

# DO I NEED A VISA?



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Whether you require a visa for travel to the Netherlands depends on your nationality and the length of your intended stay. Nationals of many countries require a visa for an uninterrupted stay of up to three months. This means that you will have to apply for a visa for the Netherlands in order to attend the TEIMUN conference. The [Visa Advisor](#) on the website of the Dutch Government helps you determine whether you need a visa.

## **Do I need a Visa if I have more than one nationality?**

If you have more than one nationality, whether you require a visa depends on which travel document you intend to travel. If it is a passport of a country whose nationals require a visa, you will also require a visa even if you have another nationality for which no visa is required. The country in which you are residing is irrelevant to whether you require a visa, although you must be residing legally in the country in which you submit your application.

## **Countries whose nationals require a visa for a stay under three months:**

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Burma (see Myanmar), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde Islands, Central African Republic, Chad, China (People's Republic), Colombia, Comoros, Congo (Democratic Republic), Congo (Brazzaville), Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, East-Timor, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji Islands, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Kiribati, Kosovo, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Micronesia, Moldavia, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar (formerly Burma), Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Northern Marianas (Islands), North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian National Authority, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, São Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syria, Tajikistan, Taiwan\*, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

## **Countries whose nationals do not require a visa for a stay of under three months:**

Albania (holders of Biometric passport only), American Samoa, Antigua and Barbuda, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Australia, Bahamas, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia-Herzegovina (holders of Biometric passport only), Brazil, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic), Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hong Kong: Holders of British National Overseas Passports, Hong Kong: Holders of Special Administrative Region Passports, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macao: Holders of Special Administrative Region Passports, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Seychelles, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Vatican City, Venezuela.

## **I have Travel documents issued by a third country. Do I need a Visa?**

Yes. Persons with travel documents for aliens and refugees issued by third countries always require a visa no matter what their nationality or which country issued these documents. An exception is made for refugees with travel documents issued by 16 European countries: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

## **For which countries is the Visa valid?**

The Netherlands is part of the Schengen Agreement, which allows border-control-free travel between the participating countries. There are now 26 Schengen countries: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

Visitors to any one of these countries receive a uniform visa valid for travel to all 26 of them. The Schengen countries have also harmonised their conditions for entry and their policy on countries whose nationals require a visa to visit the Schengen Area.

A Schengen country may, in some cases, issue such a visitor with a visa valid only for that country or for a specified number of Schengen countries.

# What do I do if I do require a Visa?

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## Where can I apply for a visa?

You can apply for a visa at a diplomatic mission (embassy or consulate) of a Schengen country, even if you are not a national of the country where the mission is situated. Under the Schengen Agreement, honorary consuls are not authorised to grant visas. If possible you should apply for a visa at a mission belonging to the Schengen country that is the main destination of your journey, which in the case of attending the TEIMUN conference would be the Netherlands. If this is not possible, you should try through the embassy of another Shengen country.

## How do I apply?

Keep in mind that everyone's situation is different and might require differing actions.

A visa is only necessary for nationals of countries subject to a visa requirement. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs offers the visa application form for download on their website.

You should also be able to find information more specific to your nationality and circumstances when searching for further information online

As a first general step, you should make sure you meet all the requirements necessary to the visa application.

Some to keep in mind are:

- The Travel Documents you intend to travel on must be valid for at least 3 months after your date of departure.
- You must be residing legally in the country in which you submit your application.

For further information please check on the Dutch website of the Ministry of foreign affairs.

Once you have been notified that your application has been approved, you should soon receive an email from our Participants Coordinator concerning your visa. This only applies to people who have indicated the need for support with acquiring a visa in their application!

In this email, you will be asked to provide the Participants Coordinator with all the information necessary to write your invitation letter. Please provide all of the information as fast as you can, since we can only start working on the invitation letter once we have received your response. After this you will receive the invitation letter from us in due time, please be aware that this might take some time.

With the invitation letter, you can go ahead with your visa appointment, taking care of this is your personal responsibility so please be aware of the significant time it might take to get an appointment. Which embassy you go to might depend on the country you live in, as the Netherlands sometimes outsource their visa responsibilities to other Shengen countries. You can apply for the visa yourself, or get help from a specialised company, making these decisions is your personal freedom.

## **How long does a Visa application take?**

It can take a minimum of a few days and up to a maximum of two months to process a visa application, depending on whether further investigation is necessary for the Netherlands. In exceptional cases, an investigation will take longer than two months. You should therefore apply for a visa as soon as possible to avoid having to cancel or postpone your visit, as this could result in unnecessarily missing out on the conference.

For this reason, we advise anyone who needs a visa in order to attend the conference, to start with the application process as soon as their participation has been confirmed.

## **What does a Visa application cost?**

When you submit a visa application, you must pay a fee. If your application is refused, the fee will not be refunded but retained to cover the processing costs. The Schengen countries have harmonised visa fees. As a rule, you must pay the fee in the local currency. In exceptional cases (for instance, if the local currency is not convertible), you must pay in another currency. You may also have to pay other costs incurred in processing your application (such as the cost of sending faxes).

Usually, you can expect costs of around 60 EUR for a single-entry Schengen visa, valid for up to ninety days.

## **How long is the visa valid for?**

Visas are normally issued for a specified timeframe, with a maximum of three months (90 days) per every six months. The visa-issuing authority will want to see your flight ticket to check the dates on which you will be entering and leaving the country.

In the “duration of stay” box on the sticker, you will find the number of days during which you may remain in the Schengen Area. In the “from” box, you will find the date on which your visa becomes valid. You may enter the Schengen Area on that date or afterward. In the “to” box, you will find the date on which your visa expires.

As soon as you enter the Schengen Area, the days in the “duration of stay” box start to count down. You must leave the Schengen Area no later than the day on which you have reached your maximum number of days or on the date stated in the “to” box.

Please note that the TEIMUN conference is only one week long, and therefore the Foundation will only grant invitation letters intended for 90-day Schengen visas.

## **Who decides if the application is accepted or rejected?**

Most embassies and consulates may take independent decisions on visa applications. But in the case of certain nationalities, they have to pass visa applications on to the authorities in the Netherlands. A Schengen visa is valid for 15 countries, some of which want to be informed about visa applications. You should take this into account when applying, as it can take a considerable amount of time.

Even when this is not required, a mission may choose to send a visa application to the authorities in the Netherlands for advice or further investigation. Depending on the purpose of the visit, these applications will be assessed by either the Ministry of Justice or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Disclaimer: The TEIMUN foundation has no authority or power in these matters of decision-making!**

## **What to do in the case of a rejection?**

If the visa-issuing authority refuses your application, it will send you a copy of the decision explaining why. You have the right to object to this decision within four weeks of it being issued (details on this should be enclosed in the decision).

The visa-issuing authority will then decide on your objection. If it decides in your favour, it will authorise the mission to issue you with a visa. If it decides against you, it will send you a copy of its decision, explaining why it has rejected your objection.

You can still submit a new visa application if new facts or circumstances arise. If your new application is successful, you may be asked to withdraw your objection to the earlier refusal.

## **Concluding remarks**

Please note that this is not an official document. No rights may be derived from this document and the information presented therein. While we have tried to make this document as accurate as possible, we apologise for any mistakes or inaccuracies that may have slipped past us.

For the most up-to-date and accurate information, consult the website of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In case of a conflict between this document and the information from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the latter always prevails!