Gabriela Lessa, Associate, Veirano Advogados

Country or region:	Brazil
Title:	Appointment of non-resident foreign officers
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	Non-residents (Brazilians or foreign nationals) can now be appointed as officers of Brazilian corporations, subject to appointment of a Brazilian resident as their legal representative with specific powers of representation. Previously, only residents were eligible to be appointed as officers of a Brazilian entity.
Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	On 21 January 2022, the National Department of Registration and Integration of Corporations (DREI) enacted Normative Instruction No. 112, setting out the steps for the appointment of non-residents.
	However, if the foreign officers wish to reside in Brazil, the normal investment requirements for obtaining a visa or a residence permit continue to apply. (Law No. 14,193/2021)
Author's name(s) and firm	Maria Luisa Soter, Partner, Gabriela Lessa, Associate, Veirano Advogados

Country or region:	Brazil
Title:	New Covid-19 entry requirements
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	Since December 2021, international travellers, including Brazilian nationals, must present a vaccination certificate to the airline before boarding their flight to Brazil, showing that they have been fully vaccinated at least 14 days before departure from their first embarkation point. This is in addition to the pre-existing requirements for a negative PCR test performed within 72 hours before boarding or a negative antigen test performed within 24 hours before boarding by a
Please explain:	laboratory, and a completed Traveler's Health Declaration in



 What has happened Why it matters. 	which they consent to the sanitary measures that must be complied with during the period of stay in Brazil.
	Maria Luisa Soter, Partner, Veirano Advogados

Country or region:	Europe
Title:	COVID-19 social security neutralisation for cross-border workers prolonged
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	European Member states have agreed in the Administrative Commission to extend the neutralisation of days worked in another Member State because of COVID-19 sanitary measures until 30 June 2022. As a result, until that date, days worked in, for example, the employee's residence state because of COVID-19 when the employee normally works in another Member State are not taken into account to determine which social security legislation applies.
	Sophie Maes, Partner, Claeys & Engels

Country or region:	Europe
Title:	Working in more than one country: new form available for employers



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Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.

Since 1 November 2021, new rules apply to allow the Joint Social Security Centre (Centre Commun de la Sécurité Sociale, or CCSS) to determine the social security system applicable to an employee residing in Luxembourg and working for one or more employers in two or more EU/EEA Member States, Switzerland or the UK.

Please explain:

- What has happened
- Why it matters.

Since that date, the employer, authorised or the representative, must:

- if the application is submitted on paper, complete the new form (available in French and German) entitled Demande d'attestation en cas de travail à l'étranger pour résidents; or
- if the request is submitted via SECUline, send a **DEMDET** declaration via SECUline, indicating that the activity is carried out in two or more EU countries and complete a new form (in French) entitled Questionnaire pour résidents en cas de pluriactivité.

The A1 document will only be issued by the CCSS after receipt of the new form (and the DEMDET declaration if the request is made via SECUline).

Author's name(s) and firm

Ariane Claverie, Partner, Thérèse Lallart, Associate, CASTEGNARO SARL

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Country or region:	Finland
Title:	Fast track for specialists and start up entrepreneurs moving to Finland
Summary:	Finland is preparing a fast-track service for specialists to help professionals to start working in Finland more quickly. As professionals' families often move to Finland too, the fast-track service is also aimed at specialists' and start up entrepreneurs' family members. The aim is to have the fast-track route in operation in June 2022. The Finnish Immigration Service will process residence permits submitted via the fast track in a maximum of two weeks.
Author's name(s) and firm	Karolina Sinivuori, Associate Trainee, Laura Parkkisenniemi, Senior Associate, Dittmar & Indrenius



Country or region:	Finland
Title:	Changes to residence permits for students, interns and researchers
Summary:	The Parliament is preparing an amendment to a law regarding entry to Finland for third-country students, interns and researchers. Third-country citizens would be granted a residence permit based on their studies directly for the entire duration of the degree or study. Additionally, the duration for the subsequent job-seeking permit would be extended to two years. University students' permits would be changed to continuous.
Author's name(s) and firm	Karolina Sinivuori, Associate Trainee, Laura Parkkisenniemi, Senior Associate, Dittmar & Indrenius

Country or region:	Finland
Title:	COVID-19 update on restrictions on entry
Summary:	Some restrictions on entry to Finland are still in place due to the pandemic and should be observed when planning to travel. See current guidelines from the Finnish border guard's website here .
Author's name(s) and firm	Karolina Sinivuori, Associate Trainee, Laura Parkkisenniemi, Senior Associate, Dittmar & Indrenius

Country or region:	France
Title:	Supreme Court rules on mandatory employment contract terms in cross-border contexts
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	In two decisions dated 8 December 2021, the French Supreme Court reaffirmed that French regulations on termination of employment and working time are 'provisions that cannot be derogated from by agreement under the law that, in the absence of choice, would have been applicable []'. This follows from EU Regulations on the law



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- What has happened
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applicable to contractual obligations (i.e. Rome Convention of 19 June 1980 and 'Rome I' Regulation of 17 June 2008).

In the first decision, the French Supreme Court ruled that, because French legal provisions concerning termination, specifically those allowing an employee to sue his or her employer for constructive dismissal in the event of an essential breach of the employer's obligations, are 'provisions that cannot be derogated from' (under the Rome Convention of 19 June 1980 here), they must apply to an employee who had worked five years in Morocco, then 27 years in France where French provisions were more favourable to the employee. This was the case despite the choice of Moroccan law in the employment contract.

(8 December 2021 no. 20-11.738)

In the second decision, the French Supreme Court held that French regulations on working time are <u>not</u> 'overriding mandatory provisions' under article 9 of EU Rome I Regulation of 17 June 2008 but 'provisions that cannot be derogated from by agreement under the law that, in the absence of choice, would have been applicable [...]' under article 8(1) of the Rome I Regulation.

In this case, an employee had been hired in 2008 under an employment contract with a choice of law clause referring to French law, then seconded to Qatar with a contract amendment also referring to French law, 'with the exception of mandatory provisions which may exist under Qatari law concerning the performance and termination of employment contracts'.

The French Supreme Court overruled the appeal court decision which had applied French provisions regarding working time and had consequently wrongfully ordered the company to pay overtime hours and damages to the seconded employee.

(8 December 2021 no. 20-14.178)

Author's name(s) and firm

Jean Gautier de la Plaine, Associate, Guillaume Bordier, Partner, Capstan Avocats

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Country or region:	Germany
Title:	Using an Employer of Record may require permit



Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	'Employers of Record' (EoR) are becoming more popular as a tool to make employment abroad easier. However, employing an employee 'through' another company usually constitutes a lease of employees under German law. This means if an employee is hired by an EoR and is 'leased' in Germany and cross-border to or from Germany, the EoR will usually require a permit for the lease of employees from the German Federal Employment Office.
Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	Further detailed requirements must also be met: for example, an 18-month lease period must not be exceeded. Without a permit and if the other rules are not met, both the EoR and the company which is leasing the employee may face, among other repercussions, fines of up to EUR 30,000, in some cases even EUR 500,000.
Author's name(s) and firm	Dr Julia Uznanski, LL.B., Senior Associate, KLIEMT.HR Lawyers

Country or region:	Greece
Title:	Leaving and returning to Greece with a current residence permit application
	Third-country nationals, residing lawfully in Greece who hold either:
	 a valid certificate that they have applied for the initial issuance or the renewal of a residence permit; or a valid special certificate of lawful residence (a document issued as part of the appeal process against refusal or revocation of residence);
	are allowed to leave Greece during the period between 30 December 2021 until 31 December 2022 to visit their country of origin and re-enter Greece one or more times. They must also hold a valid passport or other travel document recognised by Greece.
	In addition, third-country nationals who have left Greece from 1 January 2021 until 30 December 2021 are allowed to re-



	enter Greece until 31 December 2022, if there has not been a refusal decision on their application for residence or a revocation of their special certificate of lawful residence in the meantime.
	Finally, the Ministerial Decision excludes from its scope some categories of holders of special certificates of lawful residence issued in accordance with article 25 paragraph 5 of the Greek Immigration Code.
	(Ministerial Decision No. 4000/1/111-ιδ' published in the Greek Government Gazette B' 6322 on 30 December 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
	Until 06:00 on 7 February 2022, EU and Schengen citizens and members of their families are exempt from the general travel ban in Greece under a Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD). Permanent residents of certain countries are also allowed to enter Greece in any way and by any means under the conditions set out in the JMD. The JMD also sets out exemptions to the travel ban for some categories of travellers, particularly those practising specific professions (e.g. medical and nursing staff) or holding specific residence permits. See JDM Δ1α/Γ.Π.οικ. 3607 https://www.nomotelia.gr/photos/File/154b-22.pdf (in Greek) for details. Travellers can enter via the land borders at Promachonas, Ormenio, Evzonoi, Nymfaia, Niki, Doirani, Kristallopigi, Kipi, Kakavia, Kastanies, Mavromatio and Exohi at any time. Limits apply at Kipi and Kastanies (1500 passengers per week, not
	including freight drivers). Mertziani is accessible from 08:00 to 20:00. Cruising and yachting are allowed for passengers of countries not subject to special restrictive measures and under the conditions of the JMD. Maritime connections with Turkey are temporarily restricted with some exceptions, such as transport of goods by ships. Health protocols All visitors to Greece must complete an electronic Passenger
	Locator Form (PLF) providing their contact details in Greece



	before their arrival. A valid PLF with a QR code is required for entry. Independently of their nationality, vaccination status, previous COVID-19 infection and method of entry to Greece, all travellers (except children under five) must present a certificate proving they have tested negative for COVID-19 either with a PCR test conducted up to 72 hours before arrival in Greece or with an antigen (rapid) test conducted up to 24 hours before arrival in Greece. These tests must have been conducted in a reference laboratory of the country of origin or transit country or in a public or private laboratory, provided that the private laboratories are certified by the competent national certifying authority of the country. 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. Special health protocols apply for permanent residents of some counties, such as Russia. Finally, all visitors to Greece can be subjected to random PCR or rapid testing and should respect the emergency COVID-19 measures during their stay.
Author's name(s) and firm	Roubini Michaloudi, Associate, Kremalis-Law Firm

Country or region:	India
Title:	Current travel conditions and restrictions
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to	Foreign nationals intending to visit India for tourism are allowed to enter on an e-Tourist Visa/ Tourist Visa through chartered flights from 15 November, 2021. Citizens of all countries with which India has established Air Transport Bubbles are also permitted to travel to India on an e-Tourist Visa.
global mobility in your country.	Additionally, there are no restrictions on travel for individuals holding employment or business visas.
Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	Presently all commercial flights, except for those permitted through Air Transport Bubbles, are banned till 28 February, 2022.
	If a foreign national is required to extend his or her visa in India from 1 October, 2021, he/she may apply for extension of the same on the online e-FRRO platform by paying the requisite



fee. Each application would be considered by the concerned FRRO/FRO subject to the eligibility criteria.

Separately, all travellers are required to strictly adhere to the below stated protocol:

Prior to travel

All travellers are required to submit the documents set out below on the Air Suvidha portal (https://www.newdelhiairport.in/airsuvidha/apho-registration):

- self-declaration form including factual personal information and travel details for the last 14 days;
- negative Covid-19 PCR report, which should be conducted not more than 72 hours prior to travelling;
- a declaration of authenticity for the PCR report submitted: and
- a declaration to abide by any Government authority decision to undergo home or institutional quarantine or self-health monitoring.

Passengers must carry copies of all declarations submitted as they may be requested prior to boarding or upon arrival in India.

On arrival

Travellers must undergo thermal screening and if found symptomatic, will be isolated and taken to a medical facility immediately.

2% of the total passengers on each flight, selected at random by the airline, must undergo post-arrival testing at the airport. These tests will be prioritised by the laboratories.

All passengers must undergo seven days' home quarantine (even if they test negative upon arrival).

If travellers test positive, their samples should be sent for genomic testing at INSACOG laboratory network.

After quarantine, a PCR test must be undertaken and the results of the same are required to be uploaded on the Air Suvidha Portal.

Arrival from at-risk countries

Passengers arriving from countries considered 'at risk' must undergo a mandatory self-paid PCR test at the point of arrival in addition to the mandated measures mentioned above. Ghey are not allowed to exit the airport or catch a connecting flight prior to receipt of the result.



	Travel through sea/land ports International travellers arriving through seaports/land ports must follow the same protocol as above, except that the facility for online registration is not presently available. These travellers must submit the self-declaration form to the appropriate Indian Government authorities at the seaports/land ports on arrival.
Author's name(s) and firm	Vijay Ravi, Senior Partner, Sabrina Sawhney, Senior Associate, Kochhar & Co.

Country or region:	Ireland
Title:	Further temporary extension of immigration permissions
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	The Irish Minister for Justice has announced a further temporary extension of immigration and international protection permissions to 31 May 2022. This temporary extension is the eighth extension granted since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is expected to be the last extension granted but it means that individuals who held valid permission to be in Ireland in March 2020 are legally permitted to remain until 31 May 2022, even if their Irish Residence Permit card has expired and they are awaiting or applying for a new permission. Renewal is on the same basis as their existing permission and the same conditions attaching to the immigration permission will continue to apply.
Author's name(s) and firm	Declan Groarke, Associate, Lewis Silkin Ireland

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Country or region:	Italy
Title:	New quotas for foreign workers to enter Italy



Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	On 17 January 2022, the Italian Government published a decree, approved on 21 December 2021, setting out the new quotas for non-EU workers to enter Italy. A quota of 42,000 is reserved for seasonal workers while there is a 27,700 quota for non-seasonal employees and self-employed workers.
Please explain: • What has happened • Why it matters.	Quota requests for non-seasonal workers may be filed online starting from 9:00 CET on 27 January 2022. Those for seasonal workers can be filed from 9:00 CET on 1 February 2022. All requests must be filed by 17 March 2022.
Author's name(s) and firm	Valeria Morosini, Partner, Toffoletto De Luca Tamajo

Country or region:	Kazakhstan
Title:	Current entry requirements in Kazakhstan
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	All travellers entering Kazakhstan must submit a certificate with a negative PCR COVID-19 test result, conducted no earlier than 72 hours before crossing the Kazakhstan border. This applies regardless of vaccination status, except for children under the age of five years accompanying adults with a certificate. All travellers must fill in the questionnaire and pass temperature monitoring. Individuals arriving in Kazakhstan with a normal temperature plus a negative PCR test result for COVID-19 or confirmation of vaccination against COVID-19 in Kazakhstan, are given an explanation of the possible symptoms of COVID-19 and must complete a corresponding acknowledgement document. They may then resume travel to the point of destination. Anyone arriving with a fever, regardless of any PCR test or vaccination documentation, must isolate in a contagious inpatient facility.
Author's name(s) and firm	Yuliya Chumachenko, Partner, AEQUITAS



Country or region:	Kazakhstan
Title:	The current visa regime in Kazakhstan
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	Visas are issued abroad by Kazakh foreign establishments. In the territory of Kazakhstan, visas may be issued by the Consular Service Department of the RK Ministry of Foreign Affairs or by Migration Police Administrations of the RK Ministry of Internal Affairs. In case a properly executed invitation by a Kazakh party is in place, visa may be issued at the local airports. Starting from 2020, it is possible to obtain single-entry electronic tourist and business visas and medical treatment visas via the visa-and-migration portal of the RK e-Government (www.vmp.gov.kz), however, only for the citizens of 109 specified countries. A simplified procedure for obtaining Kazakh visas is envisaged for certain categories of individuals, including citizens of 48 countries (including US, Canada, UK, Japan, Israel, Denmark, Australia, Bulgaria, Norway, Poland, Singapore, Spain, France, Germany, Korea, and others) who can receive short term RK visas without invitation (visa support). Moreover, citizens of 58 countries that demonstrated the highest investment activity in Kazakhstan (see here https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1200000148) are allowed visafree entry into Kazakhstan, if their term of stay does not exceed 30 calendar days.
Author's name(s) and firm	Yuliya Chumachenko, Partner, AEQUITAS

Country or region:	Kazakhstan
Title:	Regulation of on-site work
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country.	Starting from 17 October 2021, Kazakhstan introduced a requirement allowing only employees with 'green' status to work on-site (a vaccinated person; person with permanent medical contraindications; person with a negative PCR test result no more than 7 days' old; person who has been exposed to COVID-19 within the last three months). Other employees must be transferred to remote work (https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V2100022833). This restriction covers facilities in the list established by a
Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	resolution of the chief state sanitary doctor, see here https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/kkkbtu/press/news/details/250967?lang=ru . From 13 September 2021, rules on the resumption of inperson activities have taken effect. Different types of facilities



Authoria nama(a) and	are subject to different rules. For example, for office premises, employees who have not been vaccinated against or exposed to COVID-19 within the last three months must be transferred to remote work, expect for those whose duties cannot be performed remotely. At the facility entrance, there must be no-contact temperature measurement for employees and visitors, with only individuals who have no symptoms of acute respiratory diseases, etc., admitted. If the epidemiological situation worsens, meeting the critical risk level zone criteria (hospital bed occupancy rate exceeding 70% and 200 people per 100,000), the relevant region transfers to the 'dark-red' zone and the following restrictive measures must be put into effect: • suspension of activities of all enterprises and organisations, regardless of the form of ownership, which do not participate in the Ashyq app access system except for the central governmental authorities, akimats, law-enforcement authorities, healthcare organisations, mass media, food stores, pharmacies and life-support organisations, including those whose work is allowed without Ashyq; • remote work for 80% of employees of governmental authorities, offices, national companies and other organisations (except for fully vaccinated individuals, those who have been exposed to COVID-19 in the past three months and those with permanent medical contraindications). Depending on zone colour, regions must comply with a ratio of remote to office employees: 80:20 in the red zone, 50:50 in the yellow zone and 30:70 in the green zone. Employees fully vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to be taken into account in these ratios. All employees who are fully vaccinated or who have been exposed to COVID-19 within the last three months can work on-site (see here https://online.zakon.kz/m/amp/document/34566834).
Author's name(s) and firm	Yuliya Chumachenko, Partner, AEQUITAS
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Country or region:	Mexico
Title:	Temporary visa requirement for Venezuelan nationals



Summary:	The Ministry of the Interior has announced visas will be temporarily required in ordinary passports for Venezuelan nationals who intend to enter Mexico by air, land, or sea. The agreement temporarily requiring visas for Venezuelan nationals came into effect on 21 January 2022. In all cases, Venezuelan nationals seeking to enter by land or sea must apply for the appropriate visa from the Mexican consular authority. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will take joint action with the Venezuelan Government (by introducing regulations) to allow the visa requirement to be lifted in due course.
Author's name(s) and firm	Margarita Ortiz, Senior Associate, Basham, Ringe & Correa

Country or region:	Poland
Title:	Current COVID-19 travel restrictions in Poland
Summary:	Entry to Poland from Schengen countries is possible for anyone as the internal EU borders remain open. Only selected individuals who arrive from non-Schengen countries may enter Poland, such as those who: • travel in the course of work; • are citizens of the EU, Belarus, UK and Ukraine. Citizens of the US, Canada, Republic of Korea, Israel, Japan, Australia, Georgia, Tunisia, Thailand, New Zealand and Turkey or individuals who have residence permit in one of these countries may enter Poland if they travel by plane. Travellers entering Poland must undergo: • ten-day quarantine if they travel from Schengen countries; • 14 day-quarantine if they travel from non-Schengen countries. The following are exempt:



	 individuals travelling from Schengen countries who have a negative PCR or antigen test result for COVID-19 performed within 48 hours before crossing the border counted from the moment of the test result; individuals who have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to arrival to Poland with vaccines authorised for use in the EU (Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson) or by the Polish National Institute of Public Health (e.g. R-COVI, Covishield); individuals who have undergone isolation or have been hospitalised due to COVID-19 and who cross Polish border not later than six months from the end of isolation or hospitalisation.
	Early release from quarantine is available for individuals who:
	 begin their journey in Schengen countries, take a COVID-19 test directly after crossing Polish border and receive a negative result; begin their journey in non-Schengen countries, undergo at least eight days' quarantine, take a PCR COVID-19 test and receive a negative result.
	However, every individual entering Poland from non-Schengen country must provide a negative COVID-19 test performed within 24 hours before crossing the border, counted from the moment of the test result. Individuals who do not provide this test must complete 14 days' mandatory quarantine. No early release is available.
	Individuals starting their journey from Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Republic of South Africa or Zimbabwe who are not exempted from the quarantine obligation, must complete 14 days' mandatory quarantine. No early release is available.
	Individuals entering Poland who are exempted from quarantine obligations must provide documents confirming their status and what exception applies.
Author's name(s) and firm	Michał Kacprzyk, Senior Associate, Head of Immigration & Global Mobility Practice, Raczkowski

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	New fingerprint, photo and medical examinations requirements for long stays



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Summary:	
	Following recent legislative amendments, all foreign employees and those applying for a migration 'patent' or work permit must undergo the following consecutive procedures within 30 calendar days from the date of entry (if this was after 29 December 2021):
	 medical examination to confirm the absence of dangerous infection or drug addiction; registration of fingerprints (dactyloscopy) and photographing.
	Foreign nationals entering for non-employment purposes must undergo the above procedures within 90 days from the entry date if their period of stay exceeds this term.
	If a foreign national fails to fulfil the above requirements, the period of his or her temporary stay will be curtailed and a decision on whether s/he can stay in Russia may be made (i.e. the foreign national may be obliged to leave the country). Additionally, if any infection or drug addiction is revealed, the foreign national may be banned from entering Russia.
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 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. During December 2021, the list was extended to include the following states: 1. Argentina; 2. Bangladesh; 3. Brazil; 4. Costa Rica; 5. Mongolia. 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. Russian citizens may undergo COVID-19 testing within two 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	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior
firm	Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	New Omicron variant rules
Summary:	
	From 8 December 2021, the Russian Chief Medical Officer has reduced the validity of PCR test results in Russia to 48 hours due to the emergence of the Omicron variant. Previously, this term was limited to 72 hours.
Author's name(s) and	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior
firm	Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Russia
Title:	Foreign nationals' health insurance valid throughout Russia
Summary:	Starting from 1 April 2022, amendments to the Instruction of the Russian Central Bank come into force. Under the new rules, the agreement on voluntary medical insurance for foreign employees (which is obligatory for engaging highly qualified foreign specialists) will be valid across the whole territory of Russia. Previously, the area covered by this voluntary medical insurance was limited to the Russian region where a foreign employee intended to work.
Author's name(s) and firm	Irina Anyukhina, Partner, Margarita Egiazarova, Senior Associate, ALRUD

Country or region:	Serbia
Title:	Current entry requirements for Serbia
Summary:	To enter Serbia, foreign nationals must have: • a negative PCR test or a negative FIA Rapid Antigen test for US citizens that is no more than 48 hours old; or



- a certificate of complete vaccination issued by Serbia, or a foreign country which has concluded an agreement on acceptance of vaccination with Serbia (Greece, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey, UAE, Czech Republic, India) or has de facto reciprocity in acceptance of vaccination; or
- certificate of recovery from COVID-19 indicating the foreign national has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last six months (provided that the test is more than 14 days' old), issued by the competent authority in Serbia or foreign country which has concluded an agreement or with which Serbia has de facto reciprocity; or
- an EU digital certificate issued by the competent authorities of countries, both within and outside EU, that are part of EU Digital COVID certificate system.

However, this does not apply to:

- citizens of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Hungary, North Macedonia and Montenegro, when entering from these countries;
- other foreign nationals with approved residency in the countries mentioned above, if they deliver a negative PCR or antigen test to the public health institute within 48 hours from crossing the Serbian border;
- foreign citizens in transit through Serbia for no longer than 12 hours from entry.

All travellers arriving in Serbia from countries at special risk of spread of COVID-19 (currently South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Mozambique, Malawi), are allowed to enter if they present one of the first three documents mentioned above. Foreign nationals must also email confirmation of successful registration via www.ezdravlje.gov.rs, 'Foreigners Surveillance Registration' prior to arrival in Serbia and a completed and signed statement of consent to quarantine. All travellers from these countries will be subjected to a 14-day home quarantine with mandatory testing within the first 24 hours following entry and on the seventh day.

Domestic and foreign citizens entering Serbia for business reasons are allowed to enter if they notify the Serbian Chamber of Commerce prior to arrival and submit a negative PCR or negative FIA Rapid Antigen test to the Chamber of Commerce within 24 hours of crossing the state border.

The same rules apply to citizens and foreign nationals with approved residency, except confirmation of vaccination is accepted irrespective of whether Serbia has concluded an agreement on such acceptance with the vaccinating country.



Author's name(s) and firm	Milena Papac, Partner, Karanovic & Partners

Country or region:	Slovakia
Title:	3000 visas for graduate third-country nationals
Summary:	In December 2021, the Slovak Government adopted a regulation specifying the conditions for issuing 3000 national visas for third-country nationals with a university degree. The regulation will enter into force on 1 April 2022. Third-country nationals can obtain visas if they are graduates of: • second (post-graduate) level university studies in Slovakia or the Czech Republic; • university studies at a university defined in the Annex available here (mostly top tier universities); or • second- or third-level university studies and will be employed in sectors according to Annex available here (mostly managers, IT specialists, doctors, scientists, researchers, or other technical specialists). Additional conditions include: • At the time of request, the third-country national has no temporary residence in Slovakia. • Visas cannot be issued repeatedly. • Visas are purpose-based and are valid for 90 days if the purpose is job seeking, or one year if the purpose is work; • Once the visa for work purposes is issued, the employee cannot work for an employer other than the one specified in the visa.
Author's name(s) and firm	Dajana Csongrádyová, Senior Associate Marek Bugan, Associate NITSCHNEIDER & PARTNERS, advokátska kancelária, s. r. o.

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Country or region:	Slovakia		



Title:	Visas for bus drivers and heavy truck drivers from Serbia, Belarus or Ukraine	
Summary:	In December 2021, the Slovak Government adopted a regulation setting out the conditions for issuing 150 national visas for bus drivers and 1770 national visas for heavy truck drivers (international and national transport) from Serbia, Belarus or Ukraine. The regulation will enter into force on 1 April 2022. The core conditions are:	
	 At the time of request, the applicant has no temporary residence in Slovakia. Visas cannot be issued repeatedly. Visas are purpose-based and are valid for maximum of one year. Once the visa is issued, the employee cannot work for an employer other than that specified in the visa. 	
Author's name(s) and firm	Dajana Csongrádyová, Senior Associate Marek Bugan, Associate NITSCHNEIDER & PARTNERS, advokátska kancelária, s. r. o.	

Country or region:	Spain
Title:	Change to vaccination certificate requirements
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	Starting on 1 February 2022, vaccination certificates will be valid from 14 days after the date of administration of the last dose of a complete course of vaccination. They will be valid up to 270 days from the date of administration of the second dose. After that, in order to be valid, the vaccination certificate must reflect the administration of a booster dose. Certificates with vaccines not authorised by the EMA/WHO are also acceptable, but the most recent dose administered must be of one of the authorised vaccines. As a result, passengers aged over 12 must comply with this new requirement while entering into Spain if they are providing a vaccination certificate.



Author's name(s) and firm	Mounia Jrabi, Executive Immigration Practice Leader, Sagardoy Legal & Expat SLP

Country or region:	Turkey
Title:	Flight and travel restriction updates
Summary:	The prior suspension of direct flights from South Africa, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia and Zimbabwe has been lifted.
	Passengers arriving from Bangladesh, Brazil, Botswana, India, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka must submit a PCR test taken within 72 hours of arrival. Passengers on direct flights from these countries or who have been to these countries in the last 14 days are exempt from quarantine if they can document that they have had two doses of any vaccine approved by WHO or the Turkish Ministry of Health (single dose for Johnson & Johnson) and 14 days have passed from the last dose. If not, these passengers will be quarantined at their residence for seven days. If the result of the PCR test taken at the end of the fifth day of quarantine is negative, quarantine shall end. Passengers who do not have a PCR test on the 5th day shall remain quarantined for seven days. If the PCR test taken at the fifth day is positive, further requirements based on current pandemic guide of the General Directorate of Public Health apply.
	Useful travel information links The International Airport Transport Association (IATA) provides country-by-country English language alerts here .
	Other updates are available from the <u>Turkish Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure website</u> and the <u>Turkish Directorate General of Civil Aviation website</u> .
	As in many countries, the situation fluctuates on a daily basis, so travellers should check for updates.
Author's name(s) and firm	Metin Ertürk, Business Development Manager, Bener Law Office



Country or region:	Turkey
Title:	2022 salary requirements for work permits
Summary:	The minimum wage for the year 2022 has been announced: • Gross minimum monthly wage: TRY 5,004.00 • Net minimum monthly wage: TRY 4,253.40
	With the minimum wage increase, the 2022 Minimum Salary Requirements for work permits have been adjusted. The new thresholds are set out here https://iuslaboris.com/insights/what-salary-requirements-apply-to-turkish-work-permits-in-2022/ .
Author's name(s) and firm	Metin Ertürk, Business Development Manager, Bener Law Office, Turkey

Country or region:	Turkey
Title:	Increased immigration fines
Summary:	 Employers of foreign workers are supposed to notify the Labour Ministry within 15 days of beginning and ending employment, but this is often overlooked by employers. The Law imposes penalties on work places and/or foreign employees who fail to comply with this requirement. From 2022, the penalties are: TRY 1067 (approximately EUR 71) for an employer or self-employed foreign national who does not fulfill the notification requirement. TRY 6,423 (approximately EUR 426) for a foreign employee working without a work permit. TRY 16,066 (approximately EUR 1058) per foreign employee for employers (or employer representatives) employing illegal foreign workers.



	TRY 12,854 (approximately EUR 850 Euros) for a self- employed foreigner working without a work permit. His or her work place will also be closed down.
	For a second violation by the foreign employee or the employer, the penalty fees are doubled. Employers are also liable for return travel, accommodation and medical expenses for the illegal worker and his or her dependents.
	Note that as of April 2014, work and residence permit holders must also complete an address registration with their local Populations Registry or Migration Directorate Office within 20 working days of entry on a work visa. A delay or default in completing the residence address registration may result in a penalty fee of TRY 128. A penalty of TRY 2,673 also applies for providing incorrect or misleading address information. These penalty fees apply to all nationalities as there is no stated difference between Turkish citizens and foreign nationals.
Author's name(s) and firm	Metin Ertürk, Business Development Manager, Bener Law Office

Country or region:	United Kingdom
Title:	Some non-EEA EU Settlement Scheme holders having difficulty travelling to the UK
Summary: Please provide around 50 words summarising any changes to immigration law and/or practices or other information relevant to global mobility in your country. Please explain: What has happened Why it matters.	Some non-EEA national family members (in particular visa nationals) who hold pre-settled or settled status under the UK's EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) are reporting problems with carriers denying them boarding when seeking to return to the UK from abroad. Reports indicate that carriers may be unable or unwilling to
	verify individuals' digital immigration status under the scheme. Individuals with expired or unexpired EEA Biometric Residence Cards (BRCs) issued by the UK also report that carriers are allowing travel in some cases and from some countries, but not in others.
	Until the Home Office provides further guidance to carriers and status holders, individuals who are currently in the UK may require advice and assistance on applying for an EUSS BRC if they do not already hold one.
	Individuals who are outside the UK and who have been denied boarding may require advice on alternative travel routes or on



	the process of applying for an EUSS Travel Permit to facilitate re-entry.
Author's name(s) and firm	Supinder Sian, Partner, Lewis Silkin