

2025



MIGRATION DIGEST

KAZAKHSTAN 2025

en

**ҚР IIM Көші-қон Қызметі Комитетімен серіктестікте.**

В сотрудничестве с Комитетом Миграционной Службы МВД РК.
In partnership with the Committee of migration service of the MIA
of the Republic of Kazakhstan.



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Introduction

This digest has been prepared by the WPK consultants based on the main migration rules in Kazakhstan.

Here you will find up-to-date information on the procedure for entry and stay of foreign citizens in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the rates of state duties and administrative fines. We hope that the presented material will be useful if you plan to visit Kazakhstan or invite foreign workers, business visitors or relatives.

More information on the wpk.kz website at the link in the QR



Sincerely,
WPK Group Team

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Notification of stay of a foreigner

According to the current rules*, the host party is obliged to notify the migration service about the arrival of a foreigner in Kazakhstan, as well as about the change of temporary addresses. Notification of arrival of a foreigner is required within 3 business days since arrival date in Kazakhstan.

Notification is required in all cases, regardless of the purpose of entry - on a visa or under a visa-free regime. The notification is submitted by the host party. The foreigner himself does not need to apply to the migration service.

Notification can be submitted in 2 ways:

1 through the Visa and Migration Portal
vmp.gov.kz



2 through the [eQonaq.kz](http://eqonaq.kz) information system



Important: Late submission of the notification entails a fine for the host party in the amount of 10 to 20 MCI**. Repeated violation within a year entails a 1-year ban on issuing visa invitations***.

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* paragraph 9 of the Rules for entry and stay of immigrants in the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as their departure from the Republic of Kazakhstan

**Article 518 of the Code of Administrative Offenses

***Article 48 of the Law on Population Migration

Monthly calculation index (MCI) 2025 - 3 932 KZT.

Visa-free regime under unilateral agreements

Foreigners from 50 countries do not need a visa to enter the Republic of Kazakhstan. You can use the visa-free regime to visit Kazakhstan for tourism, private and business purposes.

Simplified visa-free entry allows you to freely stay and move throughout the country for 30 calendar days. To do this, it is enough to have a valid passport with you.

Important: the total period of stay in Kazakhstan should not exceed 90 calendar days during each 180-days period, but no more 120 calendar days in 1 calendar year. For a longer stay, we recommend you to apply for an appropriate visa.

| 50 countries of visa waiver | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Australia | France | Luxembourg | Slovakia |
| Austria | Germany | Malta | Slovenia |
| Bahrain | Greece | Mexico | Spain |
| Belgium | Hungary | Monaco | Sweden |
| Bulgaria | Iceland | Netherlands | Switzerland |
| Canada | Indonesia | New Zealand | UK |
| Chile | Ireland | Norway | USA |
| Colombia | Israel | Oman | Vatican |
| Croatia | Italy | Philippines | |
| Cyprus | Japan | Poland | |
| Czech Republic | Kuwait | Portugal | |
| Denmark | Latvia | Romania | |
| Estonia | Liechtenstein | Saudi Arabia | |
| Finland | Lithuania | Singapore | |

Order of entry to KZ visa-free

Purpose of visit to KZ

- business
- tourism
- private

Labor activity under visa-free regime is prohibited

Period of stay

up to 30 days (no more 90 calendar days within 180-day period, but no more 120 calendar days in 1 calendar year)

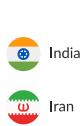
Visa Calculator



Here you can easily and quickly calculate the number of days of stay in Kazakhstan.

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14 days visa-free stay. 2 countries



Order of entry to KZ visa-free

Purpose of visit to KZ

- business
- tourism
- private

Labor activity under visa-free regime is prohibited

Period of stay

up to 14 days (but no more than 42 days within 180-day period)

Extension of stay in the RoK is not applicable

Visa-free regime under bilateral agreements

Far abroad

| Passport* | Period of stay |
|--------------------|---|
| ALBANIA | Up to 90 days per year or visa term |
| ANDORRA | Up to 90 days or visa term |
| ARGENTINA | Up to 30 days during a year or visa term |
| BRAZIL | up to 30 days during a year or visa term |
| VIETNAM | Up to 30 days at each entry, not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period |
| HONG KONG | Up to 14 days or visa term |
| DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Up to 60 days or visa term |
| QATAR | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| CHINA | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| KOREA | Up to 30 days, not exceeding 60 days within a 180-day period or visa term |
| CUBA** | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| MACAU | Up to 14 days or visa term |
| MALAYSIA | Up to 30 days at each entry, not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period |
| MALDIVES | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| MOROCCO** | Up to 30 days within a 180-day period |
| MONGOLIA | Up to 90 days or visa term |
| NICARAGUA | Up to 30 days within a 180-day period |
| UAE | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| SAN MARINO** | Up to 30 days at each entry, not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period |
| ST. KITTS** | Up to 90 days within a 365-day period |
| SEYCHELLES | Up to 30 days at each entry, not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period |
| SERBIA | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| THAILAND** | Up to 30 days at each entry, not exceeding 90 days within a 180-day period |
| TURKEY | Up to 30 days or visa term |
| ECUADOR | Up to 30 days within each 180-day period or visa term |

Near abroad

| Passport* | Period of stay |
|------------|--|
| AZERBAIJAN | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| ARMENIA | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| BELARUS | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| GEORGIA | Up to 90 days or visa term |
| KYRGYZSTAN | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| MOLDOVA | Up to 90 days or visa term |
| RUSSIA | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| TAJIKISTAN | Up to 90 days or temporary residence permit term |
| UZBEKISTAN | Up to 30 days or temporary residence permit term |
| UKRAINE | Up to 90 days within 180 days or visa term |

* National Passport

** At the Stage of approval of regulations

Order of entry to KZ visa-free

Purpose of visit to KZ

- business
- tourism
- private

Labor activity
under visa-free regime
is prohibited

Visa Calculator



Here you can easily
and quickly calculate
the number of days
of stay in Kazakhstan.

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Visa regime

You may need a visa depending on your purpose of the visit and duration of stay in Kazakhstan. For example, travel for consulting services requires a B2 visa.

Below are the most common categories of visas issued in Kazakhstan:

| | |
|--|---|
| A5 Investor visa | Multiple entry visa is issued for a period of up to 5 years with the right of extension for up to 3 years in Kazakhstan. |
| B1 Business visa | Single-entry visa is issued for a period of up to 90 days (a stay period of no more than 60 days). Multiple-entry visa- up to 1 year (with the right to stay for no more than 60 days at each entry into the country). |
| B2 Business visa | Single-entry visa is issued for up to 90 days (with the right to stay up to 30 days). Multiple-entry visa- up to 180 days (with the right to stay up to 90 days). |
| B3 Business visa | Single-entry visa is issued for a period of up to 90 days and (a stay period of no more than 30 days). Multiple-entry visa- up to 1 year (with the right to stay for no more than 30 days at each entry into the country). |
| B8 Visa for obtaining residence permit | Visa is issued for a period of up to 90 days with the right of extension for up to 30 days |
| B10 Private visa | Single-entry visa is issued for up to 90 days (with the right to stay for the entire period of visa validity). Multiple entry visa is issued for a period of from 180 days to 3 years (with the right to stay for no more than 90 days at each entry into the country). |
| B12 Tourist visa | Single-entry tourist visa is issued for a period of up to 90 days and (a stay period of no more than 30 days). Multiple-entry visa- up to 90 days (with the right to stay for no more than 30 days at each entry into the country). |
| C2 Family reunion visa | Single-entry visa is issued for up to 90 days of stay. Multiple-entry visa – up to 1 year. |
| C3 Work visa | Multiple-entry visa is issued for the period of 1 year up to 3 years. |
| C5 for Business Immigrant | Single-entry visa is issued for a period up to 90 days (with the right to stay for the entire period of validity of the visa). A multiple-entry visa-up to 2 years. |
| C9 Study Visa | Single-entry visa is issued for a period up to 90 days (with the right to stay for the entire period of validity of the visa). A multiple-entry visa-up to 1 year. |
| C11 for minors | Single-entry visa is issued for up to 1 year. Multiple-entry visa – up to 3 years. |

More information about the classification of visas of the RoK on our website:



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Change of visa category

The current immigration rules provide the possibility of changing a visa of one category to another without the leaving Kazakhstan.

| Visa to be issued | Which type of visa allows change of category | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| C3 work | B2 business | B3 business | B7* internship | B10 private | C2 family reunion | C3* work | C9 study | C10 private (for ethnic Kazakhs) |
| A5 investor | B3 business | B9 permanent residence | B10 private | C3 work | C4 self-employment | C5 business immigrant | C10 private (for ethnic Kazakhs) | |
| A6 investor | B3 business | B9 permanent residence | B10 private | C3 work | C4 self-employment | C5 business immigrant | | |
| C4 self-employment | B10 private | C2 family reunion | C9 study | C10 private (for ethnic Kazakhs) | | | | |
| C2 family reunion | B10 private | C3 work | C9 study | | | | | |
| B2 business (AIFC participants and authorities) | B3 business | B7 internship | C3 work | | | | | |
| B8 permanent residence in the RoK | C3 work | C7 Missionary | C11 For minors | | | | | |
| B7 internship | C9 study | | | | | | | |
| C9 study | All visa categories (for ethnic Kazakhs) as well as individuals travelling under visa-free regime | | C11 For minors | | | | | |
| C1 permanent residence in the RoK | All visa categories (for ethnic Kazakhs) | | | | | | | |
| C12 medical treatment | All visa categories including individuals travelling under visa-free regime | | | | | | | |

Issuance of visas is carried out by the MIA of the RoK

*B7- individuals undergoing training programs of the Astana Hub
'C3 work when changing an employer

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Simplified visa procedure for citizens of 48 countries

According to the current regulations, a visa is issued on the basis of an invitation from Kazakhstan side. However, such an invitation is **not required** for citizens of 48 countries* to obtain a **single entry visa** for up to 30 days of the following category:

- A3 service
- B1, B3 business
- B10 private
- B12 tourist

This means that you can apply for a visa at the Kazakh Consulate in your country of residence **without a letter of invitation** from Kazakhstan side.

*48 economically developed and politically stable countries

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Australia | France | Liechtenstein | Qatar |
| Austria | Germany | Lithuania | Romania |
| Belgium | Great Britain | Luxembourg | Saudi Arabia |
| Brazil | Greece | Malaysia | Singapore |
| Bulgaria | Hungary | Malta | Slovakia |
| Canada | Iceland | Monaco | Slovenia |
| Croatia | Ireland | Netherlands | South Korea |
| Cyprus | Israel | New Zealand | Spain |
| Czech Republic | Italy | Norway | Sweden |
| Denmark | Japan | Oman | Switzerland |
| Estonia | Jordan | Poland | UAE |
| Finland | Latvia | Portugal | USA |

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Visa fees

Here is a table of state fees for issuing visas to Kazakhstan in the current year.

The amount of the state fee is indicated in the monthly calculation index (MCI).

| Procedure | State duty |
|--|---|
| Issuance of an invitation letter for a visa | 0,5 MCI |
| Issuance of a multiple-entry visa on the territory of the RoK | 30 MCI |
| Extension of a multiple-entry visa on the territory of the RoK | 30 MCI |
| Issuance of an exit visa (cancellation of a visa) | 0,5 MCI |
| Issuance of a B8 visa for obtaining residence permit | 7 MCI (single-entry) 30 MCI (multiple-entry) |

Monthly calculation index (MCI) in 2025 - 3,932 tenge

Note: the rates of consular fees for issuing a visa at Embassies of the RoK remained unchanged:

Single entry visa - \$80

Multiple entry visa - \$200 (for 1 year)

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E-visa

According to the current regulations, citizens of 107 countries* can apply for the electronic visa to Kazakhstan.

In order to apply for the electronic visa, a foreigner will need an invitation letter from the Kazakhstan part (receiving person). The invitation is valid only for the visa recipient, does not apply to accompanying persons or family members and is not subject to renewal on the territory of the RoK.

The electronic visa is obtained through the Visa and Migration Portal vmp.gov.kz.

The following categories of single-entry visas are available for e-Visa:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| B1, B2, B3 business | from 30 to 60 days of stay |
| B12 tourist | up to 30 days of stay |
| C12 for medical treatment | up to 90 days of stay |
| A5 investor | up to 90 days of stay |

Pay attention:

- you can arrive in Kazakhstan with the electronic visa only by air flight
- when passing through the border control and during your stay in the country, you must have national passport and electronic visa in printed form
- e-Visa holders are exempt from the migration registration (TRP) upon arrival in Kazakhstan. It is sufficient for the host entity to submit a notification to the migration service about your stay in the country. This should be done within 3 business days since your entry date.
- you need to apply for new electronic visa in case of passport renewal/replacement

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*list of countries and more detailed information about e-visa to Kazakhstan is available at the link in this QR code

Temporary residence permit (TRP)

A temporary residence permit is issued for citizens of the CIS countries*.

TRP is issued for up to 1 year for the following purposes:

- labor activity (on the basis of an employment and civil contract (for the EAEU countries), a work permit, a labor patent.)
- entrepreneurial activity as a business immigrant
- family reunion
- study
- medical treatment
- missionary activity
- permanent residence
- for victims of human trafficking

The permit is issued by the receiving party (individual or legal entity) at the Public Service Center if there is a notification of the foreigner's arrival (see page 4) and IIN*. Children under 16 years of age do not need a TRP. Accompanying spouse(s), as well as children over 16 years of age, must apply for a TRP.

Important:

- upon leaving Kazakhstan, the TRP remains valid until the end of the issued period. The next time when you enter the country, you do not need to apply for a TRP again.
- Individual Identification Number (IIN) must be corrected after passport change

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*except Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine. Visa is required for citizens of these countries.

**IIN is necessary for a foreigner to open a bank account, receive wages in the territory of the RoK, obtain an EDS, receive public services, pay state duties, consular fees and other payments.



More information available
on our website

Residence permit

A residence permit (RP) or permanent residence permit is a document that grants foreign citizens the right to reside permanently in Kazakhstan.

A holder of an RP in Kazakhstan receives the following rights and opportunities:

- Residence: The ability to live in any city in Kazakhstan until the RP expires.
- Employment: The right to work in Kazakhstan without needing an additional work permit.
- Business: The ability to engage in entrepreneurial activities, including starting one's own business.
- Travel: Free entry into and exit from Kazakhstan without the need for a visa.
- Property and vehicles: The right to purchase real estate and vehicles.
- Social services: Access to medical and educational services on par with citizens of Kazakhstan.

Residence permit is issued for up to 10 years with the possibility of extension, but not longer than the validity of the passport.

Important:

- Before applying for the RP, it is necessary to obtain a B8 category visa.
- You must reside in Kazakhstan for at least 183 calendar days within any consecutive 12-month period from the date the RP is issued.

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A B8 visa can be issued for up to 90 days with the possibility of extension for an additional 30 days. It is also possible to obtain a B8 visa by switching from a C3 visa category or under a visa-free regime.



More about residence permit

Work permit

To employ foreign citizens, an employer must obtain a **work permit**.

Permits are issued within a quota allocated by region. Employers must submit quota applications annually by October 1 for the following calendar year.

The absence of a quota in the region is one of the reasons for refusal to issue or extend a work permit.

Depending on the category, the permit is issued for 1 to 3 years.

The rules define the following categories:

- First category – top executives and their deputies;
- Second category – heads of structural divisions;
- Third category – specialists;
- Fourth category – skilled workers.

When applying, one of the conditions is compliance with the required ratio of local staff:

- The number of foreign employees in the first and second categories must not exceed 30%;
- The number of foreign employees in the third and fourth categories must not exceed 10%.

Applications for a work permit are submitted electronically through the e-license portal.

The review period for the application is 7 working days.

If a positive decision is made to issue the permit, the employer must pay the state fee within 10 working days.

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Please note:

A work permit gives a foreign employee the right to engage in labor activity. To legally stay in the country, they must also obtain a work visa or Temporary Residence Permit (TRP) based on this permit.



More about work permits

Dactyloscopy

As of January 1, 2024, the provisions of the Law on fingerprint (dactyloscopic) registration have come into effect.

This means that foreign nationals over the age of 16 are required to undergo mandatory fingerprint registration* when applying for the following documents:

- Temporary Residence Permit (TRP)
- Residence Permit (RP)
- Visa of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- Stateless person identification card
- Refugee ID
- Travel document
- Deportation or return decision in accordance with concluded international agreements

Where fingerprint registration can be completed:

- At migration service departments at the foreigner's place of stay
- At national security authorities
- At Kazakhstan's foreign missions when submitting visa documents

The following documents are required for this procedure:

- Valid passport
- Individual Identification Number (IIN)

Important: Refusal to undergo the mandatory fingerprint registration procedure results in administrative liability in the form of deportation from the country**.

* Law on Fingerprint and Genomic Registration

** Article 443-1 of the Administrative Offenses Code

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More information
about dactyloscopy on
our website



Consular legalization and apostille of documents in Kazakhstan

In order for an official document of Kazakhstani origin to be valid abroad, it must be legalised in Kazakhstan in advance.

There are two types of legalisation of official documents:

- consular legalisation
- apostille

Consular legalisation of documents is required in those countries that have not acceded to the Hague Convention. For example, UAE, Qatar, Egypt, Kuwait, Thailand, Vietnam, etc.

Apostille is a simplified procedure for legalisation of documents between countries that have acceded to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961.

The following Kazakhstani documents can be legalized or apostilled for submission to other countries:

- education diploma (including an appendix)
- university archive certificate
- general secondary education certificate
- marriage certificate, certificate of birth
- certificate of marriageability
- certificate of criminal record and tax residency
- other official document

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More information about
legalization and apostille is
available at this link

Administrative offenses

Regarding the foreigner
(Article 517 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the RoK)

| Type of violation | State duty |
|---|---|
| Untimely departure from the country within the timeframe established by the law: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • up to 3 days • from 3 to 5 days • from 5 to 10 days • more than 10 days | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • administrative warning • 10 MCI • 15 MCI • 25 MCI (or deportation) |
| Repeated violation within a year after imposing a penalty | 15 MCI (or deportation) |
| Employment without a valid work permit (if such is required), non-compliance of the work carried out with the activity purposes specified in the visa | 25 MCI (or arrest for 10 days or deportation) |

Regarding the host party
(Article 518 of the Code of Administrative Offenses of the RoK)

| Type of violation | State duty |
|--|---|
| Untimely notification of the migration service as well as failure to take measures to process documents for the right of stay of foreigners and their timely departure from the RoK. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 MCI (small business entity) • 15 MCI (medium business entity) • 20 MCI (large business entity) |
| Repeated violation within a year after imposing a penalty | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 MCI (small business entity) • 70 MCI (medium business entity) • 100 MCI (large business entity) • ban on inviting foreign nationals |

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MCI for 2025 - 3 932 KZT

Regulatory and legal framework

The information in the migration digest has been prepared on the basis of the following legal acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan as of January 2025:

- 1) Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan «On Migration of the Population»
- 2) Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan «On the Legal Status of Foreigners»
- 3) Rules for issuing invitations, approving invitations for entry of foreigners and stateless persons into the RoK, issuing, canceling, recovering visas of the RoK, as well as extending and reducing their validity.
- 4) Rules for the entry and stay of immigrants in the RoK, as well as their departure from the RoK and the Rules for the implementation of migration control, as well as accounting for foreigners and stateless crossing persons the illegally state border of the RoK, illegally staying on the territory of the RoK, as well as people who are prohibited from entering the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 5) Rules for provision by hosts information about the immigrants staying with them, and also transit passage of foreigners and people without citizenship on the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 6) Code of the RoK on «Administrative offenses»
- 7) Rules for Issuing Temporary and Permanent Residence Permits to Foreigners and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 8) Rules for Issuing Temporary and Permanent Residence Permits to Foreigners and Stateless Persons in the Republic of Kazakhstan

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Guides, forms, legal references, and much more — all available in the WPK library

About WPK

Since its founding in 2002, WPK has specialized in providing services in the fields of Government Relations (GR), Human Resources (HR), and compliance in Kazakhstan.

We advise and support foreign nationals, investors, embassies, and international companies on labor, visa and migration, and tax matters in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

WPK is a member of EUROBAK, the British-Kazakh Society, and CCI France Kazakhstan, and a partner of Fragomen and Newland Chase.

Our clients



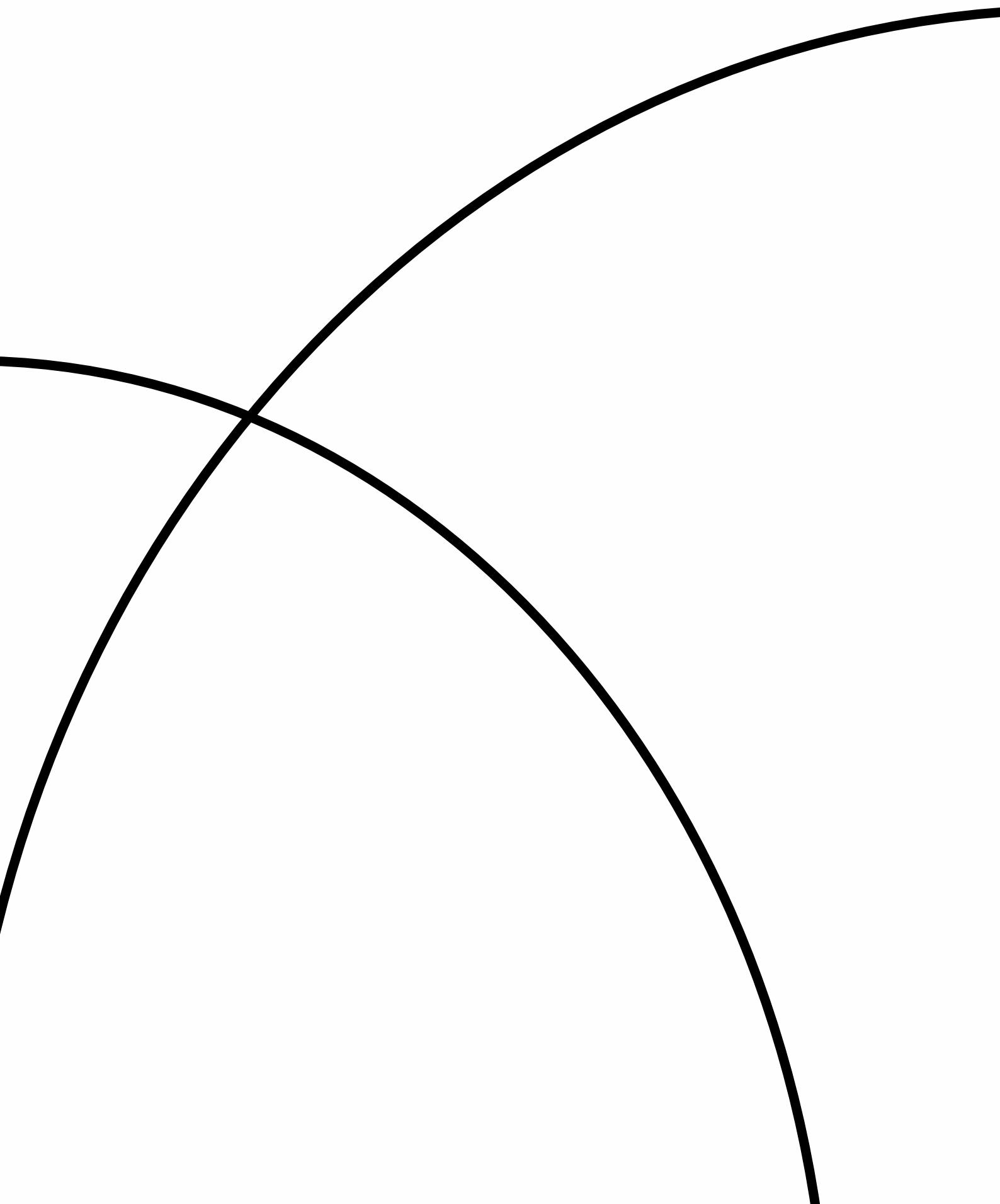
We regularly organize conferences and business meetings together with representatives of governmental authorities and other competent entities for our clients.



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Our contacts are available at the back of this digest.

Notes





Reviews
of our work
are available here

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