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**Report of the International Task Team on HIV-related Travel  
Restrictions**

**Mapping of restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of people  
living with HIV**



# Mapping of restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV

This document was commissioned by the  
International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions.  
For information about the Task Team and to access its report,  
see [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org).

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This document which maps restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV was commissioned by the International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions. It is the product of collaborative work between the German AIDS Federation, the European AIDS Treatment Group and the International AIDS Society. Earlier versions were presented to the Task Team at its Second and Third Meetings (Geneva, 31 March - 2 April 2008; Madrid, 24-26 June 2008) at which time the Task Team provided input and comments.

On 7 July 2008, through the Chair of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board, countries were provided an opportunity to validate the information contained herein; a second call to validate the information was made on 13 November 2008. However, the information has not otherwise been independently verified and its accuracy is not warranted. Any corrections to the information presented in this paper are most welcome and can be sent to [info@hivtravel.org](mailto:info@hivtravel.org).

This paper does not necessarily represent the views of all members of the Task Team nor the stated positions, decisions or policies of the UNAIDS Secretariat or any of the UNAIDS Cosponsors.

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## Introduction

1. Restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of HIV-positive people have been implemented by States since the beginning of the HIV epidemic. For those governments that have such restrictions, they represent the governments' attempts to prevent the spread of HIV and to avoid possible costs of treatment and care related to HIV. Over time, such restrictions have come to be referred in shorthand as "HIV-related travel restrictions", even though they are applied to the full range of mobility, entry and stay involving: short-term travel and stay (e.g. tourism, family visits, business trips, attending conferences) and long-term residence (e.g. immigration, labour migration, study, refugee asylum and resettlement, family reunification, consular and international postings). In this document, such restrictions are referred to as "HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence".
2. Some 106 countries, territories and areas do *not* have HIV specific restrictions on entry, residence and stay based on positive HIV status. Some 60 countries, territories and areas do have such restrictions.<sup>1</sup>
3. There is growing international momentum to rescind HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence given the recognition by public health and human rights experts that there is no public health rationale for them; HIV-specific restrictions on entry, stay or residence are discriminatory; and such restrictions could well impede effective HIV responses, including fuelling national and international stigma against people living with HIV.<sup>2</sup>
4. In order to refocus attention on HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence and hasten their elimination, UNAIDS established the *International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions* (Task Team) in January 2008. The Task Team was comprised of governments, inter-governmental organizations and civil society, including networks of people living with HIV. Co-chaired by UNAIDS and the Government of Norway, its role was to call for and support efforts toward the removal of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence. The principles of non-discrimination and the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV provided the context in which its efforts were set.
5. In its work, the Task Team considered HIV-specific restrictions on entry, stay and residence that are based on HIV-positive status alone. Such restrictions are complex and differ widely in their form, content and application from country to country. In its *Report*

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<sup>1</sup> Figures from the *Global Database on HIV-related Travel Restrictions* (see [www.hivtravel.org](http://www.hivtravel.org)) and the validation exercise described in this paper.

<sup>2</sup> See the *Report of the International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions: Findings and Recommendations*, available at [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org).

the Task Team described the difficulties in obtaining comprehensive information on the existence and impact of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence. It also found that too few people were aware of the nature, extent and impact of such restrictions.<sup>3</sup>

6. In light of these concerns, the Task Team worked to support the production of a document *based on existing information* that would help to “map” HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence in countries, territories and other areas, i.e. better explain which countries<sup>4</sup> have them, what forms they take, and how they are implemented. This document is the result.<sup>5</sup> Its contents are largely based on the information found in the *Global Database on HIV-related Travel Restrictions (Global Database)*.<sup>6</sup> Because that data had not been independently confirmed, the Task Team Co-chairs, through the UNAIDS Secretariat and the Bureau of the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB), requested that all governments have the opportunity to review this document in draft form. Towards this end, on 7 July 2008, the PCB Chair sent out to all Permanent Missions of the United Nations’ Member States a request that they validate the information in the draft document. A second call to validate the information was sent on 13 November 2008. Relevant information contained in the responses received has subsequently been incorporated into this document.
7. This document attempts to synthesize available information and highlight key characteristics of various types of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence. It does not seek to be comprehensive in setting forth the complexities and extent of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence, but rather to give a “snap shot” that indicates the scope and variety of such restrictions. It is hoped that it will inform policy-makers and advocates and help them to establish key messages, priorities and strategies for the removal of such restrictions.

#### **Types of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence considered in this document**

8. Firstly, this paper considers only countries with *HIV-specific* restrictions on entry, stay and residence, that is, where the law or regulation of the country *explicitly* refers to HIV or AIDS. Some countries might have laws that refer to “contagious” or “transmissible” diseases. If they explicitly include HIV in their definition of these diseases, such a law is considered here. The survey also found that in some countries the authorities apply general law or regulations to positive people in a way that negatively impacts their entry, stay and residence. However, countries that make no specific reference to HIV anywhere

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<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Any time the word “country” is used in this document it refers to *countries, territories and areas*.

<sup>5</sup> This paper was commissioned by the International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions and is the product of collaborative work between the German AIDS Federation, the European AIDS Treatment Group and the International AIDS Society.

<sup>6</sup> The *Global Database on HIV-related Travel Restrictions (Global Database)* is an initiative of the German AIDS Federation (DAH), the European AIDS Treatment Group (EATG) and the International AIDS Society. For details on the Global Database, see [www.hivtravel.org](http://www.hivtravel.org). The Global Database web site is maintained by the International AIDS Society, in collaboration with its partners DAH and EATG, and builds on efforts by the DAH, which since 1999 has sought information through questionnaires sent to all German embassies abroad and all foreign embassies in Germany, representing 196 countries. In response to a 2007/2008 questionnaire, replies were received from 130 countries. For the 66 countries where no responses were received, existing data from the original survey conducted in 1999, plus updates based on available information, were used. It is recognized that obtaining information on national laws and regulations through this means limits the scope and possibly the accuracy of the data. None of the information has been independently checked against the actual text of the laws and regulations in question nor has the data been the object of research in terms of the application and implementation of these regulations. Because of this, the authors of the paper cannot warrant its accuracy.

in the law or regulations, but in practice interpret these to apply to HIV, are not covered here.

9. Secondly, this document considers restrictions that appear to come into force due to *positive HIV status alone*. That is, it is the *HIV status* of the person that triggers the application of the regulation, not something else, such as the person's behaviour, general state of health or ability to support him or herself.
10. In this context, this paper maps the *countries, territories and areas*<sup>7</sup> that apply the following broad types of restrictions on entry, stay and residence for people living with HIV:
  - Countries, territories and areas that have some form of HIV-related restriction on entry, stay or residence
  - Countries, territories and areas that require declaration of HIV status for entry or stay, resulting, for HIV-positive people, in either a bar to entry/stay or the need for discretionary approval, including through granting waivers
  - Countries, territories and areas that deny applications for entry and for stays beginning as short as ten days up to 90 days<sup>8</sup>
  - Countries, territories and areas that deport foreigners based on HIV status alone
  - Countries, territories and areas that deny employment visas and/or work permits based on HIV status
  - Examples of countries, territories and areas that require HIV tests for entry or stay and/or regular or periodic tests to maintain residence permits
  - Examples of countries, territories and areas with practices that may impinge on confidentiality of HIV status
  - Examples of countries, territories and areas that apply HIV-related regulations to particular professions or forms of employment
  - Examples of countries, territories and areas that deny applications to study abroad by HIV-positive students
  - Examples of countries, territories and areas that apply HIV-related restrictions to those coming from regions with high HIV prevalence
  - Countries, territories and areas with contradictory information on HIV-related travel restrictions
  - Countries, territories and areas for which there is no information on HIV-related restrictions on entry, work or residence
  - Countries, territories and areas which have *no* HIV-related restrictions on entry, work or residence.

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<sup>7</sup> As noted above, any time the word "country" is used in this document it refers to *countries, territories and areas*.

<sup>8</sup> These have sometimes been referred as "short-term restrictions", a misleading term since these restrictions are actually applied to visa requests for very short stays and continue indefinitely.

**Countries, territories and areas that have some form of HIV-related restriction on entry, stay or residence**

11. It appears that 60 countries, territories and areas have some form of HIV-specific restriction on entry, stay and residence that is based on positive HIV status. These include those that completely ban entry of HIV-positive people for any reason or length of stay; and/or are applied to visa applications for very short stays (e.g. tourist visas); and/or are applied to visa applications for longer stays (visas for residency, immigration, labour migration, asylum or resettlement, study, international employment, and consular service):

1. Andorra	21. Iraq	41. Republic of Moldova
2. Armenia	22. Israel	42. Russian Federation
3. Aruba	23. Jordan	43. Samoa
4. Australia	24. Kuwait	44. Saudi Arabia
5. Bahrain	25. Lebanon	45. Singapore
6. Bangladesh	26. Lithuania	46. Slovakia
7. Belarus	27. Malaysia	47. Solomon Islands
8. Belize	28. Marshall Islands	48. Sudan
9. Brunei Darussalam	29. Mauritius	49. Syrian Arab Republic
10. China	30. Micronesia	50. Taiwan
11. Comoros	31. Mongolia	51. Tajikistan
12. Cuba	32. New Zealand	52. Tonga
13. Cyprus	33. Nicaragua	53. Tunisia
14. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	34. Oman	54. Turkmenistan
15. Dominican Republic	35. Panama	55. Turks and Caicos Islands
16. Ecuador	36. Papua New Guinea	56. Ukraine
17. Egypt	37. Paraguay	57. United Arab Emirates
18. Fiji	38. Poland	58. United States of America
19. Georgia	39. Qatar	59. Uzbekistan
20. Iran	40. Republic of Korea	60. Yemen



**Countries, territories and areas that require declaration of HIV status for entry or stay, resulting, for HIV-positive people, in either a bar to entry/stay or the need for discretionary approval, including through granting waivers**

12. It appears that the following 8 countries, territories and areas require declaration of HIV status for entry or for any length of stay and either bar HIV-positive people from entering or apply discretion concerning their entry:

**Brunei Darussalam, China, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen**

- **Brunei Darussalam:** People infected with HIV are not allowed to enter or remain in Brunei Darussalam.
- **China:** Information on HIV infection is required for visitors travelling to China. The visa application form has a section which contains questions on the health status of the traveller. Among these questions, the applicant has to declare their HIV status. The visa form explicitly mentions that none of the conditions included in the health section would automatically lead to the refusal of a visa. However, the authorizing office may refuse a visa based on this information.

Until early this year travellers were also required to declare their HIV status on a “Health Clearance Form” at the port of entry when entering China. The Health Clearance Form has been disbanded since early 2008, and may only be reinstated in the event of an emergency public health crisis.

The Government of the People’s Republic of China has stated it is committed to disbanding the existing travel restrictions related to people living with HIV, and a change of the law/regulations is in process.<sup>9</sup> It has clarified, however, that the law which includes the restrictions related to HIV addresses topics broader than HIV, and the process to revisit all topics covered by the law through all levels and sectors requires more time. It is hoped that the new law will come into effect in 2009.

- **Qatar:** Entry is to be denied if HIV infection is known.
- **Sudan:** People living with HIV are not allowed to enter the country.
- **United Arab Emirates:** The available information is contradictory. Though no health checks are carried out on entry, it appears that the entry and stay of people living with HIV is in principle not allowed, nor is the importation of antiretroviral medications allowed. Those asking for a residency permit are required to undergo a HIV test, and if positive, are denied. Further information is being sought.
- **United States of America:** On 30 July 2008, United States President George W. Bush signed *The Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act*<sup>10</sup> of 2008. Section 305 of this

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<sup>9</sup> This commitment to remove HIV-specific restrictions on entry, stay and residence has been stated publicly on a number of occasions. See for example “China to ease travel restrictions on HIV-carriers”. *Reuters*, 8 November 2007. Available on-line at <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/PEK29739.htm> See also coverage of the International AIDS Conference in Mexico City: “China to lift HIV/AIDS travel ban – official”. *China Daily*, 6 August 2008. Available on-line at [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2008-08/06/content\\_6906688.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2008-08/06/content_6906688.htm)

<sup>10</sup> This Act is sometimes referred to as the “United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) reauthorization bill”.

Act amended the *Immigration and Nationality Act* to eliminate the statutory language that specified HIV infection as a public health ground for inadmissibility. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the US Department of Health and Human Services has announced that it is preparing a regulation that would remove HIV infection from the list of communicable diseases of public health significance, thus ending any HIV-specific entry restriction.<sup>11</sup> Pending finalization of that rule-making process, all HIV-positive applicants are still required to obtain an authorization for temporary entry prior to visa issuance. For the interim period, the US Department of Homeland Security issued an HIV Visa Waiver Final Rule<sup>12</sup>, which provides a streamlined process for non-immigrant visitors to enter the United States as temporary visitors and visas issued under this final rule will not publicly identify any traveller as HIV-positive.<sup>13</sup>

- **Yemen:** HIV-positive people are not allowed to enter, independent from purpose and length of stay.

### **Countries, territories and areas that deny applications for entry by HIV positive people for stays beginning as short as 10 days up to 90 days**

13. Many countries, territories and areas allow the *entry* of non-nationals for short periods without the need for a visa. The purposes of such short stays may include personal, business or professional reasons such as tourism, visiting family and/or friends, meetings, conferences, or educational events. In this context, many countries, territories and areas also allow HIV-positive people to enter for short periods without enquiring about their status.
14. However, in five countries, territories and areas, when the period of stay surpasses a particular duration, proof of HIV-negative status is required, either through a HIV test or declaration of HIV-negative status. It appears that the following countries, territories and areas deny HIV-positive people their applications for visas for stays beginning as short as ten days up to 90 days (and subsequently for longer term stays and residence):

<b>Egypt, Iraq, Singapore, Tunisia, Turks &amp; Caicos Islands</b>
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- **Egypt:** Evidence of an HIV-negative test result is required for everyone staying over 30 days, for the purpose of studying or working in Egypt. Tests have to be taken at the central laboratory of the Ministry of Health. Tests taken externally will not be accepted. A person will be expelled if their HIV-positive status is detected

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<sup>11</sup> The Director of the US Centers for Disease Control Julie Gerberding underlined that the Department of Health and Human Services "has clearly stated our intent to remove HIV infection as an inadmissible condition for entering the United States. We are already preparing the revised rule." (See "Removing the HIV Barrier", *Washington Post*, 6 October 2008; available on-line at <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/10/05/AR2008100501854.html>).

<sup>12</sup> The Final Rule states in part the following: "Although Public Law 110-293 eliminates the requirement that HIV be included in the list of communicable diseases of public health significance (as defined by CFR 34.2), HIV remains on that list until HHS amends its regulation. See 42 CFR 34.2 HHS has indicated its intention to do so by rulemaking; pending such action, any alien who is HIV-positive is still inadmissible to the United States." The full text of the final rule can be found at [http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hiv\\_waiver\\_finalrule.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/hiv_waiver_finalrule.pdf).

<sup>13</sup> The US Department of Homeland Security rule which streamlines the process of processing waivers for HIV-positive people is described in "Fact Sheet: Streamlined Process Announced for Otherwise Eligible HIV-Positive Individuals to Enter the United States" (September 2008); available on-line at [http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr\\_1222704743103.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1222704743103.shtm).

- **Iraq:** All foreigners have to undergo HIV tests within 10 days of arrival at a State-owned laboratory
- **Singapore:** HIV testing is carried out as part of the health examination for prospective migrants applying for work permit and who have obtained in-principle approval for employment. Those who are tested HIV-positive are not granted employment passes, and those who have been identified as HIV-positive in Singapore are repatriated.
- **Tunisia:** A HIV test result must be provided for stays longer than 30 days.
- **Turks & Caicos Islands:** An HIV test is mandatory for residency and work permits for anyone staying longer than 30 days. Tests taken abroad will not be accepted and tests must be repeated whenever the visa permit is extended.

#### **Countries, territories and areas that deport foreigners based on their positive HIV status alone**

15. It appears that 27 countries, territories and areas deport people once their HIV positive status becomes known.

1. Armenia	10. Kuwait	19. Singapore
2. Bahrain	11. Malaysia	20. Sudan
3. Bangladesh	12. Republic of Moldova	21. Syrian Arab Republic
4. Brunei Darussalam	13. Mongolia	22. Taiwan
5. China	14. Oman	23. Tajikistan
6. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	15. Qatar	24. United Arab Emirates
7. Egypt	16. Republic of Korea	25. United States of America
8. Iraq	17. Russian Federation	26. Uzbekistan
9. Jordan	18. Saudi Arabia	27. Yemen

#### **Countries, territories and areas that deny employment visas and/or work permits based on HIV status**

16. It appears that there are 39 countries, territories and areas which have HIV-specific restrictions that are applicable to employment or labour.

1. Andorra	14. Israel	27. Saudi Arabia
2. Angola	15. Kuwait	28. Seychelles
3. Bahrain	16. Lebanon	29. Singapore
4. Belize	17. Lithuania	30. Slovakia
5. Benin	18. Malaysia	31. Saint Kitts and Nevis
6. Brunei Darussalam	19. Mongolia	32. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
7. Central African Republic	20. Montserrat	33. Syrian Arab Republic
8. China	21. New Zealand	34. Taiwan
9. Comoros	22. Oman	35. Tunisia
10. Cyprus	23. Papua New Guinea	36. Turks & Caicos Islands
11. Democratic People's Republic of Korea	24. Qatar	37. United Arab Emirates
12. Dominican Republic	25. Russian Federation	38. United States of America
13. Egypt	26. Samoa	39. Yemen

17. In some countries, territories and areas, HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence are applied to certain professions or forms of employment.<sup>14</sup> For example, in **Bahrain**, restrictions are applied to health professionals, housemaids, entertainment industry, hotel staff, and restaurants. In **Cyprus**, HIV tests are enforced for construction workers, bar maids, house maids, and people working in the tourism industry. Exceptions are made for employees from international enterprises and the United Nations. The **Republic of Korea** requires HIV tests for foreign workers, especially for groups working in the entertainment industry, in sports, and in show-business. **Qatar** applies HIV-related restrictions to housemaids, domestic workers and junior staff. The **Syrian Arab Republic** makes exceptions for personnel from the United Nations and some NGOs.
18. In some countries, territories and areas, employers in countries of origin and destination apply their own HIV-related restrictions. These may or may not align with national policies and laws on HIV and employment, including those that prohibit HIV testing for recruitment or retention. For example, in **Malaysia**, enforcement of the required HIV test for employees depends largely on employers. When a test is performed, work permits will only be granted if there is a HIV-negative result. In **Slovakia**, application for work permits includes tests for HIV, hepatitis, syphilis and other sexual transmitted infections.

**Examples of countries, territories and areas that require HIV tests for entry or stay and/or regular or periodic tests to maintain residence permits**

19. In **Germany**, HIV tests are required in certain states for the entry of immigrants (including Bavaria, Saxony, and New Brandenburg). **Nicaragua** requires a HIV-negative test result for the extension of a three months visa. **Brunei Darussalam** requires a health check after entry, including a HIV test, to acquire any residency status or work permit. In **Lebanon**, HIV tests are a pre-requisite for applicants seeking longer-term stays and work permits. Tests performed abroad will not always be accepted and might need to be repeated. **Egypt** also does not accept results from HIV tests done outside the country and requires that HIV tests be done in the central laboratory of the Ministry of Health. In **Malaysia**, enforcement of HIV restrictions may include on-the-spot HIV tests, if requested, by the immigration officer, and refusal to be tested may result in denial of entry. Mandatory testing related to HIV travel restrictions may also include testing of refugees, pregnant women and their babies – as is the case in **Poland**. **Bahrain** requires HIV testing of all foreigners and their families as part of health checks for employment permit applications. **Iran** performs HIV testing of short-term visitors from particular countries and regions, including **Azerbaijan**. In **Belize**, HIV test results cannot be older than 2 months; tests have to be presented within 3 months after arrival. There are countries that implement HIV controls on a regular basis for foreigners already in the country. Some countries require an HIV test to be taken annually, or whenever the work or residency permits need to get extended. The *Global Database on HIV-related Travel Restrictions* indicates that six countries have mandatory HIV testing that must be repeated on a regular basis; however, more countries may have such a requirement. These include **Belarus, Cuba, Malaysia, Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, and Turks & Caicos Islands**.

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<sup>14</sup> In Hungary, for example, according to Regulation 18/1998, people with HIV or other blood-borne infections are prohibited from performing invasive surgical interventions and working in maternity wards. Such provisions apply to both nationals and non-nationals. In Greece, obligatory HIV tests are required for male and female sex workers, both nationals and non-nationals. Work will not be permitted when HIV-positive status is detected, though free HIV treatment will be offered.

### Examples of countries, territories and areas with practices that may impinge on confidentiality of HIV status

20. **China** requires that HIV-positive status be declared on the visa application form. In **Malaysia**, health care workers are legally obliged to report all identified HIV cases to the authorities. The **United States** authorities stamp a coded indication of positive HIV status into the passports of those who have received a waiver allowing entry. In **Viet Nam**, people living with HIV are requested to declare their status at the sanitary control office on entry.

### Examples of countries, territories and areas that apply HIV-related entry, stay and residence regulations to nationals from regions with high HIV prevalence

21. **Surinam** requires HIV tests from visitors travelling from Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. **Israel** requests HIV testing for migrants from “endemic” regions, including sub-Saharan Africa. **Cuba** has standing bilateral agreements with some African States on restricting access to students’ scholarships to Cuba for people living with HIV. **Iran** regulations mention that, for visa applications, people coming from Azerbaijan need to take HIV test, performed by an Iranian organization.

### Examples of countries, territories and areas that deny applications to study abroad by HIV-positive students

**Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Cyprus, Egypt, Malaysia, Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, Montserrat, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, United States of America and Yemen**

22. People with HIV are not allowed to study in **Belarus**. No scholarships will be granted in **Cuba** for students with "limited life expectancy" (which includes HIV infection). Health checks are required by the Ministry of Health for those who want to study or work in **Cyprus**. HIV tests for students are required in some universities in **Malaysia**. In the **Republic of Moldova**, there is a government *Decree on Education of Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons* (2003) that prescribes a mandatory HIV test. In **Yemen**, students over 16, staying longer than one month, must get tested.

**Countries, territories and areas with contradictory information concerning HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence**

23. For the following 21 countries, territories and areas, various sources provided contradictory information regarding the status of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence:

1. Algeria	8. Eritrea	15. Seychelles
2. Angola	9. Equatorial Guinea	16. Saint Kitts and Nevis
3. Benin	10. Germany (Bavaria, Saxony, Brandenburg)	17. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
4. Bolivia	11. Honduras	18. Suriname
5. British Virgin Islands	12. Montserrat	19. United Republic of Tanzania <sup>15</sup>
6. Central African Republic	13. Niger	20. United States Virgin Islands
7. Costa Rica	14. Rwanda	21. Viet Nam

**Countries, territories and areas for which the Global Database was not able to obtain information on the status of HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence**

24. There are 17 countries, territories and areas for which it has not yet been possible to obtain information on HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence:

1. Afghanistan	7. Dominica	13. Sao Tome and Principe
2. Bahamas	8. Kiribati	14. Somalia
3. Bhutan	9. Liberia	15. Timor-Leste
4. Cape Verde	10. Nauru	16. Tuvalu
5. Congo	11. Niue	17. Vanuatu
6. Cook Islands	12. Palau	

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<sup>15</sup> The United Republic of Tanzania is listed below as a country without HIV-related restrictions, due to a recently passed AIDS law that prohibits restrictions on travel or residence on account of actual or perceived HIV status (Part VII, Article 30). However, available information indicates that the Tanzania Immigration Act No. 7 of 1995 prohibits the entry or stay of persons with contagious or infectious diseases, including persons with HIV.

**Countries, territories and areas which have no HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay or residence**

25. It appears that 106 countries, territories and areas have no HIV-related restrictions on entry, stay and residence.

1. Albania	37. Guinea	73. Namibia
2. Antigua and Barbuda	38. Guinea-Bissau	74. Nepal
3. Argentina	39. Guyana	75. Netherlands
4. Austria	40. Haiti	76. Nigeria
5. Azerbaijan	41. Holy See	77. Norway
6. Barbados	42. Hong Kong	78. Pakistan
7. Belgium	43. Hungary	79. Peru
8. Bosnia and Herzegovina	44. Iceland	80. Philippines
9. Botswana	45. India	81. Portugal
10. Brazil	46. Indonesia	82. Romania
11. Bulgaria	47. Ireland	83. San Marino
12. Burkina Faso	48. Italy	84. Senegal
13. Burundi	49. Jamaica	85. Serbia
14. Cambodia	50. Japan	86. Sierra Leone
15. Cameroon	51. Kazakhstan	87. Slovenia
16. Canada	52. Kenya	88. South Africa
17. Chad	53. Kosovo	89. Spain
18. Chile	54. Kyrgyzstan	90. Sri Lanka
19. Colombia	55. Lao People's Democratic Republic	91. Saint Lucia
20. Democratic Republic of the Congo	56. Latvia	92. Swaziland
21. Cote d'Ivoire	57. Lesotho	93. Sweden
22. Croatia	58. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	94. Switzerland
23. Czech Republic	59. Liechtenstein	95. United Republic of Tanzania
24. Denmark	60. Luxembourg	96. Thailand
25. Djibouti	61. Madagascar	97. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
26. El Salvador	62. Malawi	98. Togo
27. Estonia	63. Maldives	99. Trinidad and Tobago
28. Ethiopia	64. Mali	100. Turkey
29. Finland	65. Malta	101. Uganda
30. France	66. Mauritania	102. United Kingdom
31. Gabon	67. Mexico	103. Uruguay
32. Gambia	68. Monaco	104. Venezuela
33. Ghana	69. Montenegro	105. Zambia
34. Greece	70. Morocco	106. Zimbabwe
35. Grenada	71. Mozambique	
36. Guatemala	72. Myanmar	

## Conclusion

26. The information provided above demonstrates the great variety of restrictions imposed on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV. These restrictions often single out HIV, as opposed to comparable health conditions, and are all triggered by HIV-positive status alone. They are imposed on stays of varying duration; on some types of workers and professions, not others; and on people from some countries, not others. Their variety does not suggest a connection to some rational purpose in terms of an effective global or national response to the HIV epidemic, nor have they been clearly justified in terms of their being necessary or effective in protecting the public health or public purse.
27. The information provided above also indicates that 106 countries have chosen *not* to single out HIV status for discriminatory treatment and have proceeded on that basis without negative results. It is hoped that the countries that have HIV-specific restrictions on entry, stay and residence based on positive HIV status will move quickly to rescind them as part of their fulfilment of the commitments they made in the *Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS* (2001) and *Political Declaration* (2006) to end discrimination against people living with HIV.





The *Mapping of restrictions on the entry, stay and residence of people living with HIV* was commissioned by the International Task Team on HIV-related Travel Restrictions. The Task Team was established by UNAIDS in January 2008 as an advisory/technical group whose role was to galvanize attention to such restrictions on national, regional and international agendas, calling for and supporting efforts toward their elimination. The principles of non-discrimination and the Greater Involvement of People Living with HIV formed the core of the Task Team's work and provided the context in which its efforts were set.

The **Report** of the Task Team, presenting its **Findings** and **Recommendations**, can be found at [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org).



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