



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Sweden

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to Their Excellencies the Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Career Consular Posts, and International Organisations in Sweden.

The Ministry wishes to inform about its policy regarding the time period for which residence permits are issued for Embassy and Consulate staff.

The Ministry believes that regular rotation is an underlying principle of diplomatic and consular relations. The Ministry has therefore, since some time, applied restrictions with regard to the number of years residence permits will be issued. Similar restrictions have also been introduced in a number of other countries.

As a rule, residence permits for members of the administrative and technical staff, and members of the service staff of Diplomatic Missions will not be granted for periods longer than eight years. The same rule applies to consular employees, and members of the service staff of Consular Posts, as well as to all private servants who are in the domestic service of a member of a Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post.

It should, however, be noted that diplomatic agents and consular officers are not subject to the restriction, even if it would perhaps be natural to envisage that also members of these categories rotate within the same timeframe.

It should also be recalled that international organisations are governed by their respective host country agreement.

The Ministry encourages all Diplomatic Missions and Consular Posts to bear these restrictions in mind in their planning.

Excellencies the Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Career Consular Posts, and International Organisations in SWEDEN

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Roughly a year before the eight year limit of a staff member has been reached, the Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post will be informed in a *note verbale*. As a rule, a grace period of one ninth year will be given to those staff members who arrived before 1 January 2014.

It should also be noted that nothing prevents affected staff members, who are reaching or have passed the eight year limit and who wish to stay in Sweden, to apply for a residence permit with the Swedish Migration Board on other grounds.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to their Excellencies the Heads of Diplomatic Missions, Career Consular Posts, and International Organisations in Sweden the assurances of its highest consideration.

Stockholm, 26 November 2013

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS TEXT HAS BEEN SLIGHTLY
CLARIFIED AS OF 20 JULY 2018.