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Maintenance obligations

National information and online forms concerning Regulation No. 4/2009

General information

Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 of 18 December 2008 relating to maintenance obligations aims at ensuring the effective and swift recovery of maintenance.

It provides for nine standard forms which should facilitate the communication between Central Authorities and make possible to submit applications electronically.

The Regulation applies between all Member States of the European Union.

Denmark confirmed its intention to implement the content of the Regulation, to the extent that the Regulation amends Regulation (EC) N° 44/2001, by means of a declaration ([OJ L 149, 12.06.2009, p. 80](#)) based on a parallel agreement concluded with the European Community.



Denmark confirmed its intention to implement the content of the [Implementing Act of 10 November 2011](#) establishing Annexes X and XI to Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to maintenance obligations. ([DK notification, OJ L195, 18. 7. 2013, p.1](#))

Denmark is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol.

As of 1 January 2021, the United Kingdom is no longer an EU Member State. However, in the field of civil justice, pending procedures and proceedings initiated before the end of the transition period will continue under EU law. Until the end of 2022, the United Kingdom can continue to be selected in online (dynamic) forms for the purpose of these proceedings and procedures.


The European e-Justice Portal provides you with [information concerning the application of the Regulation](#) and a user-friendly tool for filling in the [forms](#). The [European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters](#) has developed a [Guidance on the use of the Annexes under the Maintenance Regulation](#) that is available in 23 language.

Non-compulsory standard form on the statement of maintenance arrears

In order to facilitate the practical implementation of the Maintenance Regulation, and the effective exercise of citizens' rights throughout the EU, the [European Judicial Network](#) in civil and commercial matters developed a non-compulsory standard form on the statement of maintenance arrears. This non-compulsory form aims at facilitating the recovery of maintenance arrears and is available in 23 languages. The form comes with a practical guide on completing it attached. The form is available in the following formats: PDF  (1093 KB) [en](#), and XLS  (244 KB) [en](#).

Non-compulsory standard form on amicable solutions

To facilitate the implementation of the Maintenance Regulation, and the effective cross-border recovery of maintenance, the EJM-civil developed a (non-compulsory) **standard form on amicable solutions**.

Amicable settlement of the dispute will avoid the intervention of a court and/or an enforcement procedure. It can help prevent lengthy and complex proceedings. This form will help **the Central Authorities to facilitate amicable agreements** between the parties, and overcome the language barriers, with a view to obtaining voluntary payment of maintenance. The form is available in 23 languages. The form is available in the following format: PDF  (102 Kb) [en](#)

Please select the relevant country's flag to obtain detailed national information.

Related links

[Hague Protocol of 23 November 2007](#)

[ARCHIVED European Judicial ATLAS website \(closed on 30 September 2017\)](#)

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Maintenance obligations - Belgium

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The court with jurisdiction to deal with declarations of enforceability is the family court (*tribunal de la famille/familierechtbank*).

The defendant may challenge the initial decision before the family court; the defendant may appeal to the court of appeal (*cour d'appel/hof van beroep*).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

An appeal on a point of law (*pourvoi en cassation/cassatieberoep*) may be lodged against the second judgment.

Address of the Court of Cassation (*Cour de cassation/Hof van cassatie*): Palais de justice/Justitiepaleis, Place Poelaert/Poelaertplein 1, 1000 Brussels.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Depending on the specific circumstances of the case, under Belgian law there are several courses that may be open to a party wishing to secure a review of a decision:

- First, Article 1051 of the Judicial Code (*Code judiciaire/Gerechtelijk Wetboek*) provides that an appeal on points of fact and law (*appel/hoger beroep*) may be lodged against a judgment within one month of service of the judgment, or in some cases within one month of notice of the judgment given under the second and third paragraphs of Article 792 of the Code. This applies whether or not both parties appeared in the proceedings.
- Second, Article 1048 of the Code provides that where a judgment is given in default of appearance of one of the parties, an objection (*opposition/oppositie*) may be entered, likewise within one month of service of the judgment or in some cases within one month of notice of the judgment given under the second and third paragraphs of Article 792 of the Code.
- Where neither of those remedies is any longer available against a judgment of a civil court (or of a criminal court ruling on the civil aspects of a case before it), a party may in certain circumstances be able to make an application seeking an extraordinary review under Article 1133 of the Code (*requête civile/herroeping van het gewijsde*), within six months of learning of the judgment, with a view to having the judgment revoked.

The time-limits set out above for appeal, objection and application for extraordinary review do not affect:

- time-limits laid down in imperative provisions of supranational and international law;

- the provision in Article 50 of the Judicial Code that allows a time-limit after which an entitlement lapses to be extended under certain conditions laid down by law;

- the possibility of applying the general principle of law, repeatedly confirmed by the Court of Cassation, according to which the time allowed for the performance of an act is extended in favour of a party who has been prevented from performing the act by *force majeure*.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Federal Public Service for Justice

International civil cooperation (Service de coopération internationale civile)

Boulevard de Waterloo 115

1000 Bruxelles

Belgique

E-mail:

✉ aliments@just.fgov.be (for cases to be dealt with in French)

✉ alimentatie@just.fgov.be (for cases to be dealt with in Dutch)

Telephone:

+32(0)2 542 67 85 (for cases to be dealt with in French)

+32(0)2 542 67 62 (for cases to be dealt with in Dutch)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The competent authority for the purposes of Article 21 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 is the judge of attachments (*juge des saisies/beslagrechter*) with jurisdiction for the place of attachment. Pursuant to Article 1395 of the Judicial Code, the judge of attachments has jurisdiction for all applications relating to attachments and proceedings for enforcement. Territorial jurisdiction is determined under Article 633 of the Code.

Moreover, the Code states that the court of first instance (*tribunal de première instance/rechtbank van eerste aanleg*) has general territorial jurisdiction.

Under Article 569(5) of the Code, the court of first instance deals with disputes regarding the enforcement of judgments and rulings. It also has unlimited jurisdiction pursuant to Article 566 of the Code.

Lastly, pursuant to Articles 509 et seq. of the Judicial Code, the authorities competent for the enforcement of a ruling delivered by a court under the Regulation referred to above are the court bailiffs (*huissiers de justice/gerechtsdeurwaarders*).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Belgium does not accept languages other than the official language or languages of the place of enforcement as provided in Belgian domestic legislation.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The Belgian central authority will also accept English, in addition to its national languages, namely Dutch, French and German, as the language of communication.

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Maintenance obligations - Bulgaria

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The application for enforcement of a court decision or other act decreed in an EU Member State which is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol must be submitted to the provincial court (*okrazhen sad*) with jurisdiction at the permanent address or habitual place of residence of the debtor, or the place of enforcement. (Article 627c(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

The decision is subject to appellate review by the Sofia Court of Appeal in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 32 of the Regulation (Article 627c(6)(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The decision of the Sofia Appeal Court is subject to further appeal before the Supreme Court of Cassation (Article 627c(6)(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The interested party can petition the Supreme Court of Cassation to set aside the decision on the basis of Article 19(1) of the Regulation (Article 627a of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority is:

Ministry of Justice

International Legal Protection for Children and International Adoptions Directorate

Address: ul. Slavyanska No 1

1040 Sofia

Bulgaria

Tel.: + 359 2 9237 333,

+359 2 9237 469

+359 2 9237 396;

e-mail: ✉ mpzdm@justice.government.bg

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Decisions on the refusal or suspension of enforcement within the meaning of Article 21 of the Regulation are taken by the provincial court (*okrazhen sad*) (Article 627b(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

For the purposes of Articles 20, 28 and 40 of the Regulation the accepted language is Bulgarian.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted by the Central Authority for communication with other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59 is Bulgarian.

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Maintenance obligations - Czechia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Applications for a declaration on enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) of the Regulation must be submitted to a *district court or bailiff*.

In accordance with Section 201 et seq. of Act No 99/1963 (the "Code of Civil Procedure"), as amended, appeals against decisions on applications for a declaration on enforceability within the meaning of Article 32(2) of the Regulation must be lodged with the district court which handed down the decision or with the district court determined to have territorial jurisdiction in accordance with Section 45 of Act No 120/2001 on court bailiffs and enforcement activities (the "Enforcement Code") as last amended.

Where the application for a declaration on enforceability was lodged with a court bailiff, the appeal against the bailiff's decision is to be decided upon by the regional court in the district of which the court with responsibility for enforcement is located.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The redress procedures referred to in Article 33 of the Regulation are action for annulment (*žaloba pro zmatečnost*) in accordance with Section 229 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure, action for a new trial (*žaloba na obnovu řízení*) in accordance with Section 228 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure and extraordinary appeal (*dovolání*) in accordance with Section 236 et seq. of the Code of Civil Procedure and for certain cases also in accordance with Section 30 of the Special Judicial Proceedings Act.

However, extraordinary appeal is not admissible against judgments on the substance of the case regarding maintenance obligations.

Jurisdiction in respect of action for annulment and action for a new trial lies with the court which ruled at first instance. In some special cases jurisdiction lies with the court whose decision has been contested (see Section 235a of the Code of Civil Procedure). Jurisdiction over extraordinary appeals lies with the Supreme Court – address: Nejvyšší soud ČR, Burešova 20, 657 37 Brno, Czech Republic.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The courts with jurisdiction to hear review proceedings for the purposes of Article 19 of the Regulation are *the district courts which handed down the judgment at first instance*.

The competent court must apply Article 19 of the Regulation directly. An appeal is possible against decisions rejecting an application for a review.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority is:

Office for International Legal Protection of Children (*Úřad pro mezinárodněprávní ochranu dětí*)

Šilingrovo náměstí 3/4

602 00 Brno

Czech Republic

E-mail: podatelna@umpod.cz

Telephone: 00420 542 215 522

Fax No: 00420 542 212 836

<http://www.umpod.cz/>

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

The Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic is a competent public body within the meaning of Article 51(3) of the Regulation; it has full powers, pursuant to Act No 629/2004 on provision of legal aid in cross-border disputes within the European Union, as amended, to ensure that legal aid is provided in line with Article 51(2)(a) of the Regulation.

Contact details:

Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic (*Ministerstvo spravedlnosti ČR*)

Vyšehradská 16

128 10 Prague 2

Czech Republic

E-mail: moc@mzp.justice.cz

Telephone: 00420 221 997 925

Fax: 00420 221 997 919

<http://www.justice.cz>

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The authorities competent in relation to enforcement for the purposes of Article 21 of the Regulation are *the district courts*.

Their territorial jurisdiction is governed by Sections 84 to 86 of the Code of Civil Procedure where the application for the enforcement of a decision was lodged with a district court, or by Section 45 of the Enforcement Code where the application was lodged with a court bailiff.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The languages accepted for translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 of the Regulation are Czech and Slovak.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

In addition to Czech, English and Slovak are also accepted by the Central Authority for communication with other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59.

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Maintenance obligations - Denmark

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) must be submitted to the Agency of Family Law (*Familieretshuset*).

Contact details:

Statsforvaltningen (State Administration)

Storetorv 10

6200 Aabenraa

Denmark

Email: post@familieretshuset.dk

Tel.: +45 7256 7000

Website: [Familieretshuset.dk](http://www.familieretshuset.dk)

Decisions taken by the Agency of Family Law may be brought before the family court (*familieret*) for review within four weeks. Applications for judicial review must be submitted to the Agency of Family Law. In certain situations, the Agency of Family Law may reexamine a decision, even if a party has applied for judicial review of it.

The family court is part of the local district court (*byret*). See <http://www.domstol.dk>.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A judgment delivered by the family court in a case where a decision taken by the Agency of Family Law was brought before the family court for review may be appealed before the high court (*landsret*) only with the permission of the Appeals Permission Board (*Procesbevillingsnævnet*). The Appeals Permission Board may grant leave to appeal against the judgment if a matter of principle is at stake or there are other specific reasons for doing so. Applications for leave to appeal must be submitted to the Board within four weeks of the judgment being delivered. However, the Board may exceptionally grant leave to appeal if the application is submitted after that but within one year of the judgment being delivered. The same applies where the family court rules by order, in which case the application periods are two weeks and six months respectively.

Judgments delivered by the high court at second instance may not be appealed. However, the Appeals Permission Board may allow a judgment to be reviewed by the Supreme Court (*Højesteret*) at third instance if a matter of principle is at stake. An application for such a review must be submitted to the Appeals Permission Board within four weeks of the judgment being delivered. However, the Board may exceptionally grant leave to appeal if the application is submitted after that but within one year of the judgment being delivered. If the high court's ruling is issued by order, it may be appealed before the Supreme Court with the permission of the Appeals Permission Board. Such permission may be granted if the appeal concerns matters of principle.

Applications for leave to appeal must be submitted to the Appeals Permission Board within two weeks of the ruling being issued. The Appeals Permission Board may exceptionally grant leave to appeal if the application is submitted after that but within six months of the ruling being issued.

Contact details for the courts (the family courts (district courts), the high courts and the Supreme Court) and the Appeals Permission Board may be found at: <http://www.domstol.dk>.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Not applicable in Denmark.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Chapter VII of the Regulation, concerning cooperation between central authorities, is not applicable to Denmark under the provisions of the Agreement of 12 June 2009 between the European Community and the Kingdom of Denmark on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters.

In accordance with the United Nations Convention of 20 June 1956 on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance (the UN Convention), the Danish Social Appeals Board (*Ankestyrelsen*) has been designated as the central authority responsible for international maintenance cases.

However, the arrears collection authority (the Danish Debt Collection Agency, *Gældsstyrelsen*) is authorised to act as mediator with regard to any applications for the recognition and enforcement (recovery) abroad of maintenance under the UN Convention.

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

Not applicable in Denmark.

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The arrears collection authority (the Danish Debt Collection Agency) collects the claim arising from the decision that is to be enforced. If the claim is not paid, the arrears collection authority will proceed to enforce it.

If, in the course of collection or enforcement, the party required to make the payment contests the claim, the arrears collection authority will refer the case to the Agency of Family Law, which takes a decision that may involve the rejection or suspension of collection or enforcement.

However, the arrears collection authority can take a decision on the existence and size of the claim if the question at issue relates to the handling of the claim by the authority itself. It can also suspend enforcement.

Decisions taken by the Agency of Family Law may be brought before the family court for review within four weeks. In certain situations, the Agency of Family Law may re-examine a decision, even if a party has applied for judicial review of it.

Complaints about decisions taken by the arrears collection authority on the recovery of debts, etc., including decisions concerning the existence and size of claims where the question at issue relates to the handling of the claim by the authority itself can be brought before the National Tax Tribunal (*Landsskatteretten*).

The enforcement and small claims court (*fogedret*) rules on objections to seizures by the arrears collection authority. Appeals against decisions by the enforcement and small claims court can be brought before the high court. If the claim has an economic value not exceeding DKK 20 000, an appeal against a decision by the enforcement and small claims court can be brought only with the authorisation of the Appeals Permission Board. With the authorisation of the Appeals Permission Board, decisions handed down by the high court in appeal cases may be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Decisions by the Social Appeals Board and the National Tax Tribunal can be reviewed by the courts in accordance with Article 63 of the Constitution. If the complainant is domiciled in Denmark, an application for the review of such a decision must be brought before the district court of the place where the complainant has his or her domicile. If the complainant is not domiciled in Denmark, the case must be brought before Copenhagen District Court. An appeal against the decision of the district court may be lodged with the appropriate high court; an appeal against the decision of the high court may be lodged with the Supreme Court, but only with the consent of the Appeals Permission Board. On application by a party, the district court may refer the case for examination by the high court if a matter of principle is at stake.

Contact details

Agency of Family Law

Storetorv 10

6200 Aabenraa

Denmark

Email: post@familieretshuset.dk

Tel.: +45 7256 7000

Website: <http://www.familieretshuset.dk>

Danish Debt Collection Agency

Nykøbingvej 76, Bygning 45.
4990 Saksøbing
Denmark
Tel.: +45 70157304
Website: <http://www.gaeldst.dk>
National Tax Tribunal
Ved Vesterport 6, 4. sal
1612 Copenhagen V
Denmark
Email: sanst@sanst.dk
Tel.: +45 3376 0909

Contact details for the courts (the district courts, the high courts and the Supreme Court) and the Appeals Permission Board may be found at: <http://www.domstol.dk>

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Denmark accepts Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Not applicable in Denmark.

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Maintenance obligations - Germany

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Decisions on an application for a finding of recognition or on an application for a declaration of enforceability pursuant to Article 27 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 are taken by the family division of the Local Court in the locality where a Higher Regional Court (*Oberlandesgericht*), in whose district the person against whom the application is made is habitually resident or in whose district enforcement is sought, is situated (concentration of jurisdiction). For the district covered by the Higher Regional Court in Berlin (*Kammergericht*), decisions are taken by the Local Court of Pankow-Weiss.

If the proceedings concern the enforceability of a notarial document, that document may also be declared enforceable by a notary.

Appeals within the meaning of Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009, lodged against decisions taken at first instance in enforcement proceedings, take the form of an administrative appeal (*Beschwerde*). The appeal court is the Higher Regional Court. Appeals must be lodged with the court which took the decision.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure pursuant to Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 is that of further appeal (*Rechtsbeschwerde*). Jurisdiction lies with the Federal Court of Justice (*Bundesgerichtshof*). The further appeal must be brought within one month of service of the decision of the appeal court.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

For the review procedure provided for in Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009, the competent court is that which took the decision. If the conditions of Article 19 are met, the provisions on judgments given by default (Sections 343 to 346 of the Code of Civil Procedure) apply by analogy. If the conditions of Article 19 are not met, the court rejects the application by decision. The decision may be taken without any oral procedure.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority pursuant to Article 49 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 is the Bundesamt für Justiz (Federal Office of Justice), whose address is:

Bundesamt für Justiz
D - 53094 Bonn

In its capacity as central authority, the Bundesamt für Justiz can be contacted by telephone, fax or e-mail as follows:

Telephone:

National: 0228/99 4 10- 5534, 5869 or 5549

International: +49/228/99 4 10- 5534, 5869 or 5549

Fax:

National: 0228/99 4 10-5050

International: +49/228/99 4 10-5202

E-mail: auslandsunterhalt@bfj.bund.de

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

For applications pursuant to Article 21 of the Maintenance Regulation, the courts with jurisdiction as enforcing courts are the Local Courts (*Amtsgerichte*). Local jurisdiction lies with the Local Court in whose district the enforcement proceedings are taking or have taken place.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

For translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40, only the German language is admissible.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Communication between the *Bundesamt für Justiz* in its capacity as Central Authority and another Central Authority (Article 59(3) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009) may be effected in English provided the respective Central Authorities have so agreed.

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Maintenance obligations - Estonia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Under Article 27(1), in Estonia the county courts are competent to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability (Section 121 of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Under Article 32(2), in Estonia the district courts are competent to hear appeals against decisions on a declaration of enforceability.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

In Estonia, decisions may be contested as laid down in Article 33 by filing an appeal with the Supreme Court (Sections 625 and 695-701 of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The procedure for applying for a review laid down in Article 19 takes place in Estonia under the provisions for adjudicating petitions, unless otherwise stipulated in 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. County courts are competent to deal with applications for review.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Under Article 49(3), the central authority in the Republic of Estonia is:

Ministry of Justice

International Judicial Cooperation Division

Suur-Ameerika 1, 10122 Tallinn

E-mail: [✉ central.authority@just.ee](mailto:central.authority@just.ee)

Telephone: +372 620 8190 ; +372 620 8183 ; +372 715 3443 ; +372 620 8186

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Under Article 21, in Estonia the county courts are competent to deal with applications for refusal or suspension of enforcement.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Under Articles 20, 28 and 40, Estonia accepts translations into English in addition to documents in Estonian.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Under Article 59, Estonia accepts communication with other central authorities in both Estonian and English.

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Maintenance obligations - Ireland

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The Master of the High Court will be competent to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability, and appeals against decisions on such applications will be taken to the High Court.

Contact details are as follows:

The High Court,

Inns Quay,

Dublin 7

Telephone: 00 353 1 888 6016

[✉ HighCourtCentralOffice@courts.ie](mailto:HighCourtCentralOffice@courts.ie)

Master of the High Court,

High Court,

Inns Quay,

Dublin 7

Telephone: 00 353 1 8886000

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

An appeal on a point of law to the Court of Appeal (it should be noted, however, that in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Constitution, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the High Court if it is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances warranting a direct appeal to it. The Supreme Court shall also have appellate jurisdiction from a decision of the Court of Appeal if it is satisfied that certain conditions laid down in the Constitution are satisfied.)

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

An application for a review under Article 19 shall be made to the court which gave the decision. The procedure will be similar to that which applies in respect of the European Enforcement Order.

Relevant Rules of Court can be found at

Superior Courts [Order 13 Rule 11](#)  (168 Kb) [en](#), [Order 27 Rule 14](#)  (168 Kb) [en](#)

Circuit Court [Order 30](#)  (168 Kb) [en](#)

District Court [Order 45 Rule 3](#)  (168 Kb) [en](#)

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Minister for Justice is designated as the Central Authority for the State for the purposes of the Council Regulation.

The Central Authority can be contacted at:

Department of Justice

7 Ely Place,

Dublin 2

Phone number +353 (1) 602 8202

email [✉ mainrecov@justice.ie](mailto:mainrecov@justice.ie)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The High Court,

Inns Quay,

Dublin 7

Telephone: 00 353 1 8886699

Email: [✉ HighCourtCentralOffice@courts.ie](mailto:HighCourtCentralOffice@courts.ie)

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Irish, English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Irish, English.

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Maintenance obligations - Greece

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The Court of First Instance (*Monomeles Protodikio*) is the court competent to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1), while the court competent to deal with appeals against decisions on such applications in accordance with Article 32(2) is the Court of Appeal (*Eftio*) under the regional jurisdiction of which the First Instance Court that issued the decision falls.

The redress procedure provided for in Article 32(2) is the appeal (*efesi*).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The redress procedure provided for in Article 33 is the appeal in cassation (*enesi aneresis*). The court with competence for cassation is the Supreme Civil and Criminal Court of Greece (Supreme Court – *Arios Pagos*).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Pursuant to Article 19, the default maintenance decision issued by a foreign court may be challenged by the defaulting party/defendant. Appeals against maintenance claims are addressed to the court that issued the decision.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Department of International Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Criminal Matters of the Ministry of Justice has been designated as Central Authority under Article 49(3).

Mesogeion 96

11527 Athens

Tel.: (+30) 213 1307312

Fax: (+30) 213 1307499

E-mail: civilunit@justice.gov.gr mntolia@justice.gov.gr vsarigiannidis@justice.gov.gr

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

Greek law does not provide for the functions of the Central Authority to be exercised by public bodies or bodies subject to supervision by the competent authority, as provided for in Article 51(3).

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The Court of First Instance is the competent authority in matters of enforcement for the purposes of Article 21.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Greek.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Greek and English are the languages accepted by the Central Authority for communication with other Central Authorities, in accordance with Article 59.

Last update: 01/03/2021

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Maintenance obligations - Spain

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The courts of first instance and the special courts dealing with gender-based violence will be the competent authorities, within the scope of their powers (Article 87 of the LOPJ [Organic Law on the Judiciary]).

Appeals against the decisions of the courts of first instance can be lodged with the provincial courts.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

Extraordinary appeals for breach of procedure lodged with the High Court of each Autonomous Community and appeals lodged with the Spanish Supreme Court are governed by CHAPTERS IV ('Extraordinary appeals for breach of procedure') and V ('Appeals') respectively of TITLE IV of [Law 1/2000 on Civil Procedure](#).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The review procedure takes place before the same courts that handed down the decision, the courts of first instance. The review procedure set out in Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 will be carried out in line with CHAPTER II, "Appeals for judicial reviews and motions to have judgments set aside", of TITLE IV of [Law 1/2000 on Civil Procedure](#).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Ministry of Justice.

Sub-Directorate for International Judicial Cooperation

c/ San Bernardo, 62

28071 Madrid, Spain

Tel. 00 34 91 3902295/94

Fax No: 00 34 91 3904457

e-mail SGCJIAImentos@mjusticia.es

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The courts of first instance in the capital of the province where the party against whom enforcement is requested has his/her residence or of the province where the judgment is to be enforced.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The languages accepted in accordance with Articles 20 and 40 are Spanish and Portuguese.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages accepted by the Central Authority in accordance with Article 59 are Spanish and English.

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Maintenance obligations - France

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The authority designated under Article 27(1) is the President of the Civil Court (*Tribunal judiciaire*) or the President of the Chamber of Notaries.

The authority designated under Article 32(2) is the Court of Appeal (*Cour d'appel*).

In accordance with Article 27(2), the regional court with jurisdiction designated under Article 27(1) is determined by reference to the place of habitual residence of the party against whom enforcement is sought, or to the place of enforcement.

The authority designated under Article 32(2) has jurisdiction to deal with appeals against judgments by the family-law judge (*juge aux affaires familiales*).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure provided for in Article 33 is for appeal on a point of law (*pourvoi en cassation*) to the Court of Cassation, which is governed by the rules laid down in Articles 973-982 and 1009-1031 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The review procedure provided for in Article 19 of the Regulation is the appeal which may be brought before the Court of Appeal with jurisdiction over the court that handed down the contested decision.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes

Direction des Français à l'étranger et de l'administration consulaire
Service des conventions, des affaires civiles et de l'entraide judiciaire
Sous-direction de la protection des droits des personnes
Bureau du recouvrement de créances alimentaires à l'étranger
27, Rue de la Convention
CS- 91533

F - 75732 PARIS CEDEX 15

Tel : + 33 (0)1 43 17 91 99

Fax : +33 (0)1 43 17 81 97

Functional mailbox : obligation.alimentaire@diplomatie.gouv.fr

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The court responsible for enforcement is the court in the place where the debtor resides or where the enforcement takes place. If the debtor lives abroad, or if the place of residence is not known, the competent court is that where the enforcement takes place.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

French only.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

French only.

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Maintenance obligations - Croatia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Applications for a declaration of enforceability and legal remedies against decisions of courts of first instance on applications must be submitted to a municipal court.

Appeals against declarations of enforceability must be lodged with a county court (court of second instance) via the municipal court, i.e. via the court of first instance which issued the declaration.

Once the procedure concerning an application for a declaration of enforceability has been concluded with a final decision, the municipal court (court of first instance) confirms that the declaration of enforceability is enforceable.

The responsible courts are:

(a) municipal courts (*općinski sudovi*; sing. *općinski sud*) under the Civil Procedure Act (*Zakon o parničnom postupku*) (Narodne novine (NN; Official Gazette of the Republic of Croatia) Nos 53/91, 91/92, 58/93, 112/99, 88/01, 117/03, 88/05, 02/07, 84/08, 123/08, 57/11, 148/11, 25/13, 89/14, 70/19) and in accordance with the Territories and Seats of Courts Act (*Zakon o područjima i sjedištima sudova*) (NN No 67/18);

(b) county courts (*županijski sudovi*; sing. *županijski sud*) under the Civil Procedure Act (NN Nos 53/91, 91/92, 58/93, 112/99, 88/01, 117/03, 88/05, 02/07, 84/08, 123/08, 57/11, 148/11, 25/13, 89/14, 70/19) and in accordance with the Territories and Seats of Courts Act (NN No 67/18).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A decision on redress as referred to in Article 33 of the Regulation may be contested solely by a proposal from the party for a retrial (in accordance with Articles 421-428 of the Civil Procedure Act).

The motion for a retrial is always submitted to the court which rendered the decision at first instance.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Under the Civil Procedure Act, the review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 of the Regulation is instituted at the motion of a party for a retrial (in accordance with the provisions of Articles 421-428 of the Civil Procedure Act). The motion for a retrial is always submitted to the court which rendered the decision at first instance.

Pursuant to Article 117 of the Civil Procedure Act, a party may file a motion to restore a prior status, which must be filed to the court which should have performed the omitted action.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Under Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009, the Central Authority of the Republic of Croatia regarding the maintenance obligation is the:

Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy

Trg Nevenke Topalušić 1

10000 Zagreb

Website: <https://mrosp.gov.hr/>

Tel.: +385 1 6109 892, + 385 1 6106 164

Fax: +385 1 6106 171

Email: eu-poslovi@mrosp.hr

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The municipal courts in Croatia are responsible for enforcement within the meaning of Article 21 of the Regulation, on the basis of the Civil Procedure Act (NN Nos 53/91, 91/92, 58/93, 112/99, 88/01, 117/03, 88/05, 02/07, 84/08, 123/08, 57/11, 148/11, 25/13, 89/14, 70/19) and the Territories and Seats of Courts Act (NN No 67/18).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

As regards the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 of the Regulation, the Republic of Croatia accepts translations of them into Croatian in Latin script, in accordance with Article 6 of the Civil Procedure Act.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages which the Central Authorities accept for communication with other Central Authorities, as referred to in Article 59 of the Regulation, are as follows:

(a) for the application and request forms, Croatian;

(b) for other types of communication, the Central Authority accepts Croatian or English upon request.

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Maintenance obligations - Italy

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The courts competent to deal with applications to obtain a declaration of enforceability under Article 27(1) and with appeals against decisions on such applications within the meaning of Article 32(2) are the appeal courts.

Details of these authorities can be found on the website <https://www.giustizia.it/giustizia> (giustizia map – strutture giudiziarie – tribunali ordinari).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The redress procedures referred to in Article 33 are the ordinary and extraordinary procedures for contesting such decisions: appeal to the Court of Cassation, revocation by the same court (*revocazione*), and third-party challenges (*opposizione di terzo*).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The authority competent to deal with reviews within the meaning of Article 19 is the same authority that issued the decision; the application is to be made under the rules of procedure used for the adoption of the decision under review.

The contact details for these authorities can be found [here](#).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority is the Department of Juvenile Justice within the Ministry of Justice:

Ministero della Giustizia

Dipartimento per la Giustizia minorile e di comunità

via Damiano Chiesa 24

00136 Roma

Tel.: +39 6 68188326; +39 6 68188331

Fax No: +39 6 68188323

E-mail : autoritacentrali.dgmc@giustizia.it

Certified e-mail address: prot.dgmc@giustiziacerit.it

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The competent authorities in matters of enforcement for the purposes of Article 21 are the ordinary courts (second paragraph of Article 9 of the Italian Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 is Italian.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted by the Central Authority for communication with other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59 is Italian.

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Maintenance obligations - Cyprus

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The courts with competence for examining applications for a declaration of enforceability pursuant to Article 27(1) are the family courts (*oikogeneiaká dikastíria*) of Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca/Famagusta and Paphos.

Family Court of Nicosia (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Lefkosías*)

Tel.: +357 22865601

Fax: +357 22302068

Family Court of Limassol (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Lemesoú*)

Tel.: +357 25806185

Fax: +357 25305054

Family Court of Larnaca/Famagusta (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Lárnakas-Ammochóstou*)

Tel.: +357 24802754

Fax: +357 24802800

Family Court of Paphos (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Páfou*)

Tel.: +357 26802626

Fax: +357 26306395

Email: [✉ chief.reg@sc.judicial.gov.cy](mailto:chief.reg@sc.judicial.gov.cy)

The court with competence to deal with appeals against decisions on such applications pursuant to Article 32(2) is the Court of Appeal (*Efeteio*).

It sits at the Court of Appeal and its contact details are:

Court of Appeal

Thrakis 17, 2112 Aglantzia

Nicosia

Cyprus

Tel.: +357 22551920, +357 22551923

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

Our judicial system provides for a court of third instance, namely a way to contest a decision given on appeal, under certain conditions.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

A review of the kind provided for in this Article can be sought by way of an application to set aside the decision (*aitisi paramerismou tis apofasis*) pursuant to provision 48, rule 9(h) and (n) of the Rules of Civil Procedure (*Thesmoi Politikis Dikonomias*). The application is lodged with the Family Court which issued the decision to be set aside.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Ministry of Justice and Public Order

International Legal Cooperation Unit

Leoforos Athalassas 125

1461 Nicosia

Cyprus

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Administrative Officer

International Legal Cooperation Unit

Ministry of Justice and Public Order

Tel.: +357 22805973

Fax: + 357 22518328

Email: [✉ csophocleous@mjpo.gov.cy](mailto:csophocleous@mjpo.gov.cy)

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Tel: (+357) 22805932

fax: (+357)22518328

e-mail: [✉ tdionysiou@mjpo.gov.cy](mailto:tdionysiou@mjpo.gov.cy)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Family Court of Nicosia (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Lefkosías*)

Tel: (+357) 22865601

fax: (+357) 22302068

Family Court of Limassol (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Lemesou*)

Tel: (+357) 25806185

fax: (+357) 25305054

Family Court of Larnaca/Famagusta.

Tel: (+357) 24802754

fax: (+357) 24802800

Family Court of Paphos (*Oikogeneiakó Dikastírio Páfou*)

Tel: (+357) 26802626

fax: (+357) 26306395

e-mail: [✉ chief.reg@sc.judicial.gov.cy](mailto:chief.reg@sc.judicial.gov.cy)

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Greek and English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Greek and English.

Last update: 08/05/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Latvia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

In Latvia, the courts with competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) are courts of general jurisdiction, i.e. district (city district) courts (*rajona (pilsētas) tiesas*).

In Latvia, the courts with competence to deal with appeals against decisions on applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 32(2) are the relevant regional courts (apgabaltiesas) through the intermediation of the relevant district (city district) court. In other words, an application must be addressed to the relevant regional court and submitted to the relevant district (city district) court.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A decision given on appeal pursuant to Article 33 of the Regulation may be contested before the Supreme Court, the Senate, through the intermediation of the relevant regional court. In other words, an application must be addressed to the Supreme Court and submitted to the relevant regional court.

Contact details:

 [Supreme Court](#)

Brīvības bulvāris 36

Rīga, LV-1511

Latvia

Tel.: +371 670 203 50

Fax: +371 670 203 51

E-mail:  at@at.gov.lv

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Re-examination of a case in connection with the review of a decision can be initiated by the defendant on the basis of Article 19 of the Regulation by submitting an application:

- 1) for the review of a judgment or decision by a district or city court – to the corresponding regional court;
- 2) for the review of a judgment or decision by a regional court – to the Supreme Court;
- 3) for the review of a judgment or decision by a chamber of the Supreme Court – to the Department of Civil Cases of the Supreme Court.

An application may not be submitted if the period during which the enforcement document concerning the relevant ruling may be submitted for enforcement has expired.

An application that does not indicate the grounds that may be deemed grounds for review under the European Union legislation referred to in paragraph (1) of this Article will not be admitted and will be returned to the applicant. The judge will also decline to consider an application for re-examination of a case in connection with the review of a decision, where it is a repeat application, unless it appears that the grounds cited for the review of the decision have changed. The judge's decision can be challenged by lodging an ancillary complaint (blakus sūdzība).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Administration of the Maintenance Guarantee Fund (Uzturīdzekļu garantiju fonda administrācija)

Address: Raiņa bulvāris 15, Rīga, LV-1050, Latvia

e-mail:  maintenance@ugf.gov.lv

Tel.: +371 67830626


Fax: (+371) 67830636

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

In Latvia, the specific functions of central authorities referred to in Article 51 of the Regulation are discharged by the Administration of the Maintenance Guarantee Fund. This point refers to *public bodies*, and within the meaning of Article 64 of the Regulation these are public bodies that ensure the payment of maintenance and, accordingly, may submit a cross-border application as creditors. In Latvia, this body is still the UGFA (the Administration of the Maintenance Guarantee Fund). The reason for the reference to Article 51 is that in other countries the Central Authority and the *public body* are separate, but the *public body* is entitled to send a cross-border application directly to another country without the need for its own Central Authority to intervene.

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

In Latvia, the authorities with competence to refuse or suspend enforcement of a ruling for the purposes of Article 21 of the Regulation are the district (city district) courts in whose area of jurisdiction the ruling by a foreign court is enforceable.

Article 71(1)(f) of the Regulation refers to the enforcement authority, and in Latvia this means  [sworn bailiffs](#). Reference to Article 21 in turn concerns the right of Latvian sworn bailiffs to refuse to enforce a case on the grounds of time-barring, suspend enforcement proceedings if another court decision exists etc. In addition, Article 21 concerns cases where *exequatur* has been abolished and therefore the court does not assess enforceability, except where a request for review has been submitted under Article 19.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Latvia only accepts translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 of the Regulation in the national language, i.e. Latvian.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Latvia only accepts the applications referred to in Article 56 of the Regulation (Annexes VI and VII to the Regulation) in the national language, i.e. Latvian.

Latvia accepts requests for specific measures (Annex V to the Regulation), in Latvian or in English.

For other communications, the Central Authority accepts Latvian or English on request.

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Maintenance obligations - Lithuania

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) of the Regulation and appeals against decisions on such applications in accordance with Article 32(2) of the Regulation are examined by the Lietuvos apeliacinis teismas [Lithuanian Court of Appeal].

The Court of Appeal of Lithuania

Gedimino pr. 40/1

LT-01503 Vilnius

Tel. (8 5) 266 3479

Fax: (8 5) 266 3060

e-mail:  apeliacinis@apeliacinis.lt

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A ruling adopted by the Court of Appeal of Lithuania after hearing an appeal against a decision on an application for a declaration of enforceability may be appealed in cassation before the Supreme Court of Lithuania. Such appeals are heard in accordance with the Rules governing proceedings in the court of

cassation, as laid down by the Lithuanian Code of Civil Procedure, unless otherwise provided for in the Regulation or in the Lithuanian Law implementing European Union and international legislation governing civil proceedings. When an appeal in cassation has been accepted, it is entered, as a matter of priority, in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court sets a deadline of no more than 14 days for submitting responses to the appeal. In its notification of registration of the appeal in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court (Article 350(7) of the Code of Civil Procedure), the Supreme Court notifies the parties and other persons involved in the case of the deadline set for responding to the appeal. The parties must, and other persons involved in the case may, submit a written response to the appeal by the deadline set by the Supreme Court. That deadline is calculated from the date on which the appeal was entered in the list of cases to be heard in cassation by the Supreme Court.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Maintenance decisions are reviewed, in accordance with Article 19 of the Regulation, by the court that adopted them. Once it has accepted an application for a review of a decision on maintenance obligations, the court shall forward a copy of that application and its annexes to the claimant and inform him or her that he or she must submit a written response to the application within 14 days of the date on which the application was sent. An application for a review of a decision on maintenance obligations is examined by the court by written procedure. If it deems it to be necessary, the Court may convene oral proceedings to hear the application for a review of a maintenance decision. The Court must examine an application for a review of a decision on maintenance obligations no later than 14 days after the expiry of the deadline for submission of responses and must adopt a ruling on one of the courses of action referred to in Article 19(3) of the Regulation.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Valstybės garantuojamos teisinės pagalbos tarnyba [State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service]

Odminių g. 3

LT-01122 Vilnius

Lithuania

Telephone No: +370 700 00211, +370 700 00190

Fax No: +370 700 35004

E-mail: teisinepagalba@vgtp.lt

Website: <http://www.vgtp.lt>

For applications relating to maintenance obligations towards persons under the age of 21 arising from a parent-child relationship, the functions of central authority are performed by the Mažeikiai branch of the State Social Insurance Fund Board.

Vasario 16-osios g. 4

LT-89225 Mažeikiai

Lithuania

Telephone number: +370 443 26659

Fax number: +370 443 27341

E-mail: mazeikiai@sodra.lt

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

Where applications relate to maintenance obligations arising from a parent-child relationship towards persons under the age of 21, the Children's Maintenance Fund Administration under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour performs the functions of the Central Authority under Article 51 of the Regulation.

Contact details of the Children's Maintenance Fund Administration under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour:

Rinktinės g. 48A

LT-09318 Vilnius

Telephone number: (8 5) 272 8081

Fax number: (8 5) 265 3984

E-mail: info@vif.lt

Where circumstances so require, state-guaranteed legal aid in respect of the applications listed in Article 56 of the Regulation is provided in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Law on State-Guaranteed Legal Aid, unless otherwise provided for in the Lithuanian Law implementing European Union and international legislation governing civil proceedings, or in the Regulation. Should it become apparent during examination of applications listed in Article 56 of the Regulation that an applicant needs State-guaranteed legal aid, the Vilnius State-Guaranteed Legal Aid Service and the Children's Maintenance Fund Administration under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour transmit the application for State-guaranteed legal aid directly to the competent authorities responsible for organising State-guaranteed legal aid, namely the Lithuanian State-guaranteed legal aid services.

Names and contact details of the Lithuanian State-guaranteed legal aid services

State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Address	Phone	Fax	Email
Vilnius State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Odminių g. 3, LT 01122 Vilnius	852647480	852647481	vilniausvgtpt@infolex.lt
Kaunas State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Kęstučio g. 21, LT 44320 Kaunas	837408601, 837428404	837428403, 837428405	kaunovgtpt@infolex.lt
Klaipėda State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Herkaus Manto g. 37, LT-92236 Klaipėda	846256176	846256176	kl.vgtpt@infolex.lt
Šiauliai State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Dvaro g. 123A, LT 76208, Šiauliai	841520040	841520040	svgtpt@svgtpt.lt
Panevėžys State-guaranteed Legal Aid Service	Klaipėdos g. 72, LT 35193, Panevėžys	845570152	845436201	paneveziovgtpt@infolex.lt

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Applications for refusal to enforce the maintenance decision of the court of origin, either in whole or in part, as referred to in Article 21(2) of the Regulation, shall be heard by the Court of Appeal of Lithuania.

The Court of Appeal of Lithuania

Gedimino pr. 40/1

LT-01503 Vilnius

Telephone number: (8 5) 266 3479

Fax number: (8 5) 266 3060

E-mail: apeliacinis@apeliacinis.lt

Applications to suspend the enforcement of the maintenance decision of the court of origin, either in whole or in part, as referred to in Article 21(3) of the Regulation, are heard by the district court of the place where enforcement is sought.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Lithuanian is the only language accepted for translation of the documents referred to in Article 20 of the Regulation, but both Lithuanian and English are accepted for translation of the documents referred to in Articles 28 and 40.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages accepted for communication between the Lithuanian Central Authority and other Central Authorities, as referred to in Article 59 of the Regulation, are Lithuanian and English.

Last update: 07/04/2023

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Maintenance obligations - Luxembourg

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

- Jurisdiction of local courts

An application for a declaration of enforceability must be submitted to the President of the District Court.

Luxembourg District Court

Tribunal d'arrondissement de Luxembourg

Cité judiciaire

L-2080 Luxembourg

Tel: (+352) 47 59 81-1

Fax: (+352) 47 59 81-2421

Diekirch District Court

Tribunal d'arrondissement de Diekirch

Palais de Justice

Place Guillaume

L-9237 Diekirch

Tel.: (+352) 80 32 14 - 1

Fax: (+352) 80 71 19 or (+352) 802484

Appeal against a decision on application for a declaration

High Court of Justice - Civil Bench

Cour Supérieure de Justice siégeant en matière d'appel civil

Cité judiciaire

L-2080 Luxembourg

Tel: (+352) 47 59 81-1

Fax: (+352) 47 59 81-2396

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

Decisions given on first appeal may be contested only by a further appeal on a point of law (an appeal in cassation).

Court of Cassation

Cour de cassation

Cité judiciaire

L-2080 Luxembourg

Tel.: (+352) 475981-2369/-2373

Fax : (+352) 475981-2773

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

A defendant who did not enter an appearance in Luxembourg has the right to apply for a review of the decision before the competent court that gave the decision, under the conditions set out in Article 19(1) of the Regulation. Such applications must be submitted in the necessary format before the court that gave the decision subject to review.

Luxembourg Justice of the Peace Court

Justice de Paix de Luxembourg

Cité judiciaire Bâtiment JP, Plateau du Saint-Esprit

L-2080 Luxembourg

Tel: (+352) 47 59 81-1

Esch-sur-Alzette Justice of the Peace Court

Justice de paix d'Esch-sur-Alzette

Place Norbert Metz

L-4006 Esch-sur-Alzette

Pardons Department

Service du Gracieux (Ordonnances conditionnelles de paiement et saisies-arrêt sur revenus protégés): Tel.: (+352) 530 529 200 Fax: (+352) 530 529 201

Diekirch Justice of the Peace Court

Justice de paix de Diekirch

Bei der Aaler Kiirch

L-9201 Diekirch

Tel.: (+352) 80 88 53 - 1

Luxembourg District Court
Tribunal d'arrondissement de Luxembourg
Cité judiciaire, Bâtiments TL, CO, JT
L-2080 Luxembourg
Tel: (+352) 47 59 81-1

Diekirch District Court
Tribunal d'arrondissement de Diekirch
Palais de Justice
Place Guillaume
L-9237 Diekirch
Tel: (+352) 80 32 14-1
Fax: (+352) 807119 or (+352) 82484

High Court of Justice
Cour Supérieure de Justice
Cité judiciaire, Bâtiment CR, Plateau du Saint-Esprit
L-2080 Luxembourg

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority is the Public Prosecutor's Office at the High Court of Justice.

Public Prosecutor's Office
Parquet Général
Cité judiciaire L-2080 Luxembourg
Tel: (+352) 47 59 81 -2393/2329
Fax : (+352) 47 05 50

E-mail : parquet.general@justice.etat.lu

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The competent authority is the Public Prosecutor's Office at the High Court of Justice.

Public Prosecutor's Office
Parquet général

Cité judiciaire
L-2080 Luxembourg
Tel: (+352) 475981-2393/2329
Fax: (+352) 470550

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

In addition to French, Luxembourg accepts German.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

In addition to French, Luxembourg accepts German.

Last update: 22/11/2021

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Maintenance obligations - Hungary

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The district court situated at the seat of the regional court; in Budapest, Buda Central District Court. Appeals are handled by the regional courts or, in Budapest, by Budapest-Capital Regional Court.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

Request for review by the Supreme Court (Curia), to be submitted to the court which issued the decision at first instance.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The review procedure under Article 19 must be initiated at the district court acting at first instance, in accordance with the rules of retrial (Act III of 1952 on the Code of Civil Procedure, Chapter XIII, Sections 260-269).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Ministry of Justice of Hungary
1051 Budapest,
Nádor utca 22,
Tel.: (+36) 1 795 5397, (+36) 1 795 3188,
Fax: (+36) 1 550 3946,
E-mail: nmfo@im.gov.hu

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

In proceedings pursuant to Article 21(2), the district court situated at the seat of the regional court or, in Budapest, Buda Central District Court. In proceedings pursuant to Article 21(3), the district court in whose jurisdiction the court bailiff acting in the enforcement procedure is established.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Hungarian

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

- (a) Forms for submitting an application: Hungarian
- (b) Forms for submitting a request: Hungarian, English or German
- (c) For other communication, the Central Authority upon request accepts English and German in addition to Hungarian.

Last update: 02/01/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Malta

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The court with competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) is the Civil Court (Family Section). Its contact details are as follows:

Address:

Civil Court, Family Section
Courts of Justice
Strait Street
Valletta, VLT 2000
Malta

Tel: + 356 2590 2420

Fax: + 356 2590 2895

The court with competence to deal with appeals against decisions on such applications in accordance with Article 32(2) is the Court of Appeal. Its contact details are as follows:

Address:

Court of Appeal
Courts of Justice
Republic Street
Valletta, VLT 2000
Malta

Tel: + 356 2590 2269

Fax: + 356 2590 2895

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

Once an appeal decision is handed down by the Court of Appeal, no other form of redress is available in Malta.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 is laid down in Article 7 of the International Maintenance Obligation Order, 2011 (Legal Notice 452/11) on 'Appeal for a decision on an application for a declaration'. The court with jurisdiction in this regard is the Court of Appeal and its contact details are as follows:

Address:

Court of Appeal
Courts of Justice
Republic Street
Valletta, VLT 2000
Malta

Tel: + 356 2590 2269

Fax: + 356 2590 2895

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority is the Principal Executive Official of the Social Care Standards Authority. Its contact details are as follows:

Address:

Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity
Social Care Standards Authority
469 Bugeia Institute,
St Joseph High Road
Santa Venera SVR 1012
Malta

Tel.: + 356 25494000

Fax: + 356 25494355

Email: feedback-scsa@gov.mt

Website: <https://scsa.gov.mt/>

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

Not applicable

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The authority with competence in matters of enforcement for the purposes of Article 21 of the Regulation is the Civil Court (Family Section). Its contact details are as follows:

Address:

Civil Court (Family Section)
Courts of Justice
Strait Street
Valletta, VLT 2000
Malta

Tel: + 356 2590 2420

Fax: + 356 2590 2895

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

English

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Maltese or English

Last update: 08/05/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Netherlands

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The judges hearing applications for interim relief at the District Courts are competent to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability, in accordance with Article 27(1) of the Regulation.

The District Court competent to hear an appeal against the decision on such an application, under Article 32(2), will be the court of the interim relief judge who ruled on the application. Information on the contact details of the District Courts can be found on the Council for the Judiciary's website: www.rechtspraak.nl.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The appeal procedure referred to in Article 33 is an appeal in cassation.

Appeals in cassation are heard by the highest court in the ordinary judiciary, the Supreme Court of the Netherlands (*Hoge Raad der Nederlanden*). The aim of cassation is to preserve legal uniformity, to steer the development of law and to safeguard legal protection. Cassation can only consider points of law. The Supreme Court examines only whether the law, including the procedural rules, has been correctly applied. In matters of fact it is bound by what was established in the contested judgment. The parties in appeals in cassation are represented by a lawyer at the Supreme Court.

In application proceedings an application is submitted setting out the grounds for appeal. The defendant may lodge a statement of defence within three weeks (or a different period of time determined by the Supreme Court). If it is deemed advisable in the interests of the case, the lawyers may provide clarification. The Procurator General of the Supreme Court produces a written opinion, whereupon the Supreme Court issues its judgment.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

An application for a review must be made on one of the grounds listed in Article 19 of the Regulation and within the time limits stipulated in that Article to the court that issued the decision. In the Netherlands this may be the District Court or the Court of Appeal.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The designated central authority is the *Landelijk Bureau Inning Onderhoudsbijdragen (LBIO)* (National Office for the Collection of Maintenance Payments).

The contact details of the LBIO are:

Marten Meesweg 109-111

P.O. Box 8901

3009 AX Rotterdam

Telephone: +31 (0)10 289 4895

Fax: +31(0)10 289 4882

E-mail: iaa@lbio.nl

Website: www.lbio.nl

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Bailiffs are competent to execute decisions.

The contact details of the *Koninklijke Beroepsorganisatie van Gerechtsdeurwaarders (KBvG)* (Royal Professional Organisation of Judicial Officers in The Netherlands) are:

Prinses Margrietplantsoen 49

2595 BR Den Haag

Telephone: +31 (0)70 890 3530

Fax: +31 (0)70 890 3531

E-mail: kbvg@kbvg.nl

Website: <http://www.kbvg.nl>

The website lists the names and addresses of bailiffs' offices in the Netherlands.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

No languages other than Dutch will be accepted for the translation of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The request or application form referred to in Article 59(1) must be completed in Dutch.

Last update: 13/05/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Austria

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Applications: the relevant District Court (*Bezirksgericht* - under Article 27(2), this is the court with jurisdiction at the debtor's place of habitual residence or at the place of enforcement).

Appeals: Appeal against a decision (*Berufung*) or appeal on a point of law (*Rekurs*) to the Regional Court (*Landesgericht*) via the District Court that issued the decision.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

In Austria: an appeal on a point of law (*Revisionsrekurs*) pursuant to Articles 78(1) and 411(4) of the Enforcement Code (*Exekutionsordnung*) in conjunction with Article 528 of the Code of Civil Procedure (*Zivilprozessordnung*) must be lodged with the District Court (court of first instance), which will refer it to the Supreme Court (*Oberster Gerichtshof*) for a decision.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

In the event of due service under Austrian law: an application for relief (*Antrag auf Wiedereinsetzung in den vorigen Stand*) from the effects of failing to meet the deadline for contesting the claim or failing to attend a hearing.

If the document was not duly served under Austrian law: there are two types of appeal, i.e. an appeal against a decision (in the case of default judgments) and an appeal on a point of law (in the case of court orders based on default).

Names and contact details of the courts with jurisdiction: all appeals should be lodged at the court of first instance, which will either itself rule on the matter (in the case of relief, for example) or refer it to the higher court for a decision.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

For all matters:

Bundesministerium für Justiz
Museumstrasse 7, 1070 Vienna
Organisational unit: Abteilung I 10
Email address: team.z@bmj.gv.at
Tel.: +43 1 52152 2142
Fax: +43 1 52152 2829

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

All enforcement matters are decided by the court with jurisdiction for enforcement under Articles 17 to 19 of the Enforcement Code, or if necessary by the appellate court.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

German.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

English, French, German

Last update: 14/05/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Poland

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The competent courts in the Republic of Poland pursuant to Article 27(1) of *Regulation (EC) No 4/2009* are the regional courts (*sądy okręgowe*) (under Article 1151(1)(1) of the *Code of Civil Procedure (Kodeks postępowania cywilnego)* of 17 November 1964).

The competent courts in the Republic of Poland for the appeals referred to in Article 32(2) of *Regulation (EC) No 4/2009* are the courts of appeal (*sądy apelacyjne*) (Article 394 et seq., in conjunction with Article 1151(1)(1) of the *Code of Civil Procedure*). An appeal is lodged with a court of appeal via the regional court that issued the contested decision (Article 369, in conjunction with Article 397(2) of the *Code of Civil Procedure*).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

In Poland, in accordance with Articles 398(1) - 398(21) of the Code of Civil Procedure, an appeal in cassation (*skarga kasacyjna*) is the redress procedure referred to in Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009. The competent court is the Supreme Court (*Sąd Najwyższy*). An appeal in cassation must be filed with the Supreme Court through the court of appeal (*sąd apelacyjny*) that issued the contested decision (Article 398(5)(1) in conjunction with Article 1151(1)(3) of the Polish Code of Civil Procedure).

Contact details for the Supreme Court:

The Supreme Court
Krasiński Square 2/4/6
00-951 Warsaw
Poland

Phone number: +48 22 530 8246

Email: sn@sn.pl

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

In Poland the procedure for annulling a judgment on a maintenance arrangement governed by Article 1144(2) of the Code of Civil Procedure is the procedure referred to in Article 19 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009. An application for this procedure is lodged with the court that issued the contested decision. This means that, depending on which court issued the contested maintenance judgment, jurisdiction within the meaning of Article 19(1) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 may lie with:

(a) a district court (*sąd rejonowy*)

(b) a regional court (*sąd okręgowy*) (if that court has given a judgment on maintenance in separation, divorce or annulment proceedings).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority designated under Article 49(1) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 in Poland is:

The Ministry of Justice (*Ministerstwo Sprawiedliwości*)

Department for Family and Minor Affairs (*Departament Spraw Rodzinnych i Nieletnich*)

Department of International Family Proceedings (*Wydział Międzynarodowych Postępowań Rodzinnych*)

Al. Ujazdowskie 11

00-950 Warsaw

Tel./Fax: +48 22 23 90 470

e-mail: alimenty@ms.gov.pl

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

The regional courts (*sądy okręgowe*) are designated as the central authority for transmitting applications and taking any appropriate action relating to applications submitted.

The contact details for the regional courts are listed in [Annex 2](#)  (176 Kb) [pl](#).

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Pursuant to Article 843(1) and (2) of the Code of Civil Procedure, the competent authority in Poland for initiating the actions referred to in Article 21(2) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 is the district court (*sąd rejonowy*) with *ratione materiae* jurisdiction, where enforcement proceedings are under way; where enforcement has not yet been initiated, this authority is the district court (*sąd rejonowy*) with *ratione materiae* jurisdiction under the rules governing general jurisdiction.

Pursuant to Article 758 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the competent authority in Poland for initiating the actions referred to in Article 21(3) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009 is the district court (*sąd rejonowy*) to which the bailiff carrying out enforcement is attached.

The contact details for the courts are listed at <https://www.gov.pl/web/sprawiedliwosc/znajdz-wybrany-sad-powszechny>

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Poland accepts only Polish for the translation of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages accepted by the central authorities in Poland for any other communication, in accordance with Article 59(3) of Regulation (EC) No 4/2009, are: Polish and English.

Last update: 23/02/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Portugal

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

With regard to Article 27(1):

- maintenance cases involving children (whether or not they are minors) or spouses will be heard by the **Family and Minors Division** (*Juízo de Família e Menores*), if one exists. If not, the case will be heard by the **Local Civil Division** (*Juízo Local Cível*), if one exists, or the **Local General Division** (*Juízo Local de Competência Genérica*).
- all other maintenance cases arising due to other family ties, either by blood or by marriage, will be heard by the **Local Civil Division**, if one exists, or by the **Local General Division**.

With regard to Article 3(2), the Court of Appeal (*Tribunal da Relação*) is the competent court.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A decision given on appeal may only be contested on a point of law before the **Supreme Court of Justice** (*Supremo Tribunal de Justiça*).

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

With regard to Article 19(1)(a):

- the review procedure is the **extraordinary review procedure** laid down in Article 696(e) of the Code of Civil Procedure.

With regard to Article 19(1)(b):

- the review procedure is the **extraordinary review procedure** laid down in Articles 696(e) and 140 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

The appeal will be heard by the **court that handed down the decision under review** (Article 697(1) of the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Portugal's **Central Authority** for the purposes of this Regulation is the following government department:

Directorate-General for Justice Administration (Direção-Geral da Administração da Justiça)

Av. D. João II, n.º 1.08.01 D/E- Pisos 0 e 9º ao 14º

1990-097 LISBON - PORTUGAL

Tel.: +351 217 906 200 / +351 217 906 223

Fax: +351 211 545 116

E-mail address: correio@dgaj.mj.pt

correio.dsycji@dgaj.mj.pt

Website: <https://dgaj.justica.gov.pt/>

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

In cases that relate to maintenance obligations involving children, whether or not they are minors, the court with jurisdiction is:

- the **Family and Minors Division**, or, if there isn't one, the **Enforcement Division** (*Juízo de Execução*).

In cases that relate to maintenance obligations between spouses, the court with jurisdiction is:

- the **Family and Minors Division**, or, if there isn't one, the **Enforcement Division**.

In cases that relate to maintenance obligations arising due to family ties, either by blood or by marriage, the court with jurisdiction is:

- the **Enforcement Division**, or, if there isn't one,
- the **Central Civil Division** (*Juízo Central Cível*) for actions with a value of more than €50 000, or
- the **General Division** or the **Local Civil Division**, if one exists, for actions with a value of €50 000 or less.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 is **Portuguese**.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages accepted by the Central Authority for communication with other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59 are **Portuguese, English and French**.

Last update: 07/04/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Romania

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability (*exequatur*) lies with the tribunal (*tribunal*) with jurisdiction over the place of habitual residence of the party against which the enforcement is requested, or of the place of enforcement (Article 95 and Article 1103 of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure).

An appeal may be lodged against a decision on an application for a declaration of enforceability. Competence to deal with an appeal against an application for a declaration of enforceability lies with the court of appeal (Article 96 of Law 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure).

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

A decision given on appeal (*apel*) may be contested by a review on a point of law (*recurs*) (Article 97(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure).

A review on a point of law comes under the competence of the High Court of Cassation and Justice (*Înalta Curte de Casație și Justiție*):

Bd. Octavian Goga, No 2, section II, sector 3, postal code 030982, Bucharest

Website: <https://www.iccj.ro/>.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

The review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 [of Council Regulation (EC) No 4/2009] is as follows:

The court with competence is that which issued the decision, typically a district court or tribunal.

According to Article 505(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure, an action for annulment (*contestația în anulare*) is lodged with the court whose decision is being challenged.

According to Article 510(1) of Law No 134/2010 on the Code of Civil Procedure, an application for review (*cererea de revizuire*) is addressed to the court that issued the final decision for which an application for review has been lodged.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Ministry of Justice

Directorate for International Law and Judicial Cooperation (*Direcția Drept internațional și Cooperare Judiciară*)

Str. Apolodor 17, Bucharest Sector 5, post code 050741

Tel.: 0040372041077

Fax: 0040372041079, 0040372041084

Email: ddit@just.ro or dreptinternational@just.ro

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The authorities competent for enforcement are:

1) The bailiff or judicial enforcement officer (*executorul judecătoresc*) (Article 652 of the Code of Civil Procedure) from the appeal court district in which the debtor's residence or registered office is located or in which the debtor's assets are located.

2) The court of enforcement, which is the district court (*judecătoria*) for the district in which the debtor's residence or registered office is located (Article 651 of the Code of Civil Procedure). The court of enforcement decides on applications for a declaration of enforceability, appeals against enforcement, and on any incidents arising during enforcement.

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Romanian

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The Ministry of Justice accepts the use of English and French, in addition to Romanian, for communication with other central authorities in the European Union.

Last update: 13/03/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Slovenia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

All district courts (*okrožna sodišča*) are competent to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1).

Appeals brought under Article 32(2) against a decision on an application for a declaration of enforceability are dealt with by the court that declared the decision to be enforceable.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

In accordance with Article 109 of the Private International Law and Procedure Act (*Zakon o mednarodnem zasebnem pravu in postopku*), decisions on redress procedures may be appealed against to the Supreme Court (*Vrhovno sodišče*).

Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia

Tavčarjeva 9

1000 Ljubljana

Telephone: (01) 366 44 44

Fax: (01) 366 43 01

Email: [urad.vsr@sodisce.si](mailto:urad.vsr@ sodisce.si)

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

In accordance with the Civil Procedure Act (*Zakon o pravnem postopku*), the procedures applied in the Republic of Slovenia for the purposes of Article 19 are, as appropriate, the 'Reopening of the case' (*Obnova postopka*) (Articles 394-401 of the Civil Procedure Act) or a 'Request for reinstatement of the status quo' (*Zahteva za vrnitev v prejšnje stanje*) (Articles 116-120 of the Civil Procedure Act).

For the review procedure and for the purposes of Article 19 of the Regulation, jurisdiction rests with the district courts, specifically the court that ruled at first instance.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The name and contact details of the Slovenian central authority are:

Public Scholarship, Development, Disability and Maintenance Fund of the Republic of Slovenia (*Javni štipendijski, razvojni, invalidski in preživninski sklad Republike Slovenije*)

Dunajska cesta 20

1000 Ljubljana

Telephone: +386 1 4720 990

Fax: +386 1 4345 899

Email: jpsklad@jps-rs.si

Website: <http://www.jpi-sklad.si/>

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

No public or other bodies are designated.

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The local courts (*okrajna sodišča*) are competent in matters of enforcement (Article 5 of the Enforcement and Securing of Civil Claims Act (*Zakon o izvršbi in zavarovanju*)).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The official language of the courts in the Republic of Slovenia is Slovenian, except in the courts listed below, where the official languages are Slovenian and one of the languages of the national communities:

Koper District Court Ferrarska ulica 9 6000 Koper	Slovenian and Italian
Koper Local Court Ferrarska ulica 9 6000 Koper	Slovenian and Italian
Piran Local Court Tartinijev trg 1 6330 Piran	Slovenian and Italian
Lendava Local Court Glavna ulica 9 9220 Lendava	Slovenian and Hungarian

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

For the purpose of communicating with other central authorities, the central authority in Slovenia has approved the use of English as well as the official languages.

Last update: 14/11/2019

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Maintenance obligations - Slovakia

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

In Slovakia, competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) lies with the Banská Bystrica District Court (*Okresný súd Banská Bystrica*).

In Slovakia, competence to deal with appeals against decisions on applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 32(2) lies with the regional courts (*krajský súd*). Appeals are lodged with the district court (*okresný súd*) whose decision is being contested.

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

In Slovakia, the redress procedure referred to in Article 33 is the appellate review (*dovolanie*), pursuant to Articles 419-457 of the Code of Civil Dispute Procedure (Act No 160/2015). The appellate review is lodged with the court that ruled at first instance. The Supreme Court (*najvyšší súd*) rules on the matter.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

For the purposes of Article 19 of the Regulation, Slovak courts are authorised to amend decisions during a case review (*obnova konania*) under Sections 397-418 of the Code of Civil Dispute Procedure (Act No 160/2015). Applications for a case review are reviewed by the court that ruled at first instance.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Central Authority as referred to in Article 49(1) of the Regulation is:

Centrum pre medzinárodnoprávnu ochranu detí a mládeže

(Centre for the International Legal Protection of Children and Youth)

Address:

Špitálska 25-27

P.O. Box 57

814 99 Bratislava

Telephone: +421 2 20 45 82 00

E- mail: info@cipc.gov.sk

Website: <http://www.cipc.gov.sk>

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

No information is provided, as the functions of the Central Authority in the Slovak Republic are discharged exclusively by the Centre for the International Legal Protection of Children and Youth.

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

For the purposes of Article 21 of the Regulation, the authority with competence for enforcement is the Banská Bystrica District Court (*Okresný súd Banská Bystrica*) acting as an enforcement court (*exekučný súd*).

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The languages accepted for translation of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 are Slovak and Czech.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The languages accepted by the Slovak Central Authorities for communication with the other Central Authorities referred to in Article 59 are Slovak, Czech, English and German.

Last update: 09/02/2024

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Maintenance obligations - Finland

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The court with competence to deal with matters under Article 27(1) is the *käräjäoikeus/tingsrätt* [District Court]. The court that hears appeals under Article 32 (2) is the *hovioikeus/hovrätt* [Court of Appeal].

The contact details of these courts are available on the Ministry of Justice's website at: <http://www.oikeus.fi/tuomioistuimet/fi/index/yhteystiedot.html>

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The redress procedure referred to in Article 33 involves an appeal to the *korkein oikeus/högsta domstolen* [Supreme Court] if it is declared admissible (Code of Judicial Procedure, Chapter 30, Sections 1-5 as applicable).

Appeals against judgments and decisions of the Court of Appeal are lodged with the Supreme Court.

A person who wishes to appeal against a judgment must request leave to appeal from the Supreme Court.

Leave to appeal may be granted only if it is important for the case to be brought before the Supreme Court for a decision on the application of the law in other, similar cases or for uniformity of legal practice. Leave to appeal may also be granted if there is a special reason for this because of a procedural or other error that has been made in the case on the basis of which the judgment is to be reversed or annulled, or if there is another important reason for granting leave to appeal.

Appeal instructions are annexed to the decision of the Court of Appeal. The instructions indicate on what grounds leave to appeal may be granted by law and how the person requesting leave to appeal must proceed in order to have the appeal heard by the Supreme Court. The deadline for requesting leave to appeal and lodging the appeal is 60 days from the date on which the decision by the Court of Appeal was made available to the parties.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Applications for a review procedure for the purposes of Article 19 are made to the court which gave the final judgment in the case. The procedure is governed by Sections 3-5 and 14a of Chapter 31 of the Code of Judicial Procedure, as applicable. The contact details of these courts are available on the Ministry of Justice's website at: <http://www.oikeus.fi/tuomioistuimet/fi/index/yhteystiedot.html>

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Finland's central authority is the *oikeusministeriö/justitieministeriet* [Ministry of Justice].

Its contact details are:

Oikeusministeriö [Ministry of Justice]

Unit for International Legal Aid

Box 25

FIN-00023 Valtioneuvosto [Government]

Telephone 358-9-1606 7628

Fax 358-9-1606 7524

E-mail <mailto:maintenance.ca.om@gov.fi>

Please note that the Social Insurance Institution of Finland [*Kansaneläkelaitos/Folkpensionsanstalten – (KELA)*], which is a public body, may perform some of the tasks entrusted to the central authority (for more details, see Article 71(1)(e) — Public bodies). However, all applications received in Finland must be addressed to the Ministry of Justice.

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

Kansaneläkelaitos/Folkpensionsanstalten [the Social Insurance Institution] is the public body designated under Article 51(3) of the Maintenance Regulation.

When the Social Insurance Institution has awarded maintenance to an individual entitled to it, it performs the following central authority functions:

it applies for recognition or recognition and declaration of the enforceability of a decision under Article 56(1)(a);

it applies for enforcement of a decision given or to be recognised in the requested Member State under Article 56(1)(b);

it makes a request for specific measures under Article 53(1).

The Social Insurance Institution's contact details are:

Kansaneläkelaitos (Social Insurance Institution)

Recovery Centre

PL 450

FI-00056 Kela

Finland

Telephone: +35820 634 4940 (individuals)

+35820 634 4942 (authorities)

E-mail: <mailto:maintenance@kela.fi>

Website: <http://www.kela.fi/>

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The competent authority for the purposes of Article 21 is the *ulosottomies/utmättningsman* [bailiff] in the defendant's place of residence or domicile. The application referred to in that Article can be addressed to any local enforcement agency.

The contact details of the enforcement agencies are on the Ministry of Justice's website at: <https://oikeus.fi/ulosotto/fi/index/yhteystiedot.html>

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Finland accepts translations of the documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 in

Finnish, Swedish and English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Finland accepts Finnish, Swedish and English as languages for communication.

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Maintenance obligations - Sweden

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The court with competence to deal with applications for a declaration of enforceability in accordance with Article 27(1) and with appeals against decisions on such applications in accordance with Article 32(2) can be found here:

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

An appeal to the Court of Appeal or to the Supreme Court. The appeal shall be submitted to the court that has given judgment. Leave to appeal is required in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

When the application for review concerns a decision by a District Court (*tingsrätt*) or the Swedish Enforcement Authority (*Kronofogdemyndigheten*): an application to the Court of Appeal (*hovrätt*).

An application for review shall be in writing. The applicant shall specify which decision the application concerns. The application shall also include the grounds on which the application is based and the documentary and other evidence that the applicant wishes to invoke. The application shall be brought to the notice of the other party.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Swedish Social Insurance Agency (*Försäkringskassan*)

General questions and questions regarding policy decisions

Swedish Social Insurance Agency (*Försäkringskassan*)

SE-103 51 Stockholm

Tel.: +46 (0) 8 786 90 00

Fax: +46 (0) 8 411 27 89

Email: [✉ huvudkontoret@forsakringskassan.se](mailto:huvudkontoret@forsakringskassan.se)

Applications and requests for assistance in specific cases

Swedish Social Insurance Agency (*Försäkringskassan*)

Box 1164

SE-621 22 Visby

Tel.: +46 (0) 771 17 90 00

Fax: +46 (0) 10 11 20 411

Email: [✉ centralmyndigheten@forsakringskassan.se](mailto:centralmyndigheten@forsakringskassan.se)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Swedish Enforcement Authority (*Kronofogdemyndigheten*)

Postal address: Box 773, SE-801 29 Gävle

Tel.: +46 771 73 73 00

Fax + 46 10 573 15 20

Email: [✉ kontakt@kronofogden.se](mailto:kontakt@kronofogden.se)

Swedish Enforcement Authority (*Kronofogdemyndigheten*)

Postal address: Box 646, SE-301 16 Halmstad

Tel.: +46 771 73 73 00

Fax + 46 10 573 28 70

Email: [✉ kontakt@kronofogden.se](mailto:kontakt@kronofogden.se)

Swedish Enforcement Authority (*Kronofogdemyndigheten*)

Postal address: Box 925, SE-391 29 Kalmar

Tel.: +46 771 73 73 00

Fax + 46 10 575 69 45

Email: [✉ kontakt@kronofogden.se](mailto:kontakt@kronofogden.se)

Swedish Enforcement Authority (*Kronofogdemyndigheten*)

Postal address: SE-901 73 Umeå

Tel.: +46 771 73 73 00

Fax + 46 10 578 42 50

Email: [✉ kontakt@kronofogden.se](mailto:kontakt@kronofogden.se)

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

Swedish.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

Swedish.

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Maintenance obligations - England and Wales

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The Family Court on transmission by the REMO Unit at the following address:

The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Unit (REMO)

Victory House

30-34 Kingsway

London

WC2B 6EX

Tel: 020 3681 2757 (UK only)

+44 (0)20 3681 2757 (outside the UK)

Fax: 020 3681 8764

e-mail: [✉ remo@offsol.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:remo@offsol.gsi.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure to contest decisions given on appeal is:

A single further appeal on a point of law, to the tier of court above the court where the first appeal was heard.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Article 19 does not apply to the UK as the UK is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

The Lord Chancellor will be the Central Authority and retain overall policy responsibility, but the administrative functions of the Central Authority will be performed by:

The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Unit (REMO)

Victory House
30-34 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6EX
Tel: 020 3681 2757 (UK only)
+44 (0)20 3681 2757 (outside the UK)
Fax: 020 3681 8764
E-mail: remo@offsol.gsi.gov.uk

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The Family Court on transmission by the REMO unit at the following address:

The Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Unit (REMO)

Victory House
30-34 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6EX
Tel: 020 3681 2757 (UK only)
+44 (0)20 3681 2757 (outside the UK)
Fax: 020 3681 8764
e-mail: remo@offsol.gsi.gov.uk

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translation of documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted for communication with other Central Authorities in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Last update: 01/12/2016

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Maintenance obligations - Northern Ireland

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The courts with responsibility for declarations of enforceability are the Magistrates' Courts. Applications can be made directly to the court or can be transmitted to it by the Department of Justice at the following address

REMO Unit at Operational Policy Branch
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Department of Justice
4th Floor Laganside House
23 – 27 Oxford Street
Belfast BT1 3LA
Northern Ireland

Tel: 0300 200 7812 (UK) and +44 28 9049 5884 (International)
Fax: +44 2890 728 945
e-mail: reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk

The courts with responsibility for appeals are the Magistrates' Court: Applications for appeal can be made directly to the court or can be transmitted to it by the Department of Justice at the following address:

REMO Unit at Operational Policy Branch
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Department of Justice
4th Floor Laganside House
23 – 27 Oxford Street
Belfast BT1 3LA
Northern Ireland

Tel: 0300 200 7812 (UK) and +44 28 9049 5884 (International)
Fax: +44 2890 728 945
e-mail: reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure to contest decisions given on appeal is:

A single further appeal on a point of law to the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Article 19 does not apply to the UK as the UK is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

REMO Unit at Operational Policy Branch
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service
Department of Justice
4th Floor Laganside House
23 – 27 Oxford Street
Belfast BT1 3LA

Northern Ireland

Tel: 0300 200 7812 (UK) and +44 28 9049 5884 (International)

Fax: +44 2890 728 945

e-mail: [✉ reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (e) – Public bodies

The public body that can perform the functions of the central authorities is:

Legal Services Agency Northern Ireland (Department of Justice) (for Article 51(2)(a) provision of legal aid)

2nd Floor

Waterfront Plaza

8 Laganbank Road

Mays Meadow

Belfast

BT1 3BN

Tel: +44 2890 408 888

Fax: +44 2890 408 990

Email: [✉ enquiries@lsani.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@lsani.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The Magistrates' Courts are the competent authorities. Applications can be made directly to the court or can be transmitted to it by the Department of Justice at the following address:

REMO Unit at Operational Policy Branch

Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service

Department of Justice

4th Floor Laganside House

23 – 27 Oxford Street

Belfast BT1 3LA

Northern Ireland

Tel: 0300 200 7812 (UK) and +44 28 9049 5884 (International)

Fax: +44 2890 728 945

e-mail: [✉ reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:reciprocalenforcement@courtsni.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translation of documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted for communication with other Central Authorities in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Last update: 25/10/2018

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Maintenance obligations - Scotland

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

Scotland

The court with responsibility for declarations of enforceability is:

The Sheriff Court, on transmission by Scottish Ministers at the following address:

The Scottish Government

Central Authority & International Law Team

St Andrew's House (GW.15)

Regent Road

Edinburgh

EH1 3DG

Tel: +44 131 244 2417 or +44 131 244 3570

Fax: +44 131 244 4848

e-mail: [✉ maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

The court with responsibility for appeals is:

Scotland

The Sheriff Court, on transmission by Scottish Ministers at the following address:

The Scottish Government

Central Authority & International Law Team

St Andrew's House (GW.15)

Regent Road

Edinburgh

EH1 3DG

Tel: +44 131 244 2417 or +44 131 244 3570

Fax: +44 131 244 4848

e-mail: [✉ maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure to contest decisions given on appeal is:

An appeal to the Court of Session.

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Article 19 does not apply to the UK as the UK is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Scotland

The Scottish Government
Central Authority & International Law Team
St Andrew's House (GW.15)
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
Tel: +44 131 244 2417 or +44 131 244 3570
Fax: +44 131 244 4848
e-mail: [✉ maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

The **Sheriff Court**, on transmission by Scottish Ministers at the following address:

The Scottish Government
Central Authority & International Law Team
St Andrew's House (GW.15)
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG
Tel: +44 131 244 2417 or +44 131 244 3570
Fax: +44 131 244 4848
e-mail: [✉ maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:maintenanceenforcement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translation of documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted for communication with other Central Authorities in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Last update: 02/12/2020

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Maintenance obligations - Gibraltar

Article 71 1. (a) - Courts for application for a declaration of enforceability and courts for appeal against decisions on such applications

The court with responsibility for declarations of enforceability is:

Clerk to the Magistrates' Court
32- 36 Town Range
Gibraltar
Tel: +350 2007 0471
Fax: +350 2004 0483

The court with responsibility for appeals is:

Clerk to the Magistrates' Court
32 - 36 Town Range
Gibraltar
Tel : +350 2007 0471
Fax: +350 2004 0483

Article 71 1. (b) - Redress procedure

The procedure to contest decisions given on appeal is:

An appeal to the Supreme Court

Article 71 1. (c) - Review procedure

Article 19 does not apply to the UK as the UK is not bound by the 2007 Hague Protocol.

Article 71 1. (d) - Central Authorities

Minister for Justice,
Ministry of Education, Justice and International Exchange of Information
771 Europort
Gibraltar
Tel: + 350 2005 9267
Fax: + 350 2005 9271
E-mail: [✉ moj@gibraltar.gov.gi](mailto:moj@gibraltar.gov.gi)

Article 71 1. (f) – Competent authorities for enforcement

Clerk to the Magistrates' Court
32 - 36 Town Range
Gibraltar
Tel : +350 2007 0471
Fax: +350 2004 0483

Article 71 1. (g) - Accepted languages for translations of documents

The language accepted for translation of documents referred to in Articles 20, 28 and 40 in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Article 71 1. (h) - Languages accepted by Central Authorities for communication with other Central Authorities

The language accepted for communication with other Central Authorities in all the UK jurisdictions is English.

Last update: 19/12/2016

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