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Waensila v minister for Immigration and Border Protection [2016] FCAFC 32 (11 march 2016)

The Full Federal Court has upheld an interpretation of the law that this firm has argued for some time concerning partner visa applications lodged onshore by people who do not hold a substantive visa at the time of lodgement. The regulations allow for such applications to be considered if the minister is satisfied that there are "compelling reasons" to do so. The approach taken by the Department and the Tribunal has been that the only compelling reasons that could be taken into account were those arising from circumstances in existence at the time of application. For some time Parish Patience has argued that the law requires the decision maker to take into account circumstances coming into existence at a later time, which given the lengthy processing times for partner visa application and appeals could be several years after the application is lodged. In the case of *Waensila v Minister for Immigration*, all three Federal Court Justices making up the Full Bench Agreed

Source: Michael Jones Special Counsel to Parish Patience Immigration Lawyers

Julie Bishop hopes to sign deal to return failed asylum seekers to Iran

Australia's diplomatic efforts to broker a deal to send hundreds of asylum seekers who have had their claims rejected back to Iran could be on the verge of a breakthrough amid reports an agreement could be struck when Iran's Foreign Minister visits Australia.

Dr Mohammad Javad Zarif will visit Australia nearly twelve months after Foreign Minister Julie Bishop invited him during her historic visit to Iran in April 2015.

So far, Australia has been unable to persuade Iran to accept the forced return of its citizens.

But [*The West Australian*](#) reported on Wednesday that the Government is hopeful of striking a deal soon. The report says Australia would secure guarantees that returned asylum seekers would not face any persecution.

Foreign Minister Julie Bishop told the paper the move would help further economic ties.

"We are looking to engage with Iran in a number of ways that will advantage Australian business but still maintain sanctions and our concerns on areas where we disagree with Iran," Ms Bishop is quoted as saying.

More than 20 per cent of people held in mainland immigration detention centres are from Iran. Fairfax Media reported in 2015 that more than 250 have had their claims for asylum refused. During the height of the asylum seeker boat arrivals experienced under Labor, the then Foreign Minister Bob Carr said most were not refugees fleeing persecution but "economic migrants."

"They're coming here as economic refugees, they're coming here to improve their economic – circumstances as economic migrants, not as refugees, they're coming here to improve their economic circumstances," Mr Carr said in 2013.

Australia already returns failed asylum seekers to Sri Lanka and Mr Carr in the past has backed striking a similar agreement with Iran.

The Department of Foreign Affairs' website cites people smuggling, terrorism, regional issues and human rights as issues of importance to Australia's relationship with Iran.

Further it stresses: "The Australian Government remains deeply concerned about the human rights situation in Iran, including the use of capital punishment, in particular for juvenile offenders; violations of political and media freedoms; and discrimination against religious and ethnic minorities."

Any agreement would herald a further thawing of the relationship following the unfreezing of sanctions against Iran earlier this year and DFAT's decision to lower its travel warning for the country late last year.

Proposal draws strong reaction

The opposition's immigration spokesman Richard Marles said the repatriation arrangement was not a solution for refugees "languishing" in offshore detention.

"This is not a resettlement option," he told Sky News. "Iran doesn't change the game in terms of those on Manus and Nauru."

Michael Wesley, director of the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at the Australian National University, said the arrangement would put an end to uncertainty for thousands of asylum seekers who have had their claims rejected.

"It'll be a major deal if it happens," he said. "We would like to sort that situation out for these people who are in limbo."

Tehran has long opposed the involuntary return of asylum seekers from Australia, partly out of concern the precedent would oblige it to accept similar deals with Britain and Europe.

In 2003, then immigration minister Philip Ruddock tried to pressure Iran into accepting the forced return of about 300 Iranians, including women and children. In return, he offered a 12-month working holiday visa for young Iranians.

A deal would be a major win for Ms Bishop and the government. Last year, Iranian ambassador Abdolhossein Vahaji indicated his country was still unlikely to accept involuntary returnees.

- with Michael Koziol

Source: <http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/julie-bishop-hopes-to-sign-deal-next-week-to-return-failed-asylum-seekers-to-iran-report-20160308-gne0bd.html>

New Zealand pathway to Australian Citizenship streamlined

Joint media release - Prime Minister, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP and Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, The Hon Peter Dutton MP.

The Australian Government has announced it will provide a streamlined pathway to Australian citizenship for many New Zealanders who have been living in Australia for at least five years.

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull made the announcement after a successful meeting with New Zealand Prime Minister John Key in Sydney.

It is an acknowledgement of the special relationship between the two nations.

New Zealanders and Australians have a shared history and destiny and no two nations could be closer than ours.

While New Zealanders already have special arrangements that allow them easily to enter and then reside in Australia, these arrangements do not provide a pathway to citizenship.

The new visa pathway will be available from 1 July 2017 for Special Category Visa holders who are ordinarily resident in Australia and, at the time of application, have lived here for at least five years. These new arrangements will give many New Zealanders permanent resident status and enable them to apply for Australian citizenship if they meet certain criteria, including:

- contributing to Australia, demonstrated through income tax returns which show assessable income at least equivalent to the Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) for the qualifying period; and
- passing mandatory health, character and security checks.

The pathway will be made available within the Skilled Independent category of the General Skilled Migration stream of Australia's annual Migration Programme.

Further information can be found at: border.gov.au

(<http://www.border.gov.au/Visasupport/Pages/an-additional-pathway.aspx>)

Source: <http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/2016/Pages/new-zealand-pathway.aspx>

**Statement by
Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Geneva, 10 March 2016**

Over the past ten days, many delegations have shared with me their alarm about the growing disarray in many countries. And among other issues, I have raised with many of them my concerns about arrests, harassment and spurious prosecutions of journalists, activists, political opponents and human rights defenders.

The immediate response of many delegations is to state that these women and men were affiliated with extremist groups, or were attempting to overthrow the State. But when a 13 year-old is arrested and tortured for participating in a demonstration; when journalists are jailed after publishing a video of malfeasance; when a t-shirt reading "CLEAN" is banned because it threatens national security – these surely were not threats in any real sense.

What threatens the legitimacy of the State is the idea that government is a prize that can be captured, held by force and exploited for the benefit of a limited group. To erode the right of all members of society to participate fully in decision-making is to undermine the foundation on which every State stands: its service to its people.

I am also disturbed by a widespread practice of what could be termed "human rights window-dressing". The ratification of treaties and agreements, and acceptance of recommendations stemming from UN

human rights mechanisms, are not in themselves human rights achievements. There needs to be follow-up and real change to bring greater freedoms and dignity to the people. Unless consequential at the level of the rights of the individual, the work we do will remain bureaucratic – or even theatre. Human rights obligations should not be a "tick-the-box" exercise designed only to boost a country's international image.

In discussing the activities of my Office in 2015, and our current concerns, I trust you will bear in mind the responsibility of States for standing by the binding laws and principles of human rights. We stand ready to assist, within the limits of our resources.

In the first two months of this year, more than 400 people have died trying to reach **Europe** – due partly to the lack of viable avenues of entry. The majority of people attempting this voyage are women and children, some in situations of extreme vulnerability. I acknowledge the generosity with which **Germany** welcomed around a million people last year, and the efforts of **Greece**, throughout 2015, to take a humane approach, avoiding detention and pushbacks at sea. But today, in violation of the fundamental principles of solidarity, human dignity, and human rights, the race to repel these people is picking up momentum.

The EU's draft arrangement with Turkey, raises a number of very serious concerns. We do not yet have full details of this draft, and I plan to discuss my concerns in full during my visit to Brussels, before the two-day EU Summit which begins on 17 March. Among my concerns is the potential for collective and arbitrary expulsions, which are illegal. Border restrictions which do not permit determination of the circumstances of each individual violate international and European law.

I must also reiterate my profound concern about restrictive measures such as erecting fences; denying people access to individualized procedures; and arbitrarily denying entry to people of specific nationalities. I am in addition concerned about measures to seize belongings from people who may have already suffered greatly, and to restrict them from bringing in family members.

Furthermore, I am worried about the conditions in which people may be expelled. **Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan** shelter, between them, 4.2 million refugees from Syria – demonstrating a solidarity which, in the current context, is deeply welcome. However, many refugees and migrants in these countries face terrible challenges in meeting basic needs, including work, shelter, schooling and health-care. Unless these conditions change, returns may not be sustainable.

Meanwhile, the situation in **Greece** is dramatic. Migrants are now unable to leave the country because of border restrictions imposed by **Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia** and **The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**. This lamentable approach, together with other measures taken by countries such as **the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and Poland**, creates great distress for large numbers of people and compounds pressure on Greece, a country that is already in need of help. Greece has struggled for months to maintain humane conditions of reception for the desperate people who arrive by sea. I pay tribute to the honourable volunteers and activists who are trying to help them.

I urge the EU to adopt a much more rights-compliant and humane set of measures on migration at next week's summit. International guarantees protecting human rights may not be side-stepped or diluted. Any returns of people must be in conformity with international human rights standards. Arbitrary and prolonged detention must be avoided. And I emphasise that under no conditions should there be a return to pushbacks at sea.

I also reiterate my profound concern about the resurgence of racism, intolerance and xenophobia in Europe. All States should swiftly deploy measures to curb intolerance and xenophobia, such as those recommended in the Rabat Plan of Action. In particular, I must emphasise the need to prosecute all those suspected of crimes, including racist and anti-foreigner violence. –

See More>> <http://ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=17200&LangID=E>

Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) response to MIA concerns

DIBP is currently considering the recent concerns raised by the Mia about the subclass 457 programme. Below is a summary of the preliminary advice received. More comprehensive information on some of these issues expected to be provided to all registered migration agents.

Increase in nominations refusal rates. ‘Genuine position’ and unreasonable requests for information

DIBP has advised that the increase in nomination refusal rates since 1 July 2013 is likely to be a valid outcome given the regulatory reforms that have occurred during this period.

DIBP has. However, taken our feedback regarding the “Genuine position” criterion on board, and identified some technical issues in recent decisions that suggest that some case officers may require further training and support in this area. They have, however, also indicated that some agents continue to appear unfamiliar with the revised policy guidelines.

DIBP intends to put in place some new interim guidelines to ensure that for the moment nominations are not refused on this ground without an agent being given a chance to comment.

In the longer term, DIBP will be reviewing the cases referred by the MIA , updating training and policy materials as required, and providing agents with some more detailed information on this criterion and DIBP’s expectations in terms of supporting documentation. At the same time, DIBP will review its correspondence templates and any training issues in terms of requests for information (RFIs).

Refusal of incomplete applications

DIBP has indicated that lodgement of incomplete 457 applications has been an ongoing issue, and as there has been no discernible improvement despite discussions with agent groups, processing teams have recently been more stringent in refusing such applications.

This is not, however, a ‘blanket approach’. Where there are legitimate reasons why an application may be lodge without supporting documentations, agents should explain this in a statement included with the application so that it can be taken into account. DIBP will continue to refine its processes in this area and provide all registered migration agents with more detailed advice later this month regarding these arrangements.

Trial of priority processing for Chinese nationals’ Subclass 600 Visa

Legislative instrument – F2016L00295 – Migration Amendment (Priority consideration of certain visa applications) Regulation 2016 – allows holders of passport from People’s Republic of China who are applying for Subclass 600 Visitors visa in the Tourist or Business Streams to request priority considerations of their visa application.

The department is trialling this priority service for eligible Chinese nationals. This initiative comes from a recommendation of the Governments’ White paper on developing northern Australia and is aimed at making Australia a more attractive visitor destination.

The priority service is available for an additional fee of \$1000 in addition to the usual VAC.

While the Department will endeavour to make a decision within a shortened timeframe, there is no guarantee of a faster outcome, as issues such as character and health matters may delay processing. No refund will be available unless the visa application charge is being refunded.

The Department advises that the processing times for visitor visas, more generally, will not be affected by this service.

This instrument commences on 15 March 2016.

Source: Migration Institute Australia (www.mia.org.au)

Senate Committee report on Temporary Work Visas: “A National Disgrace”

The Australian Senate’s Education and Employment references Committee has released its 355 page report on the impact of Australia’s temporary work visa holders on the Australian labour market and on temporary work visa holders. The report, entitled **A National Disgrace: the Exploitation of Temporary Work Visa Holders**, details unscrupulous and exploitative practices and makes 33 recommendations.

The recommendations cover a wide range of areas including the need for:

- Better publicity available data.
- A public register of labour agreements and any exemptions they contain.
- TSMIT to be indexed to average full-time weekly earnings and indexed annually.
- A reconstituted Ministerial Advisory council on Skilled Migration (MACSM).
- The replacement of local workers by 457 workers to be prohibited.
- The removal of labour market testing exemptions.
- Labour market testing to be required for labour agreements and DAMAs.
- One-for-one 457 (Professional)/ Australian tertiary graduate employment.
- 457 (trade) sponsor must have 25% (or at least 4) trade workplace apprentices.
- Training benchmarks to be replaced with training levy of \$4000 per 457 worker paid into existing government programs that specifically support sectors experiencing labour shortages as well as apprenticeships and training programs.
- Full public data on temporary worker numbers and occupations in Australia.
- Temporary visa holders to be eligible for entitlements under the Fair Entitlements Guarantee.
- Adequate bridging arrangements for all temporary visa holders to pursue meritorious claims under workplace and occupational health and safety legislation.
- An audit of rehabilitation and compensation provisions for temporary migrants workers.
- Free vaccination to be extended to the babies and children of all temporary migrants.
- Visa breach to not necessarily void a contract of employment and that the standards under the Fair Work Act 2009 apply even when a person has breached their visa conditions or has performed work in the absence of a visa consistent with any other visa requirements.
- For government funding a submission basis for non-governmental organisations, registered employer organisations, trade unions, and advocates to provide information and education aimed specifically at improving the protection of the workplace rights of temporary migrant workers.
- Identities of migrant workers who report instances of exploitation to the Fair Work ombudsman or to any other body to not be provided to the Department of Immigration and Border protection.
- The “recklessness” defence in section 357(2) of the Fair Work Act 2009 to be replaced with a “reasonableness” defence.
- Australia to ratify the International Convention on Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and their families.
- Better proactive information campaigns for temporary visa workers around workplace rights.
- A licensing regime for labour hire contractors to be established with a requirement that a business can only use a licensed labour hire contractor to procure labour.

The Report called for reviews of:

- The period of time to qualify for permanent visa
- Working holiday Maker visa programs (417 and 462)
- The Seasonal Worker Program,
- The procedures used in cases involving severe worker exploitation
- Visa cancellation provisions
- The responsibilities of franchisors and franchisees

- Section 116 of the Migration Act 1954 with a view to amendment such that visa cancellation based on non-compliance with a visa condition amounts to serious non-compliance.
- The resources and powers of the Fair Work ombudsman, and the penalty, accessory liability, and sham contracting provisions under the Fair Work Act 2009.

Source: Source: MIA Notice 18 March 2016 (www.mia.org.au)

Universities, schools, businesses join together to educate 4000 Syrian refugees

At the age of four, Sydney school-girl Tara Al-Khafaji witnessed a decapitation.

"They cut off someone's head in front of our house. Tara saw everything," said her father, Saeed Al-Khafaji. "They were threatening us, they wanted our house. It is something you can't imagine".

At the age of 14, Jouliana Alnawaqkil's school in Syria was bombed. "I didn't know if she was still alive or dead," said her mother, Rita Dawod.

This week, more than 12,000 kilometres away from their abandoned homes in Iraq and Syria, the schoolgirls gossiped with their peers, pink tartan uniforms and well-scribbled English textbooks in hand in the leafy courtyard of Mary Mackillop College in Sydney's west.

Over the next 18 months, NSW will take in thousands more like Jouliana and Tara under Premier Mike Baird's commitment to take in 4000 Syrian and Iraqi refugees from the federal government's pool of 12,000.

The former head of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Peter Shergold, has been appointed as the man in charge of the largest single resettlement of Middle Eastern refugees in the state's history.

Professor Shergold believes almost all of them will need an education like Jouliana and Tara when they arrive on Sydney's shores.

Recently, more than 20 of the state's principals committed their schools to taking in thousands of Syrian children. The announcement capped off a busy February for Professor Shergold.

The Chancellor of Western Sydney University has secured the commitment of all major NSW universities to scholarships and upgrading of previous qualifications for refugees, while Clubs NSW will offer training and employment to hundreds of their parents.

"If I'm going to do this successfully I have to harness all parts of the NSW economy, which includes business and education," said Professor Shergold.

"If we are going to make this commitment, let's try to do it right. We want to have public servants exhibiting leadership and collaborating with the private sector."

The Principal of Mary Mackillop College, Narelle Archer, said that schools are a key part of that plan.

"I can see a future for schools as being a community hub," Ms Archer said. "We don't see it as a burden, we have the skills and the expertise and capacity to do so much more."

For Ms Archer and Catholic schools re-settlement co-ordinator Virginia Francis, trauma counselling for many of the students like Tara, Jouliana and their siblings is just the start.

Their staff have their own stories. "We had a lockdown drill, the sirens went off and one of our translators had a post-traumatic reaction to it," said Ms Archer.

Parents, too, are increasingly seeing schools as their fulcrum, discussing their trauma with other parents and school staff in the classrooms of Sydney's west.

"We take our parents on school excursions, last week we took them across the harbour bridge, they get an understanding of what we are exposing their girls to," Ms Archer said.

Among those getting a taste of Sydney life is Tara's father, Saeed Al-Khafaji.

After he reported that a severed head had been thrown on his doorstep, his house was ransacked and he was kidnapped and bashed by Iraqi insurgents.

Three days later he woke up in a Baghdad emergency room. "Welcome to our life in Iraq," he said.

His daughters, now all on their way to their HSC are thankful for the sense of safety that the school environment has provided them and their entire family.

"You can't measure the the difference in our life now, from the ground to the sky, you can't measure it," said Mr Al-Khafaji.

Source: www.smh.com.au/national/education/universities-schools-businesses-join-together-to-educate-4000-syrian-refugees-20160228-gn5z6l

Backpackers 'targeted by dodgy labour hire companies' in 'culture of impunity'

Unscrupulous labour hire companies openly advertise illegally underpaid work at farms and factories in Victoria, specifically targeted at international backpackers, an inquiry has heard.

It has been described as a black market in which companies operate with no fear of being held accountable by Australian authorities.

The Victorian Government's inquiry is investigating dodgy labour hire contractors, visa abuse and the effects of insecure work.

Last year [an investigation by the ABC's Four Corners](#) program uncovered evidence of serious underpayment and exploitation of workers at farms around Australia.

But George Robertson, an organiser with the National Union of Workers, said illegal activity is still rife in the industry.

"There's a real culture of impunity in the horticulture industry, in the poultry industry among contractors who essentially have no fear that they'll be caught and held accountable and prosecuted," he said.

Malaysian national Aira Firdaus is a witness for the National Union of Workers and gave evidence at the inquiry.

She said finding the advertisements is as easy as typing a few words into an online search engine.

"I just typed in 'work on farm' - but in Malay - and it just basically gave me all the information that I need," she said.

She told the hearing in Morwell the information is freely available on backpacker blogs as well as popular social media sites.

"They also advertise it on Facebook and Instagram and you see that there's a lot of interest because people are leaving a lot of comments and people are very interested to be part of it even though the pay is very well underpaid," she said.

"It's only \$10 to \$13 an hour when the minimum wage is \$21."

The union provided the inquiry with copies of advertisements for work on farms in Gippsland, the Mallee, and central Victoria.

They offer work for up to 12 hours a day, six to seven days a week, but also charge backpackers about \$90 per week for housing and \$40 per week in transport to get to the farm.

The inquiry was shown evidence of advertisements in Vietnamese, Cantonese and Mandarin.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-03-02/backpackers-targeted-by-labour-hire-companies--inquiry-hears/7213328>

Family visa sponsors to be more closely scrutinised

Proposed Backpacker tax to be reviewed

Federal Tourism Minister, Richard Colbeck has announced this week that the Government will be reviewing the proposed backpacker tax.

The review has been welcomed by tourism and agricultural bodies who were fighting the proposed tax, as they believed it would have been disastrous for Australian tourism and seasonal agricultural and tourism workforce. They have reiterated their calls for the government to abandon plans to tax backpackers 32 percent.

The Government believes that under current settings there is little focus on the character of the sponsor or the responsibility that attaches to the sponsorship. Family sponsorship undertakings are "unenforceable" because there are no consequences for non-compliance.

The Government's concerns are that:

Some sponsors are vulnerable to being targeted by visa applicants who are motivated solely on a permanent visa outcome;
Australians with a violent history are able to sponsor without disclosing details of their past;

The proposed amendments would address these issues by extending the sponsorship framework that currently applies to the temporary work sponsored visa program to the family sponsored visa program as well. This would mean that there would be;

A sponsorship assessment separate from the visa application

Statutory obligations on sponsors;

Civil penalties and administrative sanctions for breaches of sponsorship;

Information sharing between identified in the sponsorship application.

An improvement in the management of family violence where it occurs in the family visa program.

Source: Migration Institute of Australia (www.mia.org.au) March 2016

ACT Subclass 190 Skilled Nominations closed to overseas applicants

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Skilled Nominated (Subclass 190) visa – Closure of ACT nomination program to overseas applicants for 2015/16

Effective immediately (18 march 2016 at 4pm AEST) – The ACT Migration program is closed to all overseas residents. If your client is not in Australia, you will not be able to apply for ACT nomination of a skilled nominated (Subclass 190) visa until the programs reopens on 1 July 2016.

Application for ACT nomination submitted before 4pm today we will still be proceed in queue order.

Please note, the current processing time is 3-4 moths due to the large number of applicants received post publication of the February 23 Occupation list.

CANBERRA RESIDENTS

This action does not affect Canberra based applicants. If your client is living in Canberra the 190 ACT nomination program is still open if they meet the nomination criteria. The average processing time of applications from Canberra residents is 4 weeks.

Source: Migration Institute Australia (www.mia.org.au)

Australia celebrates cultural diversity

Everyone is being encouraged to celebrate Australia's culturally diverse and cohesive society to mark Harmony Day today. Harmony Day is a day that reinforces the importance of inclusiveness to all Australians, respecting cultural, religious and linguistic diversity, and promoting a tolerant and cohesive society.

Australia's diversity and spirit of cultural acceptance is its strength.

Harmony Day is particularly important to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) given its role in facilitating international trade, visitors and temporary and permanent migrants to Australia.

The Department, including its operational enforcement arm the Australian Border Force, prides itself on being inclusive and accepting. Today, more than 16 per cent of its staff come from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and more than 220 staff identify as Indigenous —with diversity programmes and initiatives in place to help build DIBP's diverse and inclusive workforce.

The Department is Australia's trusted global gateway. Its efforts concentrate on protecting the border to keep it, and the Australian way of life, safe.

Since October 1945, the Department proudly managed the migration of more than seven million people to Australia. More than 825,000 of these people arrived under the Department's Humanitarian Programme.

The remarkable post-World War II mass migration programmes have shaped Australia to become the modern, vibrant country it is today.

This is evidenced in an exhibition that opens at the Migration Museum in Adelaide on 26 March. It presents a small proportion of the millions of migrant documents, thousands of passenger lists and tens of thousands of immigration photographs held in the National Archives of Australia.

The exhibition, which will tour the country until 2019, showcases the rich diversity of the nation's immigrants, their experiences and the vital contribution they've made to Australia. It reveals the human aspect of migration, with recordings of new and archival personal stories.

Through the Department's support of these initiatives, it is able to share Australia's proud history of immigration, something that is at the forefront this Harmony Day in celebrating cultural diversity.

<i>A Ticket to Paradise?</i> exhibition tour dates	
Venue	Display dates
SA Migration Museum	26 March to 31 July 2016
Albury Library Museum	29 October to 11 December 2016

Note: Further dates and Venue to be published

Source: <http://newsroom.border.gov.au/releases/australia-celebrates-cultural-diversity>

Australia and Hungary sign work and holiday arrangement

Hungary has become the latest country to sign a reciprocal arrangement with Australia, allowing young people from both countries to visit each other's nations under the Australian Government's work and holiday arrangements.

The arrangement was signed recently at Parliament House between the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Peter Dutton and Hungarian Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Dr Attila Laszlo Gruber.

Mr Dutton said this was a great development as it would encourage young people to add Australia or Hungary as another holiday destination when going abroad to travel, work and study for a short term.

"Under the arrangement, people aged 18 to 30 years will be able to travel to each other's country for one year and undertake short-term work and study under the Work and Holiday subclass 462 visa," Mr Dutton said.

"We will be working closely with our Hungarian counterparts to establish a mutually agreed start date for this arrangement as soon as possible.

"Once the arrangement has commenced, eligible young people from Hungary and Australia will be able to apply for this visa programme."

The arrangement will be capped at 200 places each year.

Source: <http://www.minister.border.gov.au/peterdutton/2016/Pages/australia-hungary-arrangement.aspx>

A.P.B. Education

Specialist IELTS Test Training and Coaching

Passing an IELTS test is now an essential requirement for all applicant for General Skilled Migration, student visas, and for many employer sponsored applicants. Adrian Bitel provides individual lessons to assist applicants achieve proficiency to the required levels in:

- Reading
- Speaking
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