



POLISH CITIZENSHIP - IMPORTANT INFORMATION

To obtain a Polish European passport, you must first be officially recognized by Polish authorities as a Polish citizen. And to obtain Polish citizenship, you must go through a procedure called:

THE CONFIRMATION OF THE POSSESSION OF POLISH CITIZENSHIP

It is quite a complex and, in many cases, complicated process and has nothing to do with some 'old passport's renewal' at a Polish Consulate. It takes time and effort to accomplish.

Here is some essential and relevant information about confirming your possession of Polish citizenship by descent and obtaining the Polish European passport. Take your time and read it carefully. Whether you are going to apply now or in the future, this info will be beneficial.

If you are seriously considering applying for Polish citizenship & passport now or in the future, please do read this carefully!

1. ELIGIBILITY

Legislation on Polish citizenship is based on the right of blood (*ius sanguinis*). It means that a child of a Polish citizen legally acquires Polish citizenship by birth. The country of delivery is not essential. Until January 19, 1951, children born of wedlock acquired the citizenship of the father, and children born out of wedlock acquired the citizenship of the mother. Thus, many people who are descendants of Polish immigrants and today living in many countries in the world have the right to Polish citizenship and can obtain their Polish European passport. In the procedure of the confirmation of the possession of Polish citizenship by descent, we must prove three things: that your ancestors indeed were Polish citizens, that they did not lose it, and that you are their descendant.

→ [Checking and confirming the eligibility is always the very first thing to do](#)

2. DOCUMENTS

Every application for the confirmation of the possession of Polish citizenship must be based on documents. These must, first of all, be Polish reports meaning issued in Poland by Polish authorities after 1920. Other foreign materials are useful for establishing relevant facts and confirming personal data but are not enough as proof of one's possession of Polish citizenship! The most important are the documents that prove Polish citizenship beyond any doubt: Polish passports or IDs, military records, residence, and voting lists and of course, birth and marriage certificates.

→ [The possession of the relevant Polish documents is a pre-condition to apply](#)

3. ARCHIVES

If you do not have any old original Polish documents from your ancestors, you must obtain them. Nothing can be done without relevant Polish documents! Please do check with your family. If not, the next step is the archives search in Poland.

→ Archives search must be done by professional researchers that know where and how to search to obtain proper, relevant documents and save you time and money

4. REPRESENTATION

The amendments implemented into Polish law in 2009 necessitate the appointment of an agent for delivery (proxy) based in Poland for applicants who do not reside in Poland. In practice, this means that a person applying for Polish citizenship who permanently lives outside Poland cannot conduct procedures entirely via a Polish consulate. You may apply to a consulate, but any further Procedure will be performed only through an agent for delivery based in Poland.

→ Legal representation in Poland in the matters of confirming one's Polish citizenship is a must, not a choice

5. CONSULATE

It is no longer possible to confirm Polish citizenship entirely *via* a Polish consulate in your country of residence. According to the amendments implemented in 2009, a person applying for the confirmation of Polish citizenship who does not permanently reside in Poland should establish, as a minimum, an agent for delivery in Poland. It means that it is possible to apply for citizenship at the consulate (submit the documents only!). Still, the authorities in Warsaw processing the case will not directly contact a person residing abroad, not even via a Polish consulate. The primary aim of this amendment was to relieve Polish diplomatic missions from handling citizenship issues, the influx of which exceeded any expectations after 2004.

→ If you contact a Polish consulate, they will confirm that you must appoint a representative based in Poland

6. INVESTMENT

The overall investment that includes all (not just our fees!) what you will pay until you get your Polish European passport consists of quite a few things: archival searches, translations, legal advising fee, and case processing fee, You will also pay a fee for certifying copies of documents in your country and a Polish passport fee at a Polish Consulate. With our representation, this total cost should not exceed 1'200 EUR per applicant. (Of course, the very complicated and complex cases may cost more and take longer.) This price has been calculated based on hundreds of examples from many countries that we have processed over the last 17 years.

→ The second passport is an investment rather than a cost. In every case, we offer a full money-back guarantee

7. TIMING

The procedure for the confirmation of Polish citizenship by birth is very complicated, as Polish law governing citizenship has been amended countless times since 1920. The period is affected by many factors: time for searching, collecting and submitting relevant documents, translations, and administrative procedures conducted by the Polish Head of Province (Wojewoda). In most cases, the process should not last longer than six months, but we handle and had handled cases lasting longer due to their complexity.

→ In well document cases, we can obtain a Polish citizenship confirmation in less than three months.

8. CITIZENSHIP

Most countries where descendants of Polish emigrants live today, such as the United Kingdom, United States, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and Israel, allow dual citizenship exclusively. Polish law dictates, however, that Polish authorities consider anyone who holds dual citizenship as a Polish citizen irrespective of citizenship in another country. People in possession of a Polish passport have all the same rights as any other European citizen. There is no obligatory army service in Poland anymore. Following the European rules of no-double-taxation, you will not pay taxes to the Polish government if you work or do business in another European country and do not reside in Poland permanently.

9. PASSPORT

Polish passport is first of all the Polish one that you get because you are of Polish descent, then it is a second passport, and of course, it is a European passport that gives freedom in all EU member states.

10. ADVISE

After almost 17 years of advising in the matters of Polish citizenship, we can honestly say this: the procedure of the confirmation of the possession of Polish citizenship by descent is not one of the things you do on your own. You do need help: legal assistance that we will undoubtedly provide.

➔ [Hiring your legal representative in Poland will save you money and a lot of time](#)