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09 November 2005

Albania: Documentation required and procedures to be followed by a parent wishing to travel abroad with a minor child in the absence, or without the consent, of the second parent (September 2005)

Research Directorate, Immigration and Refugee Board, Ottawa

In a 6 September 2005 telephone interview with the Research Directorate, a consular official at the Embassy of the Republic of Albania in Washington, DC provided the information that follows:

A parent who wishes to leave Albania with his or her minor child is required to obtain the written authorization of the other parent and must present this authorization to the appropriate Albanian authorities on at least two occasions:

The first occasion is when the minor child applies for a passport. Minor children, like all Albanians, require a passport in order to exit Albania, but in order to receive it the written authorization of both parents is required. If only one parent applies for the minor child's passport, that parent must obtain a written and notarized letter of permission from the other parent.

The second occasion is upon attempting to board an airplane at an airport in Albania. When only one parent accompanies a child, he or she must, upon passing through security manned by Albanian police officers, present a written authorization (either notarized or by power of attorney) from the other parent giving permission to the child to travel with the other parent.

This Response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research Directorate within time constraints. This Response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim for refugee protection. Please find below the list of additional sources consulted in researching this Information Request.

Reference

Albania. 6 September 2005. Embassy of the Republic of Albania in Washington, DC. Telephone interview with a consular official.

Additional Sources Consulted