

There are also risks and problems associated with having more than one citizenship.

Recognition of Canadian citizenship: The most important of these is that your Canadian citizenship may not be recognized in the country of your second citizenship. The authorities of that country may not recognize Canada's right to provide you with consular assistance.

There could also be problems in other countries, especially if you used the travel document of the country of your second citizenship to gain entry. In such circumstances, the local authorities could decide that Canada does not have the right to provide consular assistance.

Military service: Many countries still have compulsory military service. If you are a citizen, and you meet other conditions, you may be legally required to register for military service and to respond to call-up orders. This legal obligation may exist even if

A Canadian from Toronto went to Italy with his Italian-born parents. He was informed by the Italian authorities that he was considered an Italian citizen and would be required to perform military service. He had to have family members in Toronto obtain certain documents and then have them certified by the Italian consulate before he was allowed to leave Italy.

you do not reside in the country of your second citizenship. Your obligations could be enforced even if you're just visiting at some point in the future.

Some countries do not accept ignorance as an excuse for failure to comply. The consequences could be imprisonment or immediate induction into military service the next time you arrive in the country or

attempt to leave. Even dual citizens who have passed the age for military service may be considered defaulters for failing to report at the required time.

Taxation: Taxation arrangements between countries are complex. If you have dual citizenship, you may encounter obligations in both countries. These obligations should be discussed with your financial and/or legal advisers.

Travel: If you travel with two passports, you could be subject to increased scrutiny by immigration and security officials. You could be questioned about missing entry or exit stamps, as well as your reason for having two travel documents.

After graduation, a Canadian teenager travelled to Singapore for the first time to visit his relatives. What he didn't expect was to be arrested at the border and forced to join the military. Because of his dual citizenship, Canadian consular officers could not help him. In Singapore, he was considered a citizen of Singapore.

In some countries, possession of a second passport could result in its confiscation or a fine. You may even be prevented from leaving the country.

Many countries require their nationals to enter and leave the country on the passport of that country. A dual-national Polish/Canadian husband and wife without valid Polish passports were allowed to enter Poland on their Canadian passports to attend to a family emergency. To leave Poland, however, they were required to obtain Polish passports. The process took several weeks, and their delayed return almost cost them their jobs back in Canada.