

**Client Alert
31 May 2022**

The main updates in French immigration law and international mobility in France

Update of the salary thresholds for certain immigration categories following the legal minimum wage increase on 1st May 2022

Following the increase of the minimum wage on 1st May 2022, the minimum base salary threshold to access the Talent Passport - qualified employee status is now 39,494 Euros per year, that of the Talent Passport - employee on assignment increases to 35,545 Euros.

The European Commission proposes the digitization of procedures and visa

On 27 April 2022, the European Commission presented a draft regulation aimed at fully digitizing the visa issuance procedure. The objective would be both to allow the online filing of visa applications, and to also issue digital visas . The Commission plans to develop the online tool starting in 2024 for entry into service in 2026, with a view to use by all Schengen States by 2031 at the latest.

State Services and Immigration: regaining meaning and efficiency

In a report published on 10 May 2022, a fact-finding mission set up by the Senate's law commission reports that " foreign nationals' rights have become illegible and incomprehensible under the effect of the layers of successive reforms, ineffective procedures and a lack of means of the State services to implement them." Among other things, the new tools allowing the filing of an increasing number of applications online, and the making of appointments online are called into question. By the end of 2022, the "Digital Administration of foreign nationals in France" platform, ANEF, aims at digitalization of 100% of residence permit applications in France, when currently 52% of the requests are already processed online. In order to overcome the difficulties currently encountered, that sometimes prevent the filing of applications, or that result in long virtual waiting lines, the implementation of "robust technical support allowing the rapid resolution of difficulties on the atypical files" and "the alternative by preserving other methods of access to the public service for foreign nationals when an administrative procedure initiated via

ANEF has not been successful. It is also proposed to set by regulation a maximum period for the administration to grant an appointment at the prefecture.

Ukraine: beneficiaries of temporary protection can exercise a self-employed profession
Formalizing the possibility for beneficiaries of temporary protection displaced from Ukraine to exercise an independent profession, a decree of 27 April 2022 from the Minister of the Economy modifies the decree of 29 December 2021 and the commercial code in order to include the temporary residence permit (APS) issued to beneficiaries of temporary protection to the list of supporting documents to be produced in support of requests for registration and de-registration in the trades directory and in the Trade and Companies Register.

Karl Waheed Avocats – all rights reserved