

Civil Registration Act

Promulgated, State Gazette No. 67/27.07.1999, amended and supplemented, SG No. 28/23.03.2001, effective 1.07.2001, supplemented, SG No. 37/13.04.2001, amended and supplemented, SG No. 54/31.05.2002, effective 1.12.2002, supplemented, SG No. 63/15.07.2003, amended, SG No. 70/10.08.2004, effective 1.01.2005, amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/29.10.2004, amended, SG No. 30/11.04.2006, effective 12.07.2006, amended and supplemented, SG No. 48/15.06.2007, amended, SG No. 59/20.07.2007, effective 1.03.2008, supplemented, SG No. 105/9.12.2008, effective 1.01.2009, SG No. 6/23.01.2009, effective 1.05.2009, SG No. 19/13.03.2009, SG No. 47/23.06.2009, effective 1.10.2009, amended, SG No. 74/15.09.2009, effective 15.09.2009, SG No. 82/16.10.2009, SG No. 33/30.04.2010, supplemented, SG No. 9/28.01.2011, amended and supplemented, SG No. 39/20.05.2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 42/5.06.2012, amended, SG No. 66/26.07.2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 68/2.08.2013, effective 2.08.2013, SG No. 53/27.06.2014, SG No. 98/28.11.2014, effective 28.11.2014, amended and supplemented, SG No. 55/21.07.2015, effective 21.07.2015, amended, SG No. 39/26.05.2016, effective 26.05.2016, SG No. 50/1.07.2016, effective 1.07.2016, SG No. 85/24.10.2016, amended and supplemented, SG No. 91/14.11.2017, supplemented, SG No. 47/5.06.2018, amended, SG No. 17/26.02.2019, SG No. 24/22.03.2019, effective 1.07.2020 - amended, SG No. 101/27.12.2019; supplemented, SG No. 105/11.12.2020, effective 11.12.2020, amended and supplemented, SG No. 80/19.09.2023, effective 19.09.2023, SG No. 85/8.10.2024, effective 8.10.2024

Text in Bulgarian: Закон за гражданската регистрация

Chapter One GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. (1) This Act shall provide the conditions and rules for the civil registration of individuals in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Civil registration shall mean the recording of the events of birth, marriage and death in the civil status registers of civil status acts and recording of persons in the population register.

(3) Civil registration shall include a set of personal data distinguishing a person from all other persons in society and in the family as the bearer of subjective rights, such as name, citizenship, family status, kinship, permanent address, etc.

Article 2. (1) The civil registration of individuals in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be based on the data in their civil status acts and the data in other acts specified by the law.

(2) The civil status acts shall be official written documents. The civil status officials shall register therein the events of birth, marriage and death according to the provisions of the act.

Article 3. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The registers of civil status acts shall keep record of the events under Article 1, Paragraph 2 concerning all persons who at the time of occurrence of the event are Bulgarian citizens and persons other than Bulgarian citizens who at the time of occurrence of the event are on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The population register shall keep record of:

1. all Bulgarian citizens;
2. all foreign nationals who:
 - a) (supplemented, SG No. 9/2011) have been granted permission for long term or permanent stay in the Republic of Bulgaria;
 - b) (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);

c) (supplemented, SG No. 54/2002, effective 1.12.2002) have been granted refugee or humanitarian status, or asylum in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 4. (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Entries into the registers of civil status acts shall be made at the place of occurrence of the event.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Entries into the population register shall be made at the municipality of the individual's permanent address.

(3) Municipality mayors shall be responsible for civil registration on the territory of their municipality.

Article 5. The civil registration of individuals in the Republic of Bulgaria shall include the collection, processing, keeping and provision of data which:

1. define the personal identity;
2. define the relationships between persons related in the direct line in the first degree and in the collateral line in the second degree;
3. indicate the permanent and current address;
4. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 30.05.2011) indicate the family status;
5. keep record of imposed legal restrictions.

Article 6. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Civil registration data are subject to electronic processing.

Article 7. (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Chapter Two

CIVIL REGISTRATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Section I

General Provisions

Article 8. (1) The basic civil registration data of a person shall include:

1. name;
2. date - day, month, year, and place of birth;
3. sex;
4. citizenship;
5. Personal Identity Number (PIN).

(2) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 9. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) (1) The name of a Bulgarian citizen, born on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, shall consist of a given name, father's name and family name. The three components of the name shall be entered in the birth act.

(2) (New, SG No. 91/2017) When issuing a birth certificate to a Bulgarian citizen born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the father's name, if missing in the copy under Article 72, Paragraph 1 herein, shall be entered in the certificate if declared in writing by the person's parents or another legal representative

(3) (Renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 91/2017) When issuing a birth certificate to a Bulgarian citizen born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, the father's and family name may be entered with the suffix -ov or -ev and an appropriate gender inflection according to the child's sex, if so requested in writing by the parents within three years of the date of birth of the child.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 91/2017) The name of a person other than a Bulgarian citizen born on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria shall be entered as declared by the parents.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, renumbered from Paragraph 4, SG No. 91/2017) The name of a person other than a Bulgarian citizen, born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria, shall be entered in the registers of civil status acts and in the population registers in the way it is written in his/her national personal identity document or the document for granted stay status on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 10. (1) The conditions and rules for acquisition, retention and loss of Bulgarian citizenship shall be specified in the Bulgarian Citizenship Act.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The citizenship of a person other than a Bulgarian citizen shall be ascertained from the identity document with which the said person has entered the country.

Article 11. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The Personal Identity Number (PIN) shall be used as an administrative identifier of the individuals subject to registration under Article 3, Paragraph 2. This number shall be unique and shall identify the individual unequivocally.

(2) The method of formation and the rules for granting and changing the Personal Identity Number shall be laid down in the Ordinance under Article 113, Paragraph 1.

(3) The Personal Identity Number shall be formed electronically and shall comprise a register of personal identity numbers.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The correctness of the PIN shall be ascertained by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works through the "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" territorial units.

Section II

Names of the Bulgarian citizens

Article 12. (1) The given name of a person shall be chosen by the parents thereof and shall be made known in writing to the civil registration official at the time of birth act issuance.

(2) If the parents have not reached an agreement about the name, the official shall enter in the birth act only one of the names proposed by the parents.

(3) If the parents do not specify a name, the official shall enter the name chosen by him/her as most appropriate in the case.

(4) If the name chosen for the child is ridiculing, disgracing, publicly unacceptable or incompatible with the national pride of the Bulgarian people, the official may refuse to enter the name in the birth act and apply the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3.

Article 13. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) A person's father's name shall be derived from the father's given name and entered with the suffix -ov or -ev and an appropriate gender inflection according to the sex of the child, except when the given name of the father cannot combine with these suffixes or they are contrary to the parents' family, ethnic or religious traditions.

Article 14. (1) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) A person's family name shall be the family name of the father with the suffix -ov or -ev and an appropriate gender inflection according to the sex of the child, except when the parents' family, ethnic or religious traditions require otherwise.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) Upon the conclusion of a marriage the family name shall be formed according to the rules of the Family Code.

(3) The children of the same parents shall be entered with same family name.

(4) When a person is publicly known under a pseudonym, s/he may be allowed by the court to add the pseudonym to his/her name.

Article 15. (1) The father's name of a child whose mother is only known shall be derived from the mother's given name or its base, and the child's family name shall be that of the mother or the name of her father.

(2) In the cases under Paragraph 1, with the mother's father's consent, his name may be taken as father's name of the child. In this case the child's family name shall be the family name of the mother.

Article 16. (1) The name of the child fathered after issuance of the birth act shall be determined under the rules of this Act.

(2) The name of a child whose origin has been established by the court shall be determined by the court under the rules of this Act.

Article 17. The name of a child whose parents are unknown shall be determined by the official.

Article 18. (1) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) Upon adoption, the child's given name shall be determined by the court in accordance with the adopters' request. If the child has attained 14 years of age, the child's consent shall also be required when changing his/her name.

(2) (New, SG No. 96/2004) In case of full adoption, the father's and family name shall be determined on the basis of the adopter's name according to the rules of this Act.

(3) (New, SG No. 96/2004) In case of partial adoption, the father's and family name may be changed by the court at the adopters' request. If the child has attained 14 years of age, the child's consent shall also be required.

(4) (Renumbered from paragraph 2, SG No. 96/2004) When adoption is terminated by the court, the adopted person shall have his/her name restored as prior to adoption. With the consent of the adopter or under compelling circumstances the court may allow the adopted person to retain the name given at adoption.

Article 19. (1) Changes of one's given, father's or family name may be allowed by the court when requested in writing by the person concerned when the name is ridiculing, disgracing or publicly unacceptable or there are other compelling circumstances.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 59/2007, effective 1.03.2008) A person who has acquired or restored his/her Bulgarian citizenship may be allowed to change his/her father's or family name with the suffixes -ov or -ev and an appropriate gender inflection, as well as to render his/her given name more Bulgarian-sounding under the Chapter Fifteen "Ascertainment of Facts" of the Civil Procedure Code. These proceedings shall be exempt from state fees.

(3) (Repealed, SG No. 28/2001, effective 1.07.2001).

(4) (Repealed, SG No. 28/2001, effective 1.07.2001).

(5) (Repealed, SG No. 28/2001, effective 1.07.2001).

(6) (Repealed, SG No. 28/2001, effective 1.07.2001).

Article 19a. (New, SG No. 28/2001, effective 1.07.2001) (1) Bulgarian citizens whose names have been forcibly changed may restore their previous names at their own request.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) The restoration of names under Paragraph 1 shall be made with decision of the civil status official acting at the written application of the requestor following notary certification of the latter's signature. The official's decision may be appealed by the parties concerned and by the prosecutor under the rules of the Administrative Procedure Act.

(3) The names of underage persons may also be restored or changed under the rules of Paragraph 2 if the names of one or both parents have been forcibly changed. In this case the application shall be lodged by both parents or guardians. In case of disagreement between the parents or guardians the dispute shall be settled by the regional court.

(4) The names of Bulgarian citizens born after the forcible change of the names of one or both parents may also be changed under the rules of Paragraph 2, whereas the names of their underage children may be changed under the rules of Paragraph 3.

Article 20. (Repealed, SG No. 33/2010).

Article 21. (Repealed, SG No. 96/2004).

Section III

Population Register

(Heading amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011)

Article 22. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The population register shall be kept electronically and shall form the National Population Database.
(2) The population register shall comprise the electronic personal registration files of all individuals under Article 3, paragraph 2.
(3) The Regional Population Database shall be part of the population register and shall comprise electronic personal registration files of individuals with permanent and/or current address in the region.
(4) The Local Population Database shall be part of the population register and shall comprise electronic personal registration files of individuals with permanent and/or current address in the municipality.

Article 23. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) An electronic personal registration file shall be created in the population register for each individual subject to registration in the population register.

Article 24. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The municipal administration shall issue certificates on the basis of the population register.
(2) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The procedure for issuance and the standard forms of the certificates under paragraph 1 shall be approved by an ordinance of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works jointly with the Minister of Justice.

Article 25. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, supplemented, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The electronic personal registration file shall contain the following data:

1. name, written down in Bulgarian and in the Latin alphabet;
2. a pseudonym;
3. names abroad;
4. sex;
5. date of birth - day, month, year;
6. Personal Identity Number;
7. citizenship and status of stay;
8. place of birth - region, municipality, settlement, and for persons born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria - country;
9. birth act - number, date and place of issuance in the Republic of Bulgaria;
10. permanent address;
11. current address;
12. family status;
13. act of concluded marriage - number, date and place of issuance; date and place of marriage if not concluded in the Republic of Bulgaria;
14. spouse - PIN or date of birth, name, sex, permanent address, citizenship, and for decedents - number, date and place of issuance of the death act;
15. court decision on marriage termination - number of the case on which the decision is decreed, the effective date and the name of the court that decreed it;

16. children - PIN or date of birth, name, sex, permanent address, citizenship, and for decedents - number, date and place of issuance of the death act;
17. mother - PIN or date of birth, name, sex, permanent address, citizenship, and for decedents - number, date and place of issuance of the death act;
18. father - PIN or date of birth, name, sex, permanent address, citizenship, and for decedents - number, date and place of issuance of the death act;
19. siblings - PIN or date of birth, name, name of the other parent if they are not of the same mother or father, sex, permanent address, citizenship, and for decedents - number, date and place of issuance of the death act;
20. personal identity document - type, number, date of issuance;
21. legal restrictions (type);
22. decedent - date and place of death; death act - number, date and place of issuance.
23. special remarks.

Article 26. (Amended, SG No. 54/2002, supplemented, SG No. 9/2011, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The Electronic Personal Registration File of Bulgarian citizens shall be created on the basis of one of the following documents:

1. birth act;

2. Bulgarian citizenship certificate with civil status documents, an application for permanent address and current address card at the municipality.

(2) Where a legally capable Bulgarian citizen has no Electronic Personal Registration File or does not have an identity document, municipalities shall require in writing from police authorities of the Ministry of Interior to establish the identity of the person. Upon established identity of the person, the police authorities of the Ministry of Interior shall notify in writing the municipality of the name, date and place of birth of the person and the parents (name, PIN/date of birth), which shall be a ground for creating an Electronic Personal Registration File.

(3) The Electronic Personal Registration File of a person under Article 3, Paragraph 2, Item 2 shall be created on the basis of one of the following documents:

1. permission for long-term or permanent stay, accompanied by civil status documents, an application for permanent address and a current address card at the municipality;

2. a decision on granting refugee or humanitarian status, an application for permanent address and a current address card at the municipality;

3. a decree of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria for granted asylum;

4. a birth act of a child born on the territory of the country, by parents with refugee or humanitarian status.

(4) Upon occurrence of birth on the territory of the country the Electronic Personal Registration File shall be created and data therein shall be updated by the municipal administration.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) In the cases under Paragraph 1, Items 2 and 3 and Paragraphs 2 and 3 the Electronic Personal Registration File shall be created by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works through the "Civil Administration and Administrative Services" territorial units.

Article 27. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The data in the Electronic Personal Registration File shall be updated by the municipal administration on the basis of one of the following documents:

1. civil status acts or electronic equivalents thereof;

2. application for permanent address and current address card;

3. certificate of citizenship change;

4. court decision;

5. other certificatory documents concerning the civil status.

Article 28. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The Electronic Personal Registration File shall be stored for a period of 130 years of the date of creation upon expiration of which it shall be transferred to the State archive.

Article 29. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 30. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 31. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 32. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 33. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Chapter Three

CIVIL STATUS ACTS

Section I

General rules for the issuance of civil status acts

Article 34. (1) The acts of civil status of individuals shall be: the acts of birth, marriage and death.

(2) The civil status acts issued under the rules established in this Act shall have the power of evidence for the data contained therein pending proof of their untruthfulness.

Article 35. (1) Civil status acts shall be issued by the civil status official at the municipality or mayoralty where the events have occurred.

(2) Civil status acts about events with no data available about which municipality they have occurred in shall be issued at the municipality or mayoralty where the event has been established.

(3) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The mayor of the municipality shall act as civil status official on the territory of the municipality. The mayor may assign this function with a written order to the mayors and deputy-mayors of mayoralties where registers of civil status acts are maintained and to other municipal administration officials.

Article 36. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Acts of birth and death shall be issued on the basis of written notices made before the relevant civil status official.

(2) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

(3) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) An official may not issue a civil status act when the former is also a party or witness. In these cases the civil status act shall be issued by another official.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The parties and witnesses of civil status acts shall certify their identity with personal identity documents.

Article 37. (1) The official shall issue the civil status act after s/he has ascertained the event under the established rules. Civil status acts shall be written in the established template forms.

(2) The data in the civil status acts shall be entered on the basis of the identity documents of the persons concerned. When compiling acts based on documents from abroad, other civil registration documents may also be used if the received or produced document does not contain the data necessary to issue the civil status act. The civil status acts shall not contain data, applications or information which are not provided by the act.

(3) When issuing civil status acts for Bulgarian citizens with another citizenship, the data shall be entered according to the Bulgarian personal identity document.

(4) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 38. (1) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The official shall sign the civil status act immediately after issuance thereof and shall stamp it with the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) Foreign nationals may also be marriage witnesses.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When a witness or a party cannot sign the civil status act, a note shall be made at the place of signature about the reason for impossibility to sign the act (illiteracy, hand disability, etc.), and then, without any signatures of other persons, a print shall be made of the right-hand thumb. If such a print cannot be made, the reason therefore shall be indicated together with which other finger has been used to make the print.

(4) (Supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of destroyed registers of civil status acts, unavailable birth or death act or incorrect data, the parties concerned shall establish their rights through court.

(5) (New, SG No. 19/2009, supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of a destroyed or lost register of civil status act, where no recovery is possible, the relevant mayor of municipality may request that the district court shall ascertain the fact of destruction or loss and shall order the drawing up of the register in question.

Article 39. (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 40. (1) Civil status acts shall be issued free of charge. Birth certificates and marriage certificates, as well as death act excerpt-copies, shall be issued free of charge to the parties concerned and according to the established templates. For the issuance of acts and copies for the second and every subsequent time a fee shall be due. The issuance of a copy for official use shall be free of charge.

(2) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) When issuing civil status certificates and copies of the civil status acts citizens shall not be required to provide personal data which exist in the Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) and the related registers.

(3) (Renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) An official who has issued a civil status act concerning the citizen of a country with which the Republic of Bulgaria has a legal assistance contract must send, within 10 days of issuance of the act, an official copy thereof to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs whence it shall be forwarded through diplomatic channels to the country of citizenship of that person.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) The official shall send a copy of the civil status act of the citizen of a country with which the Republic of Bulgaria does not have a legal assistance contract only at the request of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 41. (1) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The templates of civil status acts and of the documents issued on the basis thereof shall be approved by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works together with the Minister of Justice and shall be promulgated in the State Gazette.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) Entries in the civil status acts shall be made by hand, legibly, without crossing out and corrections. The acts may be written and printed automatically with the help of software provided or approved by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

(3) The civil status acts shall be filled out or printed using inks that will ensure their readability throughout the period of keeping specified by the act.

Article 41a. (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) An electronic equivalent shall be issued for each civil status act issued - an electronic civil status act at national level.

(2) The electronic civil status act shall be created by the municipal administration which has issued the civil status act in writing.

(3) After comparing the data in the civil status act in writing and the data in the electronic form, the civil status official shall sign the act with a qualified electronic signature. Electronic civil status acts

shall have evidentiary force for the data stated therein, provided they are signed with a qualified electronic signature.

(4) In case of discrepancy between data in the civil status act and its electronic equivalent, the data stated in the civil status act in writing shall have evidential force.

(5) Electronic civil status acts shall form the National Electronic Register of Civil Status Acts.

Section II

Birth Act

Article 42. (1) (Previous text of Article 42, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) A birth act shall be issued on the basis of a written notification within 7 days of the day of birth, the latter not included.

(2) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) A birth act of a stillborn child shall be drawn up on the basis of a written notice within 48 hours of the birth.

Article 43. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, supplemented, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) Every birth shall be notified in writing within 5 days of the day of birth, the latter not included. The birth of a stillborn child shall be notified within 24 hours of the birth.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The birth notification shall be made in writing according to a template approved by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works. The birth declaration shall be the obligation of:

1. the head of the medical establishment, or the person who has been assigned that obligation with an order, when the birth has occurred in a medical establishment;
2. a competent medical person when the birth has not occurred in a medical establishment;
3. the civil status official, when the settlement has no competent medical person.

(3) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

(4) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

(5) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

(6) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The civil status official shall issue the birth act after the event has been certified in writing. Immediately after issuance of the birth act the parents shall be issued an original birth certificate.

(7) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Immediately after issuing the birth act, based on it an electronic birth act shall be created.

Article 44. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Where the time limit under Article 42 has elapsed and no birth act has been issued but the notification has been made or the official has found out about the birth within the same calendar year, the latter shall issue the birth act while observing the conditions of Article 43, and court judgment shall not be necessary.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When the calendar year and the term for issuing the birth act have elapsed, the birth act shall be issued only on the basis of a court judgment made at the request of the parents, the person or the prosecutor.

Article 45. (1) The act of birth shall contain:

1. the place where it was issued - district, municipality, settlement/district;
2. act number and date of issuance;
3. number of the original certificate;
4. date - day, month, year, hour and minute of birth;
5. place of birth - district, municipality, settlement or country if the child was born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria;
6. name of the newborn;
7. PIN of the child (only for Bulgarian citizens);

8. sex and citizenship;
 9. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) details of the parents - names, date of birth, PIN, citizenship,;
 10. a document certifying the birth;
 11. (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);
 12. official - names, PIN and signature;
 13. notes.
- (2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of a stillborn child, under "name of the newborn" shall be written "dead-at-birth".
- (3) The conclusion about the birth being live or still, or whether an abortion has occurred shall be made by a competent medical person.
- (4) In case of abortion a birth act shall not be issued.

Article 46. When a child was born live but died before the birth act was issued, both a birth act and a death act shall be issued concurrently.

Article 47. When the mother has given birth to two or more children (twins), the official shall issue a separate birth act for each child, entering in each act the number of the birth act of the other siblings and the order of birth.

Article 48. (1) Found, abandoned or exposed live newborn children shall be taken to the nearest medical establishment and there, in the presence of a Ministry of the Interior official, an official of the medical establishment and the person who has found and brought the child, a record shall be made of the finding. In the record shall be noted: the time and place where the child was found; sex and supposed date of birth; body marks, description of the clothing with which the child was found; other circumstances. The record shall be signed by the finder and the attending officials, it shall be stamped and sent to the municipality of the medical establishment so that a birth act can be issued.

(2) When a newborn has been abandoned by the mother at the medical establishment where the birth has occurred and has not been sought within the term of issuance of the birth act, the rules under Paragraph 1 shall be applied.

(3) The official shall issue the birth act on the basis of the record, which shall become an integral part of the act. The names of the child shall be determined by the official according to the provisions of this Act.

(4) When the child has been found dead or dies before being taken to a medical establishment, a forensic examination shall be made to establish the cause of death. In this case, a birth and death acts shall be issued on the basis of the record. If the medical investigation establishes that the child was stillborn, a "dead-at-birth" act shall be issued.

Article 49. In the case of fathering completed before issuance of the birth act, the data of the father shall be entered in the same act together with the document establishing the fathering if the mother has given her consent. The name of the child shall be issued according to the rules under articles 12 to 14. When the fathering is made after issuance of the birth act, the fathering person's data and the grounds for fathering shall be entered under "Notes" in the birth act as prescribed by the Family Code.

Article 50. (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of full adoption the civil status official shall issue a new birth act based on a certified copy of the court decision within three days of reception of the copy. The birth act shall be issued at the municipality or mayoralty specified in the court decision, in the current year register and with the date of issuance of the act.

(2) The new birth act shall contain:

1. the actual date of birth and the new Personal Identity Number;

2. (supplemented, SG No. 63/2003) place of birth - place of issuance of the act, and in the case of international adoption - the actual place of birth;
3. (supplemented, SG No. 63/2003) parents - the adopters and data thereof; when the child is adopted by one parent, the section for the other parent shall be left blank; when the child is adopted by the spouse of a parent - the data of the native parent with whom relations are preserved and the data of the adopter.
- (3) The act shall be noted in the alphabetic index for the year corresponding to the year of issuance of birth of the adopted child and in the alphabetic index for the year of issuance of the act.
- (4) The court decision shall be preserved under the conditions and rules for keeping of the birth act and outsiders shall have no access to it.
- (5) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Within two days of issuance of the new act the civil status official shall send a letter notifying the municipality where the previous birth act of the adopted child is kept so that a notice be made under "Notes" that a new one has been issued.

Section III

Act of Concluded Civil Marriage

Article 51. (1) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) A civil marriage shall be concluded before a civil status official under the conditions and rules of the Family Code.
(2) Civil marriages may be concluded on any day.

Article 52. (Amended, SG No. 54/2002, effective 1.12.2002, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When the persons to be married have refugee or humanitarian status in the Republic of Bulgaria, they shall certify their family status with a notarised declaration.

Article 53. The act of civil marriage shall contain:

1. place of issuance of the act - district, municipality, settlement/district;
2. act number and date of issuance;
3. number of the original certificate;
4. date - day, month, year and place of marriage - district, municipality, settlement, or country if it is not in the Republic of Bulgaria;
5. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) data of the persons to be married - names before the marriage, date and place of birth, age, PIN, citizenship, family status before the marriage, family name after the marriage, personal identity documents data - and their signatures;
6. (new, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009) regime of property relations
7. (renumbered from Item 6, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) data of the witnesses - names, PIN (or date of birth and their signatures;
8. (renumbered from Item 7, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) official - names, PIN or date of birth (and signature);
9. (renumbered from Item 8, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009) other documents produced for the marriage act;
10. (renumbered from Item 9, SG No. 47/2009, effective 1.10.2009) notes.

Article 53a. (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Immediately after issuing the marriage act in writing, an electronic marriage act shall be created based on it.

Section IV

Death Act

Article 54. (1) The death act shall be issued on the basis of a death notification not later than 48 hours after the occurrence of death.

(2) When forensic examination of the body is required under the conditions of the Criminal Procedure Code, the act may be issued without a court judgment after the period specified under Paragraph 1 has elapsed. The judicial authority ordering the forensic examination shall issue a document certifying the reason for delay.

Article 55. (1) The civil status official shall proceed to issue a death act upon receiving a death notification issued by a competent medical person.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The written notification of death that occurred in a medical establishment shall be issued by the director of the establishment or by a person who is assigned to do so by an order. The declaration of death occurred in a medical establishment shall be done in writing by the head of the establishment or a person authorized to do so by an order.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2020, effective 11.12.2020) During the period of a declared state of emergency due to epidemiological spread of infectious diseases under Article 61, Paragraphs 1 or 3 of the Health Act or in the event that an emergency epidemiological situation has been declared due to epidemiological spread of an infectious disease under Article 61, Paragraph 1 of the Health Act, the term under Article 54, Paragraph 1 for drawing up a death certificate shall be extended by fourteen days.

(4) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 105/2020, effective 11.12.2020) Immediately after issuing the death act in writing, an electronic death act shall be created based on it.

Article 56. The civil status official cannot issue, on his/her own initiative or at the request of the persons concerned, a death act for a person buried without permission. In that case the death act shall be issued only on the basis of an enacted court judgment.

Article 57. The civil status official may also issue a death act after the term under Article 54, Paragraph 1 has elapsed for a person deceased abroad whose body has been transported to the settlement if the documents accompanying the body were not accompanied with a death act issued at the place of occurrence of death. The civil status official shall present these documents to a medical establishment for ascertaining the cause of death and issuance of a death notification. If the cause of death cannot be established this shall be noted in the death notification.

Article 58. In the case of death of a group of persons whose bodies cannot be found, or the found ones cannot be identified but it is established without a doubt who the deceased persons are, the mayor of the municipality where the event has occurred or an official appointed thereby shall draw up a record which shall then be sent to the respective regional prosecutor's office. The regional prosecutor or the decedents' heirs shall file an ascertainment claim with the respective regional court which shall order death acts to be issued for these persons.

Article 59. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The death act for a person whose death has been declared by an enacted judgment shall be issued by the civil status official at the settlement of the permanent address of the person declared dead on the basis of a copy of the enacted judgment.

Article 60. (1) The act of death shall contain:

1. place of issuance of the act - district, municipality, settlement/district;
2. act number and date of issuance;
3. date - day, month, year, hour and minute of death;
4. place of death - region, municipality, settlement or country if it is not in the Republic of Bulgaria, and where it has occurred;
5. the person's names;
6. (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);
7. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) data of the person - date and place of birth, PIN, age, sex, citizenship, family status, permanent address;

8. (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);
 9. document certifying the death;
 10. (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);
 11. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) official - names, PIN or date of birth, and signature;
 12. notes.
- (2) The death act shall make no notice of the fact that the death has occurred in custody.

Article 61. (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) The excerpt-copy of the death act or of the birth act of a stillborn child shall represent permission for burial and shall be issued free of charge.

(2) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) When necessary for the funeral an excerpt-copy of the death act or of the birth act of a stillborn child may be issued also to third persons without the need for authorisation pursuant to the procedure of Article 88a, paragraph 2.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 53/2014, renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) After issuing the death act, the civil status official shall send the personal identity document of the decedent to the nearest Regional Department of the Ministry of Interior.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 53/2014, renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) In the case of death of a foreigner who is to be buried in the Republic of Bulgaria the civil status official shall keep all personal identity documents and documents for travelling abroad, if any. These documents and a copy of the death act shall be sent to the nearest Regional Department of the Ministry of Interior.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 53/2014, renumbered from Paragraph 4, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) In the case of death of a foreigner whose body is to be sent abroad the civil status official shall send the person's Bulgarian personal identity document, if any, to the nearest Regional Department of the Ministry of Interior. All other identity documents and documents for travelling abroad, if any, and a copy of the death act shall be handed to the persons accompanying the body.

Article 62. (Repealed, SG No. 96/2004).

Section V

Civil status acts issued to the military officers in emergency cases

Article 63. Civil status acts for the military outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria or on the territory of the country but unable to notify the civil authorities due to military activities shall be issued by specially appointed by the commander members of the military. The latter may also issue civil status acts to civilians accompanying the armed forces. The acts shall be kept in a general register book filled in hand.

Article 64. The civil status acts in the cases under Article 63 shall be issued according to the provisions of this Act with the following exceptions:

1. (repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011);
2. every military unit defined by the commanders shall keep a general register of all civil status acts. The acts in this register shall be written by hand and issued on the basis of the available data.

Article 65. (1) The military officer appointed to keep the civil status register shall refer through the Ministry of Defence copies of the acts in the following manner:

1. birth act copy - to the municipality of the mother's permanent address;
2. marriage act copy - to the municipality of the husband's permanent address;
3. death act copy - to the municipality of the decedent's permanent address.

(2) On the basis of the copy the civil status official of the respective municipality shall issue a new act according to the established template, with the copy forming an integral part of that act.

Section VI

Civil status acts at sea

Article 66. (1) In the event of birth, civil marriage or death on a ship out at sea the captain shall make an entry in the ship log and draw up the act under the rules of this Act.

(2) Birth or death acts shall be issued within 24 hours of occurrence of the event.

Article 67. (1) The captain of the ship shall refer copies of the civil status acts to the civil status office at the municipality in the first Bulgarian port of entry of the ship or at the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular representation in the country whose port the ship has entered. If there is no Bulgarian representation in the country, the captain of the ship shall refer the copies to the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official at the nearest country with Bulgarian diplomatic or consular representation.

(2) The civil status official or the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official shall refer the copies of the acts issued onboard within 15 days of receiving them in the following manner:

1. birth act - to the municipality of the mother's permanent address;
2. marriage act - to the municipality of the husband's permanent address, or if he is not a Bulgarian citizen - to the municipality of the wife's permanent address;
3. death act - to the municipality of the decedent's permanent address.

(3) The civil status officials at the municipalities receiving civil status acts under Paragraph 2 shall issue civil status acts under the rules of this Act.

Article 68. (1) When disaster has caused the death of all members of the crew and all passengers, the owner of the ship or a person authorized thereby shall check and verify the fact of the disaster and its consequences and notify in writing the civil status officials at the municipality where the ship is registered or the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular representation nearest to the place of the disaster in order to ensure the issuance of death acts for the perished persons through the court.

(2) If the captain and the mate of the ship have perished, the death acts shall be issued by the corresponding Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official abroad or by the civil status official at the municipality of the Bulgarian port where the rescued persons have been taken on the basis of statements made by the rescued crew members or passengers.

Section VII

Civil status acts issued to Bulgarian citizens abroad

Article 69. The citizens of the Republic of Bulgaria who are abroad may require to be issued civil status acts in accordance with the Bulgarian or local laws by the respective Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official or by the local civil status authorities at the place of occurrence of the events subject to registration.

Article 70. (1) A Bulgarian citizen who has requested the issuance of a civil status act from a local civil status authority abroad shall be obliged to get a certified copy or excerpt thereof and within six months of issuance refer or send it to the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official in the respective country together with a note of his/her permanent address in the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) If the Bulgarian citizen has been unable to refer or send the act issued by a foreign local civil status authority to the Bulgarian diplomatic or consular official, s/he may hand it directly to the civil status official at the municipality of his/her permanent address according to Article 72, paragraph 2, items 1, 2 and 3, together with the legalised certified translation in the Bulgarian language.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) Civil status act copies or excerpts under Paragraph 1 issued by the authority of a country with which the Republic of Bulgaria does not have a legal assistance agreement shall be legalised and translated.

(4) (New, SG No. 96/2004) Civil status act copies or excerpts under Paragraph 1 need not be legalised if they:

1. originate from a country that has ratified the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents;
2. originate from a country with which the Republic of Bulgaria has a legal assistance agreement explicitly indicating so;
3. have been received through diplomatic channels;

Article 71. A diplomatic or consular representative of the Republic of Bulgaria abroad who learns of the birth, marriage or death of a Bulgarian citizen in the country of his/her accreditation, but no certified copy or excerpt of the relevant act has been received at his/her office within 6 months of occurrence of the event, shall without delay get hold officially of the necessary documents. The copies or excerpts of the civil status acts together with the duly certified legalised translation in the Bulgarian language shall be referred to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria and thence forwarded to the permanent address of the Bulgarian citizen. Where no act has been issued by the local authorities, the diplomatic or consular official in the respective country shall officially demand the issuance of the act, if so allowed by the laws of the country.

Article 72. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Within three months of issuing civil status acts at the diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria copies thereof as well as the documents received under Article 71 shall be sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(2) The official copies of acts under Paragraph 1 received at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, not later than 15 days after receiving, shall be forwarded to the municipalities in the following manner:

1. for birth - to the municipality of the mother's permanent address; if she is not a Bulgarian citizen - to the municipality of the father's permanent address;
2. for civil marriage - to the municipality of the husband's permanent address; if he is not a Bulgarian citizen - to the municipality of the wife's permanent address;
3. for death - to the municipality of the decedent's permanent address.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 91/2017) The civil status official shall issue a civil status act, inscribing therein, based on the copy received under paragraph 1, the following data:

1. in the birth act - the name of the titleholder, the date and place of birth, the sex and the established origin;
2. in the marriage act - the names of the wedded persons, the date and place of marriage execution;
3. in the death act - the name of the titleholder, the date and place of death.

(4) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) If the copy does not contain all the required data hereunder, data from the identity documents or from the population register shall be used. Should it be impossible to complete all data, only available ones shall be completed in the act.

(5) (New, SG No. 96/2004, renumbered from Paragraph 4, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Where significant variance is found in the person's names completed in the copy under paragraph 1 and the population register, a document shall be submitted, certifying the names of the said person. Based on such document, when issuing the act, the names shall be completed as they are recorded in the population register. If one of the spouses has accepted the family name of his/her spouse or has added the family name of his/her spouse to his/her name, as family name after the marriage shall be completed the accepted or added family name of the spouse according to the population register.

(6) (Renumbered from paragraph 4, supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, renumbered from Paragraph 5, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) After compiling the act on the basis of the copy under

Paragraph 1, the civil status official at the municipality shall send, when requested or officially, the birth or marriage certificate or an excerpt-copy of the death act to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which shall forward it to the diplomatic or consular representation for handing over to the persons concerned.

Section VIII

Notes, additions and corrections made to the civil status acts

Article 73. All changes of data in the civil status acts of individuals shall be made through the court or according to administrative procedures.

Article 74. (1) Every change of civil status data in an issued act shall be noted in the same act at the designated place.

(2) The civil status official shall make the note on the basis of a judgment or administrative act ordering the change.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) Changes of civil status data in the acts of individuals shall be made only in the act of the titular.

(4) (New, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Upon express request in writing the change or the restoration of the parents' names under Article 19a may be entered administratively in the acts of the children. For minors, the request shall be made by the parents. For juveniles, the request shall be made personally with the parents' consent.

(5) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) By mutual consent of the spouses the change made or the restoration of the names under Article 19a in their birth acts may be entered in the marriage act as well. As family name after the marriage of each spouse shall be entered the name chosen upon the conclusion of the marriage in accordance with its change or restoration under Article 19a.

Article 75. (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) Where there is an enacted judgment or administrative act for change, addition, entry or note to be made in an issued act, the civil status official shall enter the new data at the designated place - under "Notes". The date and the name of the official shall be recorded, affixed with the official's signature and the municipality or mayoralty seal.

(2) No crossings, deletions or insertions of data shall be allowed in an issued civil status act.

(3) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Any changes, supplements, recordings or notes made in the civil status act issued in writing shall be recorded immediately in the electronic version of the act. The civil status official shall check the correctness of the data and shall sign the act with a qualified electronic signature.

Article 76. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) (1) Administrative changes or entries of data on the basis of official documents may be made only if the data will not change the content of the existing act. Technical and spelling mistakes in the name shall be removed at the request of the persons concerned.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Upon application of the person concerned, the change of name resulting from a normative act may also be entered administratively. Documents shall be submitted with the application.

(3) (New, SG No. 91/2017) A Bulgarian citizen born outside the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria can request that his/her father's name be administratively included in the both certificate, if it is missing in the prepared act. Where the person is underage, the entry shall be made following an application in writing from the person's parents.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 91/2017) All changes and entries shall be made under the rules of Article 75.

(5) (Renumbered from Paragraph 4, amended, SG No. 91/2017) The name of the titular may not be changed administratively, except in the cases provided under the Act, nor the dates of birth, marriage or death, nor sex.

Article 77. (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) The PIN of the titular may be changed only administratively by the official on the basis of a document certifying the need for the change.

Article 78. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of incomplete adoption the civil status official at the place of birth of the adopted person shall enter under "Notes" of the existing birth act the judgment, the names of the person as determined by the court, and the adopters' names.

(2) When issuing copies and certificates and birth act copies with noted incomplete adoption, the parents of origin shall be entered as well as the adopters.

Article 79. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) In the case of court decision on marriage termination under "Notes" in the marriage act shall be noted the number of the case on which the decision is issued, the date of entry into force and the name of the court that issued it. If the court decision duly notes that the spouse shall restore his/her family name prior to the marriage, the person's family name prior to the marriage shall be inscribed under "Notes".

(2) (Repealed, SG No. 96/2004).

Article 80. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When issuing certificate duplicates or excerpt-copies of acts containing notes, at the place of correction the copies shall contain only the final version of the changed entries.

(2) The full copy of an issued act shall contain all original texts and all additional notes.

Article 81. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The cancellation of an issued civil status act shall be allowed before settlement of the register for the year when issuing more than one act for the same event. In these cases, the entire body of the act is overwritten diagonally with the following: "Annulled", the reason for annulment and the date of annulment; it shall then be signed by the official and stamped.

Article 81a. (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Upon a court decision on issuance of a new birth act to a person who has already been issued a birth act, the first issued act shall be invalidated. In the field "Notes" shall be noted that a new birth act is issued, the number of the case on which the decision is issued, the date of entry into force and the name of the court that has issued it.

Article 82. (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Section IX

Civil Status Act Registers

Article 83. (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) The civil status act registers for the entire municipality shall be formed by the separate collection of each type of forms - birth, marriage and death acts - issued during the year, which shall be bound together in a special book upon completion of the year.

(2) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) An integral part of the registers of civil status acts shall be the documents on the basis whereon the respective civil status acts have been issued.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, renumbered from Paragraph 2, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) By 20 December each year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the municipalities shall supply the diplomatic and consular representations, respectively the mayoralities and settlements on their territory, with the relevant civil status act forms.

Article 84. (1) The registers of all issuers of acts for each calendar year shall be completed by 21 January of the following year, certified and signed by the mayor or by a specially authorised by the mayor municipal official.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When a registers consists of more than one volume, on the cover of the first volume shall be written "Volume No. 1", on the next "Volume No. 2", and so on. The numeration of acts in the new volume shall start with the number following the number of the last entered act in the previous volume. The reason for starting the new volume shall be noted on the second page, on the first cover, without taking up the space for the act, and shall be signed by the mayor.

Article 85. (1) The certification of registers shall include an inventory of the number of acts, the number they start and finish with, whether there are annulled acts, how many of the acts have been used, a signature and a stamp on the last page of the registers formed from the collected civil status acts issued over the year. The alphabetic index shall be an integral part of the register. The certification shall check for the presence of all data and signatures required by the act. This certification shall represent the completion of the acts for the elapsed calendar year.

(2) The registers shall be certified by the mayor of the municipality or by an official authorized by the mayor. This certification shall also represent the check and completion of the acts for the elapsed calendar year.

(3) (Supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) The completed registers of act forms shall be bound and transferred for use and keeping at the municipality administrative centre for 130 years after issuance, after which they shall be transferred to the State archive.

Article 86. The completion of the registers may also be done before the end of the calendar year if the municipality or the mayoralty is closed or merged with another one. When joining another municipality, the registers shall be transferred to the new municipality.

Article 87. Every register must contain an alphabetic index of the entered persons. The alphabetic indexes of the registers for birth and death shall be made after entering all acts in the register and before its completion. There the acts shall be listed alphabetically according to the given name of the newborn or decedent. In the registers for civil marriages the alphabetic index shall be made according to the husband's given name.

Article 88. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) Based on the civil status acts the civil status officials at municipal administrations by place of storage shall issue the following documents according to approved standard form:

1. from the birth act - a birth certificate (original - the first certificate issued, and a duplicate - every next one);
2. from the marriage act - the marriage certificate (original - the first certificate issued, and a duplicate - every next one);
3. from the death act - excerpt-copy of the death act.

(2) When issuing duplicates of certificates of birth, marriage and or excerpt-copies of death acts the parameters included in the standard form shall not be completed if they are not available in the act.

(3) Based on the registers of civil status acts excerpt-copies, full copies or certified copies of acts may be issued. Certification of the copies of the acts shall mandatorily state the date as at which the data in the copy correspond to the data in the act stored by the municipality, shall have the signature of the civil status official thereon and a stamp of the municipality.

(4) Based on the registers of civil status acts certificates of absence of issued civil status act may be issued.

Article 88a. (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) Documents under Article 88 shall be issued to:

1. the person to whom the birth act refers, to his/her parents/legal representatives;
2. the parties to the marriage act;

3. the heirs of the decedent from the death certificate.

(2) The documents under Article 88 may be issued to third parties who are expressly authorised by a notary certified power of attorney by the persons under paragraph 1 or under the Civil Procedure Code and the Penal Procedure Code.

(3) The documents under Article 88 may be issued and sent upon an official written request from a municipality or public authority, where this is required for the administrative service of the persons entered in the act.

Article 88b. (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The civil status official from every municipal administration as well as the consular official abroad may issue duplicates of birth certificates, of marriage certificates or an excerpt-copy of the death act as well as excerpt-copies or full copies of the acts based on the National Electronic Register of Civil Status Acts.

(2) The documents under Paragraph 1 shall be issued only on the basis of electronic acts signed with a qualified electronic signature.

Chapter Four **(Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999)** **ADDRESS REGISTRATION**

Section I **General Provisions**

Article 89. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) The address shall be the unequivocal description of the place where the person lives or receives his/her correspondence.

(2) The address in the Republic of Bulgaria shall include the names of the district, the municipality and the settlement.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Depending on the place it describes, the address may also include the name of the location unit (square, boulevard, street, residential complex, quarter, etc.), number, entrance, floor, flat. The number of the location unit may be comprised of a combination including up to four characters - the first three characters shall be digits and the last character shall be a letter. The entrance shall be marked with one letter or with a figure comprising up to two digits. The flat shall be designated with up to three-digit figure.

(4) When the address is outside the regulation plan of the settlement, in the place of the data under Paragraph 3 shall be entered the name of the locality on the territory of the settlement.

(5) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The mayor of the municipality shall determine the addresses on the territory of the municipality at which addresses registration may be made.

(6) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) For the addresses under Paragraph 5 and any changes therein written information shall be sent to the "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" territorial units of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

(7) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The totality of addresses under Paragraph 5 for all municipalities shall form the National Classificator of Current and Permanent Addresses in the Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 90. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Every person subject to civil registration under this Act must declare in writing his/her permanent and current address, which shall correspond to the address under Article 89, Paragraph 5.

(2) The permanent and current address of a newborn child shall be the same as those of the parents. When the parents have different permanent addresses, they shall choose one of them for the child.

When the parents have different current addresses, the current address of the mother shall be the current address of the child.

Article 91. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) A person's address registration shall be the note of the permanent and current addresses in the population register.

Article 92. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Previous text of Article 92, SG No. 9/2011, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The address registration shall be made by the mayor of the municipality, the district or the mayoralty or by persons designated by them upon a request made by the person.

(2) (New, SG No. 9/2011, supplemented, SG No. 42/2012) For effecting an address registration at an address in Bulgaria, persons shall present one of the following documents:

1. documentary proof of ownership;

2. (amended, SG No. 42/2012, SG No. 24/2019, effective 1.07.2020 - amended, SG No. 101/2019) documents evidencing that the property is used as a residence, which includes institutions contracts for use of a social or integrated health and social service for residential care;

3. (new, SG No. 42/2012) other documents evidencing title to or use of the property.

(3) (New, SG No. 9/2011, amended, SG No. 42/2012) The owner's written consent, where the applicant is not an owner, in the form of a declaration completed in a standard form, submitted in person to the authority referred to in Paragraph (1) or with a notarized signature, shall also be presented for effecting of an address registration.

(4) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, repealed, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015).

(5) (New, SG No. 42/2012) For the address registration of persons who are relatives in the direct line of descent to the owner or user of the property, as well as the spouses of such persons, the documents referred to in Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall not be required. The mayor of the municipality, district or mayoralty, or the officials designated by such mayor, shall perform an official check with the population register regarding the kinship between the owner or user of the property and the person applying for a permanent and/or current address, and a check through the Local Taxes and Fees Departments regarding the title to the property.

(6) (New, SG No. 42/2012) For the address registration of a person who is the cohabitee of the owner or user of the property, the documents referred to in Paragraphs 2 and 3 shall not be required. As a proof of the said facts, a written standard-form declaration of consent by the owner or user of the property shall be presented to the body referred to in Paragraph 1 in person or, in the alternative, with the signature therein notarised.

(7) (New, SG No. 42/2012) For the address registration of persons placed in state-owned or municipal homes, a placement order or a lease agreement shall be presented and no written declaration of consent by the owner of the property shall be required.

(8) (New, SG No. 42/2012, supplemented, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) Where the applicants are unable to present a document as referred to in paragraph 2, the facts needed for their address registration shall be established by a commission appointed with an order by the municipal mayor, which shall include officials of the municipal administration and of the territorial structural units of the Ministry of Interior, the Civil Registration and Administrative Services Directorate General of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works and the Social Assistance Agency.

(9) (New, SG No. 42/2012, amended, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, amended and supplemented, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) In the cases referred to in Paragraph 8, the bodies under Paragraph 1 shall immediately approach such commission, which shall then verify the circumstances and issue an opinion on the address registration within seven days. If the persons referred to in paragraph 8 are unable to register at another address, the Commission shall propose that they register at a service address. Based on the commission's opinion, the bodies referred to in Paragraph 1 shall effect the address registration.

(10) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) The number of the persons who may register their permanent and/or current address at the address of one dwelling may not exceed by two-fold the number of persons who usually may dwell in the respective quarters. When determining the total number of the persons the owners, users, leasers or inhabitants registered at the address on other legal grounds shall also be taken into account. Where the dwelling is inhabited only by relatives in direct line of descent, collateral relatives to the fourth degree inclusive or by marriage to the second degree inclusive exceeding by three-fold of the number of persons who usually may dwell in the respective quarters shall be allowed.

(11) (New SG No. 47/2018, amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Paragraph (10) shall not apply in case of:

1. first address registration under Article 90, paragraph 2;
2. application for address registration by the property owner;
3. registration of a service address.

(12) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, renumbered from Paragraph (11), SG No. 47/2018, amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) The bodies under paragraph 1 shall keep for five years copies of the documents on the basis of which address registration and change of address is performed.

(13) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, renumbered from paragraph 12, SG No. 47/2018) The acts of the bodies under paragraph 1 with which address registration or change of address is refused are subject to appeal under the Administrative Procedure Code.

(14) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, renumbered from Paragraph (13), SG No. 47/2018, amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) The acts of the authorities under paragraph 1 for the registration of a service address may be appealed before the relevant administrative court. Any such appeal shall not stay the enforcement. The judgment of the administrative court shall be final.

(15) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Registration of a service address shall be carried out in the municipality of the person's last address registration, if any.

(16) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) The bodies referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be liable for any correspondence received at a service address.

Article 93. (*) (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) A person's permanent address shall be that address in the settlement which the person has indicated for entry in the population register.

(2) The permanent address shall always be on the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(3) A person may only have one permanent address.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Bulgarian citizens living abroad who are not recorded in the population register and cannot indicate a permanent address in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be entered officially in the population register of the district of Sredets in Sofia.

(5) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.12.2024) Bulgarian citizens with a current address abroad who are registered in the population register but cannot indicate a permanent address in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as submit the documents referred to in Article 92, paragraphs 2 and 3, may apply for a service address in the municipality of their last address registration in the country.

(6) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.12.2024) Aliens who have been granted refugee status, humanitarian status or who have been granted asylum in the Republic of Bulgaria, when registering for the first time in the population register, if they are unable to indicate an address in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as to present the documents referred to in Article 92, paragraphs 2 and 3, after submitting an application for a permanent address and an address card for a current address, shall be registered at a service address in the municipality where they reside.

(7) (New, SG No. 96/2004, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, new, SG No. 42/2012, renumbered from Paragraph (5), SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.12.2024) A citizen's permanent address may be the same as his/her current address.

(8) (New, SG No. 42/2012, renumbered from Paragraph (6), SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.12.2024) Citizens' permanent address shall serve for the exercise or use of rights or services in the cases provided for by an Act of Parliament or another statutory act.

(9) (New, SG No. 42/2012, renumbered from Paragraph (7), SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.12.2024) A citizen's permanent address may be the same as his/her current address.

(*) Editor's Note: On the admissibility of the permanent address legislation for Bulgarian citizens residing in another EU Member State, see the judgment of the CJEU in Case C 222/23 of 16 May 2024.

Article 94. (Effective 1.01.2000, SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The current address shall be the address where the person lives.

(2) Every person shall have only one current address.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The current address of Bulgarian citizens living abroad shall be entered in the population register only with the name of the country in which they live.

Article 95. (Effective 1.01.2000, SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Supplemented, SG No. 37/01, amended, SG No. 82/2009, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) One's permanent address shall be declared by personally filing a declaration with the municipal administration or the authorities under Article 92, Paragraph 1.

(2) The declaration shall be made in person, and only exceptionally by an authorized person upon presentation of a notarised letter thereto.

(3) Underage persons and persons under judicial disability shall have their declarations made by their legal representatives.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The declaration template shall be approved by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

Article 96. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Amended, SG No. 42/2012, supplemented, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) A citizen shall declare his/her current address by submitting an address card to the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1. Bulgarian citizens living abroad shall declare as their current address before the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1 at their permanent address the state where they live.

(2) The declaration shall be made in person, and only exceptionally by an authorized person upon presenting a notarised letter.

(3) Underage persons and persons under judicial disability shall have their declarations made by their legal representatives.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The address card form shall be approved by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

Article 97. (1) (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999, amended, SG No. 82/2009, previous text of Article 97, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, repealed, SG No. 42/2012).

(2) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, repealed, SG No. 42/2012).

(3) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, amended, SG No. 42/2012) A Bulgarian citizen living abroad may declare his/her permanent or current address with the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1, including through the diplomatic or consular missions of the Republic of Bulgaria abroad.

Article 97a. (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 10.04.2025) In the event of the closure of an address from the National Classifier of Present and Permanent Addresses in the Republic of Bulgaria by the mayor of the municipality, the persons registered at the address shall apply for a new permanent and/or current address within one month from the service of the order for closure of the address. In the event that the persons do not declare a new address, after the expiry of the period referred to in the first sentence, the authorities referred to in Article 92 (1) shall register them at a service address.

Section II

Change of address

Article 98. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) The declaration of change of permanent address shall be filed with the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1 in the municipality, district, mayoralty or location where the person has chosen to be entered in the population register.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) When changing one's permanent address, the change shall be reported through the National Population Data Base to the municipality of the previous permanent address, to the municipality of the current address and to the Ministry of Interior.

Article 99. (Effective 1.01.2000 - SG No. 67/1999) (1) Every person shall be obliged to declare the change of his/her current address within 30 days.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) The address card for changing one's current address shall be lodged with the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1 in the municipality, district, mayoralty or location of residence. When a Bulgarian citizen resides abroad the address card for change of current address shall be filed with the bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1 in the municipality, district, mayoralty or location at the permanent address. The address card shall be processed immediately in order to update the National Population Data Base.

(3) The persons providing accommodation in a hotel, motel, rest home or other place of accommodation shall be obliged to keep special books for registering the accommodated persons, and when requested by the local authorities or those of the Ministry of Interior shall provide the data contained therein.

(4) (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) Registration of a current or permanent address for more than four months at a hotel, motel, rest home or other place of accommodation shall not be allowed. The restriction under the previous sentence shall apply also when re-registration is carried out at the same or another place of accommodation on the territory of the same municipality.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, renumbered from Paragraph 4, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, amended, SG No. 24/2019, effective 1.07.2020 - amended, SG No. 101/2019) The current address of a child placed in a social and an integrated health and social service for residential care shall be the address of the service. The address cards of the child shall be lodged by the head of the relevant service.

(6) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, renumbered from Paragraph 5, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) Underage persons studying at schools located in a settlement that is different from the permanent and current address of their parents may personally lodge an address card for changing their present address. In that case, the address card must have attached a letter from the relevant school certifying that the person is enrolled there as a student.

Article 99a. (New, SG No. 6/2009, effective 1.05.2009, amended, SG No. 42/2012, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) (1) (Previous text of Article 99a, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) In the cases of change of the address registration of permanent or current address the

maximum number of persons who can be registered as having their permanent and/or current address at the address of one home may not exceed by two-fold the number of people who could normally dwell at the respective quarters. When determining the total number of the persons the owners, users, leasers or inhabitants registered at the address on other legal grounds shall also be taken into account. Where the dwelling is inhabited only by relatives in direct line of descent, collateral relatives to the fourth degree inclusive or by marriage to the second degree inclusive exceeding by three-fold of the number of persons who usually may dwell in the respective quarters shall be allowed.

(2) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Paragraph 1 shall not apply where the change of address registration at the permanent and/or current address is requested by the owner of the property.

Section III **(New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015)** **Conducting Inspections**

Article 99b. (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2016, effective 26.05.2016, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) In the event of a written report of a violation under Article 92, Article 99, paragraphs 1 and 4 or Article 99a submitted to an authority under Article 92, paragraph 1 or to the regional governor, or on his/her own initiative, the mayor of the municipality, the mayor of the district or the regional governor shall issue an order appointing a commission to carry out an inspection of compliance with the requirements for the registration of an address or a change of address. The membership of the commission shall include officials of the respective municipal administration, representatives of the respective regional administration, of the territorial structural units of the Ministry of Interior and the Civil Registration and Administrative Services Directorate General of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works. In the cases of a submitted written report, the order appointing the Commission shall be issued within 7 working days of its receipt and shall be published on the notice board and on the website of the municipality. Should the mayor fail to issue the order within the prescribed deadline it shall be issued by the regional governor.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) The inspection referred to in Paragraph 1 shall be carried out within fourteen days after the issuing of the order on appointing the commission. A record shall be drawn up on the results of the inspection.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Within three days of the inspection and on the basis of the report referred to in paragraph 2, the mayor of the municipality shall issue an order for the registration of the service address of the persons for whom it has been established that their address registration has been carried out in violation of the requirements of Article 92 or Article 99a. The mayor of the municipality or an official designated by the mayor shall notify the interested person of the registration made at the service address.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) At the beginning of every school year the rectors of the higher educational establishments shall provide to the respective bodies referred to in Article 92, Paragraph 1 an updated list of the persons accommodated in student boarding houses where the number of persons accommodated in a single room may not exceed the number of beds therein. Persons who are not included in the lists referred to in the first sentence shall register at a service address if they have not requested another address.

(5) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) The owner of the immovable property shall have the right to request from the authority under Article 92, paragraph 1 to delete the registration of a person registered at the address of his property, other than a spouse or relative by direct line, by consanguinity up to and including the fourth degree or by affinity up to and including the second degree.

(6) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) On the basis of the request referred to in paragraph 5, officials of the municipal administration designated by the authority referred to in Article 92, paragraph 1 shall carry out within three days an official verification in the population register of the relationship between the owner and the persons registered at the address of the property, as well as a verification through the Local Taxes and Fees Department of the ownership of the property. A record shall be drawn up on the result of the inspection.

(7) (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) On the basis of the report under paragraph 6, the mayor of the municipality shall, within three days, issue an order for the registration of the service address of a person who is not the spouse or relative by direct line, by consanguinity up to and including the fourth degree or by affinity up to and including the second degree of the person referred to in paragraph 5. The mayor of the municipality or an official designated thereby shall notify the interested person of the registration of the service address in accordance with the Code of Administrative Procedure

(8) (Renumbered from Paragraph (5), amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) A person registered at permanent address of a service address shall replace his/her personal documents within one month of notification.

Chapter Five

UNIFIED SYSTEM FOR CIVIL REGISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE OF THE POPULATION (ESGRAON)

Section I

General provisions

Article 100. The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) is a national system for civil registration of the individuals in the Republic of Bulgaria and a source of personal data thereof.

Article 101. (Amended, SG No. 96/2004, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) ESGRAON shall have the following functions:

1. create and maintain registers of civil status acts;
2. create and maintain a National Electronic Register of Civil Status Acts;
3. create and maintain a population register.
4. be the standard keeper of the unique administrative identifier for individuals (PIN) and create and maintain the register of personal identification numbers;
5. create and maintain the national classificator of current and permanent addresses in the Republic of Bulgaria;
6. information provision and administrative servicing of the legislative, executive and judicial power.

Article 102. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) shall function at:

1. (amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) national level - the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works through General Directorate "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" shall maintain a population register - National Population Database, National Electronic Register of Civil Status Acts, a register of personal identification numbers, a national classificator of current and permanent addresses and official data;

2. (amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) district level - the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works through the "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" territorial units shall maintain a Regional Population Database, a national classifier of current and permanent addresses and official data;

3. municipal level - the official administrations shall enter and maintain the data about the civil registration of individuals in the Local Population Database, shall issue civil status acts and their electronic equivalents.

(2) For the purposes of ESGRAON maintenance and operation, the administrative units from the three levels shall receive, exchange, process and store data.

Section II

Maintenance of ESGRAON

(Heading amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011)

Article 103. (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 104. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Services of the Population shall ensure:

1. the registration, maintenance and updating of the civil registration data;
2. preservation and maintenance of the chronology of changed civil registration data;
3. accuracy, comprehensiveness and interrelatedness of the civil registration data.

Article 105. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The data in the registers shall be entered at municipal, regional and national level.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The data shall be entered at one time at the place of occurrence of the event or of the change. The data coming from other information systems shall be entered at national level and shall be sent to the regional and municipal levels.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The updated data from the municipalities shall be sent on a daily basis to the respective regional level for transferring at a national level.

(4) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, amended, SG No. 85/2017) The data under Paragraph 3 shall be sent in accordance with the requirements of the Electronic Document and Electronic Trust Services Act.

Section III

Rules for ESGRAON data provision

Article 106. (1) ESGRAON data may be provided to:

1. the Bulgarian and foreign citizens and persons without citizenship they refer to, as well as to third persons when the data are crucial for the creation, existence, change or termination of their lawful rights and interests;

2. (supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 80/2023, effective 19.09.2023) state authorities and institutions, according to their powers established by a law or statutory instrument of secondary legislation;

3. (amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) Bulgarian and foreign legal entities - on the basis of a legal or judicial act or a permission of the Personal Data Protection Commission.

(2) (Supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) The provision of ESGRAON data to foreign representations in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be done through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs according to the bilateral and multilateral international agreements ratified by the Bulgarian state and with the permission of the Personal Data Protection Commission.

(3) (Repealed, SG No. 96/2004, new, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Officials from municipal administrations performing civil registration activities as well as consular officials abroad shall be entitled to free access to the data in the electronic registers at national level.

- (4) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014, repealed, SG No. 50/2016, effective 1.07.2016).
- (5) (New, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) For the provision of access, exchange of data or making enquiries based on the registers, fees shall be charged in accordance with the tariff of the Council of Ministers, or free of charge, where this is laid down in law or another statutory act.
- (6) (New, SG No. 80/2023, effective 19.09.2023) ESGRAON data available in electronic format may be provided free of charge to the providers of electronic administrative services as an internal electronic administrative service under the rules of the Electronic Government Act.

Article 107. (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) The refusal to provide data from the ESGRAON may be appealed under the rules of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Article 108. (1) Institutions, individuals and legal entities that have received ESGRAON data may, in case of established contradiction, incorrectness or incompleteness, request the correction thereof.

(2) The administration in charge of the correctness of the provided data shall be obliged to make the necessary correction.

Section IV

ESGRAON Data Protection

Article 109. (Supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 17/2019) The data in the ESGRAON shall be protected against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, personal data by way of implementing appropriate technical and organisational measures and special protective measures (including creation and maintenance of a Backup Centre for cases of disasters, accidents and crises) in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ, L 119/1 of 4.5.2016), the Personal Data Protection Act and the international agreements ratified by the Republic of Bulgaria.

Section V

Interaction between ESGRAON and other Information Systems in the Republic of Bulgaria

Article 110. The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) shall be the basic information system in the Republic of Bulgaria with regard to the civil registration data of individuals.

Article 111. (1) The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) shall provide data to the information systems in the country and receive data from them.

(2) The civil registration data provided by ESGRAON shall be compulsory as to the other information systems providing administrative services to the population.

(3) The personal data provided by other information systems shall be informative as to ESGRAON.

(4) (Repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 112. (1) (Amended, SG No. 82/2009) The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Service of the Population (ESGRAON) shall provide daily to the Ministry of Interior updated information from the National Population Data Base and from the national classifiers in order to ensure the legality of the issued Bulgarian personal documents.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 96/2004) The information provided under Paragraph 1 shall be used at central and local level.

(3) (New, SG No. 105/2008, effective 1.01.2009) The Unified System for Civil Registration and Administrative Services of the Population provides municipal administrations with up-to-date information from the National Population Data Base and the national classifiers, with a view to determining and collecting the local taxes and fees.

Chapter Six

CIVIL REGISTRATION AUTHORITIES

Article 113. (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) (1) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The procedure, manner and templates of the documents for the operation of the Uniform System for Civil Registration shall be determined by an ordinance of the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) Methodological guidance and control over activities related to civil registration shall be performed by the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works with the assistance of the Ministry of Justice and the Personal Data Protection Commission.

Article 114. (Supplemented, SG No. 37/2001, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG no. 82/2009, repealed, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011).

Article 115. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Data shall be provided to ESGRAON on a daily basis by the following institutions and their divisions:

1. (amended, SG No. 82/2009, supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, amended, SG No. 42/2012, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) Ministry of Interior - data from the applications for issuing Bulgarian personal documents and data of the issued Bulgarian personal documents. From applications, the following data shall be provided: name (in Bulgarian and in the Latin alphabet) and other citizenship;
2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs - civil registration related documents received through diplomatic and consular channels;
3. (amended, SG No. 96/2004, supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Ministry of Justice - documents to be entered in the Population Registers and the birth acts;
4. (amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) Ministry of Health - birth and death notifications; data of individuals placed for an extensive period of time at a medical establishment;
5. (amended, SG No. 74/2009, effective 15.09.2009, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 68/2013, effective 2.08.2013) Ministry of Education and Science - data about children from 3 to 18 years of age placed at childcare institutions;
6. Ministry of Labour and Social Policy - data about individuals placed at social institutions;
7. (supplemented, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011) the courts - judgments concerning entries in the registers of civil status acts or restriction of a person's judicial ability.

(2) Every institution under Paragraph 1 shall organise the provision of necessary information to ESGRAON within the terms provided in this Act.

(3) The sharing of information between the institutions under Paragraph 1 and ESGRAON shall occur in an automated and in a non-automated way.

(4) Automated data processing shall not free the institutions from the obligations to prepare and refer the civil registration documents under this Act.

Chapter Seven

ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PROVISIONS

Article 116. (1) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Officials shall be sanctioned for violations of this Act with a fine of BGN 500 to 1000.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Violations by citizens shall be fined with BGN 200 to 500.

Article 116a. (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015, amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) For violations of Article 92 or Article 99a a fine shall be imposed on the culpable persons amounting from BGN 1000 to BGN 5000 for each individual case.

Article 117. (1) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The violations of this Act shall be ascertained with a record drawn by officials appointed by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, or the Minister of Interior, or the district governors or municipality mayors.

(2) (Amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004, amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) On the basis of these records penal provisions shall be made by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, or the Minister of Interior, or the district governors, or municipality mayors, or officials appointed thereby.

(3) (New, SG No. 96/2004) The Minister of Interior and the officials appointed thereby shall ascertain violations and issue penal provisions only under Chapter Four.

(4) (Renumbered from Paragraph 3, SG No. 96/2004) The ascertaining of the violations and the penal provisions shall be made under the conditions and rules of the Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISION **(New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015)**

§ 1. (New, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) In the meaning herein:

1. "Persons who usually may dwell in quarters" shall mean the maximum number of persons who may dwell in certain quarters whereby a person can dispose with at least ten square meters of living space.

2. "Living space" shall mean the sum of the spaces of the premises in the quarters designated for drawing rooms, bedrooms and children's rooms, measured along the internal walls.

3. (Repealed, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024).

4. (New, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) "Service address" shall mean an address of immovable property which is municipal property, designated by the authority under Article 89, paragraph 5 for official address registration by permanent and current address.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

§ 1a. (Previous § 1, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) This Act shall repeal the Names of the Bulgarian Citizens Act (promulgated, SG No. 20/1990, amended, SG No. 94/1990).

§ 1b. (New, SG No. 96/2004, previous § 1a, SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015) (1) (Amended, SG No. 48/2007) The children of Bulgarian citizens who were deceased prior to 30 June 2001 whose names were forcefully changed and not restored later in compliance with the rules and conditions of § 2 of the repealed Bulgarian Citizens' Names Act (promulgated, SG No. 20/1990; amended, SG No. 94/1990; repealed, SG No. 67/1999) may by mutual assent restore their parents' names under the rules of Article 19a, Paragraph 2.

(2) (Repealed, SG No. 48/2007).

(3) (Amended, SG No. 48/2007) If the children under Paragraph 1 died prior to the effective date of this Act, the right to restore the names shall be transferred to the next in line of descent.

(4) (New, SG No. 48/2007) The parents of Bulgarian citizens who were deceased prior to 26 November 1993 whose names were forcefully changed and not restored later in compliance with the rules and conditions of § 2 of the repealed Bulgarian Citizens' Names Act, may by mutual assent restore their children's names under the rules of Article 19a, Paragraph 2.

(5) (New SG No. 48/2007, amended, SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024) Applications per paragraph 1 and paragraph 4 shall be filed at the domicile or last permanent address of the deceased person.

§ 2. In the Persons and Family Act (promulgated, SG No. 182/1949; amended, SG No. 193/1949; amended Transactions No. 12/1951, 12, 92/1952, 15/1953; corrected. Transactions No. 16/1953; amended Transactions. No. 89/1953, 90/1955, 90/1956, 50/1961; SG No. 23/1968, SG No. 36/1979, SG No. 41/ 1985, SG No. 46/1989, SG No. 20/1990, SG No. 15/1994) shall be repealed:

1. Article 7 - from January 1, 2000;
2. Article 122 - 130 inclusive - from the effective date of this Act.

§ 3. In the Local Self-Government and Local Administration Act (promulgated, SG No. 77/1991; amended, SG No. 24, 49, 65/1995, SG No. 90/ 1996, SG No. 122/1997, SG No. 33, 130, 154/1998) the following supplements shall be made:

1. Under Article 44, Paragraph 1, item 13 after the words "written order of" shall be added "the mayors of mayoralities where civil status registers are maintained, and of other".
2. Under Article 46, Paragraph 1, item 6 at the end shall be added "and send updating notes to ESGRAON".

§ 4. Under Article 34, Paragraph 2 of the People's Health Act (prom. SG No. 88/1973; corrected, SG No. 92/1973; amended and supplemented, SG No. 63/1976, SG No. 28/1983, SG No. 66/1985, SG No. 27/1986, SG No. 89/1999, SG No. 87, 99/1989, SG No. 15/1991, corrected, SG No. 24/1991; amended, SG No. 64/1993, SG No. 31/1994, SG No. 36/1995, SG No. 12, 87, 124/1997, SG No. 21, 70, 71, 93/1998, SG No. 30/1999) the words "the person's passport" shall be replaced with "the person's health insurance book" and the text to the end shall be deleted.

§ 5. In the Bulgarian Identity Documents Act (prom., SG No. 93/1998; amended, SG No. 53/1999) the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

1. Under Article 16 shall be created Paragraph 3:
"(3) The personal number of a foreigner (PNF) shall identify unequivocally the foreigners staying in the Republic of Bulgaria for a long time. The method of its formation shall be determined by the Council of Ministers."
2. Under Article 75 item 2 shall be repealed.
3. Under Article 76 shall be created item 9:
"9. underage persons and persons under legal disability who do not have the written consent of their parents, adoptive parents or guardians for traveling abroad."
4. In the transitional and final provisions the following amendments and supplements shall be made:
 - a) § 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 shall be created:
"§ 12. (1) Until 31 December 1999 the address registration and the issuing of a passport to a citizen of the Republic of Bulgaria for the persons born before 31 December 1981, when the term of validity of the passport has elapsed or its change is necessary due to other lawful reasons, shall be done under the conditions and rules of this paragraph.
(2) Passports shall be issued at the citizen's place of residence by the passport services at the respective territorial divisions of the Ministry of Interior.
(3) For the issuance of a first passport the citizen shall apply, personally or through the municipality (district) or mayoralty at the territorial division of the Ministry of Interior, by presenting:
 1. personal data form issued by the municipal (district) council or the mayoralty at the place of residence;
 2. three 5 x 4 cm black-and-white photos printed on special EFN 415 photo-paper and stamped at the photo-studio where they have been made;

3. a note for ESGRAON issued by the municipality (district) or mayoralty;
4. a receipt for paid fee according to Section III of Tariff No 4 for the fees collected at the Ministry of Interior under the Stamp Duty Act.
- (4) When the documents under Paragraph 3 are lodged with the municipalities (districts) or mayoralties, the officials shall refer them within 3 days to the respective passport office of the Ministry of Interior.
- (5) For a persons under full judicial disability, the documents under Paragraph 3 shall be presented by his/her legal representative in the presence of the person.
- (6) The passport of a citizen shall contain the following data:
 1. name (given, father's, family);
 2. date and place of birth;
 3. Personal Identity Number (PIN);
 4. the issuing division of the Ministry of Interior and the date of issuance;
 5. term of validity;
 6. family status;
 7. the given names of the children up to 16 years of age and their Personal Identity Numbers, as well as the names of the dependent persons whose legal representative, guardian or trustee the citizen is;
 8. place of residence;
 9. address registration.
- (7) The data shall be printed in the appropriate sections of the passport with specially designated typewriters, and the address registration shall be stamped.
- (8) Deletions and other corrections shall invalidate the passport.
- (9) The sections of the passport shall be filled out with data identical to the data in the personal data form issued by the municipality (district) or mayoralty at the citizen's place of residence.
- (10) The series and number of the newly issued passport shall be entered in the personal data form and in the note to ESGRAON and the latter shall be returned to the respective municipality (district) or mayoralty.
- (11) Data shall also be stamped in the passport:
 1. by the bodies of the Ministry of Interior - when recording address changes (subsequently, at the designated pages);
 2. by the civil status officials at the municipalities or mayoralties - when changing one's place of residence, when concluding or terminating civil marriage, at the events of widowhood, birth, death of children up to 16 years of age, adoption, termination of adoption, legal representation (names of the persons under guardianship or trusteeship), as well as the cessation of the legal grounds thereof (subsequently, on the designated pages);
 3. by the passport offices - when the permanent place of residence is abroad (on page 7).
- (12) When replacing one's passport, the citizen shall be obliged to present:
 1. in the case of elapsed term of validity - the old passport and address card;
 2. in the case of damage - the old passport, document for birth and address card;
 3. in the case of changing one's name (given, father's, family) - the old passport, personal data form issued by the municipality (district) or mayoralty at the place of residence;
 4. in the case of significant and lasting changes of the face - the old passport, document for birth and address card;
 5. in the case of lost, stolen or destroyed passport - personal data form issued by the municipalities or mayoralties at the place of residence.
- (13) In the cases under Paragraph 12 the citizens shall present 3 photos and a note to ESGRAON, and shall pay due fees according to section III of Tariff No 4 for the fees collected at the Ministry of the Interior under the Stamp Duty Act.
- (14) The address registration shall be made by the passport offices of the Ministry of Interior at the place of stay of the citizens.

(15) In the settlements where there are no passport offices the address registration as well as the maintaining of address registers for the temporarily staying citizens shall be carried out by the officials at the municipalities (districts) or mayoralties appointed by the respective mayors in coordination with the territorial divisions of the Ministry of Interior.

(16) For the purpose of address registration every citizen shall present:

1. identity document;
2. address cards;
3. conscription record, if the person is subject to conscription, when changing one's address for longer than 3 months, accordingly certified for the new place of residence.

(17) Construction, mining, forestry and geological workers as well as cadets when changing their address for a period of less than one year need not present conscription records.

(18) When making the address registration the official shall stamp the passport of the citizen with the appropriate stamp ("Entered" or "Written out") except in the cases when the address is changed for less than a month.

(19) When changing one's address every Bulgarian citizen holding an identity document shall be obliged to complete his/her address registration within 30 days of arrival.

(20) When changing one's address registration, depending on the length of stay, the citizen shall complete and current address cards in the following manner:

1. one copy - for address registration from one to six months in the district of residence;
2. two copies - for address registration from one to six months out of the district of residence;
3. three copies - for address registration from one to six months for the district where she/he is not a resident but has address registration in a settlement of another district where he had not been resident either.

(21) In all cases when address registration is made for a period over six months, one extra address card shall be completed in order to be referred to the respective municipality or mayoralty at the place of residence for updating ESGRAON data in the demographic statistics.

(22) Citizens using their own residential area (villa, house, etc.) for more than 30 days outside the territory of the settlement of their residence shall be obliged to make an address registration.

§ 13. (1) Until 31 March 2001, for crossing the state border of the Republic of Bulgaria and staying abroad the following kinds of passports shall be issued:

1. regular foreign passport for persons travelling abroad or permanently residing abroad, with validity of five years;
2. diplomatic passport for persons according a Council of Ministers ordinance and for the members of their families, with validity of five years;
3. sailor's passport.

(2) The foreign passport shall be valid for all countries.

(3) The foreign passport shall be returned after expiration of its validity, in the event of the passport holder's death and in the case of termination or withdrawal of Bulgarian citizenship.

(4) Foreign passports and substituting documents thereof shall be issued by:

1. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs - diplomatic passports to persons according to a Council of Ministers ordinance;
2. the Ministry of Interior - regular foreign passports, official passes and travel permits for permanently leaving the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. the diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria shall issue permits for return to the country to Bulgarian citizens who do not have a foreign passport.

(5) The diplomatic and consular representations of the Republic of Bulgaria may extend the validity of a foreign passport for a term of six months after coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(6) A foreign passport shall be issued upon application to the Ministry of Interior authorities at the place of living against presenting an identity document.

(7) The application under Paragraph 6 shall have attached:

1. 3 x 4 cm photo made during the last two years, left semi-full face - 3 copies;
2. a receipt for paid passport fee;
3. birth certificate if the person is under 18 years of age.

(8) For re-issuing and substitution of a passport, besides the documents under Paragraphs 6 and 7 the following shall also be presented:

1. in the case of changing one's personal data, damaged passport and elapsed term of validity - the old passport;
2. in the case of destroyed, lost or taken passport - evidence and declaration about the circumstances entailing the destruction, theft, loss or taking away;
3. in the cases when the person has returned the country with a permit, the person shall have a new passport issued upon the arrival, through official channels at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of the application on the basis of which the permit has been issued.

(9) For issuance of a foreign passport to a Bulgarian citizen residing permanently abroad as well as for substitution of the passport due to destruction, damage, loss or change of personal data, the person concerned shall present the documents under Paragraphs 6 and 7 and under Paragraph 8, items 1 and 2 at the appropriate diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(10) The diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria shall send within one month a copy of the documents under the foregoing Paragraphs to the Directorate of the National Police at the Ministry of Interior for issuance of the passport.

(11) The foreign passports of Bulgarian citizens residing permanently abroad may also be issued by the Ministry of Interior authorities at the settlement of entry in the population registers on the basis of the documents submitted by the persons.

(12) In the case of changes of the personal data of a foreign passport holder the latter shall be obliged to notify the authority that has issued the passport of the changes occurred.

(13) The passport may be substituted in case of damage, destruction or before the term of validity has elapsed. In the case of lost, damaged or taken passport, the citizen shall immediately notify the authority that has issued the passport, and if abroad - the diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria. The term of the foreign passport may be extended until the date of its validity.

(14) Anybody who finds a Bulgarian foreign passport shall be obliged to immediately hand it to the Ministry of Interior authorities.

(15) All damaged, stolen, lost or destroyed passports, as well as the passports of the persons whose citizenship has been withdrawn, shall be pronounced invalid by the authority that has issued them.

§ 14. (1) Until 31 December 1999, the identity certificate of foreigners staying in the Republic of Bulgaria shall be issued by the passport office of the Ministry of Interior at the place of residence.

(2) For issuance of an identity certificate the foreigner shall present:

1. an application according to a template approved by the Ministry of Interior;
2. valid document for travelling abroad;
3. three 3 x 4 cm photos;
4. note from the municipality or mayoralty, when the foreigner has been granted permanent stay in the Republic of Bulgaria;
5. birth document, when the foreigner does not have a document for traveling abroad;
6. a certificate from the Ministry of Justice and Legal Eurointegration in the case of disputed cases of citizenship.

(3) Besides the data in the identity certificate, the following data shall be stamped according to the templates established by the Ministry of Interior:

1. address registration and permits to reside in a border zone, as well as obligations for maintenance of persons ordered by the court - from the Ministry of Interior authorities;
2. family status, data of the foreigner's children up to 16 years of age or of the persons put under his/her guardianship or trusteeship - from the civil status officials at the municipal councils or mayoralties;

3. the granting, stopping or termination of pensions - from the officials at the pension insurance services.

(4) In the case of changed civil status, as well as when entering or leaving an employment the officials shall record the changes in the identity certificate within 7 days.

(5) The number and data of issuance of the identity certificate, as well as the type of permitted stay, shall be stamped in the foreigner's document for traveling abroad by the passport office of the Ministry of Interior.

(6) The identity certificate shall be substituted:

1. in the case of changed name or citizenship, as well as for correction of the date of birth;
2. when the person with a long-term stay permit is granted permanent stay in the Republic of Bulgaria;
3. in the case of impossibility to enter new data;
4. when it is destroyed, damaged or lost.

(7) For substitution of the identity certificate the foreigner shall submit the documents under Paragraph 2.

(8) The identity certificate shall be returned to the passport office of the Ministry of Interior at the place of stay of the foreigner when the latter:

1. permanently leaves the territory of the country;
2. loses the right to stay in the country;
3. takes Bulgarian citizenship;
4. has deceased.

(9) The identity certificate may not be taken out of the territory of the Republic of Bulgaria.

(10) The extension of stay and the issuance of documents (cards) certifying the identity and official status of foreigners working in diplomatic, consular or commercial representations of international or intergovernmental organisations in the Republic of Bulgaria notified by the Ministry of Interior, as well as of the members of their families, shall be made by the "Unified state protocol" Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(11) A foreigner whose identity document or statistical card are lost shall be obliged immediately to notify the nearest passport office of the Ministry of Interior.

(12) At the request of the foreigner the latter shall be issued a certificate to the effect of having declared the loss of the identity document or the statistical card.

§ 15. Until 31 March 2002, when issuing a first personal identity card or passport under the rules of §16, the permanent address in the application for issuance of a personal identity document shall be indicated in the following way:

1. if the place of residence of the person coincides with the settlement of the person's address registration, the permanent address shall be indicated in the address registration;
2. if the place of residence of the person does not coincide with the settlement of the person's address registration, as permanent address shall be indicated the settlement of residence which the person shall supplement with an address for registration in this settlement.

§ 16. The issuance of first personal identity card or first passport to every citizen under the Bulgarian Identity Documents Act (except the cases under § 18, 19, 20 and 21) shall be made in the following way:

1. the citizen (or representative thereof) shall lodge an application for issuance of a personal identity document with the mayoralty (municipality, district) of his/her permanent address; the application shall enclose a birth certificate and other official documents verifying the personal data;
2. in the presence of the citizen (or representative thereof) the data from the application shall be compared with the data in the presented official documents; the citizen (or the representative thereof) shall be given a date, within 30 days of lodging of the application, for notification of the results of verification; the data from the application shall be verified with the data in the Personal Registration File, and if necessary, other official documents may be required from the citizen (or the representative thereof); the result of the verification shall be noted in the application;

3. the application, if lodged with the mayoralty, shall be officially sent to the municipality for verification with the municipal databases and with the civil status acts, if the latter are kept at that municipality (district); if a mismatch is found with the data from the application, corrections shall be made in the Databases and an updating note shall immediately be sent to the National Population Data Base; the result of the verification shall be noted in the application, which shall be officially certified by the municipal administration with inscription of "confirmed" or "not confirmed" data;
4. when the citizen (or representative thereof) appears at the mayoralty (municipality, district) to receive the result of the verification of the application:
- a) if there is "not confirmed data", the applicant shall be required to present additional documents for confirmation of the data;
 - b) if there is "confirmed data", the mayoralty shall notify the citizen that the application is officially referred to the respective Regional Police Department (RPD), where the citizen shall have to appear after 9 days;
5. upon receiving the application from the municipality (district), the regional police department, which is connected in a computerised network with the respective Directorate of the Interior, shall make an inquiry about administrative sanctions imposed on the citizen; if there are such, a written refusal to issue the required personal identity document shall be made; if there are no such sanctions, the personal data from the application shall be verified with the National Population Data Base, whereas:
- a) if there is a mismatch of these data, the regional police department shall officially notify the municipality which has referred the application of the corrections to be made of the data contained therein or in the National Population Data Base; when reporting at the Regional Police Department the citizen shall be informed about the delay of admission of the application until the appropriate corrections are made;
 - b) if the data match, they shall be introduced in the Automated Database of "Bulgarian Identity Documents"; the citizen shall report at the regional police department after the ninth day of referral of the application by the municipality and in the citizen's presence the application shall be registered, the citizen shall sign it and the photo shall be fixed thereto; a date shall then be fixed within 30 days of the registration of the application, after which the citizen shall receive his/her personal identity document;
6. when a Regional Police Department which is not connected in a computerised network with the respective Directorate of the Interior receives an application from the municipality (district), there shall be no check and verification under item 5; the citizen shall report at the Regional Police Department after the ninth day of referral by the municipality (district) of the application; in the citizen's presence the application shall be registered, the citizen shall sign it and the photo shall be fixed thereto; a date shall then be fixed within 30 days of the registration of the application after which the citizen shall receive his/her document and shall be informed about the checks made at the National Population Data Base and about the imposed administrative sanction, if any;
7. the registered application shall be sent by the Regional Police Department to the respective Directorate of Interior, where:
- a) following checks at the Regional Police Department no data are found about imposed administrative sanctions and the data from the application matches these from the National Population Data Base, the required personal identity document shall be made personal;
 - b) if the application has been received without checks at the Regional Police Department for imposed administrative sanctions and at the National Population Data Base, these checks shall be made at the respective Directorate of Interior; if no such sanctions are found and the data from the application match with these of the National Population Data Base, the requested personal identity document shall be made personal; if such sanctions are found, a written refusal shall be made for issuance of the requested identity document; in the case of mismatch of the data from the application with these of the National Population Data Base, the application shall be returned to the

respective Regional Police Department for official notification and corrections to be made at the municipality (district) that has referred it;

8. the citizen shall report at the regional police department after the fixed date to receive the personal identity document; if there is a written refusal, it shall be handed over to the citizen; if the data from the application do not match those in the National Population Data Base, the citizen shall also be notified of the postponement of issuance of the personal identity document pending the making of appropriate corrections by the municipality (district).

§ 17. An application for issuance of every subsequent personal identity document in the sense of §16 and of a driving license shall be lodged with the authorities of one's permanent address in the following manner:

1. at the Regional Police Department - if the application is for issuance of a personal identity document within 30 days;
2. at the units for issuance of personal identity documents at Sofia City or at the respective Regional Directorate of Interior if the application is for express or fast issuance of a personal identity document, within the terms specified by the Council of Ministers;
3. at the "Traffic police" unit at Sofia City or at the respective Regional Directorate of Interior - for issuance of a driving license;
4. the personal identity document shall be received at the place of lodging of the application.

§ 18. The Bulgarian citizens residing abroad shall lodge an application for issuance of a passport at the respective diplomatic or consular representation of the Republic of Bulgaria, which shall forward it through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Directorate of the National Police at the Ministry of Interior. These applications shall be referred officially to the respective municipality (district) at the applicant's permanent address for verification of the data therein when issuing of a first passport, and for every subsequent one - if necessary.

§ 19. The applications for issuance of a diplomatic passport shall be lodged with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where the application data shall be verified with the data from the ESGRAON Databases and shall be officially certified for "confirmed data". The personal passport shall be received at the place of lodging of the application.

§ 20. The applications for issuance of a sailor's passport shall be lodged with the Ministry of Transport, where the application data shall be verified with the data from the ESGRAON Databases and shall be officially certified for "confirmed data". The personal passport shall be received at the place of lodging of the application.

§ 21. The applications for issuance of personal identity documents to foreigners and refugees shall be lodged with the Directorate of the National Police at Sofia City or at the Regional Directorates of Interior under the rules approved by the Council of Ministers. The personal identity document shall be received at the place of lodging of the application.

§ 22. Paragraphs 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 18, 19, 20 and 21 of the transitional and final provisions of this Act shall be effective as of 1 April 1999;

b) the previous § 12 shall become § 23.

§ 6. The provisions of Article 89 - 99 incl. under Section I and Section II of Chapter Four "Address Registration", as well as of § 2, item 1 (repealing Article 7 of the Persons and Family Act) shall be effective as of 1 January 2000.

§ 6a. (New, SG No. 37/2001) For citizens who have not declared permanent address under the rules of Article 95, the address registration indicated in the personal (green) passport shall be considered permanent address.

§ 7. (Amended, SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013, SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014) The enforcement of this Act shall be assigned to the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Lev Re-denomination Act
(Promulgated, State Gazette No. 20/1999,
amended, SG No. 65/1999, effective 5.07.1999)

.....

§ 4. (1) (Amended, SG No. 65/1999) Upon the entry of this Act into force, all figures expressed in old lev terms as indicated in the laws which will have entered into force prior to the 5th day of July 1999 shall be replaced by figures expressed in new lev terms, reduced by a factor of 1,000. The replacement of all figures expressed in old lev terms, reduced by a factor of 1,000, shall furthermore apply to all laws passed prior to the 5th day of July 1999 which have entered or will enter into force after the 5th day of July 1999.

(2) The authorities, which have adopted or issued any acts of subordinate legislation which will have entered into force prior to the 5th day of July 1999 and which contain figures expressed in lev terms, shall amend the said acts to bring them in conformity with this Act so that the amendments apply as from the date of entry of this Act into force.

.....

§ 7. This Act shall enter into force on the 5th day of July 1999.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Health Act
(SG No. 70/2004, effective 1.01.2005)

.....

§ 10. Everywhere in the Civil Registration Act (promulgated, SG No. 67/1999; amended, SG Nos. 28 and 37/2001, 54/2002, 63/2003), the words "healthcare establishment", "The healthcare establishment" and "specialised healthcare establishments" shall be replaced by the words "medical establishment", "the medical establishment" and "medical establishments" respectively.

.....

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

of the Administrative Procedure Code
(SG No. 30/2006, effective 12.07.2006)

.....

§ 38. Everywhere in the Civil Registration Act (promulgated, State Gazette No. 67/1999, amended and supplemented, SG No. 28/2001, supplemented, SG No. 37/2001, amended and supplemented, SG No. 54/2002, supplemented, SG No. 63/2003, amended, SG No. 70/2004, amended and supplemented, SG No. 96/2004) the words "the Administrative Procedure Act" shall be replaced by "the Administrative Procedure Code".

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act Amending and Supplementing the Civil Registration Act
(SG No. 39/2011, effective 20.05.2011)

§ 74. Personal Registration Files issued on hard copy shall be used for reference and shall be stored at the municipality/mayorality/district for a period of 130 years from the date of their creation and after that shall be delivered to the State archive.

§ 75. (1) Within five years from entry into force of this Act mayoralties and settlements which are not administrative centre of the mayorality and in which there are no technical means for transition to an electronic population register may maintain:

1. a register of Bulgarian citizens, comprising all personal registration files of live Bulgarian citizens with permanent address in that mayorality;

2. a register of foreigners, comprising all personal registration files of live persons under Article 3, paragraph 2, Item 2 with permanent address at the mayoralty;
 3. a register of decedents, comprising all personal registration files of Bulgarian citizens and persons under Article 3, paragraph 2, item 2 with entered data about death;
 4. an archive register, comprising all personal registration files of the persons whose permanent address is no longer at that municipality and of the persons released from Bulgarian citizenship.
- (2) Data in the personal registration file shall be entered and maintained based on the required relevant documents or based on an excerpt from the entry of the person in the National Population Database.

§ 76. An electronic personal registration file may be created of a decedent based on an existing personal registration file in the municipality /mayoralty, and for those of them who do not have such file, the administrative service by the municipalities shall be based on the existing population registers.

§ 77. (1) The registers of civil status acts issued prior to 1999 at mayoralties shall be delivered for storage to the administrative centre of the municipality within one year from entry into force of this Act.

(2) Within five years from entry into force of this Act municipal administrations shall build a National Electronic Register of Civil Status Acts and shall create electronic versions of the acts issued under Article 41.

§ 78. (1) The persons who have changed their current address from one settlement into another in the period from 1 September 2010 to 31 January 2011, within two months from entry into force of this Act, shall submit to the municipal administration according to the new current address the required documents under Article 92, Paragraphs 2 and 3 for the purposes of address registration.

(2) In regard to the persons who have failed to meet their obligation under Paragraph 1 within the term set, the municipal administration according to the new current address shall send, within 7 days from expiry of the term under Paragraph 1, summary information of General Directorate "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" to the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works for automatic deregistration of the current address from the population register.

(3) The current address of such persons shall be the current address that they had before 1 September 2010 of which the General Directorate "Civil Registration and Administrative Services" to the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works shall notify the municipality of the current address.

§ 79. The Ordinances under Article 24, Paragraph 2 and Article 113, Paragraph 1 shall be issued within one year from entry into force of this Act.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act on Amendment and Supplement of Spatial Development Act
(SG No. 66/2013, effective 26.07.2013)

.....

§ 65. In the Civil Registration Act (promulgated, SG No. 67/1999, amended, SG No. 28 and 37/2001, SG No. 54/2002, SG No. 63/2003, SG No. 70 and 96/2004, SG No. 30/2006, SG No. 48 and 59/2007, SG No. 105/2008, SG No. 6, 19, 47, 74 and 82/2009, SG No. 33/2010, SG No. 9 and 39/2011, SG No. 42/2012), the words "Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works" and "Minister of Regional Development and Public Works" is replaced by "Ministry of Regional Development" and "Minister of Regional Development".

.....

TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

to the Act to Amend and Supplement the Spatial Development Act



(SG No. 98/2014, effective 28.11.2014)

.....
§ 65. In the Civil Registration Act (promulgated, SG No. 67/1999, amended, Nos 28 and 37 of 2001, No. 54/2002, No. 63/2003, Nos. 70 and 96 of 2004, No. 30 of 2006, Nos. 48 and 59 of 2007, No. 105/2008, Nos. 6, 19, 47, 74 and 82 of 2009, No. 33/2010, Nos. 9 and 39 of 2011, No. 42/2012, Nos. 66 and 68 of 2013, No. 53 of 2014) everywhere in the text the words "the Minister of Regional Development" and "the Ministry of Regional Development" shall be replaced by "the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works" and "the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works", respectively.
.....

TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUDING PROVISIONS

to the Act to Amend and Supplement the Civil Registration Act
(SG No. 55/2015, effective 21.07.2015)

§ 15. Pending proceedings on submitted applications for address registration for permanent or current address or for change of address shall be completed under the procedure herein.

§ 16. (1) Within three days after the entry into force of this Act the mayors of municipalities or districts shall issue an order for appointing a commission which shall carry out an inspection on the compliance with the requirements of Article 92 or Article 99a of the address registrations and changes of address performed in the period 1 July 2014 – 30 April 2015. The members of the commission shall include officials of the respective municipal administration, representatives of the respective regional administration, of the territorial structural units of the Ministry of Interior and of Civil Registration and Administrative Services Directorate General of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works. In case a mayor fails to issue the order within the deadline in the preceding sentence it shall be issued by the regional governor.

(2) The term for carrying out the inspections shall be one month from the entry into force of this Act. A record shall be drawn up on the results of the inspection, which shall be made public.

(3) Within three days after the completion of the inspection on the basis of the record referred to in Paragraph 2 the mayor of the municipality shall issue an order for deletion of address registrations, for which it has been established that they have been done in violation of Article 92 or Article 99a, and shall send summary information through the respective territorial unit of the Civil Registration and Administrative Services Directorate General of the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works for their automatic deletion from the register of the population.

(4) A person whose address registration at a permanent address has been deleted shall be obliged to change his/her identity documents within one month after having been notified thereof.

§ 17. The names of deceased Bulgarian citizens which have been forcibly changed and have not been restored under the procedure of § 1b may be restored under the procedure of Article 19a, Paragraph 2. The application in this case shall be submitted by a descendant of the deceased person. In case of disagreement between the descendants of the deceased person the dispute shall be resolved by the district court.
.....

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Social Services Act
(SG No. 24/2019, effective 1.07.2020 - amended, SG No. 101/2019)

.....
§ 41. (1) The provisions of the Health Act, the Health Insurance Act, the Employment Promotion Act, the Legal Aid Act, the Local Taxes and Fees Act, the Veterinary Practices Act, the Bulgarian Personal Documents Act, the Civil Registration Act and the Environmental Protection Act that are

applicable to social and integrated health and social services for residential care, to the heads of such services and to the persons who use such services shall apply mutatis mutandis to the homes for children deprived of parental care, their heads and the persons placed in them until said homes are closed down.

(2) The provisions of the Health Act, the Health Insurance Act, the Legal Aid Act, the Employment Promotion Act, the Veterinary Practices Act, the Environmental Protection Act, the War Invalids and Victims Act, the Persons with Disabilities Act and the Local Taxes and Fees act that are applicable to the social and integrated health and social services for residential care and to the persons who use such services shall apply mutatis mutandis to the homes for adults with mental retardation, homes for adults with mental disorders, homes for adults with physical disabilities, homes for adults with sensory disorders and homes for adults with dementia and to the persons placed in them until said homes are closed down.

(3) Until the homes for medical and social care for children are closed down, Article 124(2) of the Health Act shall apply to the children placed in said homes.

(4) Until the homes for children deprived of parental care and the homes for medical and social care for children are closed down, Article 8e(6) of the Family Allowances for Children Act, Article 22c(2)(3) and Article 22d(2)(3) of the Income Taxes on Natural Persons Act shall apply when children are placed in said homes.

(5) The provisions of the Income Taxes on Natural Persons Act and the Corporate Income Tax Act that are applicable to donations to the benefit of social and integrated health and social services for residential care shall apply mutatis mutandis to the donations to homes for children deprived of parental care, homes for adults with mental retardation, homes for adults with mental disorders, homes for adults with physical disabilities, homes for adults with sensory disorders and homes for adults with dementia until said homes are closed down.

.....
§ 45. (Amended, SG No. 101/2019) This Act shall enter into force on 1 July 2020 with the exception of:

1. Paragraph 6, subparagraph 5(a), Paragraph 7, subparagraph 2(a) and (b), subparagraph 3, subparagraph 6(a), subparagraph 9 and subparagraph 10, Paragraph 18(2) in the part concerning the "homes for medical and social care for children in accordance with the Medical Treatment Facilities Act" and Paragraph 20, subparagraph 2 in the part concerning the deleting of the test "and the homes for medical and social care for children" and subparagraph 5(c), which shall enter into force on 1 January 2021;

2. Paragraph 3(4)(f), (g) and (h) and Paragraph 28, subparagraph 1(a) and subparagraphs 2 and 5, which shall enter into force on 1 January 2019;

3. Article 22(4), Article 40, Article 109(1), Article 124, Article 161(2), Paragraphs 3(6), 30, 36, 37 and 43, which shall enter into force as from the day of promulgation of this Act in the State Gazette.

FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act to Amend and Supplement the Electronic Government Act
(SG No. 80/2023, effective 19.09.2023)

.....
§ 39. Within 6 months of the entry into force of this Act, the administrative authorities shall bring the administrative services application forms into conformity with Article 29 (2) of the Code of Administrative Procedure.

§ 40. The administrative authorities shall bring the registers kept by them into conformity with this Act no later than 31 March 2025 according to a schedule adopted by a decree of the Council of Ministers by 31 October 2023.

§ 41. Within a six month time limit from the entry into force of this act, the Council of Ministers shall bring the ordinance under Article 12(4) in accordance with it.

.....

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act Amending and Supplementing the Civil Registration Act
(SG No. 85/2024, effective 8.10.2024)

.....

§ 12. Persons who, at the time of the entry into force of this Act, do not have a valid Bulgarian identity document due to lack of a permanent address, may request a change of their permanent address by identifying themselves with an expired Bulgarian identity document or in accordance with the Ministry of the Interior Act.

§ 13. Within one month from the entry into force of this Act, the authorities referred to in Article 92, paragraph 1 shall designate a service address in the territory of the municipality for the purpose of address registration.

§ 14. Within two months from the entry into force of this Act, the General Directorate of Civil Registration and Administrative Services in the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works shall send to the authorities under Article 92, paragraph 1 a list of living citizens whose permanent address has been deleted or whose permanent address has been closed from the National Classifier of Current and Permanent Addresses. The authorities referred to in Article 92, paragraph 1 shall register the persons referred to in the first sentence at a service address within 6 months of receipt of the list. Persons shall be included in the list of the municipality according to their deleted permanent address.

§ 15. This Act shall come into force on the day of promulgation thereof in the State Gazette, with the exception of:

1. Paragraph 3, which shall enter into force two months after the promulgation of the Act in the "State Gazette";
2. Paragraph 4 which shall become effective six months after the promulgation of the Act in the "State Gazette".