

AGREEMENT
Between the Hague Conference on Private International Law
and the International Commission on Civil Status

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

International Commission on Civil Status
Secretariat General
Giessen, Licher Str. 74

October 17, 1969

Mr. M.H. van Hoogstraten
Secretary General of the Hague
Conference on Private International Law
66a, Zeestraat
The Hague/Netherlands

Mr. Secretary General,

By letter of August 28, 1967, I had the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication No. 343a/67 dated August 21, 1967, concerning the respective relations of our two Organisations.

The ICCS Bureau, having examined this communication with particular interest, has charged me to express to you its full agreement on the principle of strengthening the existing ties between the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Commission on Civil Status, notably to avoid, as far as possible, that they concurrently deal with the same legal questions in the future.

For this purpose, as you suggest, closer cooperation should be considered between both Secretaries General so that they are required to inform each other of matters included on the agenda and currently under review. However, in the event that one of the Organisations considers that the matter dealt with by the other is also of interest, it shall be responsible for proposing the convening of a joint commission, whose composition, functioning, and powers shall then be determined by mutual agreement.

I would be pleased to know whether, as I hope, the considerations set forth above may serve as the basis for our future cooperation.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) *S. Simitis*
Secretary General

Hague Conference on Private International Law
Bureau Permanent – The Hague,
Netherlands - 66a, Zeestraat
No. 373/69 vH/V

The Hague, 28 October 1969

Mr. S. Simitis
Secretary General of the International Commission on Civil Status
Bureau: Giessen, University
Licher Str. 74
Giessen

Mr. Secretary General,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated October 17, the content of which is as follows:

"Mr. Secretary General,

By letter of August 28, 1967, I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication No. 343a/67 dated August 21, 1967, concerning the respective relations of our two Organisations.

The ICCS Bureau, having examined this communication with particular interest, has charged me to express to you its full agreement on the principle of strengthening the existing ties between the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Commission on Civil Status, notably to avoid, as far as possible, that they concurrently deal with the same legal questions in the future.

For this purpose, as you suggest, closer cooperation should be considered between both secretaries general so that they are required to inform each other of matters included on the agenda and currently under review. However, in the event that one of the Organisations considers that the matter dealt with by the other is also of interest, it shall be responsible for proposing the convening of a joint commission, whose composition, functioning, and powers shall then be determined by mutual agreement.

I would be pleased to know whether, as I hope, the considerations set forth above may serve as the basis for our future cooperation.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurances of my highest consideration."

I am pleased to announce that the ideas expressed in this letter have received the approval of the permanent bodies of the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

May I be allowed to express the hope that the principles upon which our agreement has just been reached will contribute to the common goal of the progressive harmonisation of the law governing international legal relations between individuals

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) *M.H. van Hoogstraten*

Secretary General