

Beat: Politics

## **RUSSIAN CITIZENS WILL BE OBLIGED TO UNDERGO A BIOMETRIC DATA COLLECTING PROCESS**

### **IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SCHENGEN VISAS**

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**USPA NEWS** - Starting from September 14, 2015, Russian citizens will be obliged to undergo a biometric data collecting process, including fingerprints, in order to obtain Schengen visas. The biometric data will be stored in the Visa Information System (VIS), common to all Schengen Member States...

Starting from September 14, 2015, Russian citizens will be obliged to undergo a biometric data collecting process, including fingerprints, in order to obtain Schengen visas. The biometric data will be stored in the Visa Information System (VIS), common to all Schengen Member States.

Apart from Russia, the Visa Information System operates to issue visas to citizens of eighteen countries, including China, India, Turkey and the CIS countries. Russia leads in the number of Schengen visas obtained by its citizens, with Russians getting about a third of all visas issued by EU countries.

That is why European Union representatives have paid particular attention to the technical equipment of visa centers that will issue Schengen visas under the new rules. One of the leaders of visa service industry in Russia and the CIS countries is the Russian company PONY EXPRESS. It has more than 90 visa offices in Russia. 40 of them are already equipped with Futronic FS64 fingerprint scanners. By the end of 2015, there will be 60 such offices.

Y.M. Jiang, Marketing Director of Futronic, said 'Collecting fingerprint data for visa applications is becoming more and more popular all over the world. The USA started collecting visa applicants' fingerprint data from 2004; after that many other countries follow. The market of fingerprint scanner hardware for this unique purpose is getting bigger and bigger. Futronic Technology Co. Ltd. is one of the companies who can supply high quality and economical fingerprint scanner for this demanding application.'

National security has become a major issue for all countries. Their need to identify visitors is so important because more and more people are travelling around the world, today. Using Fingerprints is an easy, reliable and effective solution for such identification. Therefore, it can be expected that more countries will follow the same way the US and European countries in collecting their visitors' fingerprint data.

Source : Futronic Technology Company Limited

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