



I. NCP: China Partially Opens the Border for Some Foreign Nationals with Valid Chinese Residence Permits

As the prevention and control of COVID-19 become regular, in order to facilitate exchanges, Chinese government has decided to relax the restrictions on entry of foreign nationals which has been applied since March 28, 2020. In the past week, Chinese embassies in Europe gradually released the announcements to partially lift the suspension of entry by foreign nationals in 36 countries.

1. List of Embassies Released the Announcement (Part)

Date	Embassy
August 10, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Denmark ¹
August 11, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in France ²
August 11, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Germany ³
August 11, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Spain ⁴
August 11, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Netherland ⁵
August 12, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Italy ⁶
August 13, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Belgium ⁷
August 14, 2020	the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Luxembourg ⁸

2. The Contents of the Announcement

Foreign nationals from the 36 European countries (both within and outside the European Union) who hold valid residence permits, including

- **work permit,**
- **permit for family reunion,**
- **permit for personal matters,**

may apply for visas for free at **any Chinese embassy or consulate** in these countries. In other words, foreign nationals who hold residence permit need visa renewal to enter into China, and Chinese embassies and consulates will provide visa service for free.

The 36 countries include:
Albania, Ireland, Estonia, Austria, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Belgium, Iceland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Poland, Denmark, Germany, France, Finland, the Netherlands, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Romania, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Serbia, Cyprus, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Greece, Hungary, Italy, United Kingdom

The foreign nationals are requested to comply with the epidemic prevention regulations of the local governments after entering into China.

It merits your attention that the announcements from embassies in **France, Belgium, and Luxembourg** do not specially list the 36 countries. Asiallians will consult with these embassies to check the details and update you in the subsequently released legal news.

II. Legal News: Optimizing the Services for Starting a Business in China

On August 7, 2020, the State Administration for Market Regulation (the "SAMR") issued the Circular on Further Optimizing Services for the Establishment of Enterprises (the "Circular")⁹ along with other five departments¹⁰. We streamline the most interesting contents for your reference:

Online Establishment	By the end of 2020, the establishment of enterprises can be carried out online nationwide in all provinces ¹¹ and the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps.
One-stop Platform	One form filing online: enterprise registration, official seal engraving, invoice application, tax control equipment application, employee insurance registration, and housing fund registration can be applied in one form. One window on-site: All the application materials shall be submitted off-line at one window at the eligible places.
Shortening Process	By the end of 2020, the time for starting a business will be reduced to four working days nationwide; in some qualified places, it is encouraged to reduce the time of starting a business to less than four working days while ensuring the quality of work.
Simplifying Process	The enterprise is not required to provide the copy of the business license and the identification materials of the legal representative (person in charge, etc.) for applying for engraving the official seal.
Electronizing Process	Robustly promoting the application of • electronic business licenses; • electronic VAT invoices; • electronic official seal

As for implementation of the Circular specifically for WFOE or JV, Asiallians will closely work with local PRC authorities to figure out the practice in real world and make a tailored business plan for your project.

Should you have any inquiry, please contact us at asiallians@asiallians.com. As always, Asiallians remains at your service and our teams are currently mobilized in all our offices in China, Hong Kong and Taipei.

1. <https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/ce/cedk/eng/cs/t1805331.htm>

2. <http://www.amb-chine.fr/chn/ttxw/t1805661.htm>

3. <http://de.china-embassy.org/chn/sgyw/t1805453.htm>

4. <http://es.chineseembassy.org/chn/lqsw/t1805513.htm>

5. <http://nl.chineseembassy.org/chn/xwdt/t1805654.htm>

6. <http://it.chineseembassy.org/chn/lstz/t1805672.htm>

7. <http://be.china-embassy.org/chn/zxxx/t1806193.htm>

8. <http://lu.china-embassy.org/chn/sgdt/t1806158.htm>

9. http://gkml.samr.gov.cn/nsjg/djzcj/202008/t20200807_320600.html

10. The five departments include: Ministry of Public Security, National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, Ministry of Housing and Urban Rural Development, State Administration of Taxation.

11. "All provinces" also include autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government.

Feel free to contact asiallians@asiallians.com for more information.

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