

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Autumn 3rd Quarter 2021 www.citinavi.net CITINAVI Magazine

Celestial Elysium

Richard Branson

Second Passport



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SKYDO

They do'nt advance
I am a leader!



OG to Global Mobility

Leadership expats toward a better-world in europe





7th Edition - 2021

RESIDENCY &

CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT EXHIBITION

30 SEP - 1 OCT 2021

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EL SALVADOR offers citizenship to Bitcoin holders approves Bitcoin as official currency.

Editor's Preface

Richard Branson:

"Mars and Moon will welcome visitors in ten or fifteen years"

Virgin is working on a zero-gravity hotel project that could park about one mile (1.85 kilometers) from the moon. We should go back and colonize the Moon! Virgin Galactic will start sending tourists to space in the coming years. Richard Branson would see himself ten years from now in a hotel room on the moon. Fantasy of Celestial Elysium? Except for the one who has repeatedly accomplished the impossible dream.

Last December, Richard Branson sent the first private and manned commercial shuttle (two pilots) into space. He flew himself into the great void. The Billionaire has won his bet: after spending his entire life dreaming about it, the Briton reached space on July 11 Sunday aboard a vessel owned by the Virgin Galactic company, which he founded 17 years ago. Neil Armstrong said: "This is a small step for man, but a big step for mankind." The conquest of space also has a lot to do with technology. We could not be comfortably installed today with our iPads, our smartphones, without the conquest of space, which has also had an impact on education, public health, commerce, people's lives.

What's "Freedom of Terrestrial Utopia" under the Blue Sky? Plan B passport and Crypto tourism

To devise measures to cope with the pandemic situation is the topic of the investment migration industry's reaction for the future. Informed currently by smartphone apps, i-phones, the wealthy people do not want to just sit and witness the 'Sovereign Individual' thesis play out, they want to accelerate it. Anyone has access to the free market evolve to make governments compete for their wealth and fruits of their labor, while incentivizing them to provide the investors with better services at better prices through cryptocurrency like Caribbean island states, Turkey and Vanuatu. Plan B Passport of Terrestrial Utopia offers crypto-rich clients a path to a second passport in their pick of seven, mostly tropical, tax-haven states, all of which

are exempt from capital gains taxes on crypto holdings.

In fact, due to the legal status of digital assets it is not possible to obtain citizenship by direct investment in cryptocurrencies in any country in the world. This means that in order to use them to buy citizenship, the coins must first be sold. In order to participate in a citizenship program, an investor must pay an investment fee as well as other fees and duties. However, banks cannot accept cryptocurrencies, only fiat money, i.e., ordinary currencies that are not backed by any standard.

An investor can use cryptocurrencies to obtain citizenship only to confirm the solvency and the legality of their income. The only way to obtain citizenship for crypto capital is to cash out digital currencies. It is important to prove the legality of the origin of the money. Otherwise, the application for a second citizenship will be rejected. Passing the Due Diligence check is an important stage of any citizenship by investment or cryptocurrency citizenship program. Each government verifies that the money earmarked for investment can be proved to have been earned legally. The investor should show the legality of the source of the money with which he bought the cryptocurrency, as well as to whom, how and the price for which it was sold with documents of declaration whether any taxes were paid on it.

The governments of citizenship by cryptocurrency program strengthened recently the Due Diligence check.



editor in chief
Hyong-Jin KWON,
Paris

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GLOBAL QUEST



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GLOBAL QUEST

Global Quest Solutions LLP is established 25 years ago to serve foreign aspirants to get settled in USA on H1B, L1 and other business programs. It's most trusted name with Mumbai head quarters and representative offices across Gulf countries in investment advisory services to Canada, UK, USA EB5, L1 Visa, Malta, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Portugal, Caribbean 2nd Passport, Turkey for Property Investment, Business Set up, Entrepreneurs Visas, LMIA, Work Permit Visas.

Our Counselor/ Partners are registered Lawyers from UK, Europe, Canada and Australia.

Experts in Canada Immigration Program for the critical cases through LMIA, Work Permit, Owner Operator Visa, START-UP Visa Route direct PR, and Business Visa in all Provinces like Ontario, BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Manitoba.

GOT SOME PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS

- **BEST INVESTMENT IMMIGRATION LAW CONSULTANT IN INDIA AWARDED BY TIMES OF INDIA GROUP ON 27 NOV 2019 AT MUMBAI, JW MARRIOTT**
- **TOP MOST IMMIGRATION CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR AWARD BY SILICON**
- **TOP 25 CANADIAN IMMIGRATION AWARDED BY CANADA IMMIGRANT MEDIA**
- **BEST AWARD FOR STUDY ABROAD, CANADA IMMIGRATION, INVESTOR CATEGORY BY GLOBAL CITIZEN MAGAZINE, CANADA**



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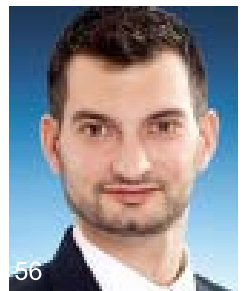
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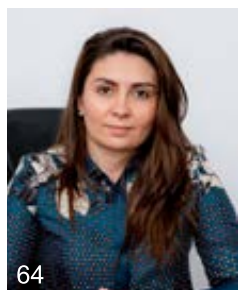
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‘Does buying a property in the UAE entitle me to a residence visa?’



There are property-linked visas available with a duration of three, five and 10 years

I recently moved into a villa in Dubai that my husband and I purchased a few years ago. The property was handed over to us in the middle of last year. Both my husband and I are already on our respective employers' residence visas, but we would like to know what visa we are entitled to as property owners.

Is there a property value threshold that needs to be met to obtain this type of visa and how long is it valid for? Could you advise us on what we should do?

Owning a property in Dubai allows you to have your own visa, however, please note there are three types available that you could apply for, depending on certain criteria.

Investor residence visa

To be eligible for this visa, you will have to own a property worth at least Dh1 million. This has to be the value at the time of purchase, not the current value. It must be a ready property and not off-plan. Up to three properties can be used, with the total value being no less than Dh1m to be eligible for this visa.

In case the property is mortgaged, at least 50 per cent of the property value has to be paid to the bank. In your case, a husband and wife can participate in one property purchase and be eligible for the visa, but the marriage certificate will need to be shown.

The cost for this visa ranges from Dh13,000 to Dh15,000 and has a validity of three years, which is renewable.

Five-year residence visa

If you purchase a property worth at least Dh5m, you will be entitled to a five-year visa. The property must not be purchased via a mortgage or any other loan and should be retained for at least three years. With this visa, the holder is eligible to sponsor their family and dependents.

10-year residence visa

These are available to anyone investing more than Dh10m, of which 40 per cent should be in real estate. The investment cannot be made using any loan and should be retained for at least three years.

To apply for these types of visas, the documents required include: the property's title deed; good conduct certificate; bank statements; passport copy with visa page; utility bill; six passport size photos; and medical insurance.

You must approach the Dubai Land Department with your documents to start the process.

I read an article in The National on how to negotiate rents lower. Because I did not request

my landlord to reduce my rent three months ahead of the contract expiry, he is now refusing to lower the rent. Can I lodge a complaint with the Real Estate Regulatory Agency?

Any change to an existing rental contract has to be communicated in writing to the party concerned with 90 days' notice. This includes the whole contract and can be, for example, any increase or decrease in the rent, the number of cheques payable or any other clauses that were previously agreed upon.

This is what the law states. However, a contract is an agreement between two or more parties and, as such, any further changes to it has to be by mutual agreement.

If you have a good relationship with your landlord, who might allow you to alter your rent after giving less than the 90-day notice required, this is entirely up to both of you. If, however, your landlord does not agree to alter your contract, it is up to you to contest this by filing a case at the Rental Dispute Settlement Committee. It is my opinion, you are unlikely to win as you have missed the 90-day window of opportunity to alter your contract.

If you cannot reach an agreement with your landlord with regards to the new rental amount, you can leave at the end of your contract period and seek alternative accommodation.

Author : Mario Volpi is the sales and leasing manager at Engel & Volkers. He has worked in the property sector for more than 35 years in London and Dubai. The opinions expressed do not constitute legal advice and are provided for information only.



Abu Dhabi - Citizenship Expo

september 30 - october 01

Abu Dhabi, June 20, 2021

The 7th edition of the Citizenship expo a leading investment platform and the only real estate and immigration event in Abu Dhabi that targets investors and High Net Worth Individuals is all set to take place at the Abu Dhabi Conrad Etihad Towers from September 30 to October 1st, 2021 Live in Person.

The expo organized by Dome Exhibitions with the two days event is expected to bring regional and international authorised citizenship by investment agencies ,government bodies real estate investors, brokers, and developers from the Middle East, Europe, and Asia Pacific under one roof.

The Expo showcase their wide spectrum of property developments alongside an array of immense investment options ,consultation and financing opportunities to the expat community of UAE looking for immigration to prospective countries for an improved lifestyle.

In conjunction with the expo, the Business to consumer platform will be a host of major panel conferences highlighting the global real estate market and citizenship by investment to more than 20 countries.

Renowned experts and academicians, seasoned practitioners and investors, representatives of government bodies and legal entities, and consultants are some of the expected participants who will share their insights and experiences during the gathering. The attendees will specifically underscore various modern investment strategies, prevailing relevant laws and regulations, and the impact of the latest investment trends and

developments at the national and global levels. In addition, the conference will look into attracting foreign direct investments (FDIs) through confidence building initiatives designed to produce concrete outcomes and achieve higher investment inflows. Citizenship Expo is taking place as the much-awaited Expo 2020 Dubai draws nearer. Expo 2020 has boosted the economic activities in Dubai and the UAE, further driving key local industries such as the real estate sector in the second quarter of 2021 even though it was slightly hit by the pandemic in 2020.

After the country won the right to host Expo 2020, local property developments have expanded exponentially in anticipation of the arrival of millions of international visitors and participants. The industry is also expected to sustain its upward trajectory post-Expo 2020. Outlook on the real estate segment has also remained upbeat thanks to last year's approval by the UAE Cabinet of a new system concerning the issuance of long-term residence visas. The move is seen to further attract more foreign investors to the country, which will further fuel the growth of the property industry. Arun Bose , Project head Dome said: "We are bringing the 7th edition to new heights by hosting the international exhibition and conference highlighting the steadily improving and growing real estate in citizenship by investments sector to prospective clients including the expat and local investors from Abu Dhabi and the UAE

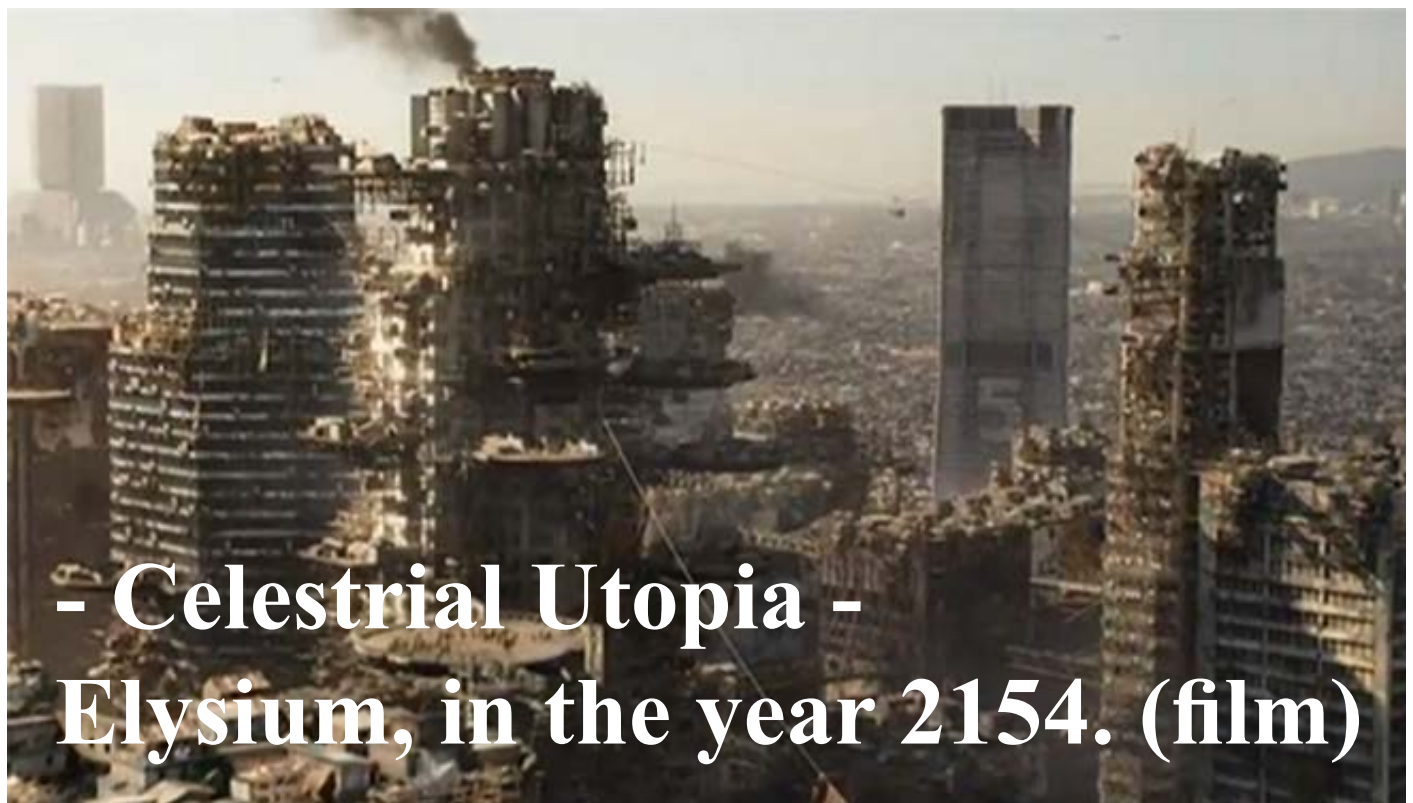
These conferences and events will feature top global experts who will give an expert advice as they answer all issues and concerns of visitors from different parts of the world. "The high-level and fruitful activities are going to highlight a range of immense investment

prospects in the local and global markets. It comes at a time when the UAE is in the midst of steady economic growth and is increasingly becoming an important global player. As such, it is poised to further accelerate in the coming years. Therefore, now is the best time to know more about and carve a niche in the UAE market, The International Residency and Citizenship expo will highlight the Dual Citizenship and Visa-Free travel for major destination countries across the globe.

The Expo will offer superior expertise in the complex decision-making process necessary to gain the right citizenship and residency option. The international Residency &Citizenship expo 2021 will take place at Abu Dhabi in CONRAD Etihad Towers from September 30th to 1st October -. Entry to the expo is free.



For more information, please visit
[www. http://citizenshipexpo.com](http://citizenshipexpo.com)
Arun Bose Associate Director



- Celestial Utopia - Elysium, in the year 2154. (film)

**Elysium director Neill Blomkamp:
'You'd have to change the human genome to stop wealth discrepancy' |
Science fiction and fantasy films**

Elysium, also called Elysian Fields or Elysian Plain, in Greek mythology, originally the paradise to which heroes on whom the gods conferred immortality were sent. In Homer's writings the Elysian Plain was a land of perfect happiness at the end of the Earth, on the banks of the Oceanus. In the earlier authors, only those specially favoured by the gods entered Elysium and were made immortal.

Elysium, in the year 2154. (film)

Elysium is a 2013 American science fiction action film, which takes place in a futuristic

era and in an imaginary world.

The film takes place on both a ravaged Earth and a luxurious artificial world (Stanford torus design, one of the proposed NASA designs) called Elysium.

This official trailer gives you plenty of reasons to watch Elysium, a movie that can be watched with family or friends. It stars Matt Damon, Jodie Foster, Alice Braga, and Sharlto Copley. This is the story of humans, separated into two categories: the rich, on the perfect space station called Elysium, live long, because there is no disease, no poverty, no war, nothing that cannot destroy them, and the others, the poor, those who live below, on Earth totally devastated, destroyed by overpopulation, disease, poverty and raging crime.

The people living on Earth are desperately trying to escape the crime and the growing poverty. Directed by Neill Blomkamp, also director of the highly acclaimed film District 9, Elysium brings you action, an incredible story, beautiful sets and stunning special effects. The film itself offers deliberate social commentary that explores political and sociological themes such as immigration, overpopulation, transhumanism, health care, worker exploitation, the justice system, and social class issues.

Max, an ordinary man, for whom joining

Elysium has become vital, is the only person who can restore the inequality between these two worlds. Following an accident, when her life hangs by a thread, hesitates to take part in this more than dangerous mission: to oppose Secretary Delacourt and her armed forces. On the other hand, if he succeeds, he will save not only his life, but also that of millions of other people on Earth...

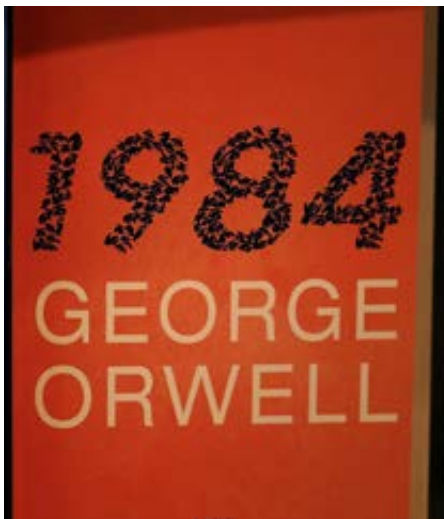
In Europe, the Covid-19 crisis had eclipsed the migration challenge recurring every summer since the wave of 2015. The gradual lifting of travel restrictions, which facilitates illegal immigration, has been accompanied by a new wave of migrant flotillas on European shores. In 2021 this soap opera is marked by the spread of a new variant : the blackmail of migrants, which unscrupulous states wield as a geopolitical weapon in the face of an unarmed Europe, as it has applied itself to "externalizing" the problem and to be divided on the management of this file. By Frontex's own admission, the borders of the Schengen area are a sieve. Instead of strengthening them, Europe has "outsourced" control of borders.

Director Neill Blomkamp expressed later some regrets regarding Elysium, commenting: I feel like ultimately the story is not the right story... I still think the satirical idea of a ring, filled with rich people, hovering above the



ELYSIUM CITY

CORA ALPHA ANNOUNCES THE CONSTRUCTION IN EXTREMADURA OF THE FIRST INTELLIGENT CITY OF SPAIN. THE GREATEST OF ITS CLASS IN THE WORLD.



"1984" of George Orwell, A Mirror of Our Being Today 2020?

What parallels can be drawn between today's dystopian world, first published in 1949 by British author George Orwell, in 2020, and the world George Orwell described in "1984"? More than 70 years later, with epidemics closely disrupting our lives, how does George Orwell's description in "1984" reflect what is happening in our time? Can Orwell's universe be compared to modern times? Is jumping into '1984' an opportunity to resist the world of 2020?

It is undoubtedly for perhaps contradictory reasons. Orwell illustrated the terrors aroused by totalitarianism: the establishment of a society in which individuals have lost absolutely all freedom, even the freedom to think. Orwell pushes the grip and control of the party, the state, the state party, on individuals to its most extreme consequences. We learn, for example, in the course of the novel, that the executioner of the protagonist Winston Smith (who dared to attempt a revolt against the O'Brien regime) has the possibility to penetrate into the dreams of the character. It goes very far in his deepest intimacy. So there is a narrative and imagery of this scenario which completely dehumanizes the man, which deprives him of his quality of topic.

First phase of Extremadura's Elysium City IR slated for 2023 opening Extremadura, cora alpha, first phase

The Californian development firm Cora Alpha's multi-billion euro IR project in Extremadura, fronted by John Cora, a former Disney executive with an extensive background in theme park operations and resort development, is looking to build a mega-resort dubbed Elysium City in the comarca of La Siberia in Badajoz province. Described as "the first major smart sustainable city project in Europe", the new development is scheduled to open its doors in 2023, with the €3.5bn first phase set to include up to four casinos hotels, a golf course, several theme parks, along with a football stadium, a 200,000 home residential complex and the construction of a railway station.

"My vision for Elysium City was to create the future blueprint for the first sustainable smart city from the ground up in Europe. We found a beautiful location and we put together a creative project that would enhance the region through profound positive economic impact and massive job creation while maintaining the eco-integrity of the site", said Francisco de Borbon Graf von Hardenberg, executive director of Cora Alpha.



By Kumar C.

Canada is always the most favorite destination in the world, when it comes to Permanent settlement or Second Passport. Government of Canada raised the target for Immigrants to Highest levels, Post COVID economic recovery. Canada government announced in 2021, to bring more than 1.2 Million new immigrants in next 3 years!

**Despite the Pandemic and Lockdowns
- Canada welcomes 401,000 new
immigrants in 2021 alone.**

Canada has recently been recognized by the U.S. News and World Report 2020 survey as the number one country in the world for quality of life.

If you want to come to Canada for your Permanent immigration or settlement with family, there are many options to take advantage of this incredible Canada.

“Canada’s policies are smarter and very attractive than America’s,” that’s why Canada has become the best Alternative for America. Many USA Job seekers, H1B seekers, or Green card seekers are mostly eyeing Canada. Canada has many Entrepreneurs nowadays and good Quality of Life and Business friendly Tax Laws and Lower Corporate Tax rates, So Canada is a Great Place for emerging Business, entrepreneurs to get their start.

Canada government amends immigration

laws & procedures, often, So Canada's immigration system has become more complex for the public to understand. There are lot of Challenges to get the Canada PR as many people not able to secure and ultimately they give up. One of the Best route and most direct path to PR in Canada for Entrepreneurs or Business people is the Startup Visa.

An open invitation from Canada to foreign entrepreneurs working in Silicon Valley!! Canada value talent and Startups,

Canada is doing lot of Campaigns in USA to WELCOME STARTUPS AND ENTREPRENEURS!

Best Solution for H1B Problems, Pivot to Canada. New Startup Visa, Low Taxes. Canada has become a magnet for technology talent, diverting the stream of overseas applicants away from Silicon Valley USA to Montreal, Vancouver, and the Toronto-

Kitchener-Waterloo corridor. In Start-up Visa, most important step is getting the Letter of Support from the designated organization.

If you are planning into Canada via the Startup Visa program, you should be able to pitch your company to either an incubator Angel Investor or Venture Capitalist. Also Expert Startup Consultant like us can guide you with professional advice, help prepare numerous Business reports for these meetings. Invest the time and energy in training you.

“The Canadian Startup sector has had a great time in 2021, Companies have raised highest venture capital. Toronto becomes the epicenter of North American Startup ecosystem!

“The market-oriented economic system, a high standard of living, native English language, proximity to the US, and strong position of the nation’s startup ecosystems already make the country attractive for the foreign talent, which means Canada would benefit from focusing on entrepreneur retention.”

Honorable Canada Minister of Immigration Marco Mendicino always promotes with a slogan “Startup Visa Program- Canada is Open for Business”

Canada continues to invite more and more immigrants to the country as can be seen in the Express Entry draws that are seeing record levels of individuals receiving an invitation to apply.

"The Government will continue to bring in newcomers . . . We know that there is an economic and human advantage to having families together. It has a stable political system, a secure banking system, and a clean environment. It is a great place to start a business.

The Start-Up Program is attractive for a variety of reasons:

- 1) There is no minimum investment required
- 2) There is no net worth requirement
- 3) The immigrant can choose to live anywhere in Canada and
- 4) Basic English or French language.

As an immigrant you need to develop a viable business project that will meet the due diligence requirements of a government-approved designated entity (incubator, angel investor, or VC)

Once you have the letter of support or commitment certificate you can immediately apply for a short-term work permit to come to Canada to work on your project in your company. Your spouse can also get an open work permit and your children can go to school at no cost.

Cities like Toronto, Montreal, Waterloo, and Vancouver have been leading North America in tech job creation during last few years. Canada is exceptionally comfortable with diversity, in theory and practice. Due to Visa Restrictions, Tech workers are fleeing the USA for Canada.

Canada Startup Visa Program is an opportunity for immigrant entrepreneurs who want to start a new business in Canada.

While you are waiting for your PR visa, the one who had applied for a Startup visa will be eligible for a temporary work permit and this will give you permission to arrive in Canada and start your business. If Canadian VC has invested funds in your business then you should have minimum 200,000 CAD with you and can have up to five co-founders and all are eligible for the Canada PR under Start-up Program.

If your startup visa program application is been approved by the Canadian Government, then your family can also receive Canada PR visa. That means your spouse and children below the age of 22.

- You and your family can access the Canadian Healthcare & Education systems.
- As this is a federal program, you are allowed to live in any province of Canada.
- Advantage with Canada is even if your business fails you are allowed to keep your

Canadian Permanent Residence. Startup Visa Program has fast processing time.

Canadian Startup Visa is a true game changer!

Another option is LMIA, in Canada's Express Entry PR Visa Process, landing an eligible job offer from a Canadian employer can help candidates to maximize their points in the Comprehensive Ranking System (CRS) and obtain an invitation for Canada immigration.

To claim points, your job offer has to be considered valid under Express Entry and Supported by a positive Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA), or exempt from needing one. In Express Entry, the number of CRS points you receive for a Canadian job offer depends on the NOC code of Job position. You can receive either 50 or 200 points, depending on the skill level of the position, senior management job is given the highest points of 200.

- 200 points: Job offers at NOC codes beginning with 00
- 50 points: All other job offers at NOC skill level 0, A, or B

LMIA stands for "Labour Market Impact Assessment." Formerly known as "Labour Market Opinion" (or LMO), Canadian employer need to get the LMIA before he hires foreign worker.

LMIA letter supports skilled worker's application to IRCC for Permanent resident visa under the FSWP, FSTP, and CEC.

Also LMIA can be used for work permit visa if you are not having enough CRS Score for Direct PR Visa. Once you are in Canada on the work permit, you have multiple options for the PR through CEC or PNP Category. Employers who want to hire a foreign worker must submit the Labour Market Impact Assessment (LMIA) application along with all the required supporting documentation to Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) /Service Canada.

A positive LMIA will show that there is a need for a foreign worker to fill the job. It will also show that no Canadian worker or permanent resident is available to do the job. Once an employer gets the LMIA, the worker can apply for a work permit.

To apply for a work permit, a worker needs

- A job offer letter
- A contract
- A copy of the LMIA, and
- The LMIA number

Different Types of LMIA Support Work Permit applications

Labour Market Impact Assessment to support an application for a work permit under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program.

- LMIA for PR, Support Permanent Residence Applications

This LMIA is used to support an Application for Permanent Residence in Canada. If

permanent residence is sought based on Express Entry, the foreign worker is awarded 50-600 CRS points (based on the NOC code). Candidates can apply to Express Entry Draw. This can boost the cut-off score high enough for the applicant to receive an Invitation to Apply (ITA) for permanent residence in Canada;

- LMIA Support both Permanent Residence & Work Permit applications

Owner/Operator work permit is a Canadian work permit for the people who own a business in Canada. You may apply for Labour Market Impact Assessment without any advertisement, once approved, it will give you the work permit. This specific category has been created for foreign businessmen who wish to either establish or purchase a business in Canada and manage it from Canada. This is an easy procedure to attract business people to Canada and make the process smooth and quick.

OWNER/OPERATOR LMIA REQUIREMENTS

1. A business plan. You must show in detail how you will fund the business and create or maintain employment.
2. You must be actively involved in the business, intend to run and develop your business further.
3. In your business plan, show an intention to hire Canadian citizens or permanent residents

Once you receive a positive Owner/Operator LMIA, you can apply for a two-year work permit. After you get the work permit you will be able to apply for Canadian permanent residence

With an LMIA-based Owner/Operator work permit, you have High chances of getting PR to Canada under the Federal Skilled Worker Program.



Kumar C.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kumar-canada/>
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Celestial Elysium

Richard Branson

Private Jet



Branson raises prospect of ‘hotel off the moon’ after successful space flight. The billionaire businessman said customers could expect ‘a lot more spaceships’ in the future. "Whether one day we will build a hotel off the moon, which is something that I've always dreamt of, or whether we'll leave that to my children to do, we'll have to see"

Sir Richard Branson, the proud owner of the Virgin Group has a net worth of \$4.8 billion USD. He is the only person to have built eight billion- dollar businesses in eight different sectors. Finding new ways to do business and make an impact on the world since he was 16.

Sir Branson roughly fly six months during a year, for longer flights that are for recreation and amusement he prefers Virgin Atlantic. He

considers it important to spend time with the staff and passengers. But he owns a private jet too, A Falcon 50 EX. He usually travels by his private jet for charity or business purposes.

Richard Branson’s personal plane is a Falcon F900-EX called “Galactic Girl”. It’s a three-engine private jet that has a 5000-mile range. It has unique, custom spray painted artwork on the tail.

Most Innovative Private Jet Providers of the 21st Century

BY DOUG GOLLAN



Jet Linx brought private jet

In 2020, shared private jet solutions — jet cards, memberships, fractional ownership and charters — accounted for more than 50% of US private aviation flight hours for the first time. This Argus TRAQPak insight might seem like a small data point but it is, in fact, one giant step in the industry's push for sustainability. Instead of one jet serving one owner or company, a single aircraft is serving hundreds of customers. Innovative solutions like timesharing, card programs, pay-as-you-go memberships, by-the-seat models and charter fleets of pre-owned aircraft don't get the same attention as carbon offsets and sustainable aviation fuel. Still, they are playing an equally critical role in making private flying green. Here, we look at the most significant innovations over the past two decades by the private jet providers that fly you.

Jet Linx Aviation



Jet Linx brought private jet levels of service to FBOs / ©Heather Hall Photography

You show up at the FBO on a busy Friday. There's a line at the desk, the seats are all taken, and a dozen or so pilots are milling around. You have no idea which one is yours or if your pilot is even there. Do you want a drink? Go to the vending machine. Then land late at night. After you step off your flight, you still have to wander the parking lot and, once you find your car, scrape the ice off its windshield. The place where private flying falls short is on the ground. Many FBOs provide little more than couches, coffee and popcorn.

Jet Linx Aviation, on the other hand, has extended its jet card program with its own private terminals in 19 American markets. Don't worry about finding a shady parking spot. There's a valet. While you are away, your car is detailed. When you land, it is ready — air conditioning or heating running as appropriate. In its terminals, you'll feel more like you dropped by to see a friend. Since they are only used by owners of the airplanes it manages and its jet card customers, it's a place where they know your name — and what you like. In the lounge, a trolley is set up with the preferred libations and snacks for its customers who are traveling that day. With recent expansions to Austin, Chicago, New York and Boston, and plans to add South Florida and Southern California, it's a name you will hear more often in coming years.

jetlinx.com



Wheels Up offers customers the same benefits as jet cards without having to deposit six figures / ©Wheels Up

An early innovator in the jet card space after founding Marquis Jet Partners in 2001 before selling it to NetJets in 2010, Kenny Dichter may be the Jeff Bezos of private aviation. He helped broaden the market in 2013, launching Wheels Up, popularizing turboprops like the King Air for shorter flights. His pay-as-you-go memberships gave customers the same benefits as jet cards without having to deposit six figures.

Now he has turned the company into a supermarket of private aviation solutions, from aircraft management and jet sales to shared flights and online booking. He has put the brand front and center (which is equaled only by NetJets, according to Google Trends), and he now plans to build an online platform where you can rent anything from flights to villas, yachts and who knows what else. At industry events, he often talks about the millions of consumers who wear Ralph Lauren's Polo apparel yet have never climbed onto a horse. In other words, even if you don't have the funds to charter a private jet, you might still buy a Wheels Up logo backpack or baseball cap.

wheelsup.com



JSX helps the environment by using regional jets prematurely retired by the airlines / ©JSX

“ If a taxpayer has a green card, is a U.S. citizen, or is a U.S. resident alien, the taxpayer owes U.S. tax on any crypto gains they have no matter where the crypto or the taxpayer is located,

NetJets



NetJets has been the leader in jet sharing / ©NetJets

When Uber was fundraising to launch its car-sharing taxi service, it used NetJets as an example of how an asset typically owned by a single individual can be shared with many. Over the past 30 years, NetJets has been the leader in jet sharing. More recently, this unit of Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway has taken to using its spot at the top of the mountain to become a leading advocate for sustainability.

Earlier this year, it purchased a stake in WasteFuel, a start-up that will produce sustainable aviation fuel from refuse. SAF, as it's referred to, cuts carbon emissions by as much as 85%. It is also the launch customer for FBO chain Signature Flight Support's sustainable fuel program, helping put a marker down for the rest of the industry. To make it easy for customers to offset their CO2 footprint, it now includes the option to purchase carbon offsets in all proposals, allowing offsets to be bought for an entire flying program or just a specific flight.

netjets.com

JSX

JSX, with the backing of JetBlue and Qatar Airways, has created a hybrid model filling the gap between traditional private jets and crowded airports and airliners. Founded by former JetBlue and Virgin Atlantic executive Alex Wilcox, JSX helps the environment by using regional jets prematurely retired by the airlines, adding WiFi, taking out two rows of seats, and offering legroom similar to domestic US first class.

JSX runs scheduled flights as the airlines do, but it uses private terminals, meaning you can show up 20 minutes before your flight and avoid crowds. It has recently been expanding its network from the West Coast to Texas and even offered pop-up flights to the East Coast and Los Cabos. It's not quite like having your own Gulfstream, but then again, seats on JSX can be had for under \$200.

jsx.com

VistaJet



VistaJet Carbon Neutral by 2025
VistaJet's fleet is painted silver with a distinctive red line / ©VistaJet

In the late 20th century, NetJets' founder Richard Santulli turned private aviation on its head by inventing fractional ownership. It offered a consistent fleet and service, operations and pilot training standards not available through charter fleets of managed aircraft, each styled to individual owners' tastes. VistaJet, launched by financier Thomas Flohr in 2004, has again revolutionized the market by offering that same owner-like experience without laying out millions of dollars to buy part of an airplane or make the five-year commitment typical of fractional programs. His fleet of Bombardier super-midsize and large-cabin jets, all painted silver with a distinctive red stripe, feature stylish luxury interiors. Each aircraft type has the same cabin configuration and technology to make you feel at home. Don't worry about ordering from the menu of a catering company — as with your personal chef, special requests are welcomed.

If you want to keep the scions occupied, VistaJet can arrange an Alice in Wonderland party with in-costume actors aboard. You get guaranteed one-way rates — so no ferry fees — on as little as 24 hours' notice worldwide. What you don't get is a depreciating asset. Instead, you make a three-year commitment with at least 50 flight hours per year, a nominal amount for VistaJet's target market of globetrotters who hop between continents.

vistajet.com



Sergey Petrosov, founder of JetSmarter

Sentient Jet



The benefit of jet cards like Sentient's is one-way pricing combined with guaranteed availability / ©Sentient Jet

While these days, jet cards come in many forms, the original came from Sentient Jet, now part of Kenn Ricci's Directional Aviation, the owner of Flexjet, FXAIR, PrivateFly and numerous other business aviation brands. Jet cards, created in 1997, provide many benefits of full ownership but only require minimal commitment. Typically, you buy in units of 25 hours. If you want more after you use your hours, you can buy more. If not, you're done.

The core benefit of jet cards like Sentient's is one-way pricing combined with guaranteed availability. When you join, you get a contracted hourly rate, so unlike with on-demand charter, you know how much your flights will cost ahead of time, making cards popular with CFOs. What's more, you can book your flight — or cancel if needed — with as little as 10 hours' notice. If it's going to rain this weekend in New York, call during breakfast Friday morning and you can be flying somewhere sunny by supper time. Sentient also allows you to switch the type of jet you want for each trip. If you are going alone, take a light jet. If you are bringing friends, book something bigger. In other words, for an investment of under \$150,000, you have a fleet of private jets on call. sentient.com

flyExclusive



flyExclusive's fleet of pre-owned private jets gets interior and avionics upgrades / @flyExclusive

Unlike airliners that are flown over 10 hours per day, the typical private jet averages less than an hour. When owners of those airplanes want something new, Jim Segrave is giving their jets a second life, amortizing the manufacturing footprint over hundreds of new customers and extra years of service. After building Segrave Aviation and selling it to Delta Private Jets in 2010, he returned for a second act, launching flyExclusive in 2014. Its fleet of pre-owned private jets gets interior and avionics upgrades, including complimentary WiFi. It's hard to tell that the airplanes are 10 to 20 years old once you are sitting inside. With used jets often selling for a fraction of their original sticker price, what is easy to see is the lower hourly rates from flyExclusive's jet card program.

flyexclusive.com

JetSmarter

Like Icarus, JetSmarter flew too close to the sun. After raising hundreds of millions of dollars and attracting high-profile backers from Jay-Z to Saudi Arabian investment funds, from its 2013 launch, it claimed a billion-dollar valuation. That was long gone before it sold itself to Vista Global Holdings in 2019, amid a string of lawsuits. Still, the company and its founder, Sergey Petrossov, did a lot to pave the way for future by-the-seat and sharing models. Mostly, JetSmarter will be remembered for offering an all-you-can-fly buffet of seats on scheduled private flights for under \$10,000 annually, less than a single traditional charter flight.

Members were able to snag empty leg repositioning flights at no additional cost, giving them the entire jet. Fans said they were able to get hundreds of thousands of dollars in value. Their social media posts from private jet terminals and on board helped spread the word. Customer lawsuits eventually replaced the adoring media coverage as free flights became less plentiful, surcharges were added, and membership prices increased, allegedly without notice.

Both the ride up and then down attracted millions of dollars of media exposure, much of it positive and much of it providing a more accessible face for an industry often perceived as being off limits except to UHNWs, celebrities and CEOs. Today, JetSmarter's technology forms Vista Global's XO digital platform's backbone, allowing users to buy seats or crowdfund their own flights. (elite traveler)

Doug Gollan is founder and editor-in-chief of private aviation solutions buyer's guide Private Jet Card Comparisons.

The EB-5 Situation: Back to US\$ 500k or 900k for investors?



The EB-5 program's most basic concepts are extremely complicated and things are not stable. A major court case invalidated comprehensive regulatory reform last June.

The Direct EB-5 program was created in the Immigration Act of 1990 and originally required direct investor-employer to employee job creation.

In 1992, the US Congress created the "Immigrant Investor Pilot Program in order to encourage greater immigrant investment in a range of business and economic development opportunities sponsored by Regional Centers. Although we dropped the word "Pilot" about nine years ago, the Regional Center EB-5 visa program is subject to continued renewal by the U.S. Congress.

The latest renewal of the RC Program needed to happen before June 30, 2021. It failed. Accordingly, we call this a "lapse" of authorization.

THE EB-5 ISSUES FOR INDIANS

Under the EB-5 visa programme, the US government has announced that the new minimum investment limit of the EB-5 visa programme would be set to \$900,000 for target employment areas (TEAs), and the minimum investment made outside TEAs is set to increase to \$1.8 million. This change is expected to be applicable from November 21, 2019.

Due to a huge demand for EB-5 - which is seen as an alternative to H-1B - there is a long wait-list of eligible Indians who have applied for the visa. This visa gives permanent residency to those who invest the requisite amount and also help create a set number of employment in the US. It appears that the massive new infrastructure legislation contains, at the moment, no effort to revive the EB-5 program. The EB-5 program was allowed to lapse on June 30 by the Senate. Some think it might be revived by inserting a provision into an infrastructure bill, or in the looming reconciliation act.

EB-5 was a program that allowed alien investors to buy a family-size batch of green cards when they made a Homeland Security-approved, but not guaranteed, pooled investment of at least \$500,000 or \$900,000, depending on when the investment was made.

A financially insignificant part of the program, in which aliens promise to manage specific businesses (direct investments), continues and was not covered by the June 30 shutdown.

Filing a Direct EB-5 Petition:

Presently there is a large interest by EB-5 investors in filing an I-526 Petition following the Behring federal court decision, which invalidated the 2019 EB-5 regulations. With the minimum investment amount decreased from \$900,000 to \$500,000 for targeted employment area investments, a window has opened for investors to potentially file an I-526 Petition at the \$500,000 investment level. However, the EB-5 regional center program has lapsed and currently requires Congress to pass legislation reauthorizing it before new I-526 Petitions can be filed with USCIS.

Because the regional center EB-5 program is paused, until it is reauthorized by Congress, many investors are eager to pursue a "direct" EB-5 investment at the lower \$500,000 amount. For those investors considering investing in their own start up business or a pre-packaged "direct" project, evaluation of the project structure and job creation is critical to approval. The limitations on job creation in the direct EB-5 context must be understood, and the investment structure must be developed properly to ensure USCIS will approve the job creation. The \$500,000 EB-5 ruling



On June 22nd, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California ruled in *Behring Regional Center LLC v. Chad Wolf*, that Former Acting Homeland Security Secretary Kevin McAleenan was not properly serving in his position when he promulgated the EB-5 Modernization Final Rule, and accordingly, the new EB-5 Program regulations which took effect on November 21, 2019, must be “set aside.” Specifically, the Court said, the former DHS secretary “...was not properly serving in his position when he promulgated the Final Rule in July 2019.” Based on this, as well as the ineffective attempt to ratify the new regulations by the new Biden Administration-appointed DHS Secretary, the Court vacated the regulations in their entirety.

The court’s decision restores the original rules for the EB-5 program, which was created by the Immigration Act of 1990 as a method for providing qualified immigrant investors the opportunity to obtain a permanent green card. The program required a minimum \$500,000 investment in a U.S. business that would create at least 10 full-time jobs for American workers. The now-defunct EB-5 Modernization Rule of 2019 increased this minimum investment threshold to \$900,000 — an update that contributed to stifling participation in a program that was already in need of reform.

In addition to the prohibitive investment threshold, the Modernization Rule made problematic changes to the program’s Targeted Employment Area (TEA) designation process, removing the states’ authority to determine TEA eligibility without a viable replacement and resulting in processing times that could take years to complete. As a result of these changes, new EB-5 investor petitions dropped by more than 99 percent since November of 2019. Investors have an opportunity to invest at \$500,000, and to invest in a geographic area that is considered a Targeted Employment Area (TEA) under the pre-November 2019 rules. It would also throw out any protections some investors may have sought to preserve their Priority Date based on their investment in a failed project or regional center. (By Michael Harris)

Apart from Grenada, Turkey, Montenegro, an individual can apply for and use a similar route to apply for an E-2 visa.

WHY E-2 VISA FOR INDIANS ?

With the waiting period for the EB-5 visa to the United States of America stretching to nearly seven years, Indians are now eyeing the E-2 visa route as their ticket to the American shores.

The E-2 visa is a non-immigration programme under which an individual can set up a business and work in the US at an investment of \$100,000.

The process of getting an E-2 visa is simpler by CBI programs of the other countries. An individual has to apply for a Grenada or Turkish or Montenegro passport having E-2 Visa Treaty with the US

which would take 3-6 months, and then apply for an E-2 visa. Montenegro is expected to join the European Union in 2025, so Montenegro citizenship program by investment is advantageous to grant European citizenship. However the application deadline is at the end of 2021.

The E-2 visa is all about setting up a business in the US. If the business is big enough in the future, your E-2 visa can be converted into a green card. Apart from Grenada, Turkey, Montenegro, an individual can apply for and use a similar route to apply for an E-2 visa. This visa is issued for five years but can be renewed for a lifetime. Once you get the requisite passport, getting an E-2 visa would take another two to three months. Another reason why Indians are preferring the route of Grenada, Turkey, Montenegro is because once you have a the requisite passport there is visa-free travel to Europe.

(The Grenadian route enjoys visa-free travel to China and pre and post Brexit UK, Russia, Singapore and UAE. Furthermore, individuals can also legally avoid the indian capital gains tax by going through the Grenada passport route)

The fight for EB-5 legislation continues

What is the path, timeline, and content for regional center program reauthorization legislation?

The regional center program can be reauthorized as soon as (1) there is a vehicle to which reauthorization legislation could be attached, and (2) Congress agrees to reauthorization legislation that satisfies the EB-5 industry. When Congress misses the September 30 deadline to fund the new year, as usual, they fill the gap with one or more Continuing Resolutions, which extend the deadline on the previous year’s appropriations act.

The timing for the second reauthorization condition – agreement by Congress to industry demands – is an open question.

The USCIS allocates 10,000 visas every year under the EB-5 programme or Immigrant Investor Program to immigrants and their families, whose qualifying investments result in the creation or preservation of at least ten full-time jobs for US workers. On the other hand, there is no limit on the number of E-2 visas that are issued every year. There are more benefits of visa-free travels to Europe mainly.

Though the biggest drawback is that you don’t become a US citizen through an E-2 visa, individuals get the right to live and work in the United States for almost their entire life. Family members can also be eligible to be dependents under the E-2 visa. But when the child of the applicant reaches the age of 21 years, he/she will be required to apply for a separate visa and cannot work under the parent’s visa. (by citinavi team)

The EU Settlement Scheme: Can I Have A Biometric Residence Card?

By Lucy Katko



The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) enables Europeans and their family members to apply for immigration status in the UK. Once the grace period comes to an end on 30 June 2021, it will be necessary to have status under the EUSS in order to continue to live lawfully in the UK (although late applications will be possible in certain circumstances). Over five million people have now applied to the EUSS, and with most applications resulting in a grant of leave, there are several million people in the UK who now need to know how to prove their right to live and work here.

This post looks at how people who have Settled status or Pre-Settled status under the EUSS can now prove they have that status, and in particular, who can and cannot have a Biometric Residence Card.

Can EU Nationals Have a Biometric Residence Card?

Europeans have not had to attend biometric enrolment appointments in order to complete their EUSS applications. Rather, they have been able to upload their photograph and scan their European passport or national identity card on the EU Exit: ID Document Check smart phone app.

Europeans are not then issued with a Biometric Residence Card, and are not able to apply for one. Instead, they can 'View and Prove' their immigration status online. To log in to View and Prove, there is a three-step process:

First, you will be asked to provide the number on the identity document you used when you applied to the EUSS. This may be a passport number or a national identity card number. If you have since replaced this document, and properly updated your online View and Prove profile, you will need to use the new document's number;

Next, you will be asked to enter your date of birth;

Finally, you will receive a code at the mobile number or email address you used when you applied to the EUSS. Again, if you have changed telephone number or email address, and properly updated your online View and Prove profile, you will need to access the new telephone number or email address. Once you type in the code, you are able to see your status information, including your name, photograph and the kind of status you hold (i.e. Settled or Pre-Settled).

A similar online checking service is available to prove your immigration status to employers, using a 'share code'.

The View and Prove facility is quick and helpful to those with good IT skills, enabling users to bring up clear proof of their status on their telephone or computer in seconds. It is less helpful to those without a good grasp of technology, and may therefore leave some vulnerable Europeans with difficulty accessing employment or benefits, or even renting property. For people struggling to use View and Prove, they can call the EUSS Resolution Centre telephone line on 0300 123 7379, and they should be able to get confirmation of their status, including a share code for employers, over the telephone.

Can Family Members of EU Nationals Have a Biometric Residence Card?

This View and Prove facility is not only available to Europeans, but also to their family members. However, family members of Europeans will find that they often also need a Biometric Residence Card in order to prove their status. Without one, they will likely encounter delays re-entering the UK, difficulty opening bank accounts and renting, as well as problems proving both a right to work and to claim benefits.

For some non-Europeans, the situation has so far been very similar to their European family members. Those non-Europeans who held valid Biometric Residence Cards issued under the EEA Regulations 2016 ('EEA Biometric Residence Cards') at the time they applied to the EUSS, were usually also able to use the EU Exit app. Generally, they have not needed to attend a biometric enrolment appointment, because they have already provided their biometrics in the past, when applying for the EEA Biometric Residence Card. On being granted EU pre-settled or settled status, they did not get issued with a Biometric Residence Card under the EUSS, and instead have been using View and Prove and their old EEA Biometric Residence Cards to prove their status in the UK.

This is contrasted with those non-European family members who did not hold valid EEA Biometric Residence Cards on application to the EU Settlement Scheme. These family members will not have been able to use the EU Exit app to complete their application. Instead, they will have had to attend a UKVCAS (Sopra Steria) biometric appointment, where they will have provided their photograph and fingerprints in person. Thereafter, they will have been issued with a new Biometric Residence Card. This Biometric Residence Card will say on the front that it has been issued under the "EU Scheme". Some more recent Biometric Residence Cards also state that they are

"issued in accordance with the EU Exit Separation Agreements".

These new Biometric Residence Cards will remain valid after the grace period comes to an end on 30 June 2021. However, the old EEA Biometric Residence Card will no longer be valid after this date. This is so even if the date given on the card is much later than 30 June 2021. This means that non-European family members who only hold the old EEA Biometric Residence Cards need to make an application to update their Biometric Residence Card.

Updating your Biometric Residence Card

The application to update a Biometric Residence Card is free and fairly simple. The online form can be found [here](#). Applicants will be asked for the ID document number they used to apply to the EUSS, the unique application number from their EUSS application, a consent form, and proof of their continued residence in the UK since their EUSS application.

Once the application is submitted, applicants will usually be directed to book a UKVCAS (Sopra Steria) appointment to provide their biometrics in person. However, demand for these appointments has been so high that some applicants are now being invited to use a smart phone app called the IDV app, instead of attending an in-person appointment.

After biometrics have been provided, applicants should be issued with a new Biometric Residence Card.

It is advisable for the non-European family members with only the old EEA Biometric Residence Cards to make this application as soon as possible, to ensure that they have a new Biometric Residence Card with which to prove their continued status in the UK. This is particularly important where non-Europeans intend to travel outside the UK, and wish to re-enter without facing questioning, delays or uncertainty at the border.

Updating Identity Documents

As an additional point for all those using the View and Prove online facility, it is important to update the identity document saved on your profile as and when this document expires and is replaced. It is unclear what will happen if those with status under the EUSS seek to enter the UK with different passports than the one currently saved on the View and Prove profile. It is possible that unless the document shown online is the same as the documents shown at the border, even Europeans could have difficulty entering, especially at the E-Gates.



Lucy Katko
Richmond Chambers Immigration
Barristers



HANOVER BOND



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3 Bed	£5,960,000
Penthouse	POA

Domicile Diversification and Dual Nationality



An important reason many Asian countries oppose dual citizenship is that, historically and traditionally, dual citizenship can create a divided loyalty among its citizens.

Since the coronavirus pandemic, a new global mobility trend is being formed this year. In the immigration phenomenon that has been moving from developing countries(South) to developed countries(North), conversely in 2021, from wealthy countries(North) like US passport holders, and the British wealthy in the aftermath of Brexit look to diversify their global residences for the purpose of health insurance and creating enhanced value and yield. A new trend is being noticed. In accordance with the movement restriction ordinance under pandemic situation, global companies have led a new labor market that is possible by home working and video conferences.

In 2020, when the pandemic was severe, Almighty US passport holders who were able to freely move to the most countries in the world, were able to move to only 87 countries, limiting the global mobility of many US businessmen. Even during and after the Olympic Games under new Delta pandemic that stuck again, all foreigners who have visited countries with restrictions in the past 14 days including resident card holders and foreign students in Japan are denied to enter Japan. Although only Japanese citizens can enter the country, they have to comply with 14-day quarantine obligation by the end of November. During this pandemic period, many Americans applied European citizenship by their parents' or grandparents' ancestry and spouse's European citizenship, such as Italy, Greece, Slovenia, Poland, where the mobility to more than 120 countries was relatively free in 2020. European countries, including Norway, which was granted in 2020 with Russia, allow individuals with dual citizenship based on the principle of "liberalism".

The wealthy individuals have the same purposes to secure an access to high-quality health insurance, education, investment, and business opportunities as well as global mobility. The CBI programs include individuals as well as the entire family, including siblings and both parents or grandparents.

EU Golden Visa programs (property investment 250,000-500,000€) to obtain family permanent residency of Europe or citizenship through Caribbean CIP (contribution 100,000-200,000 USD) are also used. Turkey citizenship by investment program (property investment 250,000 USD or capital 500,000 USD) became popular by its faster and simpler procedures, in

particular by visa-free travel to the EU. Turkish passport holders enjoy an eVisa or a Visa on arrival permitting them to stay for up to 90 days in the EU and U.K. By October 2016, Turkey issues EU standard passports. This solution in any case means that only Turkish citizens with a biometric passport are able to enter the EU and U.K. without a visa.

The wider range of jurisdictions a family can acquire, the more diversifies the risks and opportunities that a particular country can bring in a certain crisis.

For entrepreneurs and individuals in both developing and developed countries, diversification of investment and immigration countries by domicile diversification can help create wealth, as a safeguard against future economic crisis, or bring new productivity and improve the welfare of families. Due to the pandemic, there are many restrictions on global movement, so it will be difficult to move freely as before for some time. However, as new Taliban government in Afghanistan, pandemic sanitary crisis, Brexit, Hong Kong turmoil provoke certain obstacles, global wealthy people think that domicile diversification of family improves the quality of life by more serious preparations for the high-quality healthcare and future of families in case of an emergency in a specific country.

Due to the pandemic, IT company employees are expected to work from home, meetings and conferences through video calls, and well-equipped Internet infrastructure environments are to create a free workplace anywhere in the world. The pandemic has significantly curtailed short-term

leisure travel, but that doesn't mean that people can't be able to travel or won't travel.

In 1960, fewer than a third of countries allowed citizens to acquire a second nationality. Today, three-quarters of the world's countries have adopted dual citizenship, and Asia is the most restrictive region in the world where only 65% of countries recognize dual citizenship. Some Asian countries, such as Japan, China and India, are tightening immigration laws.

Dual Nationality and Citizenship Law in ASIA

Growth of national power in accordance with the changing times

Recent moves in Japan, China and Hong Kong have strengthened single citizenship after the pandemic while other parts of the world, such as Russia and Norway, have recognized dual citizenship in 2020, but only Korea has recently prepared the amended dual citizenship act in April 2021 for foreigners.

In the Asia Pacific region, with the exception of Vietnam, Cambodia, Australia, New Zealand, East Timor and Fiji, there are many countries with a single ethnicity, and only a few places that allow dual citizenship. While most countries oppose, some countries choose not to enforce the policy strictly, allowing people not to declare multiple passports or allow dual citizenship in a limited form. India amended law to allow overseas Indians to work and invest in their home country in 2005.

An important reason many Asian countries oppose dual citizenship is that, historically and traditionally, dual citizenship can create a divided loyalty among its citizens. As the main reason for a lot of controversy and protests after South Korea introduced the amendment to permit dual citizenship in April, 95% of foreigners who applied for nationality were Korean-Chinese who had settled in Northeast China, Manchuria before 1945. It was from the question of who to defend in the case of a war with China, which remains communist with North and confronted with South Korea.

The Western countries prioritize liberalism, the individual's right to a (dual) nationality. While experts believe that change will inevitably come as global migration increases, in many Asian constitutions, governments believe that the right to nationality is a privilege, making access to citizenship very difficult for immigrant communities. Indonesia, Bangladesh, and India are among the countries that have transitioned to mainly recognizing citizenship by descent.

(by citinavi team)

Despite Holdouts, Dual Nationality Still on the Rise

By Prof. Peter J. Spiro

Recent reports suggest an Asian crackdown on dual citizenship, reinforcing existing bans on the status. Compared to other regions, Asia has generally lagged behind in accepting the status. Japan, China, and India continue to reject dual citizenship. But other Asian states have relented, in line with a global trend towards acceptance. In the face of growing pressure from expatriate communities and the diminishing downsides of the status from a state perspective, we are unlikely to witness significant push back against dual citizenship in Asia or anywhere else.

Holdouts are likely to remain, however, into the intermediate future at least.

A recent CNN dispatch describes at length how certain Asian countries are “giving dual citizens an ultimatum on nationality”. But the report fails to describe fully the wide range of moves towards accepting and even embracing dual citizenship. A hundred years ago, dual nationality was considered an offense to the natural order of things, on par with bigamy. Fifty years ago, it was seen as a security threat, the kind of thing no person would publicly acknowledge. Even thirty years ago at the end of the Cold War dual citizenship remained an anomaly.

Growing acceptance of citizenship optionality

Today dual citizenship is commonplace. And it is going to stay that way.

An overwhelming majority of states now accept dual citizenship. That includes almost all states in the Americas and most European states. African countries have been slower to approve the status but there has been movement in that direction. Nigeria, Senegal, and Zimbabwe, for example, now allow the status in at least some cases.

Until recently, Asia was nearly uniform in rejecting dual citizenship. But even in Asia, with its cultural orientation towards ethnic homogeneity, there has been movement towards acceptance. The Philippines, a major labor source state, changed its nationality laws to recognize the status. Pakistan allows dual citizenship with a growing list of other countries. South Korea allows

emigrants to retain their nationality after naturalizing in another state. Indonesia, the third most populous country in the region, is facing increasing pressure from diaspora communities to relent on the issue.

More to crackdowns than meets the eye

Even the story of the three Asian powerhouses who stand at odds with dual citizenship — India, Japan, and China — is more complicated than it might appear. With an economically prosperous diaspora, India’s ban relates to the country’s constitution, which prohibits the status. Given the difficulty of a constitutional amendment, India has extended a kind of quasi-nationality to ethnic Indians abroad, Overseas Citizenship of India. While this does not count as full citizenship, it does afford holders visa-free travel privileges and exempts them from most property ownership restrictions otherwise applicable to foreigners.

Japan remains ideologically opposed to dual citizenship. Germany was the other major entrant in this category until its 2007 relaxation of a longstanding bar on the status. A recent court decision in Japan upheld the requirement that birth dual citizens choose a single citizenship when they reach the age of 22. But even Japan has grown lax in enforcing the ban. In 2019, Naomi Osaka said that she would renounce her US citizenship in compliance with the rule, but it is not clear if she has followed through on the promise. Meanwhile, a growing number of Japanese citizens living abroad are pushing for change.

China is perhaps the most complicated case. Technically illegal, dual citizenship has long been tolerated, and many newly-rich Chinese nationals have secured additional citizenships for mobility purposes or as a hedge against political instabilities. In recent years, Chinese authorities have used the formal dual citizenship ban as a tool in anti-corruption campaigns. But these moves have not resulted in a blanket crackdown on the status; it’s more a case of the ban being enforced if individuals have used dual citizenship to evade financial controls.

More prominently, the Chinese government has obstructed consular access for Hong Kongers holding additional citizenships during the recent unrest there. That no doubt deprives dual citizens of a major benefit of an alternative citizenship — the ability to turn to that other country for protection. But, again, the Chinese policy here does not seem to be intended to root out dual citizenship as such. Rather, it is a strategy to deprive Western states of a mechanism to intervene in particular cases.

Dual citizenship is here to stay

Trends against dual citizenship appear to be more of a minor setback rather than a major countertrend. Individuals worldwide are increasingly interested in securing or maintaining dual citizenship. Holdout states are having a harder time defending their rejection of the status now that so many countries accept it, and with little apparent downside. Allowing dual citizenship has come to represent an attractive attribute when considering citizenship value.

This article was first published in the Global Mobility Report Q2.

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Prof. Peter J. Spiro, Charles Weiner Professor of Law at Temple University Law School.

Cities as Investment Migration Magnets

Dr. Parag Khanna



In the post-pandemic landscape, international companies face new choices about where to locate headquarters, executives, and employees. All the key metrics of the past are in flux. Corporate tax arbitrage, for example, is coming under fire, and a proposed new global flat tax will change the pecking order of advantageous jurisdictions. Then there is remote work: According to the International Data Corporation, at least 40% of the global workforce is location independent, and many companies are under pressure from employees to maintain remote work indefinitely.

One conventional wisdom during the pandemic has been the ‘death of the city’, but it has been wrong on two counts. First, it prematurely scorned the demise of New York, San Francisco, and London — yet the world’s leading commercial centers have bounced back as Covid subsidies and rental prices fall. Second, it spoke of ‘the city’ as if only today’s top-tier metropolises are to be counted. But there are dozens of cities vying for residents in the competition for the physical investment of individuals and families. Today, Hong Kong’s loss is Singapore’s gain. In Europe, the combination of remote work and lower cost of living have breathed new life into Athens and Lisbon.

Cities that tick all the boxes will attract the world’s best and brightest

As I argue in my new book *MOVE*, coming out of the Great Lockdown, we are headed for the next Great Migration. But where will those with means go? Technological connectivity is creating new vectors of mobility for millions of people. Though we are evolving towards a world in which ever more work is conducted in the cloud, management and employees still have to be somewhere, and given the diverse risks businesses face, from pandemics to conflict to climate change, they must think very carefully about where to expand or relocate, seeking hubs that offer a high degree of reliability in their capacity for business continuity under diverse scenarios.

To become a place that remote workers want to call home among the many options requires a holistic set of virtues. The new Best Residence-by-Investment Cities for Business Index uses a wide range of metrics to score the overall quality

of life in world-class cities that offer residence-by-investment programs: Covid safety, general law and order, tax rates, education quality, healthcare, dynamic property markets, lifestyle offerings, and others. Sustainable infrastructure that mitigates climate risk is another sensible consideration. Yet another is attractiveness to young entrepreneurs who form the backbone of the services economy and innovative class. At a time when nations are plagued by great disparities in wealth and culture, this focus on leading cities rather than countries is very welcome.

Europe’s abiding appeal persists

The data presents a very nuanced contrast between cities ranking high in overall health resilience versus their ease of access to investor migrants. For example, New York and London score very well in economic performance and overall quality of life, but are less investor friendly than Zurich, Vienna, Singapore, or Lisbon. Not surprisingly, European cities generally top the tables. As I explain in *MOVE*, Europe’s latitude and social policy give it an edge among regions of the world seeking the status of climate oases.

Highly regarded global cities have an opportunity to reinforce their position. London, for example, must stabilize its EU relations, maintain robust international connectivity, and rebrand itself as an affordable magnet for entrepreneurial talent beyond finance. Singapore will need to add more flexibility to its access policies for employment pass holders who are not yet permanent residents, and quickly, eliminating their excess wait time to return to the country. Zurich is a global city that has both demonstrated deft handling of Covid and maintained its openness to the many global networks of which it is part. Dubai has used the pandemic to liberate many foreigners from legal and cultural restrictions in the legal and personal spheres, and the UAE’s improved relations with Israel as well as the deterioration of conditions from Lebanon to India generally push talent into its property markets.

Flexible, connected cities will prosper

In general, countries that allow fluidity among tiers of residency will benefit from the assurance such flexibility provides. That is because we are

more likely to change locations multiple times, or shuttle across them, than to simply choose one new final destination and settle there. Those who can afford to be on the move perpetually are becoming a new class of, to borrow a term from physics, “quantum people”.

As they often have been throughout history, cities can be islands of immunity amid a sea of uncertainty. Whereas entire island nations such as Australia and New Zealand have sought to maintain that status by closing themselves off, global cities must prove that they can offer the blend of secure connectedness that global companies and mobile workers seek.

The next chapter in the war for talent is being written today not only by the great cities that are reinventing themselves, but also by the cities seen as most attractive by the Generation-X, millennial, and Generation-Z digital nomads who dominate the workforce. Where they take their skills and savings will play a significant role in determining the winners and losers of the future. Cities such as Tbilisi and Almaty are under the radar today, but already show strong signs of putting themselves on the map for the long term as they swell with industrious and talented youth. As countries learn from the Covid experience and improve their living conditions to lure from the next wave of investor migrants, the options for the future may well grow rather than recede.

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3rd Quarter 2021 - 25

OPINION

In 1953, a country that was in ruins right after the war became the current 8th power of the world in less than 70 years, or Korea emerges as a superpower competing for the world's G2 place in 20 years, what do you find the most difficult?



6th, Netherlands
7th, Austria
He leads 8th place in Italy.

The first will seem more impractical and almost impossible. This is a case that has not been preceded in the history of mankind and has become an example of the rise of mankind, which is difficult to hope for in the future.

This is the story behind the Chinese Sai Weng said that a difficulty can be a blessing in disguise and vice versa. "Who knows what is good for a person in life? Indeed, none of us knows what the future holds. A hardship can have positive effects and prosperity can have negative effects.

In the historical trend that Korea is rapidly becoming the center of the world, whether in the market for smartphones or electronic products, in the field of cultural content for films, music or theater, or in the market of the high technology such as semiconductors or Internet technology, Korea is already a country of the world, now the brand. As with the recent friction with Japan, Korea has become so strong that Japan can no longer compete with Korea in terms of physical strength and international political fighting power. And in the process of overcoming the ongoing pandemic, Korea has received the most reliable global assessment with the highest technology and the safest and most stable domestic operational capability. The country called Korea is emerging as a luxury brand. (citinavi team)

The following article is written by Choi Sang-gi

University of Zurich, Switzerland
This report examines the relationship between ethnic IQ and national income and growth.

The highest IQ in the world
1st in Korea,
2nd place in Japan,
3rd, Taiwan
4th, Singapore
5th, Germany



26 - Citizenship Navigation

Until the 1960s, the nation with the best brains in the world were cited the Jews. The reason is that it was before Asia appeared in Western world history. Jews appeared in Western history and became active in the Rothschild family, which dominated the business world in Europe and controlled 90% of the world diamond market. The Oppenheimer family, which has been in control for 100 years, is a prime example. However, as the economic development of Korea and China accelerates after Japan, a midbrain assessment showed that the Jewish race was far behind.

Readers are familiar with the Los Angeles Black Riots. Before the black riots in LA, a trial was held in an LA court in the United States for Koreans in Koreatown, LA about 10 years ago.

The complainants were Jews. It is said that the Jews, who had advanced in the distribution of fish and the distribution of food in the United States and Europe, could not do business at all because of the Koreans who had settled in Los Angeles. When I went to the wholesale market to buy fresh fish and vegetables at 5 a.m., Koreans were out at 4 a.m. The Jews got out at 4 a.m., and the Koreans got out at 3 a.m. and lined up. When the Jews also came out at 3 a.m., the Koreans brought blankets the day before and sat down ahead of time. Tired of Koreans, these Jews - they couldn't do business because of the yellow monkeys - filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for violating the fair trade law, but lost. However, I didn't think it was wrong to say that it is because of judicial fairness that the United States is hanging on.

There are concrete reasons why Korea has the highest average IQ in the world.

1. Excellence at Hangeul.

The excellence of Hangeul is difficult to express. Compared to Japan or the United States and China, the character generation speed when sitting in front of the computer reaches seven times. In other words, when the Japanese and the Chinese write 100 pages of science and technology texts. Koreans do 700 pages in Hangeul. Although science and technology do not become arithmetic, the accumulation of productivity is indescribable.

Hyundai's competitiveness would be able to beat the opponent if it is only 10% higher. At 10% competitiveness, the Koreans are already scoring huge points on the excellence of Hangeul.

2. Great enthusiasm for education

High population density. Due to the great zeal for education, in Korea even the most gangsters can express their opinions in writing unless they

are mentally weak. As a result, the information delivery capacity given per unit of time and the information highway are the most robust. Moreover, due to the high population density, the information superhighway stacked like a spider's web has made it the most powerful country on the internet and has the ability to rotate the brain and acquire data information with the fastest Internet.

As Koreans know, brain development is slow because they grow up on their own or have little opportunity to interact with people. The high population density causes many problems, but it also has these advantages.

3. Topography of Korea.

It is well known that the area where the brain is most developed is a place with four distinct seasons. Hot when it's hot and cold when it's cold is the best place. However, it is not good to be too hot or too cold. In particular, from Nasan (the eastern peninsula), the Northeast Asian region is said to have the best medicinal efficacy among all the plants. Wild ginseng certainly exists in southwest China and the Americas. However, wild ginseng from the Americas, including southwest China, is inferior in medicinal properties to the 10-year-old bellflower in Korea. The reason why Korean medicines are more expensive and preferred than Chinese medicine in oriental medicine is not only because of the exchange rate problem, but also because of their medicinal effectiveness. It's because the soil is so good.

4. Korean traditional culture.

A representative example is the culture of the spoon and the chopstick. As people who use chopsticks, Japan and China use them, but in China and Japan only chopsticks are used and not spoons at the same time. From childhood, the development of the nerves of the fingers is greatly improved. As a result, brain cells develop rapidly from childhood. Moreover, it can be said that this is the reason why the Republic of Korea stands out the most in all the aspects that require a keen sense at your fingertips.

When you go to an American supermarket and the American cashier is working, the Americans leave. This is because the American cashier is too long to calculate the change of currency. If there is a queue, customers will definitely return. However, when I go to a Korean-run supermarket, there is no one in line. It is not because the trade is not working. There are more customers, but there is no need to queue because the calculation ends instantly.

When Koreans see a banker counting money in a Korean bank, they think it is an ordinary case, but when a foreigner visits Korea for the first time and goes to a bank, it is considered a sort of magic or art. Is it a human being? Oh, how wonderful! ~ There is no one in their country or elsewhere in Europe who counts money as a Korean ghost.

CAPITAL OF THE WORLD 2036?



John Titor's prophecy for the 2036 map



map of the ancient 4th century, which was documented in Handangogi

Non-Korean alien John Titor's prophecy of a united Korea in 2036

A prophecy about Korea published by John Titor that he time traveled from the future in 2036 has heated the internet.

Soon Korea will rule Manchuria as well as the interior of divided China, and Japan will become a colony of Korea! The map is very similar to the ancient map in the 4th century, which has been documented at Handangogi (a compilation of texts on ancient Korean history). No one would be too confident, but hopeful for Koreans to have such bright expectations and aspiration for unification ...

The true story of John Titor.

John Titor called Hall Radio of the United States and said he traveled in a time machine from the future in 2036, and came at a high price in 2000 to find a solution to a problem in the future as a member of the US military. Since strange listeners often made funny jokes ... at first glance it sounded like a lie, but at first viewers thought it was a joke and asked questions to keep up. However, the responses were too coherent and contained too precise scientific, historical and social information to be dismissed as a joke or a lie. Later, even the stingy presenter came to believe he was in fact from the future, and hundreds of thousands of Americans who heard the public interview, which lasted about 50 minutes, believed he was in fact someone who flew from the future to the past in a machine age.

Even today in 2021, they believe it actually came from the future on a time machine.

He mentioned Korea during the interview ...

John Titor said the situation in Asia in 2036, where he currently lives, looks like this map. South Korea, which became a global superpower in 2036, absorbed much of Chinese territory and all of Vietnam, and Japan as a colony. Looking at this map, some will say: This is ridiculous. How can Korea become such a powerful country? Having Japan, one of the most powerful countries, as a colony ... sounds like a psychopath. It's easy to see a reaction that ridicules Koreans by telling them that they will become the most powerful country in the world in the near future.

An everyday prankster wouldn't last ten minutes in front of real scientists ready to unravel his story. However, according to The Guardian, "Titor has stood up to skeptical physicists." He even shared detailed diagrams and photographs of his time machine, all of which were surprisingly convincing. It soon became clear that if this guy John Titor was a prankster, he'd at least done his homework.

HE CAME BACK TO POST A SERIOUS WARNING ON CNN

While most people doubt that John Titor is truly a time traveler, there are those who still believe, and he may have even returned several times. The most notable example came on November 30, 2010, when a user calling himself John Titor issued a terrifying warning over CNN's iReport feature, frantically warning the United States not to go to war with the North Korea. Titor explained that the conflict would be a horrible mistake, which would lead to the annihilation of half of the United States. Many young Koreans believe this will become a reality in the near future, and the reality is causing a remarkable change now that the Covid-19 situation is stabilizing. In fact, there were many others besides John Titor that Korea would become the most powerful country in the world around 2040.

Jim Rogers, known as the world's three biggest investors, has consistently argued through his books

and lectures for almost 11 years now that in the very near future Korea will overtake China and Japan as well as advanced countries such as Germany and will emerge as the most powerful country in the world comparable to the United States. And also what Jim Rogers predicted was the fall of Japan. Around 2040, Japan will become a completely failing country economically, the government will lose its function and the country will be reduced to one of the worst criminal cities in the country, so Jim Rogers warned you to buy a gun quickly or leave Japan while you still have the option. He didn't just say what he said, he sold all of the Japanese assets he owned, such as Japanese stocks and real estate.

Therefore, as the map above shows, a scenario in which Korea absorbs Japan, which has completely lost its nation function, just as large, strong companies acquire economically struggling small companies, is a sufficiently feasible prediction. . The case of Vietnam is also quite convincing as in the case of the Japanese colony.

In addition to Jim Rogers, Goldman Sachs of Wall Street in the United States has also predicted in previous economic outlook reports that it will become a G2 country along with the Korean United States. As with human life, the situation in the world is constantly changing. 250 years ago there was no country like the United States, 100 years ago there was neither Germany, such a power, nor Saudi Arabia. 60 years ago, South Korea was the poorest country in the world. North Korea had a much more favorable condition. It was a poor country that couldn't even be compared to countries like the Philippines and Cambodia, which were quite wealthy at the time. But today, it is a wealthy and powerful country that ranks in the top 10 in the world.

If someone around 1960 said that in the next 60 years Korea would overtake Japan in the global electronics market and become supreme in the global shipping market, 5th for automobiles and 6th military power, and TV dramas and movies, people all over the world will sing Korean songs in Korean, watch Korean movies with their families at home, and Korea will become one of the 10 most prosperous countries in the world, it was said that he was mad. Who would believe such an absurd dream?



'Bee Chapel' by artist Terence Koh

70 YEARS after the Korean War (1950-53)

Every time lost I press DMZ and
I know where my spirit is ...
It is my GPS

- To Our DMZ Citizens -

First of all, I see my local fellow citizens: DMZ architecture, multi-service, production, IT, no rating or review, IT consultant 9000 km away ... Virtual DMZs provide me online repairings. A concrete existence in a divided territory of 4 km wide by 243 km for almost 70 years and yet another virtual interconnection to our citizens of the world. IT protection with Proxis, Firewall in private networks or trading partners comes from the word DMZ (demilitarized zone) of the 2 Koreas. Here is the capital of the world cookies, our veterans, the missing, the refugees escaping from the North, the migrants beaten by dictators, the orphans, the victims of discrimination, denaturalization, stateless, the refugees of the world. This is the connected empire of the globe to be invited to vote. DMZ is our virtual nation's newborn being in an extra-territorial.

We would not need ideological conflicts in neutralized space. Mountain of Switzerland in Asia without nuclear weapons but supervised by all the powers of the world. The sanctuary for refugees, migrants, multi-religions, physical or psycho nomads ... our global nation DMZ is the reserve of an anonymous refuge. A DMZ virtual passport is initially reserved for the first hundred

Elite Ambassadors who spread the virus of the righteous and consolidates the global community by the vote of the world cookies ... Not requiring the qualification, the nationality, the locality, the age ... but democratic common sense!

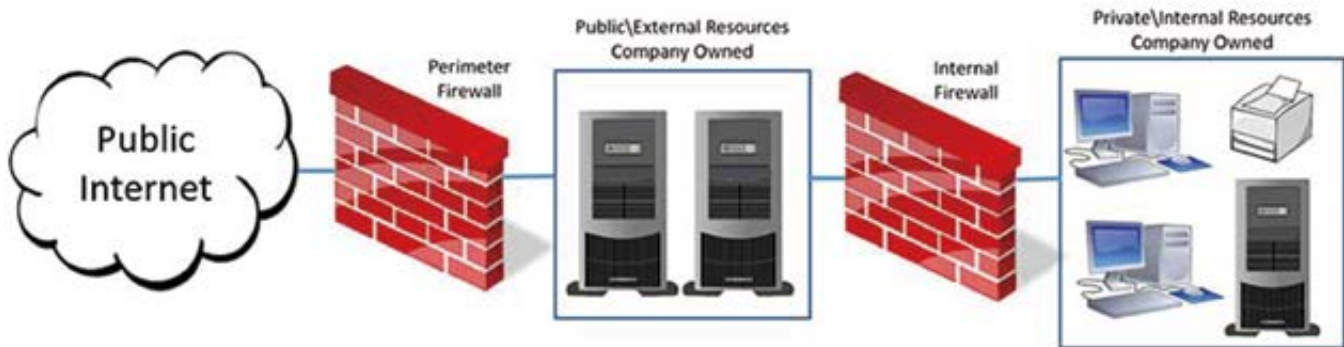
A vast DMZ area buried with mines is inaccessible for human beings to live. But several areas in projects could accommodate elites of migrants and refugees to build the satellites (under discussion). A key step must act for the opening DMZ of closed connections by taking advantage of a resource break from the heart of the dynamism in Asia. If you practice mobile apps, the voice of your nation is ours.

Expulsion of 9,000 migrants in Ceuta / Melilla, Spain on May 17, 2021, +140,000 new illegal arrivals in southern Italy since early 2021. Several million migrants from Africa, the rush to Europe in the 21st century. The suicide of the French and Europeans by the migration crisis is a daily controversy in the medias ... The DMZ empire invites our citizens of the world to share mutual prosperity. Our story overcomes the tragic circumstances that unfold across geographies. Our nation is no longer limited to a territory but rather a geopolitical consent.

We are looking for the first hundred Elite Ambassadors of the Empire DMZ: citizenmz@gmail.com

CITIZEN DMZ

DMZ (Demilitarized Zone)



DMZ is Proxy, Firewall for IT

If you want to get out of prison you need the key to the lock, and if you can't get it, have courage and tenacity. Social and economic problems were not problems of the will, but problems of the spirit.
(by Trille Lionel)

full of new realistic ideas. The megalopolis gives quick access to mountainous regions and superb natural parks too.

English required, Korean advised and aged between 18 and 30 on the day you apply to join the WHP (H-1 Visa) available for some countries each year. Mastering at least the basics of Korean is a real plus. Practicing Korean while traveling through the various Apps, Google translation or Google Lens will no longer displace you. In Japanese there are 5,000 ideograms, whereas it suffices to master 46 signs in Korean to be able to read and write a name. And these simple basics will open doors, a local friendship and in particular to find a job, to do language tutoring.

Léa was firstly fascinated by North Korea and she was very curious to learn more about such a mysterious country. Léa says in her site souslecieldecreee.fr "I did not understand how a country could still live in total autarky today, living completely cut off from the world. This is how I started to learn more about North Korea, Korean traditional culture, Korean food and language ..."
(* Léa has two Youtube: Leadventure, Jeolla Go)

When hired by a French or multinational company in South Korea, the foreigner needs to know what Koreans think about work; how are cooperative networks formed and what misunderstandings can arise in interactions between Koreans and 157k Americans, 86k Japanese, 401k Chinese (total of 2 million expatriates) in Korea. Knowledge of recent Korean history is important, tensions in the DMZ, Japanese colonization 1910-45, the Korean War 1950-53, the disturbances of the military dictatorship of Park Chung-hee and uprisings in Gwangju 5.18 (1980), the perpetual movements of democracy ... are still shaping the attitudes of workers. One must also consider its response to the social phenomenon of evolved feminism and NGO activities in Korea. This means that newcomers need to know a bit about gender relations in Korea, both in the Confucian tradition and more recently in the Americanized Korean and Yugyo Talibans culture against Confucius

likely the BTS origin.

Recently, foreigners might find themselves facing high tension issues with Japan; national movements 'Boycott of Japanese Goods', 'Dokdo Island is Korean Territory' and 'WWII Comfort Women' as well as 300 missing ghosts of Thai workers, and with recent attempts by the government to exclude immigrants who are positive for human immunodeficiency virus. Doing this well will require that the foreigners know something about the history of Korean attitudes on race, morality, and sexuality. The practical adaptation of entering the lives of people from other nations is informed by the individual assistance of Youtubes and Apps.

The real Léa struggled to settle in Gwangju and in the island of Geoje, and the employer relations with her new context (restaurant and guesthouse work visa, Vlogger activities) were not always very fruitful. Lover of travels in 28 countries, persevering and curious, however, she settled and recently made herself a good interpreter of the cultural difference by launching the 'City Tour Bus from Sunchang to Damyang to discover Metasequoia-lined Road'. She now plans to spend her life in South Korea, and she believes that she is making a valuable contribution to South Korea and France.

She then faced challenges of a very different kind. Even in the most seemingly universal activities of daily life, cultural difference colors her day. Not only the obstacle of the Korean language but also with the Jeollado Saturi dialect of the mother of the restaurant owner Gwangju ...

If international debates on human rights, medical and agricultural issues related to climate change, ethnic and gender relations with migrants, are to advance as we live in the 21st century. An individual, even if not a multinational company or an international organization, lives globally connected by mobile apps and new communications technologies. Even provincial towns like Gwangju, Geoje Island, Sunchang, she could have challenged foreign workers from South Asia who replaced the locals in the fields of manufacturing, agriculture, food industry.
(written by Hyong-jin KWON)

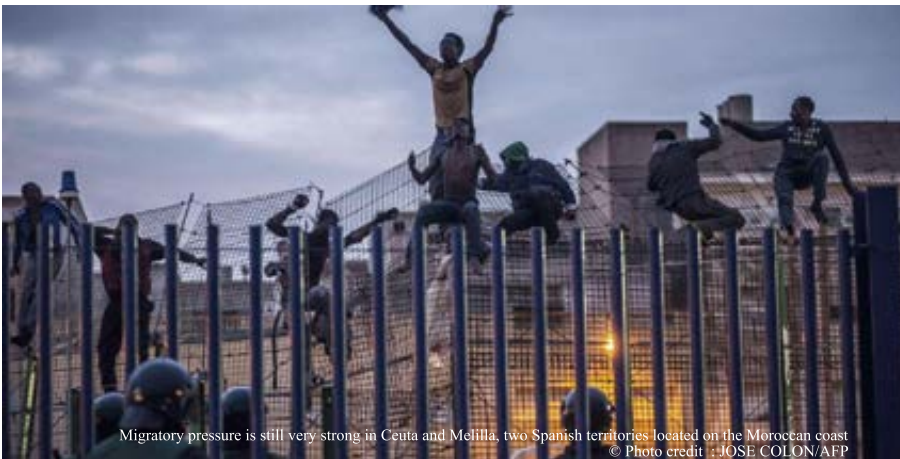
Working Holiday Visa in South Korea, less known than Japan, it is one of the most exotic WHV, but it impresses you every day with an exponential dynamism and the value of Korean culture of the 21st century. The futuroscope capital, Seoul, is the world's first destination of renowned multi-platforms since the coronavirus, which is even more modern than Tokyo. English is relatively common in Seoul. Taking a ride in the metro allows you to experience modernity

THE RISE OF HUMANITY

MORAL OBLIGATION



The Empire DMZ
**"We can no longer
limit our country
to territory, it is the
entire planet."**



Migratory pressure is still very strong in Ceuta and Melilla, two Spanish territories located on the Moroccan coast
© Photo credit : JOSE COLON/AFP

"Fortress Europe"
**Ceuta and Melilla: two Spanish
enclaves in Morocco under high
tension**

Spain has exercised its sovereignty over Ceuta since 1580 and over Melilla since 1496. But in 1993, the country entered the European Union. Ceuta and Melilla then become landlocked European territories in the heart of Morocco.

We must educate workers who can function as global citizens with sensitivity and understanding of the world. When asked where he was from, the ancient Greek cynic Diogenes replied, "I am a citizen of the world." By that he meant that he refused to be defined simply by his local origins in the Greek self-image; he wanted to define himself in terms of more universal aspirations and concerns. In the 21st century, a territory is not reserved for a particular country of origin. Each individual qualifies his residence temporarily or permanently according to his rights authorized by the source of his moral and social obligations. When it comes to fundamental moral values such as justice, we must regard all human beings as our fellow citizens and local residents. We are living in the age of legal cosmopolitans.

Humanity has just started to see the light at the end of the pandemic tunnel and completely freeing itself from the challenges of this health crisis is a complex process that requires time, patience, but also taking appropriate initiatives. The DMZ has been fully patient in balancing the ideological and political equation, monitoring the enemy-brothers of the same ethnicity in real time and meeting any challenges that the "next day" may hold. Realistically, heavy weapons, including

mortars, anti-tank guns and multiple rocket guns, are extensively deployed in the DMZ. Numerous debates and policies on project initiatives such as DMZ World Peace Park, a cooperative zone in the North and South for more than a decade, are in a bubble of discussions since the powers do not belong to 2 Koreas rather to the United Nations (South) and China (North). The DMZ objectivity must take place with the mutual prosperity of 2 Koreas, which are advantageous exemplary security measures, against all odds. When countries think more functionally than politically despite their political status and position, it focuses more on how to optimize space and connect with global markets with its neighbors.

DMZ, Golden Door 'ASIAN DREAM'

Transport infrastructure and DMZ projects by migrants and refugees likely current

Myanmaris can liberate it and transform our global system of dividing nations into connections. I realize that it seems likely that through migrants and refugees, our citizens will steer the DMZ liberation as long as the area is controlled by the powers of the world. South Korea is the economic hub of Florissant East Asia. Shifting the migration crisis from the Old Continent to the DMZ is conceivable in order to ease tensions and neutralize the political steering of 2 Koreas as scapegoats. I am sure that the 2 Koreas and Almighty will adapt to current situations, by offering attractive "packages" to migrants so that they can taste Korean hospitality, humanity, education, health, security and technologies ensuring the legitimate justice of the globe.

DMZ Spirit

- Proxy, firewall world security
- Sacrifice on the globe
- Mutual prosperity
- Geopolitical consent by cookies of the world
- Against injustice
- Digitally vote



OPINION

world cookies e-citizen

DMZ

Beyond the Panmunjom Wall

In the north of the 'Game of Thrones' wall, the haunted forest, a vast, mostly wild, unexplored forest stretches across the most remote lands of the Thenns populated by the free people. Beyond the Panmunjom Wall, the Korean Demilitarized Zone, abbreviated as DMZ (from English demilitarized zone), created on July 27, 1953 during the signing of the armistice of P'anmunjom, is a narrow strip of land serving buffer zone between the two Koreas. The last frontier of the Cold War covers the north lands of the Wall. It remains the only region of the last sovereign dictator.

Through smartphone technology, K-dramas and K-POPs, rumors quickly circulated in the North that South Koreans enjoy prosperity, with happy family life, unlike washing-up -brain-education in the North, rumors mainly disseminated by the escapees from the North for whom the lands of the South are 'The Golden Door' of the free world.

The citizens of the North refer to themselves as "*People of the Democratic Republic*", while those of the South call them "*Slave people of old-fashioned communists*". The northern territories beyond the wall are very closed, without freedom, isolated by US sanctions, and dominated by many injustices, forced labor and abusive surveillance. The unjust division between North and South was imposed by outside powers.

Between 1974 and 1990, the South Korean authorities discovered the existence of four tunnels dug under the border by the North Koreans. Despite the mines, the demilitarized zone has become a sanctuary for the conservation of several animal species, especially migratory birds. In winter, thousands of herons and whooping cranes stay there. The mines scattered immediately after the fenced area, over a hundred meters - leaving a space of some 3 km wide by 248 km (instead of 4 km wide at the start) - explode as humans pass. It seems that tigers are also present in the area, as well as endangered Amur leopards, and many snow leopards. Many big cats are killed by mines each year, as well as other animals including rabbits, deer, and wild boars. However, accidents have decreased in recent years, suggesting that animals have become aware of danger zones, and have established their own zones of life.

Apart from the 196 nations recognized by the United Nations, the DMZ, one of the 329 protected territories of the globe (January 2020: destinations designated as separate territories), also awaits us like a sanctuary that has escaped our minds. Following the lifestyle of perpetual electronic travel or virtual travel is enough to get to know some unusual places in various continents. But traveling in the DMZ is a real risk of life, one of the most conserved natural areas on the planet but fraught with dangers.

The human imagination, fueled by technological innovation, with a little courage, knows no limits.

248 km long and about 4 km wide, located on either side of the border between the two countries, the DMZ cuts the Korean peninsula along approximately the 38th parallel which formed the inter-Korean demarcation line before the conflict.

The reckless fugitives surviving these minefields are true heroes. The DMZ is the most highly secure locked-in area today, a center of tension constantly monitored by all powers, and which is both the epicenter of ironic conflicts and an economic hub for booming regions of Asia. The success of Estonia's e-Residency initiative provides economic access to the borderless EU zone, but it is far from having such a resounding international echo.

A step towards the DMZ

Some foresee the death of the flag theory in the near future, due to an economic crisis that leads to extensive renationalization. Globalization and internationalization have become perennial realities and will not be replaced inversely. Traveling can get a little more difficult, but far from impossible. International trade can get a little more difficult, but far from impossible either.

The concept of nation is called to change. In the future, citizenship will no longer be determined by the birth or citizenship of parents. People will choose the countries of which they want to be citizens, not the reverse.

Nations will compete to attract citizens, virtual or otherwise, just as businesses compete today to attract customers.

The DMZ: owner of conflicting territories? or accelerate the world's connectivity?

The United States and Mexico share a continental geography, but it is their growing connectivity that turns their political divide into a mutually structured space. In the Pearl River Delta of China - where cities like Hong Kong, Macau and Zhuhai have very different legal agreements with Beijing - a Y-shaped bridge (over man-made islands and through a tunnel of six kilometers), opened in 2017, connects the three cities, reducing the passage from four hours previously to just one hour. When countries, despite their differences in political status, think functionally rather than politically, they focus more on how to optimize space, labor and capital, on how to spatially group resources and connect them to world markets.

Thanks to global transport, communication and energy infrastructure - highways, railways, airports, pipelines, power grids, internet cables, etc. - the future has offered a new maxim: "*Connectivity is our destiny.*" Global infrastructures transform our global system of divisions in nations into connections. The infrastructure is like a nervous system connecting all parts of the planetary body; capital and code are the blood cells that pass through it. More connectivity creates a world beyond states, a global society greater than the sum of its parts. (by Parag Khanna).

We are aiming for the era where cities will matter more than states and supply chains will be a more important source of energy than the military - whose primary focus will be to protect supply chains rather than borders. Competitive connectivity is the new "*arms race*" of the 21st century.

(Written by Hyong-jin KWON)

China, Japan Strengthening Single Nationality



China, Hong Kong

The Communist Party government enacted the current Nationality Law in 1980 to resolve 'diplomatic friction' and 'end the divided loyalty among Chinese nationals'.

President Xi Jinping of China presided over the 10th meeting of the Central Finance Committee on August 17, saying that it is necessary to emphasize the redistribution of wealth and strengthening norms and controls for high-income earners. Analysts well versed in China's issues observed that China could fall into the frenzy of the Second Cultural Revolution, the same act 'to overthrow the land and divide the fields' during the Communist Revolution. Experts say that China's ban on dual citizenship is a measure to ensure that its citizens are fully loyal to the government.

The Xi Jinping government encouraged the public to report those who secretly held two passports. Those caught may be restricted from using public services. The crackdown of dual citizenship is part of the government's anti-corruption efforts against 'dual nationals taking advantage of the gray area of the law, trying to evade legal sanctions as a foreign national ... fleeing abroad and transferring assets'.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, citizenship issues came to the fore. In the midst of a cross-border crisis, the government suddenly faced the question of which citizens it should protect, and whom it should protect. Because China does not recognize dual citizenship, many Chinese have been barred from returning to countries of second nationality, even if they were their place of birth or residence. Families were often separated. 92% of China is Han Chinese. One of the easiest ways for a country to control its ethnic composition is through the types of single citizenship it chooses to recognize. In Asia today, the majority of countries do not recognize birth citizenship.

For the Chinese passport holders arriving to San Francisco inter. airport, the Biden administration, following Trump, takes more severe immigration procedures. If you are a US passport holder or PR card holder, you must file global income or capital gains income tax even if you do not reside in the US after age 5 and your residence is overseas. Whether you are American or Chinese, your nationality has nothing to do with your will. Regardless of an individual's talents, education, or aspirations, it is absolutely governed by his fateful nationality. In addition, it cannot be changed without acquiring in advance another nationality that can be substituted.

Hong Kong took stronger measures in February banning dual nationals from obtaining consular protection.

Japan requires people holding multiple passports to choose one by age 22.

Japan is one of 50 countries of single nationality. According to the current regulations, Japanese citizens who have acquired other passports should renounce their Japanese citizenship.

In January, plaintiffs argued that the rules violated the constitutional right to pursue happiness and protect equality under the law. (six men who had already obtained Swiss or Liechtenstein citizenship and two Japanese men who wanted to obtain foreign nationality without losing their Japanese passports) However, the Tokyo District Court dismissed the claim, arguing that the government had no national interest in allowing multiple citizenships.

The matter has been in the spotlight as tennis star Naomi Osaka, who was born in Japan to a Japanese mother and a Haitian father but grew up in the United States, rose to fame. Osaka had dual citizenship, but Japanese law forced her to give up her American citizenship when she turned 22 and she had to choose one nationality. Mixed-race, having lived in both Japan and the United States, and speaking both languages, the single-national opt-in is as brutal as asking if she loves her mother more or her father more.

In other famous case, an American-born Japanese-American dual national worked in Japan for a company that oversees American prisoners of war. Returning to the United States after the war, he was sentenced to death on treason charges and finally pardoned and exiled to Japan, but for decades Japanese lawmakers have referred to the case as 'an example of conflicting duties imposed on dual nationals.' While dual citizenship was at a disadvantage during wartime, in peacetime there are many advantages, including visa-free travel to more countries with dual citizenship, international employment opportunities, and potentially cheaper college education.

Immediately after World War II, in which many Japanese Americans were imprisoned

in US prisoner-of-war camps, Japan drafted the current Nationality Act. Today's Japanese Nationality Act insists on today's outdated system even if the country requires global talents through free movement.

Japanese 'pure' blood racism
When a non-Japanese naturalized Japanese citizen gives birth, the child automatically becomes a Japanese citizen, but in reality social attitudes and norms continue to surround ethnicity. 600,000 Koreans residing in Japan (Zainichi-Josen) are not granted Japanese citizenship and remain Koreans or Stateless.

Zainichi-Josen, Korean Japanese people who were either migrants from the colonial era (1910-1945) or their descendants but literally meaning 'foreign resident staying in Japan,' which makes no sense since there are often third, fourth, and fifth surviving generations of Koreans in Japan.

The majority of Koreans in Japan were repatriated to Korea upon Korea's liberation, but roughly 600,000 individuals remained by the late 1940s. While Koreans technically had Japanese (second-class) citizenship under the Japanese empire, the San Francisco Peace Treaty in 1952 stripped all former colonized subjects of their Japanese citizenship. Because Japan did not have diplomatic relations with either North Korea or South Korea at the time, Koreans in Japan were made stateless.

After South Korea and Japan signed a normalization treaty in 1965, some Koreans in Japan were able to obtain South Korean passports; however, there are still some who remain effectively stateless, as they do not possess a nationality recognized by the Japanese government. Representative Zainichi Koreans and naturalized ethnic groups are bullying their peers at school and social exclusion of mixed-race Japanese continues. As they claim pure Japanese blood, it is racism and xenophobia because they are not 'pure' Japanese.

By Hyong-jin KWON, citinavi@gmail.com

S.Korea Dual Citizenship Amendment Similar to the U.S. Citizenship Act



Minor children of foreign permanent residents can acquire nationality and maintain multiple nationalities through notification without any separate requirements.

Korea was also a minority nation in the 20th century. The type of citizenship recognized and the stringency of state restrictions affect how diverse or homogeneous the population can be. Korea has changed its policies to keep pace with the rapidly changing international situation and is now a multinational citizen. As of December 2019, 2,524,656 foreigners reside in Korea, with foreigners accounting for 4.9% of the total population. Korea is now considered a multi-ethnic or multicultural country. Korea liberalized its nationality law through a sweeping amendment in 2010, which for the first time allowed its citizens (limited) permanent dual citizenship. A special naturalization route has been prepared for talented people who have given dual citizenship a longer time to choose from these situations.

The amended law in April allows immigrants to become naturalized citizens of Korea if they maintain their actual residence. There are three ways to acquire citizenship through naturalization, but the most common way for foreigners to acquire Korean citizenship is through 'general naturalization'. Applicant must have lived in Korea for five consecutive years, have spent at least 183 days in Korea each year, and have passed the Korean culture and history and Korean language exams.

Countries with leading positions of the international community have long ago established a system of including and competing for immigrants to assimilate to a nation. The revised Korean law allows for the removal of the existing 'barriers' to children of immigrant background, and allows children of parents with permanent residency to become Korean citizens. If children born in Japan or Korea are abandoned or their parents are stateless, they will receive Korean citizenship.

Global Migration in Asia foreshadowed by the Revised Korean Dual Nationality Act; Not necessary to renounce origin citizenship

Obtaining Korean citizenship gives you access to a modern metropolis that offers an amazing quality of life, and Korea allows children born abroad to automatically hold both their country of birth and their parents' passports. There are several main options for living in Korea as an investor. Applicant can get a Korean residence by starting a business, investing in a business or a real estate, or in government funds. Korea does not have citizenship program by investment, but investment over a certain amount can lead to permanent residency directly in the early stages of immigration.

If applicant is able to invest ab. US\$100,000 in a self-employed or startup in Korea or ab. US\$300,000 in other company, this investment qualifies an investor visa. Few people know that Property investment +US\$ 500,000 qualifies family permanent residence (similar to EU Golden Visa). The land price in Gangnam escalated 4,000 times during the 1960s and 1990s, when the "Miracle of the Han River" was born by the rapid industrial development and Property investment. Apartments in the Gangnam area soared by a whopping 2-2.5 times during the pandemic, and it has been on the rise for 60 consecutive years. Also, despite the pandemic, Korea's economy is the most booming among OECD countries. (Korean Golden Visa) contenders stagnant prices of South European Golden Visas.

Korean nationality maintains first ranking of passport index. Along with Japanese, Singaporean, German, and French nationalities, Korean passport holders can freely travel to 180 countries in the world. Korea is an advanced and wealthy country leading the democracy in Asian regions, that have changed from a developing country to a developed country in 2021 for the first time in a human history. Likewise, Korea is not a corporate tax haven and has a minimum corporate tax of 10%.

S.KOREAN PASSPORT Emerging as the Best Asian Citizenship by Investment.

Korean nationals enjoy visa-free travel to Russia since 2014.

Koreans can stay for up to 60 days in Russia without a visa, and they enjoy a free trip on the East Sea-Vladivostok cruise on the East Coast and they can travel to Europe via Moscow on the Trans-Siberian train.

As a post-pandemic phenomenon, Korea has been ranked as the # 1 most popular destination on many global platforms, and more and more people from the United States and Europe are preparing for a trip. or a long term investment in Korea.

Korean has been the most popular foreign language in recent consecutive years, with an increase rate of American university students of + 95.0%, Arabic + 26.3% and Japanese 5.2% in 2021. In France , the competition rate for the Korean language department approved in universities is 15 to 25 times higher in 2021. There are not many foreigners who know the Hangeul Korean alphabet (Hunminjeongeum), which can be read and written with the learning of only 46 signs, is recognized by UNESCO. Korea is one of the fastest growing countries, not only in terms of passport power, but also in terms of health insurance, education and cultural content in the world.

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Colonizing the colonizers: My moments of freedom

By Jung Yu-na



Jung Yu-na was a featured speaker at the May 15 Asia Regional Forum organized by Freedom Speakers International (FSI) and sponsored by UniKorea. Below is an excerpt of her remarks. — Ed.

Today, I want to share my first moments of freedom with you. Each moment may seem obvious to many of you, but I can assure you that they were very precious and special to me. When you are born free, it may be difficult to see how precious freedom is. How easy it is to take things for granted without ever thinking about the consequences of being without it.

Today I will tell you about my three moments of freedom. One, becoming a South Korean citizen. Two, getting a driver's license. Three, getting a passport. These moments are so precious for me because I was born in North Korea without any liberty.

I couldn't say the words I wanted to say, see what I wanted to see, hear what I wanted to hear.

That was the world I used to live in — not knowing what freedom meant. Some say that ignorance is bliss? Well, that depends on your definition of "bliss."

I never expected that my first trip to another country would be when I escaped from my own. I thought if I went to China, I would have freedom, but that expectation was completely wrong because I always had to run and hide myself from the Chinese police.

I needed a passport to show them, but like other North Korean defectors, I didn't have any traveling documents. We were never allowed to have a passport to go outside of North Korea, except for official business approved by the authorities. And not many North Korean people went on official business trips.

Furthermore, the North Korean authorities demanded that China catch North Korean defectors and immediately send them back to North Korea.

For that reason, I was always being pursued by Chinese police. If they had caught me, they would have deported me to North Korea where I could have been jailed or even executed. Luckily, my aunt escaped to South Korea before me, so she brought me here and finally my first taste of real freedom began.

My first moment of freedom was the day I got my South Korean citizenship.

I was so happy and looked forward to living out my dreams in this country that felt like a gift to me. When I was in North Korea, I had North Korean citizenship, but the meaning was different. Unlike here where citizenship has power, the North Korean one shows that you are a slave of that dictatorial government.

Here, being a citizen means you can vote for the president and you can have a say in the nation's democracy, but in North Korea, the government dictates the rules and laws to the people. My first surprise about South Korea was that people can go anywhere in South Korea without needing permission.

In the North, you must apply for a permit when you want to go travel anywhere.



If you ask North Korean defectors if they have ever visited Pyeongyang, many will say they have not. Even though they are North Korean citizens, they can't legally go to Pyeongyang without carrying a permit. So, the little South Korean citizenship card meant a lot to me. It meant I had real power and real freedom for the first time.

My second moment of freedom was the day I got my driver's license.

I never thought that I could drive my own car, because it is difficult to own a car in North Korea.

After I learned about South Korea, I constantly dreamed of escaping.

Watching South Korean dramas taught me a lot. I found out a lot of things were different than in the North; that South Koreans could drive and go wherever they wanted. It seemed like they had real freedom.

“My third moment of freedom was the day I got my passport. Can you picture someone actually getting a passport who never thought they could?”

How exciting would that be?

If I could have had a passport before, then I could have avoided the dangerous experiences I went through in other countries en route to South Korea.

Having a passport at last, I suddenly got an idea. What if I go to China with this powerful document? I asked my case manager what I needed to do to get permission from the South Korean government to go to China. He said "nothing!" I only needed to apply for a visa to China. That's all.

I was shocked by that answer.

In the North it takes one year to get a passport because they check your origin, your family connections, your level of loyalty to the regime. And only chosen people can apply for a passport. For example, government officials and some people who were selected to be overseas workers.

With my South Korean passport, I went to China.

It felt so weird; so delightful. I felt so refreshed, like I had colonized the colonizers. It was like a drama; that one little girl escaped her own country. She left behind her hometown with her childhood memories. She tried her best to take in the last scene of her home. She knew she loved her hometown, but she also knew the government didn't let people live in freedom and they didn't care about human rights. So, she swallowed her tears and crossed the Tumen river to have a better life with freedom and human rights. You can see how hard it is to move as a North Korean citizen and how precious it is when you are finally free to move or travel as you wish.

If I were still in North Korea, I would never have taken a flight in an airplane, I would still believe that Americans look like wolves and have enormous noses. And I would still be singing songs for the North Korean regime.

The lyrics of one song state that North Koreans are Kim Il-sung's people and Kim Jong-il's is their true family. Even the land and the air belong to the Kim dynasty. There is no freedom for the people. Even the rich and powerful are all slaves controlled by that dictatorial government.

I am now a South Korean citizen. I still can't believe I own a car and have a passport so I can go anywhere freely.

And also I can't believe that I can say the words I want to say, listen to anything I want. That is true freedom.

Can you imagine you can't use the internet in your daily life? Or that you can't have the job you want or that the government can force you to go anywhere it wants at any time? If you don't know about them, then you wouldn't feel frustrated. Once you experience those things, you can't go back to living as a slave.

How hopeless would that be?

When you are born in freedom, you can take that freedom for granted. Freedom is everything for us. Without it, it feels like living in prison. I now know what it feels like to be treated as a real human being.

Today I shared with you my three moments of freedom. Becoming a South Korean citizen, being able to own a car, and getting a passport allowing me to travel anywhere in the world.

North Koreans still in North Korea deserve that kind of freedom, to have their own moments of freedom, and to have the opportunity to answer the question, "What does freedom mean to me?"

Jung's remarks were edited by Casey Lartigue Jr., editor of Voices from the North.

YOUTUBE : What Freedom Means to Me

Residence-by-Investment Programs Key to Business Mobility in the Covid Era

Dr. Juerg Steffen



At a time in which we are being subjected to unprecedented restrictions and limitations, with lives, businesses, and travel plans constantly disrupted, many wealthy individuals and entrepreneurs are beginning to recognize the significance of four key factors when planning for the future: mobility, adaptability, resilience, and stability. These are applicable not only from a personal perspective, but are also crucial for the longevity, profitability, and efficacy of businesses.

High- and ultra-high-net worth individuals and company owners acknowledge the pressing need to futureproof their businesses and, as such, they have one common intention: to source stable and central business locations from which they can conduct their business with ease on a global or regional scale. As the Best Residence-by-Investment for Cities Index reveals, many cities offer attractive environments in which to do business in addition to being appealing relocation destinations for wealthy and talented individuals and their families.

The upheaval caused by the Covid-19 outbreak has accentuated not only the cruciality of planning for future contingencies but also that it needs to be a top priority when it comes to wealth portfolio and legacy strategies.

Residence programs a pathway to global access
The sudden restrictions imposed by the pandemic, coupled with substantial political changes in many countries — both world-leading and otherwise — have prompted high- and ultra-high-net worth individuals, business owners, and entrepreneurs to reassess their options, both in terms of lifestyle as well as the best locations to further their business interests.

As a result, growing numbers are remodeling their approaches to business management, investment, and wealth planning to incorporate resilience and longevity. With more choices being presented to wealthy company owners through residence-by-investment programs, settling in a single location for perpetuity, or even investing in a single alternative residence option that could cater to the whole family as well as your business operations, is no longer sufficient and the quest for global access is proceeding at full throttle.

The world has witnessed the range of measures implemented by different countries to contain the virus and mitigate its negative effects. Some have managed well — others have mis-managed to an unsettling extent. And the result has been exactly that — unsettling. Millions of people are moving, or if they are not moving, they are thinking about moving, or planning where to move to.



Business relocation on the rise

New trends are emerging. Forbes reported in June 2021 that companies are leaving China in droves and it is predicted that 33% of supply chain leaders are planning to move at least part of their manufacturing by 2023, to some extent because of the trade war between the USA and China, and in part because of Covid.

Changes in taxation policies also contribute to the trend. In 2020, the number of Americans who renounced their citizenship in favor of a foreign country reached a record high, with a 237% increase over 2019. This movement was triggered by the new tax and estate measures proposed by the Biden administration. Where are they going? To countries such as China, Vietnam, South Korea, Thailand, and Malaysia — the latter three of which offer residence-by-investment programs.

In addition, the Irish government was quick to announce its refusal to endorse the recent ground-breaking G20 proposal for a global minimum corporate income tax of at least 15% in a bid to stop multinational corporations from shifting their profits to low-tax countries. The new tax system — expected to take effect in 2023 — has been agreed to by 132 countries and will redirect some of the taxes that large multinationals pay to the countries where their products or services are sold, instead of the taxes going only to the country in which they are headquartered. If this indeed happens, fiscally motivated migrations are expected to intensify, giving an edge to tax-friendly jurisdictions.

Meanwhile in the UK, firms and companies are still trying to mitigate the unpredictability they face because of Brexit, although it has already been reported that almost 450 UK financial services firms have relocated to other EU cities, such as Luxembourg as well as Dublin and Limassol, both of which are featured in the Best Residence-by-

Investment Programs for Business Index.

The statistics speak volumes. Like people, wealth and companies are migrating, moving away from familiar business and supply chain hubs that no longer serve the purpose they did in the past, to locations with more advantageous logistics, lower production costs, competent workforces, and equally or more sophisticated infrastructure. The growing necessity for enterprise agility and mobility to succeed in the pandemic world is now firmly entrenched.

Many countries with attractive residence-by-investment programs provide excellent locations for companies to establish strategic hubs for international trade. The UAE is one example, which has the added benefit of no income tax, capital gains taxes, or net worth taxes levied on individuals.

From onsite to online, facilitating ubiquity With digitalization and the advancement of technology, business owners need no longer be confined to the same jurisdictions as their businesses — they now have a choice. This choice will afford them the opportunity to satisfy most, if not all, of their personal and business needs without having to make compromises.

Through investment migration, it is now a reality that high- and ultra-high-net worth individuals and business owners can be 'present' in multiple locations at the same time. This ubiquity allows them to capitalize on the benefits a particular city in a country that hosts a residence-by-investment program and optimize the desired results in any given project, be it for themselves, their families, or their business operations.

An entrepreneur can now live in City 1 as it offers the best education, security, and private healthcare system for themselves and their family, while running and directing

their business, which they choose to base in City 2 owing to significantly lower production costs and stronger labor force.

Build a migration portfolio with your business in mind

Having a ubiquitous presence enhances efficiency and profitability alike and at the same time delivers the lifestyle one desires from a personal perspective. Residence-by-investment programs are the ideal mechanism to facilitate the demand for this global omnipresence, providing a channel for building a migration portfolio of multiple complementary residence and citizenship options to hedge against the unpredictability and volatility the new world order may bring.

As we approach 2022, many are reflecting on the constraints of a single citizenship, not just for themselves but for their families, the generations to come, and their businesses. Governments are also recognizing the significance of investment migration programs as a debt-free and vital revenue source. In fact, since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, many countries such as New Zealand have broadened their residence-by-investment offerings to attract wealthy and talented individuals and thereby enhance their "sovereign equity", while others such as Russia are creating new programs to welcome foreigners to invest and live within their borders to boost their economies.

With this awakening, even premium passport holders now have another compelling incentive to build a suite of domiciles worldwide, to spread any country-specific risks and protect their families and businesses with the mobility, adaptability, resilience, and stability principles in mind. Our Best Residence-by-Investment Cities for Business Index will be an invaluable tool to help individuals to achieve this goal and effectuate true ubiquity.

Dr. Juerg Steffen is CEO of Henley & Partners

GRENADA

ICSID accepts Kawana Bay developers registration for arbitration



by Linda Straker

Kimpton Kawana Bay Hotel project owner registered matter is pending

Government obligated to comply with any ICSID ruling from arbitration proceeding
Weeks after announcing that it will take the Government of Grenada to the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, the owner of the Kimpton Kawana Bay Hotel project officially registered the matter on 9 July. It is now labelled as one of the pending matters on the Centre's website as ICSID claim case number ARB/21/37 <https://icsid.worldbank.org/cases/pending>.

It shows True Blue Development Limited, developer of Grenada's Kimpton Kawana Bay Resort vs the Ministry of Finance, Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of National Security, Youth Development and Home Affairs; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Caricom Affairs and the Ministry of Legal Affairs. Under the Centre's rules, the Government will be obligated to comply with any ICSID ruling from the arbitration proceedings, which is regarded as a tribunal of final resort in sovereign investment disputes.

True Blue Development asserts that the arbitrary and unlawful conduct of the Government of Grenada has thwarted the successful completion of the Kimpton Kawana Bay Resort on the island, which the Government approved in 2017. It is one of the Citizenship by Investment (CBI) projects which provides for investors to receive citizenship of the country after an investment.

The arbitration request has been made under a binding 1986 Treaty between the United Kingdom and Grenada concerning Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment, which was signed 2 May 1986 and entered into force 3 March 1989.

The 4 main objectives of the treaty provides for foreign investors to be accorded treatment in accordance with international law and are to be treated no less favourably than investors of the host country or no less favourably than investors of third countries, whichever is the most favourable treatment (national or most-favoured-nation treatment) subject to certain specified exceptions; International law standards shall apply to the expropriation of investments and to the payment of compensation for expropriation; Free transfers shall be afforded to funds associated with an investment into and out of the host country; and Procedures are to be established which allow an investor to take a dispute with a Party directly to binding third-party arbitration.

Consistent with Article II paragraph 1, each Party reserves the right to maintain limited exceptions in the sectors or matters. The limited exceptions sectors for the USA are air transportation; ocean and coastal shipping; banking; insurance; government grants; government insurance and loan programs; energy and power production; custom house brokers; ownership of real estate; ownership and operation of broadcast or common carrier radio and television stations; ownership of shares in the Communications Satellite Corporation; the provision of common carrier telephone and telegraph services; the provision of submarine cable services; use of land and natural resources.

According to the treaty the limited exceptions for Grenada are Air transportation; government grants; government insurance and loan programs; ownership of real estate; use of land and natural resources.

This will be the third time that the Government of Grenada is taken before the ICSID. In the 2 previous occasions Government won one matter, while for the other matter the claimant had a settlement of US\$63 million.

International developer and principal of True Blue Development Warren Newfield said, "As heartbreaking and perplexing as I find the Government's turnabout on Kimpton Kawana Bay, we have worked diligently to meet all our obligations, while the Government of Grenada has been deceitful. We look forward to the opportunity to prove the Government of Grenada's broken promises in the now registered arbitration proceedings."

Newfield was assigned as an Ambassador at Large and Consul General for Grenada but resigned from those posts on 20 May 2021 claiming the Government has adopted "an anti-business regime" that disregards investors' rights, and breaches agreements.

NOW Grenada is not responsible for the opinions, statements or media content presented by contributors.



Warren Newfield

MONTENEGRO

Holding second citizenship in Montenegro is a great Plan B

At the end of 2021, the CBI program ceases to exist



Montenegro CBI (citizenship by investment)

Montenegro is a country located on the Balkan Peninsula that delights travelers with incredible nature and beauty. Since 2006, Montenegro is a sovereign country that is part of NATO and is a candidate for EU membership. Holding second citizenship in Montenegro is a great Plan B to put your mind at ease in times of economic or political instability in your home country.

Montenegro's CBI Program was launched in 2019 to attract more wealthy foreigners. In the short time since its launch, the program has become a popular route to a second passport for high-net-worth individuals all around the world. The Montenegrin passport opens its owner visa-free travel to 124 countries around the world. At the end of 2021, the program ceases to exist.

Montenegro passport is ranked as the 58th most powerful in the world. Based on this powerful citizenship with low investment amount, it's clear to see that the Balkan country has a lot to offer foreign nationals seeking second citizenship. Like many of its counterparts, this program was created by the government of Montenegro to attract FDI and increase economic activity in the country. In exchange for a defined economic contribution to the nation, individuals are granted citizenship status and gain the right to live, work and study in Montenegro.

Obtain Montenegro Citizenship Through Real Estate Investment

In addition to a one-time donation, investors looking to apply for the Montenegro CBI program will need to invest in government-approved projects in the country.

The Balkan country is home to the most affordable real estate prices in the whole of Europe, with a range of properties, such as upscale hotels and resorts, set in beautiful locations with unique environments.

If the property is located in the North of Montenegro, the minimum investment amount is set at EUR 250,000. And if located in the more prestigious South, including the Adriatic coast, the minimum investment amount increases to EUR 450,000.

Aerial view of Budva. Budva is the center of tourism in Montenegro and the main vacation destination for summer holidays on the Adriatic coast, in the Mediterranean.

Montenegro has one of the fastest-growing economies in the region and the continent. This is primarily due to the nation's thriving tourism industry, which saw 3 million visitors in 2019 before the global pandemic hit – making it a lucrative investment with high returns. When investing in the North, you'll have the choice of putting your money in freehold apartments or hotel units located in premium ski resorts. In comparison, the South has many luxury apartments and homes that will yield average rental returns of 4-6% per annum.

The best part is that the real estate investment can be sold after five years – leaving investors with a considerable profit margin due to the growth in property value.

Benefits Of Holding A Montenegrin Passport

Future EU-member state: It is expectable that Montenegro will have full EU membership by 2025. After which, Montenegrin citizens will have the freedom to live, work and study anywhere in the EU countries.

Unrestricted travel: As a citizen of Montenegro, investors gain visa-free or visa-on-arrival travel to over 120 countries and territories worldwide, including Russia, the Schengen Area and Singapore.

Retirement option: Montenegro is a beautiful country filled with breathtaking architecture and coastal views – the perfect place to spend your golden years.

Favourable tax policies: Montenegro places no taxes on worldwide income, capital gains, gifts, wealth and inheritance.

Lifetime citizenship: Once obtained, Montenegrin citizenship is valid for life and can be passed down to future generations.

Minimal residency requirements: There are no physical residency requirements and applicants do not have to visit the island nation before or after applying.

Dual citizenship permitted: When obtaining citizenship in Montenegro, you are not required to renounce your current citizenship(s).

Simple application process: The government of Montenegro does not require applicants to pass an interview or language test and no work or education experience is required to be eligible for this program.

Lifetime citizenship: Investors and their families will enjoy Montenegrin citizenship for life and pass it down to future generations.

Future benefits: It's predicted that Montenegro will join the European Union by 2025, which will significantly increase the advantages and opportunities for the country's citizens.



Montenegro passport and immunity

Crypto Holders Obtain Passports in Tax Safe Havens

By MacKenzie Sigalos



Russian expatriate Katie Ananina has spent the last three years helping people dodge taxes on their bitcoin gains. It is all part of her mission to stick it to the man, one case of tax avoidance at a time.

As the name suggests, Plan B Passport offers crypto-rich clients a path to a second passport in their pick of seven, mostly tropical, tax-haven states, all of which are exempt from capital gains taxes on crypto holdings.

“I was smart enough to figure out that \$200 in bitcoin will be worth \$100,000 at some point,” said Ananina. “I don’t think the government should have 40% of that.”

Origin story

Ananina isn’t your stereotypical bitcoin maximalist, a phrase used to describe people who believe that bitcoin, and not necessarily other cryptocurrencies, is the future of finance.

Born and raised in Chelyabinsk, a city in central Russia, 90 miles north of the Kazakhstan border, the former professional sailboat racer moved to the States in 2016 after landing a green card, thanks to her status as one of the world’s top sailors.

Five and a half years ago she spoke no English, but you’d never know it to meet her. For Ananina, the appeal of bitcoin was laid bare when she saw the Russian currency drop 50% during the two months she was living in Spain while competing for the Russian national sailing team in early 2015.



“My macroeconomics professor wasn’t able to explain that to me. There was no chance I could run my equations and figure out what happened there,” she said. “I realized I wasn’t happy with how money works.”

So began Ananina’s days as a bitcoin evangelist.

But being a bitcoin maxi isn’t just about believing in one currency, according to Ananina. She believes whole-heartedly in jurisdictional arbitrage, which, to her, means ditching any one government’s rules over her actions and finances, and going to the place that suits her best at the moment.

“If the government starts affecting me, I will take all [my assets] into my hands and go elsewhere,” she said.

This is the mindset that led the 26-year-old entrepreneur to start her own company designed to help others do just that. Ananina says that several bitcoiners she knows who have held the cryptocurrency for over one boom-and-bust cycle are thinking about getting a second passport as a way to avoid paying capital gains taxes on their holdings.



Katie Ananina

Limit your dependency on any one particular state by obtaining a second passport

Citizenship-by-Investment Program (CIP) is the fastest way to obtain a citizenship. This table will help you compare the programs and choose the one that suits you best.

Passport	Visa-free countries	Access to Schengen	Access to the US	Taxation	CIP options	Cost for 1 applicant*	Cost for family of 4*	Estimated Processing time
St.Lucia	123	Yes	No (E-2 visa)	Residence based	Donation	109 600	212 900	3-5 month
					Real estate	359 600	467 900	3-5 month
					Government bonds	?	?	?
Antigua	129	Yes	No	No Income Tax	Donation	132 850	145 400	3-5 month
					Real estate	257 850	270 400	3-5 month
St.Kitts	131	Yes	No	No Income Tax	Donation	158 310	213 740	3-5 month
					Real estate	254 310	304 740	3-5 month
Grenada	122	Yes	No (E-2 visa)	Residence based	Donation	158 219	225 874	3-5 month
					Real estate	278 219	296 874	3-5 month
Dominica	118	Yes	No	Residence based	Donation	109 950	222 300	3-5 month
					Real estate	234 950	257 300	3-5 month
Vanuatu	117	Yes	No	No Income Tax	Donation	132 150	188 450	3-5 month

Giving up U.S. citizenship

In the United States, the IRS treats virtual currency, which includes bitcoin, as well as other cryptocurrencies, as property. This means bitcoin is taxed in a manner similar to stocks or real property.

“At a basic level, the taxpayer’s basis in the bitcoin is what the taxpayer purchased it for, and when the taxpayer sells or exchanges that bitcoin, it is a taxable transaction,” explained Jon Feldhammer, a partner at law firm Baker Botts and a former IRS senior litigator.

“The taxpayer’s income or loss is determined by taking the sales price and subtracting the taxpayer’s basis,” he said.

So let’s say the taxpayer purchases one bitcoin for \$10,000 and sells it for \$50,000. This individual would face \$40,000 of taxable capital gains. A second passport doesn’t automatically solve their tax problems.

“If a taxpayer has a green card, is a U.S. citizen, or is a U.S. resident alien, the taxpayer owes U.S. tax on any crypto gains they have no matter where the crypto or the taxpayer is located,” explained Feldhammer. “It also doesn’t matter if they are dual citizens; if they are U.S. citizens, they owe U.S. tax on their worldwide income.”

This is why Ananina says that many of her American clients either plan to renounce their U.S. citizenship or are considering this option for later in life.

One Plan B Passport customer, who spoke to CNBC on the condition of anonymity, said he has spent the last decade traversing southeast and central Asia, and he is seriously considering ditching his U.S. passport once he’s officially a citizen of Saint Kitts. He said the \$180,000 cost was totally worth it, as it represents only 1% of his net worth, and the capital gains taxes on his crypto holdings would amount to millions.

This person opted for the “premier” Caribbean passport, as he describes it, since it is the oldest and most reputable of the programs and offers the most visa-free travel. But he warns those who are interested in applying to brace themselves for a months-long process with a lot of paperwork, including police checks and medical checks. Would-be emigrants should also note that the U.S. charges citizens a fee to cut loose.

“When a U.S. taxpayer expatriates, they are generally subject to the ‘exit tax,’ which is essentially a tax equal to what the taxpayer would be subject to if they sold all of their property the day before they gave up their citizenship,” according to Feldhammer.



Technically legal

Unlike tax evasion, which is when an individual deliberately hides their income, tax avoidance is perfectly legal, even if large swaths of the population deem it unfair.

But Marais points out that the IRS and tax authorities are ramping up their efforts to trace digital currency holdings via some of the centralized crypto exchanges. “The IRS’ reach is global, especially with the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act,” he said.

Feldhammer was with the IRS Counsel when it made significant inroads in taxing U.S. taxpayers who intentionally hid assets offshore in order to avoid U.S. taxes.

“Through a combination of informants, changes in the laws, and significant international pressure, it is now extremely hard for a U.S. person to hide assets overseas,” said Feldhammer. “The U.S. can do the same thing for crypto and is already contemplating changing its laws to do just this.”

The U.S. Department of the Treasury has proposed comprehensive reporting for crypto, which would make it as difficult to spend crypto, as it is cash, without it getting reported.

The IRS is also stepping up efforts at home to track down noncompliant U.S. taxpayers using John Doe summonses, a tool that allows

the government to obtain information about a large group of unidentified taxpayers. In this case, the summonses were issued to different crypto exchanges as a way to find people who conducted at least \$20,000 of transactions in cryptocurrency from 2016 to 2020.

Issuing these summons one exchange at a time is a clumsy way to capture noncompliant U.S. taxpayers, but it can be effective, according to Feldhammer.

This is why many exchanges steer clear of Americans altogether. Marais tells CNBC that Valr, the second-largest crypto exchange in South Africa, doesn’t touch U.S. citizens.

Though Ananina isn’t breaking the law, she does endure the wrath of law enforcement.

“Every time I cross the border, I get detained in the airport for three hours,” Ananina claims. “They ask me a bunch of questions, and every piece of luggage goes through the craziest screening. They literally turn my socks inside out.”

But she says border patrol agents can’t get her down.

“If I cross border by foot, it’s much easier, so I literally started flying to Tijuana and walking across the border to San Diego,” she said. “It’s a much faster route.”

“**If a taxpayer has a green card, is a U.S. citizen, or is a U.S. resident alien, the taxpayer owes U.S. tax on any crypto gains they have no matter where the crypto or the taxpayer is located,**



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THE SHORELINE EXPERIENCE

Forming part of The Shoreline community has its perks, with amenities such as restaurants, cafes, a shopping mall and an extensive underground parking for residents and the public. Yet there's so much more to it for residents. Residents are set to benefit from the proximity to the open sea and to enjoy stunning shoreline walks in a totally car-free and pedestrianized environment. Besides, the project is set around a man-made lagoon and each apartment has access to it, as well as a secluded residential area where residents can stroll at their leisure and take in the beautiful sea-views. Kept under secure-gated access, this area promotes tranquillity and safety allowing for peace of mind and ultimate relaxation.





On 30th July 1980, the chapter of joint colonial rule over the New Hebrides by Britain and France was closed and the world welcomed the birth of the Republic of Vanuatu, a tranquil chain of 83 islands situated in the south western Pacific Ocean.

40 years on Vanuatu is a multi-cultural paradise where anyone can reach by plane from Australia and New Zealand in less than 4 hours. Remnants of the chic French lifestyle is still evident by the cuisine served in hotels, cafes and restaurants. The English rubberstamped their system of Parliamentary Democracy in the country as well as their rule of law.

Religion plays a major role in the shaping of the country and Christianity is the accepted religion however other religious faiths are also welcomed and practiced without fear of oppression. In order to maintain continuity of this diverse multiculturalism the Government passed a law accepting dual citizenship. With this in place it allowed for the inception of the Vanuatu Development Support Program in 2017 to help promote investment and financial support by means of a Citizenship by Investment scheme.

The scheme allows licensed Designated Agents to promote and market the Development Support Program to interested persons who wish to have

a secondary citizenship. Visa-free or visa on arrival access to 125 countries and territories. Granted visa-free entry to 26 Schengen Area countries as well as UK, Russia, Hong Kong, Singapore. Being able to process his application for citizenship within a time frame of 30 days according to the government process and structure.

Dual citizenship

Low cost of living in country dubbed the “The untouched paradise” and twice considered as the Happiest Place on Earth by the Happy Planet Index. It is presently ranked 4th on the same platform.

The only Citizenship by Investment (CBI) program of its kind in the Asia Pacific Hemisphere.

Tax-free country (other than the indirect taxes of VAT and Customs).

International off-shore finance centre since 1972.

International Banks present – such as ANZ Bank, Bred Bank and BSP (Bank of South Pacific)

Simple company incorporation and bank account formation procedures.

Stable, peaceful country – does not even have Regular Armed Forces.

An English/French speaking British Commonwealth Member Country.

A stunning tropical island nation – both for tourism and living.

Low cost real estate – from prime beach front to whole islands for sale.

Secure, long term land tenure – all land Government owned and leased. Nominal rental rates.

A country with tremendous economic growth prospects and investment opportunities.

The process of applying for citizenship is a 2 fold process.

Pre-approval process

The first aspect is the Pre-Approval stage. A client provides to a designated agent or a sub-agent of the Principal a copy of his passport bio page, police clearance and curriculum vitae. The documents are forwarded to the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) which does a background check on the client. FIU results are completed within 24 to 48 hours. Once the check results are positive then the client can proceed to the second

and final stage.

Approval process

The client is then provided a checklist of all the documents which he or she must provide. The documents must be certified by a Commissioner of Oaths, Justice of the Peace or a Notary Public. Any document in a foreign language must be translated into english. The english version must be certified as a true copy translation of the foreign language document.

The documents are then sent to the designated agent by email. Once the documents are vetted and approved by the agent, he will then issue an invoice to the client for payment of the Government Contribution fee. If the client is using a sub-agent to negotiate with the designated agent, the sub-agent may invoice the client.

Citizenship Certificate issuance and Passport printing and delivery

The process for collection is for a Government appointed Commissioner of Oaths and a Passport officer to travel to the country where the client(s) reside or desire to receive their passports. The Commissioner of Oaths does the Oath of Allegiance and the Passport Officer hands over the passport.

In light of the COVID19 Pandemic, the delivery process is via DHL express mail. The passports are delivered to the nearest Vanuatu diplomatic office/mission where the client resides. The client attends to the diplomatic office/mission to collect his passport and undertake his oath of allegiance via video conferencing apps such as zoom, whatsapp, IMO, skype or wechat.

With a contribution fee paid to the Government, an applicant will have the benefit of:

Visa-free or visa on arrival access to 125 countries and territories. Granted visa-free entry to 26 Schengen Area countries as well as UK, Russia, Hong Kong, Singapore.

Being able to process his application for citizenship according to the government process and structure.

(By Justin Ngwele, lawyer in Vanuatu)

PORTUGAL

FAST TRACK TO INCORPORATE A COMPANY

By APV Antonio Paula.



Portugal is known for being a bureaucratic country. However, **amazingly, it is possible to set up a company in the country in less than 24 hours.**

A company with many or few shareholders or with a more complex structure. There are two ways to quickly incorporate a company in Portugal: through a public service called “Company within the Hour” (yes, in 60 minutes the company is created) or by drawing up the company's constitutive document before a lawyer or a solicitor (or a notary by public deed), cases in which the procedure also takes minutes.

The company's shareholders may be other companies, headquartered in Portuguese territory or abroad, or persons residing in Portugal or in a foreign country.

In this respect, it is important to note that in order to be shareholders and/or directors, the persons in question do not need to have a valid visa or residence permit to enter or reside in Portugal. Also, the shareholders do not need to travel to Portugal to form the firm. In fact, the company can be created by an attorney, based on a power of attorney granted abroad. This power of attorney must be apostilled and certified by a foreign notary, a Portuguese consulate abroad or before a Portuguese lawyer or solicitor. Very recently approved rules will allow Portuguese lawyers and solicitors to certify documents by videoconference, which will streamline and speed up the procedure even more.

The process will only take longer if the interested

party wishes to choose a specific name for the company. In this case, it is necessary to obtain authorization for the name in question from a department of the State, which, if requested with urgency, will not last more than 48 hours. However, if the interested party agrees to use a company name from a pre-approved list of corporate names, then obtaining the company name is immediate.

The company may - with some exceptions - have one or more shareholders, one or more directors, simple or complex statutes. In the simplest corporate type, i.e., limited liability companies (“sociedade por quotas”), there is no minimum value of the share capital.

Furthermore, the value of the share capital does not need to be immediately deposited in the bank, but may be deposited later.

Except for the rare cases specially regulated in the Law, there are no limitations on the company's activity: it can carry out one, few or many activities. Furthermore, it can carry out its activity in Portugal or abroad and own assets anywhere in the world, including share in other (Portuguese or foreign) companies.

As Portugal is a full member of the EU, companies based in Portugal obviously benefit from the elimination of double taxation arising from the legislation on parent companies and subsidiaries, which has been transposed into Portuguese Law for a long time.

Every company created in Portugal needs to hold a bank account with a financial institution operating on Portuguese soil. But even that bank

account can typically be opened with a proxy or the bank documents can be signed by the company's managers abroad.

The incorporation process ends with the registration of the company in the commercial register and with informing the tax and social security services. All these acts can be – and as a rule are – performed by the entrepreneur's local advisors, namely the certified accountant or the lawyer.

In short, in a few hours it is possible to become a shareholder and/or a director of a company in Portugal.

A company integrated in the European Union and with free access to the common market. The firm can develop a business, act as a holding company, be a mere asset depository or even be essentially a vehicle to obtain a residence permit in Portugal, which allows free access to the Schengen space and in the future, Portuguese nationality.



*Author : APV Antonio Paula
ABV Advogados, lawfirm in Lisbon*

PORTUGAL

A new opportunity in this alternative investment vehicle



- Lower investment for a fund (€ 350K) than for a property (€ 500K);
- Fund process is easier than property purchase;
- Fund process is faster and cheaper;
- Fund investment is hassle-free, whereas property purchase will require property management and maintenance;
- Fund process has lower taxation and legal fees;
- Fund may have higher returns (specially since short term property returns declined during pandemic).

Connection	Private Equity Fund	Real Estate Property
A) Invested Amount	€ 350,000	€ 500,000
B) Targeted Annual Gross Income	€ 15,000	€ 17,500
C) Net Profit Costs Totals	€ 0	€ 50,000
Transaction Fee (IMT)	€ 0	€ 30,000
Stamp Duty	€ 0	€ 4,000
Registration & Notary Costs	€ 0	€ 1,000
Fundraising	€ 0	€ 15,000
D) Current Income Costs Totals	€ 0	€ 10,000
Property Tax (IMI)	€ 0	€ 5,500
Property Maintenance	€ 0	€ 2,500
Property Service Charge	€ 0	€ 4,000
Personal Income Tax	€ 0	€ 4,000
E) Level of Effort	None	High
Annual Net Income	€ 15,000	€ 7,500
	4.3%	1.4%

Since 2012 when the program launched, the Portuguese Golden Visa was traditionally done through the purchase of a property, however as the 2019 pandemic made worldwide travel difficult and as a result a shift was seen from property investment to fund investment. Cost and effort also make the fund investment more attractive as the traditional property investment starts at 500,000€ and the fund investment is 350,000€*. The fund also has minimal fees/expenses, such is the case for a Private Fund which has a one-time fee of 3,500€, while property purchase has high closing and annual costs.

As fund investments grow in popularity, so has the fund offerings and the key aspects to look for is the fund manager and advisor (local

experts are a plus), the strategy and business plan transparency, level of return on investment and notable assets with market strength. Another key element is that the fund is approved by the Portuguese Market Securities Commission (CMVM). The approved Private Fund is a noteworthy fund on the market with a strong team, remarkable real estate assets in prime locations and a strong business plan that is transparent and easy to understand with competitive total target returns of 11% per year.

Each fund has a limited subscription period, such is the case with 21 months to on-board investors and the Golden Visa requirements are also expected to change in 2022 (fund investment will increase to 500,000€*, meanwhile property investment will only be possible in low density areas*), therefore fund investments are at their most advantageous moment. Despite when or how an investor makes their Golden Visa investment, this investment offers freedom of mobility, choice and peace of mind.

* These investment values are available until December 31, 2021, as the Golden Visa regulations will change January 1, 2022.

Author : Jennifer Rodrigues / Odeon properties



<=Restaurant Theatre LIBERDADE
 "An iconic Theatre in Lisbon
 brought back to life"
 -Odeon Private Fund-

The Golden Visa Programs target high profile non European investors interested in having a backup plan for their future generations. With changes to Portugal's Golden Visa legislation pending, investors from all over the globe are rushing to finalize real estate investments in Portugal's prime cities and coastal regions.

The legislation changes have been delayed since publication of this news post and are now due to take effect as of January 2022. Portugal's Council of Ministers approved an amendment in a decree-law which will change the parameters of where investors can purchase property to qualify for the Golden Visa (ARI) residency programme.

With limited time left to buy a property in Portugal's prime locations, it is vital that investors act promptly in order to prepare and submit their applications well in advance of the looming

Up until recently, the majority of Golden Visa real estate options have been located

in Portugal's most prime locations, namely Lisbon, Porto and the Algarve. In light of the pending change in legislation, due to take effect in January 2022, many of Portugal's real estate developers are now looking outside of the major cities and coastal regions for their next development.

From 2022, investors will only be able to purchase Golden Visa product within the interior of Portugal in locations such as Braga and Evora, and coastal regions such as the Algarve, Lisbon and Porto will no longer qualify for the programme. This means the supply of qualifying projects in Lisbon and Porto are now limited with new product unlikely to come to the market as attentions turn to the newly qualifying areas.

If you wish to purchase in one of the countries major cities and benefit from a strong rental return and future capital appreciation then it is important to note there is limited time to invest in Lisbon, Porto and the Algarve.

The objective of the changes is to increase foreign investment across the interior of Portugal, specifically in low-density regions. Up until now, the majority of Golden Visa investment has been focussed within the main metropolitan hotspots, namely Lisbon and Porto and coastal regions such as the Algarve. From July 2021, investment in coastal locations including Lisbon and Porto will no longer qualify. The Government also stated there will be a transition period which will run to 2022, which we expect will be to allow investors to complete their applications.

This presents a six month window of opportunity to Golden Visa investors who wish to invest in the country's prime locations before the new changes come into effect. An influx of last-minute investors purchasing in Lisbon and Porto in a bid to meet July's deadline is expected over the coming months. La Vida also expects the availability of €350k refurbishment projects in Lisbon and Porto to start to decline soon as new projects are unlikely to be started. Demand will rise and supply will fall so we encourage any prospective investors to act quickly at the start of 2021 for the best available deals.

€500,000 / 350,000 investments remain a thing in Lisbon and Porto for commercial units

Residential real estate options move towards non-urban areas. Lisbon, Porto, and regions that are not classified as "interior" are no longer an option

Investment funds will continue to be a compelling option with an increased investment outlay

In light of this particular present inflection point in the timeline of investment funds in Portugal, fund managers foresee a significant increase in demand for what remains as the top option for a Schengen Visa and what could be the last opportunity to apply for a Golden Visa through an extremely lucrative real estate investment in Lisbon and the interior of Portugal.



Boathouse & Experience Centre, Six Senses La Sagesse

US E-2 Program

Grenada is the only Caribbean CBI Program that allows citizens the opportunity to participate in the US E-2 Program (allowing investors to invest and reside in the United States).





GRENADA

Grenada's Citizenship-by-Investment Program

**Grenada Citizenship
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Exceptional Collaborations



The Government of Grenada is a key stake holder in the Six Senses La Sagesse, Grenada development. Six Senses La Sagesse, Grenada will create hundreds of jobs and ensure significant direct and indirect economic benefits across the island.



Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas operates two hotels, 15 resorts and 31 spas in 21 countries under the brand names Six Senses, Evason and Six Senses Spas. The portfolio will triple over the next 5 years with resort, hotel and spa openings underway in Austria, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

PORTUGAL

Investment Private Fund

A GOLDEN VISA FUND | INVESTOR PRESENTATION



Odeon Private Fund will invest in companies (also called SPVs) that hold prime assets in key locations in Lisbon. Each company represents one project that will be developed with the aim to fulfill a specific demand within the real estate market.

The fund will include 4-7 projects at a time, for which the real estate Fund Advisor, Odeon Properties Group, will play an essential role by advising on all matters of the investments through their vast market experience, assists in carrying out all the details of the project's life cycle to perfection and leveraging their wide network of contacts and resources

Balanced Strategy

The fund has a conservative balanced strategy with two types of projects: "Develop & Rent + Sell" and "Develop & Sell". "Develop & Rent + Sell" projects represents 40% of the fund. These projects consist of commercial developments that will generate rental income to pay for the annual "coupon" return (4% target). In the final year of the fund, these projects will be sold and the potential upside will contribute to the performance return. The remaining 60% consist of residential developments projects ("Develop & Sell"), that will also contribute to the performance return at exit.

* This portfolio composition is a forecast, it may change.

Restaurant 1 / Hotel 2 / Residential 4 / Project / Residential 3 / Project / FUND



Tax and Citizenship New Programs-Amendments

With all of the chaos in the world since the pandemic situation, it's better to be years early than one day too late.

Governments of citizenship by investment programs are passing or amending laws, regulations, and tax cuts faster than ever, and better to be prepared. Some programs that (may be) closing down or changing dramatically:

1. Portugal Golden Visa - Higher Investment

This Golden Visa allows investors to live in Europe and work toward Portuguese citizenship without changing their nationality of origin, lifestyle and recent amendments allowing investors' children to grant Portuguese citizenship by 'Jus Soli' principle are advantageous. But investment levels will increase on January 1, 2022; some of the most popular investment options are closing.

2. Thailand announces 10-year visa program to attract wealthy foreigners

Thailand has announced a new long-term visa program that would allow wealthy foreigners to stay in the country for a period of 10 years and applicants for this long-term visa would get "automatic work permits".

The visa program is part of a new economic stimulus government package announced in September following a Cabinet-level meeting as the country looks for ways to give a shot in the arm to its pandemic-hammered economy. The long-term visa would be open to wealthy foreigners as well as highly-skilled professionals from abroad. Applicants who work remotely for foreign companies would be exempted from taxes on their global incomes; for others, the tax rate would be the same as it is for Thai citizens. Also, taxes on foreign ownership of property and land would be exempted.

Long-term visa holders would also be allowed to bring in their spouses and children into the country. Additionally, they would not be required to report to Thai immigration authorities every 90 days like before.

Foreign pensioners would need to have a minimum pension of \$80,000 during the last two years. Remote workers and highly skilled

professionals would also need to show a minimum income of \$80,000 during the last two years.

3. Jordan offers \$1 million CBI route to foreign investors

Announced the new amendments to the country's citizenship laws following a Government Cabinet meeting in September, Jordan is now offering passports and citizenships to foreign investors who put in at least \$1 million for a minimum period of three years as the country looks to generate employment and boost businesses in its fragile economy.

CITIZENSHIP OPTIONS FOR FOREIGN INVESTORS

- Deposit and maintain at least \$1 million in Jordan's Central Bank, interest free, for a minimum period of three years.
- Put \$1 million in treasury bonds for a minimum period of six years.
- Buy shares worth at least \$1.5 million in Jordanian companies and hold them for a minimum period of three years.
- Establish an investment project worth at least \$1 million in the capital, Amman, which must generate at least 20 jobs for Jordanians; the investment requirement drops to \$750,000 while the job creation condition goes down to 10 spots if the project is made outside the capital. Investors utilizing this option would have four months to meet the employment generation requirement. In this particular case, applicants would be granted a temporary Jordanian passport for three years and once authorities are satisfied that all conditions have been met, citizenship would be granted.

FIVE-YEAR RESIDENCY OPTION

Foreign investors also have the option to go for a five-year residency option by investing in property worth at least 200,000 Jordanian dinars (around \$288,000).

The property's worth would have to be assessed by Jordan's Department of Lands and Survey while investors would not be allowed to sell or mortgage this property for the five-year period. Dependents can also get citizenship in Jordan. The government has capped this investment immigration stream to just 500 places per year.

4. UAE

Earlier September, the UAE announced a new visa stream, Green Visa, which allows foreign investors to live and work in the country self-sponsored. Earlier this year, UAE also announced amendments to its citizenship laws, granting nominated foreign investors a path towards Emirati passport.

5. Puerto Rico Act 60 - Higher Taxes

If you're an American looking to reduce both income and capital gains taxes, Puerto Rico has offered two very attractive programs. Now it seems that Puerto Rico is considering increasing taxes on passive income from 0% to 12%. The proposal wouldn't affect current decree holders, so if you want to be in Puerto Rico for 2022, you'll want to do earlier. .

6. St. Kitts and Nevis - Higher Fees

While St. Kitts and Nevis is a popular Caribbean citizenship option, it does work well for larger families and some crypto investors. St. Kitts has been running a 'buy one, get three free' special where a family of four can pay the price of a single applicant, but that likely ends on January 1, 2022.

Colombia's permanent residence program is more affordable due to currency fluctuations, and Costa Rica took the rare step of lowering their residence investment. (by citinavi team)

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PANAMA

Millionaires Look to Redomicile as Tax Hikes Loom

People want to escape the legal uncertainty where they're changing the tax code every year. Some governments in Latin America such as Uruguay, Argentina are imposing new taxes on wealthy citizens who move to other countries but still retain ties with their home countries.

Millionaires across Latin America are looking to leave their home countries as governments strive to fix public finances battered by the Covid-19 pandemic with higher taxes on the wealthy. Some are ready to move, with families in tow, as far as Portugal. Others prefer jurisdictions closer to home, such as Panama and Uruguay, which are positioning themselves as convenient locations for the emigrant rich.

This interest in relocating comes as the Covid-19 outbreak magnifies the huge disparities between rich and poor in much of the region, considered by the United Nations as the world's most pronounced. As governments grapple with the soaring costs of the coronavirus, politicians in Chile, Brazil, Argentina, and Peru are all debating measures to target the wealthy, among other tax measures, to boost revenue.

According to Credit Suisse, there are about 670,000 individuals worth more than \$1 million in Latin America, representing 0.2% of the region's population. That compares to 2.3% in Europe and 7.3% in North America

The reports of millionaires fleeing to protect their wealth when millions are suffering from disease, mass unemployment, and rising poverty are bolstering calls to clamp down on tax avoidance. Millionaires' itchy feet are creating opportunities for jurisdictions who offer fast-track residency schemes as well as favorable tax rules like Panama or Portugal. Investment under Portugal's Golden Visa scheme is highly appreciated and Brazilians were the second largest contingent behind Chinese investors.

Panama provides easy access to a variety of international destinations. The Tocumen International Airport currently connects to 84 destinations and, it has the most extensive global network in Latin America. In addition, those who obtain a Panamanian passport can travel to more than 125 countries visa-free. For many business people and international families, this a major advantage.

“ **The prospect of a business-friendly atmosphere, positive returns on investments, tax benefits and open-borders approach invites citizens from all over the world to join and partake**



Individuals can find a visa program in Panama that will suit their own needs. The following three visas are among the most beneficial programs for investors: the special passport visa, the reforestation visa and self-solvency visa.

The special passport visa, also known as the private retiree visa, has recently been the center of attention for its exclusive passport option. Holders of this visa receive a special Panamanian passport upon visa approval. The passport is similar to a diplomatic passport, which is valid solely for traveling purposes and does not grant citizenship.

For the reforestation visa, with a minimum investment of \$80,000 cover at least 5 hectares of land in an approved forestry project, investors can receive permanent residency.

The self-solvency visa is an excellent option for investors looking to diversify their funds to divide their investments among real estate and fixed-term deposits. The allocations of funds can vary in proportion, if the minimum required investment of \$300,000 is met. Like the reforestation and special passport visa, immediate family members can apply within the same application for the self-solvency visa.

Timelines

The residency visa can take up to three years to complete. Upon arrival in Panama, the applicant will submit the application and receive temporary residency valid for six months. The application will be approved within the six-month period. Each step requires an in person visit, however, applicants do not have to remain in Panama through the process.

Citizenship in Panama

Under Panamanian law, a quick trip to Panama every two years will be sufficient to ensure permanent residency is maintained. If a resident does not visit once every two years, residency can be suspended. After five years of permanent residency, residents are eligible to apply for citizenship. (by citinavi staff)

Why Is Turkey's Citizenship by Investment Program Popular?



The Turkish citizenship by investment program is one of the absolute easiest ways to obtain a second passport out there, with even easier rules. As the quick timeline and simplicity go a long way in making Turkish CIP a popular choice among many investors.

THREE WAYS TO GRANT TURKISH CITIZENSHIP BY INVESTMENT

1. PURCHASING A PROPERTY

is the main attraction of Turkey's CBI program. Since the lira has dropped down, real estate options are plentiful and they are cheap for foreign investors +\$250,000 in real estate. There are no restrictions on what you buy; house, apartment or land and holding the property for a minimum of three years is required. Real estate in Istanbul doubles its value within 5-10 years.

2. CREATING 50 JOBS

If investor wants to start a company abroad or to outsource some of the labor to a cheaper country, creating jobs in the Turkish market in exchange for citizenship might be an attractive option. When the Turkish CBI program was launched, 100 employees were required. Now, that requirement has been halved to become eligible for a Turkish citizenship.

3. MAKING A CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Instead of getting tied up in real estate or setting up a business, there are multiple ways to make a capital investment to obtain citizenship in Turkey. Put \$500,000 in as a deposit in a Turkish bank or buy government bonds, real estate or venture capital investment fund shares in using a more stable currency like the euro, or US dollar.

The premise of the Turkish CIP is based on efficiency and simplicity. The whole procedure takes mostly 3-6 months.

Travelling the globe has become a hassle due to complex visa requirements, a matter which a second passport can help resolve. Turkey's passport provides visa-free travel to 114 destinations worldwide, including major global commerce hubs such as EU, U.K., Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Qatar, and many more.

The Turkish government introduced its popular CIP in 2017 and then went to reduce the minimum investment required to obtain citizenship in 2018. The minimum threshold for the real estate option, which is the most popular one amongst global investors, was slashed from 1 million USD to 250,000 USD.

The benefits that most of foreign investors sought out to gain by investing in Turkish citizenship and some of the lesser-known benefits are following :

The entire process can be done remotely by appointing a firm or an attorney to act on your behalf. Another important point is that Turkey's economy has been steadily growing and the investment is extremely safe relatively to South European property markets, and if you choose to invest in real estate you have a tangible asset that is naturally risk-averse.

Turkish citizenship is inherently passed down to future generations. Investing in Turkish citizenship is a venture that will benefit you and all your future generations perpetually.

How Turkish Citizenship By Investment Helps You Get an E2 Visa

When it comes to countries to immigrate to, the United States is often listed as the number one choice. An E2 investor visa is only open to citizens of countries who are part of the E2 treaty, excluding countries like India, Russia, China and Vietnam.

If you fall outside of the E2 treaty countries, you can still get your hands on an E2 visa. Securing Turkish or Grenadian citizenship by investing means that you can take apply for an E2 visa. We're taking an in-depth look at the E2 visa and how Turkish citizenship could be the answer to your problems.

Why Turkish citizenship to apply E2 visa?

Turkish citizenship minimum investment requirement is \$250,000 vs. \$350,000 for Grenada. Turkish real estate market is more liquid and approved real estate properties are much more. Your property will be sold out with higher value after three years. With its booming real estate market, there is nowhere better to do business than Turkey. It is also very fast in terms of citizenship processing time with less than 3 months after the completion of asset purchase.

While there are other countries available for second citizenship, Turkey is one of the leading choices. Whether you want an E2 visa or the benefits of second passport, the Turkish investor citizenship program is one of the most popular, bringing with it a myriad of benefits. This Turkish citizenship investment program is streamlined and straightforward.

Turkish CIP, E-2 Visa Option for Indian, Russian, Chinese and Vietnamese.

The Turkish citizenship by investment program (CIP) has seen extraordinary demand since its launch in 2017; now own a Turkish passport through investment, and the number of naturalization is set to grow.

The E-2 visa has some major benefits, such as:

- the foreign national and the family members are allowed to reside and work in the U.S. for the E-2 business;
- the spouse can work anywhere without restriction;
- possibility to avoid taxation on worldwide income;

How long does it take to apply for an E-2?

The US is home to many immigration routes, the expensive EB-5 visa, and the difficult-to-get H1 visas. However, there is one visa that stands out, the US E-2 Treaty Visa. The E-2 visa is only available for foreign nationals who possess the nationality of a country with which the U.S. maintains a bilateral investment treaty or a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation. Per the list of treaty countries published by the U.S. Department of State, the E-2 visa is available to nationals of roughly 80 countries in the world. There are only a few E-2 treaty countries in the world that have CBI programs under which a third country national can obtain the citizenship in a short amount of time. Grenada has traditionally been the top choice for this option. Recently, Turkey, Moldova (suspended in 2020), and Montenegro (application closing at the end of 2021) also launched their own CBI program. One noteworthy issue is that the validity period of the E-2 visa differs among those countries. The Citizenship by Investment and E-2 Visa Option has its obvious advantages for certain foreign nationals from non-treaty countries: India, Russia, China and Vietnam.

One of the major benefits of E-2 Visa is fast processing time and a validity period of up to 5 years for certain countries (Turkey, Grenada). The validity period is much shorter for citizens of Montenegro (12 months) and Moldova (3 months).

In the case of Turkey E-2 or Grenada E-2, the E-2 investor will first obtain Turkish or Grenadian citizenship which can usually be done in 3-4 months. The E-2 application can then be submitted to the U.S. consulate in the country of residence. The entire process generally takes about 6-7 months. The quick turnaround for E-2 makes it a good option for people who are looking for a program that allows them to come to the U.S. in the shortest amount of time possible.

To apply for an E-2 visa as an investor, you need to submit a business plan for either an existing or future business that you want to establish in the United States. The process of applying for an E-2 visa typically takes 3 months, with the option to expedite it to 3 weeks for a fee. You can apply for an E-2 visa at a US embassy or consulate, adding a spouse or dependent children under 21 to your application.

The US E-2 Treaty Visa allows the applicants to reside and work in the US by setting up a business on American shores. There is no minimum investment amount required, and the processing time is one to three months. Turkish national get a 5-year, multiple entry E-2 visa. Other eligible nationalities such as Egyptians, for example, get a 1-year.

While the E-2 visa is not directly available to nationals of India, Russia, China, Vietnam through the CBI programs of certain treaty countries, those investors can apply for the E-2 visa by obtaining citizenship of a treaty country before making the qualifying investment in the U.S. Note that getting a third country passport would not shorten their EB-5 wait time, which is determined by the investor's country of birth.

In recent years, delays in various immigration preference categories have brought this visa under the spotlight. In 2015, a visa cutoff date for China EB-5 was established. The current visa wait time for an EB-5 applicant born in China is likely to be more than 10 years for the applicant today. A waiting list for Vietnam EB-5 was also established. Meanwhile, India EB-2/EB-3 has a wait time estimated to be in excess of 15 years.

For Indians, Chinese, Russians and Vietnamese with a pending EB-5 application who are perturbed by the unprecedented waiting time, they can use the E-2 visa to bring their entire family to the U.S. in 6-7 months and start living the US before the final arrival of the EB-5 green card. E-2 provides an entry point to start their business in the U.S. before they are ready to commit further for those managing a business of a size that is suitable for an EB-1C multinational executive or manager application.

Even if the foreign national has limited English language ability, some of the E-2 businesses on the market come with a professional management team that will provide language assistance. Therefore, E-2 visa is still within reach if a foreign national has not a certain level of English knowledge.

Furthermore, unlike EB-5, E-2 visa does not have a minimum investment amount. Many of the E-2 businesses on the market will only need an investment in the \$100k-200k range, which is significantly lower than investing in an EB-5 project under the light of legislation 500k or 900k (the EB-5 regional center program has lapsed since June 30, 2021 and currently requires Congress to pass legislation reauthorizing it before new I-526 Petitions can be filed with USCIS) or purchasing a U.S. business to apply for EB-1C. However, the E-2 investor will still need to invest additional money to obtain a third country citizenship by CBI programs : Turkey or Grenada. (by citinavi team)



For Indians, Chinese, Russians and Vietnamese with a pending EB-5 application who are perturbed by the unprecedented waiting time, they can use the E-2 visa to bring their entire family to the U.S. in 6-7 months.

Global Minimum Tax Ahead? Why It Won't Happen?

By Dominik Stuiber

The G7 finance ministers have settled to set a global minimum tax rate of at least 15 per cent. The proposal was agreed on by 130 countries, almost all of the OECD Inclusive Framework, and also signed off by the G20 finance ministers and Central Bank Governors. Countries will now have to figure out how to implement such a complicated new system, which includes redistributing tax revenue among countries. New standards and mechanisms will need to be drawn up before governments and lawmakers can adopt them in domestic laws. Looking at past global tax initiatives such as the 'Common Reporting Standard', 'Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Action Plan' as a benchmark, putting any such program in place takes years. The effective implementation in 2023 is an ambitious goal. More details are expected in October for the next G20 meeting.

The proposed 15 per cent minimum tax rate could reduce the incentive for companies to set up subsidiaries in tax havens, although there are still many unanswered questions, such as what will base tax rate be, how that will be calculated, what size companies will be impacted and interaction with other international tax rules. It has been proposed that companies be taxed at least 15 per cent in the country in which they operate and if a lower tax rate is charged in an offshore jurisdiction, the difference can be charged in the country where they are headquartered. The proposal is intended to target MNCs as well as enable governments eliminate tax competition among nations.

After the G7 agreement was announced, Hong Kong Financial Secretary Paul Chan commented that a global tax regime could affect tax concessions governments' offer to various industries. In this year's budget, the Hong Kong Government emphasised its commitment to maintaining simplicity, certainty, fairness and minimising the compliance burden of its tax regime. A similar view is taken in Singapore. Read on in our articles.

Why It Won't Happen?

The purpose of the G7 and subsequent announcements by the G7 or 130 other countries was to establish a global standard for 'the end of tax havens' like such proclamations announced BEPS (Base Erosion and Profit Shifting) of the OECD in July 2013.

However several countries that use a lower corporate tax rate as a competitive advantage have not signed the G7 or G20 agreements. Corporate Taxation is but one economic benefit that a country can get from a Multinational Corporation (MNC). Others include employment (which increases personal tax revenues which reducing unemployment expenditures); research and development; training of employees; significant property, VAT, and other taxes; local consumer spending by the MNC and the benefits of access to the services and goods that the MNC provides. (by David Lesperance)

Some countries (Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands) have attracted MNCs through competition by offering tax benefits, a part of their competitive advantage with an educated workforce; infrastructure of essential legal, financial, and support services.

However several countries that use a lower corporate tax rate as a competitive advantage have not signed the G7 or G20



Dominik Stuiber, Zetland

G7 Global Tax Reform and What It Means for Singapore

The Group of Seven (G7) rich nations have recently reached a landmark deal for creation of a global minimum of corporate tax rate of 15%. The tax rate would be used to target mainly the largest and most profitable multinational companies ("MNCs") such as Amazon, Google, Facebook, and discourage them from shifting profits and tax revenues to lower tax countries regardless of where their sales are made. Over the years, we have seen income derived from intangible sources such as drug patents, software and royalties on intellectual property increasingly migrate to lower tax offshore jurisdictions, allowing companies to circumvent paying higher taxes in their home countries.

How would a tax rate work globally?

The global minimum tax rate would apply to overseas profits. Governments are still able to set a local corporate tax rate and if a company pays a lower tax rate in another country, their home government is entitled to raise the rate to the minimum tax rate, thereby eliminating the advantage of shifting profit.

In May, governments had broadly agreed on the basic design of a minimum corporate tax. The G7 accord creates strong momentum around the 15 per cent and above level which has also been adopted by the OECD and G20. The inclusion of items such as investment funds and real estate investment trusts is still being debated.

What it means for Singapore

Though it is still too early to predict overall outcomes, the global tax rules create uncertainty which may cause delays in investment decisions. There may not be a standard response across MNCs as certain investments may be categorised differently. For example, large tech companies can move around more easily compared to those in manufacturing, but even so, is dependent on the availability of a skilled workforce. Companies that are seeking to apply strategies such as diversification of supply chains or require proximity to markets may be less inclined to move.

Nevertheless, the new tax rules aimed mainly at MNCs could see a reduction in the tax advantage that Singapore offers to these businesses. Tax experts say that it remains too early to tell how this will impact Singapore's attractiveness as a regional and global business hub. Singapore has a headline corporate tax of 17%, coupled with tax incentives, exemptions and rebate, the effective tax rate is usually lower, ranging from 4.25% to 17%.

Aside from the tax considerations, MNCs will also consider the non-tax benefits of operating in Singapore. Singapore's infrastructure, rule of law, stable political environment and reputation for integrity, as well as connectivity to regional and global economies are among the "intangibles" that companies consider beyond the dollar and cents.

Singapore will remain as a relevant regional hub with its availability of highly trained talents, strong protection of intellectual property and its reputation as a global financial hub. The cost of doing business will remain a concern for companies, as such; Singapore will need to consider enhancing support for innovation, training and other value-added activities.

Finally and importantly, the tax reforms will not apply to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), as they fall below the expected threshold. According to a KPMG tax expert, the SMEs represent the majority of economic activity in many jurisdictions and their tax situation will remain unchanged under these proposed rules. (zetland)

CYPRUS

Permanent Residency programme

Large investment options following the abolition of CBI programme.

Large investment projects and real estate developers called on the government last february to make changes to the permanent residency programme for third country nationals to help attract more investors to Cyprus. The Association of Large Investment Projects (Smae) and the Land and Building Developers Association (LBDA) have sent a letter to the foreign and interior ministers with suggestions to make the permanent residency programme (PRP) "more functional and easily accessible."

The business groups called for enhancing the PRP's attractiveness following the abolition of the citizenship by investment (CBI) programme. The abolition of the CBI in combination with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, they said, force stakeholders to create new conditions for investment opportunities in Cyprus. They stressed the need for an immediate review of current programmes and measures.

The PRP grants permanent residence status to foreign nationals with the purchase of real estate property worth at least €300,000. Applicants must also make a three-year fixed deposit of €30,000 in a Cyprus bank. They are also required to visit Cyprus to provide their biometric data and visit the country every two years.

The two business groups suggest the creation of biometric stations in Cyprus' embassies and consulates abroad such as in China, Vietnam, the United Arab Emirates, the UK, Russia, Jordan and South Africa for the electronic submission of applications without the need for applicants' physical presence in Cyprus.

Another suggestion proposes the annual income of dependent family members (spouse, dependent parents) be included in

the figure if they are also included in the application for the residence permit.

"It goes without saying that the declared annual family income can be verified by presenting sufficient supporting documents," they said.

Applicants must provide evidence of a secured annual income of at least €30,000 sourced from outside Cyprus (salaries, pensions, dividends, fixed deposits, rentals) while additional secured income requirements apply €5,000 for every dependent person (spouse, children), and €8,000 for every parent or parent-in-law are included in the application.

Pledging a deposit of €30,000 in a Cypriot bank, a procedure they said was "time-consuming" is no longer required. Moreover, the applicants should confirm that they do not intend to undertake any sort of employment in Cyprus, besides holding the position of director in the company in which they have chosen to invest as per the current policy.

The applicants can be shareholders in a company registered in Cyprus and receive the dividends of such company or hold the position of director in such company without receiving a salary.

In case where the applicant has chosen to invest in any other category besides the category of residential properties, he should provide the relevant documentation of his residence in Cyprus as like sales agreement, rental agreement or title deed.

In case of investment in residential properties the applicant should show that the minimum amount €200,000 (plus VAT) is paid to the developer, while in all other investment options the total minimum amount of €300,000 (plus VAT) should be settled prior to the submission of residence permit application.

They also recommend the abolition of the requirement for PRP holders to visit Cyprus every two years and if this is not possible, to at least make it a requirement only for the principal applicants and not for all family members to whom a residence permit has been granted. They also call for increasing the age limit of dependents from 25 to 28, to offer "additional attractiveness to the programme."

The groups called for expediting procedures for Cyprus' inclusion in the Schengen area. This, they argued would make Cyprus' PRP more attractive compared to the schemes of other countries. "The fact that Cyprus is outside Schengen is a substantial and very important disadvantage in relation to competing European countries," they said. The group stressed that amendments to the PRP were necessary so that it can compete with the programmes of other European countries that provide their beneficiaries many of the rights it suggests Cyprus adopts.

Crypto Tourism

Crypto currencies plan their lives around tourism

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Imagine an exclusive city of crypto lovers and crypto enthusiasts own vacation real estate with other like-minded people, likely carpooling and vacationing. Spend time at a remote desert festival, a beach, a city, a region paying with cryptocurrency. Walk down the beach to lie on a bed to have a beer. The crypto community is expanding its space to one city, region and country through virtual currency and the existing Digital Nomad Visas residence of a dozen countries in 2020.

Imagine an escape to faraway countries to take in the fresh air of the weekend! Nomads can't wait to leave a fixed city to attend conferences, meet up around the world with like-minded, crypto-focused people. Not only Weird but also people from under developed countries who are in the Crypto space offering conferences or courses on cryptocurrency and blockchain as part of the visit. This crypto tourism offering package tours such as Digital Nomad Cruise started to gain traction in 2017

On the Sardinia island of Italy, Sardex, virtual currency, is an independent means of renting or buying a house and all consumption and services through the members' exchange network since 2009. In Luxembourg, Beki is the regional currency and Alex Kampa created Sikoba, a decentralized currency platform based on P2P IOUs and built on blockchain technology. It is possible to use in real life, to offer each other lines of credit, within the Sikoba system. ECCB, the central bank of eight Caribbean countries has been developing regional cryptocurrency DCash since 2019, and the European Commission drafted unified EU crypto legislation in September 2020.

The goal of Virgin Hyperloop trains is to achieve speeds of around 1,000 kilometers per hour, or around 621 mph, in still-to-be-designed 28-person pods. South Korean Hyper Tube Express, HTX's 1/17 scale model hit a record speed of 1,019 km/h (633 mph) at 0.001 atm in testing, marking a significant achievement in the race to create the world's fastest rail system. With the global mobility of planes, cruises, upcoming new technology Hyperloop trains creating Crypto tourism events and communities would be a dream come true for affluent crowds across the globe in the 21st century.

Due to growing demand among Crypto, Bitcoin and other cryptocurrency investors to gain citizenship of the Caribbean, Vanuatu and Turkey through a certain amount or real estate investment, it is very popular among investors with advanced technology training in the blockchain and the crypto space.

Which countries host crypto-tourism?

Countries like the Caribbean Islands, El Salvador, Greece, Cyprus, Georgia and the Bahamas through conferences and events featuring top speakers defending the cryptocurrency and blockchain industry are all supportive tourists who wish to pay with cryptocurrency. The Bahamas were one of the first countries to launch a digital currency called 'Sand Dollar'.

El Salvador, not known as a tourist destination, announces that Bitcoin will be officially launched on September 7, 2021. El Salvador's 'Bitcoin Beach', this remarkable initiative of El Salvador to start injecting Bitcoin into the community of El Zonte, has revitalized poor areas through an existing program. The goal of crypto tourism is to bring people in and finally pay for everything with crypto.

Burning Man festival at Black Rock desert in Nevada, is a city wherein almost everything that happens is created entirely by its crowded 50,000 citizens of the world, who are active participants in the experience.

Stihia Festival, Aral Sea

The Stihia electronic music festival will be held in Uzbekistan on September 14 with DJs setting up bridges among the rusty carcasses of trawlers that have sailed the sea but are in a desert. The southern Uzbek part is in a sorry state of the dry Aral Sea. The music makers are considered to be the rainmakers of the ancient nomadic tribes of the region using electronic music to recall the sea instead of ancestor drums. Crypto tourism is able to democratize the mobility of the nomads. It is certain that unrestricted free mobility by cryptocurrency accelerates the mutual prosperity of the regions.



GREECE

NEW DIGITAL NOMAD VISA

Enactment of Greek Investment Immigration Act for Major Reform

The bill, proposed by Congress on August 25, contains many immigration-related updates and is a new bill to amend the country's investment immigration law, proposing several key reforms, as well as provisions to accommodate the digital nomad visa trend. It is expected to attract more investors to immediately acquire permanent residency.

In particular, it contains provisions that allow Golden Visa residence permit applicants to transfer foreign funds to Greece through the accounts of blood relatives (in-laws, siblings, etc.)

It also proposes that Golden Visa residence permit holders should be allowed to liquidate their initial investments to use other investment products or assets.

The amendments are also a step towards diversifying their investment portfolios by allowing golden visa applicants to invest in a total of three investment categories. So in theory you can use 3 different term deposits at 3 different banks as long as you meet the Golden Visa minimum investment threshold of 400,000 euros total.

Digital Nomad Acceptance

The bill also proposes a separate amendment to provide a special two-year long-term digital nomad visa for foreign applicants.

Applicants must have worked for a non-Greek employer in the past 12 months and have a valid visa covering the entire period during which the visa remains valid. You must prove that you have an employment contract (fixed or indefinite).

The minimum monthly income threshold has been proposed to be fixed at 3,500 euros per month. Those with a spouse must earn an additional 20% and an additional 15% for each child. Applicants and their dependents cannot work for a Greek employer during their stay on this visa. Applicants will receive a two-year short-term residence permit through a faster and simpler paperwork process.

FRANCE

FREELANCER / ARTIST RESIDENCE

However, it is important to note that the identity of a self-employed individual cannot apply for a residence permit. To be a self-employed, one must first have a residence permit that can work in France, such as student residence, work residence, etc. Another situation is that you have your own business in France, you can make money, but you are not an employee. According to the law issued on July 24, 2006, you can engage in professional activities, but the prerequisite is to obtain a legal residence. Of course, if you are an EU resident, this issue is generally not involved, unless there are special restrictions.

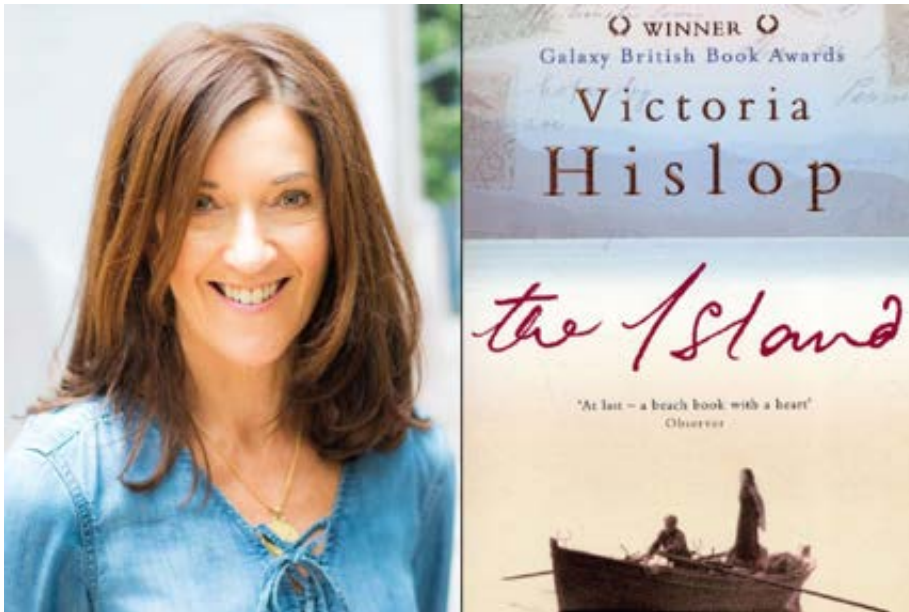
However, based on the self-employed, it has laid a good foundation for applying for business residence or freelance residence in the future. It is also a good way to generate income for students who need to make money or employees who already have a job.

If the information of documents you submit is complete, the police station will give you a receipt and a temporary residence card, and then you can start professional activities. However, if your residency application is ultimately rejected, you have to stop related business activities.

There are also some foreigners who do not live in France for a long time, but want to develop their business independently in France, so before starting, they need to apply to the French police or corporate management agency. If your submitted materials are complete and the plan is feasible, you will receive a temporary residence card issued by the police station. If you apply to become a self-employed person, you must obtain a CFE registration permit.

In some cases, you have to submit some additional materials. For example, acquisition of transaction funds, lease management, establishment of subsidiaries, establishment of foreign legal persons, etc.

Regarding artist residency (including freelancer or IT residency) applied from the United States, India, China, South Asia, MENA regions (out of Europe), or if you want global mobility as electronic traveler SKYDOG, you can consult us. citinaviglobal@gmail.com



Bestseller British Author Victoria Hislop granted Greek citizenship

Greece Plans Visas this Summer for Skilled Digital Nomads

Now that tourists are being allowed in during the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, Greece's New Democracy is looking at offering visas to so-called digital nomads.

The pandemic has changed the face of work forever. Greece is far behind in attracting people to work and live and pay taxes in the country, ranked only 50th among 85 countries in luring the digital nomads, whose numbers are expected to hit one billion by 2035.

The Ministry of Immigration and Asylum introduces the Digital Nomad Visa with an amendment to par. 1 of article 18 of law 4251/2014 (amendment of the immigration code) allowing residence in Greece for the purpose of providing teleworking exclusively abroad.

It should be noted that this article 18 of Law 4251/2014 generally refers to the possibility of granting an entry visa to third country nationals for the purpose of completing a specific purpose and providing seasonal work. The amendment gives the possibility of a new application of the interested party after the expiration of the initial period, while it will provide strict guarantees:

They will not be employed in the Greek labor market and will have income sufficient for livelihood. Everyone is initially three months, for the British six months, as Brexit creates the conditions for the transfer of digital nomads.

The ultimate goal through this process is to make Greece a pole of attraction for high level professionals. In the second year, some of them may want to become tax residents of Greece, along with a Golden Visa program offering rich foreigners a residency permit and EU passport for investing, the regulation of digital nomad that has already been voted for a reduced tax of 50% for 7 years to those who decide to relocate to Greece

Recent research by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology estimated that, if Greece could attract 100,000 digital nomads annually, and if they stayed in the country for an average of six months, the annual net benefit for the economy would reach 1.3 billion euros (\$1.58 billion,) almost the same as a week's stay from 2.5 million tourists.

The aim is that these visas, accorded strictly for work outside Greece, will boost the catering, real estate and tourism sectors, while some of the nomads may also choose to move their tax base to Greece.

"In July, I was honored with Greek citizenship by the Hellenic Republic. And the word 'honoured' is absolutely the right one. It is a huge privilege to find myself a Greek. I have felt a great sense of belonging. It is not based on anything rational. I have no Greek ancestry and I did not grow up in Greece.

It is simply a very strong connection that I have sometimes struggled to explain even to myself. a wonderful sense of being 'at home' when my plane lands at Eleftherios Venizelos Airport in Athens or Nikos Kazantzakis Air- port in Crete, where I have a house.

My first visit to Greece was in the late 1970s and I was with my mother and sister. We went first to Athens for a week, and then to the Aegean island of Paros. In that two week stay we experienced the best of everything that Greece has to offer : ancient culture, hospitality, wonderful food and wine, clear blue sea, beautiful landscapes. For me it was a life-changing trip and from then onwards I visited Greece every single year, and then many times a year. Greece is the country that inspires me to write. There is never a shortage for me of ideas and moments of modern history that I want to explore. It is a fountain. My fiction writing began with a visit to Spinalonga, the former leprosy colony off the coast of Crete, and has continued with novels that portray other

periods (often struggles) in the 20th century.

I love the spectacular beauty of Greece and its islands. There is nowhere else on earth like it. I have traveled to every continent as a travel writer, always looking to see if there was anywhere that matched Greece. And from my own perspective, I can say that I never found somewhere that I wanted to be more than here, the land of the gods. The period of lock-down that we had in the UK, from Spring to Summer, was the longest time

I have been away from Greece for many years. It was hard in many different ways. But my mind still travelled! And I decided to write a sequel to 'The Island', taking as the starting point, the night that the patients all left Spinalonga. I hope closes its leper colony. And a monument of violence has devastating consequences. When time stops dead for Maria Petrakis and her sister, Anna, two families splinter apart and, for the people of Plaka, the closure of Spinalonga is forever colored with tragedy. In the aftermath, the question of how to resume life looms large. Stigma and scandal need to be confronted and somehow, for those impacted, a future built from the ruins of the past. We return to the world and characters created in 'The Island'. It is finally time to be reunited with Anna, Maria, Manoli and Andreas in the weeks leading up to the evacuation of the island... and beyond...(source : 2board).

DIGITAL NOMAD / CITIZENSHIP



ELIAS SKENDERIDIS DIGITAL MARKETING STRATEGIST

-How is a remote worker different from a digital nomad?

A digital nomad is a remote worker. But a remote worker is not necessarily a digital nomad, who chooses a nomadic lifestyle that combines work with many long trips, alternating cities and countries and adapting - most of the time - to the local lifestyle. On the other hand, a remote worker is characterised by someone who works away from the physical workplace, usually has standard hours and a permanent professional collaboration. The common feature of both is that they rely on the Internet, mobility and a flexible working model.

-What are the key commonalities that define digital nomads?

There is currently a population of over 35 million digital nomads worldwide, who have chosen this particular combination of life and work. The trend had started some years ago, but Covid-19 definitely accelerated, modified and framed this space in its own way. The global population of digital nomads includes many different nationalities, but at the moment the majority come from North America and Europe. Their main common characteristics are the willingness for many long trips, the intense socialisation with the local populations and other digital nomads, their dependence on the Internet and technology, the flexibility of work and the hours and, usually, increased ecological awareness.

-Greece, with specific policies, is trying to become competitive with other countries. In what ways can it achieve this? The primary criterion for a digital nomad in choosing the next destination is Internet quality and access. So, if Greece wants to enter the selection list

of digital nomad effectively and competitively it should initially invest in this direction. This should be followed by the development of a series of strategic incentives to attract the specific public (Fast Visa, tax cuts, etc) but at the same time a strategy for the development and adaptation of the destinations and those involved generally in the provision of services in tourism. This population has its own unique needs, requirements, priorities and characteristics. Although the basic destination selection criteria of digital nomads can be summarised in reliable Internet access, the weather, the relatively low cost of living, the ease of entry and stay in the country, attractions and beaches, this does not mean that for all the above, there should not be a series of actions to adapt and develop new services and offers, serving the specific population.

Can remote working replace business travel?

To some extent. But there will always be a need for personal contact and communication, which, as things stand, will lead to a hybrid model of work and communication.

-What would prevent someone from becoming a digital nomad?

The real enjoyment of the digital nomad experience is mainly a matter of character and personality. There are some basic characteristics that, if one does not have them, they will have a difficult time. Some are, the appetite for long trips, the loss of contact with family and friends for a long time, job uncertainty, the willingness to integrate into the local way of life, the effective management of work time.

This talent, the "digital nomads", live in their favorite location and offer their services on demand and on project-basis. At the same time, being nimble and fast, Micro-multinationals target the world market from the very first day of their establishment and achieve robust growth by capitalizing on virtual platforms (e.g. Amazon, Ebay, Apple's App Store) and the large communities of people, all potential customers, associated with them. They also draw funding from the international community through cooperative funding platforms (Techstars.com). They employ on demand internet-based, low cost cloud computing and telecommunication services (Google Apps Skype, WhatsApp) to support their operations.

Finally, they enhance their capabilities on innovation by participating in online platforms that facilitate organizational and crowdsourcing innovation where innovation frequently is the result of co-creation across the globe (InnoCentive.com, NineSigma.com, Yet2.com). At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic was only the catalyst for the initiatives more traditional companies were also pursuing to develop internally agile structures-hubs that operate in various locations around the globe, offering a collaborative work environment attractive to digital nomads, who, either relocate, or work in virtual teams with teammates located around the globe. In such companies digital nomads pursue a career path that is not linked directly to professional positions and ranks, but instead to advancement in knowledge, capabilities and skills. Pursue challenging assignments, frequently outside of the usual and the comfort zone, and work with teams leveraging complementarities among the teammates and sharing a common purpose, a team purpose, leading to a team outcome. And then the nomads are ready to pursue another challenging project, being an integral part of a new team, through which they further advance their capabilities and skills.

Digital nomads advance through the challenges of new projects and have the mindset, the commitment, the curiosity, the courage and the drive to learn across their entire lifetime, across challenges, experiences and different stimuli, and to constantly broaden their horizons and learn from every part of their professional "journey". Learning becomes dynamic and continuous and digital nomads develop an attitude for "perpetual learning", where they own and direct their learning path and connect it along with their career path and advancement. And ultimately become "learning nomad", pairing their professional advancement with their learning advancement in a fascinating journey of new discovery, fulfillment and wisdom.

Greece Climbs Ranks as Digital Nomad Destination

By Paula Tsoni

Less than a year since the introduction of breakthrough tax incentives for digital nomads, while remote working has gained widespread acceptance during the Covid-19 pandemic, Greece is presented with a top-class opportunity to become established as an international remote working paradise. In early July 2021, the latest study by on-demand housing platform “Nestpick,” highlighting the places that are most attractive to digital nomads in search of a new home, ranked Athens 31st out of 75 cities worldwide.

Grecian Delight supports Greece

Although more Greek cities have been claiming a spot in the digital nomad universe in recent months, Athens is currently the only Greek location to appear on Nestpick’s list, which rates destinations based on local remote work legislation as well as livability factors. Positioned in the top half of the list, Athens enjoys spectacular scores on aspects such as gender, LGBT and minority equality and cost of living, followed by safety and rights, healthcare, weather and pollution levels. However, the score chart indicates that the city is lacking in the fields of “culture and leisure” and “remote working infrastructure.”

Speaking to Greek Reporter, experts on the local remote work industry tend to agree that a shift in business culture and a conscious promotion of the distinct digital nomad lifestyle could be key in attracting, and retaining, more of the latter in Greece.

Policymaking and infrastructure for digital nomads

According to Stavros Messinis, co-founder and community curator of The Cube Athens, Greece’s largest startup cluster, event, co-working and maker space, the newly-acquired state incentives allowing digital nomads to register their tax residence in Greece for a generous tax reduction, seem to be really working.

“As we speak, there are 3-4 people here at The Cube Athens discussing with accountants about becoming tax residents of Greece - and these are both Greek repatriates and foreigners,” he tells Greek Reporter. “The entire digital transformation of the Greek state, which materialized recently, has definitely helped a great deal. The pandemic was a catalyst in this direction.

“It all made our (remote work) environment friendlier, more effective and more functional. Remote workers don’t fear the monster of bureaucracy so much now, because they see that procedures have been simplified,” Messinis adds. For now, the majority of digital workers operating from his co-working space in Athens are foreigners, while the few Greeks who choose

to work remotely are either local start-uppers or Greek repatriates familiarized with co-working abroad.

Co-working model on the rise

Messinis believes that co-working is on the verge of a huge boost globally, and is confident that Greek co-working businesses will be capable of responding to the rising demand. Thessaloniki, Crete, Corfu and Larissa are also growing their digital nomad communities around promising co-working spaces.

“In the very near future, companies will offer their workers the option to work remotely more than they did before, and will become more versatile when it comes to their real estate. They might keep smaller offices, use these offices as co-working spaces, or only require physical presence few days during the week,” he opines. However, the entrepreneur clarifies that, even if traditional companies do free up real estate stock for use as co-working space by real estate operators, the two functions should not be confused.

“The difference lies in that a co-working project, as opposed to a real estate project, requires a strong community. The people in these spaces operate as in a neighborhood; they share common traits.

“Therefore, it will be hard for a real estate company to succeed in co-working, unless it adopts the respective culture and hires people who know how a community space works; it’s not just hiring offices like we were used to,” he explains. But other than co-working culture and infrastructure, technicalities such as internet connection speeds should be drastically improved in any place that wishes to house a remote worker community.

“Smaller destinations, such as the islands, need to invest in better internet. We often have digital nomads return to The Cube after few days’ work elsewhere - in the Cyclades, for instance - because the connection there wasn’t good enough,” Messinis concludes.

Digital nomad lifestyle in Greece

Digital marketing and internet technology expert Rafael Koudounis, the CEO of Dingo Marketing, agrees that infrastructure and internet connectivity indeed differ from place to place in Greece but maintains that those are factors that can easily improve.

In view of the rising interest in remote work destinations in Greece, Koudounis founded the Digital Nomads Observatory in 2020, headquartered in Rhodes, with the aim of researching the socio-economic needs of digital nomads and encouraging this particular lifestyle in the country.

The private initiative he presides over is supported by a strong group of scientists and professionals, in the domains of research, information exchange and policymaking strategy. Rather than infrastructure, it focuses more on the promotion of cultural fundamentals that can make the life of digital nomads in Greece easier, and render the country more competitive in this relatively new category of aspiring residents.

“The only thing that holds Greece back in attracting larger numbers of digital nomads is Greece itself; in all things, there is always the shadow of incorrect approach due to the infamous Greek nonchalance.

“That’s why, through the creation of the Digital Nomads Observatory, we have really worked towards the direction of correct approach, through methodology and measurable results, all thanks to the exquisite team in our think tank, some first findings from whom will soon be announced”, Koudounis tells Greek Reporter.

While Athens, Thessaloniki and Crete are still the leaders in co-working, as they offer digital nomads all the quality infrastructure that they need, Koudounis points out that his home island of Rhodes doesn’t fall far behind in popularity. “Rhodes is currently studying the digital nomad phenomenon through the Observatory’s 8-Layer methodology, as the island looks to become a digital nomad hub.

“We see important actions taken elsewhere in Greece too, though. Some first steps to introduce the society to the phenomenon have also been taken in Magnesia, Central Greece, and Messinia, in the Peloponnese,” he notes.

Necessary shift in business culture

By the first half of 2021, there were no statistics or demographics available which could paint the profile of the digital nomad who chooses Greece, and for how long they stay. At least, not enough for the standards by which the Observatory would allow itself to draw conclusions.

“That is why we are in cooperation with stakeholders from all across the country and abroad, as well as with the digital nomads community, in order to be able to register both the trend and their own profile,” Koudounis explains. In the meantime, the Observatory receives regular requests by foreign digital nomads for suggestions on choosing the ideal Greek destination for remote work.

“The digital nomad’s need for a co-working space is rather a psychological one. They may work on-the-move, and find a co-working space to cover their social needs.

“On top of that, however, it is necessary that we have a developed business culture in a broader sense. The culture of cooperation is included in this term too, as it consists of a leverage for attracting not only digital nomads but wider progress as well,” Koudounis adds.

“That will ensure that these bright minds don’t just remain consumers of money coming from abroad, and that they participate in collaborations that create more extensive added values,” he states

The ‘Green Passport’ useful to Digital Nomads

The Digital Nomad Visa coupled with the world’s first safe and secure European Union’s ‘Green Passport’, makes Greece a prime destination for Digital Nomads.

The Green Passport allows approved countries and their local clinics, hospitals, and other trusted partners to upload vetted proof of a negative Covid-19 test, antibodies, or full vaccination. The trusted data sharing will expand to the US, UK, and other countries for a July launch date. The holders of these passports will not be subject to any restrictions on free movement. For traveling to Greece before July, most EU countries are accepting simple proof of vaccination and any verifiable test results, but also anyone with a negative RT-PCR test taken within three days of arrival.

What makes an area the ideal location for a Digital Nomad? The opportunity to launch Start-Ups relatively seamlessly, as seen in Athens, Thessaloniki, Patra, and the island of Crete. Places with good infrastructure are also an obvious choice, such as Kalamata, Crete, Thessaloniki, and Trikala.

However, accessibility to banks, natural surrounds, affordability, recreation, and overall quality of life are all second to one thing Digital Nomads require the most: Internet speed.

Free Wi-Fi spots are free to access all over Greece, from dentists’ chairs to cafes in remote regional areas, and this is a bonus in the eyes of many remote workers. There is also the option of purchasing a 4G internet Sim card from the Cosmote carrier for as little as 13 euros a month. This will grant efficient download and upload speeds with excellent coverage. More importantly, is the steady rolling out of the 5G networks in Greece, 25x faster than today’s 4G.



Optical fiber is being deployed and Cyclades islands will be covered by StarLink, the new fast internet network by satellite launched by Elon Musk.

Naxos is an amazing destination.

To really apprehend this, we can use the 7 layers methodology put in place by the Digital Nomads Observatory. Naxos has been working actively on every layer :

-Things to do : Naxos offers lots of activities, from trekking to sailing, from cooking lessons to kite surfing.

-Environment: The Naxos Wild Life Protection is doing an amazing job helping protect the environment. The municipality is also helping educating the population keeping our beaches and cities clean.

-Mobility and 'Transportation : Naxos has daily connections to Athens through its airport, and daily connections to the neighbouring islands. Traveling on the island is also very easy as there is a developed bus network, roads are kept in good conditions.

-Connectivity : Naxos has a good general 4G coverage and wired internet is great. At home I enjoy a 46 Mbps stable connection while laster options are already available in Naxos.

Work spaces : WorkFromNaxos is actively working in opening the first coworking

space on the island, lots of accommodations are now offering working spaces in their premises.

-Digital nomads community: We are also working on this aspect, bringing startups to the island, and in general encouraging innovation. As soon as the coworking space will open we will organize networking events. We are in discussion with the community of Crete and Thessaly to unite our strengths on this.

-Cost of living : Greece in general, and Naxos in particular, is offering an amazing value for money as a destination.

I love the fact that Naxos is a big island, with a strong village culture but in the same time, has the most beautiful beaches of the Cyclades, if not Greece. Naxos is an active island in the winter as well. Lots of businesses stay open in the winter, and even though the activity is lower in winter, there is always somewhere to go to. Naxos doesn't feel limited even though it's an island. I love that after 10 years on the island, there are still lots of places I haven't been yet!

(Jerome Bajol, CEO, Work from Naxos -2board)

Romanian Residence by Investment

By Andreea CÎRSTEA



Andreea CÎRSTEA

Foreign and local investments are equally treated

Foreign investors are not differently treated than the Romanian investors. The Romanian law doesn't distinguish between European investors and non-Europeans investors either. However, there are some activities which are allowed to private sector under certain conditions, applicable irrespectively of the nationality of the investors, such as deploying a single activity¹ or registering as a specific legal form or having a minimum share capital² or a combination of these restrictions and some activities which are state-monopoly, such as manufacture of weapons and ammunition.

The restrictions regarding the economic activities are provided irrespectively of the nationality of the investor. Different rules apply, for example, when purchasing real estate.

Romanian visa to foreign investors

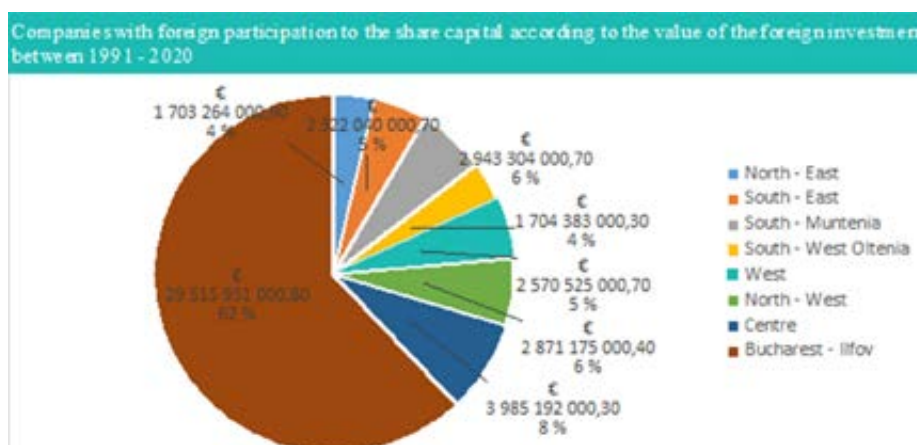
Based on the legal form of the investment, a temporary visa ("residence permit") may be obtained afterwards. Two of the most usual types of visa that may be granted by the Romanian authorities to a foreign investor are:

(i) the investors' visa which is granted after the assessment of a business plan, only to the owner(s) of the business and

(ii) the working permit which any investor might obtain if the Romanian legal entity which benefits from the foreign investment is hiring the investor on any position, irrespectively if a management or an executive position.

Romania has already been perceived by many foreign investors as a destination for successful investments. The highly – qualified personnel, the mostly predictable legislative environment and the social security of our country enable us to promote Romania as the place of growth for investments in multiple fields of the economic activity. Foreign investors are able to choose between purchasing a flourishing business or building their own, from a scratch. Depending on one's interests and priorities, Romania is the place where development naturally follows innovation.

As an emerging economy, the geographical areas preferred by the foreign investors, according to the amounts that they invested between 1991 and 2020, are Bucharest and Ilfov, followed by the centre of the country, as you may see in Chart 1.



Several forms of foreign investment

We centralized in the table below the most common three types of legal entities and we emphasized the main characteristics.

Type of entity	Shareholders	Capital	Management
Limited liability company (LLC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 to 50; • natural and / or legal person(s); • Romanian(s) and / or foreigner(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no minimal limit; • Contributions in kind are allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more Directors; • Natural and / or legal persons; • Acting severally or jointly.
Stock company (SA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 2 • natural and / or legal person(s); • Romanian(s) and / or foreigner(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < Lei 90.000 (€ 18,000.00); • Contributions in kind are allowed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One or more Directors; • Natural and / or legal persons; • Acting severally or jointly.
Authorized natural person (PFA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting on its own name, as an authorized individual; • Authorization and registration correlated to the activity deployed; • Proofs of experience and / or study in the activity field will be filed for the registration; • Not mandatory to separate the two patrimonies: of the owner and of the owed entity 		

1. Each type of entity should proof a right to use over the premises where the headquarter will be registered (lease agreement, free lease agreement, ownership title, donation etc.);
2. Each type of entity have to deploy a main activity and may deploy as many secondary activities as it needs, without necessity of correlation to the main activity;
3. LLC and SA should provide, before registration, a constitutive deed / articles of association signed by all the shareholders;
4. After the signature of the constitutive deed / articles of association, LLC and SA must open a bank account where each shareholder should subscribe its contribution to the share capital, before the registration of the company;
5. The appointed Directors of LLC and SA should expressly accept such mandate and register their signature specimen first with the Trade Registry and afterwards with the bank. The owner of the PFA should also register a signature specimen with the bank;
6. The shareholders of the LLC / SA and the owner of the PFA should be compatible with this capacity (full power to exercise their rights and to undertake obligations) and make the proof of never being convicted in Romania for economical and / or tax criminal offences;
7. Each type of entity is able to open working points, subsidiaries and other such dismemberments without legal capacity of their own in Romania and abroad, provided that legal conditions applicable abroad are accomplished;
8. The carrying out of activities in the absence of the relevant registration with the Trade Registry or prior to obtaining the registration, is an offense and is penalized according to the law, at least with the forfeit of the incomes.

Taxation in Romania

Standard Corporate Tax:

16%

Alternative Tax on Turnover* for micro – enterprises (turnover < Eur 1,000,000.00 by December 31st of the previous financial exercise)

1% (companies with at least 1 employee)
3% (companies with no employees)

* The alternative tax on turnover is compulsory, but companies may opt for corporate income tax if their subscribed capital is greater than Lei 45,000 and they have at least two employees;

Standard Individual Tax: **10%**

Tax on capital gains from transfer of securities: **16%**

Standard Withholding Tax: **16%**

Standard VAT rate: **19%**

Dividends to non-resident companies: **5%** (withholding tax on payments)

Reduced VAT rates: **9%** (for certain goods and services, i.e. accommodation, foodstuffs, restaurant & catering etc.)

Dividends to non-resident individuals: **5%** (withholding tax on payments)

5% (books, magazines, newspapers etc.)

Interest to non-resident companies: **16%** (withholding tax on payments)

Royalties to non-resident companies: **16%** (withholding tax on payments)

Intra – community acquisitions / supplies of good / services and import / exports made by taxpayers (i.e. entities that independently carry out business activities) fall within the scope of VAT.

How much do foreigners like Romania

Between 1991 and 2020, Romania managed to attract the highest investments from Holland, in total amount of € 9,921,419,000, representing 21,54% of the total foreign investments, followed by Austria and Germany, each with investments exceeding € 5,000,000,000 and each representing almost 11% of the total foreign investment.

By December 31st 2020, the total amount of foreign investments which Romania managed to attract since 1991, was of €496,113,027,000.

What foreigners like to do most in Romania

The most attractive economic activity to foreign investors, within the period comprised between 1991 and 2020 was the wholesale and retail and repair of motor



vehicles and motorcycles with 29.6% of the total foreign investments. The less attractive activity to foreign investors within the same period was Agriculture, forestry and fishing, activity which managed to attract only 1.27% of the foreign investments.

What foreign investors actually say about investing in Romania

We discussed with some foreign investors, i.e. a New Zealander national, with investments

in IT and sales, a Jordanian, with activity in courier and postal services and IT, and with a Canadian with activity in the aviation sector. All of them recognised that if it were to take it all over again and were to choose the country where to invest, they would still choose Romania. Two out of three acknowledged the return of their investment. The one who couldn't, is on the market for only 2 years, and went through the pandemics (fingers crossed for him).

The bottom line of all the figures above, our experience on the legal market and the opinions that were shared with us, is that 'here is enough room for growth' for the investors - foreign or Romanian - alike.

Andreea CÎRSTEA - ION Attorney.

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DIGITAL NOMAD

HAVE A SECOND CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORT



The Ways to Have
a Second Passport
for Digital Nomad

Montenegro

Digital nomad means that you have decided to become location independent rather than spending your life tied to an office desk. You certainly don't need to buy courses to learn how to do it simply because this is not a job but a different lifestyle. Unnecessary bureaucracy and visa issues come with traveling.

COUNTRIES OFFERING DIGITAL NOMAD VISA IN 2021

Antigua & Barbuda / Barbados / Bermuda /
Cayman Islands / Croatia / Czech Republic
Curacao / Costa Rica / Dominica / Dubai /
Estonia / Germany / Greece / Indonesia /
Mexico / Australia / Portugal / Spain /
Montserrat / Mauritius

* *Coming soon*

(Romania – Thailand – Cape Town)

As more of us work from home and say goodbye to cramped commutes and limp office plants, the idea of switching home offices for sunshine, lush landscapes and an explosion of culture is becoming increasingly popular.

This desire to roam whilst working remotely has led to a rise in digital nomads - people who travel the world whilst working virtually. This data was collected and assessed with the growing demand for the nomadic lifestyle. We consciously put beautiful landscapes before bustling cities to limit and restrict stress, allowing workers to fully embrace the world - the ethos behind digital nomadism.

HAVE A SECOND CITIZENSHIP AND PASSPORT

Succeed in freeing up more time, having control over your time: like the 4.5 millions of american expats called digital nomads, you are in harmony with these principles. You praise the merits of telecommuting many times and go so far as to provide conversation models to convince your boss to grant you home office days.

It is also the privilege of passport holders in wealthy countries to travel freely to as many countries as possible. However, nationals of developing countries or wealthy Africans with extremely limited freedom of travel have alternatives for travel. As a way to travel to major countries such as EU 27 without a visa restriction, they can purchase passports of Caribbean island countries within 6 months by paying a contribution of 100k-150k USD per single applicant (or 250-350k USD real estate investment) to the government. In addition, citizens of most countries in South America or small countries in the Balkans can enjoy visa-free travel in Europe, so they can have long-term plans. (Turkey Golden Visa acquires nationality through real estate investment of 150k USD) =>page 68

Best destinations for living and working as a digital nomad in 2021



Singapore



<= page 67

Flag Theory is to weaken the grip that any one country has on you, your money, and your freedom to secure the future of your family. Any citizenship comes with rights and responsibilities. The key is to find the country that offers you the rights you're looking for with the responsibilities you're willing to shoulder. With Flag Theory, you can decide where to plant your citizenship flag and choose to accept the obligations that come with it.

The top countries in the world to live as a digital nomad

In this study we looked at cost of living, safety, average internet speed, presence of nature and wellness spots, as well as the number of both relaxing and adventurous activities in each country.

In doing so we allocated each place a total 'digital nomad score' which we used to rank both the best countries and the best areas for remote working.

Thailand leads as the world's top country for digital nomads

Our study found that Thailand is the best country in the world for digital nomads. Shaking off its party island reputation over recent years, the southeast Asian island is now becoming known as a digital nomad's paradise.

In doing so, Thailand has become a place where visitors can enjoy the serenity of the island, leaving minds as clear as the crystal-coloured waters. Travelling to work in Thailand is a great opportunity for those pursuing life as a digital nomad as other parts of the continent are easily accessible.

From Thailand, flights to neighbouring countries such as Malaysia, Taiwan, Indonesia and Cambodia (all of which ranked in the top fifteen countries for digital nomads) are relatively cheap and quick. Offering ample opportunities for people to expand their adventures to nearby countries. Those doing so would benefit from sprawling landscapes with many calming activities to enjoy such as mountain trekking, swimming and observing exotic animals in their natural habitats.

The colourful country of Sri Lanka is a paradise for nomads

Sri Lanka came high up on our list as the second-best country for digital nomads to visit. With low living costs and a beautiful working backdrop of lush green mountains, coral reefs and powdery sand, it's clear to see why Sri Lanka offers such a great remote working experience.

The country had a total score of 238 out of 320, boasting average temperatures of 30°C along with ample activities and landmarks for visitors to enjoy.

Cambodia's culture snagged Singapore is a sensational home for remote workers

Coming third in our study is Singapore, a country that will offer those working there a truly unique experience. Although one of the world's tech hubs (with the fastest internet speed in our index), Singapore is also known for its vibrant green spaces such as the futuristic Gardens by the Bay, showing the island's true appreciation for nature's beauty.

Its total score of 232 out of 320 is a great reflection of what the sovereign island has to offer digital nomads. (club med)

Fourth place on the digital nomads index

Our study found Cambodia to be the fourth-best country in the world for digital nomads. With its world-renowned architecture and ancient temples, Cambodia offers working travellers a chance to immerse themselves in a world of wonder.

The country's low living costs further add to the appeal, meaning that visitors can enjoy the wealth of experiences on offer on the island without spending too much of their earnings. From the elephant sanctuaries to the mountain-top temples, Cambodia is thriving and well-deserving of its 216 out of 320 score.

The dreamy shore of the Maldives proves a paradise for nomads

A haven for lovers of luxurious surroundings and experiences, the Maldives is the fifth best country in the world for digital nomads. Known globally for its white powdery beaches, turquoise waters and towering palm trees, the Maldives offers more than just breath-taking surroundings for its thriving population. Those who visit the island to work virtually are spoiled for choice, with a plethora of adventurous activities to choose from. From snorkelling with tropical fish, sea turtles and manta rays to clear bottom kayaking giving you glimpses of the ocean floor, the Maldives is full of opportunities for those once in a lifetime moments. The definition of paradise islands, the Maldives scored 187 on our index.

From tropical islands to leafy suburbs - the top places in the world for digital nomads

As well as looking at the best country, we also discovered the best places overall for digital nomads to live. From tropical islands to leafy suburbs, no location was out of bounds.

DIGITAL NOMAD

Phuket, Thailand is crowned the best place in the world for digital nomads

We found that Phuket in Thailand is the best place to venture if you're looking to become a digital nomad. With Thailand being ranked as the best country for digital nomads, it's no wonder that the beautiful island of Phuket is crowned as the best place overall.

The southern province of Phuket consists of 33 islands, including the largest in Thailand. Alongside 30°C heat, the aesthetic appeal of such a paradise is just one of many factors that helped Phuket earn its title.

As well as scoring highly in terms of safety and internet speed, those travelling to work in the tropical paradise can take advantage of 251 relaxing experiences in the surrounding area. Those searching for more adventurous activities have 750 to explore.

After benefitting from a strong, bustling tourism trade for many years and being the largest exporter of rubber in the world, the Thai government has invested generously in preserving the landscape's natural beauty.

In doing so, Phuket has become a place where visitors can enjoy the serenity of the island, leaving minds as clear as the waters.

The bustling city of Ho Chi Minh comes in second place

The beautiful 34°C heat combined with a vibrant culture, energetic atmosphere and low living costs of £716 a month propel Ho Chi Minh City towards the top of our index, gaining the title of the second-best place in the world to be a digital nomad, scoring 270 out of 320. The largest and most populous city in Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City is a city that rarely sleeps. A thriving place bustling with street food vendors, markets and traditional Vietnamese art and entertainment such as the centuries-old wooden puppet shows.

You'll never be too far from an internet cafe to work from whilst enjoying the indisputably delicious Vietnamese coffee.

Thailand's island paradise Krabi is a hub for wanderers



A relaxing paradise on Thailand's west coast, we found that Krabi is the third-best place in the world for digital nomads with a total index score of 272 out of 320. With its limestone cliffs, caves and lush jungles, Krabi offers incredible natural assets as well as plenty of leisure activities for digital nomads.

The perfect destination for digital nomads seeking an escape from the stresses of everyday life, the island has over 232 relaxing activities to choose from. These include traditional massages by the beach, local cuisine cooking classes, floating along the Krabi coastline in a rented boat or visiting the Thung Theo Forest for a soak in the Crystal Lagoon.

Krabi's low average living costs of £645 a month mean that it's easy for digital nomads to make the most of a trip to the island by truly exploring all it has to offer.

Colombo, Sri Lanka scores highly for adventurous activities

Fourth on our list of best places in the world to be a digital nomad is Colombo in Sri Lanka, with a total index score of 238 out of 320. Those seeking excitement have over 285 adventurous activities to choose from in Colombo, such as a Tuk Tuk safari experience and heritage walking tours. The city is also an affordable destination for remote workers, with average living costs of £645 a month. Those choosing to make Colombo their new working location can do so whilst basking in the beautiful 31°C sunshine.

Coastal community Jimbaran offers a oceanfront view for digital nomads

Jimbaran is the fifth-best place in the world for digital nomads, with a total index score of 235 out of 320.

The charming fishing village on Bali's coast is an ideal destination for those seeking to immerse themselves in Indonesian culture. From the ancient sea temples to the local fish markets on the beach, visitors will have a true taste of the vibrant local culture.

And with low average living costs of £479 a month, the island can be explored affordably, with popular activities including fishing, ocean surfing and scuba diving amongst the tropical fish and coral reefs.

It's safety score of 4.28 out of 5 makes it one of the safest places in the world for digital nomads, making it a great option for solo or first-time travellers.

Jeonju in South Korea: a City Worth to Stay

Jeonju City is a historic city in Korea. It is also considered a major cultural city as well as a future financial hub of east asian region predicted by Jim Rogers. During the Joseon period (Yi dynasty), it was also considered the spiritual capital of the country.

Connected with wi-fi at any public places by high infrastructure of internet network, Jeonju remains a culturally important city today. For the presence of its hanok village (old town) in the heart of the city or for the organization of several festivals each year.

Jeonju cuisine is also very famous in the country. In fact, Jeonju's famous Korean bibimbap (Korean dish) is famous across the country. But food in Jeonju couldn't be reduced to this dish. In fact, the city of Jeonju is listed in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, for the gastronomy category.

You will understand, from a historical and tourist point of view, Jeonju must be part of a travel itinerary and best destination for digital nomads in South Korea. In the rest of this post, we will see what to do in Jeonju and how to prepare for your stay to the city.

(By Citinavi staff)



Jeonju 'Hanok' traditional village In South Korea: A City Worth To Stay

Statelessness in a Pandemic

By Amal de Chickera



Maijaan Nessa, a 38-year-old Muslim woman, was born in India to Indian parents. She has lived there, in the state of Assam, all her life. But, seven years ago, she was declared a foreigner, arrested, and detained. While she languished in detention, her distraught eldest son died by suicide. Despite this devastating personal tragedy, and the barriers created by poverty and illiteracy, her Bengali Muslim husband and the rest of her family continued to fight for her release until, almost five years after she was first detained, Maijaan was freed. But her status is far from secure.

Maijaan is a victim of a multiyear, politically motivated project to update the National Register of Citizens in Assam in a way that excludes huge swaths of the population, mostly Muslims and people of Bengali origin. In 2019, when the NRC was “finalized,” 1.9 million people were officially declared to be noncitizens, as Maijaan had been. Suddenly, they were on the brink of statelessness.

Such “bureaucratic violence” is nothing new. From the Kurds in Syria in the 1960s to the Rohingya in Myanmar in the 1980s, minority groups have often been targeted by ethnicity-based citizenship laws.

In 2013, the Dominican Republic’s Constitutional Court issued a ruling that stripped nationality from tens of thousands of Dominicans of Haitian descent, in what has been described as “civil genocide.” In Kenya, members of minority communities must undergo demeaning and arbitrary vetting

processes to obtain recognition as citizens and receive an identification card.

“Today, an estimated 15 million people are stateless, and tens of millions more are at risk of losing their nationality.”

Members of majority communities probably cannot imagine having to prove their nationality to suspicious and hostile agents of the state in the country where they were born and raised. They take for granted basic documentation like birth certificates and identification cards, which can easily be presented to a questioning official.

And yet, for members of minority communities and those of migrant heritage, nationality is often tenuous, at best. Without documentation, citizenship can be nearly impossible to prove. And, as we have seen in Assam and elsewhere, it can simply be rescinded by discriminatory laws and practices.

Today, an estimated 15 million people are stateless, and tens of millions more are at risk of losing their nationality. While minorities are disproportionately affected, citizenship laws also often target women by preventing them from passing their nationality on to their children on equal terms with men; limiting their right to acquire, change, or retain their nationality; or limiting their ability to confer nationality on noncitizen spouses.

Denial of nationality leads to exclusion and deprivation in all facets of life. When the COVID-19 pandemic began in early 2020, governments scrambled to protect their citizens with health care, economic support, and emergency relief. Stateless people were excluded and discriminated against, and, given disruptions to birth and civil registrations, access to nationality was even more constrained than usual.



Situation Stateless in West and Central Africa

Moreover, the stateless -- who already endure endemic structural discrimination -- were often scapegoated, vilified, and targeted for arbitrary detention and even expulsion from their own countries. As Maalini Ramalo of Development of Human Resources for Rural Areas Malaysia explained last year, fear of arrest and mistreatment left already-marginalized stateless communities "scared to go out to purchase their groceries, let alone access other basic emergency health care assistance."

More than a year after the pandemic began, little has changed. In fact, institutional and public indifference to the exclusion of the stateless, together with structural violence toward them, continues unabated. And new challenges are emerging, such as ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.

Again, Maijaan is a case in point. She was freed because of the pandemic, which prompted the Indian Supreme Court to order the release of "foreigners" who had been detained for two or more years. But her family's meager resources had already been depleted by costly legal fees. And, as a "foreigner," she was not entitled to the modest support that the Indian government provided for citizens.

Furthermore, as a condition of release, Maijaan must report weekly to the local police, so she cannot earn a living as a migrant worker like her husband. If structural discrimination pushed Maijaan to the brink of

poverty, the pandemic threatens to push her over the edge -- all under the looming specter of statelessness.

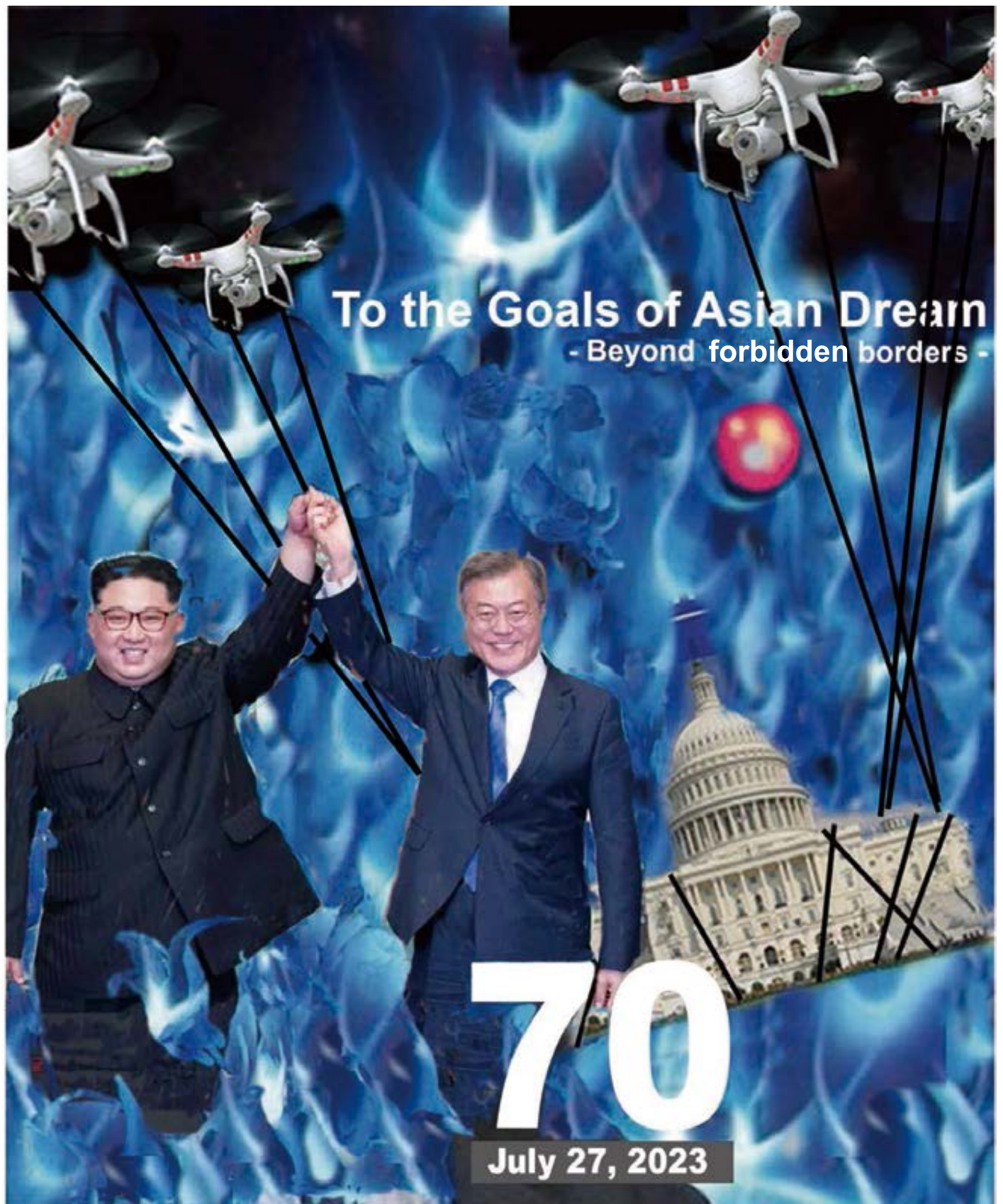
Maijaan's story is one of many documented in a groundbreaking new report, "Together We Can: The COVID-19 Impact on Stateless People & a Roadmap for Change." The report is the work of a unique collaboration among a consortium of stateless activists, grassroots groups, and NGOs currently operating in 13 countries.

Grounded in the consortium members' experiences and expertise, the report highlights the pandemic's impact on stateless people's rights -- including the right to nationality, documentation, and legal status; the right to nondiscrimination; the right to health; and civil rights -- in countries from Bangladesh to Malaysia to Montenegro. The road map provides a framework for reforms aimed at addressing institutional blind spots, engaging and consulting with stateless communities, and building back more inclusively.

The COVID-19 pandemic should spur governments, UN agencies, and international organizations to work directly with stateless people, respect their rights and be accountable to them, address the structural causes of statelessness, and ensure lasting change. The stateless people of the consortium, together with their partners, have shown how to do it. But they cannot carry the world down the right path alone.



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To the Goals of Asian Dream
- Beyond forbidden borders -

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July 27, 2023

70 Years after the Korean War 1953

CITIZEN DMZ