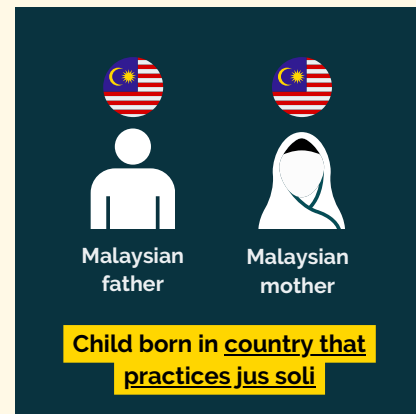
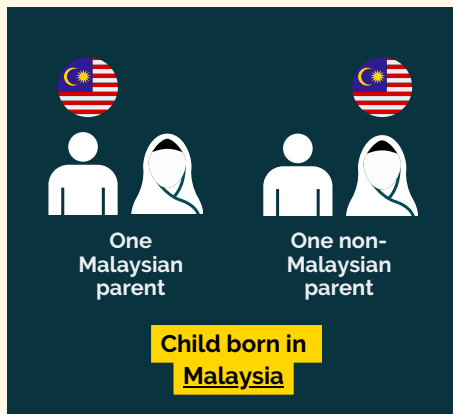
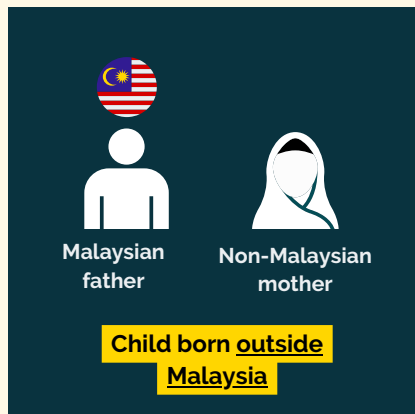


addressing the concerns of **DUAL CITIZENSHIP**



FAMILY FRONTIERS

Dual citizenship is only used as an excuse with regard to the citizenship rights of Malaysian women. However, it's important to note that children in the following categories can also hold dual citizenship:



There are existing legal safeguards against individuals above the age of 21 holding dual citizenship in Malaysia.

According to Article 23(1) of the Federal Constitution:

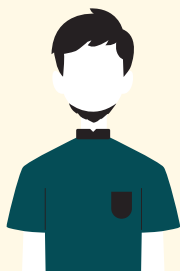
Renunciation of citizenship

23. (1) Any citizen of or over the age of twenty-one years and of sound mind who is also or is about to become a citizen of another country may renounce his citizenship of the Federation by declaration registered by the Federal Government, and shall thereupon cease to be a citizen.

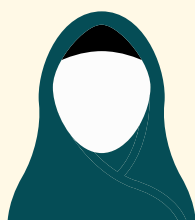
Therefore, upon reaching 21 years of age, individuals who hold dual citizenship must choose one citizenship as Malaysia does not permit dual citizenship beyond the age of 21.

There is also no question of floodgates.

Based on records of the National Registration Department (JPN) from 2013 - 30 June 2022:

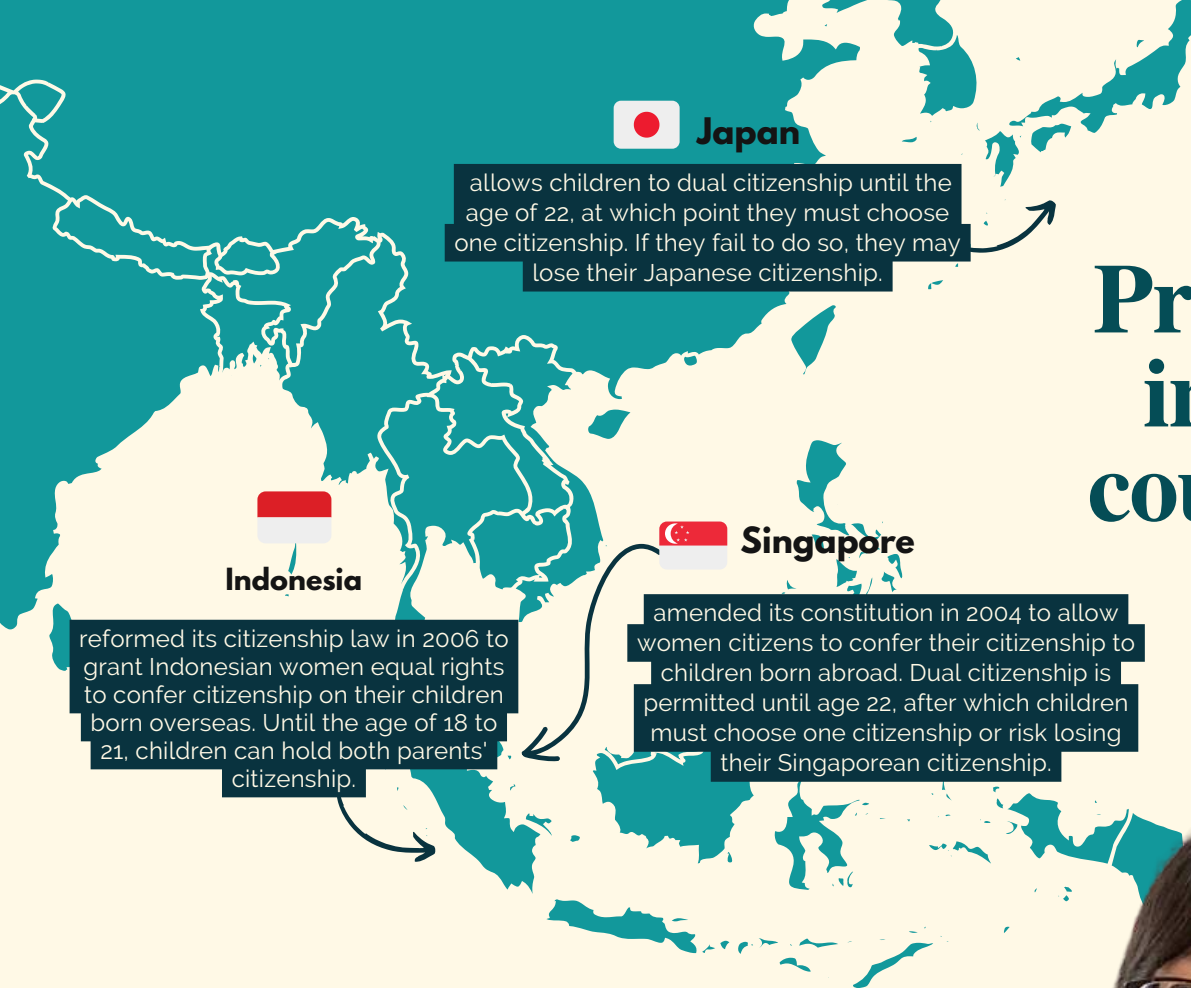


30,939 citizenship applications were received for individuals born abroad to Malaysian fathers.



Only **4,901 citizenship applications** were received for individuals born abroad to Malaysian mothers.

Only 591 applications under Article 14(1)(b) of the Federal Constitution by Malaysian mothers were received from December 2021 to 12 July 2022 following the High Court decision in *Suriani Kempe & Ors. v Government of Malaysia & Ors.*



 **Japan**

allows children to dual citizenship until the age of 22, at which point they must choose one citizenship. If they fail to do so, they may lose their Japanese citizenship.


Indonesia

reformed its citizenship law in 2006 to grant Indonesian women equal rights to confer citizenship on their children born overseas. Until the age of 18 to 21, children can hold both parents' citizenship.

 **Singapore**

amended its constitution in 2004 to allow women citizens to confer their citizenship to children born abroad. Dual citizenship is permitted until age 22, after which children must choose one citizenship or risk losing their Singaporean citizenship.

Practices in other countries

Overseas-born children of Malaysian women are forced to take on the foreign father's citizenship because the Emergency Travel Certificate required to return to Malaysia is not issued for those who do not have a Malaysian passport.

This leaves Malaysian women with the choice of having their children live undocumented in a foreign country or take on the foreign father's citizenship (which is then held against the child when seeking Malaysian citizenship).

The call for equal citizenship rights is not about introducing dual citizenship, but rather about ensuring that women are not discriminated against and their children have access to equal rights and opportunities.

