

COUNTRY PROFILE

1993 HAGUE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION CONVENTION¹

RECEIVING STATE

COUNTRY NAME: The Republic of Slovenia

PROFILE UPDATED ON: May 2019

PART I: CENTRAL AUTHORITY

1. Contact details ²	
Name of office:	Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
Acronyms used:	MDDSZ
Address:	Štukljeva cesta 44, 1000 Ljubljana
Telephone:	+386 1 369 7700
Fax:	+386 1 369 7832
E-mail:	gp.mddsz@gov.si
Website:	http://www.mddsz.gov.si/
Contact person(s) and direct contact details (please indicate language(s) of communication):	Slovenian, English
<i>If your State has designated more than one Central Authority, please provide contact details for the further Central Authorities below and specify the territorial extent of their functions.</i>	

¹ Full title: the *Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption* (referred to as the "1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention" or the "1993 Convention" in this Country Profile). Please note that any reference to "Articles" (or Art. / Arts for short) in this Country Profile refers to Articles of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention.

² Please verify whether the contact details on the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net > under "Intercountry Adoption Section" then "Central Authorities" are up to date. If not, please e-mail the updated contact information to < secretariat@hcch.net >.

PART II: RELEVANT LEGISLATION

2. The 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention and domestic legislation	
<p>a) When did the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention enter into force in your State?</p> <p><i>This information is available on the Status Table for the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention (accessible via the Intercountry Adoption Section of the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net >).</i></p>	<p>1 May 2002</p>
<p>b) Please identify the legislation / regulations / procedural rules which implement or assist with the effective operation of the 1993 Convention in your State. Please also provide the date of their entry into force.</p> <p><i>Please remember to indicate how the legislation / regulations / rules may be accessed: e.g., provide a link to a website or attach a copy. Where applicable, please also provide a translation into English or French if possible.</i></p>	<p>Family Code (Official Gazette of RS, No. 17/17, 21/18-ZNOrg, 22/19); entry into force 15 April 2017, date of application 15 April 2019</p> <p>Link: http://www.mdds.gov.si/fileadmin/mdds.gov.si/pageuploads/Druzinski_zakonik__ANG_.pdf</p>

3. Other international agreements on intercountry adoption ³	
<p>Is your State party to any other international (cross-border) agreements concerning intercountry adoption?</p> <p><i>See Art. 39.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional agreements (please specify):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bilateral agreements (please specify): Act Ratifying the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and the Government of the Republic of Macedonia on Interstate Adoptions (Official Gazette of RS - MP, No. 15/07)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-binding memoranda of understanding (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

PART III: THE ROLE OF AUTHORITIES AND BODIES

4. Central Authority(ies)	
<p>Please briefly describe the functions of the Central Authority(ies) designated under the 1993 Convention in your State.</p>	<p>Central Authority carries out the obligations and functions set out in the Convention (sending and receiving documents, provide information)</p>

³ See Art. 39(2) which states: "Any Contracting State may enter into agreements with one or more other Contracting States, with a view to improving the application of the Convention in their mutual relations. These agreements may derogate only from the provisions of Articles 14 to 16 and 18 to 21. The States which have concluded such an agreement shall transmit a copy to the depositary of the Convention" (emphasis added).

<i>See Arts 6-9 and Arts 14-21 if accredited bodies are not used.</i>	about legislation and other appropriate measures with regard to the Convention).
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5. Public and competent authorities

Please briefly describe the role of any public and / or competent authorities, including courts, in the intercountry adoption procedure in your State.

See Arts 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 22, 23 and 30.

In Slovenia, the social work centres are authorised to perform tasks in the area of adoptions, i.e. they are public authorities and they implement certain tasks on behalf of the state. There are 16 of them at present. Territorial jurisdiction in all matters for which social work centres are responsible is determined on the basis of the permanent residence of the person. Social work centres generally verify the eligibilities and suitabilities of the PAP's; they prepare home studies and psychological assessments, they are also involved in providing post placement reports.

6. National accredited bodies⁴

- a) Has your State accredited its own adoption bodies?

See Arts 10-11.

N.B. the name(s) and address(es) of any national accredited bodies should be communicated by your State to the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference (see Art. 13).⁵

☐ Yes

☒ No – **go to Question 8**

- b) Please indicate the number of national accredited bodies in your State, including whether this number is limited and, if so, on what basis.⁶

- c) Please briefly describe the role of national accredited bodies in your State.

6.1 The accreditation procedure (Arts 10-11)

- a) Which authority / body is responsible for the accreditation of national adoption bodies in your State?

- b) Please briefly describe the *procedure* for granting accreditation and the most important accreditation *criteria*.

- c) For how long is accreditation granted in your State?

- d) Please briefly describe the criteria and the procedure used to determine whether the accreditation of a national

⁴ "National accredited bodies" in this Country Profile means adoption bodies based within your State (receiving State) which have been accredited under the 1993 Convention by the competent authorities in your State. See further *Guide to Good Practice No 2 on Accreditation and Adoption Accredited Bodies* (hereinafter "GGP No 2"), available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net > at Chapters 3.1 *et seq.*

⁵ See GGP No 2, *ibid.*, Chapter 3.2.1 (para. 111).

⁶ See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 3.4.

adoption body will be <i>renewed</i> .	
6.2 Monitoring of national accredited bodies⁷	
a) Which authority is competent to monitor / supervise national accredited bodies in your State? <i>See Art. 11 c).</i>	

b) Please briefly describe how national accredited bodies are monitored / supervised in your State (e.g., if inspections are undertaken, how frequently).	
c) Please briefly describe the circumstances in which the accreditation of bodies can be revoked (i.e., withdrawn).	
d) If national accredited bodies do not comply with the 1993 Convention, is it possible for sanctions to be applied?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify possible sanctions (e.g., fine, withdrawal of accreditation): <input type="checkbox"/> No

7. Authorisation of national accredited bodies to work in other Contracting States (Art. 12)⁸	
7.1 The authorisation procedure	
a) Which authority / body in your State is responsible for the authorisation of national accredited bodies to work with, or in, other Contracting States?	
b) Is authorisation granted as part of the accreditation procedure or is a separate authorisation procedure undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted as part of the accreditation procedure. <input type="checkbox"/> A separate procedure is undertaken for authorisation.
c) Is authorisation granted to national accredited bodies to work in <i>all</i> States of origin or must national accredited bodies apply for authorisation to work in specific, pre-identified State(s) of origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted generally: once authorised, national accredited bodies are able to work in <i>all</i> States of origin. <input type="checkbox"/> Authorisation is granted specifically: national accredited bodies must apply for authorisation to work in one or more pre-identified State(s) of origin.
d) Please briefly describe the <i>procedure</i> for granting authorisation and the most important authorisation <i>criteria</i> . ⁹ If your State does not have authorisation criteria, please explain on what basis decisions concerning authorisation are made. Please also explain whether your State has any criteria concerning how the national accredited body must establish	

⁷ See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 7.4.

⁸ In relation to authorisation of accredited bodies, see further GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 4.2.

⁹ In relation to authorisation criteria, please see GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapters 2.3.4.2 and 4.2.4.

itself in the State(s) of origin or whether this is left entirely to the requirements of the State of origin (e.g., requirements that the body must have a local representative in the State of origin, or must establish a local office).	
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e) For how long is authorisation granted?	
f) Please briefly describe the criteria and procedure used to determine whether authorisation will be <i>renewed</i> .	

7.2 Monitoring the work of your authorised national accredited bodies in other Contracting States

a) Please briefly describe how your State ensures that authorised national accredited bodies (including their representatives, co-workers and any other staff ¹⁰ in the State of origin) are monitored / supervised by your State in relation to their work / activities <i>in the State of origin</i> .	
b) Please briefly describe the circumstances in which the authorisation of national accredited bodies can be revoked (<i>i.e.</i> , withdrawn).	

8. Approved (non-accredited) persons (Art. 22(2))¹¹

<p>Is the involvement of approved (non-accredited) persons permitted in intercountry adoption procedures in your State?</p> <p>N.B. see Art. 22(2) and check whether your State has made a declaration according to this provision. You can verify this on the Status Table for the 1993 Convention, available on the Intercountry Adoption Section of the Hague Conference website.</p> <p>If your State has made a declaration according to Art. 22(2), the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference should be informed of the names and addresses of these bodies and persons (Art. 22(3)).¹²</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, our State has made a declaration under Article 22(2) and the involvement of approved (non-accredited) persons is possible. Please specify their role:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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PART IV: THE CHILDREN PROPOSED FOR INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

¹⁰ For an explanation of the terminology used concerning the staff of the national accredited body working in the State of origin, see the GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapters 6.3 and 6.4.

¹¹ See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 13.

¹² See GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 13.2.2.5.

9. The adoptability of a child (Art. 4 a))

Does your State have its own criteria concerning the adoptability of a child (*e.g.*, maximum age) which must be applied *in addition to* the requirements of the State of origin?

- ☐ Yes – please specify:
☒ No, there are no additional criteria concerning adoptability – the requirements of the State of origin are determinative.

10. The best interests of the child and subsidiarity (Art. 4 b))

Does your State request information / evidence from the State of origin to satisfy itself that the State of origin has respected the principle of subsidiarity (*i.e.*, proof that family reunification was attempted, or that the possibility of in-country permanent family placements has been explored)?

- ☐ Yes – please specify:
☒ No

11. Children with special needs

Does your State have its own definition of the term “special needs children” which is applied in intercountry adoption cases?

- ☐ Yes – please provide the definition used in your State:
☒ No – the definition used in the State(s) of origin is determinative.

12. The nationality of children who are adopted intercountry¹³

Do children who are adopted intercountry to your State acquire the nationality of your State?

- ☐ Yes, always. Please specify:
 (i) At what stage nationality is acquired by the child: ; and
 (ii) The procedure which must be undertaken (or whether acquisition of nationality is *automatic* upon the occurrence of a particular event, *e.g.*, the making of the final adoption decision):
☒ It depends – please specify which factors are taken into consideration (*e.g.*, the nationality of the prospective adoptive parents (“PAPs”), whether the child loses his / her nationality of the State of origin): If at least one of the adoptive parent is a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia and if the regulation of the child's country with adoption establish the same ratio as the ration between parents and children (full adoption), than the child acquires citizenship with the adoption and is considered to be a citizen of the Republic of Slovenia since birth.
☐ No, the child will never acquire this nationality.

PART V: PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS (“PAPs”)

¹³ Regarding nationality, see further the *Guide to Good Practice No 1 on the implementation and operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention* (hereinafter, “GGP No 1”), available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net >, at Chapter 8.4.5.

13. Limits on the acceptance of files

a) Does your State place any limit on the total number of applications for intercountry adoption which are accepted at any one time?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the limit applied and the basis on which it is determined: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State allow PAPs to apply to adopt from more than one State of origin at the same time?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify whether any limits are applied: <input type="checkbox"/> No – PAPs may only apply to adopt from one State of origin at any one time.

14. Determination of the eligibility and suitability of PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption¹⁴ (Art. 5 a))

14.1 Eligibility criteria

<p>a) Do PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption have to fulfil any criteria in your State concerning their relationship status(es)?</p> <p><i>Please tick any / all boxes which apply and indicate in the space provided whether any further conditions are imposed (e.g., duration of marriage / partnership / relationship, cohabitation).</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, the following person(s) may apply in our State for an intercountry adoption: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married, heterosexual couples: <input type="checkbox"/> Married, same-sex couples: <input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual couples in a legally registered partnership: <input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex couples in a legally registered partnership: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual couples that have not legally formalised their relationship: <input type="checkbox"/> Same-sex couples that have not legally formalised their relationship: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single men: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single women: <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No, there are no relationship status criteria for PAPs.
<p>b) Are there any age requirements in your State for PAPs wishing to undertake an intercountry adoption?</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minimum age requirements: Only a person who has reached majority may be an adoptive parent. <input type="checkbox"/> Maximum age requirements: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Difference in years required between the PAPs and the child: PAPs must be at least eighteen years older than the adopted child. By exception a person who is not eighteen years older than the child may be allowed to adopt where all the circumstances of the case have been examined and it is established that such adoption would be in the best interests of the child. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p>c) Are there any <i>other</i> eligibility criteria which your State requires PAPs to fulfil?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify: <input type="checkbox"/> Additional / differing criteria must be

¹⁴ /i.e., this section refers to the eligibility criteria applied, and suitability assessment undertaken, in relation to PAPs who are habitually resident in your State and who wish to adopt a child who is habitually resident in another Contracting State to the 1993 Convention: see further Art. 2 of the 1993 Convention.

	<p>met for PAPs wishing to adopt a child with special needs (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Couples must supply evidence of infertility:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> For persons with children already (biological or adopted), there are additional criteria (please specify):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): Adoption of a relative in a direct line shall not be permitted. Neither may a brother or a sister be adopted.</p> <p>A guardian shall not be permitted to adopt their ward while they are bound by the guardianship relationship.</p> <p>A person may not become an adoptive parent: if their parental responsibility was withdrawn from them; if they live with a person whose parental responsibility was withdrawn; if they have been sentenced in a final judgment for a premeditated criminal offence prosecuted ex officio, or for a criminal offence against life and limb, or a criminal offence against sexual integrity prosecuted upon a motion; if they live with a person who has been sentenced in a final judgment for a premeditated criminal offence prosecuted ex officio, or for a criminal offence against life and limb, or a criminal offence against sexual integrity prosecuted upon a motion; where suspicion exists that they would use the adoption to the detriment of the child; who provides no guarantee that they will exercise parental responsibility in the best interests of the child; if they lack the capacity to contract or have such mental developmental disorder or illness that adoption would not be in the best interests of the child.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>14.2 Suitability assessment¹⁵</p>	
<p>a) Which body(ies) / expert(s) perform the assessment of whether the PAPs are suitable persons to undertake an intercountry adoption?</p>	<p>The social work centre.</p>
<p>b) Please briefly describe the procedure which is used to assess the PAPs and determine their suitability to undertake an intercountry adoption.</p>	<p>Following receipt of the written application the social work centre shall assess the eligibility of the applicant, their motives for adoption and other relevant circumstances that are adoption-related. On the basis of findings the social work centre shall prepare an expert opinion on the applicant,</p>

¹⁵ This suitability assessment will usually form one part of the report on the PAPs (Art. 15): as to which, see GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 7.4.3 and Question 17 below.

	<p>who is assessed before the adoption. It include the home study, psychological assessment, health conditions, housing situation, material conditions and other relevant information.</p> <p>The process of assessment of eligibility and suitability shall not last for more than one year from the date the application was lodged.</p> <p>If the social work centre expert opinion shows that the applicant is suitable to adopt, the social work centre shall grant them the status of candidate adopter and shall enter them in the central database of candidate adopters. The social work centre shall conclude with the candidate adopter an agreement on preparing for adoption. If the social work centre expert opinion shows that the applicant is not suitable to adopt, the social work centre shall issue a decision refusing them the status of candidate adopter. This is also apply to adoption proceedings carried out in another country on the motion of the applicant.</p>
14.3 Final approval	
Which body / person gives the final approval that the PAPs are eligible and suited to undertake an intercountry adoption?	The social work centre.

15. Preparation and counselling of PAPs (Art. 5 b))

<p>a) In your State, are courses provided to prepare PAPs for intercountry adoption?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Whether the courses are mandatory: Yes, the preparation is a part of the evaluation of the suitability of the PAP's. - At what stage of the adoption procedure they are offered: After the applicants obtain the status of candidate adopter. - Who provides the courses: The social work centre. - Whether they are provided to PAPs individually or collectively (<i>i.e.</i>, in a group): Individually or collectively. - Whether they are provided "in person" or electronically: "In person" - How many hours the courses last: Differs, no binding legal rules; - The content of the courses: Motives, attitudes, expectations, legal framework of adoption, stages of child development, attachment theory, psychosocial aspects of child raising and education, the identity of the adopted child, communication and relationships, foster and adoptive family - differences, the rights of children in family, child abuse, adopting a child who has been the victim of abuse or neglect, etc. - Whether there are specific courses for PAPs wishing to adopt a child with special needs: No. - Whether the courses are (or can be) targeted at preparing PAPs for the adoption of a child from specific States of origin: No. <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>b) Aside from any courses provided, what, if any, (other) counselling or preparation is provided to individual PAPs (<i>e.g.</i>, meeting with adoptive parents, language and culture courses)? Please specify, in each case:</p> <p>(i) If it is mandatory for PAPs to use the service;</p> <p>(ii) Who provides the service; and</p> <p>(iii) At what stage in the adoption procedure the service is provided.</p>	<p>There is no preparation for PAPs which would be specialised for international adoption. There is no difference in preparation and counselling for PAPs in all adoptions - domestic and international. All the main steps of the adoption proceedings are interdisciplinary, involving different experts (social workers, psychologist, pedagogues and lawyers) into assessment and evaluation procedure. Social work centres organize obligatory individual counselling and preparation for PAPs and voluntary educational group activities.</p>

PART VI: THE INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION PROCEDURE

16. Applications

<p>a) To which authority / body should PAPs apply for an intercountry adoption?</p>	<p>To the social work centre, who (in cooperation with the Central Authority) assist PAPs during preparation of the application and during the procedure of intercountry adoption.</p>
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<p>b) Please indicate which documents your State requires to be included within the PAPs' file for transmission to the State of origin:¹⁶</p> <p><i>Please tick all which apply.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An application form for adoption completed by the PAPs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A statement of "approval to adopt" issued by a competent authority</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A report on the PAPs including the "home study" and other personal assessments (see Art. 15)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of the PAPs' passports or other personal identification documents</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of the PAPs' birth certificates</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of the birth certificates of any children living with the PAPs</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of marriage, divorce or death certificates, as applicable (please specify in which circumstances): only copy of marriage certificate</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information concerning the health of the PAPs (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required): medical confirmation that there is no medical impediment for adoption</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Evidence of the financial circumstances of the family (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required): information about incomes for last three months</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information concerning the employment status of the PAPs (please specify in which circumstances and what type of information is required): confirmation about employment issued by employer</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Proof of no criminal record</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other(s): please explain evidence that the PAPs has not been removed parental responsibility; evidence that the PAPs is not lack the capacity to contract.</p>
<p>c) Is it compulsory in your State for an accredited body to be involved in an intercountry adoption procedure?¹⁷</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify at which stage(s) of the procedure an accredited body must be involved (e.g., for the preparation of the home study, for the submission of the adoption file to the State of origin, for all stages of the procedure):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify who assists PAPs if no accredited body is involved in the adoption procedure: The social work centre and Central Authority assists PAPs. There are no accredited bodies or persons to be involved in an intercountry adoption procedure.</p>
<p>d) Are any <i>additional</i> documents required if PAPs apply through an accredited</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney issued by the PAPs</p>

¹⁶ Please remember that a specific State of origin may have other / additional requirements concerning the documentation that must be submitted to it. A list of documents required by the specific State of origin can be found in the State of origin's Country Profile.

¹⁷ See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, paras 4.2.6 and 8.6.6: "independent" and "private" adoptions are not consistent with the system of safeguards established under the 1993 Convention.

<p>body?</p> <p><i>Please tick all which apply.</i></p>	<p>to the accredited body (<i>i.e.</i>, a written document provided by the PAPs to the accredited body in which the PAPs formally appoint the accredited body to act on their behalf in relation to the intercountry adoption):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A contract signed by the accredited body and the PAPs:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A document issued by a competent authority of the receiving State certifying that the accredited body may undertake intercountry adoptions:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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17. The report on the PAPs (Arts 5 a) and 15(1))

<p>a) Which body(ies) / expert(s) prepare the report on the PAPs?</p> <p>Please include all those involved with the preparation of any of the documents which are included within such a report.</p>	<p>The Social work centre.</p>
<p>b) Is a "standard form" used for the report on the PAPs in your State?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please provide a link to the form or attach a copy:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please indicate whether your State has any requirements concerning the information which must be included in the report on the PAPs and / or the documentation which must be attached to it:</p>
<p>c) For how long is the report on the PAPs valid in your State?</p>	<p>There is no prescribed time limit on validation of reports on the PAPs. But, as most reports on the PAPs include a statement concerning the age of the child the PAPs are suitable to care for, it is self-evident that the validity of the report cannot be unlimited. The report also is renewed in cases there are changes in the PAPs living conditions. Before adoption the report should be verified.</p>
<p>d) Who is responsible in your State for renewing the report on the PAPs if the period of validity expires before the intercountry adoption is completed and what is the procedure for renewal?</p>	<p>Social work centre.</p>

18. Transmission of the PAPs' file to the State of origin

<p>a) Who sends the finalised application file of the PAPs to the State of origin?</p>	<p>Central Authority - Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities</p>
<p>b) If no accredited body is involved with the intercountry adoption application (see Question 16 c) above), who assists the PAPs with compiling and</p>	<p>The Social work centre.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable – an accredited body will always be involved (see response to Question 16 c) above).</p>

transmitting their application file?	
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19. Receipt of the report on the child (Art. 16(2)) and acceptance of the match (Art. 17 a) and b))

19.1 Receipt of the report on the child (Art. 16(2))

Which authority / body in your State receives the report on the child from the State of origin?

Central Authority - Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

19.2 Acceptance of the match

a) Does your State require that the matching be accepted by a competent authority in your State?

- ☐ Yes, please provide the following details:
- Which authority determines whether to accept the match (e.g., the Central Authority or another competent authority): and
 - The procedure which is followed (e.g., the report on the child is transmitted first to the competent authority to determine whether the match is accepted and only if this authority accepts the match is the report sent to the PAPs):

Go to Question 19.2 b)

- ☒ No. Please explain the procedure which is followed once the authority / body referred to in Question 19.1 has received the report on the child from the State of origin:

Central Authority transmits the matching letter to the competent Social work centre (according to the PAPs permanent residence). The Social work centre informs the PAPs about the match; the PAPs decide if they will accept the match or not.

Go to Question 19.2 c)

b) Which criteria must be fulfilled for the relevant authority in your State to accept the match?

c) Does your State impose any requirements on PAPs concerning the length of time they are given to decide whether to accept a match?

- ☐ Yes, in addition to any requirements of the State of origin, our State has a time-limit – please specify:
- ☒ No, the requirements of the State of origin are determinative in this regard.

d) Do PAPs receive any kind of assistance from your State when deciding whether to accept a match?

- ☒ Yes – please specify what type of assistance is provided (e.g., counselling): counselling is provided during the process by Social work centre and by Central Authority if needed.

☐ No

20. Agreement under Article 17 c)

a) Which competent authority / body agrees that the adoption may proceed in accordance with Article 17 c)?

Central Authority - Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities based on the opinion of the social work centre (according to the territorial jurisdiction of the PAPs).

b) At what point in the adoption procedure is the Article 17 c) agreement given in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Our State waits for the State of origin to provide its agreement first OR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Our State sends its agreement to the State of origin with a notice that the match has been accepted OR <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):

21. Travel of the PAPs to the State of origin¹⁸

a) Does your State impose any travel requirements / restrictions on PAPs in addition to those imposed by the State of origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify the additional requirements / restrictions: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State permit an escort to be used to bring the child to the adoptive parents in your State in any circumstances?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, please specify in which circumstances: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

¹⁸ See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 7.4.10.

22. Authorisation for the child to enter and reside permanently (Arts 5 c) and 18)	
a) Please specify the procedure to obtain authorisation for the child to enter and reside permanently in your State.	On the basis of recognition of a foreign judgement, a Slovenian passport to return (temporary passport) is issued for a child.
b) Which documents are necessary for a child to be able to enter and reside permanently in your State (e.g., passport, visa)?	Passport to return (if both PAPs are citizens of Slovenia) or foreign passport with visa (in case if both PAPs are not citizens of Slovenia).
c) Which of the documents listed in response to Question 0 b) above must be issued by your State? Please indicate which public / competent authority is responsible for issuing each document.	Slovenian embassy or consulate.
d) Once the child has arrived in your State, what is the procedure, if any, to notify the Central Authority or accredited body of his / her arrival?	The adoptive parents have to inform the competent social work centre and/or Central Authority about arrival of the child to the Republic of Slovenia.

23. Final adoption decision and the Article 23 certificate	
<p>a) If the final adoption decision is made in your State, which competent authority:</p> <p>(i) Makes the final adoption decision; and</p> <p>(ii) Issues the certificate under Article 23?</p> <p>N.B. According to Art. 23(2), the authority responsible for issuing the Art. 23 certificate should be formally designated at the time of ratification of / accession to the 1993 Convention. The designation (or any modification to a designation) should be notified to the depositary of the Convention. The answer to (ii) above should therefore be available on the Status Table for the 1993 Convention (under "Authorities"), available on the Intercountry Adoption Section of the Hague Conference website.</p>	<p>(i) District court</p> <p>(ii) Central Authority</p>
<p>b) Does your State use the "Recommended model form – Certificate of conformity of intercountry adoption"?</p> <p><i>See GGP No 1 – Annex 7.</i></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>c) Please briefly describe the procedure for issuing the Article 23 certificate.</p> <p><i>E.g., how long does it take to issue the certificate? Is a copy of the certificate always given to the PAPs? Is a copy sent to the Central Authority in the</i></p>	<p>After the finalised and valid adoption decision is made in Republic of Slovenia, Central Authority of the Republic of Slovenia issues the Article 23 certificate; one copy is given to the PAPs and one copy is being sent to the Central Authority of the State</p>

State of origin?	of origin.
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d) In cases in which the Article 23 certificate is issued in the State of origin, which authority or body in your State should receive a copy of this certificate?	Central Authority
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PART VII: INTRA-FAMILY INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTIONS

24. Procedure for the intercountry adoption of a child who is a relative of the PAPs ("intra-family intercountry adoption")	
a) Please explain the circumstances in which an intercountry adoption will be classified as an " <i>intra-family</i> intercountry adoption" in your State. Please include an explanation of the degree of relationship which a child must have with PAPs to be considered a "relative" of those PAPs.	According to our legislation adoption of a relative in a direct line shall not be permitted. Neither may a brother or a sister be adopted. Other relatives can adopt the child.
b) Does your State apply the procedures of the 1993 Convention to intra-family intercountry adoptions? <i>N.B. If the child and PAPs are habitually resident in different Contracting States to the 1993 Convention, the Convention is applicable, irrespective of the fact that the child and PAPs are related: see further GGP No 1 at para. 8.6.4.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – go to Question 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, in general, although there are some differences in the procedures for intra-family intercountry adoptions – please specify: Go to Question 25 <input type="checkbox"/> No – go to Question 24 c)
c) If your State does not apply the Convention procedures to intra-family intercountry adoptions, please explain the laws / rules / procedures which are used in relation to: (i) The counselling and preparations which PAPs must undergo in your State; (ii) The preparation of the child for the adoption; (iii) The report on the PAPs; and (iv) The report on the child.	(i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

PART VIII: SIMPLE AND FULL ADOPTION¹⁹

25. Simple and full adoption	
a) Is "full" adoption permitted in your State?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> In certain circumstances only – please

¹⁹ According to the 1993 Convention, a **simple** adoption is one in which the legal parent-child relationship which existed before the adoption is not terminated but a new legal parent-child relationship between the child and his / her adoptive parents is established. A **full** adoption is one in which the pre-existing legal parent-child relationship is terminated. See further Arts 26 and 27 and GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.8.8.

<p><i>See GGP No 1 at Chapter 8.8.8 and note 19 below.</i></p>	<p>specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):</p>
<p>b) Is "simple" adoption permitted in your State?</p> <p><i>See GGP No 1 at Chapter 8.8.8 and note 19 below.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In certain circumstances only (<i>e.g.</i>, for intra-family adoptions only) – please specify:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):</p>
<p>c) Does the law in your State permit "simple" adoptions to be converted into "full" adoptions in accordance with Article 27 of the 1993 Convention?</p> <p><i>See Art. 27(1) a).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please provide details of how this is undertaken and please specify whether this is done on a regular basis when a State of origin grants a "simple" adoption or only in specific cases:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – go to Question 26</p>
<p>d) If conversion of a "simple" adoption into a "full" adoption is sought in your State following an intercountry adoption, how does your State ensure that the consents referred to in Article 4 c) and d) of the 1993 Convention have been given in the State of origin to a "full" adoption (as required by Art. 27(1) b))?</p> <p><i>See Art. 27(1) b) and Art. 4 c) and d).</i></p>	
<p>e) Following a conversion in your State, please explain which authority is responsible for issuing the Article 23 certificate in relation to the conversion decision. Please also explain the procedure which is followed.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The competent authority and the procedure is the same as stated in response to Question 23 above.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):</p>

PART IX: POST-ADOPTION MATTERS

26. Preservation of, and access to, information concerning the child's origins (Art. 30) and the adoption of the child	
<p>a) Which authority in your State is responsible for preserving information concerning the child's origins, as required by Article 30?</p>	<p>The Social work centre.</p>
<p>b) For how long is the information concerning the child's origins preserved?</p>	<p>Documents concerning adoptions that are the basis for entering the adoption in the civil register shall be kept permanently.</p>
<p>c) Does your State permit the following persons to have access to information concerning the child's origins and / or information concerning the adoption of the child:</p> <p>(i) the adoptee and / or his / her representative(s);</p> <p>(ii) the adoptive parent(s);</p> <p>(iii) the birth family; and / or</p>	<p>(i) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: After the decision on adoption is final the adopted person shall have no right to access the personal data of their biological parents entered in the civil register and other personal databases. Access to such data shall be possible only on the basis of written consent of the person to whom these data refer. An adopted person or their legal representative may request from a social work centre data on the health status of the biological parents within the</p>

<p>(iv) any other person(s)?</p> <p>If so, are there any criteria which must be met for access to be granted (<i>e.g.</i>, age of the adopted child, consent of the birth family to the release of information concerning the child's origins, consent of the adoptive parents to the release of information concerning the adoption)?</p> <p><i>See Art. 9 a) and c) and Art. 30.</i></p>	<p>scope and under the conditions provided by law. In such cases the social work centre shall obtain data from health institutions and shall send them in anonymised form to the adopted person or their legal representative.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(ii) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: As the legal representatives of the adoptee. For the requirements see above.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(iii) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: Biological parents shall have no right to access personal data of the child that they put up for adoption. Access to such data shall be possible only on the basis of written consent of the person to whom these data refer. A child over fifteen may consent on their own behalf if they are capable of understanding its meaning and consequences; otherwise consent shall be given by the child's representative. Consent shall be obtained by a social work centre on the motion of the biological parents.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>(iv) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain any criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>d) Where access to such information is provided, is any counselling or other guidance / support given in your State?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: Under appropriate guidance and support by a social work centre professionals.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>e) Once access to such information has been provided, is any <i>further</i> assistance offered to the adoptee and / or others (<i>e.g.</i>, regarding making contact with his / her biological family, tracing extended family)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify: If adopted person searches for assistance in searching for her/his origins, social work centre and/or Central Authority would provide assistance in so far as is permitted by the law.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>

27. Post-adoption reports

<p>a) Absent specific requirements of the State of origin in this regard, who is responsible in your State for <i>writing</i> post-adoption reports and <i>sending</i> such reports to the State of origin?</p>	<p>Post-adoption reports are prepared by social work centres and sent to the State of origin by Central Authority.</p>
<p>b) Absent any specific requirements of the State of origin in this regard, is there a model form which is used by your State for post-adoption reports?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify whether use of the form is mandatory and indicate where it may be accessed (<i>e.g.</i>, provide a link or attach a copy):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – in which case, please specify the</p>

	content expected by <i>your</i> State in a post-adoption report (e.g., medical information, information about the child's development, schooling): The form and content of the report depend on the requirements of the State of origin.
c) How does your State ensure that the requirements of the State of origin in relation to post-adoption reporting are fulfilled?	The Central Authority ensures that post-atopiton report is made in the competent social work centre and sends the report to the Central Authority of the State of origin.

28. Post-adoption services and support (Art. 9 c))

<p>Apart from the matters raised in Question 26 above, what, if any, post-adoption services and support is / are provided by your State to the child and / or PAPs following completion of an intercountry adoption (e.g., counselling, support to preserve cultural links)?</p> <p>In particular, please state whether any specific post-adoption services or support are provided in your State in the case of special needs children.</p>	<p>In our state is not required monitoring of adopted children, but social work centres always offer further support and assistance during any period of life to the adoptive families.</p>
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PART X: THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION²⁰

Receiving States are also kindly requested to complete the “Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption”, available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website.

29. The costs ²¹ of intercountry adoption	
a) Are the costs of intercountry adoption regulated by law in your State?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please specify any relevant legislation / regulations / rules and indicate how they may be accessed (e.g., link to a website or attach a copy). Please also briefly explain the legal framework: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b) Does your State monitor the payment of the costs of intercountry adoption?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please briefly describe how this monitoring is undertaken: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
c) Are the costs of intercountry adoption which must be paid in your State paid through the accredited body involved in the particular intercountry adoption (if applicable – see Question 16 c) above) or directly by the PAPs themselves? <i>See the “Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption” at para. 86.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Through the accredited body: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Directly by the PAPs: <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain):
d) Are the costs of intercountry adoption which must be paid in your State paid in cash or only by bank transfer? <i>See the “Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption” at para. 85.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Only by bank transfer: <input type="checkbox"/> In cash: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please explain): Central Authority and social work centres don't charge any fees for the adoption procedure. PAPs have to bear costs of translations, costs incurred in the state of origin, travel and accommodation costs.
e) Which body / authority in your State receives the payments?	Central Authority and social work centres don't charge any fees for the adoption procedure.
f) Does your State provide PAPs (and other interested persons) with information about the costs of intercountry adoption (e.g., in a brochure or on a website)? N.B. Please also ensure that your State has completed the “Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption” (see above).	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please indicate how this information may be accessed: <input type="checkbox"/> No

²⁰ See the tools developed by the “Experts’ Group on the Financial Aspects of Intercountry Adoption”, available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](#) of the Hague Conference website: i.e., the *Terminology adopted by the Experts’ Group on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* (“Terminology”), the *Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* (“Note”), the *Summary list of good practices on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption* and the *Tables on the costs associated with intercountry adoption*.

²¹ See the definition of “costs” provided in the harmonised Terminology, *ibid*.

30. Contributions, co-operation projects and donations ²²	
<p>a) Does your State permit contributions²³ to be paid (either through your State's Central Authority or a national accredited body) to a State of origin in order to engage in intercountry adoption with that State?</p> <p><i>For good practices relating to contributions, see the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at Chapter 6.</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What type of contribution is permitted by your State: - Who is permitted to pay it (<i>i.e.</i>, the Central Authority or a national accredited body): - How it is ensured that contributions do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry adoption process: <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>b) Does your State undertake (either through the Central Authority or national accredited bodies) co-operation projects in any States of origin?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes - please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What type of co-operation projects are permitted by your State: - Who undertakes such projects (<i>i.e.</i>, the Central Authority and / or national accredited bodies): - Whether such projects are mandatory according to the law of your State: - Whether such projects are monitored by an authority / body in your State: - How it is ensured that co-operation projects do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry adoption process: <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>c) If permitted in the State of origin, does your State permit PAPs or accredited bodies to make donations to orphanages, institutions or birth families in the State of origin?</p> <p><i>N.B. This is <u>not</u> recommended as a good practice: see further the "Note on the financial aspects of intercountry adoption" at Chapter 6 (in particular, Chapter 6.4).</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To whom donations may be made (<i>e.g.</i>, to orphanages, other institutions and / or birth families): - What donations are intended to be used for: - Who is permitted to pay donations (<i>e.g.</i>, only accredited bodies or also PAPs): - At what stage of the intercountry adoption procedure donations are permitted to be paid: - How it is ensured that donations do not influence or otherwise compromise the integrity of the intercountry

²² See the definitions of these terms provided in the harmonised Terminology. In addition, on contributions and donations, see Chapter 6 of the Note, *supra*, note 20.

²³ See further the harmonised Terminology, *supra*, note 20, which states that there are two types of contributions: (1) contributions demanded by the State of origin, which are mandatory and meant to improve either the adoption system or the child protection system. The amount is set by the State of origin. These contributions are managed by the authorities or others appropriately authorised in the State of origin which decide how the funds will be used; (2) contributions demanded by the accredited body from PAPs. These contributions may be for particular children's institutions (*e.g.*, for maintenance costs for the child) or for the co-operation projects of the accredited body in the State of origin. The co-operation projects may be a condition of the authorisation of that body to work in the State of origin. The amount is set by the accredited body or its partners. The payment may not be a statutory obligation and accredited bodies may present the demand in terms of "highly recommended contribution", but in practice it is "mandatory" for the PAPs in the sense that their application will not proceed if the payment is not made.

	adoption procedure: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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31. Improper financial or other gain (Arts 8 and 32)

a) Which authority is responsible for preventing improper financial or other gain in your State as required by the Convention?	Central Authority, social work centres, the prosecuting authorities. Any criminal activities are sanctioned within penal legislation.
b) What measures have been taken in your State to prevent improper financial or other gain?	The adoption procedures are carried out by professionals of social work centres as competent for protection of children according to the legislation, code of ethics and professional standards. According to the Slovenian law every improper financial or other gain is considered as a criminal act.
c) Please explain the sanctions which may be applied if Articles 8 and / or 32 are breached.	Giving and accepting a bribe is a criminal act for which is provided imprisonment from 1-8 years and financial penalty.

PART XI: ILLICIT PRACTICES²⁴

32. Response to illicit practices in general

Please explain how your Central Authority and / or other competent authorities respond to intercountry adoption cases involving alleged or actual illicit practices. ²⁵	In such case we would immediately inform prosecuting authorities.
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33. The abduction, sale of and traffic in children

a) Please indicate which laws in your State seek to prevent the abduction, sale of and traffic in children in the context of your intercountry adoption programmes. Please also specify which bodies / persons the laws target (e.g., accredited bodies (national or foreign), PAPs, directors of children's institutions).	We don't have a specific laws in the context intercountry adoption. Abduction, sale of and traffic is the subject of the Penal Code and is considered as criminal acts.
b) Please explain how your State monitors respect for the above laws.	

²⁴ "Illicit practices" in this Country Profile refers to "situations where a child has been adopted without respect for the rights of the child or for the safeguards of the Hague Convention. Such situations may arise where an individual or body has, directly or indirectly, misrepresented information to the biological parents, falsified documents about the child's origins, engaged in the abduction, sale or trafficking of a child for the purpose of intercountry adoption, or otherwise used fraudulent methods to facilitate an adoption, regardless of the benefit obtained (financial gain or other)" (from p. 1 of the *Discussion Paper: Co-operation between Central Authorities to develop a common approach to preventing and addressing illicit practices in intercountry adoption cases*, available on the [Intercountry Adoption Section](http://www.hcch.net) of the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net >).

²⁵ *Ibid.*

c) If these laws are breached, what sanctions may be applied? (e.g., imprisonment, fine, withdrawal of accreditation.)	
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34. Private and / or independent adoptions

Are private and / or independent adoptions permitted in your State?

N.B. "Independent" and "private" adoptions are not consistent with the system of safeguards established under the 1993 Convention: see further GGP No 1 at Chapters 4.2.6 and 8.6.6.

Please tick all which apply.

- ☐ Private adoptions are permitted – please explain how this term is defined in your State:
- ☒ Independent adoptions are permitted - please explain how this term is defined in your State: In the case of Non-convention adoption PAPs approved by competent social work centre as eligible and suited for adoption, PAPs personally contact the competent authority in the State of origin with the request for adoption a child. If the competent body in the State of origin decided that PAPs can adopt the child, the foreign adoption decision should be recognized by Slovenian Court.
- ☐ Neither private nor independent adoptions are permitted.

PART XII: INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

35. The scope of the 1993 Convention (Art. 2)

- a) If foreign national PAPs, habitually resident in your State, wish to adopt a child habitually resident in another Contracting State to the 1993 Convention, are they permitted to do so under the law of your State?

Example: Indian PAPs are habitually resident in the USA and wish to adopt a child habitually resident in India.

- ☒ Yes – please explain whether this would be treated as an *intercountry* or *domestic* adoption in your State²⁶ and please briefly explain the procedure which would be followed, as well as any specific criteria / conditions which would apply: The adoption would be treated as an intercountry adoption and follow the same rules as for Slovenian PAPs. Regarding nationality of the child - PAPs have to resolve that issue in the state of their citizenship.

☐ No

- b) If foreign national PAPs, habitually resident in your State, wish to adopt a child also habitually resident in your State, are they permitted to do so under the law of your State?

Example: Indian PAPs are habitually resident in the USA and wish to adopt a child also habitually resident in the USA.

- ☒ Yes – please explain whether this would be treated as an *intercountry* or *domestic* adoption in your State²⁷ and please briefly explain the procedure which would be followed, as well as any specific criteria / conditions which would apply: The adoption would be treated as a domestic adoption and follow the same rules as for Slovenian PAPs.

In exceptional cases a foreign national may be the adoptive parent if the social work centre was unable to find a suitable adoptive parent for the child to be adopted among nationals of the Republic of Slovenia. The minister responsible for

²⁶ According to the 1993 Convention (see Art. 2), this is an *intercountry* adoption due to the differing habitual residences of the PAPs and the child. The Convention procedures, standards and safeguards should therefore be applied to such adoptions: see further, GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.4.

²⁷ According to the 1993 Convention (see Art. 2), this is a *domestic* adoption due to the fact that the habitual residence of the PAPs and the child is in the same Contracting State: see further, GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 8.4.

	<p>family affairs must consent in order for adoption to be made by a foreign national.</p> <p>This condition shall not apply in cases where the child is adopted by the spouse or cohabitant of one of the child's parents or a child's relative.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>c) If a State of origin treats an adoption by PAPs habitually resident in your State as a <i>domestic</i> adoption when, in fact, it should be processed as an intercountry adoption under the 1993 Convention, how does your State deal with this situation?</p> <p><i>Example: PAPs who are nationals of State X habitually reside in your State. They wish to adopt a child from State X. Due to their nationality, the PAPs are able to adopt a child in State X in a domestic adoption procedure (in breach of the 1993 Convention). They then seek to bring the child back to your State.</i></p>	<p>According to our law conditions for adoption are considered by the law of PAPs and child citizenship State.</p>

PART XIII: SELECTION OF PARTNERS FOR INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION²⁸

36. Selection of partners	
a) With which States of origin does your State currently partner on intercountry adoption?	Republic of Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Republic of Macedonia.
<p>b) How does your State determine with which States of origin it will partner?</p> <p>In particular, please specify whether your State only partners with other <i>Contracting States</i> to the 1993 Convention.</p> <p><i>To see which States are Contracting States to the 1993 Convention, please refer to the Status Table for the 1993 Convention (accessible via the Intercountry Adoption Section of the Hague Conference website < www.hcch.net >).</i></p>	<p>Based on interest by candidates as a Central Authority send a query to the State of origin. Only on eventually expressed interest by the State of origin we can continue procedures to become partners.</p>
c) If your State also partners with <i>non-Contracting States</i> , please explain how it is ensured that the safeguards of the 1993 Convention are complied with in these cases. ²⁹	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not applicable: our State only partners with other <i>Contracting States</i> to the 1993 Convention.</p>

²⁸ In relation to the choice of foreign States as partners in intercountry adoption arrangements, see further GGP No 2, *supra*, note 4, Chapter 3.5.

²⁹ See GGP No 1, *supra*, note 13, Chapter 10.3 regarding the fact that “[i]t is generally accepted that States Party to the Convention should extend the application of its principles to non-Convention adoptions”.

<p>d) Are any formalities required in order to commence intercountry adoptions with a particular State of origin (<i>e.g.</i>, the conclusion of a formal agreement³⁰ with that State of origin)?</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – please explain the content of any agreements or other formalities:³¹ As mentioned above the Republic of Slovenia and the Republic of Macedonia have concluded the bilateral agreement on Intercountry Adoption. The agreement was concluded before the Republic of Macedonia became a Party to the 1993 Convention (in 2007) and it is made on the basis of the 1993 Convention.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
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³⁰ See note 3 above concerning Art. 39(2) and the requirement to transmit a copy of any such agreements to the depositary for the 1993 Convention.

³¹ *Ibid.*