

The Ministry of Internal Affairs clarified the legal status of residents of the regions joined to Russia

On October 05, 2022 Putin signed the law on the entry of new regions into Russia. More about the acquisition of Russian citizenship by residents of these regions and about the peculiarities of their legal status

On October 5, 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed federal constitutional laws on the admission of the [Donetsk](#) and [Luhansk](#) People's Republics, [Zaporozhye](#) and [Kherson](#) regions to Russia. These regions are considered the territory of Russia from the date of signing of these laws, that is, October 5, 2022. The transition period will last until January 1, 2026.

Who is eligible to obtain Russian citizenship:

Thus, residents living or living in these regions, who had citizenship of Ukraine, the DPR and LPR, as well as stateless persons, received the right to Russian citizenship. The Ministry of Internal Affairs published explanations on how this happens.

Who has the right to obtain Russian citizenship as a result of recognition as Russian citizens?

- citizens of the DPR, LPR and Ukraine, as well as stateless persons permanently residing in the territories of these regions as of October 05, 2022;
- citizens of the DPR, LPR and Ukraine, as well as stateless persons who previously lived in these territories, but left for Russia, including through the territories of third countries;
- minor children of the above persons.

At the same time, the condition for recognizing residents of the joined subjects as citizens of Russia is that they take the Oath of a citizen of Russia. The following persons are exempted from taking the oath of a citizen of Russia:

- under the age of 14
- declared incompetent
- unable to read or pronounce the text of the Oath and (or) sign it with their own hands due to limited health capabilities

What will happen to applications for the issuance of a TRP, residence permit and admission to Russian citizenship, submitted by persons entitled to be recognized as citizens of Russia before October 05, 2022?

Residents of the affiliated entities may refuse to be recognized as citizens of Russia within 1 month from the date of entry into force of the said law

Applications for admission to Russian citizenship submitted before October 05, 2022 by those who have the right to be recognized as Russian citizens are terminated.

Regarding applications for the issuance of a temporary residence permit, a residence permit of Russia, nothing is established in the Federal constitutional laws that came into force on October 5, 2022, from which we can conclude that consideration of such applications continues.

Where do you need to apply to be recognized as a citizen of Russia and get a passport?

The passport of a citizen of Russia will be issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia from the date of acceptance in Russia or the formation of a new subject within Russia. It is from this moment that the Russian passport will become the main document proving the identity of recognized citizens on the territory of Russia

To obtain a passport of a Russian citizen, you will need to submit an application to the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs and take the oath of a Russian citizen.

When applying for a passport of a citizen of Russia, it is envisaged to undergo mandatory state fingerprint registration and photographing.

An application for recognition of a child under the age of fourteen or an incapacitated person as a citizen of Russia must be submitted by his legal representative.

Please note that at the moment the forms of the indicated applications for recognition as a citizen of Russia and for the issuance of a passport of a citizen of Russia, the list of documents and the deadline for processing have not been established. They should be additionally established by the President of Russia, but so far such a document has not been published.

What will happen to the Citizenship of Ukraine, DPR and LPR, in case of acquisition of Russian citizenship after the formation of new subjects of Russia?

Citizens of Russia who acquired Russian citizenship after the formation of new constituent entities of Russia, permanently resided in these territories and whose citizenship of Ukraine has not been terminated, are recognized as citizens of Russia who do not have citizenship of Ukraine, from the day they submit an application about their unwillingness to be a citizen of Ukraine.

Those who filed this application about their unwillingness to be Ukrainian citizens are exempted from the obligation to submit a notification of their Ukrainian citizenship. The application is submitted to the territorial department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia.

Citizenship of the DPR and LPR is terminated from the date of acceptance in Russia and the formation of new subjects within Russia.

What will happen to the documents issued by the official bodies of Ukraine, the DPR and the LPR?

Documents issued by state and other official bodies of Ukraine, the DPR and LPR are valid on the territory of Russia for an unlimited period of validity (or until their expiration date), any confirmation from the state bodies of Russia and the authorities of Ukraine, the DPR and LPR is not required.

Foreign citizens permanently residing in these territories on the basis of a residence permit issued by the authorized bodies of the republics of the DPR, LPR or Zaporozhye, Kherson regions are supposed to issue a residence permit in Russia. However, a special procedure for obtaining a Russian residence permit in such cases has not yet been established.

From the moment they are recognized as citizens of Russia on the basis of the Federal constitutional laws that have come into force and they receive a Russian passport and take the Oath of a Russian citizen, they can be hired on the territory of Russia on a general basis as citizens of Russia.

Source: [Legal Information Portal](#)

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