Deutsches Institut für Jugendhilfe und Familienrecht e. V.
Forum für Fachfragen

ONLINE MEETING

Cross-Border Enforcement of Child Support: Pros and cons of the different national systems

The Child Support Forum in cooperation with the International Union of Judicial Officers is pleased to invite you to an open conference on January 28th, 2026 from 3 to 5:30 pm (CET)

According to Art. 41 of Regulation (EC) No. 4/2009 and Art. 32 of the 2007 Child Support Convention, the enforcement procedure shall be governed by the law of the state of enforcement. But in practice, the prospects of successfully initiating cross-border enforcement proceedings are not always easy to assess. In order to enforce successfully, it is necessary to know the specifics of the legal system of the state of enforcement (the Requested state).

Key questions in this context are:

- What does the process of enforcement of child support looks like in different states?
- Are maintenance claims given a degree of priority?
- How do Central Authorities facilitate the ongoing enforcement of maintenance decisions?
- What are the conditions for children to be exempted from costs?

The meeting aims to review the international legal framework and provide an overview of the various national enforcement systems. Finally, the advantages and disadvantages of the different systems from a legal policy perspective shall be discussed.

If you have any difficulties filling out the German registration form, please feel free to contact us by e-mail at childsupport@dijuf.de.

Information

Host	German Institute for Youth Services and Family Law (DIJuF)
Date	January 28th, 2026 from 3 to 5:30 pm (CET)
Price	Free
Technique	Please make sure you have a stable internet connection and an audio source, for example a headset.
Registration	With registering you are confirming Zooms privacy policy. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions.
Contact	*Mona Rechtenwald*, rechtenwald@dijuf.de

Program

Wednesday, January 28th

2.45 pm — Opportunity to join the Zoom-Meeting

2.55 pm — Technical Instruction

3.00 pm — Introduction to the topic

- *Dr. Isabelle Jäger-Maillet*, LL.M., International Coordinator, DIJuF, Heidelberg

3.05 pm — Filing a cross-border application for enforcement of a child support order

- *Jean-Marc Pellet*, iSupport Coordinator, Hague Conference on Private International Law
- Dr. *Isabelle Jäger-Maillet*, LL.M., International Coordinator, DIJuF, Heidelberg

3.30 pm — National reports from enforcement authorities

- *Patrick Gielen*, Secretary General of the International Union of Judicial Officers, Belgium
- *Kristen Donadee*, California Department of Child Support Services, USA
- *Oscar Jans*, Secretary of the International Union of Judicial Officers, The Netherlands
- *Todor Lukov*, Judicial Officer, Bulgaria
- *Linda Rota*, Director of Policy, Privacy and Research at the BC Family Maintenance Agency (BCFMA), Canada
- *Leeanne Spillane*, Inland Revenue, New Zealand
- *Paulo Teixeira*, Member of the Executive Committee of the International Union of Judicial Officers, Portugal
- Dott.ssa *Elena Fiorini*, Director of the IV Office of the Head of the Department of Juvenile and Community Justice, Italy
- *Cristiana Rotunno*, Deputy Head of the Department of Juvenile and Community Justice, Italy

5.00 pm — Discussion: Learning from each other: How could maintenance enforcement be made more effective?

5.30 pm — End of the conference