

Brussels, 7 March 2025
(OR. en)

6681/25

LIMITE

JAI 256
VISA 31
RELEX 273
COEST 195
KZ 3

NOTE

From: Presidency

To: Visa Working Party

No. Cion doc.: 6011/25

Subject: Draft Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on an Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan on facilitating the issue of short-stay visas

– Presidency compromise text

Delegations will find in the annex the Presidency compromise text of the above-mentioned Decision.

Changes compared to the Commission proposal are indicated in **bold underline** for additions and ~~striketrough~~ for deletions.

Recommendation for a

COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the opening of negotiations on an Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Kazakhstan on facilitating the issuance of ~~short-stay~~ visas

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular **point (a) of Article 77(2), in conjunction with** Article 218(3) and (4) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the European Commission,

Whereas

- (1) Negotiations should be opened with a view to concluding an Agreement with the Republic of Kazakhstan on facilitating the issuance of ~~short-stay~~ visas to the citizens of the European Union and of the Republic of Kazakhstan and of the European Union,**
- (2) This Decision constitutes a development of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* in which Ireland does not take part, in accordance with Council Decision 2002/192/EC¹; Ireland is therefore not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application.**
- (3) In accordance with Articles 1 and 2 of Protocol No 22 on the position of Denmark, annexed to the Treaty on European Union and to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Denmark is not taking part in the adoption of this Decision and is not bound by it or subject to its application,**

¹ Council Decision 2002/192/EC of 28 February 2002 concerning Ireland's request to take part in some of the provisions of the Schengen *acquis* (OJ L 64, 7.3.2002, p. 20).

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Commission is hereby authorised to negotiate, on behalf of the Union, an international agreement with the Republic of Kazakhstan on facilitating the issuance of short-stay visas to citizens of **the European Union and of** the Republic of Kazakhstan ~~and of the European Union~~.

Article 2

The negotiating directives are set out in the ~~Annex~~ **Addendum** to this Decision.

Article 3

The negotiations shall be conducted in consultation with the **Visa Working Party, which is the** special committee designated by the Council in accordance with Article 218(4) TFEU.

The Commission shall regularly report to the special committee referred to in the first subparagraph on the steps undertaken pursuant to this Decision and consult it on a regular basis.

Whenever so requested by the Council, the Commission shall report to it on the conduct and the outcome of the negotiations, including in writing.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council
The President*
