



DIJuF

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NEWSLETTER OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK: "CHILD SUPPORT WORLDWIDE"

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

Special edition: Publication of the first Child Support Forum report!

The first Child Support Forum took place on June 1, 2022. The report written by *Isabelle Jäger-Maillet*, international coordinator of DIJuF, with the participation of the Forum's speakers from nine different EU member States is now available [here](#).

The report gives very **practice-oriented information** in summarizing the contributions of the participating public institutions regarding their respective national support systems. A better understanding of national structures can help eliminate misunderstandings about the role of the public body (as the creditor, the representative of the child etc...) between participants in a proceeding. In order to achieve a uniform use of language, the report also suggests using the term **"child support"** for the child's right to receive money from the non-custodial parent and **"maintenance support"** for the benefits paid by States instead of child support when the non-custodial parent fails to pay. In this regard, we would like to warmly invite those of you who would like to **share information** about their national maintenance support systems on the Child Support Worldwide (CSW) homepage to send us an overview in English. We would be more than happy to make it available.

Furthermore, the report **highlights the increasing role of public intervention** in the event of a default on maintenance payments (whether intentional or not) by the debtor in the national and international context. In the EU alone, maintenance support is provided in 20 States. Many of the schemes also provide counselling and support services for dependent children. This shows the unity of States in recognizing the importance of these measures in the fight against child poverty and the necessity to finance them through recovery measures against the primary maintenance debtor. However, the different legal cultures, administrative structures and financial possibilities have led to States pursuing highly divergent, sometimes very innovative approaches to solving the question of maintenance support and subsequent recovery. The report points out the diversity of applicants and of applications filed by or with the assistance of public bodies as well as the diversity of organizational structures of the maintenance agencies and, thus, charts the way to the topic of the next child support forum: "Challenges of the international maintenance recovery by public bodies."

Finally, the report emphasizes the importance of **promoting and strengthening the exchange between the various actors in cross-border maintenance recovery** within the CSW Network. The inaugural meeting was a first step towards identifying common ground and interests between the public bodies in attendance. The topic will come up again in November with a



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focus on the difficulties encountered by public bodies in claiming maintenance across borders. We will be happy to report on the results and look forward to further interesting exchanges on different aspects of cross-border maintenance recovery.

CSW-Newsletter – get involved!

Thank you for your feedback on the latest contributions!

You are kindly invited to continue sharing information with us regarding:

- Your national child support law and public supporting instruments,
- Private international law developments related to child support,
- The practice of cross-border recovery of child support in your State,
- Any events related to cross border recovery of child support.



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