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PUBLIC DOCUMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

SIMPLIFICATION OF THE REQUIREMENTS

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON PROMOTING THE FREE MOVEMENT OF CITIZENS BY SIMPLIFYING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESENTING CERTAIN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND AMENDING REGULATION (EU) 1024/2012.

In order to promote the free movement of citizens in the European Union, it was approved on June 9, 2016 the text of the European Parliament and Council Regulation on the simplification of requirements for presenting in a Member State, certain public documents issued by the authorities of another Member State, in particular documents relating to the birth, life, death, name, marriage, divorce, legal separation or annulment of marriage, registered partnership, affiliation, adoption, domicile and/or residence, nationality and non-existence of criminal record.

It is established, the exemption from legalization (ie, certification of the authenticity of a public office holder's signature, the capacity in which the person signing the document has acted and the identity of the seal or stamp which it bears) and similar formality (ie addition of the apostille provided for by the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961) and simplification of other formalities relating to the requirement of presenting certified copies.

Finally, it simplifies the formalities relating to public documents translations by creating multilingual forms in each of the official languages of the institutions of the European Union as translation assistants of the public documents to which they are attached, to be fulfilled by the authority issuing the document, in order to eliminate, as far as possible, the need to translate documents.

The provisions of the new regulation will be implemented gradually, being fully applicable from 2019.

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