SAMPLE PHOTOS

- High-quality photos are essential for the perfect reproduction of the image and are a prerequisite for using facial biometrics in ID documents.

These sample photos show the features which mean that photos are suitable for use in documents. It is absolutely necessary to comply, as non-compliance means that any further processing of the image will not function, nor will the image be properly represented in the document.

The facial recognition systems should be able to render the passport photograph, but may require manual intervention to ensure that the image is suitable for facial biometrics.

As a rule, no head coverings should be worn for photos; the passport photograph must show only the person to be photographed (no other persons or objects in the photo). 

If a head covering is allowed, the face must be visible from the bottom of the chin to the crown (the top of the head, not the top of the hair) as well as the left and right sides of the face. The face must take up 50 – 80% of the photo. This means that the top of the hair should not be more than 30% of the upper edge of the photo. In the case of voluminous hairstyles, the entire head (including hair) must be visible without reducing the size of the face, if possible. The face must be centred in the photo.

The photo should clearly show the person’s facial features from the bottom of the chin up to the top of the head. Not the top of the hair and not the hairline, but the top of the forehead is visible. The face should take up 50 – 80% of the photo. This corresponds to a height of 32 – 36mm. The edge of the hair must be visible without reducing the size of the face, if possible. The face must be centred in the photo.

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FILE QUALITY

Digital photos must be able to be printed on high-quality paper with a print density of at least 300 dpi. Imprecisely taken photos or a digital speckle pattern should be avoided.

Colours must be natural and in a contrasting colour to the face and hair. In the case of light-coloured hair, a medium-grey background is suitable whilst a light-grey background is suitable for dark hair. Photos taken in black and white are suitable for use in ID documents. It is absolutely necessary to comply, as non-compliance means that any further processing of the image will not function, nor will the image be properly represented in the document.

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