

## Immigration services



Laga's immigration team has solid experience in advising and assisting major Belgian and Belgian-based international companies with respect to their immigration issues.

Our team counts 10 professionals who provide immigration advice and help with immigration compliance on a daily basis.

**Our clients are mainly Japanese, Indian and US companies who have their European headquarters in Belgium and Belgian companies with an international exposure.**

**International mobility and flexibility have become key factors in today's business climate. However, the immigration procedures remain strict and often change which can sometimes make them even more complex.**

Immigration issues usually concern non-EU nationals. They cannot perform a salaried activity in Belgium without being in possession of a work permit or a self-employed activity without a professional card (unless under certain conditions). Moreover with respect to visa requirements, it is important to know how long a foreigner will reside in Belgium. In this respect, the immigration compliance requirements should be tackled before the assignment starts and the required paperwork and documentation should be reviewed in time before coming over to Belgium.

### How Laga can help

Services provided by Laga's immigration team are, amongst others:

- Working out different international employment scenarios, based upon the international employment situation;
- Application and renewal of work permits (around 2000 on a yearly basis);
- Application for professional cards for self-employed foreign nationals;
- Visa and residence advice;
- Affiliating foreigners to their commune in order to apply for or extend residence cards;
- Tailored social security and labour law advice in the framework of international mobility;
- Advice on outbound immigration;
- Outsourcing of immigration specialists;
- On site client-training;
- Audit of existing immigration policies and procedures.

For companies who have employees in Belgium but no legal establishment, our office can serve as their only contact in Belgium with respect to their employees' employment and residence status/issues.

Our immigration services are often provided in cooperation with Deloitte's GES team (Global Employer Solutions) and Propay (payroll services) in order to provide the client with an interdisciplinary approach and ensuring the client the best possible "international mobility scenario". In this respect, our cooperation with Deloitte and Deloitte's international member firm network is certainly an asset for example in the event of split employment or the assignment of employees to other European or non-European countries.

In order to serve our international clients to the best of our ability, Laga's immigration team has set up a client-focused International mobility channel, enabling clients to follow up immigration procedures, read the latest immigration news thus ensuring a personalized and continued follow up.

## To learn more

For more information on the immigration team or available services, please feel free to contact one of the following people:

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## Laga in Belgium

A top legal practice in Belgium, Laga is a multi-specialist business law firm, highly recommended by the most authoritative legal guides. Laga comprises approximately 100 qualified lawyers, based in Diegem/Brussels, Antwerp and Kortrijk.

Laga offers expert advice in the fields of banking & finance, corporate/M&A, commercial, employment, IT/IP, public/administrative, restructuring, real estate and tax law. Where appropriate to ensure a seamless and comprehensive service, Laga's lawyers work closely with corporate finance, advisory, tax and consulting specialists, and with select EU and US law firms.

Laga provides thorough and practical solutions tailored to the needs of clients ranging from multinational companies, national large and medium-sized enterprises, and high net worth individuals, to government bodies.

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