



REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS – PRESIDENTI
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO – THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIKA KOSOVO – PREDSIEDNIK

**REGULATION (P) NO. 01/2017
ON THE PROCEDURE OF GRANTING THE CITIZENSHIP BY
THE PRESIDENT FOR THE SPECIAL INTEREST OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO**

Pristine, 19.05.2017



REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS – PRESIDENTI
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO – THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIKA KOSOVO – PREDSEDNIK

The President of the Republic of Kosovo,
pursuant to Article 84 of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 6 and Article 14 (7) of Law No. 03/L-094, on the President of the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 47, January 25, 2009), considering the competencies of the President of the Republic of Kosovo on the granting of citizenship in special interest defined in Article 10 (3) of Law No. 04 / L-215 on the Citizenship of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 33, September 2, 2013), taking into consideration the proposal of the Secretary of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo, and in accordance with Article 3 (4) of Regulation (P) No. 02/2016 on the Organizational Structure of the Presidency (08.09.2016),
issues:

**REGULATION (P) NO. 01/2017 ON THE PROCEDURE OF GRANTING
THE CITIZENSHIP BY THE PRESIDENT FOR THE SPECIAL
INTEREST OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO**

CHAPTER I – GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

Article 1
Purpose

This regulation defines the procedure for the acquisition of the citizenship of the Republic of Kosovo by Decree of the President, for the foreign person of adult age, in special economic, social, cultural, sports, scientific, political or professional interest of the Republic of Kosovo.

Article 2
Scope

This regulation is implemented by the Department for Legal Issues and International Relations within the Office of the President, for all requests addressed the President for the acquisition of citizenship.

Article 3

Definitions

1. The expressions used in this Regulation, have the following meaning:
 - 1.1. **Department** – means the Department for Legal Issues and International Relations within the Office of the President;
 - 1.2. **Acquisition of citizenship** – means the acquisition of citizenship, granted by the President with Decree, in special economic, social, cultural, sports, scientific, political or professional interest of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.3. **Relevant institutions** - governmental, municipal institutions, NGOs or private institutions that might have data on the foreign person who requested the acquisition of citizenship;
 - 1.4. **Special interest** – means the special economic, social, cultural, sports, scientific, political or professional interest of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.5. **Request** – means the request for the acquisition of citizenship by the foreign person;
 - 1.6. **Law** – means Law No. 04/L-215 on the Citizenship of Kosovo (Official Gazette No. 33, September 2, 2013);
 - 1.7. **Ministry** – means the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
 - 1.8. **Adult age** – means the person over the age of eighteen (18).
 - 1.9. **Person** – means the natural person;
 - 1.10. **Foreign person** – means any person of legal age who is not a citizen of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.11. **President** – means the President of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.12. **Secretary** – means the Secretary of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - 1.13. **Citizenship** – means a close legal bond between the State of the Republic of Kosovo and a person which establishes mutual rights and obligations;
 - 1.14. **Office** – means the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo.

CHAPTER II - PROCEDURE OF THE ACQUISITION OF CITIZENSHIP

Article 4

Request for the acquisition of citizenship

1. Any foreign person may file a request for the acquisition of the citizenship of the Republic of Kosovo, which should:
 - 1.1. be addressed to the President;
 - 1.2. contain the reasons and motives related to special interests;
 - 1.3. be signed.

2. The request is sent to the Office or the diplomatic and consular representation of the Republic of Kosovo.
3. If the request is sent to the diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Kosovo, the same request shall be sent to the Office within a period of thirty (30) days, by the Head of the Diplomatic or Consular Mission.

Article 5

Documents of the request for the acquisition of citizenship

1. To the request for the acquisition of citizenship, the following documents must be attached:
 - 1.1. birth certificate or other equivalent document;
 - 1.2. copy of valid identification document with a photograph, which is evident;
 - 1.3. evidence that the person is not under criminal investigation and has not been convicted for criminal offenses for more than six (6) months, issued by the competent authorities in the country where the person is a citizen;
 - 1.4. Another document that the applicant deems necessary.
2. In cases when to the application for the acquisition of citizenship supporting documents from the relevant institutions of the Republic of Kosovo are attached, the documents must be signed by the official of the relevant institution

Article 6

Review of the request

1. All the requests for the acquisition of citizenship, addressed to the President, are forwarded to the Department for further procedure, if the President does not decide otherwise.
2. The Department reviews all the submitted documents for the acquisition of citizenship of the applicant and assesses whether the submitted documents fulfill the relevant criteria for further proceedings.
3. If the application is not complete, the Department requests from the applicant to complete it.
4. If the request is made by entities that are not eligible submit a request, the Department instructs the claimant about the legal procedures in force.

Article 7

Request for additional information from the relevant institutions

1. The Department after having reviewed the application, requests additional information from the relevant and security institutions with the aim to complete the data for the foreign person who has requested the acquisition of citizenship and the verification whether there is any legal obstacle to the acquisition of citizenship, i.e. if the foreign person has been sentenced for

any criminal offense inside or outside the Republic of Kosovo or if the granting of the citizenship is contrary to the interests of the Republic of Kosovo.

2. As stipulated in Article 9 of the Law, no person shall acquire the citizenship of the Republic of Kosovo if he/she is sentenced for a criminal offence inside or outside the territory of the Republic of Kosovo or if the granting of the citizenship is contrary to the interests of the Republic of Kosovo, particularly of interests related to internal or external security or the international relations of the Republic of Kosovo. The sentence for a criminal offense in terms of this paragraph does not include sentences specified in Article 9 (4) of the Law.

Article 8 **Opinion of the Department**

Upon receipt of the additional information from the relevant institutions for the foreign person who has requested the acquisition of citizenship, the Department prepares the legal opinion for the President.

CHAPTER III - DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT ON THE GRANT OF CITIZENSHIP

Article 9 **Decree of the President**

1. The granting or not granting of the citizenship is the right of the President, notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation or the opinion of the Department.
2. In the cases when the President decides to give the nationality of the Republic of Kosovo to a foreign person, the Department prepares the draft Decree.
3. The Decree of the President of the grant of citizenship includes but is not limited to the use of the data for a foreign person who acquires the citizenship, the abbreviation “DC”, number, date and year of release (Appendix No.1).
4. The Office shall send the Decree on the grant of citizenship to the foreign person who acquires the citizenship and an identical copy to the Ministry.
5. The foreign person upon receipt of the Decree for the acquisition of citizenship, can start the registration procedure at the relevant Civil Registry Office.

Article 10 **Confidentiality**

The authorized officials during the review process of the requests for the acquisition of citizenship, are obliged to protect the confidentiality of the data.

Article 11

Register of persons who have acquired the citizenship by Presidential Decree

1. The Department keeps records about the persons who have acquired the citizenship by Presidential Decree.
2. The Director of the Department of Legal Issues assigns the relevant legal officer who will be responsible for keeping and updating the registry specified in paragraph one (1) of this Article.

CHAPTER IV - FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 12

Cooperation

1. The Department cooperates with the relevant institutions for the best possible adjustment of the evidence collection process for the granting of citizenship in special interest.
2. The Department can enter into cooperative Agreement with the relevant institutions in the implementation of paragraph one (1) of this Article.

Article 13

Annex

Part of this regulation is appendix one (1) - The form of the Decree on the grant of citizenship.

Article 14

Abrogation

The entry into force of this Regulation shall repeal the Regulation on Claims Review Procedure on the Citizenship of the Republic of Kosovo (Prot.: 219, 24.03.2016).

Article 15

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force thirty (30) days after signature by the President.

Hashim THAÇI,
President of the Republic of Kosovo

Prishtina, 19.05.2017



**REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS – PRESIDENTI
REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO – THE PRESIDENT
REPUBLIKA KOSOVO – PREDSEDNIK**

DECREE ON THE GRANT OF CITIZENSHIP

Decree No.: DC-(number) – (year).

The President of the Republic of Kosovo,

Pursuant to Article 84 (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 6 of Law No. 03/L-094, on the President of the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, no. 47, January 25, 2009), Article 10 (3) of Law No. 04/L-215, on the Citizenship of Kosovo (Official Gazette no. 33, September 2, 2013), Article 3 (4) of Regulation (P) No. 02/2016 on the Organizational Structure of the Presidency (08.09.2016), Article 9 of Regulation (P) No. 01/2017 on the procedure of granting the citizenship by the President for the special interest of the Republic of Kosovo, as well as taking into consideration the request for the acquisition of the citizenship of Ms./Mr. (name surname) (Prot. No. XXX), dated _____.

issues this:

D E C R E E

1. Ms./Mr. (name surname), born on _____, in (place of birth), is granted the citizenship of the Republic of Kosovo.
2. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo is charged to undertake the further steps for the implementation of this decree in accordance with the legislation in force.
3. This Decree shall enter into force on the date of signature.

President of the Republic of Kosovo

Pristina, on _____.