



Civil Status

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***All civil matters occurred abroad must be transcribed to the Swiss civil register.
Please pay attention to the following:***

Vietnamese civil status documents

Please submit the **ORIGINAL** document.

A civil status document is **only valid for six months from the date of issue**.

Please procure the following before handing the document over to the Consulate General of Switzerland in Ho Chi Minh City:

1. **Legalization** on the original document by the Consular Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City *
2. **Translation** in one of the **Swiss national languages** by the competent **Justice Office** of the People's Committee which issued the original document.

* see address list "Nützliche Adressen Hanoi HCMC", available as download on the website of the Consulate General.

Vietnamese authorities issuing civil status documents*

- **Extract of the birth register:** the People's Committee of the place where the birth was registered or of the place where the person concerned has permanent residence
- **Attestation of civil status:** the People's Committee of the place where the person concerned has permanent residence
- **Attestation of residence:** the Police office or People's Committee of the place where the person concerned has permanent residence (*family book not accepted*)
- **Recognition of paternity:** the People's Committee of the city or province where the person concerned (father and/or mother of the child) has permanent residence
- **Extract of the marriage register:** the People's Committee of the city or province where the marriage took place
- **Divorce certificate:** the Court that decided the divorce
- **Death certificate:** the People's Committee of the place where the person concerned died; Department of Justice of the city/province of the last place of residence if not Vietnamese citizen.

*see address list "Nützliche Adressen Hanoi HCMC", available as download on the website of the Consulate General.

Birth registration

Both parents are Swiss citizens

OR

the marriage between a foreign parent and a Swiss parent has already been transcribed to the Swiss civil register:

- Extract of the birth register

Additional documents are required if

the marriage between a foreign parent and a Swiss parent has not yet been transcribed to the Swiss civil register

OR

the child's parents were not married to each other at the time of the child's birth:

a) documents to be provided by the foreign parent:

- Extract of the birth register
- Attestation of civil status
- Additional documents: Divorce certificate if the person is divorced / Death certificate if the person is widowed
- Attestation of residence (family book not accepted)
- Copy of the valid foreign passport

b) documents to be provided by the child's father:

- Recognition of paternity

Preparation of marriage in Vietnam

Please contact the competent Vietnamese authority for further information.

Registration in Switzerland of marriage in Vietnam

A **marriage taken place in Vietnam** is recognised in Switzerland as long as there are no legal impediments to the marriage under Swiss law.

Please submit the following documents after the marriage has taken place:

- Extract of the marriage register

Documents to be provided by the foreign spouse:

- Extract of the birth register
- Attestation of civil status **BEFORE** the marriage*
- Additional documents: Divorce certificate if the person is divorced / Death certificate if the person is widowed
- Attestation of residence (family book not accepted)
- Copy of the valid foreign passport

* Please note that the attestation of civil status can only be issued **BEFORE** the marriage, therefore we recommend you to apply, together with the original document, which you need for the marriage procedure in Vietnam, also for several legalized copies as this document is absolutely necessary to register your marriage in Switzerland.

Documents to be provided by the Swiss spouse:

- Copy of the "Certificate of Civil Status for Swiss nationals" (issued by the Civil Registry of either the person's commune of origin or commune of permanent residence)
- Attestation of residence
- Copy of valid Swiss passport

Name after marriage:

According to Vietnamese law both spouses keep their respective names after marriage.

Preparation of marriage in Switzerland

Please refer to the information leaflet available as download on the website of the Consulate General.

Divorce registration

- Certificate of divorce

Name after divorce:

A Swiss citizen may take up the name used before marriage. Please enquire at the Consulate General for further information.

Death registration

- Death certificate

The Swiss identity documents of the deceased person (passport and identity card) must be handed over *immediately* to the Consulate General of Switzerland for cancellation.