

HCCH Monthly Update: October 2023

Conventions & Instruments

On 6 October 2023, **Rwanda** deposited its instrument of accession to the **HCCH 1961 Apostille Convention** and **applied to become a Member of the HCCH**. Following a six-month voting period, and provided a majority of votes have been cast in its favour, Rwanda will be invited to become a Member by accepting the Statute of the HCCH. With the accession of Rwanda, the 1961 Apostille Convention now has 126 Contracting Parties. It will enter into force for Rwanda on 5 June 2024. More information is available [here](#).

On 27 October 2023, **Canada** deposited its instrument of ratification of, and **Kyrgyzstan** its instrument of accession to, the **HCCH 2007 Child Support Convention**. With the ratification of Canada and the accession of Kyrgyzstan, 48 States and the European Union are bound by the 2007 Child Support Convention. It will enter into force for Canada on 1 February 2024 and for Kyrgyzstan on 1 November 2024. The application of the Convention in Canada will extend to the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario. More information is available [here](#).

Meetings & Events

From 2 to 4 October 2023, the **second meeting of the HCCH-UNIDROIT Joint Project on Law Applicable to Cross-Border Holdings and Transfers of Digital Assets and Tokens** was held at the premises of the Secretariat of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) in Rome, in hybrid format. More information is available [here](#).

On 5 October 2023, the Permanent Bureau of the HCCH organised **CODIFI Edition 2023 - CBDCs**, an online colloquium on selected topics related to the HCCH's CBDCs Project, established in March 2023 to study the private international law implications of Central Bank Digital Currencies. More information is available [here](#), and recordings of all the sessions are available [here](#).

On 11 October 2023, the Permanent Bureau of the HCCH participated in the

APEC Workshop on Secured Transaction Reform, organised by APEC, the United States, and Rikkyo University. During the workshop, the HCCH's Deputy Secretary General, Dr Gérardine Goh Escolar, spoke about the private international law issues relevant to secured transactions reform, including the HCCH's instruments and projects that may impact on choice-of-law rules relating to secured transactions.

From 10 to 17 October 2023, the **Eighth Meeting of the Special Commission on the Practical Operation of the 1980 Child Abduction Convention and the 1996 Child Protection Convention** was held in The Hague. The meeting was attended by over 470 delegates, in person and via videoconference, representing HCCH Members, non-Member Contracting Parties, and Observers. The meeting resulted in the adoption of 103 Conclusions & Recommendations providing guidance to (prospective) Contracting Parties on a wide range of issues relating to the implementation and practical operation of this Convention. More information is available [here](#).

On 14 October 2023, Members of the International Hague Network of Judges (IHNJ) from over 30 jurisdictions met in The Hague on occasion of the **25th anniversary of the IHNJ**. Established in 1998, the IHNJ facilitates international cooperation and communication between judges on the cross-border protection of children. More information is available [here](#).

Publications & Documentation

On 3 October 2023, the Permanent Bureau of the HCCH announced the publication of the ***Proceedings of the Twenty-Second Session***. The Twenty-Second Session of the HCCH, held from 18 June to 2 July 2019, resulted in the adoption of the 2019 Judgments Convention. More information is available [here](#).

These monthly updates are published by the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), providing an overview of the latest developments. More information and materials are available on the HCCH website.