

## Questionnaire

Name of State or territorial unit: <sup>[1]</sup>	Austria
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For the purpose of the 13 to 15 February 2023 meeting of the EG, Members are invited to report on consideration given to and / or implementation of the following arrangements in their jurisdiction:

- a. Developments in general regarding the international transfer of maintenance funds:

Considerable reduction of cheques sent by other CAs.

- b. Elimination of the use of cheques (see Report and C&R 2022 No 1)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

AT never used cheques and more and more other countries gave up to send those.

- c. Solutions with regard to increased transparency and cost reduction of transfers and currency conversion (see Report and C&R 2022 Nos 2 and 10)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Problem of the debtor.

Is being considered. Please explain:

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<sup>[1]</sup> In this questionnaire, references to the term "State", where relevant, are to be considered as also applicable to a territorial unit.

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

d. Solutions where creditors would not bear the costs related to the transfer of funds (see Report and C&R 2022 Nos 2 and 11)

Not being considered. Please explain:

If costs reduces the amount paid, the debtor is not fulfilling the obligation totally.

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

e. Requested Central Authority arrangements with their bank to cover transfer fees or other arrangements to that effect (see Report and C&R 2022 No 3)

Not being considered. Please explain:

No chance to convince private institutes to reduce their costs.

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

f. Requesting Central Authority providing confirmation to the requested Central Authority that the amounts received are the same as the amounts sent and, where applicable, information on the reasons for any difference (see Report and C&R 2022 No 3)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

AT would facilitate, when required, every explanation of differences.

- g. Establishment of a centralised point (e.g., bank account, central bank) for international transfers dedicated to both incoming and outgoing transfer of funds (see Report and C&R 2022 Nos 4 and 5)

Not being considered. Please explain:

[That has to be left to the various legal representatives of the creditor.](#)

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

- h. Use of the possibilities afforded by the *Universal Postal Union Postal Payment Services Agreement* of 6 October 2016 (see Report and C&R 2022 No 4)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

- i. Provision of payment transfer services to any debtors transferring payments within the scope of the HCCH 2007 Child Support Convention (see Report and C&R 2022 No 5)

Not being considered. Please explain:

[No incentive to replace the debtor's duties to the CA.](#)

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

- j. Implementation of payment transfer monitoring systems (see Report and C&R 2022 No 6)

Not being considered. Please explain:

[No incentive to replace the creditor's tasks to the CA.](#)

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

k. Implementation of unique case references, known to both the requesting and requested States, attached to each transfer of funds (see Report and C&R 2022 No 7)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

AT uses case #

l. Implementation of currency conversion of payments done by the relevant authority in the requested State at the time of transfer (see Report and C&R 2022 No 8)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Lack of means and staff.

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

m. Provision of information about international banking to creditors and debtors (see Report and C&R 2022 No 12)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:  
Insofar, as CA tries to facilitate transfer of information.

n. Implementation of a legal framework enabling the Central Authority, acting both as requesting and requested Central Authority, to handle the transfer of funds – or at least major parts of the process – in as automated a manner as possible (see Report and C&R 2022 No 13)

Not being considered. Please explain:  
This has to be left to the various legal representatives.

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:

o. Implementation of an arrangement with banks that are transparent in relation to their fees and / or are part of the SWIFT Global Payment Initiative (GPI) (see Report and C&R 2022 No 14)

Not being considered. Please explain:

Is being considered. Please explain:

Has already been implemented. Please explain:  
As far as AT banks are obliged to provide information.

p. Would your State consider contributing to iSupport ITMF in terms of expertise and experience?

Yes  
As far as possible

No

- q. Any other developments in your State including bilateral solutions put in place between States and ongoing trials between States:

Direct payments between debtor and creditor are always preferred.

Thank you!