

Procedure file

Basic information	
NLE - Non-legislative enactments	2020/0319(NLE)
EU/Cabo Verde Agreement: amending EU/Cape Verde Agreement on facilitation of the issue of short-stay visas	
Subject 6.40.06 Relations with ACP countries, conventions and generalities 7.10.04 External borders crossing and controls, visas	
Geographical area Cabo Verde	
Procedure completed	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	 Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	 LÓPEZ AGUILAR Juan Fernando Shadow rapporteur  RANGEL Paulo  VITANOV Petar  IN 'T VELD Sophia  MARQUARDT Erik  KOFOD Peter  BRUDZIŃSKI Joachim Stanisław	
Council of the European Union European Commission	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	 Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Migration and Home Affairs	JOHANSSON Ylva	

Key events			
09/12/2020	Preparatory document	COM(2020)0709	Summary

26/01/2021	Legislative proposal published	05034/2021	
24/03/2021	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
01/09/2021	Vote in committee		
06/09/2021	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0264/2021	
16/09/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0378/2021	Summary
07/10/2021	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
19/10/2021	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/0319(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 218-p6a; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 077-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/9/04829

Documentation gateway

Preparatory document	COM(2020)0709	09/12/2020	EC	Summary
Legislative proposal	05034/2021	26/01/2021	CSL	
Committee draft report	PE693.763	18/06/2021	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee	PE695.321	15/07/2021	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0264/2021	06/09/2021	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T9-0378/2021	16/09/2021	EP	Summary

Final act

[Decision 2021/1831](#)
[OJ L 371 19.10.2021, p. 0003](#)

EU/Cabo Verde Agreement: amending EU/Cape Verde Agreement on facilitation of the issue of short-stay visas

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cabo Verde amending the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas to the citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and the European Union.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Special Partnership between the EU and Cabo Verde was approved by the Council of the European Union on 19 November 2007. One of its objectives is to increase mobility and people-to-people contacts between citizens of the Union and Cabo Verde, as well as to strengthen cooperation in the fight against illegal immigration.

On 1 December 2014, the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the facilitation of issuance of short-stay visas to citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and the European Union entered into force.

After almost 5 years of implementation of these Agreements and in light of the supervened changes of both the EU and Cabo Verde's domestic legislation related to visas, namely the revision of the EU's Visa Code and Cabo Verde's decision to exempt EU citizens from the visa requirement for stays up to 30 days, the Joint Committee set up by the existing agreement explored the need to amend certain rules thereby established, with a view to adapt it to the changed circumstances.

On that basis, the Commission presented on 13 September 2019, a recommendation to the Council with a view to obtaining directives to negotiate an Agreement amending the existing Visa Facilitation Agreement with the Republic of Cabo Verde.

The Council having given its authorisation, the chief negotiators reached an agreement in principle on the draft text of the agreement, initialled on 24 July 2020 through an exchange of e-mails.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council approve the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cabo Verde amending the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas to the citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and the European Union.

The purpose of the agreement is to facilitate, on the basis of reciprocity, the issuance of visas for an intended stay of no more than 90 days in any 180-day period.

The agreement provides for the following:

- the reduction of the visa fee for processing applications to 75% of the amount to be charged in accordance with the applicable domestic (i.e. EUR 60 for Cabo Verdean citizens); for children of at least 12 years of age (but under 18 years of age), the fee is further reduced by 50% compared to the generally applicable amount (i.e. EUR 30 for Cabo Verdean citizens);
- simplification of the documents required to justify the purpose of the journey for certain categories of applicants, e.g. business people; spouses, children and parents of Union citizens or Cabo Verdean citizens legally residing in the EU; schoolchildren, students; participants in scientific, cultural, sporting or religious events, journalists and persons travelling for medical reasons;
- the modification of the rules on the issuing of multiple-entry visas focusing on the previous lawful use of the visa during a given reference period rather than on the purpose of travel of the applicants;
- the exemption from the visa requirement for short stays for holders of a valid EU laissez-passer;
- the possibility for the parties to suspend the agreement in whole or in part for any reason deemed appropriate;
- the amendment of the general clause of the agreement to ensure that: (i) the facilitation granted to Cabo Verdean citizens would be granted to EU citizens if the visa requirement for stays of up to 30 days re-imposed for their visit to Cabo Verde; (ii) at least the same facilitation are granted to EU citizens applying for a Cabo Verde visa for stays exceeding 30 days but not exceeding 90 days;
- the amendment of the Joint Declaration on cooperation on travel documents to include a reference to Cabo Verde's internal legislation introducing biometric travel documents.

EU/Cabo Verde Agreement: amending EU/Cape Verde Agreement on facilitation of the issue of short-stay visas

The European Parliament adopted by 533 votes to 107, with 47 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion on behalf of the Union of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cabo Verde amending the Agreement on facilitating the issue of short-stay visas to citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and of the European Union.

Following the recommendation of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, Parliament gave its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

The Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cape Verde amending the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cabo Verde on the facilitation of the issuance of short-stay visas to the citizens of the Republic of Cape Verde and the European Union aims at facilitating, on the basis of reciprocity, the issuance of visas for an intended stay of no more than 90 days in any 180-day period.