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Passports have agreed that their e-passports should contain fingerprint information in the chip.[81] In 2006, the members of the CA-4 Treaty (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua) adopted a common-design passport, called the Central American passport, following a design already in use by Nicaragua and El Salvador since the mid-1990s. It features a navy-blue cover with the words "América Central" and a map of Central America, and with the territory of the issuing country highlighted in gold (in place of the individual nations' coats of arms). At the bottom of the cover, the names of the issuing country and the passport type. The members of the Andean Community, of Nations (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru) began to issue commonly designed passports in 2005. Specifications for the common passport format were outlined in an Andean Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in 2002.[82] Previously issued national passports will be valid until their expiry dates. Andean passports are bordeaux (burgundy-red), with words in gold. Centred above the national seal is the name of the regional body in Spanish (Comunidad Andina). Below the seal is the official name of the member country. At the bottom of the cover is the Spanish word "pasaporte" along with the English "passport". Venezuela had issued Andean passports, but has subsequently left the Andean Community, so they will no longer issue Andean passports. The Union of South American Nations had signaled an intention to establish a common passport design, but it is doubtful that this will happen since the group effectively broke up in 2019. Twelve member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) began issuing passports with a common design since early 2009.[83][84] It features the CARICOM symbol along with the national coat of arms and name of the member state, rendered in a CARICOM official language (English, French, Dutch). The member states which use the common design are Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. There was a movement by the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to issue a common designed passport, but the implementation of the CARICOM passport made that redundant, and it was abandoned.[85] Passport message found inside the United States passport Passports sometimes contain a message, usually near the front, requesting that the passport's bearer be allowed to pass freely, and further requesting that, in the event of need, the bearer be granted assistance. The message is sometimes made in the name of the government or the head of state, and may be written in more than one language, depending on the language policies of the issuing authority. In 1920, an international conference on passports and through tickets held by the League of Nations recommended that passports be issued in the French language, historically the language of diplomacy, and one other language.[86] Currently, the ICAO recommends that passports be issued in English, French, and Spanish; or in the national language of the issuing country and in either English, French, or Spanish.[87] Many European countries use their national language, along with English and French. Some additional language combinations are: National passports of the European Union bear all of the official languages of the European Union. Two or three languages are printed at the relevant points, followed by reference numbers which point to the passport page where translations into the remaining languages appear.[citation needed] Algerian, Chadian, Lebanese, Mauritanian, Moroccan and Tunisian passports are in three languages: Arabic, English, and French. The Barbadian passport and the United States passport are tri-lingual: English, French and Spanish. United States passports were English and French since 1976, but began being printed with a Spanish message and labels during the late 1990s, in recognition of Puerto Rico's Spanish-speaking status. Since 2007, the Data Page, which contains photo, identifying information, and the passport's issuance and expiration dates, and the Personal Data and Emergency Contact page are written in English, French, and Spanish:[88] the cover and instructions pages are printed solely in English. On Belgian passports, all three official languages (Dutch, French, German) appear on the cover, in addition to English on the main page. The order of the official languages depends on the official residence of the holder. Passports of Bosnia and Herzegovina are in the three official languages of Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian in addition to English. Brazilian passports contain four languages: Portuguese, the official country language; Spanish, because of bordering nations; English and French. British passports bear English and French on the information page and Spanish, Welsh, Irish and Scottish Gaelic translations on an extra page. Cypriot passports are in Greek, Turkish and English. Haitian passports are in French and Haitian Creole. Passports issued by the Holy See are in Latin (the language of the Catholic Church), French, and English.[89] The first page of the old Libyan passport (green cover) was in Arabic only. The current passport has dark-blue cover, is electronically readable, and has Arabic with English translation in the first page (first page from a right-to-left script viewpoint). Similar arrangements are found in the passports of some other Arab countries. Iraqi passports are in Arabic, Kurdish and English. Macau SAR passports are in three languages: Chinese (in traditional Chinese characters), Portuguese and English. New Zealand passports are in English and to teo Māori. Norwegian passports are in the two forms of the Norwegian language, Bokmål and Nynorsk. Northern Sami and English. Sri Lankan passports are in Sinhala, Tamil and English. Swiss passports are in five languages: German, French, Italian, Romansh and English. Singaporean Passport, the world's strongest passport as of 2025 Further information: Visa (document), Non-visa travel restrictions, and Border control A passport is merely an identity document that is widely recognised for international travel purposes, and the possession of a passport does not in itself entitle a traveller to enter any country other than the country that issued it, and sometimes not even then, as with holders of the British Overseas citizen passport. Many countries normally require visitors to obtain a visa. Each country has different requirements or conditions for the grant of visas, such as for the visitor not being likely to become a public charge for financial, health, family, or other reasons, and the holder not having been convicted of a crime or considered likely to commit one.[89][90] Where a country does not recognise another, or is in dispute with it, entry may be prohibited to holders of passports of the other party to the dispute, and sometimes to others who have, for example, visited the other country; examples are listed below. A country that issues a passport may also restrict its validity or use in specified circumstances, such as use for travel to certain countries for political, security, or health reasons. Many nations implement border controls restricting the entry of people of certain nationalities or who have visited certain countries. For instance, Georgia refuses entry to holders of passports issued by the Republic of China.[91] Similarly, since April 2017, nationals of Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sudan, Syria, Yemen, and Iran have been banned from entering the parts of eastern Libya under the control of the Tobruk government.[91][92][93] 120 Pakistani passports explicitly mention that these passports are valid in all countries except Israel. The majority of Arab countries, as well as Iran and Malaysia, ban Israeli citizens,[91] however, exceptional entry to Malaysia is possible with approval from the Ministry of Home Affairs.[94] Certain countries may also restrict entry to those with Israeli stamps or visas in their passports. As a result of tension over the former Republic of Artsakh dispute, Azerbaijan currently forbids entry to Armenian citizens as well as to individuals with proof of travel to Artsakh. Text on a Pakistani passport saying that the passport is not valid for Israel. Between September 2017 and January 2021, the United States of America did not issue new visas to nationals of Iran, North Korea, Libya, Somalia, Syria, or Yemen pursuant to restrictions imposed by the Trump administration.[95] which were subsequently repealed by the Biden administration on 20 January 2021.[96] While in force, the restrictions were conditional and could be lifted if the countries affected meet the required security standards specified by the Trump administration, and dual citizens of these countries could still enter if they presented a passport from a non-designated country. One method by which to rank the value of a passport is to calculate its mobility score (MS). The mobility score of a passport is the number of countries that allow the holder of that passport to enter for general tourism visa-free, visa-on-arrival, eTA, or eVisa issued within 3 days. As of 2023, the strongest passport in the world is the Singaporean passport. [97] However, another way to determine passport mobility score is the number of countries it allows holders to live and work in. For example, by this measure, the Irish passport would be most powerful because it allows the holder to live in all European Union/European Economic Area countries, as well as Switzerland and the United Kingdom, as the Irish passport is the only European Union passport now that still allows its users the right to live/work in the United Kingdom.[citation needed] Example passport issuances Nationality Number of issuances in year Latest year Number of issuances per capita United States[98] 24,021,257 2023 73%. France[99] 5,400,000 2022 80%. Australia[100] 1,745,340 2019-2020 68%. Ireland[101] 1,080,000 2022 21.0%. Hong Kong[102] 71,827 2019 10%. United Kingdom[103] 4,008,870 2020 61%. Canada[104] 5,100,000 2014-2015 134%. China[105] 30,080,000 2018 21%. Finland[106] 774,544 2015 141%[107] Sweden[108] 1,478,583 2013 154%. Animal passport identity document Identity theft ISO/IEC 7810 defines the standard size for passport booklets. List of passports Passport card (disambiguation) Passport stamp Pet passport Self-sovereign identity Travel document. The local governments of most inhabited British Overseas Territories issue passports to British Overseas Territories citizens resident holding longer status in the territory concerned, while the Chinese Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau issue passports to Chinese citizens holding permanent residence in the region concerned. Additionally, the British territories of Gibraltar, Jersey, Guernsey, and the Isle of Man are permitted to issue passports identifying their bearers as full British citizens. ^ These were issued to defined groups for travel together to particular destinations, such as a group of school children on a school trip. As of 2021, collective passports are still issued by the United Kingdom for field-trips to certain countries within the Schengen Area.[26] ^ Family passports were typically issued to one passport holder, who may travel alone or with other family members included in the passport. A family member not listed as the passport holder could not use the passport for travel without the passport holder. These passports are essentially obsolete as most countries; including all the EU states, Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom; require each traveller to have their own passport.[27] ^ This may apply, for example, to people who travel a lot on business, and may need to have, say, a passport to travel on while another is awaiting a visa for another country. The UK for example may issue a second passport if the applicant can show a need and supporting documentation, such as a letter from an employer. Service Passports are issued by the Department of State to "certain non-personal services contractors who travel abroad in support of and pursuant to a contract with the U.S. government", to demonstrate the passport holder is travelling "to conduct work in support of the U.S. government while simultaneously indicating that the traveler has a more attenuated relationship with the U.S. government that does not justify a diplomatic or official passport." [29][30][31] ^ a b The area under the definition consists of: Taiwan (Chinese: 台灣) Penghu (Chinese: 澎湖) Kinmen (Chinese: 金門; pinyin: jīnmén) Matsu Islands (Chinese: 馬祖列島; pinyin: Mǎzǔ Liédǎo) Other nearby islands ^ Kosovo is the subject of a territorial dispute between the Republic of Kosovo and the Republic of Serbia. The Republic of Kosovo unilaterally declared independence on 17 February 2008. Serbia continues to claim it as part of its own sovereign territory. The two governments began to normalise relations in 2013, as part of the 2013 Brussels Agreement. Kosovo is currently recognised as an independent state by 108 out of the 193 United Nations member states. In total, 116 UN member states have recognised Kosovo at some point, of which eight later withdrew their recognition. ^ "Definition of Passport". www.merriam-webster.com. Retrieved 2024-05-18. ^ "A History of the Passport". History. 2017-05-16. Retrieved 2024-07-01. ^ a b Cane, P & Conaghan, J (2008). The New Oxford Companion to Law. London: Oxford University Press. ISBN 9780199290543. ^ "The electronic passport in 2021 and beyond". Thales Group. ^ George William Lemon (1783). 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Learn how to renew your passport online or by mail, get it changed or corrected, or what to do if it expires soon. If any of the following are true, you cannot renew your U.S. passport and must instead apply for a new passport in person using Form DS-11:Issued before your 16th birthdayIssued more than 15 years agoDamaged, lost, or stolen. Learn how to report a lost or stolen passport.Issued in your previous name, and you do not have a legal document like a marriage license to prove your legal name changedIf none of the above situations are true, you can renew your U.S. passport. Can you renew an expired passport?You can renew an expired passport only if it was issued within the last 15 years.How to renew your passport and what documents you will needYou can renew your passport and/or passport card by mail. You may instead be able to renew them online during the limited beta release of the Online Passport Renewal System.Because it can take up to three months to process your application, it is important to renew your passport before it expires. Check with the Department of State to find out the current processing times for passport renewals.Renewing your passport by mailTypically, you will need the following items to renew your passport or passport card by mail:Learn how to submit all your documentation and passport fees and where to mail them.Renewing your passport onlineYou may be able to renew your passport book and/or card online. Learn about the Online Passport Renewal System, including:Eligibility for renewing your passport book and/or card onlineHow to create an online accountWhat information and documents you will need to renew your passport online Some countries and airlines will not allow a U.S. passport holder to enter if their passport expires in less than 6 months. Check your destination country's U.S. passport expiration rules on the Department of State's country information page. To the left, search for the country name in the "learn about your destination" box.On that country's page, look for "passport validity."