

London, Thu 18 June 2020



Dear Polish Embassy
Dear Irish Embassy
Dear RyanAir

Kindly asking to allow me and my family to return to Poland.

I have tried to communicate directly with RyanAir via phone and text chat directly.

I am asking you to step up and resolve a problematic situation related to COVID and expired passport.

Without COVID I would simply book an appointment and get a temporary passport.

With COVID, the appointments are not available to me and I need to resolve into asking you to follow the applicable law.

The official EU resource¹ says:

As a citizen of the Republic of Poland you have the right to return to Poland even if you do not have a document which entitles you to cross the border or if the document you have (a passport or an ID) has expired.

It also raised awareness about about potential difficulties:

*Bear in mind that if you travel without a document or one which has expired your return to Poland **could be problematic**, for example because of airline or third-country regulations, the optimal solution would be to get the document at a Polish diplomatic post or consular office.*

I agree it could be problematic, but if only RyanAir was to stick to their own terms & conditions²:

General terms and conditions of carriage

2.2.2 If any part of these terms is inconsistent with any relevant law, that law will apply.

The relevant law permits me to return to Poland.

¹ https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/travel/entry-exit/expired-lost-passports/poland/index_en.htm

² https://www.ryanair.com/gb/en/useful-info/help-centre/terms-and-conditions/termsandconditionsar_848058169

Ryan Air regulations³

2 Travel documents – photo ID

Each passenger must carry photo ID which meets our requirements and the requirements of the relevant immigration authority and other authorities.

Example of accepting expired documents.

2.2 Domestic flights - photo ID accepted

Country	Adults	Minors
France	<p>Aged 18 or over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Valid passportValid national identity card issued by one of the countries listed below this tableAny valid driving licence with a photoValid residence permit	<p>Aged under 13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">No photo ID is needed if travelling with an adult <p>Aged 13 to 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Valid passportValid national identity card issued by one of the countries listed below this tableValid residence permit
Greece	<p>Aged 12 or over</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">National identity card (valid or expired) issued by one of the countries listed below this tableGreek Police ID cardValid passportAny valid driving licence with a photoAn official document with a photo which has the relevant authority's stamp on all or part of it	<p>Aged under 12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">National identity card (valid or expired) issued by one of the countries listed below this tableValid passportConfirmation of identity from a Citizen Service Centre or the police

Based on that example, you can see that accepting expired document is not a distant idea but something that is already described in the existing terms and conditions.

Always doing business that everyone wins:

- My family wins
- Polish Embassy wins (less work)
- Other people win (ability to return to Poland)
- In order for RyanAir to win I would like to suggest €50 "expired passport COVID fee"

I hope this is a simple and understandable change in policy and you will make it work promptly.

Please confirm receipt of this letter.

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