



Newsletter 2019, No. 41

Newsletter of the Global Network: “Child Support Worldwide”

**Dear network members and child support experts
all over the world,**

Meeting of the Expert Group on International Payments in Maintenance Matters

From 16 to 18 September 2019, a newly founded Experts' Group met at the premises of the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) in The Hague. The main objective of the meeting was to identify and develop solutions regarding the cross-border transfer of maintenance payments. Besides representatives of various Central Authorities, experts from the banking sector took part in the meeting.

The reason for forming an Experts' Group was not only the realization that the use of checks is very work-intensive and time-consuming, but also that the financial burden is very often placed on under resourced maintenance creditors who in fact often bear the costs for the international transfer of maintenance payments. The Experts' Group also noted the considerable differences between the national maintenance recovery systems, which make it difficult to harmonize payment transfers at the international level. The Experts' Group developed interesting approaches to solutions such as the use of a central platform for international money transfers, bundled transfer of maintenance payments through central bodies or the use of new financial services.

You can find information on the **background** and the **results** of the Experts' Group meeting on the web page of the HCCH at

<https://assets.hcch.net/docs/f0867642-b29f-40e4-a63f-68156e22ef57.pdf>

as well as in the practice report of the Permanent Bureau published in the journal JAmT 2019, issue 11. The article is available here in [English](#) or [German](#) for ordering by e-mail.

Hague Convention and Protocol 2007 / Questionnaires

The Permanent Bureau of the HCCH has circulated two questionnaires, one on the **2007 Convention**, one on the **2007 Protocol**. Purpose of this initiative is to prepare for a possible meeting of the Special Commission in 2020 in order to review the practical operation of both instruments and to encourage the development of good practices under the Convention (Article 54 (1) 2007 Convention and Article 21 (1) 2007 Protocol). The questions raised intend to gather information about the experiences made with the Convention, good ones or one's in need of improvement, and to obtain opinions on issues that should be discussed at the meeting of the Special Commission. Issues with regard to the Convention including the following:

- reservations made by a Contracting State (according to Art. 62)
- requests for specific measures (Art. 7)



- enumerated grounds for refusing recognition and enforcement (Art. 22)
- prohibition of a review of the merits of a decision (Art. 28)
- the rule to the effect that enforcement actions are governed by internal law but at the same time have to be in accordance with the requirements of the Convention (Art. 32)
- public bodies as applicants (Art. 36)
- direct applications to competent authorities without the assistance of local or central authorities (Art. 37)
- costs of cross-border proceedings (costs for translations, court fees, legal assistance)

The Questionnaires are mainly addressed to Central Authorities, but all other practitioners / experts are invited to share their experiences with the Convention and / or the Protocol either with the Central Authorities of their respective States or with [DIJuF](#) in order for the responses to be coordinated.

The Questionnaires can be downloaded under:

- https://www.dijuf.de/files/downloads/2019/2019_SC_CSUP_PD_01_EN_Questionnaire.pdf
- https://www.dijuf.de/files/downloads/2019/2019_SC_CPRO_PD_02_EN_Questionnaire.pdf

DIJuF kindly requests statements to be written in English. Closing date for the submission of the responses to the Questionnaires is **30 November 2019**.



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