

# INFORMATION CONCERNING THE HAGUE CONVENTIONS ON PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW\*

## Situation as of 1 September 1981.

Entries into force subsequent to this date and pending the expiration of time consequent upon already executed formalities are indicated by the use of italics.

The following States have accepted the Statute of the Conference which entered into force on 15 July 1955 and have consequently become Members of the Organization: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany (F.R.G.), Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

### I CONVENTION ON CIVIL PROCEDURE, 1 MARCH 1954

In the relations between the Contracting States this Convention replaces the Convention of 17 July 1905 on Civil Procedure.

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
AUSTRIA	01.03.54	01.03.56	12.04.57
BELGIUM	01.03.54	24.04.58	23.06.58
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	(accession)	13.06.66	11.08.66
DENMARK	02.09.55	19.09.58	18.11.58
	Objection: Denmark has declared that it objects to the methods of transmission mentioned in Article 6, paragraph 1, No. 3, and in Article 15.		
EGYPT	(accession)	18.09.81	16.11.81
	The Convention will enter into force on the date indicated for the Arab Republic of Egypt if no State having ratified the Convention objects before 18 September 1981.		
FINLAND	17.09.56	08.01.57	12.04.57
FRANCE	24.01.56	24.03.59	22.06.59

Extension: France has extended the Convention to: the Islands of Saint-Pierre et Miquelon, French Somaliland, New Caledonia and French Polynesia (entry into force on 23 January 1961); the French departments of Algeria and overseas departments (Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guyana, Réunion) (entry into force 17 July 1961); the Sahara departments (Oasis and Saoura) (entry into force 17 October 1962).

\* The information given on territorial extensions does not purport to prejudice any solution to be found for the problem of State succession in respect of treaties after independence.

For information previously appearing under this heading reference should be made to (1974) 21 NILR 203-211, 333-347; (1975) 22 NILR 85-92, 355-368; (1976) 23 NILR 88-99; (1978) 25 NILR 239-256.

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GERMANY (F.R.G.)	09.04.57	02.11.59	01.01.60
Declaration: The Federal Republic of Germany has declared that the Convention applies to the <i>Land</i> Berlin.			
ISRAEL	(accession)	21.06.68	19.08.68
ITALY	01.03.54	11.02.57	12.04.57
JAPAN	1.03.70	28.05.70	26.07.70
LUXEMBURG	28.06.54	03.07.56	12.04.57
NETHERLANDS	01.03.54	28.04.59	27.06.59
Extension: The Netherlands has extended the Convention to the Netherlands Antilles (entry into force 2 April 1968).			
NORWAY	23.03.54	21.05.58	20.07.58
PORTUGAL	20.02.57	03.07.67	31.08.67
Extension: Portugal has extended the Convention to all Portuguese overseas territories. Poland and the Soviet Union have objected to this extension (entry into force 25 January 1967 except for Poland and the Soviet Union). Option: Portugal has taken the options of Article 1, paragraph 3 and of Article 9; transmission of documents and Letters Rogatory is therefore effected through diplomatic channels.			
SPAIN	12.04.57	20.09.61	19.11.61
SURINAM	(accession)	10.07.77	07.09.77
SWEDEN	28.06.54	21.12.57	19.02.58
SWITZERLAND	02.07.54	06.05.57	05.07.57
TURKEY	(accession)	13.05.73	11.07.73
YUGOSLAVIA	(accession)	12.10.62	11.12.62
<b>Other States</b>			
HUNGARY	(accession)	21.12.65	18.02.66
LEBANON	(accession)	09.11.74	07.01.75
MOROCCO	(accession)	17.07.72	14.09.72
POLAND	(accession)	12.01.63	13.03.63
Objection: Portugal has extended the Convention to all Portuguese overseas territories. Poland has objected to this extension (entry into force 25 January 1967 except for Poland and the Soviet Union).			
ROMANIA	(accession)	01.12.71	29.02.72
USSR	(accession)	28.05.67	26.07.67
Objection: Portugal has extended the Convention to all Portuguese overseas territories. The Soviet Union has objected to this extension (entry into force 25 January 1967 except for Poland and the Soviet Union).			
VATICAN CITY	(accession)	19.03.67	17.05.67

## II CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO INTERNATIONAL SALES OF GOODS, 15 JUNE 1955

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
BELGIUM	01.08.55	29.10.62	01.09.64
DENMARK	23.10.56	03.07.64	01.09.64

FINLAND	12.04.57	03.07.64	01.09.64
FRANCE	25.07.55	30.07.63	01.09.64
ITALY	13.04.56	17.03.58	01.09.64
LUXEMBURG	15.06.55		
NETHERLANDS	15.06.55		
NORWAY	24.10.56	03.07.64	01.09.64
SPAIN	12.04.57		
SWEDEN	23.10.56	08.07.64	06.09.64
SWITZERLAND	20.09.71	29.08.72	27.10.72
<b>Other States</b>			
NIGER	(accession)	11.10.71	10.12.71

### III CONVENTION TO DETERMINE CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE NATIONAL LAW AND THE LAW OF DOMICILE, 15 JUNE 1955

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
BELGIUM	01.08.55	02.05.62	
FRANCE	25.07.55		
LUXEMBURG	15.06.55		
NETHERLANDS	15.06.55	22.12.60	
SPAIN	12.04.57		

### IV CONVENTION CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE LEGAL PERSONALITY OF FOREIGN COMPANIES (Sociétés), ASSOCIATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS, 1 JUNE 1956

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
BELGIUM	01.06.56	28.03.62	
FRANCE	12.06.56	30.07.63	
LUXEMBURG	12.06.62		
NETHERLANDS	20.09.56	23.10.59	
	Extension to Netherlands Antilles and Surinam.		
SPAIN	12.04.57		

V CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS CHILDREN, 24 OCTOBER 1956

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
AUSTRIA	24.10.56	24.06.59	01.01.62
Option under Article 2 taken.			
BELGIUM	17.10.69	26.08.70	24.10.70
Option under Article 2 taken.			
FRANCE	24.10.56	02.05.63	01.07.63
Extension: France has extended the Convention to the whole of the territory of the French Republic (i.e., to the French overseas departments and territories) (entry into force 1 December 1966).			
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	26.08.59	02.11.61	01.01.62
The Convention is applicable to the <i>Land</i> Berlin. Option under Article 2 taken (Act of 2 June 1972).			
GREECE	24.10.56		
ITALY	08.10.58	22.02.61	01.01.62
Option under Article 2 taken.			
JAPAN	10.02.77	22.07.77	19.09.77
LUXEMBURG	24.10.56	27.08.58	01.01.62
Option under Article 2 taken.			
NETHERLANDS	24.10.56	15.10.62	14.12.62
NORWAY	24.10.56		
PORTUGAL	07.01.58	06.12.68	03.02.69
Extension: Portugal has extended the Convention to all territories of the Portuguese Republic (entry into force 3 September 1969).			
SPAIN	24.10.56	27.03.74	25.05.74
SWITZERLAND	04.07.63	18.11.64	17.01.65
Option under Article 2 taken.			
TURKEY	10.06.70	28.02.72	27.04.72
Option under Article 2 taken.			
<b>Other States</b>			
LIECHTENSTEIN	(accession)	21.12.72	18.02.73
Option under Article 2 taken.			

VI CONVENTION CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF DECISIONS RELATING TO MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS CHILDREN, 15 APRIL 1958

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
AUSTRIA	15.04.58	05.09.60	01.01.62

BELGIUM	11.07.58	15.09.61	01.01.62
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	(accession)	24.09.70	29.12.70

Acceptance of accession: the accession of Czechoslovakia entered into force on the dates indicated in the relations with the following States which have declared that they accept it: Belgium (29 December 1970), France (10 February 1971), Switzerland (13 April 1971), Germany (F.R.G.) (6 May 1971), Italy (5 June 1972), Austria (4 July 1972), Norway (11 October 1972).

DENMARK	12.08.65	02.11.65	01.01.66
FINLAND	10.02.66	26.06.67	24.08.67
FRANCE	06.01.65	26.05.66	25.07.66

Extension: France has declared that the Convention will apply to the whole of the territory of the French Republic (which comprises the French overseas departments and territories). This extension entered into force on the dates indicated in the relations with the following States which have declared that they accept it: Netherlands, Surinam, Netherlands Antilles (2 March 1968), Austria (11 October 1968), Germany (F.R.G.) (17 October 1969).

GERMANY (F.R.G.)	08.10.58	02.11.61	01.01.62
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The Convention is applicable to the *Land* Berlin.

GREECE	15.04.58		
ITALY	08.10.58	22.02.61	01.01.62
LUXEMBURG	14.03.62		

Reservation under Article 18.

NETHERLANDS	25.05.59	28.02.64	28.04.64
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Extension: an extension to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam entered into force in the relations with: Belgium (15 June 1964 and 1 September 1964), Germany (F.R.G.) (31 October 1964), Italy (13 November 1964), Norway (25 August 1966), France (28 October 1966), Denmark (5 January 1967), Sweden (3 August 1968), Austria (9 August 1968).

The Reservation made by the Netherlands on ratification was withdrawn on 12 December 1980.

PORTUGAL	09.09.71	27.12.73	24.02.74
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Extension: Portugal has declared that the Convention applies to the whole of its national territory.

SPAIN	18.01.73	11.09.73	09.11.73
SWEDEN	10.12.65	31.12.65	01.03.66
SWITZERLAND	04.07.63	18.11.64	17.01.65
SURINAM	(accession)		25.11.75

Surinam, to which the Convention had been extended by the Netherlands, has declared that the Convention will continue to be applicable after independence on 25 November 1975. For the States which had accepted the extension (see above, Netherlands) and for the Netherlands this declaration came into effect on 25 November 1975. Thereafter the Convention entered into force between Surinam and Turkey on 30 March 1977, this State having declared on that date that it accepts the accession.

TURKEY	11.06.68	27.04.73	25.06.73
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### Other States

HUNGARY	(accession)	20.10.64	19.12.64
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Acceptance of accession: the accession of Hungary entered into force on the dates indicated in the relations with the following States which have declared that they accept it: Germany (F.R.G.) (19 December 1964), Italy (5 April 1965), France (30 August 1966), Switzerland (25 June 1971), Austria (4 July 1972), Norway (11 October 1972), Netherlands (27 August 1979).

LIECHTENSTEIN (accession) 02.06.72 01.08.72

Acceptance of accession: the accession of Liechtenstein entered into force on the dates indicated in the relations with the following States which have declared that they accept it. Switzerland (1 August 1972), Hungary (8 August 1972), Netherlands (15 August 1972), Germany (F.R.G.) (7 December 1972), Norway (8 December 1972), Finland (14 December 1972), Sweden (20 December 1972), Denmark (12 January 1973), Austria (5 April 1973). Reservation under Article 18.

VII CONVENTION ON THE LAW GOVERNING TRANSFER OF TITLE IN INTERNATIONAL SALES OF GOODS, 15 APRIL 1958

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
GREECE	15.04.58		
ITALY	09.12.59	24.03.61	

VIII CONVENTION ON THE JURISDICTION OF THE SELECTED FORUM IN THE CASE OF INTERNATIONAL SALES OF GOODS, 15 APRIL 1958

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
AUSTRIA	08.10.58		
BELGIUM	24.04.58		
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	12.10.59		
GREECE	15.04.58		

IX CONVENTION CONCERNING THE POWERS OF AUTHORITIES AND THE LAW APPLICABLE IN RESPECT OF THE PROTECTION OF INFANTS, 5 OCTOBER 1961

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
AUSTRIA	28.11.66	12.03.75	11.05.75
FRANCE	29.11.61	11.09.72	10.11.72
Reservation under Article 15.			
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	22.10.68	19.07.71	17.09.71
The Convention applies to the <i>Land</i> Berlin.			
ITALY	15.12.61		
LUXEMBURG	03.01.63	13.10.67	04.02.69
Reservations under Articles 13, paragraph 3, and 15.			

NETHERLANDS	30.11.62	20.07.71	18.09.71
Reservations under Articles 13, paragraph 3, and 15. The Convention is applicable to the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam.			
PORTUGAL	29.09.67	06.12.68	04.02.69
Extension to all territories of the Portuguese Republic.			
SWITZERLAND	18.11.64	09.12.66	04.02.69
Reservation under Article 15.			
YUGOSLAVIA	05.10.61		

**X CONVENTION ON THE CONFLICTS OF LAW RELATING TO THE FORM OF TESTAMENTARY DISPOSITIONS, 5 OCTOBER 1961**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
AUSTRIA	05.10.61	28.10.63	05.01.64
Reservation under Article 12.			
BELGIUM	10.10.68	20.10.71	19.12.71
Reservation under Article 10.			
DENMARK	05.10.61	21.07.76	19.09.76
FINLAND	13.03.62	24.06.76	23.08.76
FRANCE	09.10.61	20.09.67	19.11.67
Reservation under Article 10. Extension: France has declared that the Convention will extend to the French overseas departments and territories.			
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	05.10.61	02.11.65	01.01.66
The Convention is applicable to the <i>Land</i> Berlin.			
GREECE	05.10.61		
IRELAND	(accession)	03.08.67	02.10.67
ISRAEL	(accession)	11.11.77	10.01.78
ITALY	15.12.61		
JAPAN	30.01.64	03.06.64	02.08.64
LUXEMBURG	05.02.68	07.12.78	05.02.79
Reservations under Articles 9, 10 and 12.			
NETHERLANDS	17.03.80		
NORWAY	05.10.61	02.11.72	01.01.73
PORTUGAL	29.09.67		
SPAIN	21.10.76		
SWEDEN	05.10.61	09.07.76	07.09.76
SWITZERLAND	09.09.70	18.08.71	17.10.71
Reservation under Article 10.			
UNITED KINGDOM	13.02.62	06.11.63	05.01.64
Reservation under Article 9. Extensions: The United Kingdom has proceeded to the following extensions: Antigua, Basutoland, Bermuda, British Honduras, Brunei, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands and its Dependencies, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Grenada, Isle of Man, Montserrat, New Hebrides (to the extent that it is under British jurisdiction), Saint Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla, Saint Helena and its Dependencies, Seychelles, Tonga,			

Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands (entry into force 14 February 1965); Barbados, British Guyana (entry into force 8 May 1965); Mauritius (entry into force 19 February 1966); St. Lucia (entry into force 13 May 1966); St. Vincent (entry into force 8 July 1966); Swaziland (entry into force 22 May 1967); Hong Kong (entry into force 23 August 1968).

<b>YUGOSLAVIA</b>	05.10.61	25.09.62	05.01.64
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### Other States

<b>BOTSWANA</b>	(accession)	18.11.68	17.01.69
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Reservations under Articles 9 and 13. The Convention had been extended to Bechuana-land by the United Kingdom. After independence that State, now Botswana, acceded to the treaty by making the reservation under Article 13 and declared that it would apply the Convention only to wills made after the date of independence, i.e., 22 September 1967.

<b>FIJI</b>	(accession)	19.07.71	10.10.70
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The Convention had been extended to Fiji by the United Kingdom. That State declared that it considers itself to be bound by the Convention as of the date of independence, i.e., 10 October 1970. Fiji has confirmed the reservation made under Article 9.

<b>GERMANY (G.D.R.)</b>	(accession)	23.07.74	21.09.74
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<b>MAURITIUS</b>	(accession)	24.08.70	12.03.68
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The Convention had been extended to Mauritius by the United Kingdom. That State declared that it considers itself to be bound by the Convention as of the date of independence, i.e., 12 March 1968.

<b>POLAND</b>	(accession)	03.09.69	02.11.69
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Reservation under Article 12.

<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	(accession)	05.10.70	04.12.70
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Reservations under Articles 9, 10 and 12.

<b>SWAZILAND</b>	(accession)	23.11.70	22.01.71
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Reservation under Article 9.

<b>TONGA</b>	(accession)	10.08.78	04.06.70
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The Convention had been extended to Tonga by the United Kingdom. That State declared that it considers itself to be bound by the Convention as of the date of independence, i.e., 4 June 1970. Reservations made under Articles 9 and 10.

## XI CONVENTION ABOLISHING THE REQUIREMENT OF LEGALISATION FOR FOREIGN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS, 5 OCTOBER 1961

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	05.10.61	14.11.67	13.01.68
<b>BELGIUM</b>	10.03.70	11.12.75	09.02.76
<b>FINLAND</b>	13.03.62		
<b>FRANCE</b>	09.10.61	25.11.64	24.01.65

Extension: on ratification France declared that the Convention would apply to the whole French territory (including the French overseas departments and territories) (entry into force 24 January 1965). By a special declaration France thereafter extended the Convention to the French-British Condominium of the New Hebrides (entry into force 15 February 1966).



GERMANY (F.R.G.)	05.10.61	15.12.65	13.02.66
The Convention applies to the <i>Land</i> Berlin.			
GREECE	05.10.61		
ISRAEL	(accession)	15.06.78	14.08.78
ITALY	15.12.61	13.12.77	11.02.78
JAPAN	12.03.70	28.05.70	27.07.70
LUXEMBURG	05.10.61	04.04.79	03.06.79
NETHERLANDS	30.11.62	09.08.65	08.10.65
Extension: the Convention has been extended to the Netherlands Antilles (entry into force 30 April 1967) and to Surinam (entry into force 15 July 1967).			
PORTUGAL	20.08.65	06.12.68	04.02.69
Extension: The Convention has been extended to all the territories of the Portuguese Republic (entry into force for the non-metropolitan territories 21 December 1969).			
SPAIN	21.10.76	27.07.78	25.09.78
SURINAM	(accession)		25.11.75
The Convention had been extended to Surinam by the Netherlands. That State has declared that it will be bound by the treaty as of 25 November 1975, date of independence. No objection by any other Member State.			
SWITZERLAND	05.10.61	10.01.73	11.03.73
TURKEY	08.05.62		
UNITED KINGDOM	19.10.61	21.08.64	24.01.65
Extension: the United Kingdom has proceeded to the following extensions: Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man (entry into force 24 January 1965); Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Basutoland, Protectorate of Bechuanaland, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Guiana, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Brunei, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands and its Dependencies, Fiji, Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Grenada, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Montserrat, New Hebrides, St. Helena, St. Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Southern Rhodesia, Swaziland, Tonga, Turks and Caicos Islands, Virgin Islands (entry into force 25 April 1965); French-British Condominium of the New Hebrides (entry into force 15 February 1966).			
UNITED STATES	(accession)	16.08.81	15.10.81
YUGOSLAVIA	05.10.61	25.09.62	24.01.65

### Other States

BAHAMAS	(accession)		10.07.73
The Bahamas considers itself bound by the Convention as of 10 July 1973, date of independence. The Convention had been extended to the Bahamas since 25 April 1965. No objection by the other Contracting States.			
BOTSWANA	(accession)		30.09.66
The Convention had been extended to Mauritius, Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) and to Fiji by the United Kingdom. By unilateral declaration made on independence these States have expressed the wish to become a Party to the Convention. According to the interpretation given to this declaration by the Governments, the Convention entered into force with retroactive effect to the date of independence of those States, i.e., 30 September 1966 for Botswana.			
CYPRUS	(accession)	01.03.73	30.04.73
FIJI	(accession)		10.10.70
The Convention had been extended to Mauritius, Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) and to Fiji by the United Kingdom. By unilateral declaration made on independence these States have expressed the wish to become a Party to the Convention. According to the interpreta-			

tion given to this declaration by the Governments, the Convention entered into force with retroactive effect to the date of independence of those States, i.e., 10 October 1970 for Fiji.

<b>HUNGARY</b>	(accession)	19.11.72	18.01.73
<b>LESOTHO</b>	(accession)		04.10.66

Lesotho considers itself to be bound by the Convention since 4 October 1966, date of independence of ex-Basutoland. No objection by the other Contracting States.

<b>LIECHTENSTEIN</b>		18.04.62	19.07.72	17.09.72
<b>MALAWI</b>	(accession)		03.10.67	01.12.67
<b>MALTA</b>	(accession)		03.01.68	02.03.68
<b>MAURITIUS</b>	(accession)			12.03.68

The Convention had been extended to Mauritius, Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) and to Fiji by the United Kingdom. By unilateral declaration made on independence these States have expressed the wish to become a Party to the Convention. According to the interpretation given to this declaration by the Governments, the Convention entered into force with retroactive effect to the date of independence of those States, i.e., 12 March 1968 for Mauritius.

<b>SEYCHELLES</b>	(accession)	30.01.79	31.03.79
<b>SWAZILAND</b>	(accession)		06.09.68

The Convention had been extended to Swaziland by the United Kingdom. Swaziland has declared itself to be bound by the Convention since 6 September 1968, date of independence. No objection by the other Contracting States.

<b>TONGA</b>	(accession)		04.06.70
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The Convention had been extended to the Island of Tonga by the United Kingdom. Tonga has declared itself bound by the Convention since 4 June 1970, date of independence. No objection by the other Contracting States.

## XII CONVENTION ON JURISDICTION, APPLICABLE LAW AND RECOGNITION OF DECREES RELATING TO ADOPTIONS, 15 NOVEMBER 1965

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	27.02.67	08.10.68	23.10.78
Declarations under Articles 13, 16 and 17.			
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	04.08.67	07.06.73	23.10.78
Reservation under Article 22.			
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	15.11.65	24.08.78	23.10.78
Declarations under Articles 13, 14, 16 and 17.			

## XIII CONVENTION ON THE SERVICE ABROAD OF JUDICIAL AND EXTRA-JUDICIAL DOCUMENTS IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS, 15 NOVEMBER 1965

In the relations between the Contracting States this Convention replaces the first Chapter of the Convention on Civil Procedure of 1 March 1954.

A great number of declarations have been made under this Convention, notably concerning the utilisation of the various subsidiary channels of transmission. These

declarations cannot be reproduced here. Only designations of the Central Authority and extensions will be mentioned.

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
BELGIUM Central Authority: Ministère de la Justice.	21.01.66	19.11.70	18.01.71
DENMARK Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.	07.01.69	02.08.69	01.10.69
EGYPT Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.	01.03.66	12.12.68	10.02.69
FINLAND Central Authority: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	15.11.65	11.09.69	10.11.69
FRANCE Central Authority: Service civil de l'entraide judiciaire internationale, Ministère de la Justice.	12.01.67	03.07.72	01.09.72
GERMANY (F.R.G.) Central Authority: The Central Authority is for the <i>Land</i> Baden-Württemberg, das Justizministerium Baden-Württemberg, D 7000 Stuttgart; Bavaria, das Bayerische Staatsministerium der Justiz, D 8000 München; Berlin, der Senator für Justiz, D 1000 Berlin; Bremen, der Präsident des Landgerichts Bremen, D 2800 Bremen; Hamburg, der Präsident des Amtsgerichts Hamburg, D 2000 Hamburg; Hesse, der Hessische Minister der Justiz, D 6200 Wiesbaden; Lower Saxony, der Niedersächsische Minister der Justiz, D 3000 Hannover; Northrhine-Westphalia, der Justizminister des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, D 4000 Düsseldorf; Rhineland-Palatinate, das Ministerium der Justiz, D 6500 Mainz; Saarland, der Minister für Rechtspflege, D 6600 Saarbrücken; Schleswig-Holstein, der Justizminister des Landes Schleswig-Holstein, D 2300 Kiel.	15.11.65	27.04.79	26.06.79
ISRAEL Central Authority: The Director of the Courts, Jerusalem.	25.11.65	14.08.72	13.10.72
ITALY	25.01.79		
JAPAN Central Authority: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	12.03.70	28.05.70	27.07.70
LUXEMBURG Central Authority: Parquet général de la Cour supérieure de Justice.	27.10.71	09.07.75	07.09.75
NETHERLANDS Central Authority: Officier van Justitie bij de Arrondissementsrechtbank, The Hague.	15.11.65	03.11.75	02.01.76
NORWAY Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.	15.10.68	02.08.69	01.10.69
PORTUGAL Central Authority: Direction générale des Services judiciaires, Ministère de la Justice.	05.07.71	27.12.73	25.02.74
SPAIN	21.10.76		
SWEDEN Central Authority: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	04.02.69	02.08.69	01.10.69
TURKEY Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.	11.06.68	28.02.72	28.04.72
UNITED KINGDOM Central Authority for the United Kingdom: "Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for	10.12.65	17.11.67	10.02.69

Foreign Affairs”; for England, “Senior Master of the Supreme Court, London”, for Scotland, the “Crown Agent for Scotland, Edinburgh”, for Northern Ireland, the “Master (Queen’s Bench and Appeals), Belfast”.

Extensions entered into force on 19 July 1970 (Central Authority for each territory between brackets): Hong Kong (Colonial Secretary); Antigua (The Registrar, High Court of Justice, St. John’s, Antigua); Bermuda (The Registrar of the Supreme Court); British Honduras (The Supreme Court Registry); Virgin Islands (The Administrator); British Solomon Islands Protectorate (The Registrar of the High Court, Honiara); Cayman Islands (Her Majesty’s Principal Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, London); Central and Southern Line Islands (The Registrar of the High Court, Honiara, British Solomon Islands Protectorate); Falkland Islands and its Dependencies (The Registrar of the Supreme Court, Stanley); Fiji (The Registrar of the Supreme Court); Gibraltar (The Registrar of the Supreme Court); Gilbert and Ellice Islands (The Registrar of the High Court, Tarawa); Guernsey (The Bailiff); Jersey (The Attorney General); Isle of Man (The First Deemster and Clerk of the Rolls); Montserrat (The Registrar of the High Court); Pitcairn (The Governor and Commander-in-Chief); Saint-Helena and its Dependencies (The Supreme Court); Saint Lucia (The Registrar of the High Court of Justice); Saint Vincent (The Registrar of the Supreme Court); Seychelles (The Supreme Court); Turks and Caicos Islands (The Administrator).

<b>UNITED STATES</b>	15.11.65	24.08.67	10.02.69
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Central Authority: Department of Justice. The Convention applies to all States of the United States, to the District of Columbia, and to Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (U.S. Sector).

**Other States**

<b>BARBADOS</b>	(accession)	27.09.69	01.10.69
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Central Authority, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

<b>BOTSWANA</b>	(accession)	28.08.69	01.09.69
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Central Authority: the Minister of State in the Office of the President of the Republic.

<b>MALAWI</b>	(accession)	25.11.72	01.12.72
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Central Authority: The Registrar of the High Court.

<b>SEYCHELLES</b>	(accession)	18.06.81	01.07.81
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Central Authority: The Registrar, Supreme Court, Victoria, Mahé.

**XIV CONVENTION ON THE CHOICE OF COURT, 25 NOVEMBER 1965**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
<b>ISRAEL</b>	25.11.65		

XV CONVENTION ON THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE ABROAD IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS, 18 MARCH 1970

In the relations between Contracting States this Convention replaces Articles 8 to 16 of the Conventions on Civil Procedure of 1905 and 1954.

Member States	Signature	Ratification or accession	Entry into force
<b>CZECHOSLOVAKIA</b>	06.02.75	12.05.76	11.07.76
Czechoslovakia has declared that evidence may be taken on its territory by diplomatic officers or consular agents and commissioners on condition of reciprocity. Central Authorities: Ministry of Justice of the Czech Socialist Republic and Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Socialist Republic.			
<b>DENMARK</b>	18.04.72	20.06.72	07.10.72
Denmark has declared that it will not accept Letters of Request in the French language and that it objects to the taking of evidence by commissioners. Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.			
<b>FINLAND</b>	09.03.76	07.04.76	06.06.76
Finland will not accept Letters of Request in the French language; it does accept the use of the Swedish language. Central Authority: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.			
<b>FRANCE</b>	28.08.72	07.08.74	06.10.74
France has declared that it will only execute Letters of Request written in French or accompanied by a translation into French; Letters of Request issued for the purpose of obtaining pre-trial discovery of documents as known in Common Law countries will not be executed. Central Authority: Ministry of Justice (Service civil de l'entraide judiciaire internationale). France has also declared that the Convention applies to the whole of the territory of the Republic.			
<b>GERMANY (F.R.G.)</b>	18.03.70	27.04.79	26.06.79
Letters of Request should be in German or translated into German. The Federal Republic of Germany objects to the taking of evidence on its territory by diplomatic officers or consular agents if German nationals are involved. Central Authority: The Central Authority is for the <i>Land</i> Baden-Württemberg, das Justizministerium Baden-Württemberg, D 7000 Stuttgart; Bavaria, das Bayerische Staatsministerium der Justiz, D 8000 München; Berlin, der Senator für Justiz, D 1000 Berlin; Bremen, der Präsident des Landgerichts Bremen, D 2800 Bremen; Hamburg, der Präsident des Amtsgerichts Hamburg, D 2000 Hamburg; Hesse, der Hessische Minister der Justiz, D 6200 Wiesbaden; Lower Saxony, der Niedersächsische Minister der Justiz, D 3000 Hannover; Northrhine-Westphalia, der Justizminister des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen, D 4000 Düsseldorf; Rhineland-Palatinate, das Ministerium der Justiz, D 6500 Mainz; Saarland, der Minister für Rechtspflege, D 6600 Saarbrücken; Schleswig-Holstein, der Justizminister des Landes Schleswig-Holstein, D 2300 Kiel.			
<b>ISRAEL</b>	11.11.77	19.07.79	17.09.79
Central Authority: The Director of the Courts, Jerusalem.			
<b>ITALY</b>	06.02.75		
<b>LUXEMBURG</b>	02.05.75	26.07.77	24.09.77
Luxemburg has declared that Letters of Request in German will be accepted. Letters of Request issued for the purpose of obtaining pre-trial discovery of documents will not be executed. The <i>Parquet général</i> has been designated as the Central Authority and the authority competent to authorize diplomatic officers or consular agents and commissioners to proceed to taking of evidence.			
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	28.02.79	08.04.81	07.06.81
Letters of Request will be accepted in Dutch, German, English or French. Central Author-			

	ity: Officier van Justitie bij de Arrondissementsrechtbank, The Hague.		
<b>NORWAY</b>	18.03.70	03.08.72	07.10.72
	Norway has declared that it does not accept Letters of Request in the French language. Central Authority: Ministry of Justice.		
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	18.03.70	12.03.75	11.05.75
<b>SPAIN</b>	21.10.76		
<b>SWEDEN</b>	21.04.75	02.05.75	01.07.75
	Central Authority: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.		
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	18.03.70	16.07.76	14.09.76
	The United Kingdom does not accept Letters of Request in French. Central Authority: Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and for Northern Ireland, The Master (Queen's Bench and Appeals), Belfast.		
	Extensions: the Convention has been extended to: the territory of Hong Kong (entry into force 22 August 1978; competent authority: Chief Secretary), Gibraltar (entry into force 20 January 1979, competent authority: the Deputy Governor), the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia in the Island of Cyprus (entry into force 24 August 1979; competent authority: the Senior Registrar of the Judge's Court of the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia), the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies (entry into force 25 January 1980; competent authority: the Governor of the Falkland Islands and its Dependencies), the Isle of Man (entry into force 15 June 1980; competent authority: Her Majesty's First Deemster and Clerk of the Rolls) and the Cayman Islands (entry into force 15 November 1980; competent authority: His Excellency the Governor). These territories will not accept Letters of Request in French.		
<b>UNITED STATES</b>	24.07.70	08.08.72	07.10.72
	The Convention has been extended by the United States to the Island of Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. This extension entered into force on 10 April 1973. The Ministry of Justice has been designated as the Central Authority.		

### Other States

<b>BARBADOS</b>	(accession)	05.03.81	04.05.81
	The accession will have effect only in the relations between Barbados and Contracting States having declared acceptance of this accession. The Convention entered into force between Barbados and the United States 20 June 1981, Netherlands 20 June 1981, Luxemburg 4 August 1981, <i>Israel 19 September 1981, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands and Dependencies, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, Isle of Man, the Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia in the Island of Cyprus 21 September 1981.</i>		
<b>SINGAPORE</b>	(accession)	27.10.78	26.12.78
	The accession will have effect only in the relations between Singapore and Contracting States having declared acceptance of this accession. The Convention entered into force between Singapore and the United States 9 April 1979, Sweden 10 April 1979, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland 13 May 1979, Gibraltar and Hong Kong 13 May 1979, Norway 20 May 1979, Czechoslovakia 3 June 1979, Denmark 7 August 1979, Luxemburg 3 December 1979, France 27 December 1979, Finland 12 January 1980, the Netherlands 20 June 1981, <i>Germany (F.R.G.) 13 September 1981, Israel 19 September 1981.</i> Central Authority: Registrar of the Supreme Court. Chapter II of the Convention is not applicable as regards Singapore. Singapore will not accept Letters of Request in French.		

**XVI CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION OF DIVORCES AND LEGAL SEPARATIONS, 1 JUNE 1970**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	06.02.75	12.05.76	11.07.76
Reservations under Articles 19, paragraph 1, and 24.			
DENMARK	05.12.72	25.06.75	24.08.75
EGYPT	08.05.79	21.04.80	20.06.80
FINLAND	19.11.74	16.06.77	15.08.77
NETHERLANDS	29.08.79	23.06.81	22.08.81
NORWAY	12.10.72	15.08.78	14.10.78
SWEDEN	13.09.74	25.06.75	24.08.75
SWITZERLAND	23.07.75	18.05.76	17.07.76
Reservation under Article 24, paragraph 2.			
UNITED KINGDOM	01.06.70	21.05.74	24.08.75

Reservation under Article 24 with certain attenuations.

Extensions: the extension of the Convention to Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man by the United Kingdom entered into force on 2 November 1975 in relations with Sweden, on 2 May 1978 with Switzerland, *on 19 September 1981 with Denmark*. The extension to Gibraltar and Hong Kong entered into force on 4 June 1977 in relations with Switzerland, on 11 July 1977 with Sweden, *on 19 September 1981 with Denmark*.

**XVII CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS IN CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS AND SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL, 1 FEBRUARY 1971**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
NETHERLANDS	12.07.72	21.06.79	20.08.79
Also signed and ratified the Protocol.			
<b>Other States</b>			
CYPRUS	01.02.71	08.06.76	20.08.79

Non-Member State of the Conference allowed to sign the Convention in its capacity as a Member of the Council of Europe. Also signed and ratified the Protocol.

XVIII CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS,  
4 MAY 1971

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
AUSTRIA	06.09.73	12.03.75	03.06.75
BELGIUM	04.05.71	04.04.75	03.06.75
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	06.02.75	12.05.76	11.07.76
FRANCE	04.05.71	07.02.72	03.06.75
LUXEMBURG	03.06.71	14.10.80	13.12.80
NETHERLANDS	04.05.71	31.10.78	30.12.78
PORTUGAL	04.05.71		
SWITZERLAND	03.12.80		
YUGOSLAVIA	(accession)	17.10.75	16.12.75

XIX CONVENTION CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION  
OF THE ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS, 2 OCTOBER 1973

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	04.04.75	20.10.76	
ITALY	06.02.75		
LUXEMBURG	02.10.73		
NETHERLANDS	02.10.73		
PORTUGAL	10.10.73	22.04.76	
TURKEY	29.09.76		
UNITED KINGDOM	02.10.73		

XX CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO PRODUCTS LIABILITY,  
2 OCTOBER 1973

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
BELGIUM	24.03.76		
FRANCE	18.12.73	19.07.77	01.10.77
ITALY	06.02.75		
LUXEMBURG	02.10.73		
NETHERLANDS	02.10.73	27.06.79	01.09.79
NORWAY	02.10.73	13.10.76	01.10.77

Reservation under Article 16, paragraph 1, no. 1.



PORTUGAL	10.10.73		
YUGOSLAVIA	15.12.76	15.12.76	01.10.77

**XXI CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF DECISIONS RELATING TO MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS, 2 OCTOBER 1973**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
BELGIUM	09.11.76		
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	06.02.75	12.05.76	01.08.76
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2 letters (a) and (b).			
FINLAND	28.05.80		
Reservation under Article 26, no. 1 and 2.			
FRANCE	18.12.73	19.07.77	01.10.77
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	02.10.73		
ITALY	06.02.75		
LUXEBURG	02.10.73	19.03.81	01.06.81
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2 and 3.			
NETHERLANDS	02.10.73	12.12.80	01.03.81
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2 letter (a). On ratification the Netherlands extended the Convention to the Netherlands Antilles.			
NORWAY	13.07.76	12.04.78	01.07.78
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2.			
PORTUGAL	10.10.73	04.12.75	01.08.76
Reservation under Article 26, no. 1 and 2, letter (b).			
SWEDEN	01.02.77	17.02.77	01.05.77
Reservation under Article 26, no. 1 and 2. The Convention is extended to official deeds on a reciprocity basis.			
SWITZERLAND	23.07.75	18.05.76	01.08.76
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2 letters (a) and (b).			
TURKEY	02.10.73		
UNITED KINGDOM	30.11.73	21.12.79	01.03.80
Reservation under Article 26, no. 2 and 3.			

**XXII CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO MAINTENANCE OBLIGATIONS, 2 OCTOBER 1973**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
BELGIUM	09.11.76		
FRANCE	18.12.73	19.07.77	01.10.77

ITALY	06.02.75		
LUXEMBURG	02.10.73		
NETHERLANDS	02.10.73	12.12.80	01.03.81
On ratification the Netherlands extended the Convention to the Netherlands Antilles. The reservation of Article 15 was made at the time of ratification.			
PORTUGAL	10.10.73	17.12.75	01.10.77
Reservation under Article 14, no. 2 and 3.			
SWITZERLAND	23.07.75	18.05.76	01.10.77
Reservations under Article 14, no. 1 and 2 and Article 15.			
TURKEY	02.10.73		

**XXIII CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO MATRIMONIAL PROPERTY REGIMES, 14 MARCH 1978**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
AUSTRIA	14.03.78		
FRANCE	26.09.78	26.09.79	
PORTUGAL	12.07.78		

**XXIV CONVENTION ON CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITION OF THE VALIDITY OF MARRIAGES, 14 MARCH 1978**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
AUSTRALIA	09.07.80		
EGYPT	14.03.78		
FINLAND	24.09.80		
LUXEMBURG	14.03.78		
PORTUGAL	26.05.78		

**XXV CONVENTION ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO AGENCY, 14 MARCH 1978**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
FRANCE	14.03.78		
PORTUGAL	26.05.78		

**XXVI CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD  
ABDUCTION, 25 OCTOBER 1980**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
CANADA	25.10.80		
FRANCE	25.10.80		
GREECE	25.10.80		
SWITZERLAND	25.10.80		

**XXVII CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE, 25  
OCTOBER 1980**

<b>Member States</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Ratification or accession</b>	<b>Entry into force</b>
FRANCE	25.10.80		
GERMANY (F.R.G.)	25.10.80		
GREECE	25.10.80		
LUXEMBURG	13.04.81		