

Global overview partner work permits*

Sept '16

Once family member residence permit issued

- * Simplified illustration: May apply to specific employee permits;
- * Increasing recognition of unmarried partners; and work permission for children (of working age)

Authorised to work on dependant's permit / Open work permit

- Can work for any employer
- Or be self-employed

Work permit linked to employer

- Simple process or letter of consent
- No employment market test
- Procedure < 4 weeks

Work permit linked to employer

- Skills, salary, quota, employment market test; May need to return to home country
- Procedure > 4 weeks

Europeans in EU/EEA (subject to transition arrangements for Croatia)

Non-EU citizens in Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK.

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Hong Kong, N.Zealand, US (L, E visas; and H1B spouses awaiting Green Card)

Belgium, Ireland,
Luxembourg (during 1st year, then open)
Japan, Mexico, Singapore

Brunei, China, Colombia, Congo, Ethiopia, Egypt, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Sri Lanka, S. Africa, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, USA (H1B, O visa), Vietnam.

Governments are responding

25 EU countries



Bilateral agreements for spouses of diplomats



Governments increasingly:

- view business-related transfers and highly skilled employees differently from long term immigration
- want to attract international talent, trade & investment
- recognise importance of dual careers