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**ONLINE COURSE
INTERNATIONAL
CHILD ABDUCTION**



General Manager

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Duration

8 weeks

Maximum number of participants

25- Call for States
10- Open call

Participants profile

Public officials working in entities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of the children and adolescents (governing bodies of the systems for the promotion and protection of rights, entities that formulate public policy on children and adolescents, central authorities, immigration authorities, police, among others) with emphasis on those who are in charge of direct functions in the subject. Professionals from different areas of knowledge interested academically or professionally in the subject.

Objective

To provide an online space for reflection learning on the concepts of the two Conventions created to protect children of international abduction by their parents.

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the relations and differences between the notions of “needs” and “rights” relating to International Child Abduction.
- Identify and analyse the non-delegable role of people and institutions working with children and adolescents, with the aim of facilitating and guaranteeing the compliance of the Conventions.
- Acquire basic knowledge on the doctrine and legal framework on International Child Abduction.
- Undertake legal research and analysis in different aspects of International Child Abduction.

Modality

Virtual, asynchronous (through the Moodle Platform). Each Module has reading material and other resources of interest and evaluation activities that the participant can review and complete on the days and time of their convenience, within the established deadlines. Availability of at least 5 hours weekly is required. Eventually, there could be synchronous activities, for which we will call in due course.

Evaluation and approval criteria

In order to pass the course, participants must complete the process, comply at least 80% of the assessment activities, and achieve a final grade of 7/10 or higher. Formal aspects and elements that give an indication of the learning process will be considered.

MODULES

BASE MODULE

COMPETENCES FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION AND MOODLE PLATFORM

INTRODUCTORY MODULE

INTRODUCTION TO THE RIGHTS OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENTS

Objectives:

Offering a perspective on the Rights of the Child and Adolescents, understanding the similarities and differences between the notions of 'need' and 'rights' of the child, and identifying the instances and mechanisms to apply these. In this Module we will be learning about the Inter-American Children's Institute and its history, we will analyze the Universal Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and become familiar with the use of the virtual platform.

MODULE I

BASIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Objectives:

Approaching the main concepts that allow the analysis of the thematic of International Child Abduction from a rights-based perspective. This will involve the acquisition of judicial concepts applicable in the legal system of the Member States that are signatories of the Conventions relating to International Child Abduction examined in Module III.

MODULE II

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS

Objectives:

To provide a clear idea on the legal framework applicable in Child Abduction cases, based on the Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children (1989), the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (1980) ('Hague Convention 1980'), the Hague Convention from 1996 on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Enforcement and Co-operation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children ('Hague Convention 1996'), and the Brussels II Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003 of 27 November 2003). These Conventions contain the provisions and recommendations necessary for their application. It is expected that the participant will form their own opinion after undertaking the analysis of similarities and differences between both Conventions.

Finally, there is also additional material available, including the Good Practice manuals, comparative tables of Member States and documents on agreements concluded through the meeting of government experts

MODULE III

THE RESTITUTION PROCESS

Objectives:

At the end of Module IV, the participant will have a clear understanding of the international restitution process, and the different steps it entails from the moment the restitution is requested until the abducted child is returned. It is expected that the participant will understand the role of the Central Authorities and other actors, and their functions as facilitators and liaising actors in the process. Finally, one of the main objectives of this module is that the participant is able to identify the different tools used during the process, including the necessary legal forms, the use of mediation and other methods of alternate dispute resolution, and the importance of the role that the multi-disciplinary team undertakes during the process.

MODULE IV

VIOLENCE AS AN EXCEPTION

Objectives:

Explore further the exceptions provided in the conventions for not ordering the immediate return of abducted or retained children and adolescents to their habitual country of residence. Specifically, the one concerning the existence of a serious risk to the child or adolescent if they were to be returned, typically associated with the presence of violence.

MODULE V

PSYCHOSOCIAL APPROACH

Objectives:

Providing different approaches relating to the psychosocial process of restitution to which the child has been subdued. It will be important to consider the social and emotional development and the physical needs of the children and adolescents.

The contents may be modified.



MORE INFORMATION

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