



## Checklist for **FAMILY REUNION with a Belgian citizen** (Art. 40ter)

For foreigners of third countries who want to reunite with a Belgian citizen (who has not used his right to free movement – Directive 2004/38/EC)

It is essential that your file contains the following:

***You must lodge the original documents. The originals will be returned to you.***

### **Passport**

A valid passport:

- should have been issued within the previous 10 years;
- should be valid for more than 12 months;
- should contain at least 2 empty pages when applying for the visa.

Please provide one copy of the passport (the empty pages don't need to be copied).

### **Copy of ID**

One copy of your Chinese identity card, temporary residence card (if any) or of your residence permit (for foreigner).

### **Application form**

One (1) application form duly filled in, signed (two times: at point nr 37 AND on the last page!) and dated by the applicant.

This form is available free of charge online or at VFS and Embassy/Consulates. You complete it in French, Dutch, German or, if you do not have a command of any of the national languages, ideally in English.

Any person appearing in your travel document must complete a separate application form. Minor children must submit an application form signed by a person with parental authority or by a legal guardian.

Please follow the link to the application form [online](#) .

### **Photo**

One (1) recent (no more than 6-months old) passport size photograph with the [following specifications](#) should be affixed to the application form.

### **Administrative fee**

The applicant has to provide the proof of payment of the [administrative fee](#) at the submission of his/her application. If this is not the case, the visa application is not admissible.

### **Copy of Belgian ID Card of the person to be joined in Belgium**

### **Proof of relationship**

#### **Spouse:**

- Your marriage certificate: i.e. a true certified copy in the **notarized** and **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs** form of your red marriage booklet
- In case of previous divorce or widowhood: your **notarized** certificate of divorce / death of spouse **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

#### **Registered partner:**

- Proof of registered partnership
- Proof of durable and stable relationship
- Proof of celibacy/divorce/widowhood : **notarized** certificate **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

#### **Children under 18:**

- A **notarized** birth certificate mentioning the name of both parents **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- In case the parents are divorced: a true certified (**notarized** and **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**) copy of the divorce decision mentioning to whom of the parents the full guardianship was entrusted
- In case of a shared guardianship, a **notarized** authorization from the parent who will not live in Belgium with the child, stating that the child can permanently leave **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- In case the child was adopted, a notarized adoption certificate **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- In case a parent has deceased: a notarized death certificate **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

#### **Children aged 18 years and over:**

- A **notarized** birth certificate mentioning the name of both parents **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

#### **Children aged 21 and over:**

- A **notarized** birth certificate mentioning the name of both parents **provided with an apostille from the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- Proof that the child is dependent on the person in Belgium

### **Sufficient Accommodation**

Proof that the party being joined has [sufficient accommodation](#) : a registered rental contract or proof of property in Belgium.

**Solvency of the person to be joined**

Proof that the person being joined has [sufficient personal means of subsistence](#) to meet his/her own needs and those of the family members and avoid them becoming a burden on the public authorities.

This condition doesn't apply when the person **is being joined by a child under 18 without any other applicants asking for family reunion at the same time.**

**Mutual Insurance Company / Travel Insurance**

Proof that the person to be joined is affiliated to a [Mutual Insurance Company](#) (Mutualiteit / Mutualité) and confirming that the risks will be covered for the family members as soon as they will arrive in Belgium.

Or

Proof applicant has a valid travel insurance for at least 90 days from date of entry into Schengen.

**The documents drawn up abroad in a language other than Dutch, French or German are to be translated in accordance with the original by a sworn translator. The translation must be provided with an apostille as a separate document in line with the procedure laid down in the country of origin, and then by the competent Belgian consulate or Embassy.**

Applicants, who cannot enclose all documents from the list, should consider adding alternatives or making an explanation about the reason for not handing them in.

Chinese notarized certificates have to be authenticated by the relevant Foreign Affairs Bureau of your province. They should not be older than six months.

Please note that our Embassy/ Consulate General may, in justified individual cases, request additional documents during the examination of an application which are not mentioned in the above harmonized list. The applicant is hereby informed that submitting the above-mentioned documents does not guarantee automatic issuance of a visa.