

HCCH Draft Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) of the Hague Child Abduction Convention

The Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) has just released the final French and English versions of the draft Guide to Good Practice on Article 13(1)(b) of the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* (Child Abduction Convention) for the attention of the *Special Commission meeting of October 2017 on the practical operation of the 1980 Child Abduction Convention and of the 1996 Child Protection Convention*. A Spanish translation of the document is also available.

Further information relating to the Special Commission meeting is available here: <https://www.hcch.net/en/publications-and-studies/details4/?pid=6545&dtid=57>

In my view, this topic will likely spark some debate at the meeting given the heightened awareness of some of the pitfalls of the Child Abduction Convention in relation to cases of domestic violence. See, for example, Taryn Lindhorst and Jeffrey L. Edleson, *Battered Women, their Children, and International Law - the Unintended Consequences of the Hague Child Abduction Convention* (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2012) and Honourable Brenda Hale (Baroness Hale of Richmond), “Taking Flight—Domestic Violence and Child Abduction”, *Current Legal Problems* (13 August 2017).

Please note that the meeting above-mentioned is open only to delegates or experts designated by the Members of the Hague Conference, invited non-Member States and International Organisations that have been granted observer status.