

UKRAINE STRENGTHENS CONDITIONS FOR ISSUING A WORK PERMIT

On 8 April 2009 the Ukrainian government approved Decree No. 322 on awarding, extending and cancelling work permits for foreign employees and persons without nationality (“Decree”). The Decree takes effect on 14 May 2009.

The key reforms adopted under this Decree are as follows:

- (i) The list of documents to be submitted together with the application for a work permit has been extended significantly and currently includes:
 - 2 colour photos (3.5 x 4.5 cm),
 - Certificate that an employee-foreign national has no criminal record, issued in the country of origin (or the country of their latest residence),
 - Certificate issued by the Ukrainian police authorities that an employee-foreign national has no criminal record,
 - Certificate issued in the country of origin confirming that an employee-foreign national is currently not serving a sentence,
 - copies of pages from the passport of an employee-foreign national containing personal data;

- (ii) The fee paid upon filing an application for a work permit has increased significantly, by UAH 170 (approximately €17) to UAH 2,500 (approximately €250);

- (iii) The grounds for dismissing or cancelling a work permit have been extended and currently include the following:
 - Deportation of foreign employees from Ukraine,
 - An employer being in debt to the Unemployment Fund,
 - Lapse of one year after the issuance of an immigration visa was dismissed,
 - Cancelled work permit issued earlier
 - Performing work other than the type for which the work permit was issued.

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