

ADOPTION

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TABLEAUX SUR LES COÛTS ASSOCIÉS À L'ADOPTION INTERNATIONALE

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TABLES ON THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

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TABLES ON THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION

The *Tables on costs*¹ are designed to increase transparency by compiling the available information on the costs of intercountry adoption in States of origin and receiving States.

The Tables do not aim to provide prospective adoptive parents ("PAPs") or other actors with a definitive, "total cost" for an intercountry adoption. Rather, they aim to be a reference point for PAPs and other actors to identify if the costs which they encounter in the State of origin (Table I) and the receiving State (Table II) are of the nature and within the range provided in the Tables. The Experts' Group will continue its discussions regarding the best method of collecting the data as well as the timeline for providing the data. It will also decide on where and how the tables should be published.

The Tables also include information about the "contributions"² which may be demanded from PAPs by certain States of origin or adoption accredited bodies in the context of an intercountry adoption. Such contributions should not be considered as "costs" of an intercountry adoption since they are distinct from the real or actual costs of the adoption procedure (*i.e.*, they are distinct from the cost of providing all the services necessary in the receiving State and the State of origin to complete each particular adoption). Nevertheless, in order to reflect the current practice of some States,³ they have been included in the tables.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF THE TABLES

Tables I and II may be completed by States to provide information concerning the estimated costs and contributions associated with an intercountry adoption in the particular State of origin or receiving State.

States of origin may complete Table I. Receiving States may complete Table II. States that are both States of origin *and* receiving States may complete both Tables.

Column "Purpose"

The "other" category should be used to add any category of costs not previously listed in the column. Please be as specific as possible.

Column "Charged by"

For each category of costs, please select the type of authority, body or person that best corresponds.

¹ For a definition of the term "costs" in the context of intercountry adoption, see the Terminology section of the *Note on the Financial Aspects of Intercountry Adoption*, available on the Hague Conference website at < www.hcch.net > under "Intercountry Adoption Section" (hereinafter, "Note").

² For a definition of the term "contribution" in the context of intercountry adoption, see Note, *supra* note 1. See also Chapter 6 of the Note regarding the problems and recommendations associated with "contributions" and Hague Conference on Private International Law's, *Accreditation and Adoption Accredited Bodies: General Principles and Guide to Good Practice*, Guide No 2, Family Law (Jordan Publishing Ltd), 2012, Chapter 9, available on the Hague Conference website at < www.hcch.net > under "Intercountry Adoption Section" (hereinafter, "Guide to Good Practice No 2").

³ See Guide to Good Practice No 2, *supra* note 2, para. 432.

Abbreviations used

(CAN)	Central Authority National
(CAR)	Central Authority Regional
(PA)	Public Authority
(CT)	Court or Tribunal
(AB)	Adoption Accredited Body
(AB SO)	Adoption Accredited Body of the State of origin
(AB RS)	Adoption Accredited Body of the receiving State
(AP SO)	Adoption Approved (Non-accredited) Person of the State of origin
(AP RS)	Adoption Approved (Non-accredited) Person of the receiving State
(OP)	Other professionals (<i>e.g.</i> , lawyer, doctor, translator, interpreter)
(N/A)	Not applicable – if service is not performed

Column "Name of the authority, body or person"

Please use the space in this column to specify the name of the authority, body, person or the type of professional whenever possible.

Column "Amount"

For each category of costs, please indicate the fixed amount, if applicable, or the range (minimum to maximum) that is charged. You may use "free" when the service is provided free of charge, "not applicable" when the service is not provided, or "unknown" when the information is not yet available.

You may find that some categories of costs are incurred in exceptional cases only (*e.g.*, *translation and/or interpretation costs*). In such a case, please indicate "0 to [estimate price when the prospective adoptive parent(s) select this service]". You may also use the space in each category or use a footnote to specify the conditions under which an amount may be requested.

TABLE I – STATE OF ORIGIN
COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS
TO BE PAID IN ESTONIA
2024

Date completed: May 2024

This table is designed to provide prospective adoptive parents (“PAPs”) and other adoption actors with an overview of the costs and contributions (see p. 2 on the way to enter the “amount” in the tables) which may need to be paid in the above-mentioned State of origin when undertaking an intercountry adoption from that State. Unless indicated otherwise, the costs listed are for the adoption of ONE child.

Please note: In order to obtain a comprehensive overview of the costs and contributions which may need to be paid by the PAPs, one will need also to refer to Table II (costs and contributions to be paid in the receiving State) as completed by the receiving State in which the PAPs habitually reside.

Additional amounts, such as **travel costs** (which may include airfares and accommodation) may apply (see “travel requirements” section below) but only general information concerning this is requested in this table, not actual costs.

COSTS				
Purpose of the service covered by the cost		Charged by	Name of the authority, body or person	Amount ⁴ [currency]
Administrative application fee ⁵		<input type="checkbox"/> x CAN <input type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
Administrative processing fee ⁶		<input type="checkbox"/> x CAN <input type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
Court fees		<input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Ministry of Finance	No fee
Visa(s) for PAPs to enter the State of origin		<input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
Specialised professionals	Legal services (e.g., legal advice and representation in the State of origin)	<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> AB RS ⁷ <input type="checkbox"/> x OP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
	Notary's fees	<input type="checkbox"/> x OP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		Approx 50€
	Medical services (e.g., health examination for the child)	<input type="checkbox"/> x OP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
	Psychologists / counselling	<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> AB RS ⁸ <input type="checkbox"/> x OP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee or approx 60€

⁴ For each category of costs, please indicate the currency, fixed amount, if applicable, or the range (minimum to maximum) that is charged for each category. See also p. 2 of this document for more details on the way to enter the “amount” in the tables.

⁵ States should use this category to indicate whether they charge a standard fee when PAPs submit an application to adopt.

⁶ States should use this category to indicate whether they charge subsequent fees at different stages of the adoption procedure (e.g., when the matching is done).

⁷ Only applicable if not included already in the costs for services by a receiving States accredited body mentioned in Table II.

⁸ *Ibid.*

Specialised professionals	Interpreter in the State of origin	<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> AB RS ⁹ <input type="checkbox"/> xOP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
	Other: [please specify]			
Documentation	Birth certificate(s) of the child	<input type="checkbox"/> x PA <input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
	Passport from the State of origin	<input type="checkbox"/> x PA <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	Ministry of Finance	7-50 EUR
	Legalisation of documents in the State of origin	<input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
	Translation of documents in the State of origin	<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> AB RS ¹⁰ <input type="checkbox"/> x OP <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
	Other: [please specify]			
Other costs charged by an AB of the State of origin (not included in other categories) [please specify]		<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		
Emigration / Exit fees for the child (e.g., fee to exit the State) ¹¹		<input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> N/A		No fee
Other: [please specify]				

CONTRIBUTIONS			
Purpose	Charged by	Name of the authority, body or person	Amount [currency]
Contributions demanded by the State of origin [Please specify for what purpose this money is collected]	<input type="checkbox"/> CAN <input type="checkbox"/> CAR <input type="checkbox"/> PA <input type="checkbox"/> x N/A		None
Contributions demanded by an accredited body of the State of origin [Please specify for what purpose this money is collected (e.g. for the care of the child)]	<input type="checkbox"/> AB SO <input type="checkbox"/> x N/A		None

TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS	
[Please specify if prospective adoptive parent(s) is / are required to personally travel to the State of origin and the number of compulsory trips ¹² as well as the minimum number of days which he / she / they are required to stay in the State of origin].	First trip (5-7 days) is to meet the child, the second trip (5-7 days) is the court hearing and other procedures.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ This category of costs does not refer to costs associated with the immigration of the child *into* the receiving State; instead, it refers to any fees charged by the authorities of the State of origin in order for the child to *exit* the territory.

¹² States should be aware of the psychological trauma to the child which could occur when several trips are made to meet the child before he or she is finally entrusted to the adoptive parents.