



Immigration News Highlights

2024-16, 16 April 2024



The KPMG team regularly monitors recent developments across the globe in the Immigration space and publishes them as Immigration News Highlights. Please find the key developments that occurred over the last week enumerated below. [Click here to find all issues of the Immigration News Highlights on the GMS Flash Alert: Immigration page.](#)

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[Americas](#)

[Asia Pacific](#)

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Americas

Mexico

Visa required for Peruvian nationals as of 20 April 2024

Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Relations has announced that Peruvian nationals who intend to enter Mexico as visitors must apply for the Visitor Visa, regardless of the length of the stay in the country. The need for a visa will come into effect as from 20 April 2024.

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United States

Visa application fees paid through Pix accepted by US Embassy in Brazil

Brazil's United States Embassy and Consulates have officially started a simple way to pay visa application fees by adding Pix as a payment option. This payment method was first introduced in March of this year. As the authority explains, the approval times take up to an hour. However, applicants still have the choice to pay with a credit card or cash.

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Asia Pacific



Japan

[Digital nomad visa launched](#)

Effective 1 April, Japan introduced a “Digital Nomad Visa” to qualifying foreign nationals to remotely work and stay in Japan for up to six months. The digital nomad visa will provide more flexibility for foreign nationals who are working remotely – or wish to work remotely – in Japan, provided they meet the necessary conditions.

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Singapore

[Singapore updates employment pass requirements for foreign workers](#)

Singapore has raised the minimum salary requirement for Employment Pass (EP) holders, aiming to attract high-end foreign talent and address local concerns about job competition. The minimum monthly salary threshold for EP holders has been increased from SGD5,000 (US\$3,700) to SGD5,500 (US\$4,140).

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Turkey

[New e-Visa requirement for traveler’s transiting Istanbul airport](#)

Starting 15 April 2024, passengers from specific nationalities transiting Istanbul Airport en route to several South American destinations will require a new electronic airport transit visa. The measure has been introduced to strengthen border security.

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Europe and Africa

Belgium

[Belgium to introduce new immigration policies for foreign workers](#)

The Flanders Region in Belgium is making changes for the foreign workers with a new immigration policy coming into effect on 1 May 2024. These changes prioritize Belgian and European employees, with entry into the workforce for foreign nationals allowed only after careful consideration of local and regional labor markets.

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Bulgaria

[Amendments to labour code affects remote work, health & safety, other areas](#)

Bulgaria's National Assembly adopted a Law on amendments and supplements to the Labour Code, introducing new rules regarding remote work. The new rules affect the workplace in terms of remote work, health and safety matters, information systems and algorithmic management when used during remote work.

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Germany

Germany extends working hours for international students

International students in Germany can now work up to 20 hours per week, instead of the previous limit of 10 hours per week. This new regulation applies to students, those in language courses, and even those looking for a study place.

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Italy

Italy introduces Digital Nomad visa for foreign remote workers

Italy has officially launched its Digital Nomad Visa program. Through this kind of visa, remote workers from non-EU countries are eligible to live and work in Italy for up to a year. The visa can be renewed annually, and it accommodates highly qualified individuals who can work remotely using technology.

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Italy

Venice to introduce EUR5 entry fee for day trippers from 25 April 2024

Venice authorities will charge day trippers a EUR5 entrance fee from 25 April 2024 onwards, in order to manage mass tourism and preserve the historic city. Those who do not comply with the new rule will be fined between EUR50 and EUR300, in addition to a EUR10 penalty fee. The measure aims to protect Venice from overcrowding and ensure sustainable tourism practices in the city.

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Netherlands

New extended stay policy for visa-exempt persons when residence permit expires

Starting 15 February 2024, people with visa-exempt nationality whose Dutch regular residence permits expire can stay within the Netherlands and the Schengen Area for another 90 days, according to a new interpretation of the Schengen Borders Code. This period comes into immediate effect from the first day following the permit's expiry.

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Portugal

Portugal will not end its Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) residence permit

Portugal's authorities have confirmed the continuation of the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP) residence permit program, clarifying that it will not be terminated. The government shall be responsible for renewing the permits, which are set to expire on 30 June 2024.

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Spain

Spain ends real estate route for Golden Visa Program

The government of Spain will no longer offer the real estate investment route in its Golden Visa Program, which grants residency to affluent foreigners buying property worth more than EUR500,000. The move aims to prioritize housing as a fundamental right over a profit-driven venture.

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