



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Australian Privacy Principle (APP) 5

Your privacy when making an application under the Hague Convention

This document explains how the Attorney-General's Department will collect, store, use and disclose your personal information when you apply for the return of your child under the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (the Hague Convention).

Why is my personal information being collected?

The Attorney-General's Department is responsible for coordination of requests made from Australia to overseas countries for assistance under the Hague Convention.

The application form requires basic information about your child, yourself, the person who currently has the child, and other information regarding the circumstances of your child being overseas. We may also require supporting documents, and supplementary materials in relation to your application.

The Department may also collect personal information from other entities for the purpose of assessing or processing your application. This may include seeking information from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection in relation to the travel movements of you or your child into and out of Australia. If the whereabouts of your child cannot be established, the Department may apply for an international alert for your child to be sent to Interpol for distribution to law enforcement authorities overseas.

If we do not collect this personal information, we will not be able to process your application.

How will my personal information be used?

Your information will be used by the Attorney-General's Department to assess whether the application meets the terms of the Hague Convention.

If the Department considers the application meets the terms of the Hague Convention, your application and supplementary materials and information will be forwarded to the relevant Central Authority in the country in which you believe your child is located.

The foreign Central Authority will be responsible for managing the process of your application in the foreign country. Commonly, the foreign Central Authority may contact the person who currently has the child, in order to seek return on a voluntary basis.

If voluntary arrangements cannot be made, the foreign Central Authority may file your application in the relevant court of the foreign country for the purpose of legal proceedings in relation to the return of your child. The foreign Central Authority may appoint a legal adviser in the foreign country to represent your interests in relation to the application.

Further information

The AGD privacy policy is available at <http://www.ag.gov.au/Pages/Privacystatement.aspx>. If you wish to access or seek correction of your personal information or make an enquiry or complaint about your privacy, you may contact the Departmental Privacy Contact Officer on (02) 6141 2660 or via email – privacy@ag.gov.au.

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