

# MEDIA REPORT

— In the news —

## EU Digital COVID Certificate: Singapore equivalence decision

24 November 2021





# Summary: Media Coverage



On Wednesday, 24th November 2021, the Commission adopted a decision certifying that COVID-19 certificates issued by Singapore are equivalent to the EU Digital COVID Certificate (EUDCC). This news was disseminated widely by the Delegation's Press section and picked up immediately by key media, notably Singapore's leading daily, The Straits Times.

First to announce the news here was EU Ambassador to Singapore Iwona Piórko, who tweeted: "Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate". The timing of this major news announcement happened as Executive Vice-President Margrethe Vestager had a virtual meeting with Singapore's Transport and Trade Minister S.Iwaran. In her Tweet, Executive Vice-President Vestager wrote: "Much alignment and shared enthusiasm," between EU and Singapore for "an ambitious and comprehensive EU-SG Digital Partnership! On the same day as Singapore becomes 1st Southeast Asian country to connect to EUDCC." This news has been widely shared by Member State Ambassadors.



European Union  
Delegation to Singapore



## Summary: Media Coverage

In The Straits Times' article on this equivalence decision, the paper quoted EU Justice Commissioner Didier Reynders who noted that Singapore is the first Southeast Asian country to have its certificate recognised in this manner. He said, "To this date, we have 51 countries and territories in five continents that are now connected to the EU Digital Covid Certificate system... With the end of the year holidays approaching, I want to reaffirm to travellers the importance of this tool to underpin the confidence to travel inside and outside the EU."

In addition to coverage by local and regional news outlets, the news was also shared on social media by the various Member States. This report documents the highlights.





# News Coverage

## THE ARTICLES

### THE BUSINESS TIMES

#### EU accepts Singapore's Covid-19 vaccination certificates

© WED, NOV 24, 2021 - 9:56 PM | UPDATED WED, NOV 24, 2021 - 9:22 PM

KELLY NG [kellyng@sph.com.sg](mailto:kellyng@sph.com.sg) [@KellyNgBT](https://twitter.com/KellyNgBT)



Vaccinated Singaporeans can now travel to Denmark without quarantine, with the European Commission announcing on Wednesday (Nov 24) that it would accept Covid-19 vaccination certificates issued by Singapore. ST PHOTO: BENSON ANG

VACCINATED Singaporeans can now travel to Denmark without quarantine, with the European Commission announcing on Wednesday (Nov 24) that it would accept Covid-19 vaccination certificates issued by Singapore from Thursday.

In a Facebook post on Wednesday, the Danish embassy in Singapore wrote: 'GOOD NEWS!! Singapore and EU have agreed on recognising their respective vaccine certificates as equal.'

#### BREAKING NEWS

06:40 AM Europe: Telecom Stocks 600 amid 19 cases

06:38 AM US: Stocks most deluge of econo

12:19 AM Myanmar's shadow government hap US\$1b from reve

12:09 AM US new home sa October, Septe

11:53 PM US consumer sp ahead despite in

#### RECOMMENDED FOR YOU

Myanmar's shadow governm raise US\$1b from revolution

US new home sales rise in Q September revised down

### THE STRAITS TIMES

#### S'pore's Covid-19 certificate now recognised as equivalent of EU's certificate



The European Commission announced that Covid-19 certificates issued by Singapore are now recognised as the equivalent of the EU's Digital Covid Certificate. PHOTO: AFP



Timothy Goh

PUBLISHED NOV 24, 2021, 9:57 PM SGT

SINGAPORE - Travellers going between Singapore and the European Union (EU) will have an easier time proving their Covid-19 vaccination status from Thursday (Nov 25).

### THE MILELION



General Travel

#### Good news: Singapore vaccine certificates now equivalent to EU Digital COVID Certificate (EUDCC)

AARON WONG • NOV 24, 2021 • LAST UPDATED: NOVEMBER 25, 2021 09:11

From 25 November, Singapore vaccination certificates will be equivalent to EUDCCs, paving the way for frictionless travel across Europe.

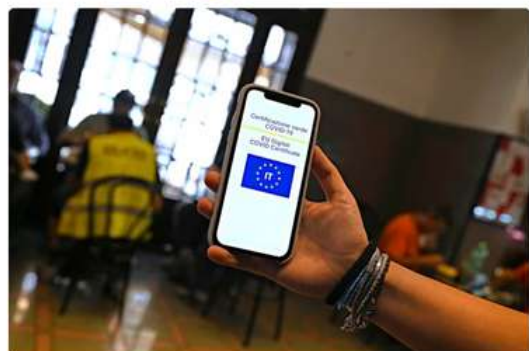


If you're hoping to visit Europe in the near future, here's some great news: the European Commission has announced that from 25 November 2021, Singapore vaccination certificates will be granted equivalency with the EU Digital COVID Certificate.

### yahoo!news

#### Singapore's COVID-19 vaccination certificates recognised by EU states

Staff Writer, Singapore • Editorial Team  
Thu, November 25, 2021, 9:20 AM • 2 min read



The European Union's digital COVID certificate. (PHOTO: Andreas Solarq/AFP via Getty Images)

SINGAPORE — Travelling between Singapore and European Union (EU) member states has been made easier, after the European Commission announced on Wednesday (24 November) that it recognises COVID-19 vaccination certificates issued by Singapore as the equivalent of the EU's digital COVID certificate.

Singapore is the first Southeast Asian country to have its certificate recognised in



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## THE ARTICLE

### **S'pore's Covid-19 certificate now recognised as equivalent of EU's certificate**

By Timothy Goh, 24 June 2021

SINGAPORE - Travellers going between Singapore and the European Union (EU) will have an easier time proving their Covid-19 vaccination status from Thursday (Nov 25).

The European Commission announced on Wednesday that Covid-19 certificates issued by Singapore are now recognised as the equivalent of the EU's Digital Covid Certificate.

The decision enters into force on Thursday, when those with a Singapore Covid-19 certificate will be able to use it under the same conditions as those holding the EU's certificate.

The EU's digital certificate proves that a person has either been vaccinated against Covid-19, received a negative test result or recovered from the disease.

It is issued to EU citizens, their family members, and non-EU nationals who are staying in an EU member state and have the right to travel to other member states.

EU member states may choose, but are not obliged, to waive restrictions for travellers who have received a vaccine that is not authorised in the EU.



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## THE ARTICLE

On its website, the commission advises those vaccinated with such vaccines to check which vaccines are acceptable by the EU state they are travelling to beforehand.

On Wednesday, the commission also said that Singapore has agreed to accept the EU's certificate for travellers from that region.

Calling the announcement good news, the Embassy of Denmark in Singapore wrote in a Facebook post on Wednesday night: "If you are travelling to Denmark, that means that you can use your Singaporean certificate to prove your vaccination status and avoid quarantine. It also means that you can use your EU certificate to prove your vaccination status in Singapore."

The announcement means that two-way quarantine-free travel has been restored with Denmark, which had on Nov 11 reclassified Singapore as a country with a high risk of Covid-19 infections and imposed a 10-day isolation period on travellers from the Republic.

EU Justice Commissioner Didier Reynders noted that Singapore is the first South-east Asian country to have its certificate recognised in this manner.

"To this date, we have 51 countries and territories in five continents that are now connected to the EU Digital Covid Certificate system... With the end of the year holidays approaching, I want to reaffirm to travellers the importance of this tool to underpin the confidence to travel inside and outside the EU," he said.





# THE BUSINESS TIMES

## THE ARTICLE

### **EU accepts Singapore's Covid-19 vaccination certificates**

By Kelly Ng, 24 June 2021

VACCINATED Singaporeans can now travel to Denmark without quarantine, with the European Commission announcing on Wednesday (Nov 24) that it would accept Covid-19 vaccination certificates issued by Singapore from Thursday.

In a Facebook post on Wednesday, the Danish embassy in Singapore wrote: "GOOD NEWS!! Singapore and EU have agreed on recognising their respective vaccine certificates as equal.

"If you are travelling to Denmark, that means that you can use your Singaporean certificate to prove your vaccination status and avoid quarantine. It also means that you can use your EU certificate to prove your vaccination status in Singapore."

Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital Covid Certificate.

Prior to this, travellers from Singapore would have had to be quarantined for at least four days in Denmark, as Singapore's vaccination certificates were not recognised. Travellers also had to be tested for Covid-19 upon arrival and self-isolate for 10 days. They could break isolation on Day 4 with a negative PCR test.



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# THE BUSINESS TIMES

## THE ARTICLE

Denmark was recently added to Singapore's Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTLs) scheme, which allows for quarantine-free travel for those flying into Singapore on designated flights.

The other countries in the EU under Singapore's VTL scheme, such as Germany, Italy, France and the Netherlands, already allowed vaccinated Singaporeans to travel quarantine-free prior to this.

In a statement on the European Commission's website, Commissioner for Justice Didier Reynders said there are currently 51 countries and territories across 5 continents now connected to the EU's certificate system. Togo, in Africa, was also on Thursday added to the list of non-EU countries whose vaccination certificates would be recognised by the EU's system.

"With the end of the year holidays approaching, I want to reaffirm to travellers the importance of this tool to underpin the confidence to travel inside and outside the EU," Reynders said.



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# KEY SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The equivalence decision had excellent traction on social media platforms.



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**Priit Turk** @AmbPriitTurk

Important step to more open travel between Europe and Singapore!

**Iwona Piórko** @IwonaPiorkoEU · 19h  
Happy to announce Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC  
Proving your vaccination status when travelling between Singapore and EU will soon be easier.  
europa.eu/19DF7XR  
@EU\_Justice @DigitalEU @EU\_Health @EU\_EEAS @MFAsg

7:35 PM · Nov 24, 2021 from Central Region, Singapore · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 6 Likes

**Judit Pach** @AmbJudithPach

A very good news and one step ahead to make travel more accessible!

**Iwona Piórko** @IwonaPiorkoEU · 19h  
Happy to announce Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC  
Proving your vaccination status when travelling between Singapore and EU will soon be easier.  
europa.eu/19DF7XR  
@EU\_Justice @DigitalEU @EU\_Health @EU\_EEAS @MFAsg

7:44 PM · Nov 24, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 4 Likes

**Italy in Singapore** @ItalyinSG

#GoodNews #singapore diventa il primo paese del sud est asiatico collegato al sistema di certificazione dell'UE!  
I certificati COVID rilasciati da 🇸🇬 sono accettati nell' 🇪🇺 e in 🇮🇹 alle stesse condizioni del certificato COVID digitale dell'UE e viceversa  
Grazie @EUinSingapore

**Margrethe Vestager** @vestager · 8h  
Much alignment & shared enthusiasm with #Singapore Transport and Trade Minister S. Iswaran for an ambitious & comprehensive 🇪🇺 - 🇸🇬 Digital Partnership! On the same day as Singapore becomes the 1st Southeast Asian country to connect to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC 😊



9:10 AM · Nov 25, 2021 from Central Region, Singapore · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 5 Likes

**Eivind S. Homme** @NorwayAmbSG

Great news! Congratulations to all involved in the process!

**Iwona Piórko** @IwonaPiorkoEU · 19h  
Happy to announce Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC  
Proving your vaccination status when travelling between Singapore and EU will soon be easier.  
europa.eu/19DF7XR  
@EU\_Justice @DigitalEU @EU\_Health @EU\_EEAS @MFAsg

7:54 PM · Nov 24, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet 1 Quote Tweet 4 Likes

**Bogdziewicz\_M** @BogdziewiczM

Unia Europejska i Singapur uzgodniły uznawalność cyfrowych certyfikatów covidowych. Decyzja ułatwi przedstawianie dowodów zaszczepienia w czasie podróży międzynarodowych. @PolakZaGranicą @PLinSingapore

**Iwona Piórko** @IwonaPiorkoEU · 19h  
Happy to announce Singapore is first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC  
Proving your vaccination status when travelling between Singapore and EU will soon be easier.  
europa.eu/19DF7XR  
@EU\_Justice @DigitalEU @EU\_Health @EU\_EEAS @MFAsg

8:01 PM · Nov 24, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 3 Likes



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# KEY SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

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**Embassy of Denmark in Singapore** 19h · 🌐

GOOD NEWS!! Singapore and EU have agreed on recognizing their respective vaccine certificates as equal.

If you are traveling to Denmark that means that you can use your Singaporean certificate to prove your vaccination status / and avoid quarantine.

It also means that you can use your EU certificate to prove your vaccination status in Singapore... [See more](#)

👍❤️ 95      24 comments 12 shares



**Embassy of Finland in Singapore - Suomen suurlähetystö Singaporessa** 5h · 🌐

#Singapore is the first southeast Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC from today, 25 November 2021.

The EU will accept Singapore COVID certificates under the same conditions as the EU Digital COVID Certificate. This means that holders of certificates issued by Singapore will be able to use them under the same conditions as holders of an EU Digital COVID Certificate. At the same time, Singapore agreed to accept the EU Digital COVID Certificate for travel from EU.

More information : [https://ec.europa.eu/.../presscorner/detail/en/mex\\_21\\_6266](https://ec.europa.eu/.../presscorner/detail/en/mex_21_6266)  
<https://www.straitstimes.com/.../spores-covid-19...>

#covidcertificates

EC.EUROPA.EU  
**Press corner**  
 Highlights, press releases and speeches

👍❤️ 6

**German Embassy Singapore** 2h · 🌐

+++ Singapore's Covid-19 certificate recognised by EU +++

The European Commission has announced that Covid-19 certificates issued by Singapore are now recognised as the equivalent of the EU's Digital Covid Certificate.

From today, travellers going between Singapore and the European Union (EU) will have an easier time proving their Covid-19 vaccination status.

STRAITSTIMES.COM  
**S'pore's Covid-19 certificate now recognised as equivalent of EU's certificate**  
 Those with a Singapore certificate will be able to use it under the same conditions as those...

👍❤️ 49      8 comments



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# KEY SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The equivalence decision had excellent traction on social media platforms.



**Norwegian Embassy in Singapore** ✓  
18h · 🌐

Fantastic news!!! 🙌🙌🙌

EU Digital COVID Certificate: Commission adopts equivalence decisions for Singapore and Togo

Today, the Commission has adopted two new decisions certifying that COVID-19 certificates issued by Singapore and Togo are equivalent to the EU Digital COVID Certificate. As a result, the two countries will be connected to the EU's system. The EU will accept their COVID certificates under the same conditions as the EU Digital COVID Certificate. This means that ... [See more](#)

👍❤️ 10

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**Embaixada de Portugal em Singapura / Embassy of Portugal in Singapore**  
5h · 🌐

The European Union and Singapore have agreed to mutually recognise their Covid-19 certificates. Certificates issued by Singapore are now accepted in Portugal under the same conditions as the EU Digital COVID Certificate.

 EC.EUROPA.EU  
**Press corner**  
Highlights, press releases and speeches

👍❤️ 4



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# KEY SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

The equivalence decision had excellent traction on social media platforms.

**European Union in Singapore @EUinSingapore**  
319 followers  
3h · 🌐

🎉 We're happy to announce that 🇸🇬 Singapore is the first Asian country connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate #EUDCC 🥳

Proving your vaccination status when traveling between 🇸🇬 Singapore and the 🇪🇺 EU will soon be easier.

👉 More: <https://lnkd.in/d4GQHrF9>

European Commission European External Action Service Ministry of Foreign Affairs Singapore

**GOOD NEWS FOR TRAVELLERS**  
**Singapore is now connected to the EU Digital COVID Certificate (EUDCC)**

6



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## KEY LINKS



**Ambassador Piórko's tweet:**

<https://twitter.com/IwonaPiorkoEU/status/1463466535876546566?s=20>

**Iwona Piórko**

@IwonaPiorkoEU

### THE STRAITS TIMES

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/health/spores-covid-19-certificates-now-equivalent-to-european-unions>

### THE BUSINESS TIMES

<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/transport/eu-accepts-singapores-covid-19-vaccination-certificates>



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