Changes to Legislation: as of 3 November 2026, this Act is up to date with all changes known to be in force.



Number 9 *of* 1994

IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACT 1994

REVISED

Updated to 1 September 2021

This Revised Act is an administrative consolidation of the *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1994*. It is prepared by the Law Reform Commission in accordance with its function under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1975* (3/1975) to keep the law under review and to undertake revision and consolidation of statute law.

All Acts up to and including *Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021* (32/2021), enacted 23 July 2021, and all statutory instruments up to and including *Health Act 1947 (Sections 31AB and 31AD) (Covid-19) (Operation of certain indoor premises) (Amendment) Regulations 2021* (S.I. No. 447 of 2021), made 1 September 2021, were considered in the preparation of this Revised Act.

Disclaimer: While every care has been taken in the preparation of this Revised Act, the Law Reform Commission can assume no responsibility for and give no guarantees, undertakings or warranties concerning the accuracy, completeness or up to date nature of the information provided and does not accept any liability whatsoever arising from any errors or omissions. Please notify any errors, omissions and comments by email to revisedacts@lawreform.ie.

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ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Definitions.
2. Registration of births outside Ireland.
3. Short title, collective citation and construction.

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REVISED

Updated to 1 September 2021

AN ACT TO AMEND AND EXTEND THE IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACTS, 1956 AND 1986. [1*st May*, 1994]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE OIREACHTAS AS FOLLOWS:

Definitions.

1. — In this Act—

" the Act of 1956 " means the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956;

" the Act of 1986 " means the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1986;

" the transitional period " means the period of 6 months referred to in section 8 of the Act of 1986 which commenced on the 1st day of July, 1986, and ended on the 31st day of December, 1986.

Registration of births outside Ireland.

2. — (1) Where a person, during the transitional period, lodged an application for the registration under section 27 of the Act of 1956 of a birth outside Ireland and the birth would have been registrable under the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986, during the transitional period but was not so registered, then—

(*a*) where the birth has not been registered before the passing of this Act, that birth may be registered under the said section 27, or

(*b*) where the birth has been registered after the transitional period but before the passing of this Act, that birth may be re-registered under the said section 27.

(2) A birth registered or re-registered under section 27 of the Act of 1956 by virtue of *subsection (1)* of this section shall be deemed to have been registered on the 1st day of July, 1986.

(3) A birth registered under section 27 of the Act of 1956 during the transitional period shall be deemed to have been registered on the 1st day of July, 1986.

Annotations

Editorial Notes:

E1 Conditions for recording of entry in the foreign births entry book or in the foreign births register made pursuant to subss. (1) (a), (b) and waiver of fees prescribed (30.05.1994) by *Foreign Births (Amendment) Regulations 1994* (S.I. No. 155 of 1994), regs. 4, 5, in effect as per reg. 2.

Short title, collective citation and construction.

3. — (1) This Act may be cited as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1994.

(2) The Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986, and this Act may be cited together as the Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 to 1994, and shall be construed together as one.

ACTS REFERRED TO

Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1956	1956, No. 26
Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act, 1986	1986, No. 23

Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts, 1956 and 1986

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IRISH NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP ACT 1994

REVISED

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About this Revised Act

This Revised Act presents the text of the Act as it has been amended since enactment, and preserves the format in which it was passed.

Related legislation

Irish Nationality and Citizenship Acts 1956 to 2004: this Act is one of a group of Acts included in this collective citation, to be construed together as one (*Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 2004* (38/2004), s. 16(2)). The Acts in this group are:

- *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1956* (26/1956)
- *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1986* (23/1986)
- *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 1994* (9/1994)
- *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 2001* (15/2001)
- *Irish Nationality and Citizenship Act 2004* (38/2004)

Annotations

This Revised Act is annotated and includes textual and non-textual amendments, statutory instruments made pursuant to the Act and previous affecting provisions.

An explanation of how to read annotations is available at www.lawreform.ie/annotations.

Material not updated in this revision

Where other legislation is amended by this Act, those amendments may have been superseded by other amendments in other legislation, or the amended legislation may have been repealed or revoked. This information is not represented in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the amended legislation if one is available.

Where legislation or a fragment of legislation is referred to in annotations, changes to this legislation or fragment may not be reflected in this revision but will be reflected in a revision of the legislation referred to if one is available.

A list of legislative changes to any Act, and to statutory instruments from 1972, may be found linked from the page of the Act or statutory instrument at www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Acts which affect or previously affected this revision

None.

All Acts up to and including *Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021* (32/2021), enacted 23 July 2021, were considered in the preparation of this revision.

Statutory instruments which affect or previously affected this revision

• *Foreign Births (Amendment) Regulations 1994* (S.I. No. 155 of 1994)

All statutory instruments up to and including *Health Act 1947 (Sections 31AB and 31AD) (Covid-19) (Operation of certain indoor premises) (Amendment) Regulations 2021* (S.I. No. 447 of 2021), made 1 September 2021, were considered in the preparation of this revision.