**REGULATION (EC) 810/2009**

**ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY CODE ON VISAS (VISA CODE)**

**Article13 (7) - Biometric identifiers**

The following applicants shall be exempt from the requirement to give fingerprints:

1. children under the age of 12;
2. persons for whom fingerprinting is physically impossible. If the fingerprinting of fewer than 10 fingers is possible, the maximum number of fingerprints shall be taken. However, should the impossibility be temporary, the applicant shall be required to give the fingerprints at the following application. The authorities competent in accordance with Article 4(1), (2) and (3) shall be entitled to ask for further clarification of the grounds for the temporary impossibility. Member States shall ensure that appropriate procedures guaranteeing the dignity of the applicant are in place in the event of there being difficulties in enrolling;
3. heads of State or government and members of a national government with accompanying spouses, and the members of their official delegation when they are invited by Member States’ governments or by international organisations for an official purpose;
4. sovereigns and other senior members of a royal family, when they are invited by Member States’ governments or by international organisations for an official purpose.