

*Eesti Vabariigi Suursaatkond
Embassy of the Republic of Estonia
Stockholm*

No 10.1-13/85

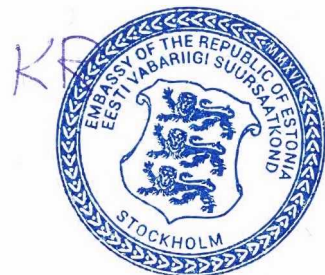
The Embassy of the Republic of Estonia presents its compliments to the Australian Embassy in Stockholm and has the honour to kindly forward the enclosed note No 10.1-13/4222 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia to the to the Department of Social Services at Australian Government.

The Embassy of the Republic of Estonia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Australian Embassy in Stockholm the assurances of its highest consideration.

Stockholm, 22nd July, 2026

Encl.

To:
Embassy of Australia
STOCKHOLM



*Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Estonia*

No. 10.1-13/4222

NOTE VERBALE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia presents its compliments to the Australian Embassy in Stockholm and, with reference to the Agreement Between the Republic of Estonia and Australia on Social Security, signed on 14 September 2015, has the honour to convey the following.

The Ministry would like to inform the Embassy of the legislative amendments introduced in Estonia concerning the replacement of the current survivor's pension for children with a new survivor's benefit. The competent authorities of Estonia have prepared an explanatory letter outlining these legislative amendments and explaining their implications for the implementation of the above-mentioned Agreement. The Ministry greatly appreciates the cooperation between Estonia and Australia, and kindly request the Embassy to forward the enclosed letter to the competent authorities of Australia.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia avail itself of this opportunity to renew to the Australian Embassy in Stockholm the assurance of its highest consideration.

Enclosed: explanatory letter on behalf of the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

Tallinn, 9 July 2026

Australian Embassy
STOCKHOLM





REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS

FOR OFFICIAL USE

Notation made on: 03.07.2026

Restriction on access valid until: 03.07.2031

Basis: AvTS § 35 lg 1 p 3

Holder of information: Ministry of Social Affairs

Australian Government
Department of Social Services
GPO Box 9820
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

Our ref 03.07.2026 No 1.4-2/1695-1

Notification regarding changes in legislation

Reference is made to the Agreement between the Republic of Estonia and Australia on Social Security, signed on 14 September 2015.

The Republic of Estonia hereby informs the Australian side that, as of 1 October 2026, Estonia will replace the survivor's pension for children with a new survivor's benefit under the Family Benefits Act.

The new survivor's benefit is a flat-rate family benefit intended to provide financial support to a child who has lost one or both parents. It will no longer depend on the deceased parent's previous insurance record and will be financed from general tax revenues.

As part of the same reform, Estonia will also discontinue granting new survivor's pensions to widows and widowers.

For persons residing in Australia, any survivor's pensions awarded before the reform will continue to be paid.

In addition, applications will continue to be accepted and processed where the entitlement arose before 1 October 2026. In such cases, the pension will be awarded and paid under the rules applicable before the reform, provided that the statutory conditions are met.

As of May 2026, however, there are no survivor's pensions currently in payment to persons residing in Australia.

For information, the main features and conditions of the new survivor's benefit are as follows:

- entitlement arises for children residing in Estonia, irrespective of their nationality and irrespective of the country in which the parent died, provided that the statutory conditions are met;
- it requires a prior connection with Estonia. This condition is met if the eligible child, the person applying for the benefit, or the deceased parent has lived in Estonia for at least 36 months during the 48 consecutive months preceding the application or the death of the parent.
- it is granted until the child reaches the age of 19, or until the age of 21 if the child continues in education, and it is paid as a uniform flat-rate amount for all beneficiaries,

irrespective of contributions or insurance periods. The amount of the benefit in 2026 will be EUR 345 per child and will be subject to annual indexation;

- it cannot be paid simultaneously with a survivor's pension for the same child; if a child is entitled to a survivor's pension from another state, the amount of that pension is deducted from the amount of the Estonian survivor's benefit.

Yours sincerely,



Leili Eenlo
Head of Social Security Policy

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