



Time For a First Step!

Joint Memorandum in Favor of Mutual Recognition of Vaccination Certificates

The undersigned business associations and chambers have agreed on the following joint memorandum regarding the mutual recognition of vaccination certificates:

- considering that the COVID-19 pandemic and related epidemiological safety measures have had a deep and lasting impact on cross-border mobility;
- mindful of the importance of cross-border activities and travel for the efficient functioning of the global economy and in particular trade and investment flows;
- convinced that global vaccination efforts are of prime importance for reallowing and reviving economic activity including international travel;
- understanding that the registration and certification of vaccines is a complex, regulation driven, and thus inevitably time-consuming process best left to competent health authorities;
- trusting that WHO emergency use listing (EUL) represents an important benchmark in favor of rapid recognition;
- taking note that there is currently no mutual recognition of vaccinations and vaccination certificates between Russia and some of its most important trading partners;
- fearing that without mutual recognition vaccination certificates new measures such as QR code requirements for travel might once more have a negative impact on cross-border business activity;
- certain that against the background of rising infection levels, mutual recognition represents a strong incentive to further bolster global vaccination and re-vaccination efforts;
- believing that such mutual recognition will stimulate cross-border business contacts as well as trade and investment activities;
- convinced that such stimulus would be highly beneficial at a time when economic recovery remains haphazard and fragile;

the signatories to this joint memorandum call upon the EU Institutions and Member States as well as on the national governments of Canada, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States:

1. to deploy additional efforts in favor of rapid mutual recognition of vaccination certificates;
2. to take a first step and to recognize vaccination certificates for travel purposes, in particular for vaccines listed by the WHO or authorized by a large number of countries;
3. to step up the process on the technical aspects of mutual recognition of equivalence of vaccination certificates;
4. to work towards cancelling redundant testing and quarantine requirements for vaccinated persons.

Moscow, December 3, 2021