

Consular Protection for EU citizens

The EU: your lifeline abroad in an emergency

Are you taking the trip of a lifetime? What if something goes wrong? As an EU citizen, the EU is here for you.

If you get into serious difficulties somewhere outside the EU, and your own EU country doesn't have an embassy or consulate there, you can get help from another EU country. Their embassy or consulate must help you in the same way they would help their own citizens.

This is one of your fundamental rights as an EU citizen. One day it may be your lifeline.



YOUR COUNTRY MAY NOT HAVE AN EMBASSY IN THE COUNTRY WHERE YOU ARE TRAVELLING



There are very few non-EU countries where all EU Member States have an embassy.

Use this [EU website](#) to check whether your own country has an embassy or a consulate in the country where you are travelling.

If your country is not represented, the website provides the contact details of embassies and consulates of other EU countries that you might wish to contact to seek assistance. The [websites of specific EU Delegations](#) also include this information.

EU HELP WHEN THINGS GO WRONG



Your EU Member State does not have an embassy or consulate in the place where you are traveling?

Don't panic! You and your family can get consular assistance from another EU country when facing an emergency abroad. You will be treated the same way as a citizen of the EU country helping you.

To facilitate this, the EU and a worldwide network of EU Delegations supports coordination and cooperation between EU countries. You can find examples of how this works in practice [here](#).

WHAT THIS MEANS IN PRACTICE

As an EU citizen in a country where your own Member State is not present, you can get help from another EU country's embassy in case of:

LOST OR STOLEN PASSPORT OR ID CARD:

The embassy can issue emergency travel documents - single-journey documents, in general enabling you to return to Europe.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT OR ILLNESS:

Staff may help contact your insurance company, family or friends for you if you end up in hospital.

A CRIME, SUCH AS A MUGGING OR SERIOUS ASSAULT:

Someone from the embassy may assist you and advise on the next steps.

DEATH:

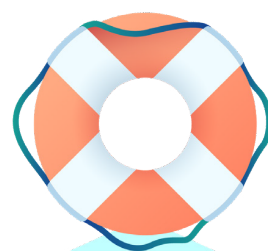
Staff may help notify next of kin and help you register a death.

YOUR ARREST OR DETENTION:

Once contacted, the embassy may provide information on the local legal system, or help you find a lawyer.

RELIEF AND REPATRIATION IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY:

The embassy can help you get relief or, in exceptional cases, be repatriated. For example in case of a conflict, a natural disaster or civil unrest.



SIMPLE TIPS FOR SAFER TRAVEL

1

Follow the [travel advice](#) and instructions from your country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. For example, registering your presence abroad if applicable.

2

Check if your country has an embassy or a consulate where you are travelling.

3

No embassy or consulate? Find one of another EU country on [our dedicated platform](#) or via [the EU Delegations](#). Save their contact information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION VISIT:

https://ec.europa.eu/consularprotection/index_en

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/consular-protection-eu-citizens_en