

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The questionnaire which appears below is addressed to States Parties to the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* and some Non-Governmental Organisations. It should be emphasised that respondents are also invited to identify and comment upon matters concerning preventive measures, which are not addressed specifically in the questionnaire. Where information is available on web sites, please feel free to merely state the web site address.

The Permanent Bureau requests responses to the questionnaire to be sent to the Permanent Bureau, if possible in electronic form. Responses should be received no later than 1 April 2003.

QUESTIONS

A. LEGISLATION AND COURT ORDERS

1. Please give details of any civil legislative provisions which exist in your State which may act as a deterrent to a potential abductor, or may have a preventive effect.
2. Please give details of any criminal legislative provisions which exist in your State which may act as a deterrent to a potential abductor, or may have a preventive effect.
3. Please give details of any court orders which can be obtained during, for example, divorce or custody proceedings which prohibit, restrict or criminalise removal or retention of a child.
4. Please give details of any court orders which can be obtained in emergency situations. Can these orders be obtained out-of-hours and *ex parte*?
5. Do you have any comments relating to relocation orders?
6. Do you have any other comments relating to legislative provisions, court orders or administrative measures including any comments on the effectiveness of these provisions, and how often they are used in practice?

B. BORDER CONTROLS

1. Please give details of any rules or procedures relating to the issuance or withdrawal of passports which may help to prevent removal or retention.
2. Please give details of any rules or procedures relating to the issuance or withdrawal of visas which may help to prevent removal or retention.
3. Are you aware of any co-operative arrangements with other States with regard to children who maintain more than one nationality?
4. Are there any foreign States which it is possible for nationals from your State to enter without a passport or without passing border controls? On what basis is this possible, i.e. legislation/bilateral agreement/custom etc.?
5. Are there any foreign States whose nationals can enter your State without a passport or without passing border controls? On what basis is this possible, i.e. legislation/bilateral agreement/custom etc.?

6. Please give details of any port alert or similar emergency systems which can operate to prevent removal from your jurisdiction including the conditions required to put these procedures into effect.
7. Please give details of any specific duties on air carriers / ferries relating to the carriage of children.
8. Do you have any other comments relating to border controls, including any comments on the effectiveness of these measures to prevent removal or retention and how often they are used in practice?

C. INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

1. Please give details of any web pages, and provide copies of any brochures, or information packs or similar which contain information or advice on preventive measures and which are available to parents in your State. Who provides this information?
2. When was this information compiled? When was it last updated? How is the information made available?
3. Do you have any other comments relating to information for parents, including any comments on whether such information is effective in preventing abductions?

D. TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONALS

1. Please give details of any training or education that is available in your State for professionals (including, Central Authority personnel, lawyers, mediators, police officers, port or airport authorities and social workers) as a means of assisting them to operate preventive measures.
2. Who provides this training and education?
3. What form does this training take and how regularly does it occur?
4. Do you have any other comments relating to training and education of professionals, including any comments on the effectiveness of this training and education as a means of preventing abduction?

E. PUBLICITY

1. Please give details of any means used to publicise the Convention or the work of the Central Authority.
2. Please give details of any means used to publicise other preventive measures operating in your State.
3. Do you have any other comments relating to publicity, including any comments on the effectiveness of publicity regarding preventive measures?

F. CO-OPERATION

1. Please give details of any co-operative agreements existing between different agencies within your State, either formally or informally, with regard to preventive measures How did this co-operation develop?

2. Please give details of any co-operative agreements with other States, either formal or informal between different Central Authorities or agencies How did this co-operation develop?
3. Please provide details (including contact details, web sites etc.) of all agencies in your State which have a role to play in preventing the removal or retention of children.
4. Do you have any other comments relating to co-operation, including any comments on the effectiveness of agreements?

G. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Please provide any other information which may be relevant to the issue of preventive measures and their effectiveness.
2. Please provide details of any other bodies or authorities in your State who may have information useful to this research.
3. Have you any general comments to make regarding preventive measures?

The Permanent Bureau would like to thank you for taking the time to consider this questionnaire. If you have any further questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact us.