

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

CANADA

AND

THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC

CONCERNING YOUTH MOBILITY

CANADA AND THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

DESIRING to foster close relations between them;

INTENDING to facilitate access to cultural exchanges that enable youth to gain a better understanding of the other Party’s language(s), culture and society through travel, life and work experience abroad;

INTENDING to encourage youth mobility for the purpose of enhancing the personal and professional development of participating youth;

CONVINCED of the value of facilitating such exchanges;

HAVE AGREED on the following provisions:

ARTICLE 1

Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to simplify and facilitate administrative procedures applicable when young citizens of one country intend to enter, reside and work temporarily in the territory of the other country in order to improve their knowledge of the host country’s language(s), culture and society through travel, life and work experience.

ARTICLE 2

Categories of Eligible Citizens

The Parties shall consider the following Canadian and Greek young citizens to be eligible to benefit from the application of this Agreement:

- (a) Graduates, from post-secondary or higher education institutions according to the applicable legislation of each country, who intend to obtain work experience in the host country under a pre-arranged contract of employment in support of their career development;
- (b) Registered students of post-secondary or higher education institutions according to the applicable legislation of each country, who intend to fulfill part of their academic curriculum in the host country by completing a pre-arranged practical training related to their field of studies;
- (c) Citizens who intend to travel and holiday in the host country and obtain temporary employment in order to supplement their financial resources.

ARTICLE 3

Qualifying Requirements

1. The Parties shall consider that citizens who fall under one of the categories referred to in Article 2 are qualified to benefit from the application of this Agreement, if they meet the following requirements:

- (a) For Canada: Greek citizens who submit an individual application to the Canadian diplomatic mission or consular office in the Hellenic Republic or in the country in which they are present and have been lawfully admitted;

- (b) For the Hellenic Republic: Canadian citizens who submit, first, an individual application in order to benefit from this Agreement and an application for the relevant national long stay visa to the competent Greek consular Authority in Canada or in the country in which they legally reside, and second, who submit an individual application for residence permit to the competent Migration Authorities **in the Hellenic Republic**, as soon as possible after their entry into the country;
- (c) They are between the ages of 18 and 35, inclusive, on the date the application is received by the diplomatic mission or consular office;
- (d) They are Canadian or Greek citizens and hold a Canadian or Greek passport which:
 - (i) is valid until a date after the expected period of stay under this Agreement,
 - (ii) contains at least two blank pages, and
 - (iii) was issued within the previous 10 years;
- (e) They have, before arriving in the host country, a departure ticket to leave the host country or sufficient financial resources to cover the cost of their departure from the host country;
- (f) They have proof of sufficient financial resources to cover the expenses involved at the beginning of their stay;
- (g) They pay the applicable fee(s) to benefit from the application of this Agreement;
- (h) For Canada: Greek citizens who accept to purchase full health care insurance, including insurance for hospitalization and repatriation, for the entire authorized period of stay, prior to their arrival in Canada;

- (i) For the Hellenic Republic: Canadian citizens, who are notified that their visa application referred to in subparagraph (b) above has been approved and who, prior to receiving this visa, submit adequate and valid full health care insurance to cover any expenses which may arise in connection with repatriation for medical reasons, urgent medical attention or emergency hospital treatment or death, for their entire authorized period of stay;
- (j) For the Hellenic Republic: Canadian citizens who submit to the competent Greek consular Authority a copy of their criminal record and a valid medical certificate stating they do not suffer from diseases that may pose a threat to public health. The Parties understand that this medical certificate must be submitted only once and only to the competent Greek consular Authority;
- (k) Canada understands that, under the law of the Hellenic Republic, qualified Canadian citizens must submit to the competent Greek Migration Authorities, after their entry into the country and within the first three months, the following:
 - (i) An application for a residence permit with three recent colour photos,
 - (ii) A photocopy of a valid Canadian Passport with a valid national visa which is specifically granted for the purpose of this Agreement,
 - (iii) A certificate of full health care insurance covering all risks as per subparagraph (i),
 - (iv) Proof of sufficient financial resources to cover the expenses involved at the beginning of their stay. This document is only required of Canadian citizens falling under Article 2(c) and only in cases where Canadian citizens do not have a work contract at the time of application for a residence permit,

- (v) A fee,
 - (vi) Documentation and relevant declarations required under (i), (ii) or (iii) as per subparagraph (l) below, as the case may be;
- (l) They provide:
- (i) For Canadian and Greek citizens falling under Article 2(a):
Documentation proving that they have obtained a pre-arranged contract from an employer in the host country for a period of up to twelve (12) months. In this contract reference will be made that the purpose of the employment is gaining work experience in support of their career development, or
 - (ii) For Canadian and Greek citizens falling under Article 2(b):
Documentation proving that they are registered students at a post-secondary or higher education institutions in their home country according to the legislation of each country, and that they have obtained a pre-arranged contract for practical training, from an employer in the host country, related to their field of study to fulfill part of their academic curriculum, or
 - (iii) For Canadian and Greek citizens falling under Article 2(c):
Confirmation that their intention is to travel and holiday in the host country, and to obtain temporary employment in order to supplement their financial resources;
- (m) They have satisfied any relevant requirements of Canadian and Greek immigration legislation and regulations, including admissibility, other than those already set out in subparagraphs (a) to (l) above.

2. The Parties understand that dependents are excluded from the individual application of qualified Canadian and Greek citizens to benefit from the application of this Agreement. The Parties understand that these dependents may submit their own individual application to benefit from the application of this Agreement. The Parties also understand that these dependents may enter and reside in the host country according to existing provisions of the host country's national legislation.

3. The Parties shall permit qualified citizens to benefit from the application of this Agreement on a maximum of two (2) occasions provided that:

- (a) There is an interruption between the two stays;
- (b) Each stay is under a different category of the categories set out in Article 2; and
- (c) The authorized period of each stay does not exceed twelve (12) months.

ARTICLE 4

Issuance of Documents

1. Each Party shall use its best efforts to facilitate, under the provisions of this Agreement, the procedures whereby qualified citizens of the other Party may enter and reside temporarily in its territory.

2. Subject to public interest, public order, national security, immigration legislation and regulations, and public health, Canada shall:

- (a) issue to qualified Greek citizens, a letter of introduction, which shall facilitate work permit issuance, shall be valid for a maximum of twelve (12) months, shall indicate the authorized period of stay and shall specify the reason for the stay, as defined in Article 2 of this Agreement. The Parties understand that the letter of introduction shall be issued through the Canadian diplomatic mission or consular office where the application is submitted pursuant to Article 3(1); and
- (b) issue to qualified Greek citizens who hold a valid letter of introduction, upon their arrival in Canada and without reference to the Canadian labour market situation, a work permit valid for the entire authorized period of stay and throughout Canada, as applicable, provided that they meet all relevant Canadian immigration legislation and regulations, and without restricting the officers' discretionary authority to impose conditions.

3. Subject to public order, internal security, public health, international relations, immigration legislation and regulations, the Hellenic Republic shall:

- (a) issue to qualified Canadian citizens a national long stay visa ("type D" visa) which shall be valid for a maximum of twelve (12) months, shall indicate the authorized period of stay and shall specify the reason of the stay, as defined in Article 2 of this Agreement. The Parties understand that the national visa shall be issued by the competent Greek consular Authority, where the visa application is submitted pursuant to Article 3(1) provided that Canadian citizens meet all relevant Greek national visa issuance legislation and regulations, and without restricting the competent Consular officer's discretionary authority to impose conditions;

- (b) issue to qualified Canadian citizens who hold a valid national visa under subparagraph (a) (“type D” visa), a residence permit once they are in the Hellenic Republic. The Parties understand that the residence permit shall be issued by the competent Greek Migration Authorities where Canadian citizens present themselves in person. The Parties understand that upon submitting the application for a residence permit with all relevant documents as set out in Article 3(1)(k), a provisional certificate will be granted which certifies that the holder resides legally in the Hellenic Republic and has access to the labour market or practical training, according to the categories of Article 2, provided that Canadian citizens meet all relevant in the Greek immigration legislation and regulations. The Parties understand that the residence permit shall be valid up to twelve (12) months, shall grant access to the labour market for the same period of up to twelve (12) months for categories (a) and (c) referred to in Article 2, and access to practical training for the same period of twelve (12) months for category (b) referred to in Article 2, and shall not be eligible for renewal;
- (c) Canada understands that, under the law of the Hellenic Republic, qualified Canadian citizens who fall under the category of Article 2(c) of this Agreement:
- (i) Shall be allowed to work within the Greek territory in an employee-employer work relationship, which for the Hellenic Republic means as dependent employees and not as self-employed employees or shall be allowed to work for the provision of services or work project,
 - (ii) Shall not be allowed to take up any employment which asks for a professional licence or registration in professional unions, and

- (iii) Notify the competent Migration Authorities about any change of employer and type of employment.

ARTICLE 5

General Provisions

1. The Parties understand that qualified citizens of either Party who are benefiting from the application of this Agreement are subject to the laws and regulations in force in the host country, particularly with regard to labour and insurance law, including wages, working conditions, employment insurance benefits, occupational health and safety, and the practice of regulated professions. In the case of Canada, the laws and regulations relating to employment standards primarily fall within the jurisdiction of the provinces and territories.
2. The Parties shall encourage relevant organizations in their respective countries to lend their support to the application of this Agreement, particularly by giving advice to qualified citizens of the other Party so that they can obtain information to facilitate their travel and work experience in the host country.

ARTICLE 6

Implementation and Consultations

1. The Parties shall determine annually, on the basis of reciprocity and through the exchange of diplomatic notes, the maximum number of citizens who will be permitted to benefit from the application of this Agreement. The Parties understand that this number will be based on reciprocity.
2. The Parties shall determine the minimal amount of financial resources required under Article 3(1)(f), in accordance with the respective legislation, by mutual consent through the exchange of diplomatic notes.

3. The Parties shall record the number of citizens of the other Party who are benefiting from the application of this Agreement from the date this Agreement enters into force to the end of the current year, and then annually from January 1 to December 31.

4. The Parties shall notify each other through the exchange of diplomatic notes of all administrative procedures and conditions related to the implementation of this Agreement.

5. The Parties may, at any time, consult each other on the interpretation and implementation of this Agreement. The Parties shall resolve any dispute arising from its interpretation or application through such consultations.

ARTICLE 7

Entry into Force, Amendments, Termination and Suspension

1. The Parties shall notify each other, through exchanges of diplomatic notes, of the completion of the internal procedures required for this Agreement to enter into force.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the receipt of the last diplomatic note referred to in the preceding paragraph.

3. The Parties may amend this Agreement by mutual consent through exchanges of diplomatic notes. Such amendments shall enter into force according to the procedures defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

4. Each Party may at any time terminate this Agreement or temporarily suspend all or part of its application by giving to the other Party a 30-day notice in writing to that effect through diplomatic channels. The Parties also understand that termination or suspension of this Agreement shall not affect citizens who hold any document issued pursuant to Article 4 or citizens already admitted under the provisions of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Athens, in two original copies, this 28th day of May 2011, in the English, French and Greek languages, each version being equally authentic.

FOR CANADA

**FOR THE HELLENIC
REPUBLIC**