



Úřad městské části města Brna

Brno-střed

Matriční úřad

Instructions for marriages of foreign nationals with Czech citizens

Entering into marriage is governed by the Czech law, especially Act No. 89/2012 Coll., Civil Code, as amended, and Act No. 301/2000 Coll. on registers, names and surnames, and on amendments to certain related laws, as amended (hereinafter the Act on Registers).

The fiancé(e), who is a foreign national, shall submit the completed questionnaire for entering into marriage together with the following documents:

- **Birth certificate** or an equivalent proof of birth, which shall clearly show the following information: place and date of birth; name and surname; information about the parents
- **Proof of citizenship** (citizenship can be proven by a passport)
- **Proof of legal capacity for entering into marriage**, which shall not be older than 6 months on the date of entering into marriage (i.e. the authorization of a home country that their citizen can enter into marriage in the Czech Republic; if the home country does not issue such a document, the foreigner shall submit a statement confirming this fact)
- **Confirmation of marital status and residence**, if issued by the foreign state
- **Death certificate of a deceased spouse** (if the fiancé(e) is widowed); this document does not need to be submitted if this fact is stated in the Proof of legal capacity for entering into marriage
- **Final judgement of marriage dissolution** (if the fiancé(e) is divorced)
- **Court's final judgement of cancellation of the partnership and/or a death certificate of the deceased partner** (if the fiancés lived in a partnership)
- **Proof of identify** (passport, certificate of residence for foreigners, etc.)

In the calendar week prior to marriage, the fiancé(e) who is a foreign national shall submit to the registry office a certificate authorizing him/her to stay in the Czech Republic, issued by the Police of the Czech Republic, which shall not be older than seven working days on the date of marriage. (In Brno, this certificate is issued by: Krajské ředitelství policie Jihomoravského kraje (Regional Police Directorate of the South Moravian Region), Odbor cizinecké policie (Department of Foreign Police), Oddělení pobytových agend (Department of Residency Agendas), Cejl 62 b, Brno. This does not apply in the case of a European Union citizen or a citizen of another state of the Agreement on the European Economic Area or their family members.

Without this certificate and without the above documents, the marriage cannot take place!

Documents issued by the authorities of a foreign state have the evidentiary force of public documents in the Czech Republic if they are accompanied by the prescribed certifications and an official translation into the Czech language (according to the provisions of Section 57 of the Act on Registers).

This means that the relevant document is to be certified by higher authorities of the relevant state and then **super-legalized** by the Czech Embassy in that particular state. If the documents are issued by the embassy of a foreign state in the Czech Republic, they must be certified in some cases by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic in Prague. In some countries, according to international conventions, it is possible to substitute the super-legalization of documents with a certification clause, the so-called "**APOSTILLE**". This certification is not necessary in cases where the document was issued in a state with which the Czech Republic has concluded a treaty on legal assistance in civil and family matters.

All submitted foreign documents shall not only be provided with relevant certifications (see above),

but also translated into the Czech language by a court translator appointed by decree of a competent court pursuant to Act No. 354/2019 Coll., on Court Interpreters and Court Translators, as amended. If the documents are translated into Czech in a foreign country, it is necessary to have them certified by the Czech Embassy in the country where the translation is made.

It is necessary to have a court interpreter present at the wedding ceremony. The fiancés arrange for an interpreter at their own expense. Only if the foreigner has a perfect command of the Czech language and submits a declaration to that effect, the wedding ceremony does not have to be interpreted.

Presence of both fiancés is not necessary when submitting an application for marriage, but the relevant questionnaire shall be signed by both fiancés and the originals of all necessary documents shall be provided with it.