

Legal Update

August 2026 / Issue 4



Muja Law brings you the latest issue of the *Legal Update*.

On 31 July 2026, the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Economy and Innovation adopted Joint Instruction No. 159, dated 31 July 2026 (hereinafter referred to as “*Joint Instruction*”), establishing the procedures for cooperation between the authorities responsible for border and migration matters and the National Agency for Employment and Skills (AKPA) in connection with the approval of single permits for foreign nationals.

The Instruction entered into force immediately upon publication in the Official Journal and repeals Joint Instruction No. 3, dated 11 January 2023.

Some of the most important aspects of the act are as follows:

❖ **Joint Instruction**

In virtue of the Joint Instruction applications for the issuance or renewal of a single permit must be submitted [through the e-Albania platform](#) to the relevant regional border and migration authority where the foreign national carries out their activity.

Role of AKPA

For categories of foreign nationals whose employment requires prior approval, including employees, self-employed persons, seasonal workers, highly qualified workers, intra-corporate transferees, athletes and other categories specified in the Joint Instruction, the

application is initially reviewed by AKPA.

AKPA must record its decision electronically as an approval, request for additional documentation, or rejection within *one business day following the assessment of the application*.

Exemptions Based on Nationality

In virtue of the Joint Instruction, for nationals of the United States and their family members, nationals of Schengen Area countries that are not EU Member States, and nationals of the Western Balkan countries specified in the Instruction, the application is handled solely by the local border and migration authorities.

AKPA provides the relevant employment data through the electronic system.

Renewal of the Single Permit

Renewal applications follow the same procedure as initial employment approval, except that publication of the relevant vacancy is not required.



Standard Employment Offer

The Joint Instruction introduces a detailed standard employment offer form covering, among other matters, the employee's position, salary, working hours, workplace, compensation, accommodation and qualifications.

The employer must confirm, inter alia, that the terms and conditions offered are not less favourable than those applicable to Albanian employees in the same position and that the employee will not be required to bear any fees or costs related to recruitment, placement or employment.

Practical Impact

The Instruction is intended to streamline and standardise inter-institutional cooperation in the single permit process, particularly through electronic communication and the establishment of a clear timeframe for AKPA's response.

For employers, accurate completion of the standard employment offer and consistency between the offer and the employment contract will be particularly important, given that the information provided is subject to institutional verification.



If you wish to know more on our publications, legal updates, tax updates, legal bulletins, or other articles, you may contact the following:

contact@mujalaw.com

Muja Law Office

Rr. "Ibrahim Tukiqi", Nr.2

1057 Tirana

Albania

Mob: +355 69 28 28 562

Web: www.mujalaw.com

Muja Law is a family-run law office where we work hard for the success of our clients and to provide excellence in legal service. Our roots go back to 2001 when our Managing Partner, Krenare Muja (Sheqeraku), opened her law practice office in Tirana, Albania. Krenare's son Eno joined her in 2014, and the other son Adi entered the practice in 2019. What started in Tirana as a small, family-run law office has grown and flourished in the community for the last 20 years. The office consists of various respected and talented lawyers who possess outstanding educational and community service backgrounds and have a wealth of experience in representing a diverse client base in various areas of the law.

The office is full-service and advises clients on all areas of civil, commercial and administrative law. With significant industry expertise, we strive to provide our clients with practical business driven advice that is clear and straight to the point, constantly up to date, not only with the frequent legislative changes in Albania, but also the developments of international legal practice and domestic case law. The office delivers services to clients in major industries, banks and financial institutions, as well as to companies engaged in insurance, construction, energy and utilities, entertainment and media, mining, oil and gas, professional services, real estate, technology, telecommunications, tourism, transport, infrastructure and consumer goods. In our law office, we also like to help our clients with mediation services, as an alternative dispute resolution method to their problems.

While we have grown over the past 20 years and become recognized as one of Albania's leading law offices, we are grounded in the essence of "who" we are and "where" we started. We understand the importance of family, hard-work, and dedication.

MUJA LAW

The Legal Update is an electronic publication drafted, edited and provided by Muja Law to its clients, business partners, and other professionals interested in being informed on the latest legal updates. The information contained in this publication is of a general nature and is not intended to address the circumstances of any particular individual or entity. This Legal Update is not intended to be and should not be construed as providing legal advice. Therefore, no one should act on such information without appropriate professional advice after a thorough examination of the particular situation. Although every effort has been made to provide complete and accurate information, Muja Law makes no warranties, express or implied, or representations as to the accuracy of content on this document. Although we endeavor to provide accurate and timely information, there can be no guarantee that such information is accurate as of the date it is received or that it will continue to be accurate in the future. Muja Law assumes no liability or responsibility for any error or omissions in the information contained in this document. Also, feel free to consult the Legal Update on the section "Library" of our website.

© 2026 Muja Law. All rights reserved.

This publication is copyrighted and is protected to the full extent of the law. Nevertheless, you are free to copy and redistribute it on the condition that full attribution is made to Muja Law. If you have not received this publication directly from us, you may obtain a copy of any past or future related publications from our marketing department (muja@mujalaw.com) or consult them in our website (www.mujalaw.com). To unsubscribe from future publications of Legal Update, please send "Unsubscribe" by replying to our email accompanying this edition.