

Legalization

Japanese documents

Japanese documents (documents issued by a Japanese authority) intended for Belgian authorities (ministries, local authorities, etc.) must be legalized in Japan. This is done by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (*Gaimusho*) by means of an “apostille” (an authentication stamp according to the Convention of The Hague of 1961). More information on the website of the *Gaimusho*: [Certification](#)

Non-Japanese documents

If you intend to submit a document that was not issued by a Japanese authority (for example: Vietnamese birth certificate, Moroccan marriage certificate, etc.) for a visa application, please consult with the Belgian Embassy in that country on the correct legalization procedure. If the legalization of that document follows the procedure outlined by the Belgian Embassy or Consulate in the issuing country, it can be accepted by the Embassy of Belgium in Japan.

Click [here](#) for a list of Belgium’s Embassies and Consulates abroad.

Translation

Translation in Belgium

Once the document has been legalized with an apostille by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it must also be translated into the language of the administration you will contact in Belgium (Dutch, French or German). Please contact a “**sworn translator**” in Belgium. A list of sworn translators in Belgium is available at the Court of First Instance in Belgium. You can also find a list [here](#).

Translation in Japan

Translating documents in Japan is more complicated because the system of “sworn translators” does not exist in Japan.

In this case, once the document has been legalized with an apostille by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has been translated into the language of the administration you will contact in Belgium (Dutch, French, or German), the translator must send the translation to the **notary public** for the declaration and the legalization of his/her signature. This declaration and legalization of signature must then **also** be legalized by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs by means of an apostille.

It might not be easy to find a translation company that will accept to undertake this whole procedure. The following translation services are familiar with the procedure:

Japan Lingua Service Co. Ltd.

Address: 7F, 2-2-17 Ginza, Chuo-ku Tokyo

Phone: +81(0)3-3567-3815

<http://www.lingua-services.co.jp/aboutus/index.html>

Marianne Translation – M. KITAMURA

Address: 322, Kamitara, Maibara, Shiga

Phone: +81(0)749-52-6402 / +81(0)90-6827-5463

<https://www.marianne.jp/belgiquevisas.htm>

Disclaimer: The above-mentioned translation services are in no way endorsed by the Embassy, nor does the Embassy guarantee the quality of their work. Applicants are free to choose other translation services willing to undertake the legalization/translation procedure outlined in this document.