



Residence rights and Residence documents

under the Withdrawal Agreement -Brexit Booklet

Withdrawal Agreement published Officially on 31 January 2020,

Whom it covers: The Withdrawal Agreement (WA) will protect those UK nationals and their family members who have already exercised or will exercise their free movement rights in the Republic of Cyprus before 1 January 2021 (before the end of the transitional period).

Transition period: It is the period immediately after the UK leaves the EU, which started on 1 February 2020 and lasts until 31 December 2020. During this period free movement of UK nationals and their family members will continue.

How it works for UK nationals:

- UK nationals and their family members including family members who are non-UK nationals, who have already exercised or will exercise free movement in Cyprus before 1 January 2021 but, until 31 December 2020 will not have completed continuous residence of five years, will be eligible for a temporary residence,
- Those who will have completed five years of continuous residence in Cyprus before 31 December 2020, will be eligible to acquire permanent residence,
- Those who will not have completed five years of continuous residence in Cyprus, will be able to remain in Cyprus to build-up five years continuous residence. Commencement of this five-year period for both cases starts at the moment of exercising free movement rights, which may be at any time before and during the transitional period.
- UK nationals who want to visit Cyprus after the 31 December 2020, end of the transition period and whose rights do not fall within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, will need to meet Cyprus immigration rules.

Residence documents:

Cyprus has chosen not to obligate UK nationals and their family members residing in its territory in accordance with the conditions set out in the Withdrawal Agreement, article 18(4), to apply for a new residence status as a means of verifying that they are entitled to the residence rights set out in the Withdrawal Agreement.

Holders of current Residence documents issued under the Directive 2004/38/EC (MEU1, MEU2-until expiration, MEU3) will be able to continue to use them as means of proof for residence rights in Cyprus. Applications received up until the end of the transition period will be examined on the basis of the current free movement rules, and, if approved, will result in the issuance of the current residence documents.

After the end of the transitional period, as of 1 January 2021 eligible persons whose residency rights are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, who have not applied for residence documents on EU law by the end of the transition period, will continue to have the right to apply for residence documents, provided they can submit documentary evidence of their residency prior to the end of the transitional period.

For applying online please visit EAS.CRMD.MOI.GOV.CY

How it works for UK nationals' family members:

- Existing family members of UK nationals covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, who are living in a country other than Cyprus on 31 December 2020 (end of the transition period), will be able to reunite in Cyprus with the UK national as a family member at any time in the future. They will then be eligible to qualify for permanent residence, after completing five years of continuous residence.
- Children born or adopted after the transition period by UK nationals or their spouse/civil union partner, who are within the scope of the Withdrawal Agreement, will enjoy the same rights as pre-existing family members.
- Future spouses and partners of UK citizens who are not covered by the Withdrawal Agreement and wish to come to Cyprus after the 31 December 2020 (end of the transition period), will need to meet Cyprus immigration rules.





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Residence documents to be issued to UK nationals and family members as of 1 January 2021:

- Residence Document (MUKW1) for UK nationals and family members who are also UK nationals -valid for five (5) years.
- Residence Document (MUKW2) for non-UK nationals' family members - valid for five (5) years.
- Permanent Residence Document (MUKW3) for UK nationals and family members also UK nationals or for family members who are non-UK nationals - valid for ten (10) years.

Residence documents issued to eligible persons after the end of the transition period will include a statement that the document has been issued in accordance with the Withdrawal Agreement

The process for obtaining the new Residence document under WA:

Those UK nationals and their family members who are holders of a Certificate of Registration (MEU1), Residence Card (MEU2) or Certificate/Card of Permanent Residence (MEU3).

Holders of the above-mentioned residence documents, should they choose to apply for the new Residence Document or for the new Permanent Residence Document (MUKW1, MUKW2, MUKW3), will not need to submit any further accompanying document with their application, other than their valid passport as proof of identity and their current Certificate of Registration, or their Residence card or their Certificate/Card of Permanent Residence. An application will involve payment of a required fee of €30. During the online application process the applicant will be asked to present himself at the local Immigration Offices or at the Civil Registry Migration Department, for the submission of biometric data in order to finalize the application procedure. For further information on the online procedure please visit EAS.CRMD.MOI.GOV.CY

Travelling from/to the Republic of Cyprus as a Beneficiary of the Withdrawal Agreement

Borders: Entry-Exit checks

Withdrawal Agreement beneficiaries have a right to reside in the Republic of Cyprus, that is not subject to any time limitation. The passport of a UK national who resides in the Republic of Cyprus and wishes to travel from/to Cyprus will be checked at the entry/exit Border checks, but will not be stamped in the following two cases:

1. If he/she holds a residence document issued under Directive 2004/38/EC (MEU1, MEU3) then at the entry/exit borders his/her passport **is not being stamped**.
2. If he/she does not hold a residence document issued under Directive 2004/38/EC but can credibly evidence, by other means, that he/she exercised free movement rights in the Republic of Cyprus, before the end of the transition period and continues to reside here then at the entry/exit borders his/her passport **is not being stamped**.

(Please note that documentary evidence of exercising the free movement rights prior the 31.12.20, are the same as (MEU3) application requirements documents without the obligation of five years of residence, but the documents should bear a date until 31.12.20).

If a UK Citizen does not hold a residence document issued under Directive 2004/38/EC and cannot credibly evidence, by other means, that he exercised free movement rights in the Republic of Cyprus, before the end of the transition period and that he/she continues to reside in the Republic, then his/her passport **is going to be stamped during entry/exit border checks with a 90 days limitation period**.