



GREECE IMMIGRATION ISSUES 2011

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This summary is designed to provide basic information about the VISA and RESIDENCE PERMIT application in Greece. As changes in the applicable laws and procedures may arise any time, the present report may be considered as a general guide and does not constitute legal advice. For current and detailed information regarding the applicable legislation/procedures as well as a tailor made solution to the specific case, please contact the legal professional with whom you work at Vardikos & Vardikos.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON VISAS SCHENGEN SHORT-STAY VISAS

Uniform visas are the authorization or decision granted in the form of a sticker affixed by a Schengen Contracting Party to a passport, travel document or other document which entitles the holder to cross the border. It enables aliens, subject to the visa requirement, to present themselves at the external border of the Contracting Party which issued the visa or that of another Contracting Party and request, depending on the type of visa, transit or residence, provided that the other transit or entry conditions have been met. Mere possession of a visa does not entitle automatic right of entry.

TYPES OF SHORT-STAY VISAS

Airport Transit Visa (Type A):

This visa entitles aliens who are required to hold such a visa, to pass through the international transit area of airports, without actually entering the national territory of the country concerned, during a stop-over or transfer between two sections of an international flight. The requirement to have this visa is an exception to the general right to transit without a visa through the abovementioned international transit area.

Transit Visa (Type B):

This visa entitles aliens who are traveling from one third state to another third state to pass through the territories of the Contracting Parties.

This visa authorizes its holder to pass through once, twice or exceptionally several times, provided that no transit shall exceed five days.

Short-term or travel visas (Type C):

This visa entitles aliens who seek to enter the territories of the Contracting Parties, for reasons other than to immigrate, to carry out a continuous visit or several visits whose duration does not exceed three months in any half-year from the date of first entry. As a general rule, this visa may be issued for one or several entries.

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In the case of certain aliens who frequently need to travel to one or several Schengen States, for example on business, short-stay visas may be issued for several visits, provided that the total length of these visits does not exceed three months in any half-year. This multiple entry visa may be valid for one year, and in exceptional cases, for more than a year for certain categories of persons.

Group Visa:

This is a transit visa or a visa limited to a maximum of thirty days, which may be affixed to a group passport, save where national legislation provides otherwise. This group must be socially or institutionally formed prior to the decision to travel, provided that the members of the group enter the territory, stay there and leave the territory as a group.

Group visas may be issued to groups of between 5 and 50 people. The person in charge of the group must possess an individual passport and, where necessary, an individual visa.

Visas with limited territorial validity (LTV):

This visa is affixed in exceptional cases to a passport, travel document or other document which entitles the holder to cross the border, where the visit is authorized only in the national territory of one or more Contracting Parties, provided that both entry and exit are through the territory of this or these Contracting Parties.

LONG-STAY VISAS

Cases of entries aimed at **long stay**, for reasons that include the notion of immigration, **shall be exclusively governed by the national law of the member states, according to article 18 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement**, as modified by Council Regulation (EC) 1091/2001 of 28 May 2001 on freedom of movement with a long-stay visa (Official Journal L150 of 06/06/2001, pg. 4). In such cases, visas granted by the member states (for stays exceeding three months) shall be national visas (valid in principle exclusively for the country that granted it), and shall be issued for the reasons explicitly set out by the member state's national immigration policy (Greek National Law 3386/2005 and relevant interpretative provisions) under the terms and conditions and on the basis of specific supporting documents provided for in these interpretative provisions.

In particular:

The issue of entry and stay on Greek territory for reasons including the notion of immigration is determined by Law 3386/2005 "on Entry, Stay and Social Integration of Third Country Nationals on Greek Territory (Government Gazette 212/ issue A of 23/08/2005, p. 3329) as amended and in effect today. In particular, pursuant to Article 6 par. 4 of the abovementioned Law, national visas are issued based on the relevant legislative provisions on residence permits and their length depends on the projected stay, according to each case. Furthermore, the Decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs no. 3497.3/550/ Draft Number 4000 of 30.12.05 (G.G. 1912/issue B of 30.12.2005, pp. 26363-70) sets out the conditions, supporting documents and the process for the issuance of national visas.

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Consular authorities can grant:

A) either a **National Single Entry Visa, type D**, for a maximum length of ninety days and valid for three months,

B) or a **National Multiple Entry Visa (Type D+C)** of a maximum length of ninety days and valid for three months, also valid as a short-stay visa, provided that:

- the conditions laid down in each case are fulfilled;
- the applicants submit the required general and special supporting documents, which must necessarily be translated according to the requirements of each Consular Authority and authenticated with the Apostille stamp;
- a no hit comes up against a compulsory check on the Schengen Information System (SIS), and that no objections are raised on the part of other EU member states during the consultation procedure, where it is deemed necessary;
- no substantiated proof to the contrary come up from the interview with the applicant, and that
- the public health, public order, international relations and security of our country are not jeopardised.

On being issued a national entry visa, third country nationals must be informed that, following their arrival to Greece and definitely before the date of expiry of their entry visa, they are under the obligation (pursuant to article 11, par. 1 of Law 3386/2005) to submit a relevant application and necessary supporting documents to the Municipality or Community or the Special Service with the Ministry of Interior, of their place of residence or stay, in order to be given the corresponding residence permits(see relevant chapter).

LONG-STAY VISAS WHICH ARE CONCURRENTLY VALID AS SHORT-STAY VISAS (VISAS TYPE D + C)

Under current community law, third-country nationals who have been issued a national long-stay visa (**Type D**) by a member state that fully applies the Schengen acquis, and are under an obligation to hold a short-stay visa, depending on their nationality, may be allowed to transit through the territory of another member state in order to reach the country that has granted them the long-stay visa. This (type D) visa does not authorize its holder to cross the external borders or move freely within the Schengen area until they are granted a residence permit.

However, on the basis of relevant community legislation, and in order to help certain types of applicants who by the very nature of their capacity and employment are considered to fulfill the conditions of Article 5 (1) indents a, c, d, and e, of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement to a great extent, and

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who need, following their entry to our country to move freely and without any obstacles into the single Schengen area, it is possible, as determined by the competent authorities, for the person who applies for a national visa, if they fall within certain categories, to be issued a long-stay visa that is concurrently valid as a short-stay visa (Visas type D+C).

SCHENGEN VISA DOCUMENTS

In order to be granted a short-stay visa, interested applicants must fill out a copy of the harmonized uniform-visa application form (pursuant to EC Council Decision 354/2002), accompanied by a recent photograph of the applicant.

As a general rule, the applicant shall be called on to appear in person in order to verbally justify the grounds for the application.

REJECTION OF VISA APPLICATION

According to Law 3386/2005 Article 8 paragraph 1 on “Entry, residence and social integration of third country nationals in the Hellenic Territory” (Government Gazette Of The Hellenic Republic 212/ Vol. A /23.08.2005, p. 3331), the decision regarding rejections of visa applications by diplomatic and consulate authorities **does not need to be specially justified**, except in the cases mentioned in the following categories of third country nationals and subject to public order and security considerations:

1. Third country nationals, family members of a Greek citizen.
2. Third country nationals, family members of a national of another European Union member-state.
3. Third country nationals whose entry, residence, accommodation and employment in Greece are required according to community law.
4. Recognized refugees and their family members.
5. Third country nationals who are employed by companies established in another European Union member-state and come to Greece to carry out a task or project within the framework of their relevant contractual obligations.

REFUSAL OF ENTRY

According to the General Provisions of the Common Consular Instructions, “mere possession of a uniform visa does not confer automatic right of entry”.

Furthermore and according to Law 3386/2005 Article 8 paragraph 2 on “Entry, residence and social integration of third country nationals in the Hellenic Territory” (Government Gazette of the Hellenic Republic 212/ Vol. A /23.08.2005, p. 3331), the Greek border authorities can reasonably prohibit the entry of a third country national in Greece if they find out that the person belongs to at least one of the following categories:

1. He/She is registered in the record of third country nationals who are not allowed to enter the country according to article 82 of the Law 3386/2005.

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2. His/Her entry may jeopardize public order and security or public health.
 3. The passport or any other documents he/she possesses do not secure his/her return to his/her country of origin or nationality or to a third country.
 4. He/she comes in order to reside in Greece for reasons for which the issue of a special residence permit is required and he/she does not have the special visa required.
 5. He/she does not have the required documents to justify the purpose of his/her journey as well as the financial means that are necessary for his/her subsistence. However, it is possible for Greek nationals – in a statement of acceptance written on a special form for this purpose and submitted to the passport control authorities – to state the purpose of the third-country national's trip and for surety to be deposited with the Consignments and Loans Fund in the amount covering the cost of the third-country national's repatriation or expulsion and a sum equal to three months' earnings of an unskilled laborer, covering part or all of the third-country national's expenses.
- If a third country national comes under any of the above categories, they are given the relevant entry refusal form provided for by international agreements and regulations.

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RESIDENCE PERMITS

A residence permit is an authorisation issued by the competent Greek authority that grants its holder – a third-country national – the right to legal residence in Greece; it also ensures the right to re-enter our country, providing the holder with a right to free movement within the Schengen area for a period of ninety days during any half-year (article 21 of the Convention Implementing the Schengen Agreement).

The essential and necessary precondition for the issuance of a residence permit is, generally, that every applicant hold a special national visa. This precondition is valid, irrespective of whether the applicant's country is among the countries of Annex I (List of third countries whose nationals must be in possession of visas when crossing the external borders) or among those of Annex II (List of third countries whose nationals are exempt from that requirement) of Council Regulation (EC) 539/2001 of 15 March 2001 and the amendments included in Council Regulations (EC) 2424/2001, 453/2003, and more recently, Council Regulation 1932/2006.

The following Categories of residence permits exist along with the types of permits included therein:

A. RESIDENCE PERMITS FOR EMPLOYMENT

A1. Dependant employment or provision of services of work

A third country national may enter Greece for employment under a dependant –employment relation, with a specific employer and for a specific type of employment.

The applications are filled exclusively by the intending employer at their Municipality of residence (or registered office in case of corporate entity). Eligible employers need to present a minimum income (€24.000 net income declared for individuals and €60.000 gross income for professionals and corporate entities).

Upon the approval the employer has to deposit a bank guarantee equal to the amount of 3 month salaries, before the administrative decision for employment is granted and sent at the nearer Greek Consulate of the residence. The bank guarantee shall return to the employer upon the issue of the residence permit in favour of the third country national.

Upon arrival of the third country national in Greece and upon presentation of all prescribed documentation he is granted an ONE YEAR residence permit, that after the first renewal it is RENEWABLE EVERY TWO YEARS.

A2. Seasonal employment

Seasonal employment of third- country nationals is their employment in Greece for a period of up to SIX MONTHS, in a field of activity relating to temporary, seasonal employment. The bank guarantee in such case corresponds to the equivalent of one month salary of an unskilled worker and shall return to the employer on the expiry of the residence permit and the departure of the third country worker.

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A3. Corporate executives

Issuance and renewal of residence permits to corporate members of boards of directors, managers and staff.

1. The following persons shall be allowed to enter the country, having previously obtained a visa:
 - a. Third-country nationals who are members of boards of directors, managers, legal representatives and senior executives (general managers, managers and deputy managers) of subsidiaries and branches of foreign companies lawfully practicing commercial activities in Greece;
 - b. Foreign employees and legal representatives employed solely by companies that have come under the provisions of Law 3427/2005 (GG 312 A), Law 378/1968 (GG 82 A) and article 25 of Law 27/1975 (GG77 A), as replaced by article 4 of Law 2234/1994 (GG 142 A), as well as by undertakings under legislative decree 2687/1953 (GG 317 A);
 - c. Third-country nationals who are technicians employed in industries or mines under the terms provided for in Law 448/1968 (GG 130 A);
 - d. Foreign personnel exclusively employed by companies established in Greece in implementation of article 26 hereof;
 - e. Foreign specialized scientific personnel employed by foreign companies with branches or subsidiaries in Greece that lawfully practice commercial activities, as well as by companies associated with corresponding ones in Greece within the meaning of article 42e of Law 2190/1920 (GG 37 A), may travel to be employed in the branches or affiliates of the said company or in associates companies in Greece under the following conditions:
 - aa. The undertaking established in Greece must employ at least one hundred (100) foreign employees;
 - bb. Third-country nationals who will travel for employment in the said undertakings must have scientific knowledge in their field that is not possessed by Greek or Community employees or third-country nationals lawfully residing in Greece.

The number of employees cannot exceed 5% of national employees. The residence permit shall be initially issued for a period of one year and may be renewed for two more years.²³

2. The third countries' citizens referred to in paragraph 1 of this article are granted a residence permit for a period no longer than one (1) year provided that the same:

(a) shall have entered into a labor contract with the company stating that the remuneration thereof is at least equal to the monthly wages of the non-specialized worker or, if they are members of Boards of Directors or Directors or legal representatives provided that they shall produce a copy of the Government Gazette in which their appointment or election has been

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published and, in case of non-publication, a copy of the company's Articles of Incorporation or a copy of the resolution of the company's competent body with regard to their capacity as members of Boards of Directors or Directors or legal representatives and a statement issued by the company and certifying the amount of their wages;

(b) shall be insured in order to cover hospital expenses, medical and pharmaceutical care and work accidents.

Applicability of paragraph 11 of article 9 of law 2166/1993 shall not be affected thereby. Subject to the relevant special regulations, the residence permit shall be renewed every two years provided that the third countries' citizens shall provide supportive documents evidencing that:

- i. The conditions stated above are met;
- ii. All tax liabilities shall have been paid-up. In order to allow verification whether tax liabilities have been paid-up or not, the party concerned shall produce a copy of the tax liquidation sheet delivered by the tax office or a copy of the revenue tax return evidencing revenues equivalent to its declared wages.

3. The aforementioned third countries' citizens may be accompanied by the members of their family referred to in paragraph 1 of article 54 of this law to whom is delivered an individual residence permit expiring at the same time with the residence permit of the person of whom they are dependent provided that such person proves that he/ she has a stable and sufficient revenue which may be no less than eight thousand five hundred (8.500) Euros per year increased by 15% for each member of his/ her family.

4. **The relevant application for the issuance and renewal of the residence permit**, as well as for the family reunification of third-country nationals under para.1 of this law, **shall be submitted to the Directorate for Aliens and Migration of the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization**. The examination into reasons relating to public policy shall not be a requirement for the issuance of such permits. If the investigation conducted by competent police authorities reveals any relevant grounds, irrespective of the point of time they refer to, the residence permit shall be withdrawn.

A4. Temporary travel for the provision of services

I. Issuance and renewal of residence permits to third-country nationals traveling from an undertaking established in a Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area with the purpose of providing services

1. Third-country nationals lawfully employed in an undertaking established in a Member State of the European Union or the European Economic Area who must travel to Greece in order to provide a specific service, in the context of a relevant contractual commitment between the said undertaking and a party active in Greece shall be issued with a residence permit, provided that they meet the following special conditions, in addition to those referred to in article 10:

- a. They hold a visa if the period of residence exceeds three months;
- b. They prove their lawful residence in the Member State of the European Union where the undertaking is established;

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c. The undertaking from which third-country nationals are transferred can prove that it lawfully employs them on the territory of the Member State in which it is established;

d. The undertaking from which third-country nationals are transferred has concluded a contract for the provision of the specific service with a party in Greece, which mentions the purpose and the anticipated period of transfer, as well as the payment of the employee's travel expenses, medical and pharmaceutical care and return costs.

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2. The application for the issuance of the residence permit shall be submitted to the municipality or community of the place where the party in Greece is established. The relevant Agency for Aliens and Migration of the Region shall be competent to examine the application.

3. The residence permit shall be issued by decision of the General Secretary of the Region for the period required to fulfill the contractual commitment by the undertaking, which cannot exceed one year overall. The said residence permit may be renewed for six more months in exceptional cases, if justified by the need to fulfill the contractual commitment of the undertaking.

4. The above third-country nationals may be accompanied by their family members under article 54.1, to whom an individual residence permit shall be issued, which shall expire together with the resident permit of the persons who support them.

II. Issuance and renewal of residence permits to third-country nationals traveling from an undertaking established in out of the European Union or the European Economic Area with the purpose of providing services

According article 19 of Greek Law 3386/2005, temporary staying permit valid for 6 months is granted to a third country national, employee to a foreign non EU company, who comes to Greece to work to a company, with whom his employer cooperates.

In order to process his permit, there must be a contract between the employing company and the hosting one, specifying the following:

- a. The services that the employee is going to provide while working to the hosting company (the services are restricted to installation/ operation/ maintance of the products.
- b. The registered address of the hosting company
- c. The time period during which the employee is going to work in Greece
- d. The name and the specialty of the employee
- e. The terms under which the services are going to be provided and who shall bear the costs for their staying/ health coverage/ repatriation

Initial Application

The hosting company must file with the competent Greek Authority an application, expressing the need to host the employee. The cooperation contract along, its tax clearance of the last fiscal year and

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the Greek Government Gazette, where the legal representative of the hosting company is named, must be also filed. The competent authority, if the requirements are met, issues an approving decision.

Stage: Granting of Visa

Once the approving decision is issued, the following documents must be submitted to the local Greek Consulate in order to obtain the visa: Page | 11

- a. Application, duly executed
- b. Valid passport
- c. Penal record
- d. Health certificate
- e. Copy of the above mentioned contract
- f. Certificate from the employing Non EU company, stating its name/ registered address, the name/ specialty of the employee and a proof that it employs the specific employee (for example, working contract)
- g. Copy of the approving decision
- h. Staying Permit

The employee has 90 days from the time visa is granted, in order to file the required papers to the competent Greek authority for obtaining the staying permit.

The following documents must be also filed:

- a. Application
- b. 3 photos
- c. Valid passport (the passport must be valid during the whole time of his employment in Greece)
- d. Health certificate issued by a public hospital
- e. The cooperation contract
- f. Stamp duty €150,00

A residence/ work permit issued according this article is valid only for six months and by new application can be extended additionally 6 months, should the contract between the hosting company and the employing company is extended also for additional six months.

- A5. Athletes – Coaches
- A6. Members of Artistic groups
- A7. Intellectual creators
- A8. Members of schools of Archaeology

B. RESIDENCE PERMITS FOR ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

B1. Independent Economic Activity (art24)

1. Third-country nationals shall be allowed to enter the country in order to practice independent economic activity, provided that they meet all the following conditions:

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a. They have sufficient funds to practice the activity, amounting to at least sixty thousand euro (€60,000), which shall be deposited in an account in the name of the applicants with a recognized bank. After the issuance of the special visa, this sum shall be deposited in a corresponding domestic institution;

b. The activity contributes to the growth of the national economy; and

c. They hold a special visa.

2. The application for the issuance of a visa to practice an independent economy activity shall be submitted to the Greek consular authority of the third-country national's place of residence, along with the pertinent logistical study.

3. The application, along with the said logistical study and prescribed documentation, shall be forwarded to the relevant Agency for Aliens and Migration of the Region, which is competent for the municipality or community where the interested party intends to be established and practice the activity.

4. The relevant Agency for Aliens and Migration of the Region, with the prior opinion of the Committee referred to in the next paragraph, shall approve the practice of the specific economic activity and shall forward the relevant act to the competent Greek consular authority, which shall forward it to the interested party and shall issued the visa. If the request is rejected, the third-country national cannot submit a new application for one year.

5. A seven-member Committee shall be constituted at the seat of each Region by decision of the General Secretary of the Region, consisting of:

a) The head of the relevant Agency for Aliens and Migration of the Region as chairman;

b) A head of department of the same agency;

c) The head of the Directorate of Planning and Development of the Region;

d) An officer of the tax office (DOY) of the Region's seat;

e) A representative of the prefectural authorities (NA) of the Region's seat;

f) A representative of the local association of municipalities and communities (TEDK) of the prefecture where the Region is seated; and

g) A representative of a Chamber of the Region's seat, as regular members, along with their indicated alternates.

This Committee shall express an opinion, within one month of the submission of the relevant request, on the expedience of the activity. Specifically, it shall examine the completeness and possibility of

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implementation of the logistics study, the effects on the environment, the business experience of the third-party national, the level of available funds and the effects on employment, as well as any special restrictions imposed by applicable legislation. The same decision shall appoint the rapporteur and the secretary of the Committee, who shall be officers of the Directorate for Aliens and Migration of the Region. Specifically for the Region of Attica, the rapporteur shall be appointed by the relevant Directorate for Aliens and Migration depending on the agenda

B2. Development of investment activity (art26)

1. Third-country nationals may enter Greece in order to make an investment of at least three hundred thousand euro (€300,000), which shall have positive effects on national economy.
2. The application for the issuance of the residence permit shall be submitted to the Greek consular authority of the third-country national's place of residence.
3. The application, along with the prescribed documentation, shall be forwarded to the Directorate of Foreign Capital (Department of Foreign Direct Investment Monitoring) of the Ministry of Economy and Finance. The documentation referred to in the preceding sentence shall be specified by joint decision of the Ministers of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization and of Economy and Finance.
4. Within twenty days, at the latest, from the date of delivery of the file to the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Minister of Economy and Finance shall forward to the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization a proposal, with a justified recommendation of the Ministry's Department of Foreign Direct Investment Monitoring, concerning the expedience of issuing the residence permit to the third-country national in relation to the investment. The Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization shall decide on the approval of the residence permit.
5. The approval of the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization shall be forwarded to the relevant Greek consular authority, which shall issue the relevant visa subject to article 8 hereof. If the approval referred to in the preceding paragraph is not given, the third-country national cannot submit a new application for one year.
6. Investors shall inform the Department of Foreign Direct Investment Monitoring both of the making of the investment and of the progress thereof annually. If, one year later, it is discovered that the investment was not made or that there was no corresponding progress, the Minister of Economy and Finance shall, with the procedure referred to in paragraph 4 hereof, forward a proposal to the Minister of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization, in order for him to decide to withdraw or not the residence permit pursuant to the terms of this article.
7. Decisions of the Ministers of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization and of Economy and Finance shall regulate specific technical matters or details relating either to the making of the investment or the residence permits pursuant to the terms of this article.

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C. RESIDENCE PERMITS FOR SPECIAL REASONS

C1. Studies

1. Third-country nationals shall be allowed to enter Greece for studies at Universities, Technological Educational Institutes (TEIs), Higher Ecclesiastical Schools and Ecclesiastical School Units, Higher School of Teachers of Engineering Sciences of the School of Pedagogical and Technological Education (ASETEM/ASPETE), Higher School of Tourism Professions of the NGTO and Technical Vocational Schools (TEE), provided that have obtained a visa. Studies include postgraduate studies. The concept of studies also includes the preparation cycle, if provided for by applicable legislation, as a part of such studies.

2. Third-country nationals who have obtained a visa for studies in Greece may apply for a residence permit for this purpose, provided that they meet all the following requirements:

a. They have enrolled at the relevant educational establishment or have been admitted for enrolment;

b. They have sufficient funds to cover their living expenses and cost of study during the validity of the residence permit; and

c. They have paid the required enrolment fee to the educational establishment. The relevant Agency for Aliens and Migration of the Region shall be competent to examine the application.

3. No residence permit for studies shall be issued to third-country nationals residing in the country as workers or practicing an independent economic activity, except those who have been accepted for the purpose of family reunification

C2. Vocational Training

C3. Scholars – Special Programmes

C4. Studies at Military Academies

C5. Acquisition of medical Speciality

C6. Financially independent persons

1. The General Secretary of the Periphery grants staying permit valid for one year to a citizen of a third country, if the latter is granted special visa and has sufficient assets, in the form of an annual steady income, which covers the costs of his living conditions. The staying permit can be renewed every year, if the requirements set by the law are fulfilled.

2. The citizen of the third country can be accompanied by his family members, to whom, upon filling an application, individual staying permit is granted, valid for the same time period as the staying permit granted to the citizen who bears the living costs. The sufficient assets, covering the living costs, can be either of the ownership of the citizen himself or of the ownership of all the family members jointly.

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The steady income must be at least Euro 2000 per month and is increased 20% if the spouse accompanies him and 15% for each child.

The citizen must have a medical coverage. Social Security from the state of origin or insurance by means of a contract with a private insurance company are both acceptable.

The basic elements are:

- One year term of each residency permit;
- Renewable every year;
- Accompanying Family members are accepted;
- Source of income should be out of Greece ;
- The purchase of property is not mandatory.

C7. Adult children of Diplomatic Officers

C8. Diplomatic delegations' service staff

C9. Foreign press correspondents

C10. Ministers of known religions

C11. Athonias Academy

C12. Study of, acquaintance with and the practice of monastic life

C13. Organized tourist group leaders

C14. Researchers

D. RESIDENCE PERMITS FOR EXCEPTIONAL REASONS

D1. Humanitarian reasons

D2. Public interest

D3. Trafficking victims

E. RESIDENCE PERMIT FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION

E1. Family members of a third country national

E2. Autonomous residence permits for the family members of a third – country national

E3. Family members of a Greek or EU citizen

F. UNFIXED TERM RESIDENCE PERMIT

G. LONG TERM RESIDENCE PERMIT

Long-term resident status shall be granted shall be granted to adult third-country nationals who have resided legally and continuously within Greece for five years immediately prior to the submission of the relevant application. The right shall be personal.

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**VISA OBLIGATION - EXEMPTION APPLIED BY GREECE IN ACCORDANCE
WITH COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) NO 539/2001, AS AMENDED BY
REGULATION (EC) NO 2414/02001, REGULATION (EC) NO 453/2003 AND
REGULATION (EC) NO 1932/2006**

COUNTRY	ORDINARY PASSPORT	DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT	SERVICE PASSPORT
AFGHANISTAN	VISA	VISA	VISA
ALBANIA	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ALGERIA	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ANDORRA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ANGOLA	VISA	VISA	VISA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ARGENTINA (ARGENTINE REPUBLIC)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ARMENIA	VISA	VISA	VISA
AUSTRALIA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
AUSTRIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
AZERBAIJAN (AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
BAHAMAS, COMMONWEALTH OF THE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BAHRAIN, STATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BANGLADESH, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BARBADOS	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BELARUS, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BELGIUM, KINGDOM OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BELIZE	VISA	VISA	VISA
BENIN, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BHUTAN, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BOLIVIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
BOTSWANA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
BRAZIL, FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BRUNEI (NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BULGARIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
BURKINA FASO	VISA	VISA	VISA
BURUNDI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
CAMBODIA, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
CAMEROON, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
CANADA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
CAPE VERDE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	VISA	VISA	VISA
CHAD, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA

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CHILE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
COLOMBIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
COMOROS, FEDERAL ISLAMIC REPUBLIC	VISA	VISA	VISA
CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
CONGO, REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
COSTA RICA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
COTE D'IVOIRE, REPUBLIC OF (IVORY COAST)	VISA	VISA	VISA
CROATIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
CUBA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
CYPRUS, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
CZECH REPUBLIC	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
DENMARK, KINGDOM OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
DJIBOUTI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
DOMINICA COMMONWEALTH OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	VISA	VISA	VISA
ECUADOR, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
EGYPT, ARAB REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
EL SALVADOR, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
EQUATORIAL GUINEA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
ERITREA, STATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
ESTONIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ETHIOPIA (FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA)	VISA	VISA	VISA
FIJI ISLANDS, REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
FINLAND, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
FRANCE (FRENCH REPUBLIC)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
GABON (GABONESE REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
GAMBIA, THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
GEORGIA	VISA	VISA	VISA
GERMANY (FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
GHANA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
GRENADA	VISA	VISA	VISA
GUATEMALA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
GUINEA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
GUINEA-BISSAU, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
GUYANA, CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
HAITI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
HOLY SEE (STATE OF THE VATICAN CITY)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
HONDURAS, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
HUNGARY, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ICELAND, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
INDIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA

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INDONESIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
IRAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
IRAQ, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
IRELAND	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ISRAEL, STATE OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ITALY (ITALIAN REPUBLIC)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
JAMAICA	VISA	VISA	VISA
JAPAN	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
JORDAN, HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
KAZAKHSTAN, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
KENYA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
KIRIBATI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
KOREA, NORTH (DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA)	VISA	VISA	VISA
KOREA, SOUTH (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
KUWAIT, STATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
KYRGYZSTAN (KYRGYZ REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
LAOS (LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
LATVIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
LEBANON (LEBANESE REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
LESOTHO, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
LIBERIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
LIBYA (SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA)	VISA	VISA	VISA
LIECHTENSTEIN, PRINCIPALITY OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
LITHUANIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
LUXEMBOURG, GRAND DUCHY OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MADAGASCAR, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MALAWI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MALAYSIA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MALDIVES, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MALI, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MALTA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MARSHALL ISLANDS, REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
MAURITANIA, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MAURITIUS	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MEXICO (UNITED MEXICAN STATES)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MOLDOVA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
MONACO, PRINCIPALITY OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MONGOLIA	VISA	VISA	VISA
MONTENEGRO	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE

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MOROCCO, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
MOZAMBIQUE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
MYANMAR - BURMA, UNION OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NAMIBIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NAURU, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NEPAL, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NETHERLANDS, KINGDOM OF THE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
NEW ZEALAND	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
NICARAGUA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
NIGER, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NIGERIA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
NORWAY, KINGDOM OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
OMAN, SULTANATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
PAKISTAN, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
PALAU, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
PANAMA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
PAPUA NEW GUINEA, (INDEPENDENT STATE OF)	VISA	VISA	VISA
PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
PERU, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
PHILIPPINES, REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
POLAND, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
PORTUGAL (PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
QATAR, STATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
ROMANIA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
RUSSIA (RUSSIAN FEDERATION)	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
RWANDA (RWANDESE REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS, FEDERATION OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SAINT LUCIA	VISA	VISA	VISA
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	VISA	VISA	VISA
SAMOA, INDEPENDENT STATE OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SAN MARINO, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SAUDI ARABIA, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SENEGAL, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SERBIA	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SEYCHELLES, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SIERRA LEONE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SINGAPORE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SLOVAKIA (SLOVAK REPUBLIC)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SLOVENIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SOLOMON ISLANDS	VISA	VISA	VISA
SOMALIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SOUTH AFRICA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SPAIN, KINGDOM OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE

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SRI LANKA, DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SUDAN, REPUBLIC OF THE	VISA	VISA	VISA
SURINAME, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SWAZILAND, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
SWEDEN, KINGDOM OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SWITZERLAND (SWISS CONFEDERATION)	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
SYRIA (SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
TAIWAN	VISA	VISA	VISA
TAJIKISTAN, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
TANZANIA, UNITED REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
THAILAND, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
TIMOR-LESTE (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)	VISA	VISA	VISA
TOGO (TOGOLESE REPUBLIC)	VISA	VISA	VISA
TONGA, KINGDOM OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
TUNISIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
TURKEY, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
TURKMENISTAN	VISA	VISA	VISA
TUVALU	VISA	VISA	VISA
UGANDA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
UKRAINE	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (NOTE 3)	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	VISA - FREE	VISA	VISA
URUGUAY, ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
UZBEKISTAN, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
VANUATU, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
VENEZUELA, BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
VIETNAM, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
YEMEN, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
ZAMBIA, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA	VISA
ZIMBABWE, REPUBLIC OF	VISA	VISA - FREE	VISA - FREE
ENTITIES AND TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES THAT ARE NOT RECOGNISED AS STATES BY AT LEAST ONE MEMBER STATE			
COUNTRY	ORDINARY PASSPORT	DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT	SERVICE PASSPORT
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY	VISA	VISA	VISA
TAIWAN	VISA	VISA	VISA

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BRITISH CITIZENS WHO ARE NOT NATIONALS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND FOR THE PURPOSES OF COMMUNITY LAW	
BRITISH NATIONALS (OVERSEAS)	VISA - FREE
BRITISH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES CITIZENS WHO DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM	VISA
BRITISH OVERSEAS CITIZENS	VISA
BRITISH SUBJECTS WHO DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM	VISA
BRITISH PROTECTED PERSONS	VISA
REFUGEES AND STATELESS PERSONS	
REFUGEES	VISA
STATELESS PERSONS	VISA
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA	
HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (NOTE 1)	VISA - FREE
MACAO SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (NOTE 2)	VISA - FREE
NOTES	
(3) The visa exemption applies also to holders of <u>special</u> (but not service) passports.	
(1) The visa exemption applies only to holders of a "Hong Kong Special Administrative Region" passport.	
(2) The visa exemption applies only to holders of a "Região Administrativa Especial de Macau" passport	

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