



# Nationality and Borders Act 2022

## 2022 CHAPTER 36

### PART 1

#### NATIONALITY

##### *British overseas territories citizenship*

### 3 Provision for Chagos Islanders to acquire British Nationality

In Part 2 of the British Nationality Act 1981 (British overseas territories citizenship), after section 17G (as inserted by section 2), insert—

#### **“17H Acquisition by registration: descendants of those born in British Indian Ocean Territory**

- (1) A person is entitled to be registered as a British overseas territories citizen on an application made under this section if—
  - (a) they are a direct descendant of a person (“P”) who was a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies by virtue of P’s birth in the British Indian Ocean Territory or, prior to 8 November 1965, in those islands designated as the British Indian Ocean Territory on that date, and
  - (b) they have never been a British overseas territories citizen or a British Dependent Territories citizen.
- (2) An application under this section must be made—
  - (a) in the case of a person aged 18 years or over on the commencement date, before the end of the period of five years beginning with the commencement date;
  - (b) in the case of a person aged under 18 on the commencement date, or a person who is born before the end of the period of five years beginning with the commencement date, before they reach the age of 23 years.

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**Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the  
Nationality and Borders Act 2022, Section 3. (See end of Document for details)

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(3) In subsection (2), “the commencement date” means the date on which this section comes into force.”

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**Commencement Information**

- I1** S. 3 not in force at Royal Assent, see [s. 87\(1\)](#)  
**I2** [S. 3](#) in force at 23.11.2022 by [S.I. 2022/1056](#), [reg. 2\(a\)](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Nationality and Borders Act 2022, Section 3.