

AGREEMENT
between the Austrian Federal Government and the Government of the Republic of
Estonia on Mutual Representation by Diplomatic and Consular Missions of their States
in the Visa Application Procedure

The Austrian Federal Government and the Government of the Republic of Estonia (hereinafter referred to as the “Contracting Parties”);

recalling the trustful cooperation between the diplomatic and consular missions of the Contracting Parties;

acknowledging the fact that facilitation of visa issuance is in the common interest of both States;

in view of Community achievements and proposals concerning cooperation in the field of visa issuance;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

- (1) The subject of this Agreement is the mutual representation in processing and issuing uniform visas valid in the sovereign territory of all Contracting Parties to the Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement of 14 June 1985 between the Governments of the States of the Benelux Economic Union, the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic on the gradual abolition of checks at their common borders in compliance with the EC/EU law on visa issuance, this Agreement, as well as with implementing agreements concluded pursuant to Article 4.
- (2) The scope of the mutual representation shall be established by the implementing agreements.
- (3) The Contracting Parties may assist each other in collection of biometric data when submitting visa applications. Detailed rules for the co-operation shall be specified in the implementing agreements.

Article 2

Activities under Article 1 of this Agreement shall be governed by respective EC/EU law, including the legislation on protection of individuals at processing of personal data, as well as by the national legislation of the representing Contracting Party.

Article 3

Acting under Article 1 of this Agreement, the diplomatic and consular missions of the States of the Contracting Parties shall act as diligently as they would act at processing or data collecting on their own behalf. There is no liability beyond this scope of one Contracting Party for activities performed on behalf of the other Contracting Party.

Article 4

The Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States of the Contracting Parties shall conclude implementing agreements by means of an exchange of notes which designate the diplomatic and consular missions to which this Agreement shall apply. Provisions of the implementing agreements shall also cover details of the implementation of the obligations pursuant to Article 1 of this Agreement.

Article 5

The representing Contracting Party shall be entitled to all visa fees.

Article 6

The Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the day on which the Parties have notified each other through diplomatic channels of the completion of the internal procedures necessary for the entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties may amend this Agreement at any time by mutual written consent. Amendments shall enter into force in accordance with Article 6.

Article 8

This Agreement is concluded for an unlimited period. The Agreement may be terminated by a written notice by either Contracting Party. The Agreement shall expire on the ninetieth (90th) day following the delivery of such written notice of denouncement to the other Contracting Party.

Article 9

Either Contracting Party may suspend the implementation of the Agreement at any time, either in part or in its entirety. The starting and closing date of such suspension shall be notified to the other Contracting Party in writing through diplomatic channels. The beginning and the end of such suspension becomes effective on the thirtieth (30th) day following the receipt of the notification.

Done in Tallinn on 24 August 2009 in two original copies, each in the German, Estonian and English languages. In the case of differences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**On behalf of the Austrian
Federal Government:**

**On behalf of the Government
of the Republic of Estonia:**

Michael SPINDELEGGER m.p.

Urmas PAET m.p.