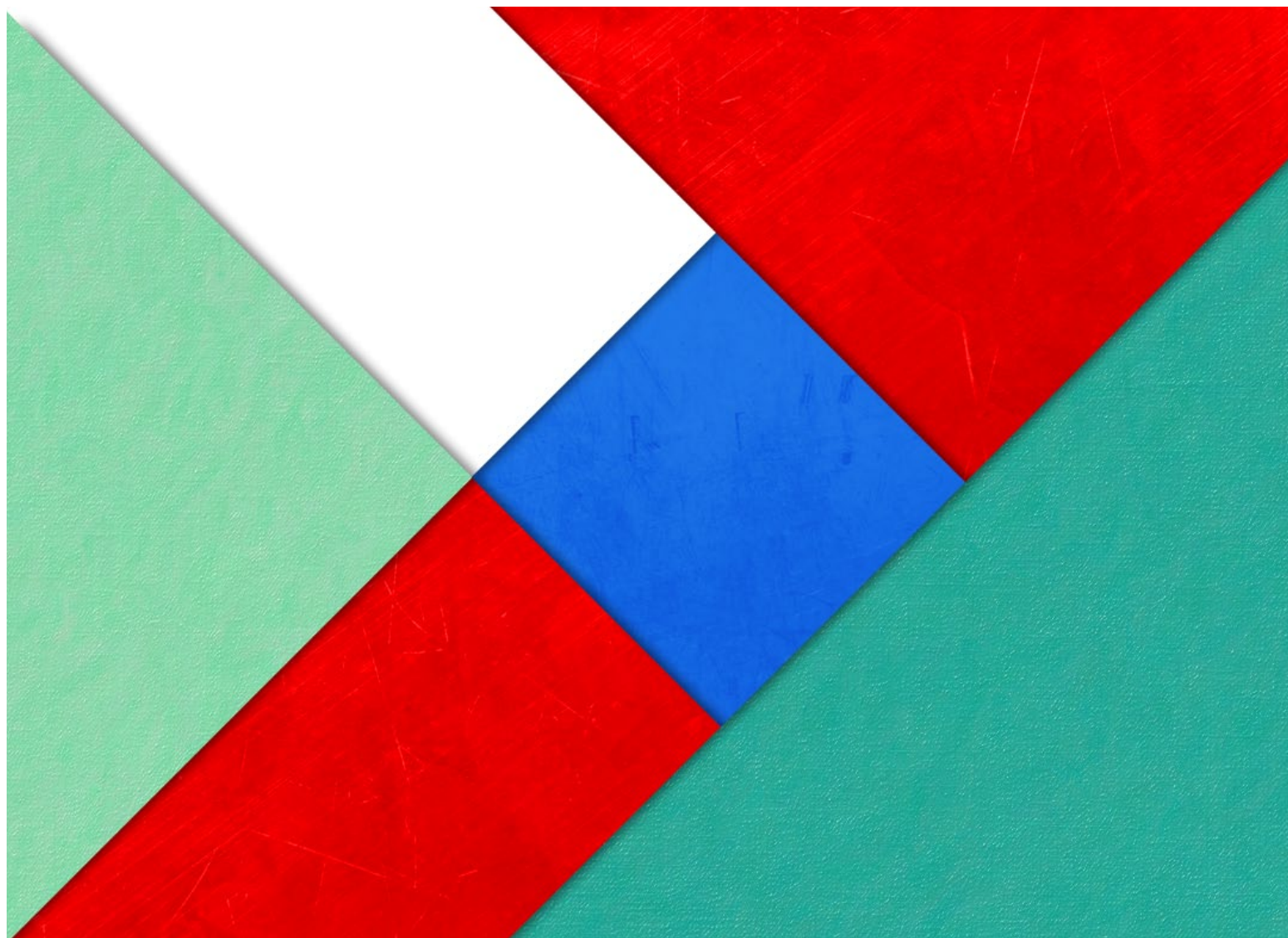


Newsletter

December **2021**



■ **NEW LAW "ON FOREIGNERS"**

Elda Llambi

NEW LAW "ON FOREIGNERS"

The Law no. 79/2021 "On foreigners" (hereinafter, the "Law"), which abrogated the previous Law with no. 108/2013 "On foreigners", as amended. The Law was published with the Official Gazette no. 162, on 18.10.2021 and has entered into force on 02.11.2021.



This new Law aims the continuous improvement of the legislative framework of [migration](#), by further improving the necessary mechanisms for the issuance of electronic visas on-line, legal provisions regarding the readmission of foreigners, improvement of the rights of foreigners in terms of protection of migrants and their family members, refugees, asylum seekers, and also ensures access to integration programs and services for foreigners.



Elda Llambi

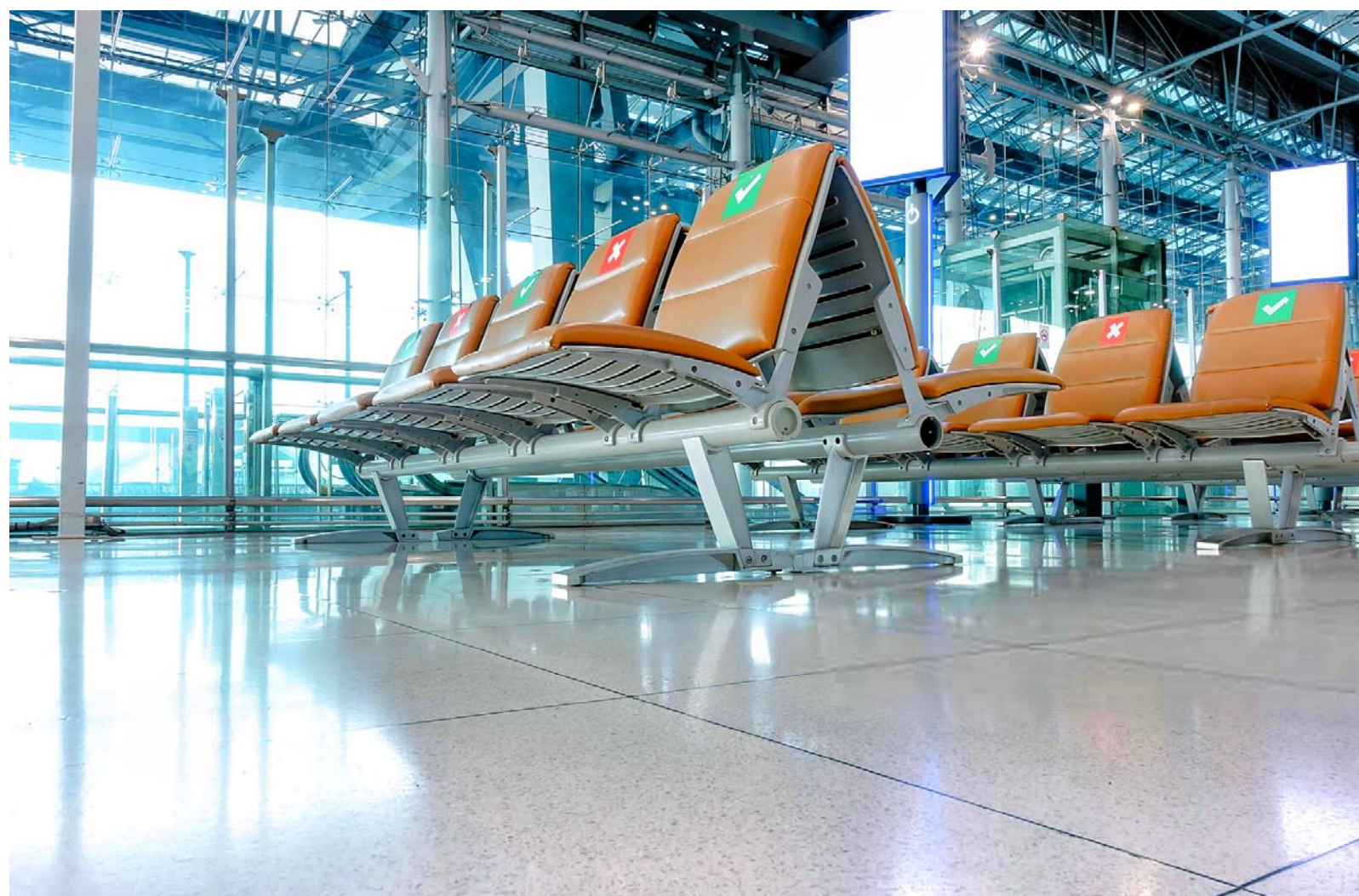
In comparison with the previous legislation, the Law represents the novelties as follows:

A Granting a 5-year residence permit for the following citizens:

In addition to the citizens of the United States of America, citizens of the member states of the European Union and the Republic of Kosovo, when applying for the first time and meet the general criteria set out in the Law, receive also a residence permit for a period of 5 (five) years.

B Unique permit

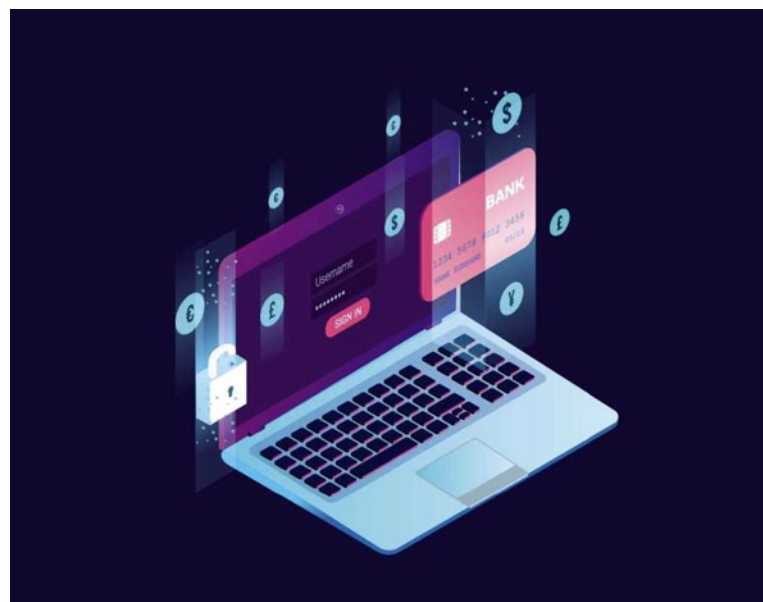
The Law provides for a single application procedure for a single permit for foreigners, who intend to work and stay in the territory of the Republic of Albania. The unique permits are issued for different reasons/motives, i.e., for work purposes, assignments, vocational training, voluntary services, or for investment purposes, etc. The criteria for granting a unique permit are different, depending on the motives, for which the permit will be issued.



Elda Llambi

C New categories of foreigners that may be provided with Residence Permits Albania introduced by the new law:

- **Foreigner owners of immovable property located in the Republic of Albania**, who prove the ownership for such immovable property
- **Digitally mobile employees**, who are foreign nationals, who do not work in a fixed location and they have as main means of work tools of information technology. The residence permit is granted with a term of up to 1 (one) year, for the first time;



Au pairs, which guarantees foreigners aged 18-30 years old, who are temporarily hosted by a family, may be provided with a residence permit for a maximum period of 1 (one) year;

- **Foreigners who are searching for jobs or entrepreneurship for researchers and students**, are granted with a Residence Permit for foreign researchers and students to stay, at least 9 months, after completing their studies or research, in order to look for work, or to [start a business](#) in the territory of the Republic of Albania;
- **Retirees**, foreign nationals who are retired in their home country, may apply and obtain a [residence permit](#) for retirees in Albania, if they prefer our country as a destination to live. The Residence Permit at first is issued with a term of 1 year and then it is renewable every year;

In the meantime, please note more details regarding documents, procedures and further details and instructions regarding the above will be introduced by the sub-legal acts which according to the new Law are expected to be introduced and approved by the Council of Ministers and the relevant responsible ministry within the next 3 to 6 months period ■



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December 2021





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