

(UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION)

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION NOTE ON ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC FINES IN
REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE**

- It has been detected that the driver's licenses of drivers who violate Articles 48, 51, and 118 of the Highway Traffic Law No. 2918 are permanently or temporarily revoked, and at the end of the revocation period, these drivers are subjected to training or psycho-technical evaluation and examination by a psychiatrist, and their licenses are returned to those whose condition is deemed suitable after the examination. Article 40 of the same Law contains regulations regarding driver's licenses obtained from foreign countries.
- In light of these findings, considering the fact that within the borders of the Republic of Türkiye, Turkish citizens are subject to the laws of the Republic of Türkiye and will use the documents issued by the authorities of the Republic of Türkiye, it is deemed necessary for those concerned to primarily be subject to the legislation of the Republic of Türkiye, that is, to use driver's licenses issued by the authorities of the Republic of Türkiye, in cases where driver's licenses are temporarily or permanently revoked pursuant to Law No. 2918, procedures will be carried out within the framework of the relevant legislation, in such cases, if those concerned present foreign driver's licenses, these documents will not be considered valid, and Article 118 of the Law will be applied, such conduct may constitute the crime of "misleading/deceiving official authorities" and fall under the scope of the Turkish Penal Code and is considered that confiscating foreign driver's licenses, without exceptions regulated by judicial incidents, court decisions, and Law No. 2918, will not be legally permissible.
- In the 88th article of the Highway Traffic Regulations titled "Driving a vehicle in our country with driver's licenses obtained from foreign countries and exchanging these licenses with our country's driver's licenses";
 - "Article 88- (Amended together with its title: RG-17/4/2015-29329(11); Amended: RG 05.06.2020 31146) Without prejudice to the provisions of the relevant laws and bilateral and multilateral agreements, the procedures and principles regarding driving a vehicle in our country with driver's licenses obtained from foreign countries are stated below:

a) For Turkish citizens who will drive in Türkiye with driving licenses obtained from foreign countries:

1) Driving licenses obtained from foreign countries can be used for a maximum of 2 years from the date of entry into our country.

2) Those who stay in our country for more than six months are required to carry a Turkish translation of their driving license, approved by a foreign representative office or a notary, along with their driving license.

3) At the end of two years, it is mandatory to exchange the driving license obtained from foreign countries for a Turkish driving license in order to drive in our country.

b) For foreigners who will drive in Türkiye with driving licenses obtained from foreign countries:

1) Driving licenses obtained from foreign countries can be used for a maximum of six months from the date of entry into our country.

2) At the end of six months, it is mandatory to exchange the driving license obtained from foreign countries for a Turkish driving license in order to drive in our country...”

➤ If it is determined that a vehicle is being driven with an expired old-style driver's license, action must be taken in accordance with Article 39/3 of Law No. 2918. However, if the person possesses an expired old-style driver's license and also holds a foreign driver's license, and it is determined that the old-style driver's license has not been temporarily revoked by the Courts, Public Prosecutor's Offices, or the authorities specified in Law No. 2918, then the foreign driver's license should be considered in accordance with Article 88 of the Highway Traffic Regulations.

➤ For example, if a person in our country possesses both an old-style driver's license and a foreign driver's license, and there is no record in the old-style driver's license records indicating that it has been temporarily revoked, and it is determined that the person has driven a vehicle of the appropriate class in our country within the periods specified in Article 88 of the Highway Traffic

Regulations, then no action will be taken under Article 39/3 of Law No. 2918. However, if it is determined upon checking the old-style driver's license records that the old-style driver's license has not been reclaimed, then action will be taken under Article 36/3-b of Law No. 2918.