

The Secretary General

For the attention of National Organs
of the Member States

Circular No 32(25)

Our Ref.: 20250410SP

The Hague, 10 April 2025

Dear Representatives of the National Organ,

Pursuant to the proposal of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands dated 10 April 2025, and in accordance with Article 2 of the Statute of the HCCH, I have the honour to open the six-month voting period on the admission of the State of Qatar as a Member State of the HCCH.

Article 2 of the Statute reads as follows:

1. Members of the Hague Conference on Private International Law are the States which have already participated in one or more Sessions of the Conference and which accept the present Statute.
2. Any other State, the participation of which is from a juridical point of view of importance for the work of the Conference, may become a Member. The admission of new Member States shall be decided upon by the Governments of the participating States, upon the proposal of one or more of them, by a majority of the votes cast, within a period of six months from the date on which that proposal is submitted to the Governments.
3. The admission shall become effective upon the acceptance of the present Statute by the State concerned.

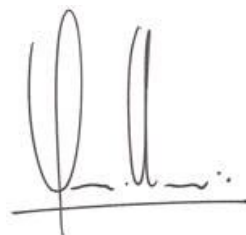
In accordance with Article 2(2), you are kindly requested to inform the Permanent Bureau of your Government's position on the proposal of the Netherlands by **10 October 2025 at 5.00 p.m.** (CEST), marking the end of the six-month period. Kindly note that votes submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

The State of Qatar is not currently a Party to any HCCH Convention.

However, the State of Qatar has participated in various Special Commission meetings: in 2012 on the practical operation of the 1980 Child Abduction and 1996 Child Protection Conventions; in 2016 on the practical operation of the Apostille Convention; and in 2017 on the practical operation of the 1980 Child Abduction and 1996 Child Protection Conventions, as well as on the Judgments Project.

I take this opportunity to recall the HCCH Strategic Plan 2023 – 2028, which identifies universality and inclusiveness as key strategic elements for the HCCH. I respectfully encourage Member States to participate in this admission process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'C' followed by a smaller 'B' and a series of loops and a dot at the end, all written over a horizontal line.

Dr Christophe Bernasconi

Copy for information to the Diplomatic Missions of the Members