

## COVID-19 IN RUSSIA: Entry ban for foreigners in action

**Dear Clients and Partners,**

Today on March 18 at 12 A.M. local time the governmental decree No. 635-p dated 16 March 2020, imposing a temporary entry ban for foreign nationals for a period from March 18 until May 1 as a measure to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus came into force.

Foreigners who landed today at Russian airports were unable to cross the border and were forced to buy return ticket or wait for deportation in a general way.

This ban is not applicable to employees of diplomatic missions and consular establishments in Russia, drivers of motor vehicles serving international routes, aircraft, ship and railway crews, members of official delegations, holders of diplomatic, service and regular private visas arriving in Russia due to the death of a close relative, and transit air passengers.

**Intermark comments:** *The decree does not restrict departure of foreigners from Russia, however should they exit, they will not be allowed back into Russia.*

*As of now, it is unclear if the availability of correction and extension applications in the territory of Russia will remain. Based on comments received from migration authority officials, Moscow office ("Sakharovo") suspends filing of all work permit applications, including corrections and extensions. Migration officers in Moscow region ("Greenwood") do not accept initial applications effective from today. Decision to accept a correction or extension application will be made on case-by-case basis.*

**Best regards,**  
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