

## Dear network members and international child support experts:

We are delighted to begin the spring with a new newsletter full of exciting developments from the world of the international recovery of maintenance and international family law.

You may have noticed changes in the visual appearance of the newsletter. It signals the end of the EU project "Recovery of Maintenance in the EU and Worldwide" and the transition to the independent international network project, "**Child Support Worldwide**". The main objective of this new project is to advance the implementation of international legal instruments in the maintenance field and to optimize their implementation with support from the global network of experts, including through regular exchange of experience.

At the same time, this network will be a platform for the sharing of experience and knowledge on issues relating to the recovery of maintenance. It also aims to contribute to effective and swift case management in order that the right of every child to maintenance, adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development (Art. 27 of the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child), **becomes a reality worldwide for as many children as possible.**

### **News on the Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance:**

We are very pleased to announce a development that we have all been eagerly awaiting:

The **European Union (EU) approved the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention** during the Council on General Affairs and Policy of the Hague Conference on 9 April 2014!

At present, the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention is in force between Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Norway and Ukraine. As of 1 August 2014, the Convention will be in force between these four States and the EU (*i.e.*, 27 Member States with the exception of Denmark).



For further information, please visit our website on [What's new?](#).

### **Handbook for the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention is ready for download**

The Practical Handbook for Caseworkers under the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention has just been published by the Permanent Bureau.

The preparation of the Handbook was a key recommendation from States involved in the negotiation of the 2007 Convention. It provides caseworkers around the world with information concerning the preparation, processing and management of applications and requests under the 2007 Convention. It contains step by step explanations and flowcharts for all types of applications under the Convention, practical information concerning the scope of the Convention, and instructions for completion of the Convention's mandatory and recommended forms. It can be downloaded in English and French.

### **e-Country Profile now available on the Hague Conference on Private International Law website**

Also in April 2014, the electronic Country Profile for the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention, which is meant to assist Contracting States to quickly and easily meet the formal requirements of Article 57 (1) and (2) of the 2007 Convention, has been completed and is [available](#) to Contracting States.

### **Publication of the Spanish version of the Explanatory Report on the Hague 2007 Child Support Convention**

The [Explanatory Report](#) on the 2007 Convention has also recently been made available **in Spanish**. This is another step forward on the road to the effective recovery of maintenance and the de facto implementation of the right of every child to appropriate maintenance all over the world.

All this breaking news, more detailed background information and documents can be viewed and downloaded from the website of the Hague Conference on Private International Law: [www.hcch.net](http://www.hcch.net).

### **Book "Recovery of Maintenance in the EU and Worldwide" can now be ordered**

The book "Recovery of Maintenance in the EU and Worldwide" that arose as a result of the EU project and which is edited by Professor Paul Beaumont, Prof. Dr. Burkhard Hess, Lara Walker and Stefanie Spancken, is **now available** and can be ordered [here](#).

### **Report Policy Forum 2014**

The NCSEA (National Child Support Enforcement Association) 2014 Policy

Forum in Washington DC focused on the rapidly changing family structures and the resulting political and legal consequences for legislation and policy. For three days, over 300 child support experts discussed issues such as social mobility, the relevance of systematic evaluation of policy and the definition of family in the United States, the EU and in tribal communities. Two events were dedicated to emphasising the international aspects of maintenance recovery. In order to access information from the 2014 Policy Forum, including the lectures "[What constitutes a family? A Multi-Cultural Perspective](#)" (Dr. Thomas Meysen, Maria Cancian, Tish Keahna and Scott Cade) and "[Bridging the International Divide for Children](#)" (Hannah Roots, Mary Dahlberg, Robert Keith and Diane Potts ), please visit "[What's new](#)".

### **Vacancy Announcement**

The Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) is seeking a [Legal Officer \(Senior\)](#) for the iSupport Project (full-time for one year starting 1 September 2014). He or she will work in the area of **International Recovery of Maintenance** and be part of a team, under the direction of the First Secretary with primary responsibility for the *Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance and the Hague Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations*. The iSupport team, under the supervision of the iSupport Project Director, will be responsible for the development of the *iSupport Electronic Case Management and Secure Communication System* as described in the [summary](#) of the project and in the [Draft business plan for the development of iSupport](#) (Prel. Doc. No 5 of September 2009 for the attention of the 2009 Special Commission).

The iSupport team will co-ordinate and facilitate the work of international Working Groups established for the development of iSupport. Working Groups will be comprised of various subject matter experts, including experts from Central Authorities working in the field of cross-border recovery of maintenance, experts from both the government and private sector working on secure electronic communication and fund transfer, government data protection experts and government financial and public procurement experts.

#### Responsibilities

The Legal Officer, under the supervision of the Project Director, will facilitate the Working Groups on: 1) Data protection; 2) Technical requirements (secured communications); and, 3) Financial sustainability / tender.

Additional information concerning this vacancy can be obtained [here](#).

All this information, plus additional information concerning current developments and interesting documents can also be found on our new

[What's new](#) page!

Last but not least we would like to offer you the opportunity to obtain any future Newsletters in Spanish. This offer will be depending on the demand. For that reason we kindly ask you to send us a message to [childsupport@dijuf.de](mailto:childsupport@dijuf.de) if you wish to receive the Newsletter in Spanish in the future.

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**To conclude, we would like to mention that we are very pleased to continue our partnership, through the management and distribution of the Newsletter, with the Hague Conference on Private International Law, the University of Aberdeen and the National Child Support Enforcement Association, and to support the continuous strengthening and growth of the international child support community together with you!**



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