

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
the Government of the Republic of Estonia
and
the Government of the United Arab Emirates
on the Mutual Recognition and Exchange of Driving Licenses

Preamble

The Government of the Republic of Estonia, represented by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, and the Government of the United Arab Emirates, represented by the Ministry of Interior, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”;

Believing in deep relations between the two countries with desire to improve road traffic safety as well as to facilitate the movement of their passport holders, who are holding driving licenses issued by respective competent authorities of their countries during visit or residence in the territory of the country of the other Party;

Have accepted the following:

Paragraph (1)
Recognition of Driving Licenses

For the purposes of implementing this Memorandum of Understanding, each Party shall recognize a valid driving license issued by the other Party to those passport holders, who arrive not for the purpose of residence, provided that the holder of the driving license fulfills the requirements of minimum age laid down by the other Party in relation to the different driving license categories.

Paragraph (2)
Procedures and Conditions

For those passport holders who arrive for the purpose of residence, each Party shall exempt the applicant for exchange of a driving license issued by the other Party from the related theoretical and practical tests. This exemption shall be limited to driving license categories for motorcycles and light vehicles only. The exchange of driving licenses shall be permitted after the issue of the permanent residence visa and shall be valid for a period of time as defined by national legislation of the respective Parties.

Types of driving licenses are exchanged according to the following table:

Republic of Estonia	United Arab Emirates
<p>1) A – motorcycle. A1 – motorcycle with a motor capacity not exceeding 125 cubic centimeters and motor power not exceeding 11 kilowatts or a motorcycle with a power and weight ratio not exceeding 0.1 kilowatts per kilogram. A three-wheel power-driven vehicle with symmetrically arranged wheels and with a motor power not exceeding 15 kilowatts is also an A1 subcategory power-driven vehicle A2 – motorcycle with motor power not exceeding 35 kilowatts or with power to weight ratio not exceeding 0.2 kilowatts per kilogram and that has not been modified from a vehicle with a motor capacity at least twice the amount.</p>	<p>1) Motorcycles 2) Light vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • weight not exceeding 3.5 tons; • microbus up to maximum of 14 passengers.

<p>2) B – motor vehicle with maximum mass not exceeding 3500 kilograms and designed and manufactured to carry up to eight passengers in addition to the driver; the same motor vehicle coupled with a light-weight trailer or with a trailer that is not a light-weight trailer and where the maximum mass of the road train does not exceed 3500 kilograms.</p> <p>B1 – four-wheel vehicle that is not a moped and whose unladen mass does not exceed 400 kilograms or 550 kg for vehicles for transporting goods and net power no higher than 15 kilowatts. In the event of the unladen mass of vehicles with an electric actuator, the battery mass must not be taken into account.</p>	
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Paragraph (3)
Conditions of Exchanging

The provisions under which driving licenses can be exchanged, are the following:

- 1) The applicant for exchanging a driving license shall hold a valid residence permit.
- 2) The driving license must be valid and permanent.
- 3) The applicant must fulfill the minimum age requirements laid down by both Parties for the different driving license categories.

- 4) The driving license which shall be exchanged must be according to the specimens.
- 5) The driving license of the applicants shall be exchanged with equivalent type of driving license as stipulated in the table of Paragraph (2).
- 6) The applicant for exchanging a driving license must submit a translation of the driving license that is accepted by the competent authority.
- 7) The applicant must pass the required medical examination.
- 8) The exchange of driving license is subject to any other terms and conditions that are required according to the national laws of either Party.
- 9) Exchanged driving licenses shall be sent to competent authority in the other country through diplomatic channels. The competent authorities of the two Parties are obliged to submit the data and information of the exchanged national driving license to the other Party according to sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph (5).
- 10) The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not apply to the non-citizens of the holders of driving licenses issued by both Parties.

Paragraph (4)
Validity of Driving License

In case of any doubts related to the validity or authenticity of a driving license submitted for exchange, the competent authority carrying out the exchange may request the competent authority of the other Party to verify the validity or the authenticity of that driving license according to sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph (5).

Paragraph (5)
**Amendments in the Traffic Laws and Regulations and
Competent Authorities**

1. Each Party shall promptly inform the other Party of relevant changes or amendments to its national legislation on driving licenses categories or traffic laws and regulations or competent authorities via diplomatic channels.

2. For implementing this Memorandum of Understanding, cooperation shall be made:

a) For the United Arab Emirates:

Ministry of Interior – Federal General Directorate for Licensing Vehicle and Drivers. FDVDL@moi.gov.ae;

b) For the Republic of Estonia:

Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications – Road Administration. info@mnt.ee.

**Paragraph (6)
Settlement**

All disputes arising from the application of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled by negotiation and consultation between both Parties through diplomatic channels.

**Paragraph (7)
Entry into force, amendment and termination**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force after thirty (30) days from the last date of signature and shall remain valid for an indefinite period.
2. The terms of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutual written consent of both Parties.
3. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving three months advance written notice to the other Party through diplomatic channels by indicating its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding.
4. The termination of the Memorandum of Understanding shall have no impact on the validity of driving license exchanged before the date of termination.

Signed at Tallinn and Abu Dhabi on the date which both Parties have signed this Memorandum of Understanding in two original copies, each in Estonian, Arabic and English languages, and all texts are equally valid. In case of any interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For
the Government of the
Republic of Estonia

07/10/2020

Urmas Reinsalu
Minister of Foreign Affairs

For
the Government of the
United Arab Emirates

21/09/2020

Lt. Gen. Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister of Interior