



Brussels, 11.9.2024
C(2024) 6136 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 11.9.2024

amending Implementing Decision C(2016) 3347 as regards the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants in the Russian Federation for short-stay visas

(Only the Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish texts are authentic)

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas¹, and in particular Article 14(5a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 lays down the procedures and conditions for issuing visas for intended stays on the territory of the Member States that do not exceed 90 days in any 180-day period ('short-stay visas').
- (2) Article 48(1a), point (a), of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 provides that Member States and the Commission are to cooperate in order to prepare harmonised lists of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants, taking into account article 14 of that Regulation.
- (3) Annex III to Commission Implementing Decision C(2016) 3347² sets out the list of supporting documents to be submitted by applicants in the Russian Federation for short-stay visas. That list is based upon the provisions of the Agreement between the European Community and the Russian Federation on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to the citizens of the European Union and the Russian Federation³ ('the visa facilitation Agreement').
- (4) Following Russia's unprovoked and unjustified aggression against Ukraine, on 9 September 2022 the Council decided⁴ to suspend in whole the application of the visa facilitation Agreement.
- (5) Following an assessment taking into account current local circumstances, including the suspension of the visa facilitation Agreement, the local Schengen cooperation has confirmed that the list of supporting documents to be submitted by visa applicants in

¹ OJ L 243, 15.9.2009, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2009/810/oj>.

² Commission Implementing Decision C(2016) 3347 final of 6.6.2016 establishing the list of supporting documents to be presented by visa applicants in Iran, Iraq and the Russian Federation.

³ OJ L 129, 17.5.2007, p. 27.

⁴ Council Decision (EU) 2022/1500 of 9 September 2022 on the suspension in whole of the application of the Agreement between the European Community and the Russian Federation on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to the citizens of the European Union and the Russian Federation (OJ L 234I, 09.09.2022, p. 1–3, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2022/1500/oj>).

the Russian Federation needs to be revised. The revision introduces new requirements that allow for an assessment of applications in the context of heightened security and migratory risks. Travel purposes that have become obsolete have been deleted from the list. The Commission considers that it is necessary to adopt a new harmonised list of supporting documents to be used by visa applicants in Russia. A new harmonised list has been drawn up as a result of that assessment.

- (6) Implementing Decision C(2016) 3347 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (7) For applicants that are known to a consulate for their integrity and reliability, that consulate may, under certain conditions, waive the requirements set out in Article 14(1) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009, in accordance with Article 14(6) of that Regulation. In justified cases, consulates may also request additional documents during the examination of a visa application, in accordance with Article 21(8) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009.
- (8) Given that Denmark decided to implement Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 which builds upon the Schengen *acquis* in its national law, in accordance with Article 4 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is bound under international law to implement this Decision.
- (9) This Decision does not constitute a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* in which Ireland takes part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC⁵; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.
- (10) As regards Iceland and Norway, this Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the latter's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*⁶, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B, of Council Decision 1999/437/EC⁷.
- (11) As regards Switzerland, this Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*⁸, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B, of Decision 1999/437/EC, read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2008/146/EC⁹.

⁵ Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2002/192/oj>).

⁶ OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 36, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/1999/439\(1\)/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/1999/439(1)/oj).

⁷ Council Decision 1999/437/EC of 17 May 1999 on certain arrangements for the application of the Agreement concluded by the Council of the European Union and the Republic of Iceland and the Kingdom of Norway concerning the association of those two States with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 176, 10.7.1999, p. 31, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/1999/437/oj>).

⁸ OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 52, ELI: [http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2008/178\(1\)/oj](http://data.europa.eu/eli/agree_internation/2008/178(1)/oj).

⁹ Council Decision 2008/146/EC of 28 January 2008 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and

- (12) As regards Liechtenstein, this Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of the Protocol signed between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*¹⁰, which fall within the area referred to in Article 1, point B, of Decision 1999/437/EC read in conjunction with Article 3 of Council Decision 2011/350/EU¹¹.
- (13) As regards Cyprus, this decision constitutes an act building upon, or otherwise relating to, the Schengen *acquis* within the meaning of Article 3(2) of the 2003 Act of Accession.
- (14) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 52(1) of Regulation (EC) No 810/2009,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Annex III to Implementing Decision C(2016) 3347 is replaced by the text in the Annex to this Decision.

development of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 53, 27.2.2008, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2008/146/oj>).

¹⁰ OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 21, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/prot/2011/349/oj>.

¹¹ Council Decision 2011/350/EU of 7 March 2011 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Protocol between the European Union, the European Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Principality of Liechtenstein on the accession of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Agreement between the European Union, the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Swiss Confederation's association with the implementation, application and development of the Schengen *acquis*, relating to the abolition of checks at internal borders and movement of persons (OJ L 160, 18.6.2011, p. 19, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2011/350/oj>).

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Estonia, the Hellenic Republic, the Kingdom of Spain, the French Republic, the Republic of Croatia, the Italian Republic, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Poland, the Portuguese Republic, Romania, the Republic of Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden.

Done at Brussels, 11.9.2024

For the Commission
Ylva JOHANSSON
Member of the Commission

