



January 2021

Visa for third-country nationals for temporarily rendering services in Germany ("Vander Elst"-Visa)

1. Free movement of services

According to EU-regulations concerning the free movement of services, companies based in a member state of the EU (e.g. Poland) may send employees into other EU-member states (e.g. Germany) in order to render services without having to acquire a working permit. Please note that transfers between branches of a company are not covered by this exception.

There is still the necessity of a visa application beforehand in case the citizen to be sent has a nationality which is required to apply for a visa in case of entering the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. When granted, the visa will only be valid for rendering the service specified in the application. Visa-free entry for the purpose of carrying out activities under Vander Elst is currently possible only under the conditions set out in section 19c (1) of the Ordinance governing Residence in conjunction with section 30(3) of the Ordinance on the Employment of Foreigners (refers to employees who are third-country nationals and who hold a long-term resident status in another member state of the European Union ("rezydent długoterminowy-WE"), and applies for no longer than 90 days within a period of 12 months.

A primary prerequisite for the free movement of services is a working contract between the employee and the sending company. Furthermore, the definition of the term "sending" requires a working stay in the country of application before entering the country in which the services are to be rendered. In addition, just lending working staff is not covered by the Vander-Elst-visa, therefore a specific project is required and the workers being sent must receive their commission/contract from the sending country. Failing to provide information to make the required circumstances credible will result in a denial of the application.

2. Fees and process

The visa section of the German Embassy in Warsaw is in charge of all visa applications. The German Missions in Krakow, Wrocław, Gdańsk and Opole do not issue visas and do not provide any information on this subject.

Please note that the application must be made **in person** and will be accepted only if **all required documents are submitted according to our regulations**. To apply for a visa it is necessary to book an appointment via our appointment management system online. The link is available on our website. Please take into consideration that it usually takes up to seven working days to examine your application.

Each submitted **document in original** has to be accompanied by **two copies**. Documents in foreign languages have to be **provided with a certified translation into German**.

The fee for processing the visa application is **approx. PLN 400** (€ 75,00 depending on exchange rate). **This amount has to be paid in Polish Zloty.** This is a processing fee. Thus, a refund in case of withdrawal of the application or upon denial is not possible.

3. Required documents

Please make sure that you provide a complete application form and all additional documents required. Incomplete applications will not be considered!

Each submitted document in **original** has to be accompanied by **two copies**.

- 2 completed and signed application forms (forms are available [here](#))
- 2 recent biometric passport photographs ([sample fotos](#))
- your national passport (validity of which has to exceed your stay by at least six months; issued not earlier than 10 years ago) (original + 2 copies of all pages with records)
- sufficient proof for your stay in Poland and work permit for Poland, valid long enough to allow your return from Germany to Poland after rendering the services (original + 2 copies)
- current resident registration card/document from Polish authority, stating that the applicant reside for at least 4 weeks in Polen (2 copies)
- service contract between your employer and the third party in Germany (2 copies)
- confirmation from the employer containing the following details (an individual one for each applicant) (2 copies):
 - legal employment of the applicant (working contract and/or payroll, proof of social insurance)
 - planned begin and end date of the deployment to Germany
 - place of deployment
 - short description of the services to be rendered
- proof of health insurance valid in Poland and Germany for the whole period of your stay (A1 document+ EKUZ card) (2 copies)

In individual cases it may be necessary to provide additional documents.