

Annual Report on International Child Abduction
2025

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH
THE HAGUE CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF
INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION
APRIL 2025

SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO
THE SEAN AND DAVID GOLDMAN
INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION
PREVENTION AND RETURN ACT OF 2014
22 U.S.C. §9111, ET SEQ.



**United States Department of
State**

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Dear Reader,

The Department of State has no higher priority than the welfare of U.S. citizens overseas. We take seriously our responsibilities to lead U.S. efforts to prevent and resolve cases of international parental child abduction that violate the custody rights of left-behind parents, and to protect children from the harmful effects of being wrongfully removed from home.

Our work is led by the Office of Children's Issues in the Bureau of Consular Affairs, which serves as the U.S. Central Authority for the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* (Convention). Country officers in Children's Issues work daily with our Convention partner countries and non-partner countries, the interagency, and stakeholders to assist parents seeking return of and access to their children who were wrongfully removed or retained in another country by the other parent.

If implemented properly, the Convention can provide a critical legal mechanism for resolving cases of international parental child abduction. We actively engage with foreign governments to encourage them to join the Convention, and then to fulfill their treaty obligations, as we fulfill our own treaty obligations under the Convention. In 2024, we welcomed Georgia as a new treaty partner and began discussions with Georgia's Central Authority about both preventing and resolving international child abductions between our countries.

Unfortunately, there are countries that are reluctant to join the Convention and others that join the Convention but fail to live up to their commitments. This report holds those countries accountable for their performance or lack thereof.

Our evaluation of country performance uses the standards in the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act of 2014, as amended. Fifteen countries were cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in CY 2024. Fourteen countries cited last year were cited again this year. One country not cited in last year's report, The Bahamas, is cited this year. In addition, our evaluations include some specific concerns about countries that we did not cite, but whose performance needs close monitoring.

We are committed to encouraging these countries to take more effective measures to resolve cases of international parental child abduction, to restore the strength and safety of children and parents harmed by international parental child abduction, so that they may thrive.

Sincerely,

Marco Rubio
Secretary of State

Table of Contents

Annual Report on International Child Abduction	1
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE.....	3
Table of Contents.....	5
INTRODUCTION.....	9
The Department of State’s Role in International Parental Child Abduction (IPCA) Cases	9
Preventing International Parental Child Abduction.....	11
Immediate Steps that May Help Prevent an Abduction:	12
Cooperation with Law Enforcement.....	12
Diplomatic Efforts to Combat IPCA	13
Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction	15
The Role of the Department of State in Non-Convention Cases.....	18
Other Issues Regarding International Parental Child Abduction	19
Voluntary Agreements	19
Domestic Violence Resources Available in IPCA cases.....	19
Assistance to U.S. Military Personnel and Their Families	20
Children Returned to the United States and Other Resolutions.....	21
Criminal Law.....	22
IPCA is a crime in the United States.	22
Resources for U.S. Judges in the Application of the Convention	22
Use of Airlines in Abductions	23
How to Use This Report	24
Understanding the Data Pages.....	25

COUNTRIES OR AREAS DEMONSTRATING A PATTERN OF NONCOMPLIANCE	30
Argentina	31
The Bahamas.....	34
Belize	36
Brazil	38
Bulgaria	41
Ecuador	43
Egypt.....	45
Honduras	47
India	49
Jordan	52
Korea, Republic of	54
Peru	56
Poland.....	59
Romania.....	61
United Arab Emirates.....	63
COUNTRIES OR AREAS WITH FIVE OR MORE CASES	65
Australia.....	66
Canada	68
China.....	70
Colombia	72
Dominican Republic	74
France	76
Germany	78

Ghana	80
Guatemala	82
Iraq	84
Israel	86
Italy.....	89
Jamaica	91
Japan.....	93
Kenya	95
Lebanon	97
Mexico	99
Morocco.....	101
Nigeria	103
Pakistan	105
Philippines	107
Russia.....	109
Saudi Arabia.....	111
Taiwan	113
Thailand	115
Türkiye	117
Ukraine	119
United Kingdom	121
Venezuela	123
Yemen.....	125
APPENDICES.....	I

CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION.....	II
Informative Links.....	VII
Total Abduction Cases by Country or Area	VIII
2024 IPCA Return Cases by U.S. State	XII
2024 IPCA Access Cases by U.S. State	XVIII
Unresolved Abduction Cases.....	XIX
Unresolved Access Cases	XXII
Return Cases Not Sent to Judicial Authorities in 2024.....	XXIII
Access Cases Not Sent to Judicial Authorities in 2024.....	XXV
Countries and Areas with Return or Access Cases in 2024	XXVI

INTRODUCTION

The Department of State's Role in International Parental Child Abduction (IPCA) Cases

Serving as the U.S. Central Authority for the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* (Convention), the Bureau of Consular Affairs' Office of Children's Issues (CI) leads U.S. government efforts to prevent international parental child abductions and to respond when such abductions happen. State Department employees serving as country officers in CI work with foreign governments, nongovernmental organizations, other U.S. government agencies, and international organizations to resolve IPCA matters. We also actively encourage countries to become a party to the Convention, which is the best means of ensuring that countries establish procedures to address abduction cases. Once the Convention is in force between the United States and another Convention party, also known as "partnership" under the Convention, we collaborate with foreign officials to promote compliance with Convention obligations.

CI also works with interagency partners to prevent IPCA. On a daily basis, country officers inform parents of the [Children's Passport Issuance Alert Program \(CPIAP\)](#), which is one of our strongest tools to prevent IPCA. Additionally, country officers regularly liaise with law enforcement officers and discuss best practices for identifying and responding to IPCA.

When parents report their children have been abducted or retained outside of the United States ("outgoing abduction cases"), CI informs them of general options and provides resources to help them seek the return of, or access to, their children. In CY 2024, 148 cases were resolved with the return of 217 abducted children to the United States, and an additional 115 cases were resolved in other ways. During CY 2024, CI handled 739 active abduction cases where the parents were seeking return involving 1,011 children and 69 active abduction cases where the parents were seeking access involving 107 children. Of those 808 total active abduction cases, 343

were opened in CY 2024. In addition, CI responded to 240 total initial inquiries in which parents sought information and resources regarding abductions but did not proceed with providing complete documentation.

If a parent submits a complete application for return or access to CI under the Convention, country officers forward the application to our counterparts at the foreign central authority (FCA) of the country where the child is believed to be located. After confirming the location of the child, FCAs typically seek a voluntary resolution or offer to conduct mediation between the parents. If the parents cannot reach a voluntary agreement, then the case generally moves to the judicial phase, during which a judge decides whether the child should return to the country of habitual residence.

When the Convention is not an option, other options that may be available are [mediation](#), [litigation in foreign courts](#), or assistance from law enforcement to pursue criminal charges. These same alternatives are also generally available even when the Convention is an option. While CI may provide a list of attorneys, country officers cannot act as a legal representative for either parent. Parents who use a foreign civil justice system will likely need to retain an attorney in the place where the child is located.

When a child returns to the United States as a result of a judicial order or voluntary arrangement, CI, U.S. embassies and consulates around the world, and law enforcement colleagues work to facilitate the child's safe and expeditious travel. From issuing travel documents to providing contacts with consular staff and victim's assistance specialists, country officers provide options and resources to facilitate safe return and reintegration.

Parents may also choose to resolve abductions or retentions through [voluntary agreements](#) or [mediation](#). CI provides information and resources regarding [mediation](#) in IPCA matters, but it is not directly involved in mediating specific cases.

For IPCA cases in which children are removed to, or retained in, the United

States (“incoming abduction cases”), CI, serving as the U.S. Central Authority under the Convention, carries out the required functions of locating children, providing an option for voluntary resolution, facilitating access to mediation services when requested, and monitoring proceedings under the Convention. In this capacity, CI also educates U.S. judges, attorneys, and law enforcement officials on U.S. obligations under the Convention.

Preventing International Parental Child Abduction

CI has a dedicated prevention team that responds to inquiries from parents, the legal community, law enforcement, foreign governments, and other stakeholders about how to prevent IPCA. We also assist in preventing third-country abductions transiting through the United States. In CY 2024, the Office of Children’s Issues fielded over 15,000 prevention-related inquiries, a dramatic increase from previous years as reporting requirements and data enhancements have been implemented.

The Children’s Passport Issuance Alert Program (CPIAP) is one of the Department of State’s most important tools for preventing IPCA. In CY 2024, we enrolled over 3,600 children into CPIAP, bringing the total number of children enrolled to more than 69,000.

If a passport application is submitted for a child who is enrolled in the CPIAP, the program allows CI to contact the enrolling parent(s) or legal guardians(s) to verify whether the parental consent requirement for issuance of a passport to a minor has been met. Parents can access the enrollment forms through the [Department of State’s website](https://travel.state.gov) travel.state.gov or by contacting CI.

When alerted to a possible abduction in progress, CI liaises with law enforcement officials to seek to prevent a child from departing from the United States if a parent or legal guardian of the child presents an order from a court of competent jurisdiction prohibiting the removal of the child. In CY 2024, we helped enroll 317 children in U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP) [Prevent Abduction Program](#), a slight decrease from CY

2023. More information on this program is available on [CBP's website](https://www.cbp.gov) CBP.gov.

Immediate Steps that May Help Prevent an Abduction:

Obtain a court order: A court order can be an important measure to prevent abduction. CI strongly encourages parents to consult an attorney regarding their particular circumstances.

Contact law enforcement: Inform law enforcement immediately of any court orders, and the potential for IPCA.

Contact airport police and the airlines: Contact the airlines and airport law enforcement.

Contact the foreign embassy or consulate: Inform the foreign embassy or consulate nearest you if your child is or may be a dual national.

CI's duty officer program provides round-the-clock assistance by phone at 1-888-407-4747 to assist parents and law enforcement officials to thwart IPCA. CI's prevention team can also be reached via email at PreventAbduction1@state.gov for non-emergency questions or assistance.

Cooperation with Law Enforcement

Federal, state, and local law enforcement bodies have a prominent role in the prevention and resolution of IPCA. When law enforcement authorities encounter a child at risk for IPCA, or who has been abducted internationally, they should contact CI immediately. The Department of State engages regularly in outreach efforts to law enforcement regarding our role and the resources the Department has to assist them.

The Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction Prevention and Return Act (the Act) of 2014 increased collaboration on IPCA among federal agencies. The Department of State maintains regular contact with law

enforcement agencies and organizes regular interagency meetings to improve coordination efforts to prevent IPCA. Participants include the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and the Department of Defense (DoD). The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children also participate. This interagency cooperation has increased the effectiveness of the Department of State's round-the-clock duty officer program to assist parents whose children may be imminently at risk of IPCA, or who need assistance facilitating the safe return of their child from abroad.

As part of the ongoing collaboration between the Department of State and DHS, CI has placed two prevention officers at CBP's National Targeting Center as liaisons. This arrangement has enhanced communication, streamlined processing of time-sensitive cases, expedited responses from both Departments, and expanded the Department of State's relationships with law enforcement entities.

Diplomatic Efforts to Combat IPCA

CI engages with both Convention partners and non-partners to prevent and resolve IPCA. CI conducts long-term advocacy to improve cooperation with foreign governments on abduction matters by encouraging ratification or accession to the Convention, to provide meaningful assistance in abductions not falling under the Convention, and to strengthen compliance with the Convention where applicable. In 2024, we welcomed Georgia as a new treaty partner and began ongoing discussions with the Georgian Central Authority about both preventing and resolving international child abductions between our countries.

CI manages diplomatic engagement on abduction matters in coordination with Department of State regional bureaus and other offices. Country officers maintain regular contact with counterparts in foreign central authorities, foreign missions in Washington, DC, and U.S. diplomatic

missions abroad. Each location has its own distinct judicial system, law enforcement entities, and cultural and family traditions. The Department of State tailors its strategy to deploy the most effective bilateral approach.

CI leverages the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) to further diplomatic engagement with foreign leaders and improve understanding and implementation of the Convention. IVLP participants are emerging leaders who travel through the United States to engage with U.S. counterparts in public and private sector organizations at the national, state, and local levels. Country officers from CI regularly meet with IVLP participants to provide an overview of the U.S. Central Authority's role in preventing and resolving international parental child abductions. IVLP delegations often include judges and attorneys, government officials, and civil society leaders. In 2024, CI hosted and engaged with IVLP participants from Pakistan, Lebanon, and Türkiye.

Throughout 2024, senior U.S. government officials, including the Department of State's Special Advisor for Children's Issues, continued to engage with foreign officials around the world to promote the prevention and resolution of IPCA, to encourage countries to become a party to the Convention, and to address pending abduction and access cases, including the resolution of pre-Convention abduction cases. They also used these opportunities to raise concerns regarding individual cases with foreign officials.

In January 2024, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues met with the Surinamese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister of Justice and Police, and the Permanent Secretary for Administrative and Consular Affairs to urge Suriname to become a party to the Hague Abduction Convention. CI also engaged with the Republic of Korea at all levels concerning the lack of enforcement in high profile IPCA cases, including in a meeting between the Secretary of State and the ROK Minister of Foreign Affairs during the Summit for Democracy in March 2024. Senior Department officials discussed IPCA with Indian Embassy officials in Washington, DC and at the annual Consular

Dialogue in February 2024, and with the Japanese MFA and Central Authority in May 2024.

In May 2024, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues traveled to Argentina for a series of high-level meetings with Argentine officials, including senior officials within the Argentine Foreign Ministry and the Second Vice President of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina, on international parental child abduction. The Special Advisor called for Argentina to employ concrete measures, such as legislation, to expedite the resolution of Convention cases in Argentina. In August 2024, the Special Advisor for Children's Issues emphasized the need for Honduras to address IPCA case delays and suggested areas of future collaboration during meetings with the Honduran Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Honduran Central Authority. In October 2024, the Special Advisor also traveled to Brazil for various high-level meetings with Brazilian officials, to discuss prioritizing the resolution of Convention cases pending in the Brazilian judiciary and encourage Convention compliance.

Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction

What is the Convention?

The *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* (Convention) is an international treaty that establishes a civil mechanism to promptly return children who have been removed from or retained outside of their place of habitual residence in violation of custodial rights. Parents can also seek access to their children across international borders under the Convention. The Convention is one of the most effective tools available for parents or legal guardians to seek the return of their abducted children. The Convention entered into force for the United States on July 1, 1988.

Each party to the Convention must designate a Central Authority, which serves as the main point of contact for parents and other governments involved in IPCA cases. The Central Authority helps to locate abducted

children and processes requests for the return of, or access to, these children.

What is the Hague Permanent Bureau?

The [Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law](#), commonly referred to as the Hague Permanent Bureau, supports international implementation of this Convention and other Hague Conventions on an ongoing basis. The Hague Permanent Bureau maintains the Hague Conference's website HCCH.net containing resources such as the [Guides to Good Practice](#) that may help to effectively implement the Convention.

What is the role of the Department of State in Convention cases?

CI serves as the U.S. Central Authority for the Convention and leads U.S. government efforts to combat IPCA within the Department of State and with other U.S. government agencies. CI coordinates with other relevant offices in the Department of State as well as Congress, law enforcement, social services agencies, attorneys, and other organizations as needed in specific cases or in the development and implementation of U.S. government policy.

When a child is wrongfully removed to or is being wrongfully retained in a country with which the United States has partnered under the Convention, a parent can file an application requesting that the child be returned to the United States. A parent may also request access to a child under the Convention. CI serves as the primary point of contact for both parents and foreign central authorities (FCAs) and will liaise with FCAs and U.S. embassies and consulates abroad to confirm the child's welfare and facilitate the filing of the application. CI submits completed applications for return or access to the FCA where the parent believes the child to be located.

After the application for return or access has been filed, FCAs must take all appropriate measures to locate wrongfully removed or retained children

and facilitate the institution of judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child unless specific exceptions apply. Courts should decide these cases promptly, and CI monitors Convention cases throughout the foreign administrative and legal processes.

Does the Convention apply to all international parental abductions?

No. The Convention does not apply to every international abduction or retention. The Convention must have been in force between the two countries when the wrongful removal or retention occurred between Contracting States. The Convention is in force between the United States and [81 Contracting States](#).

When seeking a return under the Convention, a parent or legal guardian must also show that:

- The child is under the age of 16.
- The child was habitually resident in one Convention country immediately before any breach of custodial rights and was wrongfully removed to or retained in another Convention country.
- The removal or retention of the child was wrongful; a removal or retention is considered wrongful if it was in violation of the other party's custodial rights, and the party seeking return was exercising those rights at the time of the removal or retention or would have been but for the removal or retention.

Will a child return if a parent files a Convention case?

Under the Convention, the judicial or administrative authorities of Contracting States may refuse to return an abducted child to a place of habitual residence under specific exceptions. Contracting States vary in how they interpret the exceptions.

Will a parent gain access to a child by filing a Convention case?

Countries vary greatly in how they handle requests for access under the Convention.

If a parent already has a U.S. custody order, why pursue a Convention case?

U.S. court orders may not be recognized in other countries. The Convention provides a civil legal mechanism to request the return of or access to a child. Parents may wish to consult an attorney to determine the best strategy for their particular circumstances. While CI and U.S. embassies and consulates cannot provide legal advice, the Department of State provides information about [retaining a foreign attorney](#) and [U.S. embassies](#) generally publish lists of attorneys who have identified themselves as willing to assist U.S. citizen clients. Foreign law directories, bar associations, or other organizations may be able to provide additional information on legal counsel.

The Role of the Department of State in Non-Convention Cases

CI also leads the U.S. government response to IPCA to countries that are not Convention partners with the United States. A country may not be a Convention partner with the United States either because the country has not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention or, for certain countries that have already acceded, the United States has not yet accepted the country's accession. For parents whose children have been wrongfully removed to or retained in countries that are not Convention partners with the United States, CI can provide information and resources about location-specific options for pursuing the return of or access to an abducted child. The Department may also coordinate with appropriate foreign and U.S. government authorities to monitor the welfare of abducted U.S. citizen children and encourage voluntary resolutions, as appropriate. CI or a U.S. embassy can also provide a [list of attorneys](#).

Other Issues Regarding International Parental Child Abduction

Voluntary Agreements

Voluntary agreements are an important mechanism through which international parental child abduction cases may be resolved. This is true in both the Convention and non-Convention context. Parents can simultaneously pursue both a return through the Convention and a voluntary agreement.

Parents considering mediation or other forms of alternative dispute resolution should always consult with legal counsel for guidance, as mediation may or may not be the right option for a particular case.

Domestic Violence Resources Available in IPCA cases

Recognizing that some parents and children affected by international parental child abduction are also survivors of domestic violence, CI encourages families to seek appropriate resources and legal advice. There are more than 10,000 organizations and agencies in the United States that provide support and services to victims of crime, including domestic violence, regardless of their immigration status. Services may include counseling, language interpretation, safety planning, emergency housing in confidential shelters, and emergency financial assistance. There are toll-free telephone helpline services with trained operators who help survivors at all hours, seven days a week, may be able to provide translation, and can connect a victim with free local services.

In 1996, the U.S. government launched the National Domestic Violence Hotline, a 24-hour, toll-free service that provides crisis assistance and local shelter referral for callers across the country. The telephone number is (800) 799-SAFE(7233). The TTY number for the hearing impaired is (800) 787-3224.

Survivors may seek court intervention. Civil and criminal court judges can order several remedies to promote the safety and welfare of the victim and

children, including parenting classes, substance abuse classes, and drug rehabilitation. Prosecutors may also pursue criminal charges and penalties.

Under the Hague Abduction Convention, a judge may decline to return a child to the place of habitual residence if there is a grave risk that returning the child would expose the child to physical or psychological harm or otherwise place the child in an intolerable situation.

While the Department of State can refer survivors of domestic violence to various federal or state-specific organizations, shelters, attorneys, and other resources, it does not assess the veracity of domestic violence allegations, or any other factual matters, in abduction cases.

Assistance to U.S. Military Personnel and Their Families

Providing assistance to our U.S. military service members and their families is a priority for the Department. We work closely with the Department of Defense to facilitate Convention applications, explain options available to parents, and inform military liaisons about options in abduction and access proceedings. We recognize that abductions involving military parents present unique challenges. For that reason, we provide training to our military colleagues who may be in a position to help military families mitigate the risk of loss of contact with children and to understand the legal means available to prevent and resolve abduction cases.

The Department of State is engaged with the Department of Defense's Office of Legal Policy and the Service Chiefs of Legal Assistance for all branches of the military on IPCA issues that may affect military service members and their families. CI and Department attorneys regularly provide training to educate military lawyers and others on measures for preventing and resolving IPCA. In 2024, a team from CI provided in-person and virtual trainings for judge advocates and staff of legal assistance offices at four of the largest overseas U.S. military bases in East Asia and the Pacific and Europe.

Generally, while serving overseas, active-duty U.S. military service members and their accompanying dependents are subject to the foreign country's laws. Civil issues, including family law matters, generally fall under the jurisdiction of the host country's courts. The country where a U.S. military family is living may be considered the family's habitual residence. For more information, please see our [website travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov). The Department of Defense may have additional resources to assist in preventing and resolving IPCA.

In CY 2024, CI worked on 11 cases affecting military parents and families where the parent was seeking return. Of these, four cases were resolved as a result of a return, one was unresolved, and the other cases remained open at the end of the year. Four cases were unresolved for 12 months or longer.

Children Returned to the United States and Other Resolutions

In CY 2024, 218 abducted children returned to the United States, including one child between 16 and 18 years old.

The majority, 157 children, returned from Convention countries, while 61 children returned from countries adhering to no protocols with respect to child abduction, as defined in the Act.

Last year, the Department worked on 115 cases, involving 161 children, that were resolved without the abducted children returning to the United States. These include cases that were closed for the following reasons: (1) the judicial or administrative authority complied with the Convention and determined not to return the child under the provisions of the Convention; (2) the parents reached a voluntary arrangement for the child to remain; (3) the left-behind parent withdrew the application or request; (4) the left-behind parent could not be located by CI for more than one year; and (5) the left-behind parent or abducted child passed away.

Of the 115 cases noted above, 81 cases and 111 children involved Convention countries, and 34 cases and 50 children involved non-Convention countries.

Criminal Law

IPCA is a crime in the United States.

Under the International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act, anyone who “removes a child from the United States, or attempts to do so, or retains a child (who has been in the United States) outside the United States with intent to obstruct the lawful exercise of parental rights” may be imprisoned for up to three years. In addition, every state and the District of Columbia have criminal laws regarding parental kidnapping. It is important that parents seek legal advice before moving or retaining a child across international borders.

A decision by a left-behind parent about whether to seek assistance from law enforcement to [pursue criminal charges](#) against the taking parent is a complex one that should be made through consultation with legal counsel and in consideration of its potential effect on other aspects of their efforts to secure the child’s return. Depending on the circumstances, criminal charges filed against the taking parent can either help or hinder the successful return of the child.

Resources for U.S. Judges in the Application of the Convention

As the U.S. Central Authority, CI helps to educate judges in the United States on the Convention. Judges hearing Convention cases can access important resources including legal analysis and abduction prevention tools and information on our [website](#) travel.state.gov.

We send letters to U.S. judges hearing Convention cases in the United States that highlight important aspects of the Convention. The letters reference articles such as the requirement for cases to be handled expeditiously and

for the court to decide habitual residence rather than custody. The letters also further explain our role as the U.S. Central Authority and provide additional resources such as the United States' implementing legislation, the International Child Abduction Remedies Act. We notify judges that the U.S. members of the International Hague Network of Judges, who are experts on the Convention, are available for consultation on IPCA cases. The role of a Network Judge includes helping to facilitate direct judicial communications by serving as a link to his or her colleagues at the domestic level and other members of the Network at an international level.

Use of Airlines in Abductions

Many IPCA cases take place via international airline flights, although the Department has no specific data on this issue. In June 2011, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) thoroughly reviewed commercial airline practices aimed at preventing international parental child abduction. The GAO report addressed the appropriate role of commercial airlines in preventing IPCA. The Department recommends the following best practices for airlines to aid in preventing abductions:

1. Efforts to Support and Cooperate with Law Enforcement: Federal and state law enforcement entities have a prominent role in preventing abductions and airlines should work to support law enforcement agencies in this role. As private sector entities, airlines in the United States do not have the authority to enforce custody orders. Commercial airlines' main role related to the prevention of abductions is cooperating, upon request, with law enforcement officials.

2. Know How to Report: Commercial airline employees should be made aware of CI's contact information and potential child abduction indicators, so that abduction cases reported to the airlines, either by parents, attorneys, courts, law enforcement officials, or other stakeholders may be appropriately referred for immediate assistance. The Department of State provides brochures that contain the Department's contact information and information on potential child abduction indicators to port authorities,

airline employees, and the general public. The Department will continue its outreach activities to these stakeholders.

How to Use This Report

This report provides Congress with information regarding IPCA. To that end, readers will find a data page for every location with five or more pending abduction cases where a left-behind parent was seeking either return or access during CY 2024 that were reported to CI for a child whose reported habitual residence is the United States. These pages are organized into two sections.

The first section consists of a list of countries determined to have demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance during CY 2024, as defined by the Act. The details for each page, including a determination of a pattern of noncompliance and the criteria and basis for such determination, use the legal and terminological definitions set forth in the Act. Because the Act requires reporting on various details, regardless of whether the Convention has entered into force with the United States, a finding of a pattern of noncompliance as used in this report does not necessarily mean that the country is in violation of any Convention obligations.

The second section consists of the remainder of countries and areas that had five or more pending abduction cases in CY 2024 for a child whose reported habitual residence is the United States. While a country may not have been found to have demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance in the reporting year based on the standards defined in the Act, there may still be areas of concern with abduction cases in the particular country; therefore, readers should review and consider the information carefully. Countries and areas that had at least one, but fewer than five cases are listed in the Appendix that shows total cases for all countries and areas. Countries that did not have a pending abduction case in CY 2024 are not listed in this report.

Each data page includes a summary and a table containing data on cases

open with the Office of Children’s Issues in CY 2024 where left-behind parents were seeking either return or access to their children. Additionally, readers will find status reports on the Department’s relationship with the foreign central authority, requests for governments to locate children, information about foreign judicial authorities, actions taken to enforce judicial orders, and Department recommendations. For those countries or areas where the Department submitted cases to a foreign central authority, an additional table appears under the central authority section with data required by the Act.

This report presents a snapshot of abduction cases during CY 2024. The volume of cases over this period may not be sufficient to indicate major trends in a particular country or area. CI recommends considering the information presented in this report along with the information presented in [previous annual reports on IPCA](#) and the other topical annual reports and [country information](#) the Department of State publishes.

The following blank data page with accompanying definitions explains how data is organized in this report.

Abduction cases are dynamic and require coordinating information among several parties. Each year, the report is based on the information available at the time of publication; for some countries, there may be minor discrepancies in the data between the end of one year and start of another as a result of various factors, such as information obtained after the reporting period. Therefore, some information from the prior year’s report may be amended in this year’s report.

Understanding the Data Pages

Summary: This section indicates whether the country is a party to the *Hague Convention of 25 October 1980 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction* (Convention), and whether the Convention is in force with the United States. For countries and areas not party to the Convention, if CI has established bilateral procedures with the country or area, that will also

be indicated in the summary. This section will also state if a country or area is being cited for a “pattern of noncompliance” as defined in the Act. All commentary on this page refers to the country or area’s performance during CY 2024. If appropriate, previous citations will also be included here.

Initial Inquiries: The number of inquiries for which U.S. Central Authority staff provided information and resources, but there was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

Table 1: Abduction Cases* reported to the U.S. Central Authority

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Abduction Cases Open at the Start of the Year include any abduction case reported to the U.S. Central Authority prior to January 1 and still pending (not resolved or closed) by that date.						
New Abduction Cases reflect reported abduction cases received by the U.S. Central Authority from January 1 through December 31, which meet the definition of “abduction case” as defined in 22 U.S.C. §9101.						
Total abduction cases reflect the combined number of Abduction Cases Open at the Start of the Year and New Abduction Cases .						
Abduction Cases Resolved During the Year reflect the number of reported abduction cases that were no longer pending on December 31 for one of the following reasons: 1) the child was returned; 2) the judicial or administrative authority complied with the Hague Abduction Convention; 3) the parents reached a voluntary arrangement; 4) the left-behind parent withdrew the application or request; 5) the left-behind parent could not be located for one year despite documented efforts by the U.S. Central Authority to locate the parent; or 6) the death of the child or left-behind parent.						
Abduction Cases Closed During the Year include abduction cases no longer pending on December 31 for reasons other than those listed in the definition of a resolved abduction case. Also includes children who turn age 16 whose case remains open because there is at least one other active sibling.						
Abduction Cases Still Open at the End of the Year are abduction cases still pending (not resolved or closed) on December 31.						

**An abduction case, as defined by the Act, includes any case reported to the U.S. Central Authority that meets the criteria of an international child abduction under the Hague Abduction Convention and includes any case reported involving an application filed with the U.S. Central Authority or directly with the foreign central authority by a parent seeking rights of access or return. 22 U.S.C. § 9101. However, Convention applications for access may or may not involve an abducted child.*

Significant Developments: Changes to laws or other events that may affect the handling of abduction matters are reported here.

Central Authority: Parties to the Convention designate an office to carry out Convention responsibilities. For non-Convention countries, the central authority is the “foreign ministry or other appropriate authority of such country,” 22 U.S.C. §9101(10). This section of the Report assesses these central authorities, where appropriate.

Table 2: Abduction cases* transmitted by the U.S. Central Authority	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Abduction Cases Filed with the FCA at the Start of the Year reflect any abduction case pending with the foreign central authority on January 1.						
New Cases Filed with the FCA reflect abduction cases the U.S. Central Authority transmitted to the foreign central authority from January 1 through December 31.						
Total Cases on File with the FCA During the Year reflect the total number of abduction cases pending with the foreign central authority at any time during the year.						
Cases That Have Been Unresolved for Over 12 Months. In a Convention country, an abduction case pending for a period that exceeds 12 months after the date on which the completed application for return of the child is submitted for determination to the judicial or administrative authority, as applicable, in the country in which the child is located. In a non-Convention country, an abduction case pending for a period that exceeds 12 months after the date on which the request for return of the child was submitted to the foreign ministry or other appropriate authority where the child is located. Unresolved abduction cases only include applications for return. 22 U.S.C. §9101(23)(A).						
FCA Caseload Unresolved at the End of the Year is the percent of the pending abduction cases transmitted to the relevant foreign government authority that were unresolved on December 31. Unresolved abduction cases only include applications for return. 22 U.S.C. §9101(23)(A).						

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention directs central authorities to “take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” This section indicates the number of abduction cases that were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: In a Convention case, location is the step after the U.S. Central Authority has transmitted the abduction case to the foreign central authority and the responsible authorities attempt to locate the child. In a non-Convention case, location refers to requests made by the Department of State to the competent authorities to locate a child reported abducted to its territory. This section describes the performance in locating children that were reported abducted to the country or area.

Judicial Authorities: This section describes the performance of the judicial or administrative body with adjudicative authority to hear and decide upon abduction or access cases.

Enforcement: This section describes the performance implementing judicial or administrative orders in abduction or access cases.

Access: This section describes any access cases and the number of children involved in these cases during CY 2024. In an access case, a parent or legal guardian seeks through the Convention access to the child or children living in a foreign country. Convention applications for access may or may not involve an abducted child.

Pre-Convention Cases: If the Convention is in force between the United States and the country, this section will indicate whether there are ongoing cases that predate the Convention partnership.

Children ages 16-18 years: One of the criteria under the Convention is the child remains under the age of 16; however, an abduction case may not be resolved before the child turns 16 years old. This section provides the number of abducted children reported to the Department who were part of a case that was not resolved and who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during CY 2024. These children may receive consular services from the Department.

Department Recommendations: This section describes the Department's recommendations for future engagement concerning international parental child abduction.

**COUNTRIES OR AREAS DEMONSTRATING A PATTERN OF
NONCOMPLIANCE**

Argentina

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Argentina since 1991. In 2024, Argentina continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the Argentine judicial authorities failed to regularly implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention. As a result of this failure, 14 percent of abduction cases under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. Argentina was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2024 Annual Reports.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	2	2	4	4
New cases	3	6	0	0	3	6
Total cases	5	8	2	2	7	10
Cases resolved during the year	1 (20%)	1	1 (50%)	1	2 (29%)	2
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	4 (80%)	7	1 (50%)	1	5 (71%)	8

Significant Developments: Although the executive branch did not forward to the Argentine legislature a draft procedural law that reportedly was designed to address delays in Convention cases, the Department welcomed the introduction of similar procedural legislation by several members of the Argentine congress. Both the draft legislation prepared by the executive branch and the draft legislation proposed by the Argentine Congress remain stalled. The procedural bill introduced by the Argentine congress is pending review and discussion in the Chamber of Deputies. Over the last ten years, there have been many efforts within the Argentine system to pass procedural legislation for judges handling IPCA cases. Despite these efforts, the Department remains concerned that unless Argentina employs additional measures, such as legislation that would expedite the court process, abduction cases could continue to face delays within Argentina's judiciary.

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Argentine Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship despite the challenges.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	2	2	4	4
New cases filed with FCA	3	6	0	0	3	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	5	8	2	2	7	10
Unresolved cases	1	1	1	1	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	20%		50%		14%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took the appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 29 days.

Judicial Authorities: An unresolved case was impacted by judicial delays. As a result, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year.

Enforcement: In the abduction case unresolved for 14 years, the Argentine Supreme Court's return order remains suspended by a lower court. Additionally, Argentina's legal system allows multiple appeals both on the merits of the decision and on how the decisions are enforced, which may create excessive delays which contribute to a pattern of noncompliance.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of two open access cases involving two children under the Convention in Argentina. Of these two cases, one case involving one child was opened in and filed in 2018 and the other in 2023. By December 31, 2024, one case involving one child had been resolved. By December 31, 2024, one case involving one child remained open. One case involving one child has been pending with the Argentine authorities for more than 12 months.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with Argentine authorities to address issues of concern.

The Bahamas

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and The Bahamas since 1994. In 2024, The Bahamas demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the Bahamian Central Authority regularly failed to fulfill its responsibilities pursuant to the Convention. The Bahamas was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2011–2018 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to The Bahamas for which no completed application was submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (100%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (100%)	2

Significant Developments: In 2024, the Hague Conference on Private International Law’s Secretary General and Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean visited The Bahamas to discuss international parental child abduction matters.

Central Authority: There have been serious delays in the processing of cases by the Bahamian Central Authority (BCA) and a lack of effective communication with the U.S. Central Authority regarding IPCA cases, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. Other areas that contributed to a pattern of noncompliance include the BCA failing to take all appropriate steps to initiate or facilitate the institution of judicial or administrative proceedings in abduction cases, and the BCA requiring apostilled documents

in an abduction case. The Department is concerned that unless The Bahamas employs a standardized timeline for processing IPCA cases from reception to resolution, there will continue to be chronic delays in abduction cases.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases filed with FCA	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	2	0	0	2	2
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Location: The competent authorities of The Bahamas failed to take appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. The average time to locate a child was seven months and 12 days. As of December 31, 2024, there was one case in which the Bahamian authorities were unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Bahamian judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Bahamian authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Bahamian authorities to address issues of concern.

Belize

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Belize since 1989. In 2024, Belize continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the Belizean judicial authorities failed to regularly implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention. As a result of this failure, 33 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. One case remains unresolved for more than 5 years. Belize was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2022-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Belize for which no completed application was submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	3	0	0	1	3
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases	3	5	0	0	3	5
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (100%)	5	0 (0%)	0	3 (100%)	5

Significant Developments: In September 2024, U.S. Embassy Belmopan hosted a workshop with the Office of Children’s Issues, the Belizean judicial authorities, and the Belizean Central Authority to strengthen bilateral cooperation and exchange best practices for treaty implementation. While Belizean judicial authorities have discussed implementing judicial guidelines within the family courts to help expedite cases, little concrete progress has been made on developing or implementing guidelines.

Central Authority: While the U.S. and Belizean Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication about actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of continuing concern.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	3	0	0	1	3
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	3	5	0	0	3	5
Unresolved cases	1	3	0	0	1	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	33%		0%		33%	

Location: The competent authorities took appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 14 days. As of December 31, 2024, there were two cases where the Belizean Authorities remained unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: There were serious delays by the Belizean judicial authorities in deciding a Convention case. As a result of these delays, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year, contributing to a pattern of noncompliance.

Enforcement: While courts in Belize ordered returns under the Convention, in some cases the Belizean authorities faced challenges with enforcement.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Belizean authorities to address issues of concern.

Brazil

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Brazil since 2003. In 2024, Brazil continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance, for the 20th consecutive year. Specifically, the Brazilian judicial authorities failed to regularly implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention. As a result of this failure, 37 percent of abduction cases under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for three years and nine months. Brazil was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2006-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received nine initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Brazil, and two initial inquiries from parents requesting access to their children in Brazil, for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department by the end of the year.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	17	25	0	0	17	25
New cases	17	21	1	1	18	22
Total cases	34	46	1	1	35	47
Cases resolved during the year	14 (41%)	20	1 (100%)	1	15 (43%)	21
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	20 (59%)	26	0 (0%)	0	20 (57%)	26

Significant Developments: In 2024, there was an increase in both the number of judicial decisions ordering return, as well as the number of actual returns, with nine children returned to the United States from Brazil. Though a positive signal, it remains to be seen if Brazil can make lasting, systemic improvements. In 2024, the Department met with Brazilian interlocutors in Brazil in both March and October in multiple meetings with International Hague Network Judges, the Brazilian Central Authority,

members of the Brazilian judicial courts, Brazil attorneys, and law enforcement authorities to address areas of concern.

Central Authority: While the U.S. and the Brazilian Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, some actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of concern. Again during this reporting period, the Brazilian Central Authority delayed processing some cases when it took an extended period of time to review whether it would accept them. We are also concerned that the Central Authority routinely asks questions that appear more properly suited to the role of the judiciary, which can result in delays in case processing.

Additionally, the Brazilian Central Authority rejected a case in a manner inconsistent with the Convention. These delays in case processing, before cases even reach the Brazilian judiciary, reinforce the Department's uncertainty about the Government of Brazil's stated commitments to improve Convention implementation in Brazil.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	17	25	0	0	17	25
New cases filed with FCA	12	14	1	1	13	15
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	29	39	1	1	30	40
Unresolved cases	11	15	0	0	11	15
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	38%		0%		37%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, six abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The average time to locate a child was 141 days. However, for only cases that were in location phase at some point during the 2024 year, the average time to locate a child was 83 days. As of December 31, 2024,

there were three cases in which the Brazilian authorities were unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: Serious delays in deciding Convention cases persisted within the Brazilian judiciary, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. As a result, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year. Consequently, the Department remains concerned with the Brazilian judiciary's repeated failure to consistently implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention. The Department has encouraged direct judicial communication between U.S. and Brazil judges to address concerns in cases pending in the Brazilian judiciary.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Brazil were generally enforced in a timely manner during this reporting period.

Access: In 2024 there was one access case opened and filed with the Brazilian Central Authority, which was later resolved.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with Brazilian authorities to address issues of concern.

Bulgaria

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Bulgaria since 2005. In 2024, Bulgaria continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, Bulgarian law enforcement regularly failed to enforce a return order rendered by the judicial authority in an abduction case. As a result of this failure, 25 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. The case has been unresolved for 3 years and 4 months. Bulgaria was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2008, 2010, 2011, 2023, and 2024 Annual Reports.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases	4	4	0	0	4	4
Total cases	5	5	0	0	5	5
Cases resolved during the year	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (20%)	1
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	4 (80%)	4	0 (0%)	0	4 (80%)	4

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Bulgarian Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases filed with FCA	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	4	0	0	4	4
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	25%		0%		25%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 12 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Bulgaria regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: A judicial decision in a Convention case in Bulgaria was not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. There was one case (accounting for 25 percent of the unresolved cases) that has been pending for more than 12 months in which law enforcement has failed to enforce a return order.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Bulgarian authorities to address issues of concern.

Ecuador

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Ecuador since 1992. In 2024, Ecuador continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, Ecuadorian authorities failed to take all appropriate measures to locate children in a timely manner. Ecuador was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Ecuador for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	1	1	3	3
New cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases	2	2	1	1	3	3
Cases resolved during the year	1 (50%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (33%)	1
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	1 (50%)	1	1 (100%)	1	2 (67%)	2

Significant Developments: In 2024, the Judiciary Council (JC) approved a resolution to designate three Hague network judges to improve the handling of International Parental Child Abduction (IPCA) cases. At the end of 2024, the JC held a virtual workshop with approximately 100 family court judges to discuss implementing this resolution. The workshop featured IPCA stakeholders who emphasized reducing delays, understanding the legal framework, and encouraging compliance with the Hague Convention while addressing various challenges, including frequent turnover of Ecuadorian government officials, lack of judicial training and coordination between judges and the Ecuadorian Central Authority.

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Ecuadorian Central Authorities have a

productive relationship despite the challenges.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	1	1	3	3
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	2	1	1	3	3
Unresolved cases	0	0	1	1	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		100%		0%	

Location: The competent authorities of Ecuador failed to take appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. The average time to locate a child was one year. As of December 31, 2024, there was one case in which the Ecuadorian authorities were unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Ecuadorian judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Ecuadorian authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving one child under the Convention in Ecuador. This case was opened in 2022. No new cases were filed in 2024. By December 31, 2024, this case remained open. This case involving one child has been pending with the Ecuadorian authorities for more than 12 months.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Ecuadorian authorities to address issues of concern.

Egypt

Summary: Egypt does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2003, the United States and Egypt signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage voluntary resolution of abduction cases and facilitate consular access to abducted children. However, in 2024, Egypt continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance in its ability to resolve cases. The competent authorities in Egypt persistently failed to work with the Department of State to resolve abduction cases, resulting in 73 percent of requests for the return of abducted children remaining unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, cases were unresolved for four years and three months. Egypt was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015, 2016, and the 2019-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received five initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Egypt. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	10	14	0	0	10	14
New cases	6	9	0	0	6	9
Total cases	16	23	0	0	16	23
Cases resolved during the year	3 (19%)	4	0 (0%)	0	3 (19%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	1	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	13 (81%)	18	0 (0%)	0	13 (81%)	18

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in Egypt worked closely with the United States to discuss ways to improve the resolution of pending abduction cases. However, the competent authorities have regularly failed to resolve cases due to a lack of viable legal options, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	8	11	0	0	8	11
New cases filed with FCA	3	6	0	0	3	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	11	17	0	0	11	17
Unresolved cases	8	10	0	0	8	10
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	73%		0%		73%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Egyptian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in Egypt, legal options, if any, under Egyptian law may make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases, and the United States is not aware of any abduction cases resolved by Egyptian judicial authorities in 2024.

Enforcement: Judicial decisions in Egypt were generally not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage Egypt to ratify the Convention and create the legal infrastructure needed for effective implementation of the Convention.

Honduras

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Honduras since 1994. In 2024, Honduras continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the Honduran Central Authority regularly failed to fulfill its responsibilities pursuant to the Convention and the Honduran judicial authorities failed to regularly implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention. As a result of this failure, 50 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. Honduras was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2022-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received seven initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Honduras for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	5	0	0	2	5
New cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases	2	5	0	0	2	5
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	0	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (100%)	5	0	0	2 (100%)	5

Significant Developments: Systemic issues, including frequent staffing changes, persisted in the Honduran Central Authority (HCA) in 2024. A reported requirement for the HCA to conduct home studies and psychological evaluations before submitting a case to the judiciary has further contributed to delays. Despite the HCA's efforts to update its case processing procedures, there has been minimal time to evaluate any progress made by the central authority to address delays, and judicial delays at the appellate level have persisted.

Central Authority: There have been serious delays in the processing of cases by the Honduran Central Authority regarding IPCA cases, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	5	0	0	2	5
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	5	0	0	2	5
Unresolved cases	1	3	0	0	1	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	50%		0%		50%	

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Honduran authorities.

Judicial Authorities: There were serious delays by the Honduras judicial authorities at the appellate level in deciding a Convention case. As a result of these delays, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year, contributing to a pattern of noncompliance.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Honduran authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Honduran authorities to address issues of concern.

India

Summary: India does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2024, India continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the competent authorities in India persistently failed to work with the Department of State to resolve abduction cases. As a result of this failure, 73 percent of requests for the return of abducted children remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for four years and 2 months. The Indian government established a Mediation Cell in 2018 with the objective of mediating custody disputes. The Department is unaware of the Mediation Cell resolving any abduction cases between the United States and India. India was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received three initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to India. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	94	106	0	0	9	106
New cases	19	23	0	0	19	23
Total cases	113	129	0	0	113	129
Cases resolved during the year	11 (10%)	13	0	0	11 (10%)	13
Cases closed during the year	6 (5%)	6	0	0	6 (5%)	6
Cases open at the end of the year	96 (85%)	110	0	0	96 (85%)	110

Significant Developments: The Department raised the importance of bilateral cooperation on IPCA during the annual Consular Dialogue in February 2024 in New Delhi. In 2024, the Department also met with the Embassy of India in Washington, DC to discuss resources in the United States for families and outreach to prevent IPCA cases.

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in India regularly failed to work with the Department of State toward the resolution of pending abduction cases. Moreover, the competent authorities have regularly failed to resolve cases due to a lack of viable legal options, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	94	106	0	0	94	106
New cases filed with FCA	16	18	0	0	16	18
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	110	124	0	0	110	124
Unresolved cases	80	91	0	0	80	91
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	73%		0%		73%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, twelve abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Indian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in India, and some abduction cases were resolved by the Indian courts in 2024, legal options, if any, under Indian law may make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Indian authorities.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of 12 abducted children who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage India to accede to the Convention at the highest appropriate levels in our bilateral engagements and urge the Indian authorities to take steps to expedite the resolution of existing parental abduction cases.

Jordan

Summary: Jordan does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2006, the United States and Jordan signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage voluntary resolution of abduction cases and facilitate consular access to abducted children. In 2024, Jordan demonstrated a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the competent authorities in Jordan persistently failed to work with the Department of State to resolve abduction cases. As a result of this failure, 43 percent of requests for the return of abducted children remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for one year and six months. The Government of Jordan continues to encourage using the Family Mediation Directorate as a mechanism to resolve active cases; however, the United States is not aware of any parental abduction cases that were resolved through this service since its inception in 2018. Jordan was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Jordan. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	9	15	0	0	9	15
New cases	7	14	0	0	7	14
Total cases	16	29	0	0	16	29
Cases resolved during the year	4 (25%)	10	0	0	4 (25%)	10
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	12 (75%)	19	0	0	12 (75%)	19

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in Jordan regularly failed to work with the Department of State toward the resolution of

pending abduction cases. Moreover, the competent authorities have regularly failed to resolve cases due to a lack of viable legal options, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	9	15	0	0	9	15
New cases filed with FCA	5	11	0	0	5	11
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	14	26	0	0	14	26
Unresolved cases	6	7	0	0	6	7
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	43%		0%		43%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Jordanian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in Jordan, legal options, if any, under Jordanian law may make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases, and the United States is not aware of any abduction cases resolved by Jordanian judicial authorities in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Jordanian authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage Jordan to accede to the Convention.

Korea, Republic of

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and the Republic of Korea since 2013. In 2024, the Republic of Korea continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, law enforcement regularly failed to enforce return orders of the judicial authority in abduction cases. As a result of this failure, 44 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for two years and six months. The Republic of Korea was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2022, 2023, and 2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to the Republic of Korea, for which no completed application was submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	8	12	0	0	8	12
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases	10	14	0	0	10	14
Cases resolved during the year	5 (50%)	8	0 (0%)	0	5 (50%)	8
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	5 (50%)	6	0 (0%)	0	5 (50%)	6

Significant Developments: The Republic of Korea judiciary adopted a new court rule, effective April 1, 2024, meant to facilitate successful enforcement of its Hague return orders.

Central Authority: The U.S. and Republic of Korea Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	7	10	0	0	7	10
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	9	12	0	0	9	12
Unresolved cases	4	5	0	0	4	5
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	44%		0%		44%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was fourteen days. The competent authorities often relied on the taking parents to voluntarily provide the children’s location following a judicial decision, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

Judicial Authorities: Delays by the Republic of Korea judicial authorities affected cases during 2024.

Enforcement: Unless the taking parent voluntarily complied with a return order under the Convention, judicial decisions in Convention cases in the Republic of Korea were generally not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with Republic of Korea authorities to address issues of concern.

Peru

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Peru since 2007. In 2024, Peru continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the Peruvian Central Authority regularly failed to fulfill its responsibilities pursuant to the Convention, judicial authorities failed to regularly implement and comply with the provisions of the Convention, and law enforcement regularly failed to enforce return orders rendered by the judicial authority in abduction cases. Peru was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received six initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Peru for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	1	1	2	2
New cases	2	4	1	3	3	7
Total cases	3	5	2	4	5	9
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	2 (100%)	4	2(40%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (100%)	5	0 (0%)	0	3 (60%)	5

Significant Developments: By the end of 2024, the Peruvian Central Authority (PCA) had not completed a review of its own procedures to become compliant with the Convention, as it previously committed in 2022, 2023, and 2024. Overall, frequent turnover at multiple levels inside of the Ministry of Women, Children, and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP) led to an inability for the PCA to engage in substantive efforts to be in compliance with the Convention. However, the Peruvian judiciary took a positive step to address delays. Peru held its first multi-day judicial conference in 2024 after approving a 2023 judicial resolution to designate one judge in each

judicial district to hear Convention cases. The Department remains committed to supporting Peru in its compliance efforts.

Central Authority: There was a lack of effective communication with the U.S. Central Authority regarding IPCA cases, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. As an example, while the U.S. Central Authority took a lead in coordinating meetings with the Peru Central Authority on a bi-monthly basis to promote information sharing between the countries, the Peruvian Central Authority provided little information regarding the status of cases in Peru. The Peruvian Central Authority also rejected cases in a manner inconsistent with the Convention. Finally, PCA officials stated they perceive conflicting mandates between the mission of the MIMP and the Convention, that may prevent them from fulfilling some of the requirements of the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	1	1	2	2
New cases filed with FCA	1	2	1	3	2	5
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	3	2	4	4	7
Unresolved cases	2	3	0	0	2	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	100%		0%		50%	

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Peruvian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: There were serious delays by the Peruvian judicial authorities in deciding Convention cases. As a result of these delays, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year, contributing to a pattern of noncompliance. As an example, one case that is now pending before the Peruvian Supreme Court was filed with judicial authorities in October 2022.

Enforcement: Judicial decisions in Convention cases in Peru were generally

not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. As an example, in one longstanding case the children have not returned more than a year after orders for return were issued in 2023.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of two open access cases involving four children under the Convention in Peru. Of these, one case involving three children was opened in 2024. Both cases were filed with the Peru Central Authority. By December 31, 2024, these cases involving four children (100 percent) had been resolved.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Peruvian authorities to address issues of concern.

Poland

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Poland since 1992. In 2024, Poland continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, law enforcement did not enforce a return order rendered by the judicial authority in an abduction case. As a result of this failure, 50 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for four years. Poland was previously cited for demonstrating patterns of noncompliance in the 2015 and 2024 Annual Report.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases	4	5	0	0	4	5
Cases resolved during the year	1 (25%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (25%)	1
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (75%)	4	0 (0%)	0	3 (75%)	4

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Polish Central Authorities have a strong cooperative relationship.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	5	0	0	4	5
Unresolved cases	2	3	0	0	2	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	50%		0%		50%	

Location: The competent authorities of Poland failed to take appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed, which

contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. The Department of State requested location assistance, but the Polish authorities have not yet identified a location for one case.

Judicial Authorities: There were serious delays by the Polish judicial authorities in deciding Convention cases. As a result of these delays, cases may be pending with the judiciary for more than one year, contributing to a pattern of noncompliance.

Enforcement: Unless the taking parent voluntarily complied with a return order under the Convention, judicial decisions in Convention cases in Poland were generally not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. There were two cases accounting for 50 percent of the unresolved cases that have been pending for more than 12 months in which law enforcement has failed to enforce a return order.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Polish authorities to address issues of concern.

Romania

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Romania since 1993. In 2024, Romania continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, Romania failed to enforce return orders rendered by the judicial authority in abduction cases. As a result of this failure, 50 percent of requests for the return of abducted children under the Convention remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for 4 years and 4 months. Romania was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015-2017, and 2020-2024 Annual Reports.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
New cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases	3	4	0	0	3	4
Cases resolved during the year	1 (33%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (33%)	1
Cases closed during the year	1 (33%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (33%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	1 (33%)	2	0 (0%)	0	1 (33%)	2

Significant Developments: The U.S. Central Authority has continued to engage with the Romanian Central Authority to address IPCA issues, including by providing training to the RCA director.

Central Authority: While the U.S. and the Romanian Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication about actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of continuing concern.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
Unresolved cases	1	2	0	0	1	2
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	50%		0%		50%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Romanian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Romanian judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: Judicial decisions in Convention cases in Romania were generally not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance. One case (accounting for 100 percent of the unresolved cases) has been pending for more than four years in which law enforcement has failed to enforce a return order.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue intense engagement with the Romanian authorities to address issues of concern.

United Arab Emirates

Summary: The United Arab Emirates does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2024, the UAE continued to demonstrate a pattern of noncompliance. Specifically, the competent authorities in the UAE persistently failed to work with the Department of State to resolve abduction cases. As a result of this failure, 75 percent of requests for the return of abducted children remained unresolved for more than 12 months. On average, these cases were unresolved for three years. The UAE was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2018-2024 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received three initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to the UAE. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	6	10	0	0	6	10
New cases	6	9	0	0	6	9
Total cases	12	19	0	0	12	19
Cases resolved during the year	2 (17%)	3	0 (%)	0	2 (17%)	3
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	10 (83%)	16	0 (%)	0	10 (83%)	16

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in the UAE regularly failed to work with the Department of State toward the resolution of pending abduction cases, although they indicated some willingness to open discussion of the issue. Moreover, the competent authorities have regularly failed to resolve cases due to a lack of viable legal options, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	6	10	0	0	6	10
New cases filed with FCA	2	3	0	0	2	3
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	13	0	0	8	13
Unresolved cases	6	10	0	0	6	10
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	75%		0%		75%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Emirati authorities.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in the UAE, legal options, if any, under Emirati law may make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases, and the United States is not aware of any abduction cases resolved by UAE judicial authorities in 2024.

Enforcement: Judicial decisions in the UAE were generally not enforced, which contributed to a pattern of noncompliance.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage the UAE to accede to the Convention.

COUNTRIES OR AREAS WITH FIVE OR MORE CASES

Australia

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Australia since 1988.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases	7	11	2	2	9	13
Total cases	8	12	2	2	10	14
Cases resolved during the year	3 (38%)	4	0 (0%)	0	3 (30%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	5 (63%)	8	2 (100%)	2	7 (70%)	10

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Australian Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases filed with FCA	7	11	2	2	9	13
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	12	2	2	10	14
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, one abduction case (including cases where the LBP was seeking return or access) was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took

less than one week to locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Australia regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Australian authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of two open access cases involving two children under the Convention in Australia.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Australian Central Authority.

Canada

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Canada since 1988. Canada has not previously been cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received four initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Canada for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	10	15	1	1	11	16
New cases	14	26	2	4	16	30
Total cases	24	41	3	5	27	46
Cases resolved during the year	16 (67%)	29	0 (0%)	0	16 (59%)	29
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	8 (33%)	12	3 (100%)	5	11 (41%)	17

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Canadian Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	10	15	1	1	11	16
New cases filed with FCA	12	22	2	4	14	26
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	22	37	3	5	25	42
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall

take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, 12 abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took 14 days to locate a child. As of December 31, 2024, there were two open cases in which the Canadian authorities were unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Canada routinely reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Canadian authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of three open access cases involving five children under the Convention in Canada. Of these, two cases involving four children were opened in 2024. These cases involving four children have been filed with the Canadian Central Authority in 2024. By December 31, 2024, no cases had been resolved and the three cases involving five children remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department and the Canadian Central Authority will continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention.

China

Summary: China does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. China was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2018 Annual Report.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received five initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to China. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	12	14	0	0	12	14
New cases	9	9	0	0	9	9
Total cases	21	23	0	0	21	23
Cases resolved during the year	7 (33%)	8	0 (0%)	0	7 (33%)	8
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	14 (67%)	15	0 (0%)	0	14 (67%)	15

Central Authority: There were no regular or productive discussions with the Chinese authorities in 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	7	8	0	0	7	8
New cases filed with FCA	9	10	0	0	9	10
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	16	18	0	0	16	18
Unresolved cases	4	5	0	0	4	5
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	25%		0%		25%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Chinese authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Chinese judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Chinese authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage China to accede to the Convention.

Colombia

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Colombia since 1996. While the Department did not cite Colombia for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in 2024, the Department is concerned about the lack of timely responses from the Colombian Central Authority to the requests of the U.S. Central Authority.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	5	6	7	8
New cases	6	6	2	2	8	8
Total cases	8	8	7	8	15	16
Cases resolved during the year	0(0%)	0	3 (43%)	4	3 (20%)	4
Cases closed during the year	2 (25%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (13%)	2
Cases open at the end of the year	6 (75%)	6	4 (57%)	5	10 (67%)	11

Significant Developments: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority met with the Colombian Central Authority, public family defenders, the Colombian Hague Network Judge, and key members of Colombia’s Procedural Law Committee, to discuss the implementation of the Convention in Colombia.

Central Authority: While the U.S. and Colombian Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication about actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of continuing concern.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	5	6	7	8
New cases filed with FCA	6	6	2	2	8	8
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	8	7	8	15	16
Unresolved cases	0	0	2	2	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		29%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 29 days.

Judicial Authorities: Colombian judicial authorities caused delays that affected cases during 2024.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Colombia were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of seven open access cases involving eight children under the Convention in Colombia. Two cases (involving three children) were opened in 2021. One case (involving one child) was opened in 2022. Two cases (involving two children) were opened in 2023. Two cases (involving two children) were opened in 2024. By December 31, 2024, four cases (involving five children) remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to engage with Colombian government officials regarding delays in communication and IPCA case processing.

Dominican Republic

Summary: The Hague Abduction Convention has been in force between the United States and the Dominican Republic since 2007.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received four initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to the Dominican Republic for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	0	0	2	2
New cases	3	5	0	0	3	5
Total cases	5	7	0	0	5	7
Cases resolved during the year	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (20%)	1
Cases closed during the year	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (20%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (60%)	5	0 (0%)	0	3 (60%)	5

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Dominican Republic Central Authorities have a productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	0	0	2	2
New cases filed with FCA	3	5	0	0	3	5
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	5	7	0	0	5	7
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	20%		0%		20%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took less than one week to locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of the Dominican Republic regularly reached timely decisions. However, delays by the Dominican Republic judicial authorities at the appellate level impacted one case during 2024.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in the Dominican Republic were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Department Recommendations: The Department and the Dominican Republic Central Authority will continue the effective processing of cases under the Convention.

France

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and France since 1988.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	5	7	1	1	6	8
New cases	2	3	0	0	2	3
Total cases	7	10	1	1	8	11
Cases resolved during the year	5 (71%)	7	0 (0%)	0	5 (63%)	7
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (29%)	3	1 (100%)	1	3 (37%)	4

Central Authority: The U.S. and the French Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	5	7	1	1	6	8
New cases filed with FCA	2	3	0	0	2	3
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	7	10	1	1	8	11
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 46 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of France regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the French authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving one child under the Convention in France. This case has been filed with the French Central Authority. No new cases were filed in 2024. By December 31, 2024, this case remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the French Central Authority.

Germany

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Germany since 1990.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Germany for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	3	3	0	0	3	3
New cases	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases	6	6	0	0	6	6
Cases resolved during the year	4 (67%)	3	0 (0%)	0	4 (67%)	3
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	1	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (33%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (33%)	2

Central Authority: The U.S. and the German Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	0	0	2	2
New cases filed with FCA	4	4	0	0	4	4
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	6	6	0	0	6	6
Unresolved cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	33%		0%		33%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took less than one week to locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Germany routinely reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Germany were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the German Central Authority.

Ghana

Summary: Ghana does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Ghana. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	3	3	0	0	3	3
New cases	6	12	0	0	6	12
Total cases	9	15	0	0	9	15
Cases resolved during the year	4 (44%)	5	0 (0%)	0	4 (44%)	5
Cases closed during the year	1 (11%)	3	0 (0%)	0	1 (11%)	3
Cases open at the end of the year	4 (44%)	5	0 (0%)	0	4 (44%)	5

Central Authority: The Department of State and the competent authorities in Ghana have regular and productive discussions on the best ways to resolve pending abduction cases under Ghanaian law.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	0	0	2	2
New cases filed with FCA	6	10	0	0	6	10
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	12	0	0	8	12
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	13%		0%		13%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, three abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Ghanaian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Ghanaian judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Ghanaian authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage Ghana to accede to the Convention.

Guatemala

Summary: The Hague Abduction Convention has been in force between the United States and Guatemala since 2008. While the Department did not cite Guatemala for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in 2024, the Department is concerned about the amount of time it takes to locate missing children. Guatemala was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2012-2017 Annual Reports.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	0	0	0	0	0	0
New cases	5	8	0	0	5	8
Total cases	5	8	0	0	5	8
Cases resolved during the year	3 (60%)	6	0 (0%)	0	3 (60%)	6
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (40%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	2

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Guatemalan Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	0	0	0	0	0	0
New cases filed with FCA	4	6	0	0	4	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	6	0	0	4	6
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, three abduction cases involving six children were resolved through voluntary

means.

Location: In some cases, the competent authorities delayed taking appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 52 days.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases decided by the Guatemalan judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Guatemalan authorities.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department and the Guatemalan Central Authority will continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention. The Department will also continue to engage with Guatemalan government officials regarding the amount of time it takes to locate missing children.

Iraq

Summary: While Iraq became a party to the Convention in 2014, the Convention is not in force between Iraq and the United States. As a result, the Convention is not available for resolving cases at this time. The ability of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad to provide consular services to U.S. citizens throughout Iraq, including services related to international parental child abduction, is extremely limited given the security environment. Parents should consider the Department's travel advisory carefully when contemplating travel to Iraq.

Initial Inquiry: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Iraq for which no completed application was submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	3	6	0	0	3	6
New cases	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases	6	9	0	0	6	9
Cases resolved during the year	4 (67%)	5	0 (0%)	0	4 (67%)	5
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (33%)	4	0 (0%)	0	2 (33%)	4

Central Authority: The Department of State sends applications whenever diplomatic and security considerations permit, unless doing so would put parents or children at risk or is not consistent with the wishes of the left-behind parent. In 2024, the United States did not inform the Iraqi government of reported abduction cases.

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, three abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location

from the Iraqi authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Iraqi judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by Iraqi authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will engage with Iraqi government officials regarding potential partnership.

Israel

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Israel since 1991. Statistics below are for Israel. See separate note for the West Bank.

Initial Inquiry: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Israel. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	1	3	3	5
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases	4	4	1	3	5	7
Cases resolved during the year	4 (100%)	4	0 (0%)	0	4 (80%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	0 (0%)	0	1 (100%)	3	1 (20%)	3

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Israel Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	1	3	3	5
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	4	1	3	5	7
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took less than one week to locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Israel regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Israel were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving three children under the Convention in Israel. This case was opened in 2022. This case has been filed with the Israeli Central Authority. No new cases were filed in 2024. As of December 31, 2024, this case remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department and the Israel Central Authority will continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention.

West Bank: There are no protocols with respect to international parental child abduction that are operative in the West Bank. While the U.S. Embassy is able to provide limited consular services to U.S. citizens in the West Bank, including those related to international parental child abduction, fluctuating security conditions can make this difficult. Parents should consider the Department's Travel Advisory carefully when contemplating travel to the West Bank.

In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of seven pending abduction cases in the West Bank. Of these, one was initially opened with the U.S. Central Authority in 2024. As of December 31, 2024, two cases were resolved. In 2024, the Department was aware of two abducted children who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and the subjects of consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate. By December 31, 2024, five cases remained open. The

Department recommends an emphasis on preventing abductions.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	6	11	0	0	6	11
New cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases	7	12	0	0	7	12
Cases resolved during the year	2 (29%)	6	0 (0%)	0	2 (29%)	6
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	2	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	2
Cases open at the end of the year	5 (71%)	6	0 (0%)	0	5 (71%)	6

Italy

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Italy since 1995.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Italy for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	4	5	1	1	5	6
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total abduction cases	6	7	1	1	7	8
Cases resolved during the year	4 (67%)	5	0 (0%)	0	4 (57%)	5
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (33%)	2	1 (100%)	1	3 (43%)	3

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Italian Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	3	4	1	1	4	5
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	5	6	1	1	6	7
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	20%		0%		17%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.”

In 2024, two abduction cases (including cases where the LBP was seeking return or access) were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 37 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Italy regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Italian authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving one child under the Convention in Italy. This case was opened in 2023 and was filed in 2023 with the Italian Central Authority. By December 31, 2024, this case remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Italian Central Authority.

Jamaica

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Jamaica since 2019.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received 12 initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Jamaica for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	2	2	3	3
New cases	22	26	2	2	24	28
Total cases	23	27	4	4	27	31
Cases resolved during the year	16 (70%)	20	1 (25%)	1	17 (63%)	21
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	7 (30%)	7	3 (75%)	4	10 (37%)	10

Significant Developments: In 2024, the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Secretary General and Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean visited Jamaica to discuss international parental child abduction matters.

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Jamaican Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention. In 2024, the Jamaican Central Authority (JCA) did not refuse any cases, exhibiting an improvement in Convention implementation from 2023. However, there are continued concerns around delays in communication about actions taken to resolve Convention cases.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	1	1	2	2
New cases filed with FCA	10	10	3	3	13	13
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	11	11	4	4	15	15
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, 17 abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 21 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Jamaica regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Jamaica were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of four open access cases involving four children under the Convention in Jamaica.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to engage with Jamaican government officials regarding its concerns to improve resolution of cases.

Japan

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Japan since 2014. Japan was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in 2016 and 2018.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received eight initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Japan, for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	9	13	2	3	11	17
New cases	4	4	0	0	4	4
Total cases	13	17	2	3	15	21
Cases resolved during the year	8 (62%)	11	0 (0%)	0	8 (53%)	11
Cases closed during the year	1 (8%)	1	1 (50%)	1	2 (13%)	2
Cases open at the end of the year	4 (31%)	5	1 (50%)	2	5 (33%)	7

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Japanese Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	9	13	2	3	11	16
New cases filed with FCA	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	12	16	2	3	14	19
Unresolved cases	1	2	0	0	1	2
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	8%		0%		7%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, five abduction

cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 22 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Japan regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Japan were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of two open access cases involving three children under the Convention in Japan. All of these cases have been filed with the Japanese Central Authority. No new cases were filed in 2024. While no cases had been resolved by December 31, 2024, one case involving one child was closed for other reasons. By December 31, 2024, one case involving two children remained open. No cases have been pending with the Japanese authorities for more than 12 months.

Pre-Convention Cases: At the end of 2024, three pre-Convention cases remained open in Japan. In 2024, one pre-Convention case was closed for other reasons.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Japanese Central Authority.

Kenya

Summary: Kenya does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received four initial inquiries from parents regarding a possible abduction to Kenya. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	11	16	0	0	11	16
New cases	4	11	0	0	4	11
Total cases	15	27	0	0	15	27
Cases resolved during the year	2 (13%)	5	0 (0%)	0	2 (13%)	5
Cases closed during the year	5 (33%)	6	0 (0%)	0	5 (33%)	6
Cases open at the end of the year	8 (53%)	16	0 (0%)	0	8 (53%)	16

Significant Developments: The cabinet approved a vote to accede to the Hague Convention, which was submitted to Parliament in 2023 and is still under review.

Central Authority: The Department of State and the competent authorities in Kenya have regular and productive discussions on the best ways to resolve pending abduction cases under Kenyan law.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	10	14	0	0	10	14
New cases filed with FCA	3	6	0	0	3	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	13	20	0	0	13	20
Unresolved cases	5	8	0	0	5	8
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	38%		0%		38%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Kenyan authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Kenyan judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: While domestic court orders in Kenya are generally enforced, in some cases the Kenyan authorities [have] faced challenges with enforcement.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of two abducted children who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage Kenya to accede to the Convention.

Lebanon

Summary: Lebanon does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2004, the United States and Lebanon signed a Memorandum of Understanding to encourage voluntary resolution of abduction cases and facilitate consular access to abducted children. Lebanon was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015, 2016, and 2019 Annual Reports.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received one initial inquiry from a parent regarding a possible abduction to Lebanon. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	8	10	0	0	8	10
New cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases	8	10	0	0	8	10
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	1	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	8 (100%)	9	0 (0%)	0	8 (100%)	9

Significant Developments: The hostilities in Lebanon in the first ten months of 2024 had a profound impact on the Lebanese government's capacity, furthering court delays and enforcement efforts.

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in Lebanon occasionally declined to communicate or work with the Department of State to resolve pending abduction cases and the options for resolving these cases under Lebanese law remain limited. Moreover, the war in 2024 resulted in a pause of communication with the competent authorities in Lebanon.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	5	6	0	0	5	6
New cases filed with FCA	3	4	0	0	3	4
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	10	0	0	8	10
Unresolved cases	5	6	0	0	5	6
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	63%		0%		63%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, one child in one abduction case was resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Lebanese authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Lebanese judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Lebanese authorities.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will encourage Lebanon to accede to the Convention.

Mexico

Summary: The Hague Abduction Convention has been in force between the United States and Mexico since 1991.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received 42 initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Mexico where no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	54	68	6	9	60	77
New cases	46	69	1	1	47	70
Total cases	100	137	7	10	107	147
Cases resolved during the year	47 (47%)	65	5 (71%)	6	52 (49%)	71
Cases closed during the year	3 (3%)	4	0 (0%)	0	3 (3%)	4
Cases open at the end of the year	50 (50%)	68	2 (29%)	4	52 (48%)	72

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Mexican Central Authorities have a strong and productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	54	68	6	9	60	77
New cases filed with FCA	31	46	1	1	32	47
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	85	114	7	10	92	124
Unresolved cases	11	12	2	4	11	12
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	13%		29%		12%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, 26 abduction cases involving 37 children were resolved through voluntary means. One

child between 16 and 18 years old returned by a voluntary agreement.

Location: In some cases, the competent authorities delayed taking appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 88 days. The median time to locate a child was 50 days. As of December 31, 2024, there were 18 cases where the Mexican authorities remain unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Mexico routinely reached timely decisions. However, delays by the Mexican judicial authorities at the appellate level impacted cases during 2024. Delays were often related to the “Amparo” Law, a constitutionally based injunction that suspends the effects of a lower court’s decision until the amparo request is resolved.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Mexico were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of seven open access cases involving ten children under the Convention. Of these, one case involving one child was opened in 2024. A total of seven cases involving ten children have been filed with the Mexican Central Authority. One of these cases involving one child was filed in 2024. By December 31, 2024, five cases involving six children (71 percent) have been resolved by Hague access orders. By December 31, 2024, two cases involving four children remained open and have been pending with the Mexican authorities for more than 12 months.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department and the Mexican Central Authority will continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention.

Morocco

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Morocco since 2012. Morocco was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2018 Annual Report.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	2	1	1	3	3
New cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases	4	4	1	1	5	5
Cases resolved during the year	2 (50%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	2
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	1 (100%)	1	1 (20%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (50%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	2

Significant Developments: In May 2024, the Moroccan Central Authority met with Department of State officials and established a new point of contact for the Office of Children’s Issues within the Moroccan Central Authority.

Central Authority: While the U.S. and the Moroccan Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication about actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of continuing concern.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	2	1	1	3	3
New cases filed with FCA	2	2	0	0	2	2
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	4	1	1	5	5
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or

to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: In one case, the competent authorities delayed taking appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed. The Department of State requested location assistance, but the Moroccan authorities have not yet identified a location.

Judicial Authorities: Delays by the Moroccan judicial authorities impacted cases during 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Moroccan authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of one open access case involving one child under the Convention in Morocco. This case was opened in 2020. By December 31, 2024, this case involving one child (100 percent) had closed.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to engage with Moroccan government officials regarding communication and location delays to improve the resolution of cases.

Nigeria

Summary: Nigeria does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received six initial inquiries from parents regarding a possible abduction to Nigeria. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted, as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	6	11	0	0	6	11
New cases	6	12	0	0	6	12
Total cases	12	23	0	0	12	23
Cases resolved during the year	4 (33%)	9	0 (0%)	0	4 (33%)	9
Cases closed during the year	1 (8%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (8%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	7 (58%)	13	0 (0%)	0	7 (58%)	13

Central Authority: The Department of State and the competent authorities in Nigeria have regular and productive discussions on the best ways to resolve pending abduction cases under Nigerian law.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	4	7	0	0	4	7
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	4	7	0	0	4	7
Unresolved cases	3	6	0	0	3	6
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	75%		0%		75%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, four abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Nigerian authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Nigerian judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Nigerian authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will encourage Nigeria to accede to the Convention.

Pakistan

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Pakistan since 2020.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Pakistan for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	6	6	1	3	7	9
New cases	6	7	0	0	6	7
Total cases	12	13	1	3	13	16
Cases resolved during the year	3 (25%)	4	1 (100%)	3	4 (31%)	7
Cases closed during the year	1 (8%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (8%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	8(67%)	8	0 (0%)	0	8 (62%)	8

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Pakistani Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	6	6	1	3	7	9
New cases filed with FCA	5	6	0	0	5	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	11	12	1	3	12	15
Unresolved cases	2	2	0	0	2	2
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	18%		0%		17%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.”

In 2024, three abduction cases (including cases where the LBP was seeking return or access) were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 57 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Pakistan reached a timely decision.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Pakistani authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving three children under the Convention in Pakistan. This case was opened in 2023. By December 31, 2024, this case involving three children (100 percent) had been resolved by a voluntary agreement between the parents.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Pre-Convention Cases: At the end of 2024, four pre-Convention cases remained open in Pakistan.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Pakistani Central Authority.

Philippines

Summary: While the Philippines became a party to the Convention in 2016, the Convention is not in force between the Philippines and the United States. As a result, the Convention is not available for resolving cases at this time.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received nine initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to the Philippines. There was no additional assistance requested or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	12	15	0	0	12	15
New cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases	13	16	0	0	13	16
Cases resolved during the year	5 (38%)	5	0 (0%)	0	5 (38%)	5
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	8 (62%)	11	0 (0%)	0	8 (62%)	11

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in the Philippines worked closely with the Department of State to discuss improvements to the resolution of pending abduction cases. However, the options for resolving these cases under Philippine law are limited.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	2	3	0	0	2	3
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	50%		0%		50%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after the United States submitted a request for assistance. The average time to locate a child was 14 days.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases brought before the Philippine judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Philippine authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to engage with Philippine government officials regarding potential partnership.

Russia

Summary: While Russia became a party to the Convention in 2001, the Convention is not in force between Russia and the United States. As a result, the Convention is not available for resolving cases at this time. Russia was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2022 and 2023 Annual Reports. The Department is not aware of any changes to the procedures for resolving abduction cases in Russia, and therefore, the Department remains concerned that future cases may encounter similar challenges as in the past.

The ability of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow to provide consular services to U.S. citizens throughout Russia, including services related to international parental child abduction, is extremely limited given the security environment. Parents should carefully consider the Department's travel advisory, which strongly discourages parents from traveling to Russia under any circumstances.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received three initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Russia. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Abduction cases open at the start of the year	11	14	0	0	11	14
New abduction cases	10	12	0	0	10	12
Total abduction cases	21	26	0	0	21	26
Abduction cases resolved during the year	1 (5%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (5%)	1
Abduction cases closed during the year	3 (14%)	3	0 (0%)	0	3 (14%)	3
Abduction cases open at the end of the year	17 (81%)	22	0 (0%)	0	17 (81%)	22

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in Russia occasionally declined to communicate or work with the Department of State to resolve

pending abduction cases. Moreover, the options for resolving these cases under Russian law are limited.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	0	0	1	1
New cases filed with FCA	13	16	0	0	13	16
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	14	17	0	0	14	17
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Location: In one case, the competent authorities of Russia delayed taking steps to locate a child after the United States submitted a request for assistance.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in Russia, legal options, if any, under Russian law may make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Russian authorities.

Department Recommendations: The Department recommends an emphasis on preventing abductions.

Saudi Arabia

Summary: Saudi Arabia does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. In 2017, the United States and Saudi Arabia signed a memorandum of understanding to encourage voluntary resolution of abduction cases and facilitate consular access to abducted children. Saudi Arabia was previously cited for demonstrating a pattern of noncompliance in the 2015 Annual Report.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received three initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Saudi Arabia. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	5	6	0	0	5	6
New cases	3	5	0	0	3	5
Total cases	8	11	0	0	8	11
Cases resolved during the year	2 (25%)	3	0 (0%)	0	2 (25%)	3
Cases closed during the year	1 (13%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (13%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	5 (62%)	7	0 (0%)	0	5 (62%)	7

Central Authority: In 2024, the competent authorities in Saudi Arabia worked closely with the Department of State to discuss improvements to the resolution of pending abduction cases. However, the options for resolving these cases under Saudi law are limited.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	5	6	0	0	5	6
New cases filed with FCA	1	1	0	0	1	1
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	6	7	0	0	6	7
Unresolved cases	3	3	0	0	3	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	50%		0%		50%	

Voluntary Resolution: In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate a child after the United States submitted a request for assistance.

Judicial Authorities: While parents may pursue available legal remedies through the courts in Saudi Arabia, and some abduction cases were resolved by the Saudi courts in 2024, legal options under Saudi law make it difficult to regularly resolve abduction cases.

Enforcement: While domestic court orders in Saudi Arabia are generally enforced, in some cases the Saudi authorities faced challenges with enforcement.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of three abducted children who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department will continue to encourage Saudi Arabia to accede to the Convention.

Taiwan

Summary: Due to its unique status, Taiwan cannot become party to the Convention. Therefore, the remedies available under the Convention are not available with respect to Taiwan. The American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO) cooperate to encourage resolution of abduction cases under a 2019 Memorandum of Understanding.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	6	8	0	0	6	8
New cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases	6	8	0	0	6	8
Cases resolved during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases closed during the year	1 (17%)	2	0 (0%)	0	1 (17%)	1
Cases open at the end of the year	5 (83%)	6	0 (0%)	0	5 (83%)	6

Central Authority: The American Institute in Taiwan and the competent authorities in Taiwan have regular and productive discussions on the best ways to resolve pending abduction cases under Taiwan law.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	6	8	0	0	6	8
New cases filed with FCA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	6	8	0	0	6	8
Unresolved cases	5	6	0	0	5	6
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	83%		0%		83%	

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Taiwan authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases

decided by the Taiwan judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Taiwan authorities.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department recommends continued engagement between AIT and TECRO regarding the resolution of abduction cases.

Thailand

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Thailand since 2016.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	1	1	1	2	2	3
New cases	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases	4	4	1	2	5	6
Cases resolved during the year	2 (50%)	2	1 (100%)	2	3 (60%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (50%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	2

Central Authority: While the U.S. and the Thai Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication from the Thai Central Authority in the past have jeopardized the timely filing of Convention applications with the Thai Courts.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	1	1	1	2	2	3
New cases filed with FCA	4	4	0	0	4	4
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	5	5	1	2	6	7
Unresolved cases	0	0	0	0	0	0
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	0%		0%		0%	

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Thai authorities in 2024.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is aware of one abduction case brought before the Thai judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: In 2024, the United States was not aware of any abduction

cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by Thai authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving two children under the Convention in Thailand. This case was opened in 2023 and was filed with the Thai Central Authority in 2023. By December 31, 2024, this case had been resolved.

Department Recommendations: The Department through U.S. Embassy Bangkok will reach out to the Thai Central Authority to explore ways to improve communication between our offices that will lead to the effective and timely processing of Convention applications.

Türkiye

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Türkiye since 2000.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Türkiye for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	3	5	1	3	4	8
New cases	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases	6	8	1	3	7	11
Cases resolved during the year	3 (50%)	5	1 (0%)	3	3 (57%)	5
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (%)	3
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (50%)	3	0 (0%)	0	3 (43%)	3

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Turkish Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	3	5	1	3	4	8
New cases filed with FCA	3	3	0	0	3	3
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	6	8	1	3	7	11
Unresolved cases	1	1	0	0	1	1
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	17%		0%		14%	

Voluntary Resolution: The Convention states that central authorities “shall take all appropriate measures to secure the voluntary return of the child or

to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues.” In 2024, two abduction cases were resolved through voluntary means.

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 35 days. As of December 31, 2024, there were two cases in which the Turkish authorities were unable to initially locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Türkiye regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Turkish authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving three children under the Convention in Türkiye. This case was opened in 2023. This case has been filed with the Turkish Central Authority. This case has been resolved by a voluntary agreement between the parents.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of one abducted child who was between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Turkish Central Authority.

Ukraine

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Ukraine since 2007. The ability of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv to provide consular services to U.S. citizens throughout Ukraine including services related to international parental child abduction is extremely limited given the security environment. Parents should consider the Department’s travel advisory carefully when contemplating travel to Ukraine.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	2	4	0	0	2	4
New cases	3	4	1	2	4	6
Total cases	5	8	1	2	6	10
Cases resolved during the year	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (17%)	1
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	4 (80%)	7	1 (100%)	2	5 (83%)	9

Central Authority: While the U.S. and the Ukrainian Central Authorities have a cooperative relationship, delays in communication about actions to resolve Convention cases are an area of continuing concern.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	2	4	0	0	2	4
New cases filed with FCA	3	4	1	2	4	6
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	5	8	1	2	6	10
Unresolved cases	1	3	0	0	1	3
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	20%		0%		17%	

Location: In some cases, the competent authorities delayed taking appropriate steps to locate a child after a Convention application was filed. The average time to locate a child was 90 days.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of Ukraine regularly reached

timely decisions.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Ukrainian authorities.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority had one open access case involving two children under the Convention in Ukraine. This case was opened in 2024. This case has been filed with the Ukrainian Central Authority. By December 31, 2024, this case remained open.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the Ukrainian Central Authority. The Department will also continue to engage with Ukrainian government officials regarding communication concerns.

United Kingdom

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and the United Kingdom since 1988.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received 10 initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to the United Kingdom for which no completed applications were submitted to the Department.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	10	19	4	6	14	25
New cases	7	13	10	19	17	32
Total cases	17	32	14	25	31	57
Cases resolved during the year	11 (65%)	21	0 (0%)	0	11 (36%)	21
Cases closed during the year	3 (17.5%)	7	3 (21%)	5	6 (19%)	12
Cases open at the end of the year	3 (17.5%)	4	11 (79%)	20	14 (45%)	24

Central Authority: The U.S. and the United Kingdom Central Authorities have a strong and cooperative relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	9	18	3	4	12	22
New cases filed with FCA	7	10	8	12	15	22
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	16	28	11	16	27	44
Unresolved cases	1	2	2	3	1	2
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	6%		18%		4%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed. On average, it took less than one week to locate a child.

Judicial Authorities: The judicial authorities of the United Kingdom regularly reached timely decisions.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in the United Kingdom were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of 14 open access cases involving 25 children under the Convention in the United Kingdom. Of these, 10 cases involving 19 children were opened in 2024.

Department Recommendations: The Department expects to continue the effective processing and resolution of cases under the Convention with the United Kingdom Central Authority.

Venezuela

Summary: The Convention has been in force between the United States and Venezuela since 1997. In March 2019, the U.S. Department of State announced the withdrawal of diplomatic personnel from the U.S. Embassy in Caracas. All consular services, routine and emergency, were suspended until further notice at that time. Parents should consider the Department's Travel Advisory carefully when contemplating travel to Venezuela.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	5	7	1	1	6	8
New cases	3	3	1	2	4	5
Total cases	8	10	2	3	10	13
Cases resolved during the year	2 (25%)	3	1 (50%)	1	3 (33%)	4
Cases closed during the year	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0
Cases open at the end of the year	6 (75%)	7	1 (50%)	2	7 (67%)	9

Central Authority: The U.S. and the Central Authority in Venezuela have a productive relationship that facilitates the resolution of abduction cases under the Convention.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases filed with FCA at the start of the year	5	7	1	1	6	8
New cases filed with FCA	3	3	1	2	4	5
Total cases on file with FCA during the year	8	10	2	3	10	13
Unresolved cases	3	4	0	0	3	4
FCA caseload unresolved at end of year	38%		0%		30%	

Location: The competent authorities regularly took appropriate steps to locate children after a Convention application was filed.

Judicial Authorities: Delays by the Venezuelan judicial authorities affected

cases during 2024.

Enforcement: Decisions in Convention cases in Venezuela were generally enforced in a timely manner.

Access: In 2024, the U.S. Central Authority acted on a total of two open access cases involving three children under the Convention in Venezuela. Of these, one case involving two children was opened in 2024. This case has been filed with the Venezuelan Central Authority. By December 31, 2024, one case involving one child (50 percent) had been resolved. By December 31, 2024, one case involving two children remained open. No cases have been pending with the Venezuelan authorities for more than 12 months

Department Recommendations: The Department recommends an emphasis on preventing abductions.

Yemen

Summary: Yemen does not adhere to any protocols with respect to international parental child abduction. The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a suspended its operations in February 2015, and the U.S. government is unable to provide routine or emergency services to U.S. citizens in Yemen, including in cases of international parental child abduction. Parents should consider the Department's Travel Advisory carefully when contemplating travel to Yemen.

Initial Inquiries: In 2024, the Department received two initial inquiries from parents regarding possible abductions to Yemen. There was no additional assistance requested, or necessary documentation submitted as of December 31, 2024.

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Cases open at the start of the year	3	3	0	0	3	3
New cases	2	4	0	0	2	4
Total cases	5	7	0	0	5	7
Cases resolved during the year	1 (20%)	1	0 (0%)	0	1 (20%)	1
Cases closed during the year	2 (40%)	2	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	2
Cases open at the end of the year	2 (40%)	4	0 (0%)	0	2 (40%)	4

Central Authority: The Department of State sends applications whenever diplomatic and security considerations permit, unless doing so would put parents or children at risk or is not consistent with the wishes of the left-behind parent. In 2024, the United States did not inform the Yemeni government of reported abduction cases.

Location: The Department of State did not request assistance with location from the Yemeni authorities.

Judicial Authorities: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases

brought before the Yemeni judiciary in 2024.

Enforcement: The United States is not aware of any abduction cases in which a judicial order relating to international parental child abduction needed to be enforced by the Yemeni authorities.

Children ages 16-18 years: In 2024, the Department was aware of four abducted children who were between 16 and 18 years old at any time during the year and who received consular services provided by the Department, as appropriate.

Department Recommendations: The Department recommends an emphasis on preventing abductions.

APPENDICES

CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

(Concluded 25 October 1980)

The States signatory to the present Convention,
Firmly convinced that the interests of children are of paramount importance in matters relating to their custody,
Desiring to protect children internationally from the harmful effects of their wrongful removal or retention and to establish procedures to ensure their prompt return to the State of their habitual residence, as well as to secure protection for rights of access,
Have resolved to conclude a Convention to this effect, and have agreed upon the following provisions -

CHAPTER I - SCOPE OF THE CONVENTION

Article 1

The objects of the present Convention are -

- a) to secure the prompt return of children wrongfully removed to or retained in any Contracting State; and
- b) to ensure that rights of custody and of access under the law of one Contracting State are effectively respected in the other Contracting States.

Article 2

Contracting States shall take all appropriate measures to secure within their territories the implementation of the objects of the Convention. For this purpose they shall use the most expeditious procedures available.

Article 3

The removal or the retention of a child is to be considered wrongful where -

- a) it is in breach of rights of custody attributed to a person, an institution or any other body, either jointly or alone, under the law of the State in which the child was habitually resident immediately before the removal or retention; and

- b) at the time of removal or retention those rights were actually exercised, either jointly or alone, or would have been so exercised but for the removal or retention.
- The rights of custody mentioned in sub-paragraph a) above, may arise in particular by operation of law or by reason of a judicial or administrative decision, or by reason of an agreement having legal effect under the law of that State.

Article 4

The Convention shall apply to any child who was habitually resident in a Contracting State immediately before any breach of custody or access rights. The Convention shall cease to apply when the child attains the age of 16 years.

Article 5

For the purposes of this Convention -

- a) "rights of custody" shall include rights relating to the care of the person of the child and, in particular, the right to determine the child's place of residence;
- b) "rights of access" shall include the right to take a child for a limited period of time to a place other than the child's habitual residence.

CHAPTER II - CENTRAL AUTHORITIES

Article 6

A Contracting State shall designate a Central Authority to discharge the duties which are imposed by the Convention upon such authorities. Federal States, States with more than one system of law or States having autonomous territorial organisations shall be free to appoint more than one Central Authority and to specify the territorial extent of their powers. Where a State has appointed more than one Central Authority, it shall designate the Central Authority to which applications may be addressed for transmission to the appropriate Central Authority within that State.

Article 7

Central Authorities shall co-operate with each other and promote co-operation amongst the competent authorities in their respective States

to secure the prompt return of children and to achieve the other objects of this Convention. In particular, either directly or through any intermediary, they shall take all appropriate measures -

- a) to discover the whereabouts of a child who has been wrongfully removed or retained;
- b) to prevent further harm to the child or prejudice to interested parties by taking or causing to be taken provisional measures;
- c) to secure the voluntary return of the child or to bring about an amicable resolution of the issues;
- d) to exchange, where desirable, information relating to the social background of the child;
- e) to provide information of a general character as to the law of their State in connection with the application of the Convention;
- f) to initiate or facilitate the institution of judicial or administrative proceedings with a view to obtaining the return of the child and, in a proper case, to make arrangements for organising or securing the effective exercise of rights of access;
- g) where the circumstances so require, to provide or facilitate the provision of legal aid and advice, including the participation of legal counsel and advisers;
- h) to provide such administrative arrangements as may be necessary and appropriate to secure the safe return of the child;
- i) to keep each other informed with respect to the operation of this Convention and, as far as possible, to eliminate any obstacles to its application.

CHAPTER III - RETURN OF CHILDREN

Article 8

Any person, institution or other body claiming that a child has been removed or retained in breach of custody rights may apply either to the Central Authority of the child's habitual residence or to the Central Authority of any other Contracting State for assistance in securing the return of the child.

The application shall contain -

- a) information concerning the identity of the applicant, of the child and of the person alleged to have removed or retained the child;
- b) where available, the date of birth of the child;
- c) the grounds on which the applicant's claim for return of the child is based;
- d) all available information relating to the whereabouts of the child and the identity of the person with whom the child is presumed to be. The application may be accompanied or supplemented by -
- e) an authenticated copy of any relevant decision or agreement;
- f) a certificate or an affidavit emanating from a Central Authority, or other competent authority of the State of the child's habitual residence, or from a qualified person, concerning the relevant law of that State;
- g) any other relevant document.

Article 9

If the Central Authority which receives an application referred to in Article 8 has reason to believe that the child is in another Contracting State, it shall directly and without delay transmit the application to the Central Authority of that Contracting State and inform the requesting Central Authority, or the applicant, as the case may be.

Article 10

The Central Authority of the State where the child is shall take or cause to be taken all appropriate measures in order to obtain the voluntary return of the child.

Article 11

The judicial or administrative authorities of Contracting States shall act expeditiously in proceedings for the return of children.

If the judicial or administrative authority concerned has not reached a decision within six weeks from the date of commencement of the proceedings, the applicant or the Central Authority of the requested State, on its own initiative or if asked by the Central Authority of the requesting State, shall have the right to request a statement of

the reasons for the delay. If a reply is received by the Central Authority of the requested State, that Authority shall transmit the reply to the Central Authority of the requesting State, or to the applicant, as the case may be.

Article 12

Where a child has been wrongfully removed or retained in terms of Article 3 and, at the date of the commencement of the proceedings before the judicial or administrative authority of the Contracting State where the child is, a period of less than one year has elapsed from the date of the wrongful removal or retention, the authority concerned shall order the return of the child forthwith.

The judicial or administrative authority, even where the proceedings have been commenced after the expiration of the period of one year referred to in the preceding paragraph, shall also order the return of the child, unless it is demonstrated that the child is now settled in its new environment. Where the judicial or administrative authority in the requested State has reason to believe that the child has been taken to another State, it may stay the proceedings or dismiss the application for the return of the child.

Article 13

Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding Article, the judicial or administrative authority of the requested State is not bound to order the return of the child if the person, institution or other body which opposes its return establishes that -

- a) the person, institution or other body having the care of the person of the child was not actually exercising the custody rights at the time of removal or retention, or had consented to or subsequently acquiesced in the removal or retention; or
- b) there is a grave risk that his or her return would expose the child to physical or psychological harm or otherwise place the child in an intolerable situation.

The judicial or administrative authority may also refuse to order the return of the child if it finds that the child objects to being returned and has attained an age and degree of maturity at which it is appropriate to take account of its views.

In considering the circumstances referred to in this Article, the judicial and administrative authorities shall take into account the information relating to the social background of the child provided by the Central Authority or other competent authority of the child's habitual residence.

Article 14

In ascertaining whether there has been a wrongful removal or retention within the meaning of Article 3, the judicial or administrative authorities of the requested State may take notice directly of the law of, and of judicial or administrative decisions, formally recognised or not in the State of the habitual residence of the child, without recourse to the specific procedures for the proof of that law or for the recognition of foreign decisions which would otherwise be applicable.

Article 15

The judicial or administrative authorities of a Contracting State may, prior to the making of an order for the return of the child, request that the applicant obtain from the authorities of the State of the habitual residence of the child a decision or other determination that the removal or retention was wrongful within the meaning of Article 3 of the Convention, where such a decision or determination may be obtained in that State. The Central Authorities of the Contracting States shall so far as practicable assist applicants to obtain such a decision or determination.

Article 16

After receiving notice of a wrongful removal or retention of a child in the sense of Article 3, the judicial or administrative authorities of the Contracting State to which the child

has been removed or in which it has been retained shall not decide on the merits of rights of custody until it has been determined that the child is not to be returned under this Convention or unless an application under this Convention is not lodged within a reasonable time following receipt of the notice.

Article 17

The sole fact that a decision relating to custody has been given in or is entitled to recognition in the requested State shall not be a ground for refusing to return a child under this Convention, but the judicial or administrative authorities of the requested State may take account of the reasons for that decision in applying this Convention.

Article 18

The provisions of this Chapter do not limit the power of a judicial or administrative authority to order the return of the child at any time.

Article 19

A decision under this Convention concerning the return of the child shall not be taken to be a determination on the merits of any custody issue.

Article 20

The return of the child under the provisions of Article 12 may be refused if this would not be permitted by the fundamental principles of the requested State relating to the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

CHAPTER IV - RIGHTS OF ACCESS

Article 21

An application to make arrangements for organising or securing the effective exercise of rights of access may be presented to the Central Authorities of the Contracting States in the same way as an application for the return of a child.

The Central Authorities are bound by the obligations of co-operation which are set forth in Article 7 to promote the peaceful enjoyment of access rights and the fulfilment of any conditions to which the exercise of those rights may be subject. The Central Authorities shall take steps

to remove, as far as possible, all obstacles to the exercise of such rights.

The Central Authorities, either directly or through intermediaries, may initiate or assist in the institution of proceedings with a view to organising or protecting these rights and securing respect for the conditions to which the exercise of these rights may be subject.

CHAPTER V - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 22

No security, bond or deposit, however described, shall be required to guarantee the payment of costs and expenses in the judicial or administrative proceedings falling within the scope of this Convention.

Article 23

No legalisation or similar formality may be required in the context of this Convention.

Article 24

Any application, communication or other document sent to the Central Authority of the requested State shall be in the original language, and shall be accompanied by a translation into the official language or one of the official languages of the requested State or, where that is not feasible, a translation into French or English.

However, a Contracting State may, by making a reservation in accordance with Article 42, object to the use of either French or English, but not both, in any application, communication or other document sent to its Central Authority.

Article 25

Nationals of the Contracting States and persons who are habitually resident within those States shall be entitled in matters concerned with the application of this Convention to legal aid and advice in any other Contracting State on the same conditions as if they themselves were nationals of and habitually resident in that State.

Article 26

Each Central Authority shall bear its own costs in applying this Convention. Central Authorities and other public

services of Contracting States shall not impose any charges in relation to applications submitted under this Convention. In particular, they may not require any payment from the applicant towards the costs and expenses of the proceedings or, where applicable, those arising from the participation of legal counsel or advisers. However, they may require the payment of the expenses incurred or to be incurred in implementing the return of the child.

However, a Contracting State may, by making a reservation in accordance with Article 42, declare that it shall not be bound to assume any costs referred to in the preceding paragraph resulting from the participation of legal counsel or advisers or from court proceedings, except insofar as those costs may be covered by its system of legal aid and advice.

Upon ordering the return of a child or issuing an order concerning rights of access under this Convention, the judicial or administrative authorities may, where appropriate, direct the person who removed or retained the child, or who prevented the exercise of rights of access, to pay necessary expenses incurred by or on behalf of the applicant, including travel expenses, any costs incurred or payments made for locating the child, the costs of legal representation of the applicant, and those of returning the child.

Article 27

When it is manifest that the requirements of this Convention are not fulfilled or that the application is otherwise not well founded, a Central Authority is not bound to accept the application. In that case, the Central Authority shall forthwith inform the applicant or the Central Authority through which the application was submitted, as the case may be, of its reasons.

Article 28

A Central Authority may require that the application be accompanied by a written authorisation empowering it to act on behalf of the applicant, or

to designate a representative so to act.

Article 29

This Convention shall not preclude any person, institution or body who claims that there has been a breach of custody or access rights within the meaning of Article 3 or 21 from applying directly to the judicial or administrative authorities of a Contracting State, whether or not under the provisions of this Convention.

Article 30

Any application submitted to the Central Authorities or directly to the judicial or administrative authorities of a Contracting State in accordance with the terms of this Convention, together with documents and any other information appended thereto or provided by a Central Authority, shall be admissible in the courts or administrative authorities of the Contracting States.

Article 31

In relation to a State which in matters of custody of children has two or more systems of law applicable in different territorial units -

- a) any reference to habitual residence in that State shall be construed as referring to habitual residence in a territorial unit of that State;
- b) any reference to the law of the State of habitual residence shall be construed as referring to the law of the territorial unit in that State where the child habitually resides.

Article 32

In relation to a State which in matters of custody of children has two or more systems of law applicable to different categories of persons, any reference to the law of that State shall be construed as referring to the legal system specified by the law of that State.

Article 33

A State within which different territorial units have their own rules of law in respect of custody of children shall not be bound to apply this Convention where a State with a unified system of law would not be bound to do so.

Article 34

This Convention shall take priority in matters within its scope over the *Convention of 5 October 1961 concerning the powers of authorities and the law applicable in respect of the protection of minors*, as between Parties to both Conventions.

Otherwise the present Convention shall not restrict the application of an international instrument in force between the State of origin and the State addressed or other law of the State addressed for the purposes of obtaining the return of a child who has been wrongfully removed or retained or of organising access rights.

Article 35

This Convention shall apply as between Contracting States only to wrongful removals or retentions occurring after its entry into force in those States. Where a declaration has been made under Article 39 or 40, the reference in the preceding paragraph to a Contracting State shall be taken to refer to the territorial unit or units in relation to which this Convention applies.

Article 36

Nothing in this Convention shall prevent two or more Contracting States, in order to limit the restrictions to which the return of the child may be subject, from agreeing among themselves to derogate from any provisions of this Convention which may imply such a restriction.

CHAPTER VI - FINAL CLAUSES

Article 37

The Convention shall be open for signature by the States which were Members of the Hague Conference on Private International Law at the time of its Fourteenth Session. It shall be ratified, accepted or approved and the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 38

Any other State may accede to the Convention.

The instrument of accession shall be deposited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The Convention shall enter into force for a State acceding to it on the first day of the third calendar month after the deposit of its instrument of accession.

The accession will have effect only as regards the relations between the acceding State and such Contracting States as will have declared their acceptance of the accession. Such a declaration will also have to be made by any Member State ratifying, accepting or approving the Convention after an accession. Such declaration shall be deposited at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; this Ministry shall forward, through diplomatic channels, a certified copy to each of the Contracting States. The Convention will enter into force as between the acceding State and the State that has declared its acceptance of the accession on the first day of the third calendar month after the deposit of the declaration of acceptance.

Article 39

Any State may, at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that the Convention shall extend to all the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible, or to one or more of them. Such a declaration shall take effect at the time the Convention enters into force for that State.

Such declaration, as well as any subsequent extension, shall be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Article 40

If a Contracting State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to matters dealt with in this Convention, it may at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession declare that this Convention shall extend to all its territorial units or only to one or more of them and

may modify this declaration by submitting another declaration at any time.

Any such declaration shall be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and shall state expressly the territorial units to which the Convention applies.

Article 41

Where a Contracting State has a system of government under which executive, judicial and legislative powers are distributed between central and other authorities within that State, its signature or ratification, acceptance or approval of, or accession to this Convention, or its making of any declaration in terms of Article 40 shall carry no implication as to the internal distribution of powers within that State.

Article 42

Any State may, not later than the time of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or at the time of making a declaration in terms of Article 39 or 40, make one or both of the reservations provided for in Article 24 and Article 26, third paragraph. No other reservation shall be permitted.

Any State may at any time withdraw a reservation it has made. The withdrawal shall be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The reservation shall cease to have effect on the first day of the third calendar month after the notification referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Article 43

The Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the third calendar month after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession referred to in Articles 37 and 38. Thereafter the Convention shall enter into force –

(1) or each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to it subsequently, on the first day of the third calendar month after the deposit of its instrument of

ratification, acceptance, approval or accession;

(2) for any territory or territorial unit to which the Convention has been extended in conformity with Article 39 or 40, on the first day of the third calendar month after the notification referred to in that Article.

Article 44

The Convention shall remain in force for five years from the date of its entry into force in accordance with the first paragraph of Article 43 even for States which subsequently have ratified, accepted, approved it or acceded to it.

If there has been no denunciation, it shall be renewed tacitly every five years.

Any denunciation shall be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at least six months before the expiry of the five year period. It may be limited to certain of the territories or territorial units to which the Convention applies.

The denunciation shall have effect only as regards the State which has notified it. The Convention shall remain in force for the other Contracting States.

Article 45

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands shall notify the States Members of the Conference, and the States which have acceded in accordance with Article 38, of the following –

- (1) the signatures and ratifications, acceptances and approvals referred to in Article 37;
- (2) the accessions referred to in Article 38;
- (3) the date on which the Convention enters into force in accordance with Article 43;
- (4) the extensions referred to in Article 39;
- (5) the declarations referred to in Articles 38 and 40;
- (6) the reservations referred to in Article 24 and Article 26, third paragraph, and the withdrawals referred to in Article 42;
- (7) the denunciations referred to in Article 44.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Convention.

Done at The Hague, on the 25th day of October, 1980, in the English and French languages, both texts being equally authentic, in a single copy which shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and of which a certified copy shall be sent, through diplomatic channels, to each of the States Members of the Hague Conference on Private International Law at the date of its Fourteenth Session.

Informative Links

American Bar Association	www.americanbar.org/
Department of Justice	www.justice.gov/ovw
Office of Violence Against Women	www.fbi.gov/investigate/violent-crime/cac
Federal Bureau of Investigation	www.fbi.gov/contact-us
Hague Conference Permanent Bureau Child Abduction Section	www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/specialised-sections/child-abduction
International Social Service (ISS-USA)	www.iss-usa.org/
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children	www.missingkids.com/
The Office of the Refugee Resettlement Administration for Children and Families	www.acf.gov/orr/about
Office of Victims of Crime (OVC)	www.ovc.gov/
U.S. Customs and Border Protection	www.cbp.gov/travel/international-child-abduction-prevention-and-return-act
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—Resources for Families	www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/domviolence/resources
U.S. Department of State Office of Children’s Issues	www.travel.state.gov/content/childabduction/en.html

Total Abduction Cases by Country or Area

	Return	Children	Access	Children	Total Cases	Total Children
Afghanistan	2	3	0	0	2	3
Argentina	5	8	2	2	7	10
Australia	8	12	2	2	10	14
Austria	0	0	1	1	1	1
Azerbaijan	1	1	0	0	1	1
Bahamas, The	2	2	0	0	2	2
Bahrain	1	2	0	0	1	2
Bangladesh	2	3	0	0	2	3
Belize	3	5	0	0	3	5
Benin	1	1	0	0	1	1
Bolivia	3	3	0	0	3	3
Brazil	34	46	1	1	35	47
Bulgaria	5	5	0	0	5	5
Cameroon	1	4	0	0	1	4
Canada	24	41	3	5	27	46
Chile	2	3	0	0	2	3
China	21	23	0	0	21	23
Colombia	8	8	7	8	15	16
Costa Rica	2	3	1	2	3	5
Cote d'Ivoire	4	5	0	0	4	5
Croatia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Democratic Republic of the Congo	3	4	0	0	4	5
Denmark	1	2	0	0	1	2
Dominican Republic	5	7	0	0	5	7
Ecuador	2	2	1	1	3	3
Egypt	16	23	0	0	16	23
El Salvador	2	2	0	0	2	2
Ethiopia	1	2	0	0	1	2

Federated States Of Micronesia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Finland	1	1	3	3	4	4
France	7	10	1	1	8	11
Gabon	1	1	0	0	1	1
Gambia, The	4	13	0	0	4	13
Gaza Strip	1	5	0	0	1	5
Georgia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Germany	6	6	0	0	6	6
Ghana	9	15	0	0	9	15
Greece	1	2	0	0	1	2
Guatemala	5	8	0	0	5	8
Guinea	1	1	0	0	1	1
Guyana	1	1	0	0	1	1
Haiti	1	1	0	0	1	1
Honduras	2	5	0	0	2	5
Hong Kong S.A.R.	2	3	0	0	2	3
India	113	129	0	0	113	129
Indonesia	3	3	0	0	3	3
Iran	2	3	0	0	2	3
Iraq	6	9	0	0	6	9
Ireland	2	3	2	3	4	6
Israel	4	4	1	3	4	4
Italy	6	7	1	1	7	8
Jamaica	23	27	4	4	27	31
Japan (Hague Convention)	13	17	2	4	15	21
Japan (Pre-Hague Convention)	4	5	0	0	4	5
Jordan	16	29	0	0	16	29
Kazakhstan	1	1	0	0	1	1
Kenya	15	27	0	0	15	27
Korea, Republic of	10	14	0	0	10	14
Kuwait	1	1	0	0	1	1
Kyrgyzstan	1	1	0	0	1	1

Latvia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Lebanon	8	10	0	0	8	10
Liberia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Libya	1	1	0	0	1	1
Lithuania	2	2	1	1	3	3
Malaysia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Mali	1	2	0	0	1	2
Mexico	100	137	7	10	107	147
Moldova	1	1	0	0	1	1
Montenegro	1	1	0	0	1	1
Morocco	4	4	1	1	5	5
Nepal	2	2	0	0	2	2
Netherlands	0	0	1	2	1	2
New Zealand	3	3	0	0	3	3
Nicaragua	1	1	0	0	1	1
Nigeria	12	23	0	0	12	23
Norway	1	1	0	0	1	1
Pakistan (Hague Convention)	12	13	1	3	13	16
Pakistan (Pre-Hague Convention)	4	6	0	0	4	6
Panama	1	2	0	0	1	2
Paraguay	0	0	1	1	1	1
Peru	3	5	2	4	5	9
Philippines	13	16	0	0	13	16
Poland	4	5	0	0	4	5
Portugal	1	1	1	2	2	3
Romania	3	3	0	0	3	3
Russia	21	26	0	0	21	26
Saudi Arabia	8	11	0	0	8	11
Senegal	2	3	0	0	2	3
Serbia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Somalia	1	3	0	0	1	3
South Africa	3	4	0	0	3	4

Spain	3	5	0	0	3	5
Sudan	1	1	0	0	1	1
Sweden	1	1	2	5	3	6
Switzerland	3	7	0	0	3	7
Syria	4	5	0	0	4	5
Taiwan	6	8	0	0	6	8
Tanzania	1	2	0	0	1	2
Thailand	4	4	1	2	5	6
Togo	3	3	0	0	3	3
Trinidad and Tobago (Hague Convention)	1	1	0	0	1	1
Trinidad and Tobago (Pre-Hague Convention)	1	1	0	0	1	1
Tunisia	1	1	0	0	1	1
Türkiye	6	8	1	3	7	11
Uganda	3	5	0	0	3	5
Ukraine	5	8	1	2	6	10
United Arab Emirates	12	19	0	0	12	19
United Kingdom	17	32	14	25	31	57
Venezuela	8	10	2	3	10	13
Vietnam	1	1	0	0	1	1
West Bank	7	12	0	0	7	12
Yemen	5	7	0	0	5	7
Zambia	3	3	0	0	3	3
Zimbabwe	2	2	1	2	3	4
Total	739	1011	69	107	808	1111

2024 IPCA Return Cases by U.S. State

Alaska

Canada 1

Arizona

Argentina 1
Canada 1
Gambia, The 1
India 4
Indonesia 1
Jamaica 1
Japan 1
Kuwait 1
Mexico 4
South Africa 1
Syria 1
Türkiye 1
Vietnam 1

Arkansas

Montenegro 1

California

Australia 2
Bahrain 1
Bangladesh 1
Belize 1
Brazil 4
Canada 1
Chile 1
China 3
Costa Rica 1
Democratic Republic of the Congo 1
Denmark 1
Egypt 2
Ethiopia 1
France 2
Gambia, The 1
Germany 1
Guatemala 1
Hong Kong S.A.R. 1
India 30
Indonesia 1
Iraq 1
Ireland 1
Israel 2
Italy 2
Japan 4
Jordan 2
Kazakhstan 1
Kenya 1
Korea, Republic of 5

Kyrgyzstan 1
Lebanon 1
Mexico 35
Morocco 1
New Zealand 1
Nicaragua 1
Pakistan 1
Peru 2
Philippines 6
Russia 8
Sudan 1
Taiwan 2
Tanzania 1
Thailand 2
Tunisia 1
Türkiye 1
Ukraine 1
United Arab Emirates 3
United Kingdom 1
Venezuela 1
Yemen 1

Colorado

Belize 1
Brazil 1
Canada 1
Chile 1
Colombia 1
Democratic Republic of the Congo 1
India 4
Japan 1
Mexico 6
Nigeria 1
United Kingdom 1

Connecticut

Brazil 1
China 1
India 1
Jamaica 1
Mexico 1
Pakistan 1
West Bank 1

Delaware

Nigeria 1
Russia 1

District of Columbia

Philippines 1
Russia 1

Florida

Argentina	2
Bangladesh	1
Belize	1
Brazil	8
Canada	2
Cote d'Ivoire	1
Dominican Republic	2
Egypt	2
Finland	1
France	1
Gaza	1
Ghana	1
Greece	1
Guatemala	1
Haiti	1
India	3
Italy	3
Jamaica	12
Lithuania	1
Mexico	3
Nepal	1
Panama	1
Poland	1
Russia	6
Senegal	1
Spain	1
Türkiye	3
United Kingdom	4
Venezuela	5
West Bank	1

Georgia

Dominican Republic	1
Egypt	1
Gambia, The	1
Ghana	1
Guyana	1
India	2
Jamaica	2
Kenya	1
Lebanon	1
Spain	1
Taiwan	1
Zimbabwe	1

Guam

Federated States of Micronesia	1
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Hawaii

Canada	1
Japan	1

Idaho

Australia	1
Brazil	1
Ireland	1
Mexico	1

Illinois

Azerbaijan	1
Brazil	1
Bulgaria	3
China	5
Colombia	1
Guatemala	1
India	7
Jordan	3
Kenya	1
Mexico	4
Pakistan	1
Serbia	1
Thailand	1
Togo	1
Uganda	1
Ukraine	1
United Arab Emirates	1
West Bank	2
Zambia	2

Indiana

Canada	1
India	2
Kenya	1
Philippines	1
Russia	1

Iowa

India	1
Japan	1
Lebanon	1
United Kingdom	1

Kansas

Cameroon	1
Italy	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	1
United Arab Emirates	2

Kentucky

Bulgaria	1
Mexico	1
Philippines	1
Taiwan	1

Louisiana

Canada	1
Mexico	3
Nigeria	1
Pakistan	1
Taiwan	1

Maryland

Canada	1
China	1
Colombia	1
Cote d'Ivoire	1
Egypt	1
El Salvador	1
Germany	1
Ghana	1
Guatemala	1
Hong Kong S.A.R.	1
India	3
Iran	1
Japan	1
Jordan	2
Libya	1
Mexico	1
Nigeria	2
Philippines	1
Poland	1
Trinidad and Tobago	1
United Kingdom	2

Massachusetts

Australia	1
Brazil	3
Canada	1
India	1
Iran	1
Jamaica	1
Korea, Republic of	1
Mexico	1
Moldova	1
Uganda	1

Michigan

Argentina	1
Canada	1
Georgia	1
India	3
Iraq	2
Jordan	4
Kenya	1
Lebanon	2
Mexico	1
Pakistan	1
Saudi Arabia	3

United Arab Emirates	1
Yemen	1

Minnesota

Democratic Republic of the Congo	1
France	1
India	1
Iraq	1
Kenya	3
Liberia	1
Mexico	1
Pakistan	1
Somalia	1
Switzerland	1
Thailand	1
Türkiye	1
United Kingdom	1

Missouri

Canada	1
Honduras	1
India	1
Jordan	1
Kenya	1

Nebraska

India	1
Mexico	1

Nevada

Bulgaria	1
Canada	1
France	1
Japan	1
Mexico	2
Philippines	1
Korea, Republic of	1
West Bank	1

New Hampshire

Australia	1
Brazil	1
China	1
Honduras	1
Mexico	1

New Jersey

Brazil	1
Egypt	1
India	8
Jamaica	1
Japan	2
Jordan	1

Mexico	1	Jamaica	1
Morocco	1	Japan	1
Nigeria	1	Lithuania	1
Pakistan	1	Mexico	1
Poland	1	New Zealand	1
Russia	1	Nigeria	1
Switzerland	1	Pakistan	1
Togo	1	Switzerland	1
United Arab Emirates	1	Yemen	1
United Kingdom	2		
New Mexico		North Dakota	
Taiwan	1	Canada	1
		India	1
		Ukraine	1
New York		Ohio	
Argentina	1	Gabon	1
Australia	2	India	2
Brazil	4	Mali	1
China	2	Saudi Arabia	1
Croatia	1	Senegal	1
Ecuador	1	Sweden	1
Egypt	1		
France	1	Oklahoma	
India	2	Canada	1
Iraq	1	Kenya	1
Israel	2	Nigeria	1
Jamaica	4	Pakistan	1
Japan	2	Saudi Arabia	1
Jordan	1		
Kenya	1	Oregon	
Latvia	1	Brazil	1
Lebanon	1	Canada	1
Malaysia	1	China	1
Nepal	1	Germany	1
New Zealand	1	Pakistan	1
Nigeria	2	United Kingdom	1
Norway	1		
Pakistan	2	Pennsylvania	
Romania	2	Brazil	1
Russia	1	Canada	1
Saudi Arabia	1	China	1
South Africa	1	Colombia	1
Syria	1	Cote d'Ivoire	1
Togo	1	Egypt	2
Ukraine	1	Ghana	2
United Kingdom	1	Guinea	1
Yemen	2	India	2
		Iraq	1
North Carolina		Lebanon	1
Canada	1	Romania	1
China	2	Saudi Arabia	1
Egypt	1	Spain	1
India	4	Trinidad and Tobago	1

Uganda	1
Ukraine	1
United Arab Emirates	1
United Kingdom	1

Rhode Island

Dominican Republic	1
Ghana	1

South Carolina

Bahamas, The	1
Ecuador	1
Egypt	1
India	1
Jordan	1
Mexico	2
West Bank	1
Zambia	1

South Dakota

Kenya	1
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Tennessee

Brazil	1
Colombia	1
Costa Rica	1
Egypt	2
India	1
Mexico	1
Portugal	1
United Kingdom	1

Texas

Australia	1
Bahamas, The	1
Benin	1
Bolivia	2
Brazil	4
Canada	2
China	2
Colombia	2
Egypt	1
El Salvador	1
Germany	2
Ghana	1
Guatemala	1
India	15
Japan	1
Kenya	1
Korea, Republic of	1
Lebanon	1
Mexico	21
Morocco	1
Nigeria	2

Pakistan	1
Peru	1
Russia	1
South Africa	1
Syria	2
United Arab Emirates	2
United Kingdom	1
Venezuela	1
West Bank	1
Zimbabwe	1

Utah

Brazil	1
China	1
Korea, Republic of	1
Mexico	2
Venezuela	1

Vermont

Dominican Republic	1
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Virginia

Afghanistan	2
Bolivia	1
Brazil	1
Egypt	1
France	1
Germany	1
Ghana	1
India	6
Jordan	1
Mexico	4
Morocco	1
Pakistan	1
United Arab Emirates	1

Washington

Canada	2
China	1
Cote d'Ivoire	1
Gambia, The	1
India	6
Kenya	1
Korea, Republic of	1
Mexico	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	1
Poland	1
Russia	1
Saudi Arabia	1

Wisconsin

Canada	1
Colombia	1

Ghana	1
India	1
Indonesia	1
Japan	1
Kenya	1
Wyoming	
Mexico	1

2024 IPCA Access Cases by U.S. State

Arizona

Mexico	3
Thailand	1

California

Australia	1
Brazil	1
Canada	1
Colombia	1
Japan	2
Mexico	2
Netherlands	1
Peru	1
Sweden	1
Ukraine	1
United Kingdom	1

Colorado

Argentina	1
Austria	1
Colombia	1
United Kingdom	1

District of Columbia

Colombia	1
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Florida

Colombia	3
Costa Rica	1
Ecuador	1
Finland	2
Lithuania	1
Mexico	1
Paraguay	1
Türkiye	1
United Kingdom	1

Illinois

Colombia	1
Finland	1

Maryland

Jamaica	1
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Massachusetts

Canada	1
Morocco	1
United Kingdom	1

Michigan

Peru	1
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Minnesota

Sweden	1
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Missouri

Jamaica	1
United Kingdom	1
Venezuela	1

New Jersey

Ireland	1
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New York

Argentina	1
Canada	1
France	1
Israel	1
Italy	1
Jamaica	1
Portugal	1

Oregon

United Kingdom	7
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Texas

Australia	1
Ireland	1
Jamaica	1
Mexico	1
Pakistan	1
United Kingdom	1
Venezuela	1
Zimbabwe	1

Washington

United Kingdom	1
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Unresolved Abduction Cases

Argentina

#1 pending 188 months

Belize

#1 pending 63 months

Brazil

#1 pending 134 months
#2 pending 29 months
#3 pending 33 months
#4 pending 5 months
#5 pending 33 months
#6 pending 76 months
#7 pending 14 months
#8 pending 59 months
#9 pending 39 months
#10 pending 36 months
#11 pending 19 months

Bulgaria

#1 pending 52 months

China

#1 pending 48 months
#2 pending 108 months
#3 pending 18 months
#4 pending 69 months

Democratic Republic of the Congo

#1 pending 43 months

Dominican Republic

#1 pending 23 months

Egypt

#1 pending 59 months
#2 pending 48 months
#3 pending 36 months
#4 pending 128 months
#5 pending 25 months
#6 pending 25 months
#7 pending 36 months
#8 pending 48 months

Germany

#1 pending 23 months
#2 pending 13 months

Ghana

#1 pending 70 months

Honduras

#1 pending 38 months

India

#1 pending 55 months
#2 pending 24 months
#3 pending 30 months
#4 pending 16 months
#5 pending 12 months
#6 pending 16 months
#7 pending 77 months
#8 pending 28 months
#9 pending 24 months
#10 pending 20 months
#11 pending 16 months
#12 pending 103 months
#13 pending 20 months
#14 pending 60 months
#15 pending 108 months
#16 pending 20 months
#17 pending 12 months
#18 pending 24 months
#19 pending 60 months
#20 pending 60 months
#21 pending 30 months
#22 pending 12 months
#23 pending 60 months
#24 pending 16 months
#25 pending 12 months
#26 pending 108 months
#27 pending 55 months
#28 pending 20 months
#29 pending 108 months
#30 pending 37 months
#31 pending 24 months
#32 pending 60 months
#33 pending 16 months
#34 pending 24 months
#35 pending 60 months
#36 pending 60 months
#37 pending 20 months
#38 pending 39 months
#39 pending 30 months
#40 pending 12 months
#41 pending 47 months
#42 pending 60 months
#43 pending 60 months
#44 pending 16 months
#45 pending 24 months
#46 pending 60 months
#47 pending 39 months
#48 pending 103 months
#49 pending 60 months
#50 pending 108 months
#51 pending 60 months
#52 pending 44 months
#53 pending 60 months
#54 pending 60 months
#55 pending 20 months
#56 pending 60 months
#57 pending 55 months

#58 pending 77 months
#59 pending 39 months
#60 pending 28 months
#61 pending 12 months
#62 pending 28 months
#63 pending 20 months
#64 pending 60 months
#65 pending 20 months
#66 pending 47 months
#67 pending 96 months
#68 pending 16 months
#69 pending 28 months
#70 pending 44 months
#71 pending 60 months
#72 pending 12 months
#73 pending 59 months
#74 pending 108 months
#75 pending 16 months
#76 pending 44 months
#77 pending 96 months
#78 pending 55 months
#79 pending 60 months
#80 pending 108 months

Indonesia

#1 pending 26 months

Italy

#1 pending 25 months

Cote d'Ivoire

#1 pending 16 months

Japan

#1 pending 24 months

Jordan

#1 pending 14 months
#2 pending 21 months
#3 pending 61 months
#4 pending 14 months
#5 pending 61 months
#6 pending 14 months

Kenya

#1 pending 12 months
#2 pending 16 months
#3 pending 50 months
#4 pending 50 months
#5 pending 12 months

Korea, Republic of

#1 pending 16 months
#2 pending 14 months
#3 pending 21 months
#4 pending 65 months

Kuwait

#1 pending 49 months

Kyrgyzstan

#1 pending 13 months

Lebanon

#1 pending 48 months
#2 pending 67 months
#3 pending 67 months
#4 pending 96 months
#5 pending 96 months

Mexico

#1 pending 24 months
#2 pending 65 months
#3 pending 43 months
#4 pending 31 months
#5 pending 30 months
#6 pending 43 months
#7 pending 23 months
#8 pending 18 months
#9 pending 38 months
#10 pending 43 months
#11 pending 19 months

Nepal

#1 pending 27 months

Nigeria

#1 pending 23 months
#2 pending 23 months
#3 pending 16 months

Pakistan

#1 pending 34 months
#2 pending 32 months

Peru

#1 pending 27 months
#2 pending 48 months

Philippines

#1 pending 95 months

Poland

#1 pending 34 months
#2 pending 15 months

Romania

#1 pending 74 months

Saudi Arabia

#1 pending 32 months
#2 pending 24 months
#3 pending 32 months

Serbia

#1 pending 15 months

Syria

#1 pending 15 months

Taiwan

#1 pending 108 months

#2 pending 12 months

#3 pending 12 months

#4 pending 24 months

#5 pending 37 months

Tanzania

#1 pending 32 months

Türkiye

#1 pending 18 months

Uganda

#1 pending 17 months

#2 pending 17 months

Ukraine

#1 pending 30 months

United Arab Emirates

#1 pending 22 months

#2 pending 27 months

#3 pending 27 months

#4 pending 17 months

#5 pending 94 months

#6 pending 27 months

United Kingdom

#1 pending 21 months

Venezuela

#1 pending 12 months

#2 pending 20 months

#3 pending 15 months

Zambia

#1 pending 58 months

#2 pending 24 months

Unresolved Access Cases

Argentina

#1 pending 75 months

Colombia

#1 pending 21 months

#2 pending 28 months

Ecuador

#1 pending 25 months

Paraguay

#1 pending 49 months

United Kingdom

#1 pending 40 months

#2 pending 32 months

Return Cases Not Sent to Judicial Authorities in 2024

Australia

- #1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #2 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Bahamas

- #1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #2 APFCA,LI(Administrative Processing by FCA, Location Issues)

Belize

- #1 LI(Location Issues)
- #2 LI(Location Issues)

Brazil

- #1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #2 RA(FCA Rejected Application)
- #3 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #4 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #5 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

Bulgaria

- #1 RA(FCA Rejected Application)

Canada

- #1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #2 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #3 LI(Location Issues)
- #4 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #5 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #6 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #7 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Colombia

- #1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #2 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #3 JAD(J/A Delays)
- #4 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #5 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

Costa Rica

- #1 APFCA,LI(Administrative Processing by FCA, Location Issues)

Dominican Republic

- #1 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)

Ecuador

- #1 LI(Location Issues)

El Salvador

- #1 LI,PIR(Location Issues, Pending Information Requests)

Guatemala

- #1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #2 LI(Location Issues)

Jamaica

- #1 RA(FCA Rejected Application)
- #2 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #3 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #4 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #5 LI(Location Issues)

Japan

- #1 RA(FCA Rejected Application)
- #2 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)
- #3 LI(Location Issues)
- #4 MED(Mediation)

Mexico

- #1 LI,PIR(Location Issues, Pending Information Requests)
- #2 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)
- #3 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #4 LI(Location Issues)
- #5 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #6 LI(Location Issues)
- #7 LI(Location Issues)
- #8 LI(Location Issues)
- #9 LI(Location Issues)
- #10 LI(Location Issues)
- #11 LI,PIR(Location Issues, Pending Information Requests)
- #12 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #13 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #14 LI(Location Issues)
- #15 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #16 LI(Location Issues)
- #17 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #18 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #19 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #20 PIR(Pending Information Requests)
- #21 LI(Location Issues)
- #22 LI(Location Issues)
- #23 LI(Location Issues)
- #24 LI(Location Issues)
- #25 LI(Location Issues)
- #26 LI(Location Issues)

Morocco

- #1 LI(Location Issues)

Pakistan

- #1 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)
- #2 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)
- #3 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)
- #4 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)
- #5 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)

Panama

#1 LBPWA(LBP Withdrew Application)

South Africa

#1 LI(Location Issues)

Korea, Republic of

#1 LBPWA(LBP Withdrew Application)

Spain

#1 RA(FCA Rejected Application)

Sweden

#1 ESC,OTR(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case, Other)

Thailand

#1 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)

#2 RA(FCA Rejected Application)

#3 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)

Trinidad and Tobago

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

Türkiye

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

#2 LI(Location Issues)

Ukraine

#1 RA(FCA Rejected Application)

#2 ESC,PIR(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case, Pending Information Requests)

United Kingdom

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Venezuela

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

Zimbabwe

#1 OTR(Other)

Access Cases Not Sent to Judicial Authorities in 2024

Australia

#1 ESC(Non-FCA Entity Submitting Case)

Canada

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

#2 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

#3 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Colombia

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

#2 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

France

#1 LI,OTR(Location Issues, Other)

Ireland

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

#2 APFCA,PIR(Administrative Processing by FCA, Pending Information Requests)

Israel

#1 OTR(Other)

Jamaica

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

#2 LI(Location Issues)

#3 RA(FCA Rejected Application)

Japan

#1 OTR(Other)

Netherlands

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Sweden

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

Ukraine

#1 PIR(Pending Information Requests)

United Kingdom

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

#2 MED(Mediation)

#3 MED(Mediation)

Venezuela

#1 APFCA(Administrative Processing by FCA)

Zimbabwe

#1 OTR(Other)

Countries and Areas with Return or Access Cases in 2024

Afghanistan	No Protocol	Korea, Republic of	Convention
Argentina	Convention	Kuwait	No Protocol
Australia	Convention	Kyrgyzstan	No Protocol
Azerbaijan	No Protocol	Latvia	Convention
Bahamas, The	Convention	Lebanon	No Protocol
Bahrain	No Protocol	Liberia	No Protocol
Bangladesh	No Protocol	Libya	No Protocol
Belize	Convention	Lithuania	Convention
Benin	No Protocol	Malaysia	No Protocol
Bolivia	No Protocol	Mali	No Protocol
Brazil	Convention	Mexico	Convention
Bulgaria	Convention	Moldova	No Protocol
Canada	Convention	Montenegro	Convention
Chile	Convention	Morocco	Convention
China	No Protocol	Nepal	No Protocol
Colombia	Convention	New Zealand	Convention
Costa Rica	Convention	Nicaragua	No Protocol
Cote d'Ivoire	No Protocol	Nigeria	No Protocol
Croatia	Convention	Norway	Convention
Democratic Republic of the Congo	No Protocol	Pakistan	Convention
Denmark	Convention	Panama	Convention
Dominican Republic	Convention	Paraguay	Convention
Ecuador	Convention	Peru	Convention
Egypt	No Protocol	Philippines	No Protocol
El Salvador	Convention	Poland	Convention
Ethiopia	No Protocol	Portugal	Convention
Federated States of Micronesia	No Protocol	Romania	Convention
Finland	Convention	Russia	No Protocol
France	Convention	Saudi Arabia	No Protocol
Gabon	No Protocol	Senegal	No Protocol
Gambia, The	No Protocol	Serbia	Convention
Gaza	No Protocol	Somalia	No Protocol
Georgia	No Protocol	South Africa	Convention
Germany	Convention	Spain	Convention
Ghana	No Protocol	Sudan	No Protocol
Greece	Convention	Sweden	Convention
Guatemala	Convention	Switzerland	Convention
Guinea	No Protocol	Syria	No Protocol
Guyana	No Protocol	Taiwan	No Protocol
Haiti	No Protocol	Tanzania	No Protocol
Honduras	Convention	Thailand	Convention
Hong Kong S.A.R.	Convention	Togo	No Protocol
India	No Protocol	Trinidad and Tobago	Convention
Indonesia	No Protocol	Tunisia	No Protocol
Iran	No Protocol	Türkiye	Convention
Iraq	No Protocol	Uganda	No Protocol
Ireland	Convention	Ukraine	Convention
Israel	Convention	United Arab Emirates	No Protocol
Italy	Convention	United Kingdom	Convention
Jamaica	Convention	Venezuela	Convention
Japan	Convention	Vietnam	No Protocol
Jordan	No Protocol	West Bank	No Protocol
Kazakhstan	No Protocol	Yemen	No Protocol
Kenya	No Protocol	Zambia	No Protocol
		Zimbabwe	Convention