

Consular services for Swedes abroad

The MFA and the embassies are responsible for providing consular services, in other words advice and support to Swedes abroad in various emergencies and during major crises. When you contact the MFA or a Swedish embassy, you should be met with respect and in a correct manner. Our consular services are based on the Swedish consular regulatory framework and are to be provided consistently, equally and in a legally certain manner irrespective of where you are in the world. Circumstances and regulations vary in different countries and can sometimes influence conditions for consular responsibilities.

What you, as a traveller, need to prepare ahead of a trip abroad

- Read up on your travel destination so you know whether the MFA advises against travel and are familiar with the laws and customs that are relevant for you. Travel information and advice is available on the MFA website and on the Sweden Abroad website.
- Download the MFA 'UD Resklar' app.
- Make sure you have insurance that covers the duration of the trip and your planned activities.
- Make sure you have a valid passport and visa when this is necessary. Check with the country's embassy as to what applies well in advance of your departure.
- Make sure you have enough money for the duration of the trip, including for a return ticket and unforeseen events.
- Notify close relatives of your travel plans and how you can be reached.
- Report your contact information to the 'Swedish list' so that we can contact you if needed.

Here is what we can help you with

- Provide travel information and advice by country.
- Provide advice on how to resolve your situation if you are involved in an emergency situation abroad.
- Issue passports: ordinary passports or provisional passports (emergency passports).
- Provide advice on how you can transfer money from your own bank accounts.
- Contact close relatives, insurance companies, medical doctors, banks and public authorities in Sweden.
- Help and guide you in contacts with local authorities in the country.
- Provide an economic loan for returning home to Sweden in an emergency situation when all other options have been exhausted.
- Provide information, advice and support in a major crisis situation.
- If you are arrested by police and are imprisoned, we can make sure that you are provided with a public counsel and request to visit you in prison. If you want, we can contact your close relatives.
- In the event of a death abroad, we keep in touch with close relatives and help them with practical aspects.

Here is what we cannot do

- We do not have any banking, interpreter or translation service.
- We do not provide general tourist information or arrange housing or accommodations abroad.
- We do not pay debts, guarantees, fines or lawyer costs.
- We do not pay for transport home of a coffin/urn in the event of a death abroad.
- We cannot influence entry and exit provisions of other countries if you are denied entry or exit.
- We cannot interfere in the legal proceedings of other countries.
- If you are arrested by police or are imprisoned abroad, the law of that country always applies. We cannot arrange for special treatment for you on account of your being Swedish.

If you need our help in an immediate emergency situation when the embassy is closed, you can contact the Ministry for Foreign Affairs out-of-hours service in Stockholm around the clock via the embassy's telephone switchboard.

Ministry for Foreign Affairs 2015
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