



Divorce in Latvia: entry in the Swiss civil status register

28.07.2022

Documents to submit

- Notarial divorce:** Divorce certificate* (Laulības šķiršanas apliecība) that specifies when it entered into force
- Judicial divorce:** Divorce certificate* (Izraksts no tiesas sprieduma) that specifies when it entered into force
- For both ex-partners: Certificates regarding **changes of first and surnames*** (Lēmums par personas vārda un/vai uzvārda maiņu) in case they were changed after the divorce. These certificates must contain the note regarding legal effect.
- Form** «Questionnaire concerning divorce» (see www.eda.admin.ch/latvia, Services > Civil status > Divorce/Dissolution of registered partnership > Divorce/Dissolution of partnership abroad)
- Copies of both ex-partners' passports (pages with personal data and signature).

The original documents are submitted to the civil status authority concerned in Switzerland and must not be older than six months. They will not be returned. Photocopies are not accepted. Additional documents may be required if necessary.

Translation

Documents that are not in a Swiss national language or in English must be accompanied by a **notarized translation** (in German, French or Italian).

Legalisation

All Latvian civil status documents (marked with *) must be **legalised with an apostille** before being submitted to the Regional Consular Centre in Stockholm.

In Latvia, the notaries (Council of Sworn Notaries of Latvia, www.latvijasnotars.lv) issue apostilles.

...see also back side →

Fees

Entry of the divorce abroad in the Swiss civil status register is free of charge.

Further information

If civil status documents do not come from Latvia or Switzerland, please contact the Regional Consular Centre in Stockholm beforehand. Depending on the origin of the documents, different regulations apply and the processing can take more time.

Please be informed that civil status affairs have to be registered chronologically in the Swiss Civil Registry.

All submitted documents and certificate will be verified and sent to the competent authorities in Switzerland for registration in the Swiss Civil Registry. A delay of **at least two months** is to be expected until the divorce is registered. After this period, the civil status office responsible for the Swiss national's place of origin can provide information on the status of the registration. The Regional Consular Centre informs the involved person by email, as soon as the civil status authorities decided about the inscription in the Registry.

Only after complete registration of divorce and possible change of name in the Swiss Civil Registry, an application for a new Swiss passport and/or Identity card may be submitted. The person concerned may file such an application through the website www.schweizerpass.ch (Passport and identity card for Swiss citizens living abroad > online application).

Where to obtain the documents

Notarial divorce (Laulības šķiršanas apliecība)

→ Sworn notary (zvērīnātu notāru)

Judicial divorce (Izraksts no tiesas sprieduma)

→ District or city court (Rajona (pilsētas) tiesa) of the declared place of residence

Certificates regarding changes of first and surnames (Lēmums par personas vārda un/vai uzvārda maiņu) with note regarding legal effect

→ Ministry of Justice (Tieslietu ministrija)

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Regional Consular Centre in Stockholm by e-mail or telephone.