

«The Role of Information Technologies in Creating the World of Electronic Visas»

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The purpose of this article is to show the importance of the transition of countries to the modern method of submitting documents in electronic form through the Internet portal for obtaining a visa or visa in the form of an electronic document (e-visa). The Internet, information and web technologies play an important role in the implementation of this method.

Keywords: electronic visas, Internet, information technologies, web technologies, tourism.

The modern world today can hardly be surprised by the possibility of conducting the procedure online. This is the purchase of air and train tickets, insurance policies, or payment for various services on the Internet.

Visa centers and consulates are organizations that provide visa services. Due to the fact that progress in the direction of information and web technologies is significantly developing, some visa centers and consulates can now apply for a visa via the Internet [1].

This simplifies the visa processing procedure as much as possible. Visa processing includes a lot of negative aspects, including spending a lot of time in the queue, traveling to another city or region to apply for a visa in paper form.

Countries such as the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, Russia, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, Mexico, Cyprus and others have facilitated visa processing. Now you can fill out the visa application form online, attach the necessary documents electronically and pay the visa fee using a credit or debit card. After sending your visa application and all the necessary documents in electronic form, the consulate or the migration service will start processing your visa application. Doing many procedures via the Internet is much more convenient than spending time, traveling far and submitting documents in paper form. If your visa application for a visa to Australia or New Zealand is approved, these countries send you a visa in the form of an electronic document (e-visa) via the Internet, which must be printed on paper and presented with this e-visa at border control [2].

Australia and New Zealand have abandoned the practice of pasting a visa sticker in the passport, as it is more convenient for the visa applicant and the consulate to send the visa in the form of an electronic document (e-visa) to the e-mail [3]. The visa applicant will not need to send their passport by mail to the consulate to paste the visa sticker. When crossing the border, it is necessary to make a printout confirming the receipt of the entry document (electronic visa).

[Pic. 1. Australian visa pasted in the passport (visa sticker)]

Obtaining a visa online is a very big progress and a very convenient format for traveling. This is especially important for tourists during the holiday period. The main role of the introduction of a simplified procedure for accepting visa applications online was played by the development of the Internet, information and web technologies in the world.

[Pic. 2. Australian visa in the form of an electronic document (e-visa), which began to be issued in 2012]

With the help of information and web technologies, websites for accepting visa applications and web systems for paying the visa fee online were created. Most websites for accepting visa applications have the

function of uploading electronic documents online to the site confirming the purpose of the trip, family status and financial viability. The trend of using the paper version of documents in this process is a thing of the past; most visa applicants already use only the modern method of submitting documents electronically through the online portal for obtaining a visa or a visa in the form of an electronic document (e-visa).

In the future, all information about visa applications will not be stored in paper archives, but will be stored on web servers. Progress in this area would not have been possible without the development of information and web technologies. With this progress, a lot of countries in the future will switch to issuing visas only in the form of an electronic document (e-visas).

From January 1, 2021, foreigners can enter the Russian Federation on an electronic visa. The application is submitted by a foreigner on the specialized website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the Internet or using other information technologies of interaction. An electronic visa is issued to a foreign citizen by the diplomatic mission or consulate of the Russian Federation [4].

It can be concluded that the progress in the development of the Internet, information and web technologies has simplified the visa processing procedure as much as possible and has greatly improved the lives of ordinary people. Without web technologies and the creation of modern websites for accepting visa applications, it would be impossible to create this service for issuing electronic visas.

In the future, many developed countries can create a unified visa applicant system that will help many countries to share important information more effectively, as well as help develop a more sustainable unified visa policy strategy.

All this once again points to the important role of the development of information and web technologies in the world. The role of web developers is very important, as they always try to create websites that only benefit society and make their lives easier.

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CERTIFICATION OF THE TRANSLATION

I, Anna Chumburidze, certify that I am fluent in English and Russian, and that the above document (translation) is a complete and accurate translation of the attached document.

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