

FAQ for the consumers or any other stakeholders related to the colour of the IMIC

1. Identification and presentation of the International Motor Insurance Certificate (IMIC) or the so-called “Green Card”

1.1. Is a visiting motorist allowed to present an IMIC in a PDF or any other electronic format?

Based on the decision taken during the 2019 General Assembly, the visiting motorist must present the IMIC in paper format. That does not prohibit the possibility to print out an IMIC from a PDF or any other electronic format on the spot, but it remains the entire responsibility of the visiting motorist to care for the printing of the document.

Authorities competent for checking IMICs are not obliged to arrange for printing of the required documents.

1.2. Will an IMIC printed black on white be accepted by all border control authorities?

Yes, insurance markets wishing to keep the issuing of the IMICs on green ground-colour are not hindered in doing so. However, the countries of the markets wishing to keep their green coloured IMICs, should accept the printed black on white IMICs from visiting motorists.

1.3. Can a visiting motorist cross the border or continue in using the vehicle in road traffic inside the country:

a) With an IMIC printed on paper of other colour than green or white?

No.

b) With an IMIC printed on the backside of another document (VAT invoice, laundry receipt, etc.)?

No.

c) With an IMIC printed not in vertical or horizontal but oblique position?

No, if the form of the IMIC would not remain square and complete.

d) With an IMIC printed on defective printer (leaking cartridge, stains and/or streaks, part of content illegible)?

No, if the IMIC would not be readable in its full scope.

2. Printing of the IMIC

2.1. Are there any minimum standards as to the size of the printout?

The acceptable size of the paper is: maximum A4, minimum A6.

2.2. What should be the quality of the paper?

An IMIC should be printed on a paper of good quality and blanc on both sides.

2.3. Rules for the rear size of the IMIC / What should be displayed on the rear size of the IMIC?

Depending on the decision of the National Bureau / its member insurer(s), a policyholder can receive an IMIC, which can consist:

- a. Of both parts: the front page and its rear side, the latter displaying the note to the insured and the list of names of the Bureaux (with or without their contact details); or
- b. of only the front page without any rear side.

Should the second option be applicable (2.3.b), the rear side of the IMIC must remain blanc, thus, neither information from the Bureau or Insurer, nor any other text (such as excerpts of documents, books, receipts, invoices etc.) can appear on the rear side of the IMIC.

2.4. Quality of the print for an IMIC to be printed from PDF

2.4.1. Any IMIC distributed in PDF must be printed in the same colour as in the PDF version.

2.4.2. The colour of the text displayed on the IMIC must be black.

2.4.3. The information on the document must be clear and readable.

2.4.4. Any IMIC cannot be printed on a defective printer (e.g. leaking cartridge, stains and/or streaks, part of the content illegible).

2.4.5. The IMIC must be printed in a vertical or horizontal.

3. Who to contact in case of an issue encountered by a visiting motorist in the visited country in relation to the colour of the “Green Card”?

The visiting motorist who is facing certain issues related to the colour of the “Green Card” should contact the Green Card Bureau from the policyholder’s country of residence or the Green Card Bureau of the visited country. The contact details of all Green Card Bureaux is available here: