

#### Kan-Tor & Acco

Global Corporate Immigration Law

## Introduction

- Israel was founded as a homeland for the Jewish people. As such, the general legislation provides only Jews with the right to immigrate and settle permanently.
- On the other hand, Israel, being an active player in the global economy, as well as a member of the OECD, strives to encourage HNWIs and foreign investments
- This policy is also reflected in a new visa category recently approved by the Israeli parliament.





Kan-Tor & Acco Global Corporate Immigration Law Roberta and Paul are exceptionally wealthy. What immigration categories (e.g. investor type programs) might apply to HNWIs such as Roberta and Paul?

- Up to recently no visa category for investors in Israel.
- Newly approved by the Israeli Parliament (8/2014) B-5 visa for American investors (full regulations not published yet\*).
- Other visa categories: B-1 visa for experts
- Unique immigration options for Jewish Individuals.

\*Please be advised that the information included on the B-5 is based on information released to the public to date (8/14) and is subject to change.



## The B-5 Visa

- The visa will enable American investors to be admitted to Israel based on an investment s/he will be controlling while in Israel.
- Part of an Israel-U.S. reciprocal arrangement
- Regulations will parallel the US regulations for E-2 visa.
- Substantial investment in a local company in Israel (leading to growth in the Israeli economy and creating new employment positions)
- The visa will also be given to highly qualified employees within the company (US nationals only) and to their dependents (of any nationality).
- The visa will be extended without limit, while investment is active.



# Roberta and Paul are exceptionally wealthy. What immigration categories might apply to HNWIs such as Roberta and Paul?

- If either Roberta or Paul was a US national they would be eligible to apply for a B-5 visa, based on an investment in an Israeli company. In this case both would be allowed to work in IL.
- For other nationals- Roberta can apply for a B-1 visa as an expert. Paul can obtain a dependent visa, working will not be allowed. In case Paul is also qualified, he can apply for an expert visa separately.
- Other options for Jewish individuals.



# Are there any long term requirements that the family should be aware of in order to maintain their immigration status in your country?

- The B-5 visa- for American national Investors- will be extended without limit, while investment is active.
- The B-1 Visa given to experts can be extended up to 63 months only.



# Will any of the members of the family be able to acquire citizenship?

- Both of the visas mentioned (B-1/B-5) are not intended to grant permanent residency or citizenship.
- In general, only Jewish individuals (and their relatives) can obtain residency or citizenship in Israel.



# A glance into the future

- The bilateral agreement between Israel and the US is the first of its type in Israel.
- This agreement is considered a breakthrough and is an opening for future agreements, which would enable other nationals to stay in Israel under investor visas.
- Agreements with EU countries are expected in the near future.







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