## Meeting on international transfer of maintenance funds: solutions and good practices

Written by Mayela Celis

A meeting on the international transfer of maintenance funds was held in The Hague, the Netherlands from 16 to 18 September 2019. The Conclusions and Recommendations are available here.

Among the solutions contemplated were the establishment of a centralised point for international transfers for both incoming and outgoing transfer of funds, abolishing the use of cheques and exploring how to increase transparency and cost reduction of the transfer of funds. The meeting also discussed the advantages and disadvantages of bundled payments, as well as the use of blockchain and other payment transfer solutions.

While the Experts' Group discussed solutions and good practices in the context of the 2007 HCCH Child Support Convention, these are equally relevant to the United Nations Convention of 1956 on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance Obligations, Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 of 18 December 2008 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to maintenance obligations, and other regional or bilateral instruments.

It should be noted that pursuant to its Article 49, the 2007 HCCH Child Support Convention prevails over the 1956 United Nations Convention in so far as its scope of application as between the relevant States coincides with the scope of application of the 2007 HCCH Convention.

The European Union, as a Regional Economic Integration Organisation, approved the 2007 HCCH Child Support Convention, which entered into force for the EU on 1 August 2014 (with the exception of Denmark which has not yet acceded to it)

The HCCH news item is available here.