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Germany | Resident Permit Requirement Temporarily Waived

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The German government <u>announced</u> that Israeli nationals can remain in the country until April 26, 2024, without applying for a residence permit or an extension of their visa-free stay.

Key Points:

- Israeli nationals are now permitted to stay in Germany without applying for a residence permit until April 26.
- Israeli nationals are usually only allowed to stay without a visa for up to 90 days within a 180-day period.
- The ordinance was published in the Federal Law Gazette and entered into force on Jan. 26.

Background: The German Minister of the Interior emphasized the country's solidarity with the people of Israel and said the ongoing situation factored into the decision. Other countries have recently enacted similar measures to support citizens impacted by the Israel-Hamas war. Canadian officials recently <u>announced</u> a new temporary resident pathway for Canadian citizens' and permanent residents' extended family members in Gaza. The United States also recently <u>authorized</u> visa-free travel for Israeli nationals and designated Israel into the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, which allows eligible travelers to apply online for authorization to travel to the United States through the Electronic System for Travel Authorization.

BAL Analysis: The temporary measure should provide visa relief to Israeli citizens who are currently in Germany as officials aim to provide support to those affected by the conflict.

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