

# Access to Iraq

- *for Iraqis and non-Iraqis*



Ministry of Immigration  
and Integration

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Immigration Service

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## Disclaimer

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This report is written according to the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) Country of Origin Information (COI) report methodology.<sup>1</sup>

The report is not, and does not purport to be, a detailed and comprehensive account of all aspects of relevance to access to Iraq. It should be weighed against other country of origin sources. The report does not include any policy recommendations or analysis. Furthermore, it does not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Danish Immigration Service (DIS).

Finally, this report is not conclusive as to the determination or merit of any particular claim to refugee status of asylum. The terminology which is used in the report cannot be viewed as indicative of a particular legal position.

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<sup>1</sup> EASO, *EASO Country of Origin Information Report Methodology*, June 2019, [url](#)

## Abbreviations

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**COI** – Country of Origin Information

**DIS** – Danish Immigration Service

**EASO** – European Asylum Support Office

**KRG** – Kurdistan Regional Government

**KRI** – Kurdistan Region of Iraq

# 1. Introduction and methodology

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The present Country of Origin (COI) report focuses on access to Iraq, including the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). The report specifically addresses the possibility to access Central and South Iraq as well as KRI with a Danish Alien and/or Convention (refugee) passport.

The report is the product of a meeting with the consul of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Copenhagen (hereafter the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen) and the written replies of the Representation Office of Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in Stockholm (hereafter the KRG Representation, Stockholm). Furthermore, we have used a selection of relevant written sources to supplement the statements of the two primary sources.

The primary sources were carefully selected based on their direct knowledge and expertise on the subject matter - the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen and the KRG Representation, Stockholm handle consular affairs for visitors to Iraq and KRI respectively.

Both sources were briefed about the purpose of the gathered information and informed that their statements would be included in a publicly available report. The draft minutes from the meeting with the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen were forwarded to the Embassy for approval. The approved statements are included in their full extent in Appendix A of this report together with the written answers from the KRG Representation, Stockholm (Appendix B). The Terms of Reference (ToR) are included at the end of the report (Appendix C). For the sake of reader-friendliness, transparency and accuracy, paragraphs in the meeting minutes in Appendix A have been numbered. These numbers are used in the report's footnotes when referring to a specific statement in the meeting minutes.

The report was finalised in June 2020. The report is available on the website of DIS, [www.newtodenmark.dk](http://www.newtodenmark.dk), and thus is available to all stakeholders in the refugee status determination process as well as to the general public.

## 2. Access to Iraq

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### 2.1. Access for non-Iraqis

According to the Iraqi Law no. 76 of 2017, Law on the Residence of Foreigners, any person who does not hold Iraqi nationality requires an entry visa in order to enter the Republic of Iraq.<sup>2</sup> This is confirmed by the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, who stated that every person arriving in Iraq on a foreign passport needs a visa.<sup>3</sup>

The person will have to apply for and have the visa issued before entering Iraq. However, if on certain conditions the person arriving has not obtained a visa beforehand, the residency officer at the border crossing can grant the foreigner an urgent visa, if the officer is convinced by the reasons that have prevented the person from getting a visa.<sup>4</sup>

According to the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, Iranians, Iranian Kurds, Palestinians<sup>5</sup> and other former refugees in Iraq are considered to be foreigners. This means that if a person from any of these groups departs from Iraq, the passport and/or residence permit of that person will need to be renewed if expired. This requires prior approval before processing such a request. A person of any of these groups can only thereafter return to Iraq if the person receives a special approval from the relevant authorities in Baghdad before obtaining a visa.<sup>6</sup>

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) has separate rules for entry into the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI). See section 2.4 for further information regarding entry into KRI. The Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen has pointed out that the KRG practice is illegal under Iraqi law, and that the federal Iraqi government is the only authority who is responsible for issuance of visas. Anyone who enters Iraq with a Kurdish-issued visa will risk detention.<sup>7</sup>

### 2.2. Access for Iraqis

A person of Iraqi origin who holds a foreign passport is exempt from the requirement of having a visa issued prior to visiting Iraq. Instead, airport border authorities can issue an emergency (urgent) visa on arrival to a person who presents an Iraqi ID-card. At land borders it might be impossible to enter with an old Iraqi ID-card, especially if the picture of the holder is from the time that the holder was a child.<sup>8</sup>

Iraqi foreign embassies can also issue a visa to a person of Iraqi origin. According to the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen any kind of Iraqi document that shows information about place of birth can be used as documentation in order to issue a visa.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Iraq, *Law on the Residence of Foreigners (2017)*, art. 3, 2 October 2017, [url](#)

<sup>3</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 1

<sup>4</sup> Iraq, Website of the Embassy of Iraq in Copenhagen, Denmark, *Consular Services – visa*, [url](#)

<sup>5</sup> With regard to information on Palestinian refugees from Iraq, further questions were asked. Reference is made to Appendix A, Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 14-18

<sup>6</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 12-13

<sup>7</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 8

<sup>8</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 2; KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 5; KRG, *Visum*, Website of the KRG Representation, Stockholm, [url](#)

<sup>9</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 2

People of Iraqi origin with foreign passports will have to apply for a visa if it is a demand at the departure or transit airport. This is, for example, the case if the person is transiting through Kuwait before arriving to Iraq.<sup>10</sup>

### 2.3. Design of visa

The Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen stated that an Iraqi visa is glued into the passport. Data on the sticker consists among other things of the name of the holder of the passport; the type of visa given and the signature of the issuing official - usually a consul or his deputy. There will also be a stamp of the issuing embassy or consulate general on the visa.<sup>11</sup>

On arrival and departure the passport will be provided with an entry and exit stamp, respectively. The stamps have had the same layout for many years.<sup>12</sup> There are no special stamps for Iraqi or foreign passports. All passports receive the same stamp.<sup>13</sup>

### 2.4. Access to the Kurdistan Region of Iraq

It has been possible to obtain a visa upon arrival since KRG implemented a new Electronic Visa System in 2015.<sup>14</sup> Entry into KRI with an electronic visa was regulated by Statement no. 7 for the year 2017 issued by KRG. According to this statement, KRG issues nine different visas: 1) visit visas; 2) tourist visas; 3) study visas; 4) visas for family reunion; 5) border crossing visas; 6) visas for UN organisations; 7) visas for international NGOs; 8) visas for local NGOs; and 9) work visas.<sup>15</sup>

For a short time visit to KRI, a person has to obtain a tourist-, visit-, or border crossing visa. A tourist visa is a single-entry visa to KRI for up to 30 days. A visit visa and a border crossing visa are also valid for 30 days, but these two types of visa can be extended.<sup>16</sup> People entering on a visit visa or a tourist visa will also receive a stamp in their passports.<sup>17</sup> A border crossing visa cannot be applied for beforehand, as it is a visa obtained upon arrival to KRI and stamped in the passport.<sup>18</sup> Additionally, upon departure from KRI the visa is stamped in the passport.<sup>19</sup>

Some countries are eligible to receive a 30-day border crossing visa on arrival to KRI. The sources have different information about which countries this applies to. According to article 4(5) of Statement no. 7 for the year 2017, citizens of 39 countries can obtain a border crossing visa.<sup>20</sup> A list obtained from Erbil International Airport contains the names of 48 countries.<sup>21</sup> All sources agree that Denmark is among the countries eligible to receive visa on arrival.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 3

<sup>11</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 6

<sup>12</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 6

<sup>13</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 4; 7

<sup>14</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 1

<sup>15</sup> KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017, Article 4*, [url](#)

<sup>16</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 3

<sup>17</sup> KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017*, [url](#)

<sup>18</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 4; KRG: Website of the Kurdistan Regional Government's Representation in the United States, *Services – Visa Information*, , [url](#)

<sup>19</sup> KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017*, [url](#)

<sup>20</sup> KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017*, [url](#)

<sup>21</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 7

<sup>22</sup> KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017*, [url](#); KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 7

However, as stated in section 2.1 the federal Iraqi government considers the KRG practice of issuing visas as illegal under Iraqi law, and that the federal Iraqi government is the only authority who is responsible for issuing visas. Anyone who enters Iraq with a Kurdish-issued visa will risk detention.<sup>23</sup>

## 2.5. Alien passports/refugee passports

A person with an alien passport or a refugee passport issued in Denmark, Finland, Norway or Sweden who wishes to enter KRI might – depending on the person’s nationality – need to apply for a visa beforehand at the KRG Representation in Stockholm.<sup>24</sup> The KRG representations abroad handle the applications and the KRG Ministry of Interior grants or rejects the applications.<sup>25</sup>

However, in a response to an inquiry, the KRG Representation, Stockholm informed DIS that the rule is that all Syrian citizens, including Kurds with Syrian nationality, must apply for a visa to enter the KRI.<sup>26</sup>

Accordingly, on the homepage of the KRG Representation, Vienna it is stated that Kurds from Syria are required to have a visa before travelling to KRI.<sup>27</sup>

For Iranian citizens, special rules apply in order to enter KRI.<sup>28</sup> The KRG Representation, Stockholm informed that Iranian citizens and Kurds with Iranian nationality with a Danish Alien passport or a Convention (refugee) passport are exempt from applying for a visa prior to entering KRI. They will receive a border crossing visa stamp upon arrival. Iranian citizens living in the Nordic countries, however, must first obtain a travel permit from the KRG Representation, Stockholm. This permit is free of charge, and the purpose of it is solely to inform the air carriers that travellers with this permit are eligible for a visa upon arrival.<sup>29</sup> Accordingly, the KRG Representation in Paris stated that persons with Turkish or Iranian citizenship holding French travel documents are no longer required to have a visa before entering KRI. They will be issued a 15-day visa on arrival.<sup>30</sup>

There are no special rules that apply to Iraqi citizens who have or do not have Danish-issued travel documents. They are not required to apply for a visa before travelling to KRI. They will receive a border crossing visa stamp in their travel documents upon arrival. Furthermore, there are no visa requirements for foreigners born in Iraq if the place of birth is stated in their passports.<sup>31</sup>

## 2.6. Enter KRI with an Iraqi visa

All persons with Iraqi visas can enter KRI with an Iraqi visa, except for citizens from Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda. However, travellers with passports of the following countries will be granted a visa stamp on arrival and are not required to apply for a visa beforehand: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil,

<sup>23</sup> Meeting with the Consul of the Iraqi Embassy, Copenhagen, 8

<sup>24</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 5; KRG, *Visum*, Website of the KRG Representation, Stockholm, [url](#)

<sup>25</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 6

<sup>26</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 6. For more information about what documents are required from Syrians to apply for a tourist or visit visa, see KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 6

<sup>27</sup> KRG Representation, Vienna: *Einreise nach Kurdistan (Visabestimmungen)*, [url](#)

<sup>28</sup> KRG, *Visum*, Website of KRG’s Representation in Sweden, [url](#)

<sup>29</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 7

<sup>30</sup> KRG Representation, Paris: *Visas de séjour dans la Région du Kurdistan-Irak*, [url](#)

<sup>31</sup> KRG, *The border crossing visa*, [url](#); KRG, *Statement No. (7) For the year 2017*, [url](#); KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 8

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Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, United Arab Emirates, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey.<sup>32</sup>

Persons with passports from all other countries who have an Iraqi visa need to apply for a visa prior to their visit to KRI through the nearest KRG representation to enter KRI.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 9

<sup>33</sup> KRG Representation, Stockholm, *Query Response*, 28 May 2020, 9

### 3. Biography

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Iraq: Consular Services – visa, Website of the Embassy of Iraq in Copenhagen, Denmark, [https://www.mofa.gov.iq/copenhagen/?page\\_id=554&lang=en](https://www.mofa.gov.iq/copenhagen/?page_id=554&lang=en), accessed 4 June 2020

*Iraq: Law on the Residence of Foreigners (2017)*, 2 October 2017, <https://www.refworld.org/docid/5c7561147.html>, accessed 4 June 2020

KRG, Ministry of Interior: The border crossing visa, [https://evisa.moi.gov.krd/subjects/uarr\\_visas/en](https://evisa.moi.gov.krd/subjects/uarr_visas/en), accessed 4 June 2020

KRG: Regionalregierung Kurdistan-Irak, Vertretung in Österreich, Einreise nach Kurdistan (Visabestimmungen), <http://austria.gov.krd/visa/>, accessed 4 June 2020

KRG: Website of the Kurdistan Regional Government’s Representation in the United States, Services – Visa Information, <https://us.gov.krd/en/services/visa-information/>, accessed 4 June 2020

KRG: Kurdistan Regional – IRAQ, Council of Ministers, Ministry of Interior, No: 8875, Date: 25/05/2017, Statement No. (7) For the year 2017, [https://evisa.moi.gov.krd/subjects/bayan7\\_en.pdf](https://evisa.moi.gov.krd/subjects/bayan7_en.pdf), accessed 4 June 2020

KRG: Gouvernement régional du Kurdistan, Représentation en France, Visas de séjour dans la Région du Kurdistan-Irak, <https://www.france.gov.krd/info/visas-229.html>, accessed 4 June 2020

KRG: Visa, Website of the Kurdistan Regional Government’s Representation in Sweden, <http://sweden.gov.krd/tjanster/konsulara/visum/>, accessed 4 June 2020

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## 4. Appendixes

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### A) Note from the meeting with the Consul, Mr. Ahmed Mahdi Alageely, from the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Copenhagen, Denmark, 31 October 2019

#### *Iraqi Visa rules for Danish Alien and/or Convention Passport*

1. According to the Consul of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Copenhagen, Denmark, Mr. Ahmed Mahdi Alageely, hereinafter the Iraqi Embassy, the Iraqi rules state that every person arriving to Iraq with a foreign passport needs a visa.
2. However, it is secured in the Iraqi Constitution and in the Iraqi Law No. 26 of 2006 on Nationality that dual nationality for Iraqis is approved. According to Iraqi rules, if the holder of the foreign passport is Iraqi, that person does not need a prior visa to Iraq. On arrival to Iraq the person can have an emergency visa in the airport if he/she shows an Iraqi ID-card and can subsequently enter Iraq. In the Iraqi Embassy any kind of document that shows information about place of birth can be used as documentation in order to issue visa as the rules does not allow to rely on what have been stated in the foreign passport about place of birth without being supported by Iraqi documents. However, if arriving at a land border site, the old Iraqi ID-card can be deemed unreliable, if the picture of the holder is from the time that the holder was a child.
3. Iraqi citizens arriving on a foreign passport may still need a visa to Iraq, if the departure or transit airport demands it, which is the case if transiting through Kuwait before arriving to Iraq.
4. However, in any of the abovementioned cases the person's passport will still be stamped upon entry and exit which is standard procedure for any passport whether Iraqi or foreign.
5. An Iraqi embassy in a specific country can issue a birth certificate to a person born in that country outside of Iraq, if the father of that person (or the mother if she was the legal guardian) has submitted such request. The person can then use the birth certificate to enter Iraq for registration purposes.

#### *Iraqi Visa*

6. An Iraqi visa is usually glued into the passport. Data on the sticker consists among other things of the name of the holder of the passport; the type of visa given and the signature of the issuing person, usually a consul or his deputy. There will also be a stamp of the Embassy or Consulate General on the visa. On arrival and departure, the passport will be provided with an entry and exit stamp, respectively. The stamps have had the same layout for many years and the Iraqi Embassy had no knowledge about, when it was last changed.
7. According to the Iraqi Embassy, there are no special stamps for certain foreign passports. All passports receive the same stamp.

**KRG**

8. The Iraqi Embassy has received instructions from Baghdad about electronic visas for the Kurdistan Region of Iraq issued from foreign representation offices of the Kurdistan regional government. According to the Iraqi Embassy, this practice of issuance of visa is illegal. According to the Iraqi Constitution, it is only the federal Iraqi government who can be responsible for the issuance of visas either from federal Ministry of Interior or Iraqi missions abroad. The Iraqi Embassy has informed Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs about the case and requested the Ministry to inform all travel airlines working in Copenhagen Airport. Anyone who enters Iraq with a Kurdish-issued visa would risk detention.

### *Passport Issuance*

9. Iraq is one of few countries that provide Permanent Passports Issuance Services in its diplomatic missions abroad. The Iraqi government has distributed passport issuance authorities according to regional basis and density of Iraqi communities. The regional Iraqi passport issuance authority in Scandinavia is located in the Iraqi Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden. Therefore the Iraqi Embassy in Copenhagen, Denmark does not issue passports. However, a person can only submit an application for an Iraqi passport therein, while the passport itself is being issued in Baghdad.

10. There are no plans to issue passports at any time in the future even though they often receive requests to do so by the Iraqi community in Denmark.

11. The Iraqi Embassy can issue temporary travel documents and laissez-passers for Iraqis who lost their passports or are being deported by court as a result of criminal act, or if they voluntary wanted to return.

### *Iranians, Iranian Kurds, Palestinians etc. former refugees in Iraq*

12. According to the Iraqi Embassy Iranians, Iranian Kurds, Palestinians and other former refugees in Iraq are considered as foreigners. This means that if any person from these groups departs Iraq, the passport and residence permit of the person will need to be renewed if expired which will require prior approval before processing such request.

13. If the person later tries to return to Iraq, this can only happen if the person receives a special approval from the authorities in Baghdad before obtaining a visa.

### *Implications for Palestinians of Law No. 76 on Residence of Foreigners*

14. According to the Iraqi Embassy, all foreigners including Palestinians living in Iraq are regulated by Law No. 76 (2017) and Law No. 65 (1983) regulating the Issuance of Travel Documents granted to Palestinians, and other rules issued by Ministry of Interior.

15. The Law No. 76 replaced Law No. 202 and Law no. 118 (1978) which is now void. The new law stated in its conclusion rules that the instructions rendered according to the previous law, shall be valid until a new instruction will be issued for this law.

16. The Iraqi Embassy had no information about passports issued to Palestinians by Iraqi authorities after 2003.

17. The Iraqi Embassy noted that usually Palestinians need prior approval from Iraqi Ministry of Interior before processing their documents relating to previous refugee status in Iraq. This might also be true today.

However, the Iraqi Embassy has no information on whether Palestinians from Iraq need an approval for exiting Iraq.

18. There is no time limit for staying outside of Iraq for all Iraqi passport holders. If the passport has expired abroad, the Iraqi passport holder can visit certain Iraqi missions to renew his/her passport. Palestinians holding Iraqi travel documents need to have prior approval from Baghdad before processing such request.

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## **B) The Representation Office of Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) in Stockholm, Sweden, Query Response, 28 May 2020**

### *1. When did it become possible to obtain a visa upon arrival in KRI?*

It has been possible to obtain a visa upon arrival since KRG implemented a new Electronic Visa System in 2015.

### *2. What sort of visa is possible to obtain upon arrival?*

There are nine types of visas: Tourist visa, visit visa business visa, student visa, family visa (travellers can apply for this type of visa if they have family ties to someone residing in the Kurdistan Region), United Nations/international organizations visa, non-governmental organizations visa, civil society organizations visa, and a border crossing visa. The last mentioned visa can be obtained upon arrival to KRI.

### *3. What is the difference between a tourist visa; a visit visa and a border crossing visa?*

The tourist visa is a single-entry visa and enables travellers to remain in KRI for 30 days. A visit visa as well as a border crossing visa are valid for 30 days and can be extended.

### *4. How will the visa upon arrival look like? Is it a visa sticker or is it a stamp?*

A border crossing visa can be obtained upon arrival. It is a visa stamp placed in the passport with detailed information (i.e. type and duration of the visa).

### *5. What are the rules for entry into KRI for persons with a Danish alien passport or a Danish refugee/convention passport?*

A person with a Danish alien passport or a Danish refugee/convention passport is not visa exempt, and, depending on nationality, the person might need a visa to visit KRI. However, Danish passport holders, like any other EU passport holder, do not need a visa beforehand and can therefore receive a visa stamp upon arrival.

### *6. Do special rules apply for Syrian citizens and Syrian Kurds with a Danish-issued travel document? If yes, what documentation is needed?*

All Syrian citizens, including Kurds with Syrian nationality, can apply for a visa to the KRI. The KRG representations abroad handle the applications and the KRG Ministry of Interior grants or rejects the applications. The following documents are needed to apply for a tourist or visit visa to the KRI:

- ❖ a copy of passport (i.e. pages which show personal data, period of validity, country of issue, signature. Visitors traveling to KRI are required to be in possession of passports that are valid for six months beyond the period of their intended stay)
- ❖ a copy of both sides of the residence permit
- ❖ two passport sized photos
- ❖ a copy of round-trip reservation or itinerary with dates and flight numbers specifying entry and exit from KRI
- ❖ a note with a daytime telephone number, e-mail and current address of the visa applicant. It is also required that the applicant for a visit visa provides the daytime telephone number, address and name of the sponsor the applicant intends to visit.

There is a fee for the visa application. The KRG Representation in Sweden charges 250 Swedish Krona (SEK) and accepts only bank transfers. The visa fee is an administration fee, which covers the costs of processing an application, and will not be refunded if the application is refused.

***7. Do special rules apply for Iranian citizens with a Danish-issued travel document? Iranian Kurds? If yes to the above; what documentation is needed?***

Iranian citizens, and Kurds with Iranian nationality, are exempt from applying for a visa. They will receive a border crossing visa stamp upon arrival. Iranian citizens living in the Nordic countries, however, must first obtain a travel permit from the KRG Representation in Sweden. This permit is free of charge and the purpose of it is solely to inform the air carriers that travellers with this permit are eligible for visa stamp upon arrival.

***8. Do special rules apply for Iraqi citizens with a Danish-issued travel document? If yes to the above; what documentation is needed?***

No special rules apply to Iraqi citizens with or without a Danish-issued travel documents. They are not required to apply for a visa before travelling to KRI. They will receive a visa stamp upon arrival.

**8.1. What if the person was born in Iraq to non-Iraqis e.g. Palestinian parents?**

Persons born in Iraq to non-Iraqi parents are considered and treated as Iraqis, as long as relevant information, i.e. place of birth, is detailed in the travel document.

***9. Is it possible to enter KRI with an Iraqi visa?***

All travellers with Iraqi visas can enter KRI with an Iraqi visa, except for citizens from Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Uganda. However, travellers with passports of the following countries will be granted a visa stamp on arrival and are not required to apply for a visa before travelling to KRI:

*Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, United Arab Emirates, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Hungary, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan,*

*Kuwait, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey.*

Travellers holding passports from other countries who have an Iraqi visa need to apply for a visa through the nearest KRG Representation to enter KRI.

## C) Terms of Reference

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What are the formal rules for entry to Iraq on Danish Alien / Convention (refugee) passports?

Visa:

- Is a visa required in order to enter Iraq / KRG? /KRI?
  - o If yes:
    - What does a visa look like?  
(Visa sticker, stamp, a separate paper, electronic visa)
    - What do entry/exit stamps look like?
    - Is the visa always (permanently) visible inside the passport during and after the stay in Iraq?
    - Which rules apply to obtaining a visa?
  - o If no:
    - Are there any exemptions for persons with a Danish Alien / Convention passport?
      - Are there any exemptions for the following nationalities:
        - o Persons with special status in Iraq?
        - o Persons born in the al-Tash refugee camp?
        - o Iranian Kurds with prior (permanent) stay in Iraq?
        - o Persons with former refugee status in Iraq (eg. UNHCR or Iraqi)?
    - Which documents are required in order to obtain visa-free entry?
  - o Are there any differences in visas issued by the Iraqi Government or the KRG? If yes, which differences apply?
  - o Are there special visa and/or entry/exit stamps issued for citizens from Syria and/or other nationalities? If yes, which?