



Ministry of Justice
Division for Constitutional Law

The Permanent Bureau
[secretariat@hcch.net]

Questionnaire – Apostille Convention – Sweden

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Ministry of Justice has received the questionnaire of January 2021 relating to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents (Apostille Convention).

Sweden has decentralised the issuance of apostilles and designated all notaries public as Competent Authorities according to the convention. Since the system of issuing apostilles is decentralized, there are no central source of information as to how the individual notaries public handle their tasks in accordance with the convention. This means that neither the Ministry of Justice, nor any other central authority can answer the detailed questions in the questionnaire.

However, the system of issuing apostilles seems to function well. The Ministry of Justice has received neither complaints nor proposals for amending the system from the notaries publics or from the local Country Administrative boards, which are responsible for appointing notaries publics.

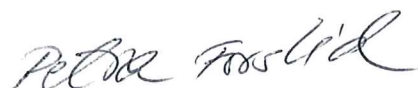
The legislation governing the appointment and functions of notaries publics is found in the 1981 Act on Notaries Publics (1981:1363) and in the 1982 Government Ordinance on Notaries Publics (1982:327).

Sweden would also like to add that Regulation (EU) 2016/1191 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 2016 on promoting the free movement of citizens by simplifying the requirements for presenting

certain public documents in the European Union and amending Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 is applicable as from 16 February 2019.

I apologize for any inconvenience our inability to answer the questionnaire might cause.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Petra Forslid'.

Petra Forslid
Senior Adviser