

THE INTERPOL TRAVEL DOCUMENT AT A GLANCE

- > The INTERPOL Travel Document is a secure international document issued by INTERPOL to the law enforcement officials carrying out official duties for INTERPOL-related matters in order to facilitate their travel all over the world.
- > It can be used to identify the holder as a law enforcement official carrying out official duties in INTERPOL-related matters.
- > Holders of the INTERPOL Travel Document will benefit from a special visa status, in the form of a visa exemption, expedited visa processing, or any other special visa treatment.
- > INTERPOL Travel Document holders may be entitled to enter, transit, remain in and leave a country either in conjunction with or without their national passport, depending on the rights granted to the Travel Document by the participating country.
- > The INTERPOL Travel Document uses standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).
- > The INTERPOL Travel Document is available in two forms: (i) an e-Passport Booklet; or (ii) an e-ID Card (e-Identification Card). Countries will have the option of recognizing both formats or of selecting a single format, as well as determining which conditions are attached to both forms respectively.



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INTERPOL

THE INTERPOL TRAVEL DOCUMENT INITIATIVE

RAPID RESPONSE FOR A SAFER WORLD



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“Criminals can cross borders swiftly and effortlessly, while our Heads of National Central Bureaus, law enforcement colleagues and even our General Secretariat staff are slowed down or stopped because of legitimate but time consuming visa requirements and bureaucratic international red tape, which constitutes a major impediment to keeping the world safe.”

- Ronald K. Noble, Secretary General of INTERPOL -





> INTERPOL E-ID CARD

The INTERPOL e-ID Card (e-Identification Card) has an embedded high capacity contactless integrated circuit in compliance with ICAO requirements and ISO standards. These circuits contain the holder's biometric data and a duplicate of the machine readable zone (MRZ) data. The biometric data stored on the circuit are a high resolution image of the holder's fingerprints and a photograph identical to the one printed on the front of the card.



> INTERPOL E-PASSPORT BOOKLET

The INTERPOL e-Passport Booklet contains 34 pages with a polycarbonate biographical data page. A high capacity contactless integrated circuit is placed in the back page (top left part) in compliance with ICAO requirements and ISO standards. It has an embedded crypto processor, with memory for storing personal data including biometrics.

CROSS-BORDER CRIME PRESENTS NEW CHALLENGES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

In today's globalized world, law enforcement agencies tackling international crime are faced with numerous challenges, but perhaps the greatest of these are delays incurred when crossing national borders. Specifically, for law enforcement professionals responding to a member country's request for assistance in the event of a major crime or disaster incident, such delays can seriously weaken the effectiveness of the response. The bottom line is that the ability of domestic law enforcement officials to keep pace with the increasingly sophisticated nature of transnational crime is directly dependent upon their ability to move across borders with ease.

In reality, law enforcement officials carrying out urgent official duties are often impeded or delayed in their efforts to carry out their functions due to international bureaucratic red tape. The ability for officials to cross national borders unhindered is a crucial precondition to effectively coping with global security challenges. The more border crossing practices and regulations are aligned with this need, the quicker a response can be mobilized to answer a country's call for assistance or support in combating serious crime or helping in cases of disaster.

THE INTERPOL TRAVEL DOCUMENT INITIATIVE: IMPROVING CRITICAL RESPONSE TIMES

It is with this need in mind that the 79th INTERPOL General Assembly has endorsed the INTERPOL Travel Document initiative under Resolution AG-2010-RES-02, with the goal of having INTERPOL's 188 member countries recognize a special visa status for law enforcement officials carrying out official duties on INTERPOL-related matters.

The initiative, which has since been supported by other international organizations and multiple member countries alike, stands to have a tangible impact on the fight against global security challenges. It means that dedicated law enforcement agents countering terrorism, combating child abuse or engaging in the fight against drugs, among others, will be in a position to carry out their work more efficiently, effectively and with faster response times.

Quite simply, our world is a safer place when those acting on behalf of the global law enforcement community are able to fulfil their functions with minimal impediments. The INTERPOL Travel Document initiative will help to achieve this goal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information is available for member countries on the INTERPOL website. For details of our partners, legal guidelines, technical fact sheets, an overview of countries already participating in the INTERPOL Travel Document initiative as well as a list of Frequently Asked Questions, please consult:

> www.interpol.int

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