

Rights and obligations

Citizen with permanent residence, with a refugee status and those, who are holders of humanitarian protection, have the same rights and obligations as Bulgarian citizens with few exceptions (like for example they cannot vote at official parliament, presidential or local elections).

More specifically humanitarian protection holders have the rights of:

- Employment without special permit;
- Education in state schools and universities;
- Family reunion on the territory of the country;
- Apply for Bulgarian citizenship 5 years after receiving the status;
- Travel abroad under the conditions applicable for foreigners with a permanent residence permit in Bulgaria (they will have to have a valid passport with themselves, with term of validity at least 6 months from the date of travel, and the passport must not be issued more than 10 years before the travel).

More specifically refugees have the following rights of:

- Employment without special permit;
- Education in state schools and universities;
- Family reunion on the territory of the country;
- Apply for Bulgarian citizenship 3 years after receiving the status;
- Travel abroad under the conditions applicable Bulgarian citizens.

The refugee status holders do not have the right to:

- Participate in general and municipal elections;
- Vote in national and regional referenda;
- Take part in the establishment of political parties or be members of political parties;
- Be elected in positions, which by law require Bulgarian citizenship;
- Serve in the Bulgarian armed forces.

The rights of the refugee status holders may also be subject to other limitations in case a particular law has explicitly provided for such limitations.

(<http://www.asylum.bg/en-3/en3-1/en3-1-2/>)