



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 17 July 2013

**18768/1/11
REV 1**

**VISA 274
COEST 509**

DECLASSIFICATION

of document:	18768/11 RESTREINT UE/EU RESTRICTED
dated:	19 December 2011
new status:	Public

Subject: Negotiations for the conclusion of Agreements between the European Union and:

- the Russian Federation, amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Russian Federation on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to the citizens of the European Union and the Russian Federation

- Ukraine, amending the Agreement between the European Community and Ukraine on the facilitation of the issuance of visas

- the Republic of Moldova, amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Moldova on the facilitation of the issuance of visas

Delegations will find attached the declassified version of the above document.

The text of this document is identical to the previous version.



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Brussels, 19 December 2011

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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

of: Permanent Representatives Committee

on: 12 December 2011

Subject : Negotiations for the conclusion of Agreements between the European Union and:

- the Russian Federation, amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Russian Federation on the facilitation of the issuance of visas to the citizens of the European Union and the Russian Federation

- Ukraine, amending the Agreement between the European Community and Ukraine on the facilitation of the issuance of visas

- the Republic of Moldova, amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Moldova on the facilitation of the issuance of visas

The Committee examined at its meeting on 12 December on the basis of doc. 18031/11 (Restricted) the only remaining outstanding question regarding the negotiations for the conclusion of the above Agreements with the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Moldova, namely the issue of service passports.

The Presidency concluded that there was sufficient support for the compromise suggestion from the Presidency as set out in doc. 18031/11. The Presidency also noted that a minority of delegations continued to have security concerns. Considering the sensitive nature of the file, the Presidency urged the Commission to report further on this matter.

For the purpose of the Agreements with Ukraine and Moldova, the Presidency suggested the following draft declaration of the EU:

"Recognising the importance of the conditions under which the visa waiver for the holders of biometric service passports is being applied, the European Union underlines the need to avoid and combat any cases of abuse of the system for issuance of the service passports in [Ukraine] [Moldova]. [Article 14(5)] [Article 15(5)] of the Agreement may be applied in case of the abuse accordingly."

