



IT Italian Citizenship Reform 2025 – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Following the enactment of the **Decree-Law of March 28, 2025**, significant changes have been introduced to the rules governing Italian citizenship by descent. Below is a list of the most common questions we've received from clients and Italian descendants abroad.

? 1. Is the reform already in effect?

☒ **Yes.** The new rules have been in force since **March 28, 2025**, and apply to **applications submitted on or after that date**.

? 2. I have booked my appointment with the Italian Consulate and now waiting for the meeting/interview. Does this change affect my application?

☒ **Yes**, it does. The new rules will apply to everybody and retrospectively unless you have lodged your application together with the relevant documents before **March 28, 2025**.

? 3. What changes for citizenship by descent (ius sanguinis)?

☒ **The generational limit has changed.** Italian citizenship is now granted automatically **only up to the second generation**. This means that if the applicant **does not have a parent or grandparent born in Italy**, they are likely no longer eligible for recognition via the traditional ius sanguinis process.



? 4. What happens to applications submitted before March 28, 2025?

✓ **They will be processed under the previous law.** Applicants who filed their case **before the reform took effect** will not be affected. It's crucial to retain **official confirmation of submission** from the relevant Consulate.

? 5. Are Italian Consulates already applying the new rules?

✓ **Yes.** This is because the Decree is immediately effective. However, the majority of the Italian Consulate have **suspended** the interview/meetings and are **adjusting their internal procedures**. We recommend checking the **official website of your local Consulate** for updated guidance.

? 6. Can I still book an appointment for a citizenship application?

● **We have noticed that the booking system has been suspended.** Those Consular Offices which continue to accept applications require **additional documentation** to comply with the new rules though.

? 7. Who is exempt from the new restrictions?

✓ **The reform does not apply to:**

- Applicants who submitted their request **before March 28, 2025**
 - Individuals who are **children or grandchildren of Italian-born citizens** (first and second generation)
 - Individuals who were born in Italy.
-

? 8. Does the reform also affect citizenship by marriage or residency?

● **Not for now!** The 2025 reform (Decree n. 36, 2025) focuses specifically on **citizenship by descent**, but future amendments may affect other pathways such as **naturalization or**



marriage. Hence, there might be further implementations in this matter but not effective to date.

? 9. Is it true that some Italian municipalities have suspended civil record registrations?

✓ Yes, and so also the Italian Consulate Offices. Several municipalities have **suspended or delayed the transcription of civil records** (birth, marriage, etc.) from abroad while awaiting official guidance on how the reform affects registry procedures.

We are of the opinion that such a suspension is due to the fact that this reform is based on a “Decree-Law” which must be approved by the Parliament in Italy before becoming definitive. In fact, if it is not approved within 60 days (starting from the 28 March 2025) the Provision (and all its variations) will be nil and void (retrospectively).

? 10. What can I do if I no longer qualify under the new rules?

● There are still viable alternatives, but it will depend on the reason of your not eligibility.

- **Apply for a Resident Visa (or any other suitable Long Stay Visa) and move to Italy**
 - **File an administrative or judicial appeal**, where appropriate
 - Monitor developments from **future regulations or legal updates**
-

Need Personalized Legal Advice? Our Services: **Assess** your eligibility under the new and old law, **Assist** with documentation and filing; **Represent** you in case of **delays or rejections by authorities** and in the **Court** in Italy.

Fiorino & Associates

Level 38, 71 Eagle Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
Telephone (07) 2141 5866

Email fabrizio@fiorinolaw.com.au
Website www.fiorinolaw.com.au