

No. 50411

European Union and Georgia

Agreement between the European Union and Georgia on the facilitation of the issuance of visas (with annex and joint declarations). Brussels, 17 June 2010

Entry into force: *1 March 2011, in accordance with article 14*

Authentic texts: *Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, Georgian, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish*

Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations: *Council of the European Union, 15 January 2013*

Only the authentic English, French and Georgian texts are published herein. The other authentic texts are not published herein, in accordance with article 12 (2) of the General Assembly Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, as amended, and the publication practice of the Secretariat.

Union européenne et Géorgie

Accord entre l'Union européenne et la Géorgie visant à faciliter la délivrance des visas (avec annexe et déclarations communes). Bruxelles, 17 juin 2010

Entrée en vigueur : *1^{er} mars 2011, conformément à l'article 14*

Textes authentiques : *bulgare, tchèque, danois, néerlandais, anglais, estonien, finnois, français, géorgien, allemand, grec, hongrois, italien, letton, lituanien, maltais, polonais, portugais, roumain, slovaque, slovène, espagnol et suédois*

Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies : *Conseil de l'Union européenne, 15 janvier 2013*

Seuls les textes authentiques anglais, français et géorgien sont publiés ici. Les autres textes authentiques ne pas publiés ici, conformément au paragraphe 2 de l'article 12 du règlement de l'Assemblée générale destiné à mettre en application l'Article 102 de la Charte des Nations Unies, tel qu'amendé, et à la pratique du Secrétariat dans le domaine des publications.

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION
AND GEORGIA
ON THE FACILITATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF VISAS

THE EUROPEAN UNION, hereinafter referred to as "the Union",

and

GEORGIA,

hereinafter referred to as "the Parties",

DESIRING to facilitate people to people contacts as an important condition for a steady development of economic, humanitarian, cultural, scientific and other ties, by facilitating the issuing of visas to citizens of Georgia;

REAFFIRMING the intention to establish a visa-free travel regime for their citizens as a long-term goal, provided that all the conditions for well-managed and secure mobility are fulfilled;

BEARING IN MIND that, as from 1 June 2006, all citizens of the Union are exempted from the visa requirement when travelling to Georgia for a period of time not exceeding 90 days or transiting through the territory of Georgia;

RECOGNISING that if Georgia reintroduces visa requirements for the citizens of the Union or certain categories of them, the same facilitations granted under this Agreement to the citizens of Georgia would automatically, on the basis of reciprocity, apply to the citizens of the Union concerned;

BEARING IN MIND that these visa requirements can only be reintroduced for all citizens of the Union or certain categories of citizens of the Union;

RECOGNISING that visa facilitation should not lead to illegal migration and paying special attention to security and readmission;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Protocol on the position of the United Kingdom and Ireland in respect of the area of freedom, security and justice and the Protocol on the Schengen *acquis* integrated into the framework of the European Union, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and confirming that the provisions of this Agreement do not apply to the United Kingdom and Ireland;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Protocol on the position of Denmark annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and confirming that the provisions of this Agreement do not apply to the Kingdom of Denmark,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE 1

Purpose and scope of application

1. The purpose of this Agreement is to facilitate the issuance of visas for an intended stay of no more than 90 days per period of 180 days to the citizens of Georgia.
2. If Georgia reintroduces the visa requirement for the citizens of all Member States or certain categories of citizens of all Member States, the same facilitations granted under this Agreement to the citizens of Georgia would automatically, on the basis of reciprocity, apply to the citizens of the Union concerned.

ARTICLE 2

General clause

1. The visa facilitations provided in this Agreement shall apply to citizens of Georgia only insofar as they are not exempted from the visa requirement by the laws and regulations of the Union or the Member States, this Agreement or other international agreements.
2. The national law of Georgia or of the Member States or Union law shall apply to issues not covered by this Agreement, such as the refusal to issue a visa, recognition of travel documents, proof of sufficient means of subsistence and the refusal of entry and expulsion measures.