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## **Recommendation of the UIHJ on the ratification of or accession to the Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters**

Considering that The Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters (hereafter the Convention) is an unprecedented step forward in private international law to facilitate the transmission of judicial and extrajudicial documents to be served abroad;

Considering that everyone recognizes the usefulness and effectiveness of the Convention which celebrates this year its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary;

Considering that the Convention is a model in the world that has largely inspired the European Union to develop its European Regulation on Cross-border Service of Documents;

Considering that, although the Convention currently has 68 Contracting States, it is essential, in the interests of the public service of justice and litigants that it applies in as many countries as possible;

Considering that, both the UIHJ, which initiated the original proposal of the Convention, and the judicial officers, whose mission includes the service of judicial and extrajudicial documents, together ensure the widest possible promotion of the Convention at the international level;

To mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters, **the UIHJ and its members gathered during their Permanent Council in The Hague (Netherlands)**

**Recommend:**

**For Heads of States and Governments of all countries to approach the Hague Conference on Private International Law at their earliest convenience in order to consider initiating the process of ratification of or accession to the Hague Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters.**

The Hague, 26 November 2015