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Case Study 2 – Family law – Custody of children – Germany

## Costs in Germany

### Costs of proceedings at first instance or appeal or for alternative dispute resolution

Case study	Proceedings at first instance Initial costs of proceedings	Appeal Initial costs of proceedings
Case A	EUR 54.00	Appeal: EUR 108.00 Appeal on point of law: EUR 162.00
Case B	EUR 54.00	Appeal: EUR 108.00 Appeal on point of law: EUR 162.00

### Lawyer, bailiff and expert fees

Case study	Lawyer Is there a requirement for legal representation?	Expert Is there a requirement to call an expert?	Costs
Case A	No	First instance: EUR 622.00 At the court’s discretion	EUR 100.00 per hour, plus expenses and VAT
Case B	No	First instance: EUR 622.00 At the court’s discretion	EUR 100.00 per hour, plus expenses and VAT

### Cost of covering witnesses’ expenses

Case study	Witnesses’ expenses Are witnesses entitled to reimbursement of their expenses?	Costs
Case A	Yes	Up to EUR 21 per hour for earnings lost, plus travel and other expenses
Case B	Yes	Up to EUR 21 per hour for earnings lost, plus travel and other expenses

### Costs of legal aid and reimbursement of other expenses

Case study	Legal aid	Reimbursement Can the prevailing party request the award of litigation costs?	Are there instances where legal aid must be paid back?
Case A	What are the conditions? Depending on income and assets	Yes	If the person's income and financial situation improve and in the case of payment by instalments.
Case B	Depending on income and assets	Yes	If the person's income and financial situation improve and in the case of payment by instalments.

## Translation and interpretation costs

Case study	Translation When and on what conditions is translation required?	Approximate cost	Interpretation When and on what conditions is interpretation required?	Approximate cost	Are there other costs relating to cross-border disputes?	
					Description	Approximate cost
Case A		In most cases EUR 1.55 per 55 characters, plus expenses and VAT	At the court's discretion	EUR 70 per hour, plus expenses and VAT	Costs of serving documents abroad	
Case B	At the court's discretion					

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