

Questionnaire relating to the *Convention of 15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters (Service Convention)*

Responding State:	Sweden
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I. General Feedback

1. How does your State rate the general operation of the Service Convention?
 - (c) Satisfactory.
2. How does your State rate the useability of the HCCH [Practical Handbook on the Operation of the Service Convention](#)?
 - (c) Satisfactory.
3. Does your State's Central Authority have a manual or electronic case management register or system that is used to track incoming requests under the Service Convention?
 - (f) Other.
"Not at the moment. See also response of the EU."
4. If your State's Central Authority has oversight for all outgoing requests, please indicate if there is a system used to track the progress of these.
 - (d) Other.
"Please see response of the EU."

II. Scope of the Convention

5. In the previous five years*, has your State experienced any difficulties in interpreting the scope of the Service Convention?

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

- (a) Yes, regarding the interpretation of "civil or commercial matters" (Art. 1).
"The 1965 Service Convention is not applicable on administrative matters (article 1 in the Convention). It can sometimes be difficult to distinguish administrative matters from civil and commercial matters. Administrative courts and authorities make several efforts to apply for service in administrative matters and there applications have been rejected."

A. Extrajudicial documents

6. Is the concept of "extrajudicial documents" (Art. 17) defined in the internal law of your State?
 - (a) Yes.
"Not in a Swedish national law. See also response of the EU."

7. What types of extrajudicial documents are **transmitted** under the Service Convention by your State?

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III. Operation of the Convention

Requesting State refers to the State from which a request for service is, or will be, issued.

Requested State refers to the State to which a request for service is, or will be, addressed.

8. As the **requested State**, does your State provide assistance to locate a person to be served under the Service Convention?

(The Special Commission, at its 2014 meeting, encouraged Contracting Parties to provide such assistance consistent with their legal and structural capabilities, when able to do so, see C&R No 23.)

(a) Yes.

"Firstly, there is a control whether the addressee can be identified in the National Population Register or not. Secondly, service will be proceeded at the registered address."

9. As the **requesting State**, how would your State transmit a document for service upon another State, a State official, or a State-owned company?

(c) Other.

"Unknown."

10. As the **requested State**, how is a request for service on your State, State official or State-owned company executed?

"The documents will be served with The Cancellor of Justice by postal channel."

11. Does your State serve judicial and extrajudicial documents in the same way?

(a) Yes.

A. Main Channel of Transmission (Art. 5)

12. In your State, what are the authorities or who are the persons competent to forward a request for service to a foreign Central Authority?

(a) Courts / Tribunals.

(g) Other.

"Courts, enforcement agencies and other authorities serve documents in civil and commercial matters."

13. Do outgoing requests for service have to be transmitted through your State's Central Authority?

(b) No.

14. As the **requested State**, when no particular method is requested by the applicant, what is the primary / default method of service? (Art. 5(1)(a))

(g) Other.

"Personal service by a Police process server (upon presentation of valid identification) and personal service by post (upon presentation of valid identification)."

15. In the previous five years*, as the **requested State**, has your State **received** a request with a particular method of service requested by the applicant? (Art. 5(1)(b))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(a) Yes.

15.1. If yes, what method of service was requested?

(a) Personal service.

15.2. If yes, was the requested method of service able to be executed?

(a) Yes.

16. In the previous five years*, as the **requesting State**, has your State's forwarding authorities requested a particular method of service? (Art. 5(1)(b))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(c) Unknown.

16.1. If yes, what particular method of service was requested?

N/A

16.2. If yes, was the requested method of service able to be executed?

N/A

16.3. If yes, were there costs associated with this method of service?

N/A

B. Alternative Channels of Transmission (Arts 8, 9 & 10)

State of origin refers to the State in which proceedings are commenced and where the document to be served originates.

State of destination refers to the State where service is, or will be, effected.

1. Model Form

Use of the Model Form is mandatory for the main channel of transmission. The Special Commission, at its 2009 meeting, urged State Parties to widely encourage the use of the part of the Model Form containing the "Summary", accompanied by the "Warning" (see C&R No 31).

17. As the **State of origin**, does your State use the "Warning" and "Summary" sections of the Model Form when transmitting a request through alternative channels?

(d) Unknown.

18. As the **State of destination**, does your State use the “Certificate” section of the Model Form when informing whether documents have been served (in response to a request received through alternative channels)?

(a) Always.

2. Diplomatic and Consular Agents (Art. 8)

19. In the previous five years*, have the diplomatic or consular agents of your State directly effected service of judicial or extrajudicial documents upon a person abroad? (Art. 8(1))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(a) Yes.

20. In the previous five years*, has service by diplomatic or consular agents of your State been rejected by the addressee? (Art. 8(1))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(c) Unknown.

3. Diplomatic and Consular Channels (Art. 9)

21. In the previous five years*, has your State used consular channels to forward documents? (Art. 9(1))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(a) Yes.

22. In the previous five years*, under exceptional circumstances, has your State used diplomatic channels to forward documents? (Art. 9(2))

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

(a) Yes.

“Initially during the war in Ukraine, the postal service was suspended to Russia.”

4. Postal Channel (Art. 10(a))

23. Has your State (as the **State of destination**) objected to service under Article 10(a)?

(b) No.

23.1. If an objection has been made under Article 10(a), does your State continue to use postal channels for service as the State of origin, despite the objection?

N/A

23.2. If no objection has been made, does your State, as the **State of destination**, accept the use of postal channels for service from other States of origin that have made an objection under Article 10(a)?

(a) Yes.

23.3. If no objection has been made, which of the following categories does your State recognise as a “postal channel” under Article 10(a)?

(a) Regular post.

(b) Registered (tracked) post, with receipt.

23.4. If no objection has been made, more specifically, would your State consider service by e-mail to be analogous to service by postal channels under Art. 10(a)?

(b) No.

23.5. If no objection has been made, does your State require the documents served to be translated into one of your State’s official languages?

(b) No.

5. Judicial Officers, Officials or other Competent Persons (Art. 10(b))

24. Has your State objected to service under Article 10(b)?

(b) No.

24.1. If no objection has been made, which of the following categories does your State recognise as a “judicial officer, official or other competent person” under Article 10(b), either for sending or receiving?

(g) Process server.

(h) Other.

“Authorised Serving Company”

24.2. If no objection has been made, how does this channel of transmission operate in practice?

“The applicant may contact the Police process server/Seerving Company directly.”

24.3. If no objection has been made, are there costs associated with this channel of transmission?

(a) Yes.

“At the moment approximately 100 Euros.”

6. Person Interested in a Judicial Proceeding (Art. 10(c))

25. Has your State objected to service under Article 10(c)?

(b) No.

25.1. If no, which of the following categories does your State recognise as “any person interested in a judicial proceeding” under Article 10(c), either for sending or receiving?

- (a) Attorney or solicitor.
- (b) Bailiff.
- (c) *Huissier*.
- (d) Court official.
- (e) Notary.
- (f) Official of the executive branch.

25.2. If no, how does this channel of transmission operate in practice?

“The applicant may directly take contact with the Police process server/Serving Company without involvement of the Central Authority.”

25.3. If no, are there costs associated with this channel of transmission?

- (a) Yes.
“At the moment approximately 100 Euros.”

C. Refusal to Execute Request (Art. 13)

26. In the previous five years*, has your State refused a request for service on grounds of infringing “sovereignty or security”?

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

- (b) No.

27. In the previous five years*, has a request from your State been refused on grounds of infringing “sovereignty or security”?

*If your State has become a Party to the Convention during the previous five years, responses to this questionnaire should reflect the period of time, commencing from when the Convention entered into force in your State.

- (b) No.

IV. Use of Information Technology

In 2019, the PB circulated a questionnaire on the use of information technology in relation to the operation of the Service Convention. That survey was concluded prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. The questions below seek information from Contracting Parties on the use of technology and in light of the pandemic.

28. Has your State taken any steps (including through legislation) to enable or increase the use of technology to facilitate the operation of the Service Convention, including in response to the COVID-19 pandemic?

- (a) Yes.
“No, not yet. See also response of the EU.”

29. Do the forwarding authorities of your State transmit requests under the Service Convention electronically?

(a) Yes.

29.1. If yes, what methods of transmission do the forwarding authorities of your State use?

(a) E-mail (regular).

(c) Electronic transmission via online platform administered by the government.

30. Does your State's Central Authority accept requests under the Service Convention transmitted electronically in circumstances where **only** an electronic copy is provided (and where a paper copy is not subsequently provided)?

(b) No.

30.1. If yes, what methods of transmission does your State accept?

N/A

30.2. If no, please provide further information about why this is not yet possible.

"Because of judicial or administrative structures, lack of resources and infrastructure, cost and system interoperability, a reliable and legally secur reception cannot be guaranteed."

31. Does your State permit execution of service via electronic means?

(a) Yes, this is possible via the following means: "1. if the addressee agrees to be served at a specific email address and 2. if the addressee acknowledges receipt of service at the sam email address."

31.1. If no, what are your State's reasons for refusing to execute the requests for service to be performed by using information technology?

N/A

32. What challenges, if any, has your State faced regarding the use of information technology under the Service Convention?

(c) Judicial or administrative structures.

(d) Implementation challenges (e.g., lack of resources, lack of infrastructure).

(e) Cost.

(f) System interoperability / compatibility.

33. In your State's opinion, what further work could the PB do on the use of information technology under the Service Convention?

(a) None.

34. In addition to the Service Convention, is your State a Party to any bilateral, regional, or multilateral agreements that provide rules for the service of documents abroad?

(a) Yes.

For Parties that answered "yes" to Q34 above:

34.1. Do any of these agreements provide for the use of electronic means (e.g., e-mail) to transmit or execute requests for service?

(a) Yes.

“Regulation EU No 2020/1784 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November on the service in the Member States of judicial and extrajudicial documents in civil and commercial matter will provide the use of electronic means from april 2025.”

V. 2023 Meeting of the Special Commission & Monitoring

35. What are the three key topics or practical issues related to the Service Convention that your State would like discussed at the 2023 meeting of the Special Commission?

1. *“The 1965 Haag convention is not applicable on administrative matters (article 1). It can sometimes be difficult to distinguish administrative matters from civil and commercial matters. Administrative courts and authorities make several efforts to apply for service in administrative matters and their applications have been rejected. Do other states have the same issue? If so please exchange best practice on the matter.”*
2. *“Discuss how to make the Model Forms and webpage more user friendly and discuss potential improvements on the guidelines on how to fill in the forms.”*
3. *“Discuss the need to set reasonable time limits within which to respond to a service request and the importance of response within the time limits.”*

35.1. Please indicate whether the information provided in Q35 above may be published.

(a) Yes.

36. Does your State have any suggestions that could assist in the promotion, implementation, or operation of the Service Convention?

(a) Yes.

“If/once the Handbook and Form are updated more user friendly handbook/Form should be promoted.”

36.1. If the answer to Q36 above is “yes”, please indicate whether the information provided may be published.

(a) Yes.

37. The PB is in the process of revising the Service Handbook. Are there any specific topics, suggestions for presentation or formatting, or any other proposals you recommend for inclusion?

(a) Yes.

“Considering that the use of the handbook is, at least in Sweden, often used by court clerks with practical legal experience but without legal education, it would be good if the handbook could be simplified and more user friendly.”

37.1. If the answer to Q37 above is “yes”, please indicate whether the information provided may be published.

(a) Yes.

DATA & STATISTICS FOR CONTRACTING PARTIES

I. Statistics under Main Channel of Transmission (Art. 5)

A. Incoming Requests

1. How many incoming requests for service did your State receive under the main channel of transmission (Art. 5) in each of the following years?

2017	-
2018	-
2019	-
2020	-
2021	-
2022	-
Unknown – please explain. “Approximately 200-300 per year.”	

2. Which three States made the most requests?

Requesting State	Number
Turkey	150-200
USA	10-20
Switzerland	5-10

3. If possible, please provide a breakdown of how long (in months) it took to execute incoming requests.

	< 1	1-3	3-6	6-12	> 12
2017	-	-	-	-	-
2018	-	-	-	-	-
2019	-	-	-	-	-
2020	-	-	-	-	-
2021	-	-	-	-	-
2022 (if data available)	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown – please explain. “Approximately 3-5 month”					

4. How many of these incoming requests for service did your State receive via **electronic transmission** in each of the following years?

2017	-
2018	-
2019	-
2020	-
2021	-
2022	-
Unknown – <i>please explain.</i> “ <i>Approximately 10.</i> ”	

5. How many incoming requests for service did your State **execute for service** via electronic means in each of the following years?

This is regardless of whether a paper copy of the documents was subsequently provided.

2017	-
2018	-
2019	-
2020	-
2021	-
2022	-
Unknown – <i>please explain.</i> “ <i>Data not available in our case management system.</i> ”	

6. Are execution times for electronically transmitted requests for service generally faster than those transmitted by post?

(d) Unknown.

B. Outgoing Requests

7. How many outgoing requests for service did your State make under the main channel of transmission (Art. 5) in each of the following years?

2017	-
2018	-
2019	-
2020	-
2021	-
2022	-
Unknown – <i>please explain.</i> <i>“Data not available in our case management system.”</i>	

8. Which three States were the subject of the most requests?

N/A

9. How many outgoing requests for service did your State make via electronic transmission under the main channel of transmission (Art. 5) in each of the following years?

2017	-
2018	-
2019	-
2020	-
2021	-
2022	-
Unknown – <i>please explain.</i> <i>“Data not available in our case management system.”</i>	

II. Statistics under Alternative Channels of Transmission

10. Does your State have statistics on incoming requests under alternative channels of transmission?

- (a) Yes, Article 8.
- (b) Yes, Article 9.
- (c) Yes, Article 10(a).
- (d) Yes, Article 10(b).
- (e) Yes, Article 10(c).
- (x) No, none of the above.

10.1. If yes, how many (total) incoming requests for service did your State receive under the alternative channels of transmission in each of the following years?

N/A

III. Refusals (Art. 13)

11. If applicable, please indicate how many incoming requests for service your State refused to comply with between 2017 and 2022?

“Zero”

12. If applicable, please indicate how many outgoing requests for service transmitted by your State were refused between 2017 and 2022?

“Zero”

CASE LAW, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

I. Case Law

Please list all your State's judicial decisions that have considered the Service Convention since 2014 and provide a link to, or upload the decisions (in PDF format only).

"Please see response of the EU."

II. Additional Documents

Please provide links to and / or any additional information or documentation to support your response (in PDF format only). This may include:

- ⇒ resources for the general public or guidelines for Central or other Authorities' staff;
- ⇒ implementation legislations, recent legislative developments; or
- ⇒ books, articles, or other published work.

"Please see response of the EU."

PUBLICATION OF RESPONSES

Please confirm whether your responses to this questionnaire can be published on the HCCH website.

- (a) Yes.