



REGERINGSKANSLIET

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Ministry of Justice Sweden

The Permanent Bureau
[secretariat@hcch.net]

Questionnaire – Apostille Convention – Sweden

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Ministry of Justice has received the questionnaire of April 2016 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 is 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 is able to 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 County 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).

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

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Krantz
Director
Division for Constitutional Law