

QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE PRACTICAL OPERATION OF THE 1993 ADOPTION CONVENTION
Prel. Doc. 3 of February 2020 for the Special Commission meeting in 2021

Name of State:	The Republic of Armenia
Information for follow-up purposes	
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1. POST-ADOPTION MATTERS

1.1. Preservation of, and access to, information

Both States of origin and receiving States

1.1.1. Preservation of information and use of data

1.	<p>Has your State centralised, in a public facility, information concerning the child's origins and the adoption of the child?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify where the information is centralised: Information is centralized and maintained in a public facility, i.e. the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Information about intercountry adoption is also centralized at the RA Ministry of Justice. However, concerning the Child's Origins and the information of the adoptee (adopted child) can be stored in a decentralized way at different RA competent bodies, such as the RA Central Authority (the RA Ministry of Justice), the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Orphanage (each orphanage retains information only about the specific child who has been registered at that orphanage), LSG Bodies.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify where the information is stored: Please insert text here</p>
2.	<p>Has your State encountered situations where personal data obtained during the intercountry adoption process has been misused (see Art. 31 of the Convention)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide details of the types of situations your State encountered and the action(s) taken in response: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>

1.1.2. Search for origins

3.	<p>Is there a specialised programme or section in the Central Authority which deals with the search for the origins of an adoptee?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide its name and explain the services provided: There is a section in the RA Central Authority (the RA Ministry of Justice) that deals with centralized storage of information about the adoption and should there be any need, we can submit relevant request to different bodies to obtain information.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify how the search for the origins is handled:</p>
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	Please insert text here
4.	<p>Has your State developed any good practices to ensure that Recommendation No 21¹ of the 2015 Special Commission is implemented?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the good practices developed in that regard:</p> <p>The information about the origin of a child is provided to the prospective adoptive parents through the Accredited Agency or the Central Authority of the Receiving State, according to the Article 15 of the Hague Convention.</p> <p>The Republic of Armenia has initiated changes and amended to the RA Family Code and stipulated that the information can be provided to an adult adopted child or adoptee about the fact of the adoption (i.e. the date of adoption, the fact on the adoption and by which body).</p> <p>The RA Family Code stipulates the provision to disclose only information about the fact of the adoption (without information about the biological parent) to the adopted child, who has reached the age of 18 (adult). The information about the biological parent(s) will be provided to the adult adoptee who has reached the age of 18 only in case when the biological parent has given his/her prior consent about disclosing information about himself or herself.</p> <p>Should there be the case when the adoptive parent wants to find information about the biological parent of the adoptive child, the name and surname are provided. The information about the address and work place are not provided taking into consideration the fact they revoked their rights on their child. This is performed taking into consideration the privacy and other rights of biological parents.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Please insert text here</p>
5.	<p>If your State allows for the use of DNA testing to search for origins, please specify:</p> <p>(a) which body is in charge of the DNA testing (e.g., government, private companies, NGOs); Medical organizations that are specialized and licensed.</p> <p>(b) where the data is stored, and whether it is stored by a public or private entity; Data is stored at a venue where the DNA testing was conducted. This information cannot be revealed due to the privacy of medical information except for the cases stipulated by the RA legislation.</p> <p>(c) the average cost of a DNA test in your State and whether any subsidy is available; The cost for DNA testing is about 200.000 AMD, the equivalent of which is about 400 USD.</p> <p>(d) details of any challenges and / or good practices your State may have developed with respect to the issues identified in this question and DNA testing in general. Not available.</p>
6.	What is your State's practice when the background information of an adoption is incomplete or

¹ [“Conclusions and Recommendations adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the Special Commission on the practical operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention \(8-12 June 2015\)”](#), C&R No 21 (hereinafter, “C&R of the 2015 SC”):

“The SC recommended that the possibility of a child searching for his or her origins be **included** in the **counselling and preparation** of the prospective adoptive parents. When an adopted child or an adult adoptee undertakes such a search, **professional support** at all stages is recommended” [emphasis added].

	<p>non-existent? How does your State support adoptees in such situations?</p> <p>The information about the fact of adoption is stored and archived at different competent bodies (such as the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, orphanage, the RA Ministry of Justice, the Civil Status Acts Regsitation offices, the RA Courts). This information can be easily accessed and collected by the competent bodies. If the information is not available due to the lack of archives, it is not possible to provide information.</p>
7.	<p>What is the procedure in your State when illicit practices are discovered during a search for origins? Please provide details of any challenges and / or good practices.</p> <p>The secrecy of the adoption process is stipulated by the RA legislation and the information about the adoption is not exposed. The competent bodies, which are aware about the adoption, are not entitled to expose any information about the adoption. The RA Family Code stipulates the provision to disclose only informaiton about the fact of the adoption (without information about the biological parent) to the adopted child who has reached the age of 18 (adult). The information about the biologicka parent(s) will be provided to the adopted child (adult adoptee) who has reached the age of 18 only in case when the biological parent has given his/her prior consent about disclosing information about himself or herself.</p> <p>Up to now, there has be no cases reported or recorded of illicit practices in the process of searching for the origins. The RA Criminal Code stulates provisions and criminal prosecution for the competent bodies if they disclose any information in the violation of the RA Family Code.</p>
8.	<p>If statistics are available in your State regarding the number of adoptees who are searching / have searched for their origins, please specify:</p> <p>(a) how many of these searches were successful(<i>e.g.</i>, the adoptee found his birth family); Please insert text here</p> <p>(b) how many were not successful and what were the reasons.</p> <p>Such statistics is not recorded or kept. As the stipulation about the provision of information to the adult adoptee (an adult adoptee who has reached the age of 18) is a comparatively new practice in the Republic of Armenia after the new amendemtns to the RA Family Code and RA decision that took effect in 2018, there has be no cases (applications) of searching the information about the origins. There has been only two cases of such requests, but the information was not provided due to the lack of the prior consent from the biological parents.</p>
9.	<p>Has your State encountered any challenges with regard to access to information due to the confidentiality of the identity of the birth parents?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the challenges and how your State addressed them: The encountered challenges only relate to the adoption of previous time from the USSR period, where in some cases the archives have not been properly kept. Back in those times there has not be centralized registration of the adoptive children. As a result of the lack of this information, it has been impossible to restore or provide such information.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
10.	<p>Does your State make a distinction between the disclosure of identifying versus non-identifying information?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response: The State does stipulate distinction between identifying and non-identifying information. If the information is available, it can be provided to the person who is authorized to request such information. Non-identifying information relates to the information on biological parents if the latter ones reques not to disclose that information.</p>

	<input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response:
11.	<p>What is the procedure in your State for processing requests from the birthfamily to receive information concerning the adoption of their child? Does your State have a specific programme / database to handle such requests?</p> <p>The information about the adoption of a child is not provided to the birth family. Starting from a moment when the parents revoke the right over the child and the child is registered as an adoptive child, the birth parents are not qualified to obtain any information about the child. However, there is a stipulated procedure for a biological parent to give an announcement at any orphanage or the the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, the RA Ministry of Justice, the CSAR (Civil Status Acts Registration) offices. They can claim that their information (address, name surname and other private information) can be provided to an adoptee, if the latter requests such information.</p>

1.1.3. Guidelines and good practices

12.	<p>Has your State developed any guidelines (e.g., procedures, manuals) and / or good practices regarding preservation of information and search for origins?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide a link or attach a copy with your response: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
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1.2. Post-adoption services²

Both States of origin and receiving States

13.	<p>Has your State developed any good practices to ensure that Recommendation No 18³ of the 2015 Special Commission is implemented?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the good practices developed in that regard:</p> <p>In the case of intercountry adoption as the State of the Origin, the RA Government has stipulated the mandatory submission of the post-adoption reports for 5 consecutive years (but not more than the age of the adoptee, when the latter turns 18), annually one mandatory post-adoption report. Should there be additional requirements by the Receiving State, the RA also might accept the reports that have been compiled in different frequencies.</p> <p>In case of the national adoption or as a Receiving State, the RA Family Code has stipulated mandatory post-adoption reports (control over care for a child) for three consecutive years (but not more than the age of the adoptee, when the latter turns 18).</p> <p>Article 128.1. Control over care for a child adopted by an adoptive family</p> <p>1. Control over care for a child adopted by an adoptive family shall be carried out by the guardianship and trusteeship body and the Marzpetaran (regional governor's office) (in Yerevan — Yerevan Municipality), jointly, and in case of adoption by foreign citizens and</p>
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² Post-adoption services may be provided to adoptees, birth families and adoptive families.

³ C&R No 18 of the 2015 SC:

“The SC recognised that post-adoption services are essential and should take into account the **lifelong nature** of adoption. States are encouraged to develop **specialised post-adoption services**, in addition to the general services already in place”[emphasis added].

	<p>stateless persons, as well as by citizens of the Republic of Armenia residing outside the Republic of Armenia — by the authorised state administration body of the Government of the Republic of Armenia ("the body implementing control"). Control over care for a child from the Republic of Armenia adopted in another State shall be carried out as and within the time limits provided for by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, unless otherwise provided for by the law of the other State.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Please insert text here</p>
14.	<p>If your State provides specialised post-adoption services, please specify:</p> <p>(a) the type of services provided and to whom they are provided (<i>e.g.</i>, child and adult adoptees, birth families, adoptive families); Social counseling and psychological counseling are provided to an adoptee and adoptive family.</p> <p>(b) who provides the services (<i>e.g.</i>, social welfare administration, school, health personnel); The post-adoption reports mentioned in point 13 are carried out by the guardianship and trusteeship body and the Marzpetaran (regional governor's office) (in Yerevan — Yerevan Municipality), jointly, and in case of adoption by foreign citizens and stateless persons, as well as by citizens of the Republic of Armenia residing outside the Republic of Armenia — by the authorised state administration body of the Government of the Republic of Armenia ("the body implementing control"). For preparing these post-adoption reports, social workers visit the residences for investigating the residential conditions, the situation of family relationship, and provide social counseling as needed. The RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs mandates a non-governmental organization (as a result of competition, i.e. merit-based selection) to provide psychological counseling to the adoptees or adoptive families. The above-mentioned direct and indirect provision of counseling are considered post-adoption services</p> <p>(c) whether the professionals involved in the post-adoption services are the same as those involved in the preparation of the prospective adoptive parents (PAPs); These professionals might be the same people. As the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs announces the competition for NGOs, both for PAPs and for providing psychological counseling, the winning NGOs might provide both services. However, the requirements are different. Should it be the case when the same NGO is qualified for both processes, the specialists might be the same people. So far, there has been no such cases,</p> <p>(d) how, if there are different services, these various services are coordinated; Different services in this field are coordinated by the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.</p> <p>(e) how the post-adoption services are financed (<i>e.g.</i>, the government funds its own services, the government funds Adoption Accredited Bodies (AAB) services, adoptees and their families pay for the services themselves, other); These post-adoption services are financed from the governmental funds, i.e. government budget.</p> <p>(f) the length of time this support is available. The length of time is different from case to case, based on each case's circumstances and needs.</p>
15.	<p>Please provide details of any good practices in your State which ensure that adoptees, adoptive families and birth families are adequately informed about, and can easily access, post-adoption services. All parties are informed quite well about the available post-adoption services as it is included in</p>

	PAPs, the Guardianship bodies also inform the parties. However, it should be mentioned that birth families are not anyhow engaged at the stage of post-adoption services, as those families receive different types of counseling, guidance and even financial assistance before they revoke the rights over the child and the process of adoption has started.
16.	In setting up post-adoption services in your State, were the voices of adoptees considered? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify in what way their voices were considered: The voices of adoptees are considered in the evaluation and reports by all competent bodies. <input type="checkbox"/> No.
17.	Has research been carried out in your State in the past five years assessing post-adoption services? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide a link or attach a copy with your response: There is an annual monitoring by the RA Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs over the mandated function of provision of post-adoption different services and other functions. <input type="checkbox"/> No.

Receiving States only

18.	Please specify any challenges your State encounters in ensuring that adequate support is in place for adoptees and the adoptive family following an intercountry adoption, including where parents have adopted a child with special needs . Please also share any good practices your State has developed to overcome such challenges. ⁴ There has been no challenges.
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1.3. Post-adoption reports

Receiving States only

19.	Does the preparation of PAPs in your State include the provision of information on post-adoption report requirements of the State where the PAPs (would like to) adopt? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response: Please insert text here <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify when and how PAPs are otherwise informed: Please insert text here
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Both States of origin and receiving States

20.	Has your State encountered situations where the adopted child refused or objected to the obligation to comply with the post-adoption report requirements? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the types of situations and what action your State has taken to address this type of situation: Please insert text here
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⁴ If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 17 of "[Prel. Doc. No 2 of October 2014 - Questionnaire No 2 on the practical operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention](#)" (hereinafter "[2014 Questionnaire](#)").

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.
21.	<p>What has been your State's recent experience regarding post-adoption reports? Please provide details of any challenges and / or good practices in this regard.</p> <p>One important point should be mentoned that the post-adoption reports usually cover the information about the development of family, family relationship, and other required stipulations. However, it should be mentioned that we as a State of Origin currently require our partners to include detailed information about the health situation (namely, the health problem that was available at the moment of adoption).</p>

1.4. Adoption breakdowns

Both States of origin and receiving States

22.	<p>If your State has had any experience regarding intercountry adoptions which have broken down, please specify:⁵</p> <p>(a) what have been the main causes of the breakdowns;⁶</p> <p>There has only been such case. The adoptive parents have refused to adopt a child, due to the behavior of an adoptive child who has been misbehaving and has psychological outbreaks. This fact has also been exacerbated by the fact that the adoptive parents have a biological child who has reacted to the behaviour of new family member. In this case. the RA court has made final decision on the adoption but however the child was on the territory of the RA.</p> <p>(b) how your State has addressed these situations and whether your State has any good practices to share in this regard;⁷</p> <p>The State has chosen to adopt the child back, place the child in the orpahanage and has taken the proceses to annul the adoption. According to the the RA Family Code, the child has been registered again as the adoptive child.</p> <p>(c) what support is available for the adoptee and the adoptive family to prevent and / or respond to the breakdown of intercountry adoptions;</p> <p>Support has been given to the child and the family. The child has been given an opportunity to live in the rented apartment, the representatives of the competent body evaluted the situation through the perspective of the child being is a mamber of their family, but the competent body that is in the best interest of child to revoke the adoption and to stay in Armenia.</p> <p>(d) whether your State has developed any good practices to ensure that RecommendationNo 19⁸of the 2015 Special Commission is implemented:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify any good practices developed in this regard:</p> <p>N/A</p>
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⁵ If the Central Authority in your State is not informed about this information because it relates to a child protection measure which is a different department / institution than the Central Authority, we would be grateful if you could request this information from the relevant authorities in your State.

⁶ If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 18(a) of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

⁷ If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 18(b) of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

⁸ C&R No 19 of the 2015 SC:

“The SC recognised that appropriate evaluations, preparation, reports, matching and post-adoption support, in relation to both the child and prospective adoptive parents, will reduce the risk of the breakdown of intercountry adoptions.”

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Please insert text here</p> <p>(e) whether your State has experienced breakdown cases in which it was determined that it was in the child's best interests to return to the State of origin, and if so, what the situations were and how they were handled; Please insert text here</p> <p>(f) how many cases of breakdown in intercountry adoptions have been reported in your State between 2015 and the present date; There was such a case in 2016.</p> <p>(g) how many of these cases included a new placement (e.g., foster care, new adoption) for the child; Just the above-mentioned case. This child has been again registered as an adoptive child.</p> <p>(h) how many cases of breakdowns were intercountry adoptions done (a) under the 1993 Adoption Convention; and (b) outside of the Convention (i.e., prior to the entry into force of the Convention in your State or with non-State Party); a) just one in 2016, after the ratification of the convention by the Republic of Armenia. b) there was no statistics kept before 2007.</p> <p>(i) in line with Recommendation No 20⁹ of the 2015 Special Commission, whether your State has applied the 1996 Child Protection Convention to enhance cooperation between States of origin and receiving States in cases of breakdown, and if so, please explain. The Republic of Armenia has not ratified the 1996 Child Protection Convention.</p>
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Receiving States only

23.	<p>Is your State's Central Authority informed and involved / consulted when an intercountry adoption breaks down?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response: Please insert text here</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify whether the staff of the child protection services include workers specialised in adoption: Please insert text here</p>
24.	<p>Do your State's authorities consult with the Central Authority of the child's State of origin:</p> <p>(a) if an adoption breaks down?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please describe the type of cooperation: Please insert text here</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>(b) before determining a new placement for the child?</p>

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C&R No 20 of the 2015 SC:

"The SC encouraged States to consider ratification of, or accession to, the *Hague Convention of 19 October 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Cooperation in Respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children* (hereinafter, "the 1996 Hague Convention") in view of its relevance in enhancing cooperation to protect children in many different situations, including following the breakdown of intercountry adoptions."

	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please describe the type of cooperation: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Please insert text here</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No.
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States of origin only

25.	<p>Is your State's Central Authority (or other competent authority) informed or involved / consulted by the competent authorities of the child's receiving State:</p> <p>(a) if an adoption breaks down?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please describe the type of cooperation: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">The RA Central Authority was informed, involved, as well as it consulted the Competent Authorities of the Child's Receiving State about the documents and procedures. Later on, the RA Central Authority has applied to the Guardianship body and followed up on the court proceedings for the breakdown of the adoption.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p> <p>(b) before determining a new placement for the child?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please describe the type of cooperation: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Such information is not available, as the breakdown happened when the child was still in the Republic of Armenia.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
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1.5. Other post-adoption matters

States of origin only

26.	<p>Are adoptees, who did not retain the nationality of their State of origin, permitted to regain it at a later stage?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the conditions to regain nationality: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">An adoptee can regain the nationality of the Republic of Armenia only after becoming adult by easy procedures because the adoptee has the Armenian origin.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">Please insert text here</p> </p>
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Both States of origin and receiving States

27.	<p>Has your State encountered situations where adoptees have sought to regain the nationality of their State of origin?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the situations and how they were handled: <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">The information is not available at the RA Central Authority.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
28.	<p>Please give the reasons, if any, why your State would or would not support the development of a Guide to Good Practice on post-adoption.</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">The Republic of Armenia highly values the importance of developing such Guides to Good Practices on post-adoption reports in future. This has not been developed because the overall oversight over the national and the intercountry adoption has been in place starting from 2018.</p>

2. PREVENTING AND ADDRESSING ILLICIT PRACTICES

Both States of origin and receiving States

29.	<p>Have illicit practices in intercountry adoption be discovered since 2015 in your State?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>(a) the type of illicit practices which were discovered; Please insert text here</p> <p>(b) when the illicit practices were discovered (<i>i.e.</i>, during or after the adoption procedure); Please insert text here</p> <p>(c) whether the illicit practices were done under or outside the scope of the 1993 Adoption Convention; Please insert text here</p> <p>(d) how your State handled these situations; As this questionnaire does not provide any room for explanation under the NO answer, the following information is provided under this point. Starting from 2019 there has been a case of illicit practices of inter-country adoption, such as illegal purchase of a child. However, this case is still under investigation, and based on the presumption of innocence and the lack of the RA court verdict, at this state it is difficult to claim that there has been illicit practices.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
30.	<p>Please specify any good practices of your State to prevent and address illicit practices.</p> <p>As a good practice, the following information should be mentioned: the RA Central Aurohotiry cooperates with the RA police to check the validity of the revocation of the right by the biological parents. The RA Cental Authority also provides the documents of the adoptive parents under the intercountry adoption to run background check using diferent networks.</p>
31.	<p>Is it possible in your State to annul an intercountry adoption?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>(a) the authority which has jurisdiction to do so; The RA Courts are the only authorities in the Republic of Armenia that have the jurisdiction to annul the adoption, both national and intercountry. Article 129 of the RA Family Codes stipulates the provisions on the annulment (revocation) of child adoption</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child adoption shall be revoked through judicial procedure. 2. The case on revocation of child adoption shall be examined with the mandatory participation of the guardianship and curatorship body. 3. Adoption shall be terminated upon entry into legal force of the court judgment on revocation of child adoption. <p>The court shall, within three days upon entry into legal force of the court judgment on revocation of child adoption, be obliged to send the extract of the judgment to the body implementing state registration of civil status acts of the place of state registration of the adoption.</p> <p>(b) who can request the annulment (<i>e.g.</i>, adoptee, adoptive parents, birth parents); Article 131 of the RA Family Codes stipulates that the parents of a child (birth parents), the adopters of the child (adoptive parents), the guardianship and curatorship body, as</p>

well as the adopted person having attained the age of 18 shall be entitled to request revocation of child adoption, in the cases provided for by Article 133 of the RA Family Code Code.

Article 133 of the RA Family Code stipulates that the annulment (revocation) of child adoption shall not be allowed, where the adoptive child has attained majority at the moment of requesting revocation of adoption, except for the cases when there is mutual consent of the adopter and the adoptive child, as well as the parents of the adoptive child, where the parents are alive, are not deprived of parental rights, or the court has not declared them as having no active legal capacity.

(c) the **grounds** upon which this may be done;

Article 130 of the RA Family Code stipulates the grounds for annulment (revocation). Taking into account the Best Interests of the Child, child adoption may be revoked, where the adopter:

- (1) avoids fulfilling the obligations of a parent set for the adopter;
 - (2) fails to change his or her behaviour within six months upon entry into legal force of the court judgment on restriction on parental rights;
 - (3) the adopter has been subjected to administrative liability for hindering implementation of control over care for the child and has not fulfilled the assumed obligation within a 15-day period;
 - (4) refuses to take his or her child from organisations providing medical assistance and services without an excusable reason;
 - (5) refuses to take his or her child for one consecutive year from a disciplinary institution, an institution for social protection of the population or other similar institution, without an excusable reason;
 - (6) misuses his or her parental rights, by having, inter alia, a harmful impact on the child with his or her behaviour;
 - (7) suffers from chronic alcoholism, drug addiction or toxicomania;
 - (8) suffers from chronic mental diseases, the list of which is established by the Government of the Republic of Armenia;
 - (9) subjects the child to cruel treatment, particularly:
 - a. regularly exerts such physical abuse against him or her that does not contain elements of corpus delicti provided for by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia;
 - b. exerts psychological violence against him or her, that is, intentionally causing severe mental suffering, including the threat of exerting physical or sexual violence, periodically humiliating dignity;
 - (10) on the ground of appearance of a parent declared as dead or missing by the court, the relevant court judgment on declaring him or her as dead or missing has been revoked, and the parent has applied to the court with the view to revoking adoption;
 - (11) the active legal capacity of a parent declared as having no active legal capacity in accordance with the judicial act of the court has been restored, and the parent has applied to the court to revoke adoption.
2. Adoption shall be revoked, where the adopter has been sentenced for intentional crime against his or her child.

(d) whether there is an **age limit** for the annulment of an adoption;

No age limit is stipulated.

(e) the **procedure** involved;

	<p>The judicial procedures are only stipulated.</p> <p>(f) the number of intercountry adoptions which are on average annulled per year.</p> <p>Only one annulment starting from 2016. The details were mentioned above.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
32.	<p>Is it possible in your State to revoke an intercountry adoption?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>(a) the authority which has the jurisdiction to do so; Please insert text here</p> <p>(b) who can request the revocation (e.g., adoptee, adoptive parents, birth parents); Please insert text here</p> <p>(c) the grounds upon which this is done; Please insert text here</p> <p>(d) whether there is an age limit for the revocation of the adoption; Please insert text here</p> <p>(e) the procedure involved; Please insert text here</p> <p>(f) the number of intercountry adoptions which are on average revoked per year. Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>

3. INTRAFAMILY ADOPTIONS

In this Questionnaire, an "intrafamily adoption" is one in which the adoptive parent(s) are either **relatives** of the child (e.g., an aunt, a grandparent, a cousin) or a **stepparent** of the child. These adoptions are respectively referred to as "relative adoptions" and "stepparent adoptions." The Convention applies to all intrafamily adoptions.¹⁰

3.1. General questions for intrafamily adoptions (i.e., relative and stepparent adoptions)

Both States of origin and receiving States

33.	<p>In your State, which authority is in charge of intrafamily adoptions?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Central Authority.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Another competent authority. Please specify which authority and the reasons for designating a different authority: The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs Local-self government bodies.</p>
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¹⁰ See Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, [Guide to Good Practice No 1: The Implementation and Operation of the 1993 Hague Intercountry Adoption Convention](#), Bristol, Family Law (Jordan Publishing Limited), 2008 (hereinafter, "[Guide to Good Practice No 1](#)"), sections 8.6.4 and 8.6.5.

34.	<p>Has your State developed any good practices to ensure that Recommendation No 32¹¹ of the 2015 Special Commission is implemented?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the good practices developed in that regard: Please insert text here</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Please insert text here</p>
35.	<p>Are there specific guidelines or procedures for intrafamily adoptions in your State?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide a link or attach a copy with your response: The child is registered as an adoptive child with special remark on the availability only for intrafamily adoption, for that specific relative only. If that relative revokes the willingness to adopt that child, the specific adoptive child is not registered as the adoptive child. Article 118 of the RA Family Code stipulates the conditions for refusal or consent of parents to adopt a child. Written consent of a biological parent to give a child for adoption shall be necessary for adopting a child in intrafamily adoption. 2. Consent to child adoption may only be given in the case when the child has only one parent. In case of written consent of a parent, the child may be adopted only by a stepfather or stepmother or by close relatives. The consent to child adoption may be given only after the birth of the child.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
36.	<p>Has your State encountered any particular difficulties with adoptability decisions in the context of intrafamily adoptions?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the situations and how they were handled:¹² Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
37.	<p>In your State, does the termination of the pre-existing legal relationship affect only the child and his or her mother and father, or does it also affect the other members of the family (see Art. 26(1)(c) of the Convention)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> It only affects the child and his or her mother and father.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It affects the child and his or her mother and father, but also the other members of the family.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Please explain your response: Please insert text here</p>

¹¹ C&R No 32 of the 2015 SC:

“In relation to in-family adoption, the SC:

- a. recalled that in-family adoptions **fall within the scope** of the Convention;
- b. recalled the need to respect the **safeguards** of the Convention, in particular to **counsel** and **prepare** the prospective adoptive parents;
- c. recognised that the **matching** process might be **adapted** to the specific features of in-family adoptions;
- d. recommended that the **motivations** of all parties should be **examined** to determine whether the child is genuinely **in need of adoption**;
- e. recognised that it is necessary to undertake an **individualised assessment of each child’s situation** and it should **not** be **automatically assumed** that either an in-country or in-family placement is in a child’s best interests” [emphasis added].

¹² If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 3(b) of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

38.	<p>Has your State encountered cases of breakdown in intrafamily intercountry adoptions?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please provide information on (a) the number of breakdowns; (b) the causes of the breakdowns; and (c) the ways your State addresses(ed) them: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
39.	<p>In the context of intrafamily intercountry adoptions, does your State cooperate with States with which it normally does not cooperate?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify any challenges your State encounters and share any good practices your State may have developed in this regard: The Republic of Armenia cooperates both with the member and non-member states of Hague Convention. The main problems arise from obtaining the consent of the competent bodies of non-member Hague Convention state, by which that the competent body undertakes the responsibility for preparing and providing post-adoption reports. And there are no guarantees from non-member Hague Convention states on the implementation of the post-adoption reports. It mainly rests of the good will or willingness of the adopted parent(s) to keep the requirements.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No.</p>

States of origin only

40.	<p>In your State, is the subsidiarity principle applied in the same manner to intrafamily intercountry adoptions?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please describe any different procedures used and explain the reasons for these different procedures:¹³ Please insert text here</p>
41.	<p>Is intrafamily adoption used frequently to protect children within the extended family and / or are there other child protection measures (<i>e.g.</i>, kinship care, foster care) that your State applies to protect children within the extended family?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intrafamily adoption is used frequently. Please explain your response: The preference is given to the extended family members (only in case when extended family member has the right and opportunity to adopt a child), rather than to other child protection measures (such as orphanages)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other child protection measures are applied. Please specify:</p> <p>(a) which other child protection measures are applied to protect children within the extended family: Please insert text here</p> <p>(b) if your State is a Party to the 1996 Child Protection Convention, whether your State applies that Convention to give effect to these other child protection measures in other Contracting States: Please insert text here</p>

¹³ If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 33(i) of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

3.2. Stepparent adoptions

Both States of origin and receiving States

42.	<p>Does your State apply the 1993 Adoption Convention to stepparent intercountry adoptions?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Please insert text here</p>
43.	<p>What is the profile of children who are adopted intercountry by a stepparent, either in your State or in the State with which your State cooperates?</p> <p>The cases differ from contexts.</p>
44.	<p>(a) Please specify any challenges your State encounters with stepparent intercountry adoptions: No such challenges have been identified.</p> <p>(b) Please specify any good practices of your State for stepparent intercountry adoptions, including those for overcoming any challenges: The process of stepparent intercountry adoption has all successfully implemented.</p>

3.3. Intrafamily adoptions and circumvention of immigration laws

Both States of origin and receiving States

45.	<p>Has your State encountered situations where intrafamily adoptions were sought / used to circumvent immigration laws?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify what the situations were and how your State addressed these situations: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
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4. DETERMINING THE CHILD'S HABITUAL RESIDENCE WHEN THE MOTHER MOVES TO ANOTHER STATE SHORTLY BEFORE GIVING BIRTH

Scenario: A pregnant woman, habitually resident in one State (State A), travels to another State (State B) where she gives birth to her child and relinquishes her newborn child for adoption in that other State (i.e., State B).

Both States of origin and receiving States

46.	<p>If your State has been involved in situation(s) similar to the above-described scenario:</p> <p>(a) was your State the State of habitual residence of the mother (State A), the State of birth of the child (State B), or another State? There was only one case when the mother gave a birth in another country and relinquished the child. The Republic of Armenia was regarded as State A, only in case when the mother was the RA Citizen. According to the RA legislation, the new-born child automatically becomes an RA citizen. In this specific situation, the child was returned to the Republic of Armenia.</p> <p>(b) how was the child's habitual residence determined? Which factors were considered? According to the RA legislation, the child's habitual residence is determined based on the mother's citizenship.</p> <p>(c) if adoption was considered the best option for the child, did your State determine it as being a domestic adoption or an intercountry adoption?</p>
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	<p>domestic adoption</p> <p>(d) what challenges did your State face in dealing with such situation(s)? Please insert text here</p> <p>(e) if your State was the State where the child was born, was contacts sought with the State of habitual residence of the mother? Was there any cooperation between the concerned States? There has been no such cases. However, for example, the Republic of Armenia will cooperate with members of the CIS countries to return the child to that state.</p>
47.	<p>If there is a risk that the situation described above involves a case of human trafficking, would this be considered by your State when determining the child's habitual residence?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response: At first, we are contacting the relatives and if relatives are not identified and revealed, the State takes full control of the child.</p>
48.	<p>Which actions would your State take to address the case where both your State and the other State:</p> <p>(a) would determine the child's habitual residence to be in their State? The Republic of Armenia will accept the decision of the State where the child was born. This is explicated by the fact the child's habitual residence is considered to be the state where physical and legal entities are located, who have the parental custody and guardianship. The fact of the child's habitual residence is not determined only by the fact of the birth. The fact of the citizenship of the child is determined based on the fact if one of two parents hold the RA citizenship.</p> <p>(b) would determine the child's habitual residence not to be in their State? Please insert text here</p>

5. SIMPLE AND OPEN ADOPTIONS

Both States of origin and receiving States

5.1. Simple adoptions

A simple adoption is one in which the parent-child relationship which existed before the adoption is not terminated but a new legal parent-child relationship between the child and his or her adoptive parents is established, and these adoptive parents have parental responsibility for the child.¹⁴

49.	<p>Has your State changed its legislation, rules or practices in recent years regarding simple intercountry adoption?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the changes made and the reasons for these changes: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
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¹⁴ See [Guide to Good Practice No 1](#), Glossary.

50.	<p>What is the profile of children for whom a simple intercountry adoption is made, either in your State or in the State(s) with which your State cooperates? The RA doesn't have statistical data on it.</p>
51.	<p>If your State permits both full and simple adoption, are simple adoptions encouraged / promoted?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response: N/A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response: N/A</p>
52.	<p>Has your State faced any problems regarding seeking the birth mother / family's consent to convert a simple adoption into a full adoption in the State of origin (Art. 27 of the Convention)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the situations which have arisen and how your State has dealt with these situations: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
53.	<p>(a) Please specify any challenges your State encounters with simple adoptions: N/A</p> <p>(b) Please specify any good practices of your State for simple adoptions, including those for overcoming any challenges: One important note is worth mentioning here is that the Article 126 (3) of the RA Family Code stipulates that when a child is adopted by one person, the personal non-property and property rights and obligations may be maintained upon the desire of the mother, where the adopter is a man, or upon the desire of the father, where the adopter is a woman.</p>

5.2. Open adoptions / openness in adoption

54.	<p>Does the terms "open adoption", "openness in adoption" or similar concept exist in your State?¹⁵</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify: (a) how it is defined; (b) whether it is provided by law, regulation or only in practice; and (c) whether it is promoted in your State: Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain what is understood in your State by the terms "open adoption", "openness in adoption" or similar concepts: For eliminating trafficking or illegal practices, openness in adoption is allowed only for step-parents or any relative. This only happens in situations when the child has only one parent. Openness is not encouraged by our legislation. However, the open adoption is allowed and is understood as the non-tangible property and personal non-property rights.</p>
55.	<p>Has your State changed its legislation, rules or practices in recent years regarding open or openness in intercountry adoption?</p>

¹⁵ If applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Questions 19 and 20 of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the changes made and the reasons for these changes: <p>The mentioned stipulation in 54 was amended by the changes in the RA Family Code. Before that both parents could give their consent for adoption of their biological child to anybody or even to another unknown person. This amendment was initiated to eliminate the practices of private adoption.</p> <input type="checkbox"/> No.
56.	<p>Has your State developed any good practices to ensure that Recommendation No 31¹⁶ of the 2015 Special Commission is implemented?</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the good practices developed in that regard: Please insert text here
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please specify any reasons: Except for cases mentioned in 55.
57.	<p>(a) What is the profile of children for whom an open intercountry adoption is made, either in your State or in the State(s) with which your State cooperates? N/A</p> <p>(b) Does your State have a specific approach depending on the profile of these children? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify these different approaches: Please insert text here</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.
58.	<p>Does your State provide professional support or services to birth families (in the case of States of origin) or adoptive families (in the case of receiving States) and adoptees in open adoptions (e.g., support for contact agreements, supervising contact after adoption)?</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify the support / services provided and any challenges and / or good practices in this regard:
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response: Taking into consideration that the child is adopted only to a stepparent or relative.
59.	<p>Has your State encountered situations where adoptees, adoptive parents and / or birth parents wanted to change the frequency or the method of contact between them after the adoption?</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify what action was taken in response: Please insert text here
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.
60.	<p>(a) Please specify any other challenges your State encounters regarding open adoptions: N/A</p> <p>(b) Please specify any good practices of your State with regard to open adoptions, including</p>

¹⁶ C&R No 31 of the 2015 SC:

“The SC noted that, where not prohibited by domestic legislation, and after professional matching, **contact between the adoptee and biological family** in intercountry adoption may be **beneficial** in some cases. In order to maximise the benefits and minimise the risks of such contact, professional support should be offered to prepare the parties, as well as to assist them during and after contact. The adopted child’s best interests should guide the nature of this contact, considering his or her wishes” [emphasis added].

	those for overcoming any challenges:
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	N/A
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6. NON-CONSENSUAL ADOPTIONS

In this Questionnaire, non-consensual adoption refers to the adoption of children whose birth parents have been deprived of parental responsibility by a competent authority but nonetheless disagree with the adoption. It does not intend to cover adoption where consent of the birth parents is required but not sought (such adoptions would fall under the category of illegal adoption), or where consent of the birth parents cannot be sought (e.g., they are deceased or unknown).

States of origin only

61.	<p>What are the circumstances in your State in which a parent can lose his or her parental responsibility?</p> <p>Article 59 of the RA Family Code stipulates the grounds for the deprivation of parental rights</p> <p>1. In order to ensure the best interests of the child, the parents or one of them may be deprived of parental rights if they:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) maliciously avoid fulfilling parental responsibilities, including paying alimony, for one year in a row; 2) do not change their behavior within six months after the court decision on restriction of parental rights enters into force; 3) refuse to take their child from the maternity hospital or from medical organizations providing services without a good reason; 4) refuse to take their child from educational, social protection or other similar institutions for one year without good reason; 5) abuse their parental rights, including by their behavior have a detrimental effect on the child; 6) suffer from chronic alcoholism, drug addiction or toxic addiction; 7) suffer from chronic mental illnesses, the list of which is defined by the Government of the Republic of Armenia; 8) are abusive to the child, in particular: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. regularly use physical violence against him / her, which does not contain the features of a crime envisaged by the Criminal Code of the Republic of Armenia; b. They regularly use psychological violence against him, that is, intentionally inflicting severe mental suffering, including the threat of physical and sexual violence, the regular humiliation of dignity. <p>2. A parent is deprived of parental rights if he / she has been convicted of an intentional crime against his / her child.</p> <p>3. The cases stipulated in points 1, 3, 3 & 4 of part 1 of this article are not grounds for deprivation of parental rights, if the parent is in a medical institution, disciplinary battalion, correctional facility, place of detention of detainees or detainees, participates in training is in compulsory military service, in the armed forces during hostilities, in captivity, has gone on a foreign business trip, if deprivation of parental rights is not in the best interests of the Child. The court may consider other situations as a good reason.</p>
62.	<p>Does your State permit the adoption of children whose birth parents have been deprived of parental responsibility?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify:</p> <p>(a) whether the consent of the birth parents who have lost their parental responsibility is</p>

still required?

Yes. Please explain your response:

Please insert text here

No. Please explain your response:

The RA Family Code Article 119 stipulates that the provisions for child adoption without the consent of parents

Consent of the parents for adopting a child shall not be required in the following cases:

(a) they are unknown, or the court has declared them as missing;

(b) the court has declared them as having no active legal capacity;

(c) the court has deprived them of their parental rights;

(d) they do not cohabit with the child for more than a year and avoid upbringing him or her or taking care of the child for reasons declared as inexcusable by the court.

(b) how your State ensure that the **principle of subsidiarity** is respected. Please also specify whether measures to support the birth family's reunification and alternative care options (e.g., long-term foster care, kinship care) are considered prior to making the decision of non-consensual adoption.

If biological parents are deprived of their parental rights, the latter ones are not eligible for any right. However, it should be mentioned that prior to the revocation of parental rights the RA court restricts the rights of biological parents and gives an opportunity to the parent to change the behavior.

(c) what is the **procedure** applicable to such non-consensual adoptions (e.g.: how the child is declared adoptable; if the birth parents are given notice of the procedure; if the birth parents can contest).

See answer in point 62 (b).

No. Please explain your response:

Please insert text here

Receiving States only

63. Has your State encountered situations in which the birth parents in the State of origin **contested** a non-consensual intercountry adoption when the child was already in the receiving State?

Yes. Please specify what actions, if any, your State has taken to deal with these situations:

Please insert text here

No.

Both States of origin and receiving States

64. What is the **profile of children** for whom a non-consensual intercountry adoption is made, either in your State or in the State(s) with which your State cooperates?

N/A

65. (a) Please specify any **challenges** your State encounters with non-consensual adoptions:

N/A

(b) Please specify any **good practices** of your State regarding non-consensual adoptions,

including those for overcoming any challenges:

N/A

7. CONTACT BETWEEN THE PAPs AND THE CHILD BEFORE MATCHING

Both States of origin and receiving States

7.1. General questions

66. Does your State prohibit any **contact** between the child and the PAPs before matching?

Yes. Please explain your response:

[According to the Hague Convention principles.](#)

No. Please specify:

(a) in which **circumstances** such contact is permitted;

[Please insert text here](#)

(b) the **experience** of your State with regard to such contact.

[Please insert text here](#)

7.2. Summer camps / hosting programmes

In this Questionnaire, the “summer camps” practice is when adoptable children and PAPs attend an event (usually a camp) in the PAPs’ State of residence (i.e., receiving State) or in the State of origin, usually for a period of several weeks. The hope is that the PAPs will want to apply to adopt one or more of the children they have spent time with during this event.

“Hosting programmes” (including “respite care” programmes for children who go abroad to improve their physical and psychological well-being) are when adoptable children are hosted by families living abroad, usually for a period of several weeks, sometimes with the hope that the families will wish to adopt them after the hosting.

67. Is your State involved in summer camps / hosting programmes for children?¹⁷

Yes. Please specify:

(a) whether such programmes specifically aim to be a **precursor to adoption** for some children (e.g., for children with special needs):

Yes. Please explain your response:

[Please insert text here](#)

No.

(b) whether such programmes have, in fact, **resulted in the adoption** of children:

Yes. Please specify the percentage of children involved in the programmes that are adopted:

[Please insert text here](#)

No.

¹⁷ Regarding respite care, if applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 54 of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

	<p>(c) where a child is adopted following such a programme, how is it ensured that the safeguards of the 1993 Adoption Convention have been respected (bearing in mind that it is likely that the child remains “habitually resident” in his or her State of origin and thus the adoption would fall within the scope of the Convention under Art. 2)?</p> <p>Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
68.	<p>If your State is involved in summer camps / hosting programmes specifically aimed at the adoption of some children, please specify:</p> <p>(a) whether the children benefiting from these programmes must have been declared adoptable before they can be part of such programmes; N/A</p> <p>(b) whether the PAPs participating in such programmes must have been declared eligible and suitable to adopt to be allowed to take part in such programmes; N/A</p> <p>(c) how the PAPs and children are selected to participate in such programmes, and whether a selection is made in cooperation with the other State; N/A</p> <p>(d) how the children are prepared for such programmes; N/A</p> <p>(e) what are the effects on and the feedback from the children who participated in such programmes but were not adopted; N/A</p> <p>(f) whether there have been situations where the adoption broke down after the child was adopted following participation in such programmes; N/A</p> <p>(g) if the PAPs wish to adopt the child, whether it is possible for the child to remain in the receiving State or whether he or she must return to the State of origin before the adoption procedure can be initiated; N/A</p> <p>(h) who finances such programmes; N/A</p> <p>(i) what is the experience of your State with these practices (<i>i.e.</i>, challenges and any potential benefits). N/A</p>

7.3. Voluntourism

In this Questionnaire, “voluntourism” refers to the practice of an individual travelling to another State to volunteer in that State. One common practice is to travel to volunteer in a children’s institution. In these situations, some volunteers may subsequently wish to adopt one or more children from the child institution in which they were volunteering.

69.	<p>Has your State experienced situations where “voluntourists” commenced an adoption procedure to adopt a child from the children’s institution in which they volunteered?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify how your State handled these situations and any difficulties these</p>
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	<p>situations may have caused:</p> <p>Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.</p>
70.	<p>Has your State taken any action to prohibit, regulate or to otherwise add safeguards to the practice of "voluntourism"?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please explain your response:</p> <p>Please insert text here</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No. Please explain your response:</p> <p>Please insert text here</p>

7.4. Adoption of children already under the care of PAPs

71.	<p>If your State is aware of situations where PAPs have adopted or wished to adopt a child who was already under their care in the State of origin (<i>e.g.</i>, as part of a foster care placement, kinship care, "<i>niño puesto</i>",¹⁸ or a more informal arrangement such as temporary care by neighbours or within a community), please specify:¹⁹</p> <p>(a) whether the child had already been declared adoptable before the PAPs' adoption application was submitted;</p> <p>In this case it should be mentioned that such situations only refer to cases when that child is under the custody, who might later become PAPs. In this cases, PAPs will have the priority over the adoption of that specific child. If another person adopts that child, the consent of the guardianship person is required.</p> <p>(b) at what stage in the process the PAPs were declared eligible and suitable to adopt;</p> <p>See Point A of 71.</p> <p>(c) what the profile of these children was;</p> <p>Please insert text here</p> <p>(d) what was done to ensure that the safeguards and procedures of the 1993 Adoption Convention had been respected;</p> <p>Please insert text here</p> <p>(e) your State's experience with such adoptions.</p> <p>Please insert text here</p>
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8. USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

Both States of origin and receiving States

72.	<p>Has your State changed its practices recently to integrate new technologies into work processes (<i>e.g.</i>, blockchain to facilitate transmission and access to data)?</p>
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¹⁸ "*Niño puesto*" refers to a practice in some Latin American States where persons who already have care of a child request to adopt even if the child has not yet been declared adoptable nor have the persons been declared eligible and suitable to adopt.

¹⁹ Regarding foster care, if applicable, you may wish to refer to your State's response to Question 55 of the [2014 Questionnaire](#).

	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Please specify (a) what the experiences of your State are in this regard (<i>i.e.</i> , benefits and challenges) and (b) how your State take into account data protection in this context: Please insert text here
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No.

9. STATISTICS

Both States of origin and receiving States

73.	Please specify the number of intercountry adoptions per year (between 2015 and the present date) involving your State that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) relative adoptions (<i>i.e.</i>, excluding stepparent adoptions);²⁰ No statistics is available. (b) stepparent adoptions; No statistics is available. (c) simple adoptions; No statistics is available. (d) open adoptions or adoptions that involve a certain degree of openness; and N/A (e) non-consensual adoptions. N/A
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10. OTHER MATTERS

74.	Please specify any other comments your State wishes to make concerning the implementation and / or operation of the 1993 Adoption Convention. Please insert text here
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²⁰ For receiving States, you may wish to refer to your State's response to the HCCH [Annual Adoption Statistics Form](#).