

Alert on Immigration

March 2025



GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS IN EFFECT IN MARCH 2025 FACILITATING ENTRY FOR CITIZENS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES:

1. Resolution No. 44/NQ-CP issued on March 7, 2025, on visa exemption for citizens of 12 countries

The Government has issued Resolution No. 44/NQ-CP on March 7, 2025, granting visa-free entry to citizens of 12 countries: Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, Russia, Japan, South Korea, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. Accordingly, citizens of these countries will be exempt from entry visas and temporary residence in Vietnam for up to 45 days, regardless of the purpose of entry, from March 15, 2025, to March 14, 2028.

This visa exemption policy aims to facilitate travel, exchange and promote cooperation between Vietnam and the above-mentioned countries. Compared to Decree No. 128/NQ-CP, which has expired, Belarus is no longer included in the visa-free list in Decree 44. Instead, citizens of Belarus holding ordinary passports will be granted visa-free entry under the bilateral visa exemption agreement between the two countries. This agreement takes effect from January 30, 2025, allowing citizens of both countries to stay visa-free for up to 30 days each entry, with a total stay not exceeding 90 days within a year.

2. Resolution No. 11/NQ-CP issued on January 15, 2025, on visa exemption for citizens of three countries to enter Vietnam for tourism

Pursuant to Decree No. 11/NQ-CP dated January 15, 2025, the Vietnamese Government has implemented a visa-free policy for citizens of three countries: Poland, the Czech Republic, and Switzerland, within the framework of the Tourism Development Stimulus Program, aimed at promoting the development of the tourism industry in 2025.

This visa exemption applies from March 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, regardless of passport type, with a temporary stay of 45 days from the date of entry for travelers entering Vietnam for tourism purposes under the program organized by Vietnamese enterprises engaged in international travel services.

KPMG Recommendations

Although some Resolutions allow citizens of the relevant countries to enter Vietnam regardless of the purpose of entry, businesses should consider the purpose of entry, the duration of stay in Vietnam, and the possibility of transitioning to appropriate visas if the employee intends to work long-term in Vietnam.

Additionally, according to Resolution No. 11, citizens of the three mentioned countries are only exempt from visas when entering Vietnam for tourism purposes. Therefore, combining business or work with tourism is not in compliance with the regulations. To conduct short-term business or work, citizens of these countries need to consider appropriate visa types when entering Vietnam.

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