



**Embassy
of the Republic of Belarus
in the Republic of Finland**

On the entry into force of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus “On the procedure for issuing documents and performing actions”

On September 7, 2023, Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus of September 4, 2023 No. 278 “ On the procedure for issuing documents and performing actions ” comes into force, according to which the list of consular actions and administrative procedures performed by diplomatic missions and consular offices of the Republic of Belarus is adjusted according to citizens' statements.

According to the provisions of this decree, **foreign institutions cease to carry out all functions related to documentation (issuance/exchange/extension of all types of passports and identification cards)**, with the exception of issuing certificates of return to the Republic of Belarus.

All other actions for the issuance and exchange of identity documents will be carried out on the territory of Belarus. Citizens of the Republic of Belarus who have registered permanent residence outside the Republic of Belarus and are permanently registered with foreign institutions will be able to subsequently apply on this issue to the main consular department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or to the citizenship and migration unit of the Internal Affairs Directorate at the place of last registration at the place of residence in the Republic of Belarus (at the place of last registration at the place of residence in the Republic of Belarus of the parents - for persons who did not reside in the Republic of Belarus).

The exchange of passports for citizens of the Republic of Belarus registered in the Republic of Belarus will be possible at the citizenship and migration department of the Internal Affairs Directorate at the place of registration in the Republic of Belarus.

If it is necessary to affix an apostille, obtain a repeated certificate of civil registration (except for the issuance of a repeated death certificate), obtain certificates containing information from civil registration records (about a civil registration, about the absence of a marriage record), and notices of the absence of a civil status record (with the exception of certificates containing information from death records) will also need to be addressed to one of the competent authorities in the Republic of Belarus, which is determined depending on the type of document (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Justice, main departments Justice of the Minsk City Executive Committee and regional executive committees, registry offices).

It is important to note that submission of documents for affixing an apostille, obtaining repeated certificates and certificates (notices) from the registry office will be possible only personally by the owner of this document or by another person upon presentation of a power of attorney executed in the Republic of Belarus.

As for notarial actions, officials of foreign institutions will not be able to certify powers of attorney, but will still certify wills, consents, refusals, certify the accuracy of copies of documents and the authenticity of signatures on documents and other notarial actions.

The changes did not affect issues of consular registration, civil registration, as well as those related to citizenship and registration of permanent residence outside the Republic of Belarus.

Appeals from interested parties submitted before the entry into force of the Decree are considered in the manner in force before its entry into force.