



## Azerbaijan Legal News Preparing for a changing landscape

### Presidential Decree “On the Simplification of the Issuance of Electronic Visas and the Creation of the ‘ASAN Visa’ System”

The Presidential Decree “On the Simplification of the Issuance of Electronic Visas and the Creation of the ‘ASAN Visa’ System” dated 1 June 2016 (“the Decree”) aims at establishing the electronic visa system to ensure efficiency and transparency via modern information technology.

Under the Decree, foreigners or stateless persons intending to visit Azerbaijan (“Applicants”) can now benefit from obtaining an electronic visa by using the ‘ASAN Visa’ System.

The applicants may enter all the necessary information required for obtaining an electronic visa directly to the ‘ASAN Visa’ System. The state duty for electronic visas can also be paid via the ‘ASAN Visa’ System.

An electronic visa will be issued within three working days and sent to the Applicant's electronic address.

Electronic visas are issued to Applicants of the countries approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

## Amendments to the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Amendments to the Migration Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan effective since 2 June 2016 (the "Amendments") outline the new provisions in relation to the exemptions from residence and work permits.

Under the Amendments, the following individuals are also exempted from obtaining a work permit, and therefore, have grounds to apply for a residence permit:

- Experts with higher education in shipbuilding or vocational training in a relevant field with at least one year of experience in the respective area, who are invited either by Azerbaijani citizens or contractors of an Azerbaijani legal entity, or the residents of the Garadagh Industrial Park
- Heads or deputy heads of a legal entity established in the Republic of Azerbaijan, whose shareholder or at least one of its shareholders is a foreign legal entity or individual.

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