

Consular services

Consular protection and assistance to Albanian citizens

When they are in trouble in a foreign country and lose connections with their families in Albania.

Difficulties that may be encountered by citizens are of various natures. In any case they can contact the Representations of Republic of Albania for advice or help. Dealerships may help especially when citizens have problems and difficulties with the authorities of the host country. In these cases, it is important to consider that the representative offices are not information agencies of travel information agencies.

Citizens can always contact the diplomatic representations and consular of R.A. to establish links with their families at home. Therefore, providing accurate and sufficient information is important.

Family members may request the assistance of MFA, through Representations of RA, to establish links with their relatives. Should be understood, that in these cases, the representations cannot provide information, if the citizens who are interested are staying illegally or imprisoned and they respond negatively to contact them. It is at a great importance to provide accurate information about the families and acquaintances, overseas.

How can an Albanian citizen be equipped with travel documents?

Passport equipment

Albanian citizens living abroad will apply in person for a biometric passport in the premises specified by the manufacturing firms for this purpose. Currently these facilities are located only in Albania, at the Civil Registry Offices in the Municipal Units.

The application of citizens under the age of 16 years for biometric passport can only be done in the presence of at least one parent, the legal custodian or designated representative with special power of attorney.

The validity of the new passport is up to 10 years.

The citizens up to 6 years obtain a biometric passport without taking fingerprints, but always being present in the application process.

Biometric passport will be done within 15 days from the date of application. Upon receipt of the new passport, citizens are made aware of the invalidity of the previous passport.

Biometric passports will be taken by the applicant in: departments / police stations, the legal representative, and authorized representative or by a special member of the close family (husband / wife, parent, child).

For emergency reasons that the citizen is forced to leave quickly the country, without waiting for getting the passport in person, he must do the departure immediately after application, time during which it has not yet entered in the system, the new passport, authorizing in this way an authorized representative to receive it.

In cases where citizens possess valid visas in the existing passports, they present in border the biometric passport coupled with existing passport in which the visa is valid. This applies as long as the old passports are in use.

In the new passport notes are not permitted for small children or for extension of deadline. In the future, if the application will be placed for biometric passports in several representations by post, rules of application will be made known in advance.

In diplomatic and consular representatives, the Albanian citizens residing abroad can apply for biometric passport or identity card in the diplomatic and consular missions in: Athens, Thessaloniki, Rome, Milan, Brussels, London, New York and Bern. Contact information that citizens should be directed to obtaining information for this purpose, are displayed on the official websites of these representations.

What to do when citizens lose or have to replace the traveling passport?

When Albanian citizens lose their passport, they must immediately make a report to the police authorities of the concerned country and notify the diplomatic or consular missions in that country.

To get new passport, citizens who have lost it, should do the same as well as other citizens who seek to obtain a passport from the beginning, adding here depositing document denounced for the loss of passport first.

To get new passport, citizens who have lost it, should do the same as well as other citizens who seek to obtain a passport from scratch, adding here and depositing the document denouncing the loss of the first passport.

Obtaining the pass permission

In states where there are Albanian representative.

The demand of the Albanian citizens in the diplomatic or consular representations for the pass permission, when they have to return to Albania and they don't have a travel document, it can be done with the presence of the concerned person with the consul.

The presence of citizens is except for the cases when:

The citizen is banned, arrested or imprisoned. In this case the application is made by the competent authorities for foreigners in the host country that are involved in the execution of the actions of people returning home in an irregular situation;