

Mobility: Immigration alert

December 2023



Finland

Finland closes all border crossing points with Russia until 14 January 2024

Executive summary

Effective 15 December 2023, Finland has closed all crossing points on the land border between Finland and Russia days after reopening the Vaalimaa and Niirala borders. As of this date, all border crossing points on the land border between Finland and Russia are closed until 14 January 2024.

Key developments

On 18 November 2023, Finland began closing its border crossing points with Russia [in phases](#), in response to the increase in undocumented asylum seekers entering from Russia. On 30 November 2023, it closed [Raja-Jooseppi](#), the last remaining crossing point. Since then until 14 December 2023, most cross-border movement was suspended with the exception of [Vaalimaa and Niirala](#), which were opened to individuals entering from Russia and to those who sought to apply for international protection. Movement of goods via railway continued through the Vainikkala point.

On 14 December 2023, the Finnish government decided to close the entire eastern border again. Those who seek to apply for international protection at Finland's external borders may do so at airports and seaports.

Impact on employers

Companies that employ impacted individuals may inform them of the change and stay updated with ongoing developments to minimize delays and mitigate business disruptions.

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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