

Mobility: Immigration alert

February 2023



Pakistan

Pakistan to become a signatory to the Apostille Convention on 9 March 2023

Executive summary

Effective 9 March 2023, Pakistan will become a signatory to the Convention Abolishing the Requirements of Legalization for Foreign Public Documents (i.e., the [Apostille Convention](#)).

Background

The 1961 Apostille Convention enables a country that is a member of the Convention (i.e., a [Contracting Party](#)) to authenticate documents issued in that country (e.g., birth certificates, marriage certificates and educational certificates) for use in all other Contracting Parties. The legalization process, on the other hand, often involves multiple approvals and is time-consuming. Documents legalized by an embassy or a consulate of one country (e.g., Pakistan) may only be used in that country (e.g., Pakistan).

Key developments

Effective 9 March 2023, individuals seeking to authenticate documents issued in Pakistan for use in other Contracting Parties, and vice versa, will be able to submit apostilled documents in lieu of legalized documents in support of immigration applications (e.g., authorization to work, reside or study).

Impact on employers

Pakistan's accession to the Apostille Convention is expected to enable Pakistani employers to attract foreign talent more effectively from other Contracting Parties, and vice versa, by streamlining the document procurement and authentication process related to immigration applications.

Key steps

EY will continue to monitor these developments. Should you have any questions, we encourage you to contact one of our immigration professionals.

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