



Hague Adoption Convention Country? YES

Child Profile

- Children over the age of five (5);
- Sibling groups;
- Children under the age of five (5) with health problems or being part of a sibling group; and
- Children with emotional, psychological, and social needs.

PAP Profile

- Married couples age between 25 - 60

Process

1. Attend an adoptions preparatory course organised by an accredited adoptions agency.
2. Compile the Home Study Report together with the social worker. Attend a psychological assessment carried out by a competent psychologist.
3. Apply with the Maltese Central Authority and Adoptions Board to be found eligible to adopt. The following original documentation shall be prepared and transmitted to the Adoptions Board:
 - Birth certificate of the wife
 - Birth certificate of the husband
 - Marriage certificate of the couple
 - Police detailed and basic certificate of the wife
 - Police detailed and basic certificate of the husband (and other relatives living with the family)
 - Medical certificates of the wife, husband and any relatives living in the household including tests for HIV, Hepatitis and Syphilis
 - FS3 wife
 - FS3 husband
 - Photos/welcome book
 - Home study report
 - Psychological reports

The PAPs shall also confirm with the Agency their intention to adopt from Chile, the number of siblings they would like to adopt and if they are considering adopting special needs children.

4. Once the couple is approved by the Adoptions Board the secretary will inform the Agency with the decision of the board. The Adoptions Board shall also prepare the necessary CA documents. The secretary will then contact the Agency to pick up the CA documents, the board's approval and the original documents listed above who will then forward to the PAPs.

5. The following duly authenticated, authorized, and legalized documents translated into Spanish must accompany the couples' dossier:

- i) Applicants' Birth Certificates;
- ii) Applicants' Marriage Certificate;
- iii) Certificate issued by the professional or honorary Chilean consul, confirming that the applicants have met all legal adoption requirements of their country of residence;
- iv) Certificate from the immigration authority of the applicants' country of residence containing the requirements to be met by the child;
- v) Certificate authorized by the governing body of the applicants' country of residence indicating existing legislation in that country regarding adoption, identifying the effects of adoption on adoptive parents and adopted children, as well as the effect, on the child to be adopted, of obtaining and losing nationality;
- vi) A favourable home study report issued by the accredited adoption agency of the applicants' country of residence, or other background information attesting to this matter to the satisfaction of the court;
- vii) Certificates attesting to the applicants' physical and mental health issued by competent professionals in their country of residence to satisfaction of the court;
- viii) A psychological report, issued by competent professionals of the applicants' country of residence;
- ix) Proof of financial situation;
- x) Recent photographs of the applicants, certified as such by the Consul of Chile at the applicants' country of residence;
- xi) Three letters of recommendation from authorities or notable community members of their country of residence; and
- xii) Certificate of suitability of the applicants or other document attesting to their eligibility, issued by the authority of the country of residence, conforming to the requirements of Article 5 of the Hague Convention.

6. The average waiting time is two (2) years. This will depend on the expectations of the prospective adoptive parents with regards to the children available for intercountry adoption, also taking into consideration the decline in the number of intercountry adoptions;

7. The costs involved include the prospective adoptive parents' stay in Chile, certificates, translations, and other document-related expenses;

8. Prospective adoptive parents are required to visit Chile just once (1), and the duration of the stay is of two (2) months;

9. The Chilean Central Authority requires four (4) post-adoption reports. Two (2) post adoption reports are to be submitted during the first year, whereas one (1) post adoption report is to be submitted in the third (3) and fourth (4) year respectively;

10. In general, the process involves a time of rapprochement between the prospective adoptive parents and the child, followed by the judicial hearings, and the administrative part, which involves the gathering of all the documentation related to the child, the subsequent entry in the civil register, translation of sentences, and processing of visa, among others. The child travels with his/her Chilean passport. Children leave Chile with a permission to enter the receiving country; and

11. The prospective adoptive parents meet the child during a meeting that takes place in the institution in which the child is resident.

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