



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 23 January 2012

5624/12

**VISA 14
COMIX 33**

NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Visa Working Party

No. prev. doc.: 7193/11 VISA 42 COMIX 130

Subject: Table of travel documents entitling the holder to cross the external borders and
which may be endorsed with a visa - Part I

Delegations will find:

- General comments in the Annex
- the updated version of Part I based on information submitted by Member States until 31 December 2011⁽¹⁾:
 - in ADD 1 regarding countries Afghanistan - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - in ADD 2 regarding countries Gabon - Oman
 - in ADD 3 regarding countries Pakistan - Zimbabwe.

⁽¹⁾ See doc. 5683/12 as regards the travel documents issued by Kosovo

GENERAL COMMENTS*Collective passports:*

Portugal and Spain only recognise collective passports issued in accordance with the European Agreement on Travel by Young Persons on Collective Passports between the Member Countries of the Council of Europe of 16 December 1961 (for a maximum of 25 persons as far as Portugal is concerned). However, Portugal does consent to its partners affixing the uniform visa. Spain also accepts other collective passports on a case-by-case basis according to the rule of reciprocity. The visa is inserted on a loose leaf.

Travel documents for stateless persons:

Austria, Portugal and Iceland are not parties to the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons, done at New York on 28 September 1954. They nevertheless consent to their partners affixing the uniform visa to documents issued by the States signatories to the Convention.

Laissez-passer:

A laissez-passer is, in general, only recognised for transit for the purpose of returning to the State of issue.

The following provisions apply as far as GERMANY is concerned:

The official identity documents listed in points 1 to 9 and issued by one of the States which Germany recognises internationally, but which have not yet been officially recognised, are accepted as passports or passport replacement documents even if they are not known, subject to certain conditions and in accordance with the law. They may therefore be endorsed with a visa as long as their non-recognition has not been officially pronounced. For the other Schengen States, documents may not be endorsed with a visa if they do not contain the following indications and features: first name and surname, date of birth, nationality (apart from refugees' and stateless persons' passports), photograph, holder's signature and authorisation of return if the document is issued to people other than nationals: **these documents are marked with a cross and an asterisk (X*).**

The following provisions apply as far as AUSTRIA is concerned:

If a travel document is not expressly marked "not recognised" in the following list, it may be endorsed with a visa for Austria – even if it is not marked with a "X" – if:

- it was issued by a duly empowered subject under international law;
- it clearly indicates the identity of the holder;
- it is valid in terms of time;
- it is valid for the Republic of Austria;
- the right of return to the State which issued the document is guaranteed.

The following provision applies as far as GREECE is concerned:

Travel documents, in which place names (toponyms) of the territory of the Hellenic Republic are recorded with inaccurate and, thus, unacceptable denominations, are not recognised by the Hellenic authorities, even if these documents are marked with an X.

The following provisions apply as far as LIECHTENSTEIN is concerned:

The documents recognised by Switzerland are also recognised by Liechtenstein.

Codes:

- 1** ordinary passport
- 2** diplomatic passport
- 3** service passport
- 4** special passport
- 5** collective passport
- 6** children's identity document
- 7** seaman's book
- 8** refugee's travel document (Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951)
- 9** stateless person's travel document (New York Convention of 28 September 1954)
- 10** alien's travel document
- 11** other travel documents

The document entitles the holder to cross the external borders and may be endorsed with a visa.

The document is not recognised by the Member State.

"The document does not exist" or "the Member State(s) has (have) not provided the relevant information". The document is dealt with as non-recognised document . If the travel document fulfils the conditions fixed by Austria, a visa for Austria including Austria may be affixed.