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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility

National information and online forms concerning Regulation No. 2201/2003.

General information

Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003 of 27 November 2003 concerning jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility, repealing Regulation (EC) No 1347/2000

The Regulation applies between all Member States of the European Union with the exception of Denmark.

A judgment given in a Member State shall be recognised in the other Member States without any special procedure being required.

A judgment given in a Member State and enforceable in that State shall be enforced in another Member State when, on the application of any interested party, it has been declared enforceable there. An application for a declaration of enforceability shall be submitted to the court appearing in **Court for recognition/enforceability application**. The appeal against the decision on the application for a declaration of enforceability shall be lodged with the court appearing in the list **Court for appeal against a decision on recognition/enforceability**.

Judgments on access rights and judgments concerning the return of the child are recognised and enforceable in other Member States, without the need for a declaration of enforceability, provided they are accompanied by a certificate.

The Regulation provides for four standard forms.

Each Member State shall designate at least one central authority to assist with the application of the Regulation.

The European e-Justice Portal provides you with information concerning the application of the Regulation and a user-friendly tool for filling in the [forms](#).

Please select the relevant country's flag to obtain detailed national information.

Related link

[ARCHIVED European Judicial ATLAS website \(closed on 30 September 2017\)](#)

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Belgium

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Service public federal Justice

Boulevard de Waterloo 115

1000 Bruxelles

Tel: +32 2 542 67 00

Fax: +32 2 542 70 06

E-Mail: rapt-parental@just.fgov.be

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): English, French, German, Dutch

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): the certificate must be accompanied by a translation in the official language of the place of enforcement. This language (French, Dutch or German as the case may be) is specified in column II of the list (Manual) of Belgian administrative districts and judicial districts of courts of first instance annexed to the "Taking of evidence" Regulation (F for French, N for Dutch and D for German).

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Belgium, the *tribunal de première instance/rechtbank van eerste aanleg/erstinstanzliches Gericht*.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Belgium:

(a) a person applying for a declaration of enforceability may lodge an appeal with the *cour d'appel* or the *hof van beroep*.

(b) the person against whom enforcement is sought may lodge opposition with the *tribunal de première instance/rechtbank van eerste aanleg/erstinstanzliches Gericht*.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

-in Belgium: *pourvoi en cassation*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Bulgaria

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53 are as follows:

The Ministry of Justice

International Legal Protection for Children and International Adoptions Directorate

Tel.: (+359 2) 9237302

E-mail: L_Chernogorova@justice.government.bg

Fax: (+359 2) 9871557

Address: Ul. Slavyanska No 1

BG-1040 Sofia

Bulgaria

(for all questions covered by the Regulation in connection with parental responsibility and the abduction and placement of children (Article 56))

International Legal Cooperation and European Affairs Directorate

Tel.: (+359 2) 9237413

Fax: (+359 2) 9809223

Address: Ul. Slavyanska No 1

BG-1040 Sofia

Bulgaria

(for all questions covered by the Regulation, except for matters relating to parental responsibility and the abduction and placement of children (Article 56))

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications with the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 57(2) are: Bulgarian, English and French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access pursuant to Article 45(2) are: Bulgarian, English and French.

Articles 21 and 29

The competent bodies referred to in Article 21(2) for the recognition of judgments in matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility are the authorities competent for registration, namely the mayors of municipalities (Article 621(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

The competent body referred to in Article 21(3) for the recognition of judgments is the Provincial Court having jurisdiction over the opposing party's permanent or registered address or, if that party has no permanent or registered address in the Republic of Bulgaria, over the permanent or registered address of the interested party (Article 622(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure). If the interested party does not have a permanent address or registered address in Bulgaria either, the application is to be made to the Sofia Municipal Court.

The competent authority to which the application referred to in Article 29, for a declaration of enforceability of a judicial decision issued in another EU Member State, should be submitted is the Provincial Court having jurisdiction over the debtor's permanent or registered address, or over the place of enforcement. (Article 623(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure)


Article 33

The decision is subject to appeal before the Sofia Court of Appeal. (Article 623(6), first sentence, of the Code of Civil Procedure)

Article 34

Further appeals against decisions of the Sofia Court of Appeal are to be lodged with the Supreme Court of Cassation. (Article 623(6), second sentence, of the Code of Civil Procedure).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Czech Republic

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Office for International Legal Protection of Children (*Úřad pro mezinárodně právní ochranu dětí*)

Šilingrovo náměstí 3

602 00 Brno

Czech Republic

Phone: 00420 542 215 522

Fax: 00420 542 212 836

E-mail: podatelna@umpod.cz

Web address: <http://www.umpod.cz/>

Contacts:

Zdeněk Kapitán, Director

Markéta Nováková, Deputy Director

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Czech, English, German and French.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child – Article 45(2): Czech

Articles 21 and 29

Applications under Articles 21 and 29 are to be submitted to the following in the Czech Republic:

- district courts (*okresní soudy*) or court bailiffs (*soudní exekutoři*).

Article 33

Appeals under Article 33 are to be lodged with the following courts in the Czech Republic:


- district courts (*okresní soudy*).

Article 34

The only appeals that may be lodged under Article 34 in the Czech Republic are:

- action in annulment (*žaloba pro zmatečnost*) pursuant to Section 229 et seq. of Act No 99/1963 (Code of Judicial Civil Procedure), as amended, and appellate review (*dovolání*) pursuant to Section 236 et seq. of Act No 99/1963 (Code of Judicial Civil Procedure), as amended.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Germany

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Bundesamt für Justiz

Zentrale Behörde - Adenauerallee 99 – 103

53113 Bonn

Tel: +49 228 410 5212

Fax: +49 228 410 5401

E-Mail: int.sorgerecht@bfj.bund.de

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): German and English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): German.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Germany:

- in the district of the *Kammergericht* (Berlin), the *Familiengericht, Pankow/Weissensee*.

- in the districts of the *Oberlandesgerichte Braunschweig, Celle and Oldenburg*, to the *Familiengericht Celle*.

- in the districts of the remaining *Oberlandesgerichte*, to the *Familiengericht* located at the seat of the respective *Oberlandesgericht*.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Germany, the *Oberlandesgericht*.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Germany, by a *Rechtsbeschwerde*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Estonia

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and contact details of the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministry of Justice

International Judicial Cooperation Division

Suur-Ameerika 1

10122 Tallinn

Email: central.authority@just.ee

Tel: +372 620 8183; +372 620 8186; +372 620 8190

Article 67 (b)

Pursuant to Article 57(2), the following languages are accepted for communicating with central authorities: *Estonian, English*.

Article 67 (c)

Pursuant to Article 45(2), the following languages are accepted for certificates on access rights and the return of a child: *Estonian and English*.

Articles 21 and 29

Applications under Articles 21 and 29 must be submitted to the relevant *county court* in Estonia.

Article 33

Appeals under Article 33 must be submitted to the relevant *district court* in Estonia.

Article 34

Appeals under Article 34 may be submitted in Estonia only as *appeals in cassation*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Ireland

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministry for Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform

Bishop's Square

Redmond Hill
Dublin 2
Tel: +353 1 4790200
Fax: +3531 4790201
E-Mail: child_abduct_inbox@justice.ie

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to the central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Irish and/or English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): English and/or Irish.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Ireland, the High Court.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Ireland, the High Court.

Article 34

In Ireland, an appeal on a point of law to the Court of Appeal (it should be noted, however, that in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Constitution, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the High Court if it is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances warranting a direct appeal to it. The Supreme Court shall also have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the Court of Appeal if it is satisfied that certain conditions laid down in the Constitution are satisfied.)

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Greece

Article 67 (a)

Head of Directorate: Ms Argyro Eleftheriadou

Head of Department: Mr Vasilios Sarigiannidis

Mesogeion 96

11527 Athens

Tel.: 0030 213 130 7311, 0030 213 130 7312

Fax: 0030 213 130 7499

E-mail: aefletheriadou@justice.gov.gr, vsarigiannidis@justice.gov.gr, civilunit@justice.gov.gr

Article 67 (b)

Languages accepted for correspondence with central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Greek, English, French

Article 67 (c)

Languages accepted for certificates concerning the right of access to and return of a child pursuant to Article 45(2): Greek, English, French

Articles 21 and 29

Applications under Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Greece, a court of first instance (*Protodikeio*).

Applications shall be submitted to the court with jurisdiction for the debtor's place of residence or, if the debtor has no residence, the court for the debtor's place of accommodation or, if the debtor has no place of accommodation either, the court for Athens.

Article 33

Appeals under Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Greece, a court of appeal (*Efeteio*).

Article 34

Appeals under Article 34 may be lodged only by means of:

- in Greece, an appeal in cassation.

Appeals in cassation shall be lodged with the Supreme Court.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Spain

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Dirección General de Cooperación Jurídica Internacional del Ministerio de Justicia

Servicio de Convenios

San Bernardo 62

28015 Madrid

Tel: +34 91 3904437 / +34 91 3904273

Fax: +34 91 3902383

E-Mail: [✉ sustraccionmenores@mjusticia.es](mailto:sustraccionmenores@mjusticia.es)

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Spanish, English, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Spanish.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Spain, *Juzgado de Primera Instancia*.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Spain, *Audiencia Provincial*.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Spain, by an appeal in cassation.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - France

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and contact details of the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Two central authorities have been designated.

1. For the whole Regulation except for Article 56 (cross-border investments)

Ministère de la Justice (Ministry of Justice)

Direction des Affaires Civiles et du Sceau (Civil Affairs and Seals Directorate)

Bureau du droit de l'Union, du droit international privé et de l'entraide civile (Office for EU law, private international law and mutual legal assistance in civil matters, 'BDIP')

13 place Vendôme

75042 Paris Cedex 01

Email: [✉ entraide-civile-internationale@justice.gouv.fr](mailto:entraide-civile-internationale@justice.gouv.fr)

2. For the application of Article 56 (cross-border investments)

Ministère de la Justice (Ministry of Justice)

Direction de la Protection Judiciaire de la Jeunesse (Youth Protection Directorate)

Bureau des affaires judiciaires et de la législation (Office for Legal Affairs and Legislation)

13, place Vendôme

75042 Paris Cedex 01

Office address: Le Millénaire 35 rue de la gare Paris 19ème

Telephone: +33 (01) 44 77 69 02

Fax: +33(01) 44 77 25 78

Email: [✉ pole-international.dpjj-k1@justice.gouv.fr](mailto:pole-international.dpjj-k1@justice.gouv.fr)

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for correspondence with central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): French, English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and the certificate for the return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): French, English.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 must be submitted to the following court authorities:

- in France, the President of the Civil Court (*Président du tribunal judiciaire*) or their delegate.

Article 33

Appeals under Article 33 are to be lodged with the following courts:

- in France, the *Cour d'appel* (Court of Appeal).

Article 34

As provided for by Article 34, the judgment given on appeal may be contested:

- in France, only by bringing a *pourvoi en cassation* (appeal on a point of law to the Court of Cassation).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Croatia

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

the Ministry of Demography, Family Affairs, Youth and Social Policy (*Ministarstvo za demografiju, obitelj, mlade i socijalnu politiku*)

Trg Nevenke Topalušić 1

10000 Zagreb

Web: <http://www.mdomsp.hr/>

E-mail: ministarstvo@mdomsp.hr

Tel.: +385 1 555 7111

Fax: +385 1 555 7222

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2):

(a) Croatian or English for communication with the central authorities;

(b) Croatian for applications.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access pursuant to Article 45(2):

Croatian

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 must be submitted to the following courts:

Municipal courts receive and decide on applications for a declaration of enforceability.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 must be lodged with the following courts:

Appeals are lodged with courts of second instance (county courts) via the court of first instance that adopted the decision (a municipal court).

Article 34

Appeals pursuant to Article 34:

The judgment given on appeal may be contested by one of the parties submitting a motion for a retrial (Articles 421-428 of the Civil Procedure Act). A motion for a retrial must be submitted to the court which adopted the judgment at first instance (a municipal court).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Italy

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

the central authority for the whole of Italy is the Department of Juvenile and Community Justice (*Dipartimento per la Giustizia Minorile e di Comunità*)

Via Damiano Chiesa, 24

00136 Rome

Telephone: +39 06 68188326; Tel. 06 68188331. 06 68188335

Fax: +39 06 68808085

Email:  autoritacentrali.dgmc@giustizia.it

Certified email:  prot.dgmc@giustiziacert.it

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Italian, French, English.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child – Article 45(2): Italian, English, French.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 should be lodged with the courts listed below:

- in Italy, the 'Corte d'appello'

Article 33

The appeals provided for in Article 33 should be lodged with the courts listed below:


- in Italy, the 'Corte d'appello'.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Italy, by appeal on a point of law (*cassazione*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Cyprus

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministry of Justice and Public Order (*Υπουργείο Δικαιοσύνης και Δημοσίας Τάξεως*)

International Legal Cooperation Unit (*Μονάδα Διεθνοús Νομικής Συnergασίας*)

Leofóros Athalássas 125

Dasóupoli 1461, Nicosia

Cyprus

Contact points:

Mrs Yioulíka Hadjiprodomou
Legal Officer
International Legal Cooperation Unit
Ministry of Justice and Public Order
Tel.: (+357) 22805943
Fax.: (+357) 22518328
Email: yhadjiprodomou@mjpo.gov.cy

Mrs Troodía Dionysíou
Administrative Officer
International Legal Cooperation Unit
Ministry of Justice and Public Order
Tel.: (+357) 22805932
Fax: (+357) 22518328
Email: tdionysiou@mjpo.gov.cy

Article 67 (b)

For the purposes of Articles 57(2) and 45(2), in addition to the official languages of Cyprus, i.e. Greek and Turkish, English is also accepted.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate concerning rights of access and return of a child pursuant to Article 45(2):

For the purposes of Articles 57(2) and 45(2), in addition to the official languages of Cyprus, i.e. Greek and Turkish, English is also accepted.

Articles 21 and 29

Applications under Articles 21 and 29 are to be submitted to the following courts:

- in Cyprus

- (a) Family Court (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio*) of Nicosia-Kyrenia;
- (b) Family Court of Limassol-Paphos;
- (c) Family Court of Larnaca-Famagusta.

Article 33


Appeals under Article 33 are to be lodged with the following courts:

- in Cyprus, the Family Court of Appeal (*Devterobáthmio Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio*).

Article 34

In Cyprus, for the purposes of Article 34, there is no mechanism by which a judgment given on appeal can be contested before a court of third instance.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Latvia

Article 67 (a)

Names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Latvia

Brīvības bulvāris 36
Rīga, LV - 1536
Latvia
E-Mail:  tm.kanceleja@tm.gov.lv

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Latvian, English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Latvian, English.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

-in Latvia, the *rajona (pilsētas) tiesa* [district (town) court]

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Latvia, the *apgabaltiesā* [regional court].

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Latvia, *Augstākajā tiesā* [an appeal to the Supreme Court].

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Lithuania

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania

Gedimino ave. 30/1

LT - 01104 Vilnius

Tel: +370 5 2662933

Fax: +370 5 2625940

Ministry of Social Security and Labour

A. Vivulskio str., 11

LT - 03610 Vilnius

Tel: +370 5 266 42 01

Fax: +370 5 260 38 13

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Lithuanian, English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Lithuanian.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Lithuania, the *Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas* [Court of Appeal].

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:


- in Lithuania, the *Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas* [Court of Appeal].

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Lithuania, the *Lietuvos Aukščiausioji Teisma* [an appeal in Cassation to the Supreme Court].

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Luxembourg

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and contact details of the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Office of the Public Prosecutor attached to the Supreme Court of Justice (*Parquet général près la Cour Supérieure de Justice*)

Parquet Général

Cité Judiciaire, Bâtiment CR
Plateau du Saint-Esprit
L-2080 Luxembourg
Telephone: +352 475981 / 336
Fax: +352 470550
Email: parquet.general@justice.etat.lu

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for correspondence with the central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2) are: French, English and German.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and the certificate concerning return of the child(ren) pursuant to Article 45(2) are: French, English and German.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 must be submitted to the following court authorities:

- in Luxembourg, the presiding judge at the district court (*Tribunal d'arrondissement*).

Article 33

The appeals provided for by Article 33 must be lodged with the following courts:


- in Luxembourg, the Court of Appeal (*Cour d'appel*).

Article 34

As provided for by Article 34, the judgment given on appeal may only be contested by:

- in Luxembourg, bringing an appeal on a point of law (*pourvoi en cassation*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Hungary

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53 can be found using the search tool at the top of the page.

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2) are Hungarian, English, German and French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and the return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2) are Hungarian, English, German and French.

Articles 21 and 29

The courts to which applications referred to in Articles 21 and 29 may be submitted are the following:

– in Hungary, the district court operating at the seat of the competent regional court (*törvényszék székhelyén működő járásbíróóság*) and, in Budapest, the Central District Court of Buda (*Budai Központi Kerületi Bíróság*).

Article 33

The courts with which appeals referred to in Article 33 may be lodged are the following:


– in Hungary, the regional courts (*törvényszék*) and, in Budapest, Budapest-Capital Regional Court (*Fővárosi Törvényszék*).

Article 34

The judgment given on appeal pursuant to Article 34 may be contested only by:

— in Hungary: a request for review (*felülvizsgálati kérelem*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Malta

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

The Chief Executive Officer, Social Care Standards Authority
Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity
Social Care Standards Authority
469 Bugeja Institute
St Joseph High Road
Sta Venera SVR 1012
MALTA

Telephone: +356 25494000

Fax: +356 25494355

Email: feedback-scsa@gov.mt

Website: <https://scsa.gov.mt/>

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Maltese, English.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child — Article 45(2): Maltese, English.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

In Malta, the Civil Court (Family Section) and in Gozo, the Court of Magistrates (Gozo) (Family Section) (Superior Jurisdiction)

Article 33

The appeals provided for in Article 33 shall be brought in the courts listed below:

— in Malta and Gozo, the *Qorti tal-Appell* [Court of Appeal] in accordance with the procedure laid down for appeals in the Code of Organisation and Civil Procedure — Cap. 12.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only: this does not exist in national law.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Netherlands

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

The Department Legal and International Affairs of the Direction
Legal Youth Policy of the Ministry of Justice
Turfmarkt 147
2511 DP Den Haag
Postbus 20301

2500 EH Den Haag
Telefoon: (070) 370 79 11

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Dutch, English, German, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Dutch, English, German.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Netherlands, the *voorzieningenrechter van de rechtbank*.

Article 33


The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:


- in Netherlands, the *rechtbank*.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Netherlands, by an appeal in cassation.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Austria

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Bundesministerium für Verfassung, Reformen, Deregulierung und Justiz,

Museumstrasse 7, Abteilung I 10,

1016 Vienna

Tel.: +43 1 52152 2134

Fax: +43 1 52152 2829

E-mail:  team.z@bmj.gv.at

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): German.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child – Article 45(2): German.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts or competent authorities:

- in Austria, the District Court (*Bezirksgericht*).

Article 33

The appeals provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the courts listed below:

- in Austria, the District Court.

Article 34

The appeals provided for by Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Austria: by an appeal on a point of law (*Revisionsrekurs*), lodged with the District Court but addressed to the Supreme Court (*Oberster Gerichtshof*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Poland

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministerstwo Sprawiedliwości
Departament Współpracy
Międzynarodowej i Prawa Europejskiego
Al. Ujazdowskie 11
00-950 Warszawa
Tel/fax:+48 22 628 09 49

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Polish, German, English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Polish.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Poland, the *Sądy okręgowy* (district courts).

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Poland, *Sądy apelacyjny* (appellate courts).

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Poland, by an appeal in cassation to the *Sąd Najwyższy* (the Supreme Court).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Portugal

Article 67 (a)

The Central Authority designated in accordance with Article 53 is the following government department:

DGRSP - Directorate-General for Rehabilitation and Prison Services (*Direção-Geral de Reinserção e Serviços Prisionais*)

Legal Assistance and Dispute Department (*Gabinete Jurídico e Contencioso*)

Travessa da Cruz do Toren, n.º 1

1150-122 Lisbon

Tel.: (+351) 218 812 200

Fax: (+351) 218 853 653

[Homepage](#)

E-mail: gjc@dgrsp.mj.pt

Article 67 (b)

Pursuant to Article 57(2), the languages that may be used to communicate with the Central Authority are Portuguese, English and French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and the return of a child pursuant to Article 45(2) are **Portuguese and English**.

Articles 21 and 29

For the cases referred to in Articles 21 and 29, the court with jurisdiction is:

- the **Family and Minors Division** (*Juízo de Família e Menores*); or, if there isn't one:


- the **Local Civil Division** (*Juízo Local Cível*), if one exists, or the **Local General Division** (*Juízo Local de Competência Genérica*).


Article 33

The appeals provided for under Article 33 must be lodged with the **Court of Appeal** (*Tribunal da Relação*).

Article 34

For the purposes of Article 34 of the Regulation, it is only possible to bring an **appeal on a point of law** and this must be lodged with the **Supreme Court of Justice** (*Supremo Tribunal de Justiça*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Romania

Article 67 (a)

The Ministry of Justice is the central authority in Romania (Article 3 of Article I 3 of Law No 191/2007 approving Government Emergency Order No 119/2006 on certain measures necessary for the application of Community Regulations from the date of Romania's accession to the European Union).

Ministry of Justice, Directorate for International Law and Judicial Cooperation,

Str. Apolodor No 17, Sector 5, Code 050741, Bucharest

Tel.: +40372041077, +40372041083, +40372041218, Fax: +40372041079, +40372041084

Article 67 (b)

Romania accepts the Romanian, English and French languages for the certificate of child return or visit and for communications to central authorities.

Article 67 (c)

Romania accepts the Romanian, English and French languages for the certificate of child return or visit and for communications to central authorities.

Articles 21 and 29

Claims for recognition and declaration of enforceability (exequatur) fall within the jurisdiction of the court in the district of which the defendant ('the refuser') is a resident and, if this is unknown, the court in the district in which the claimant is a resident. If it is not possible to establish jurisdiction, the application shall be submitted to the Bucharest Court.


Article 33

In Romania appeals against the decision on recognition and declaration of enforceability fall within the jurisdiction of the court of appeal (Article 96 (2) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 34

Appeal (Article 97(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure)

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Slovenia

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Ministrstvo za delo, družino in socialne zadeve

Kotnikova 28

1000 Ljubljana

Tel: +386 (0)1 369 77 00

Fax: +386 (0)1 369 78 32

E-Mail:  gp.mddsz@gov.si

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Slovene, English.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): Slovene.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Slovenia, the *okrožno sodišče*.

Article 33


The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Slovenia, the *okrožno sodišče*.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Slovenia, *pritožba na Vrhovno sodišče Republike Slovenije*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Slovakia

Article 67 (a)

Names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

(Article 55(c)) - Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic

Račianska ul. 71

813 11 Bratislava

Telephone: +421 2 888 91 111

Fax: +421 2 888 91 605

E-mail:  civil.inter.coop@justice.sk

Website:  <http://www.justice.gov.sk/>

(Article 55(a), (b), (d) and (e) and Article 56) - Centre for International Legal Protection of Children and Youth (Centrum pre medzinárodnoprávnu ochranu detí a mládeže)

Špitálska 8

P.O. Box 57

814 99 Bratislava

Tel.: +421 2 20 46 32 08

+421 2 20 46 32 48

Fax: +421 2 20 46 32 58

E-mail:  info@cipc.gov.sk

Website:  <https://www.cipc.gov.sk/>

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communication with central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2):

for the purpose of Article 55(c): Slovak, English, French

for the purpose of Article 55(d): Slovak, English, Czech

for the purpose of Article 55(a), (b) and (e): Slovak, English, French, Czech and German

Article 67 (c)

For a certificate concerning child access rights and a certificate concerning the return of a child – Article 45(2): Slovak

Articles 21 and 29

Applications provided for by Article 21 are to be submitted to the following courts:

a) the Bratislava Regional Court (*Krajský súd v Bratislave*) for an application for recognition of judgments relating to divorce, legal separation and marriage annulment;

b) the District Court (*Okresný súd*) in the place where the child resides, or Bratislava I District Court (*Okresný súd Bratislava I*) if the child does not reside in the Slovak Republic, for an application for recognition of a judgment relating to parental responsibility.

Applications provided for by Article 29 are to be submitted to the following courts:

The District Court (*Okresný súd*) in the place where the child resides, or Bratislava I District Court (*Okresný súd Bratislava I*) if the child does not reside in the Slovak Republic, for an application for a declaration of enforceability.

Article 33

Challenges provided for by Article 33 are to be submitted to the following courts:

- appeals are to be lodged with the *district court*.

Article 34

Challenges that may be lodged pursuant to Article 34:

- *appellate review*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Finland

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

The Ministry of Justice

International legal assistance

Box 25

00023 Government

Tel.: +358 9 1606 7628

Fax: +358 9 1606 7524

E-mail:  central.authority@om.fi

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): Finnish, Swedish, English.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child - Article 45(2): Finnish, Swedish, English.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for in Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Finland, the *käräjäoikeus/tingsrätt*.

Article 33

The appeal provided for in Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Finland, the *hovioikeus/hovrätt*.

Article 34

The judgments given on appeal provided for in Article 34 may be contested only at:

- in Finland, the *Korkein oikeus/högsta domstolen*.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Sweden

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Utrikesdepartementet Enheten för konsulära och civilrättsliga ärenden

(Foreign Ministry Department for Consular Affairs and Civil Law)

S-103 39 Stockholm

Phone: +46 (8) 405 1000 (switchboard) / +46 (8) 405 5005 (emergency number outside office hours)

Fax: +46 (8) 723 1176;

Email address: ud-kc@gov.se

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2) are Swedish and English.

Article 67 (c)

For the certificate on access rights and the return of a child - Article 45(2): Swedish or English.

Articles 21 and 29

Article 21

If the application relates entirely or in part to a child's person, it should be made to the district court (*tingsrätt*) as provided for in Chapter 21, Section 1 of the Swedish Children and Parents Code (*föräldrabalken*).

If the application does not relate to a child's person, it should be made to the district court, of those listed in Section 5(1) of Ordinance (2005:97) laying down supplementary provisions to the Brussels II Regulation, where the other party has his or her residence, or to the Nacka district court if the other party is not resident in Sweden.

Article 29

If the application relates entirely or in part to a child's person, it should be made to the district court in accordance with Article 29(2) of the Brussels II Regulation.

If the application does not relate to a child's person, it should be made to the district court, of those listed in Section 5(2) of Ordinance (2005:97) laying down supplementary provisions to the Brussels II Regulation, determined in accordance with Article 29(2) of the Brussels II Regulation.

Article 33

The appeals provided for by Article 33 must be lodged with the district court that handed down the decision.

Article 34

The appeals provided for by Article 34 can be lodged only with a court of appeal (*hovrätt*) or with the Supreme Court (*Högsta domstolen*).

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - England and Wales

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

The International Child Abduction and Contact Unit

Victory House

30-34 Kingsway

London WC2B 6EX

Tel.: +44 (0) 20 3681 2608

Fax: +44 (0) 20 3681 2763

E-Mail: icacu@offsol.gsi.gov.uk

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): English, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): English, French.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in England and Wales, the High Court of Justice – Principal Registry of the Family Division.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in England and Wales, the High Court of Justice – Principal Registry of the Family Division;

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only by a single further appeal on a point of law:

- in England and Wales, to the Court of Appeal.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Northern Ireland

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Operational Policy Branch
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Department of Justice
4th Floor Laganside House
23-27 Oxford Street
Belfast
BT1 3LA
Northern Ireland

email: InternationalChildAbduction@courtsni.gov.uk

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): English, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): English, French.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Northern Ireland, the High Court of Justice.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Northern Ireland, the High Court of Justice.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Northern Ireland, to the Northern Ireland Court of Appeal.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Scotland

Article 67 (a)

The names, addresses and means of communication for the central authorities designated pursuant to Article 53:

Scottish Government
Central Authority & International Law Team
St Andrew's House (GW15)
Regent Road
Edinburgh EH1 3DG
Tel.: +44 (0)131 244 4827/4832

Fax: +44 (0)131 244 4848

E-Mail:

[✉ Paula.Nugent@gov.scot](mailto:Paula.Nugent@gov.scot) (Casework Manager);

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): English, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): English, French.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Scotland, the Court of Session.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Scotland, the Court of Session, Outer House;

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Scotland, to the Court of Session, Inner House.

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Matrimonial matters and matters of parental responsibility - Gibraltar

Article 67 (a)

Ministry of Education,

Justice and International Exchange of Information

771 Europort

Gibraltar

Article 67 (b)

The languages accepted for communications to central authorities pursuant to Article 57(2): English, French.

Article 67 (c)

The languages accepted for the certificate concerning rights of access and return of the child pursuant to Article 45(2): English, French.

Articles 21 and 29

The applications provided for by Articles 21 and 29 shall be submitted to the following courts:

- in Gibraltar, the Supreme Court.

Article 33

The appeal provided for by Article 33 shall be lodged with the following courts:

- in Gibraltar, the Supreme Court.

Article 34

The appeals provided for in Article 34 may be brought only:

- in Gibraltar, by an appeal to the Court of Appeal.

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