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## **EU EASES DOCUMENTATION FOR CITIZENS MOVING TO OTHER MEMBER STATES**

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European Union (EU) citizens no longer have to present certified copies and translations of personal public documents (including birth, death, and marriage certificates) issued in one member state when moving to another, under a [regulation](#) effective 16 Feb 2019. A multilingual standard form, available in all EU languages, can be attached as a translation aid to avoid translation requirements.

The regulation includes safeguards to prevent fraud and procedures to allow member states to verify a document's authenticity using the [Internal Market Information System](#). Member states retain the right to apply their national rules concerning the contents and effects of public documents.

The regulation, which aims to reduce bureaucratic procedures and costs, covers documents verifying:

- Birth
- A person's status as alive
- Death
- A person's name
- Marriage (including capacity to marry and marital status)
- Divorce
- Legal separation and marriage annulment
- Registered partnership, including capacity to enter into a registered partnership and registered partnership status
- Parenthood
- Adoption
- Domicile or residence
- Nationality

- Absence of a criminal record
- The right to vote and stand as a candidate in municipal elections and European Parliament elections

#### RELATED RESOURCES

- [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1191](#) (EurLex, 26 Jul 2016)
- [Press Release](#) (European Commission, 15 Feb 2019)
- [Information on Internal Market Information System](#) (European Commission)

*Note: Mercer is not engaged in the practice of law, accounting or medicine. Any commentary in this article does not constitute and is not a substitute for legal, tax or medical advice. Readers of this article should consult a legal, tax or medical expert for advice on those matters.*