



# THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE

## DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS ACT 2005

### 2020 REVISED EDITION

This revised edition incorporates all amendments up to and including 1 December 2021 and comes into operation on 31 December 2021.

*Prepared and Published by*

THE LAW REVISION COMMISSION  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF  
THE REVISED EDITION OF THE LAWS ACT 1983



# Diplomatic and Consular Relations Act 2005

## ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

### PART 1

#### PRELIMINARY

#### Section

1. Short title
2. Interpretation

### PART 2

#### DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

3. Application of Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations

### PART 3

#### CONSULAR RELATIONS

4. Application of Vienna Convention on Consular Relations
5. Powers of consular officers in relation to property in Singapore of deceased persons

### PART 4

#### GENERAL

6. Privileges and immunities
7. Evidence
8. Regulations
  - First Schedule — Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations
  - Second Schedule — Vienna Convention on Consular Relations

---

An Act relating to diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities,  
and for other purposes.

[1 May 2005]

## PART 1

## PRELIMINARY

**Short title**

1. This Act is the Diplomatic and Consular Relations Act 2005.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations” means the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations adopted in 1961 by the United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities, the English text of which is set out in the First Schedule;

“Vienna Convention on Consular Relations” means the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations adopted in 1963 by the United Nations Conference on Consular Relations, the English text of which is set out in the Second Schedule.

## PART 2

## DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

**Application of Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations**

3.—(1) Subject to this section and section 6, Articles 1, 22, 23, 24 and 27 to 40 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations have the force of law in Singapore.

(2) In the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations mentioned in subsection (1) —

- (a) a reference to agents of the receiving State includes a reference to any police officer and any person exercising a power of entry to any premises under any written law; and
- (b) a reference to a national of the receiving State is a reference to a citizen of Singapore.

(3) For the purposes of Article 32 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, a waiver by the head, or any person for the time

being performing the functions of the head, of any diplomatic mission of any State is treated as a waiver by that State.

### PART 3

#### CONSULAR RELATIONS

##### **Application of Vienna Convention on Consular Relations**

4.—(1) Subject to this section and section 6, Articles 1, 5, 15 and 17, paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 of Article 31, Articles 32, 33, 35 and 39, paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 41, Articles 43, 44, 45 and 48 to 54, paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 55, paragraph 2 of Article 57, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 58 and Articles 60, 61, 62, 66, 67, 70 and 71 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations have the force of law in Singapore.

(2) In the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations mentioned in subsection (1) —

- (a) a reference to authorities of the receiving State includes a reference to any police officer and any person exercising a power of entry to any premises under any written law;
- (b) a reference to a grave crime is a reference to any offence punishable with imprisonment for a term that may extend to 5 years or with a more severe sentence; and
- (c) a reference to a national of the receiving State is a reference to a citizen of Singapore.

(3) In paragraph 2 of Article 17 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, the reference to privileges and immunities accorded by customary international law or by international agreements is a reference to privileges and immunities conferred under the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) Act 1948.

(4) In Article 44 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, the references to matters connected with the exercise of the functions of members of a consular post are references to matters connected with the exercise of consular functions by consular officers or consular employees.