

ACQUISITION OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP BY MINORS & YOUNG ADULTS UNDER THE GREEK NATIONALITY LEGISLATION

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION,
INCLUDING UACS

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GREEK NATIONALITY LEGISLATION

- ACQUISITION & LOSS OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

MAINLY REGULATED BY THE **CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP** (LAW 3284/2004)

~ *REPEATEDLY AMENDED*

- *JUS SANGUINIS* ≠ *JUS SOLI* PRINCIPLES

(“LAW OF BLOOD”) VS. (“LAW OF SOIL”)

- **GREEK LAW:** PREDOMINANTLY FOLLOWING THE *JUS SANGUINIS* PRINCIPLE.

JUS SOLI PRINCIPLE: AS AN EXCEPTION

ACQUISITION OF GREEK NATIONALITY

1. BY BIRTH, TO A GREEK FATHER OR MOTHER;
2. LEGITIMATION/RECOGNITION BY A GREEK FATHER (BIRTH OUT OF WEDLOCK);
3. ADOPTION BY A GREEK PARENT.

- ✓ *IRRESPECTIVELY OF THE PLACE OF BIRTH*
- ✓ *MARRIAGE DOES NOT LEAD TO ACQUISITION OR LOSS OF GREEK NATIONALITY*
- ✓ *NO RESTRICTIONS WITH REGARDS DUAL/MULTIPLE NATIONALITY (UNDER THE GREEK LAW)*

THE *JUS SOLI* PRINCIPLE IN THE GREEK NATIONALITY LEGISLATION

CHILDREN BORN IN GREECE TO NON-GREEK PARENTS DO ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP **BY BIRTH, ONLY** IF THEY:

- (A) HAVE BEEN BORN TO A PARENT THAT HAS ALSO BEEN BORN AND IS RESIDING IN GREECE, **OR**;
- (B) DO NOT ACQUIRE ANY OTHER CITIZENSHIP BY BIRTH, **OR**;
- (C) ARE OF UNKNOWN CITIZENSHIP.

BIRTH IN GREECE & ENROLLMENT IN SCHOOL

ARTICLE 1A OF THE CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

CHILDREN BORN IN GREECE WHO HAVE BEEN ENROLLED IN A GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL, ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP UPON SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION (DECLARATION) BY THEIR PARENTS, UNDER THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

A. REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE CHILD:

- BIRTH IN GREECE;
- ENROLMENT (& ATTENDANCE) IN THE 1ST CLASS OF A GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL (OR A SCHOOL FOLLOWING THE GREEK EDUCATION SYSTEM).

B. REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE LEGAL STATUS OF THE PARENTS:

- LEGAL & CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE IN GREECE BY ONE OF THE PARENTS FOR 5 YEARS BEFORE THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD (IF NOT APPLICABLE, LEGAL & CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE FOR A TOTAL OF 10 YEARS, BEGINNING BEFORE THE BIRTH OF THE CHILD);
- LEGAL RESIDENCE IN GREECE - UNDER A RESIDENCE PERMIT - BY BOTH PARENTS **AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION;**
- POSSESSION OF A CERTAIN TYPE OF RESIDENCE PERMIT BY AT LEAST ONE OF THE PARENTS (LISTED IN THE LAW, INCL. RESIDENCE PERMITS FOR RECOGNIZED REFUGEES & BENEFICIARIES OF SUBSIDIARY PROTECTION) **AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION.**

BIRTH IN GREECE & ENROLLMENT IN SCHOOL

ARTICLE 1A OF THE CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

- APPLICATION (DECLARATION) JOINTLY SUBMITTED THE PARENTS BEFORE THE REGIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR CITIZENSHIP OF THE FAMILY'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE
- ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 100 EUR
- DECISION PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

SPECIAL PROVISION FOR SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES, FAMILIES OF BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AND UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

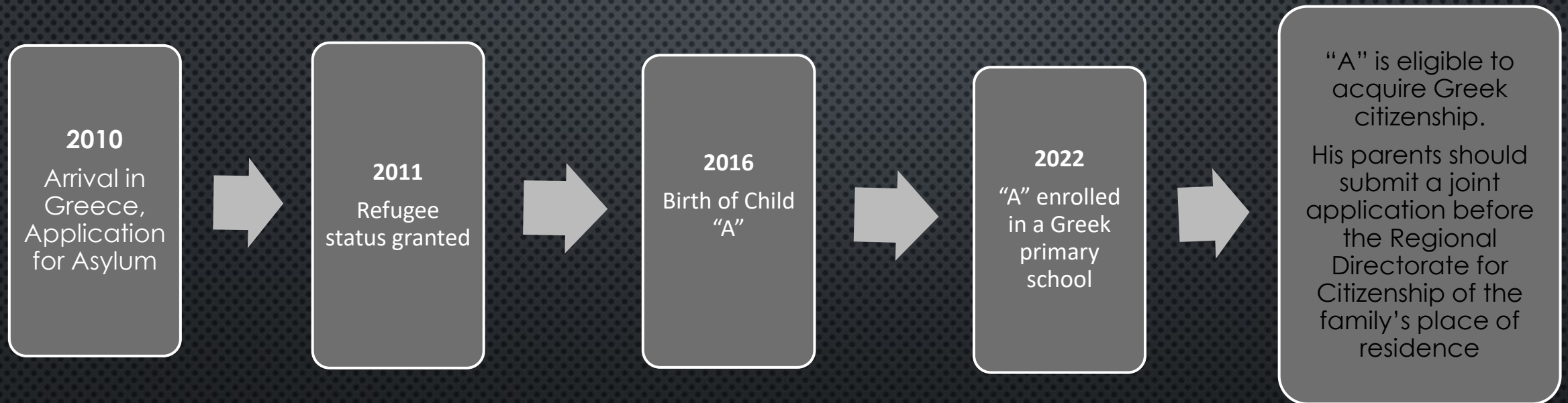
BIRTH IN GREECE & ENROLLMENT IN SCHOOL

ARTICLE 1A OF THE CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

- **EXAMPLES:**

1. "A" WAS BORN IN GREECE IN 2016 TO PARENTS WHO ARRIVED IN GREECE IN 2010 AND WERE RECOGNIZED AS REFUGEES IN 2011. "A" IS ELIGIBLE TO ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP UPON ENROLMENT IN A GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL.
2. "B" WAS BORN IN GREECE IN 2015, AND IS ATTENDING GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL. HIS PARENTS HAD ARRIVED IN GREECE IN 2014 AND WERE RECOGNIZED AS REFUGEES THE SAME YEAR. HE WILL BECOME ELIGIBLE TO ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP UNDER ART. 1A AS SOON AS HIS PARENTS FULFIL THE REQUIREMENT OF LEGAL RESIDENCE IN GREECE FOR A TOTAL OF 10 YEARS (I.E. IN 2024).
3. "C" WAS BORN IN GREECE IN 2016. HIS PARENTS HAD NO LEGAL RESIDENCE AT THE TIME, BUT APPLIED FOR ASYLUM IN 2017 AND WERE RECOGNIZED AS REFUGEES IN 2018. "C" IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP UNDER ARTICLE 1A, IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT HE HAS BEEN ENROLLED TO A GREEK PRIMARY SCHOOL.

EXAMPLE: PARENTS OF "A"



ATTENDANCE OF GREEK SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE 1B OF THE CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

- BY APPLICATION (“DECLARATION”) - IN CASE A MINOR/YOUNG ADULT HAS:
 - (A) PERMANENT AND LEGAL RESIDENCE IN GREECE;
 - (B) SUCCESSFULLY ATTENDED:
 - NINE (9) YEARS OF GREEK SCHOOL, OR
 - SIX (6) YEARS OF SECONDARY EDUCATION IN A GREEK SCHOOL, OR
 - HAS GRADUATED FROM A GREEK HIGH SCHOOL AND A GREEK UNIVERSITY.
- CERTAIN AGE-TIME LIMITS ARE APPLICABLE;
- ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT: CLEAN CRIMINAL RECORD

ATTENDANCE OF GREEK SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY

ARTICLE 1B OF THE CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP

- *THE APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED BY THE MINOR/YOUNG ADULT HIMSELF-HERSELF, BEFORE THE REGIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR CITIZENSHIP OF HIS/HER PLACE OF RESIDENCE;*
- *ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 100 EUR*
- *DECISION PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE*

EXAMPLE: “D” UNACCOMPANIED MINOR

2015 - arrival in Greece & application for asylum

2016 - enrolment in the 1st class of the Junior high school. Recognition as a beneficiary of subsidiary protection.

2022 – completion of the 3rd class of the senior high school.

“D” is eligible to apply for Greek Citizenship under art. 1B

NATURALIZATION

FIRST STEP: NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE

- EXAMINATIONS TWICE A YEAR (USUALLY IN MAY & NOVEMBER), STATE-WIDE;
- CONTENT OF THE EXAMINATIONS: GREEK LANGUAGE, HISTORY, GEOGRAPHY, CULTURE AND STATE INSTITUTIONS;
- QUESTIONS DATABASE, PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE (ONLINE) – INCL. ANSWERS;
- PASS THRESHOLD: **70% TOTAL**; A MINIMUM OF 66% FOR THE GREEK LANGUAGE SECTION; 50% FOR EACH OTHER SECTION;
- ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 150 EUR;
- APPLICANTS OVER 62 YEARS OLD, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OR INDIVIDUALS SUFFERING FROM LEARNING DIFFICULTIES SIT AN ORAL EXAMINATION;
- CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS ARE EXEMPTED.

NATURALIZATION

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- AGE: OVER 18;
- LEGAL & PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN GREECE FOR 3, 7 OR 12 YEARS (DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF RESIDENCE PERMIT OF THE APPLICANT);
- CLEAN CRIMINAL RECORD & NO DEPORTATION DECISION PENDING;
- ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF 550 EUR (OR 100 EUR FOR SOME CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS, INCL. REFUGEES);
- EVIDENCE OF SOCIAL & ECONOMIC INTEGRATION (INDICATIVELY: STABLE EMPLOYMENT, FULFILMENT OF TAX AND INSURANCE OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS THE GREEK STATE, FAMILY RELATIONS WITH GREEK CITIZENS, PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVITIES OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY, VOLUNTEERING, ETC.)
 - o MINIMUM INCOME REQUIREMENTS.

NATURALIZATION: THE PROCEDURE

- A. SUBMISSION OF THE NATURALIZATION APPLICATION ALONG WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION — INCLUDING THE NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE, BEFORE **THE REGIONAL DIRECTORATE FOR CITIZENSHIP** OF THE APPLICANT'S PLACE OF RESIDENCE;
- B. EXAMINATION OF THE FILE BY A CASE-WORKER. *IN CASE OF DOUBTS WITH REGARDS INTEGRATION INTO THE GREEK SOCIETY, REFERRAL FOR AN INTERVIEW BEFORE A 3-MEMBER PANEL MAY TAKE PLACE;*
- C. ISSUANCE OF A — REASONED - DECISION, APPROVING OR REJECTING THE NATURALIZATION APPLICATION;
- D. IN CASE OF A POSITIVE DECISION THE APPLICANT IS INVITED TO TAKE THE OATH OF THE GREEK CITIZEN (WITHIN A YEAR); (IN CASE OF A NEGATIVE DECISION, THE PERSON CONCERNED MAY RE-APPLY AFTER 1 YEAR);
- E. THE APPLICANT IS REGISTERED IN THE MUNICIPAL ROLLS AND CAN BE ISSUED AN IDENTITY CARD AND A GREEK PASSPORT.

CHILDREN OF NATURALIZED GREEK CITIZENS

- CHILDREN OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ACQUIRE GREEK CITIZENSHIP BY NATURALIZATION, ALSO BECOME GREEK CITIZENS, PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE
 - UNDERAGE
 - PERMANENTLY RESIDING IN GREECE

(CODE OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP – ART. 11)

CITIZENSHIP AUTHORITIES: ORGANOGRAM



CONSIDERATIONS

1. SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS FROM THE CoO OF THE APPLICANT (BIRTH CERTIFICATES, PROOF OF FAMILY LINKS, NATIONALITY STATUS, ETC.); CONTACTS WITH THE CONSULAR AUTHORITIES OF THE CoO.

BENEFICIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION - NORMALLY EXEMPTED.

2. AWARENESS ON RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS OF GREEK CITIZENS.
3. POSSIBILITY OF LOSS OF PREVIOUS CITIZENSHIP UPON ACQUISITION OF GREEK CITIZENSHIP (RESTRICTIONS ON DOUBLE CITIZENSHIP).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION
QUESTIONS?