

AMBAXXATA
TAR-REPUBBLIKA TA' MALTA



EMBASSY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA

THE HAGUE

Permanent Bureau
Hague Conference on Private International Law
6, Scheveningseweg
2517 KT The Hague

The Hague, 6 March 2014

Response to the Questionnaires relating to the Service and Evidence Conventions

With reference to the message extended to the National and Contact Organs of the Members, and to the non-Member Contracting States to the Hague Conventions of *15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters*, of *18 March 1970 on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters* and of *25 October 1980 on International Access to Justice*, concerning three questionnaires relating to the aforementioned Conventions, the Embassy of the Republic of Malta hereby communicates this reply.

With regards to the Hague Convention of *15 November 1965 on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters*, although the Republic of Malta has the domestic legislation in place to effect service of documents in terms of this Convention as well as having appointed a Central Authority, Malta has entered the following Declaration when acceding to the said Convention:

'Declaration of 1 August 2012

Malta declares that its accession to the Convention will only take effect upon the completion of procedures relating to the said accession within the European Union and, in particular, the adoption of a Council Decision authorising Malta to accede to this Convention. Once this adoption takes place, Malta will notify the depositary of the date when the said Convention will become applicable to Malta'.

This declaration also applies to the Convention of *18 March 1970 on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil and Commercial Matters*.

At this date, Malta has not as yet been authorised by the EU by means of a Council Decision to accede to the Conventions. In these circumstances, the Republic of Malta prefers to wait for the EU's authorisation to be able to accede to the Conventions before answering any questionnaires on these subjects.

This reply may be published on the HccH website.

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