

Russia Simplifies Citizenship for Foreigners With Russian Children

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The latest measure is part of Russia's wide-ranging immigration reform proposed by President Vladimir Putin in 2018. **Andrei Lyubimov / Moskva News Agency**

Foreign-born parents of Russian citizens over 18 years old can now obtain Russian citizenship through a simplified naturalization procedure, according to a new [amendment](#) that comes into force Monday.

All alien parents residing in Russia at the time of application can now forgo the five-year residence requirement. Previously, only parents of children with disabilities were eligible for the residence requirement waiver.

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The revision also includes a simplified citizenship application procedure for applicants who are native Russian speakers.

The latest measure is part of Russia's wide-ranging immigration reforms proposed by President Vladimir Putin in 2018. The reforms are expected to bolster immigration, which in turn would compensate for Russia's demographic decline.

The reform also includes a biometric registration requirement for all foreigners and stateless persons as a means of preventing known terrorists from entering the country, the state-run TASS news agency [reported](#).

Earlier this year, the Interior Ministry [announced](#) plans to require all foreigners intending to stay in Russia for over 30 days to obtain ID cards containing the individuals' fingerprints and other personal data.

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