



## **Ad-Hoc Query on travel documents issued to Ukraine nationals of Crimea after annexation by the Russian Federation**

**Requested by CZ NCP on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**Compilation produced on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

**Replies from [Austria](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Estonia](#), [Germany](#), [Hungary](#), [Latvia](#), [Lithuania](#), [Poland](#), [Slovak Republic](#), [Sweden](#)**  
**(10 in total)**

*Disclaimer: The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.*

### **1. Background Information**

In order to meet urgent need to inform policymakers on current development in Ukrainian immigration to the EU -- in particular the challenge posed by reported forced switching from Ukrainian to Russian citizenship of the residents of Crimea -- we would like to ask selected member states the following questions:

1. Do Member States have information on what type of travel document is being issued to residents of Crimea annexed by the Russian Federation?
2. Is it possible to distinguish a travel document issued in Crimea from the travel documents of the Russian Federation?







**EMN Ad-Hoc Query: Issuing an Entry Ban for a Person Residing Abroad**

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3. How do Member States treat persons travelling on such type of a document?





Given the urgency of the information need we would very much appreciate your answers by **2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014**. We are sorry for the short deadline.

**2. Responses**

		<b>Wider Dissemination?</b>	
	<b>Austria</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	<b>Estonia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	According to information we received from our Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Crimea has been issued only Russian Federation internal passports (they are passport's for domestic identification). After March 2014 no person from Crimea with Russian internal passports has turned to Estonian Embassy in Kiev. So, our answer is that so far we do not have any information.
	<b>Germany</b>	<b>Yes</b>	After a thorough examination of all applications by Ukrainians made in Germany in 2014, only 11 of them were found to have presented documents issued in Crimea, the latest of which on March 21 <sup>st</sup> 2014. None of the documents presented were issued by Russian authorities. Due to informal sources, documents issued today in Crimea are original Russian documents, in no way distinguishable from documents issued elsewhere in Russia. This information remains unverified, as none such documents have yet been presented in Germany.
	<b>Hungary</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hungary has no precise information yet, however, it might be the case according to the Office of Immigration and Nationality that the Federal Migration Service provides an internal passport –which functions as ID card as well – for every Crimean inhabitant who applies for it. Nevertheless, Hungary does not have information on whether an external –real travel document – passport has been issued for any Crimean citizens but Hungary understands that those who receive an internal passport may apply for the external one immediately.</li> <li>2. No information available.</li> <li>3. Hungary considers every visa or residence permit application case, however, the case workers of the Office of Immigration and Nationality have not been solicited on the basis of such type of document.</li> </ol>
	<b>Latvia</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We do not have any information on this so far.</li> <li>2. Documents can be distinguished by place of issuance where particular code corresponds to particular region.</li> <li>3. We have not faced persons with such type a document.</li> </ol>

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	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>No</b>	This EMN NCP has provided a response to the requesting EMN NCP. However, they have requested that it is not disseminated further.
	<b>Poland</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Polish services do not have information about travel documents issued to residents of Crimea.</li> <li>2. There is no information about how to distinguish travel documents issued in Crimea and travel documents issued in the Russian Federation.</li> <li>3. Residents of Crimea travelling with documents issued by the Russian Federation are treated in the same way that citizens of the Russian Federation travelling with documents issued by the Russian Federation.</li> </ol>
	<b>Slovak Republic</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. According to the information available through the Border and Alien Police, residents of Crimea are issued common passports of the Russian Federation, the same as passports of citizens of the Russian Federation.</li> <li>2. When making a distinction between passports of the residents of Crimea and other passports of citizens of the Russian Federation, it depends on circumstances. In some cases it is possible to make a distinction based on the code on the passport, sometimes based on the verification of the permanent residence inside the passport. However, these methods are not reliable. Currently, the respective authorities do not deal with this issue because Slovak Republic accepts all common passports of the Russian Federation.</li> <li>3. Slovak Republic accepts all kinds of passports of the Russian Federation (for entry and for sticking the visa inside the passport or for lodging the application for the residence permit in the territory of the Slovak Republic) irrespective of whether the person is a residence of Crimea.</li> </ol>
	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. According to the information we have residents of Crimea are issued normal travel documents of the Russian Federation.</li> <li>2. No – especially not since there are reports saying that on some occasions Russian travel documents issued to people living in Crimea has stated an other place of residence outside the Crimea.</li> <li>3. Like everyone else traveling with a Russian travel document.</li> </ol>

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