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People Advisory
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Vietnam accedes to the Apostille Convention - Simplifying legalization process from 11 September 2026

On 31 December 2025, Vietnam formally acceded to the Apostille Convention¹, an international treaty that simplifies the authentication process of foreign public documents for using across borders.

The Apostille Convention will take effect for Vietnam on 11 September 2026, subject to no objections from existing member countries. Once effective, eligible documents only need an Apostille stamp issued by the competent authority of the issuing country to be valid for use in other member countries of the Convention, instead of undergoing the current multi-step consular legalization process in both the issuing and receiving countries. It will help businesses and individuals with shorter processing timelines, lower legalization costs and reduce administrative burdens.

Typical types of public documents that may be eligible for Apostille stamp include birth certificate, marriage certificate, criminal record, diplomas, transcripts, etc. However, diplomatic documents and documents directly related to trade or customs do not fall within the scope of Apostille certification.

We will continue to monitor developments and share further guidance once available.

¹ The Apostille Convention, formally known as the Convention on Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents was done at The Hague on 5 October 1961 and entered into force on 24 January 1965.



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