

**No. 50325**

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**Finland  
and  
Estonia**

**Agreement between the Republic of Finland and the Republic of Estonia on abolishing the requirement of legalisation for population register documents. Turku, 12 December 2011**

**Entry into force:** *1 July 2012, in accordance with article 6*

**Authentic text:** *English*

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Finland, 18 January 2013*

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**Finlande  
et  
Estonie**

**Accord entre la République de Finlande et la République d'Estonie supprimant l'exigence de la légalisation des actes d'état civil. Turku, 12 décembre 2011**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2012, conformément à l'article 6*

**Texte authentique :** *anglais*

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat de l'Organisation des Nations Unies :** *Finlande, 18 janvier 2013*

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

## **AGREEMENT**

### **between the Republic of Finland and the Republic of Estonia on Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Population Register Documents**

The Republic of Finland and the Republic of Estonia, hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting States”,

in a spirit of close co-operation,

desiring to facilitate the use in either of the Contracting States of public documents drawn up in the other Contracting State,

wishing to supplement in their mutual relations the provisions of the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents, in accordance with its Article 3 (2),

have agreed as follows:

#### **Article 1**

1. Public documents referred to in Article 2, executed in either Contracting State and presented to authorities in the other Contracting State shall not require legalisation, or any similar formality, including the apostille.
2. These documents must be drawn up in English, bear a seal or an official stamp, the signatures of the competent authority and an indication of the capacity in which the person signing the document has acted.

#### **Article 2**

For the purposes of this Agreement, the following are deemed to be public documents:

a) the following civil status records emanating from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Estonia:

- i. Birth certificate – extract;
- ii. Death certificate – extract;
- iii. Marriage certificate – extract;
- iv. Divorce certificate – extract;
- v. Marriage non-impediment certificate – extract;
- vi. Population register – extract;
- vii. Change of name certificate – extract.

b) the following extracts and certificates containing population information, the issuance of which in Finland is based on the competence vested in authorities by the legislation on the registration of population data and on marriage:

- i. Extract from the population information system in Finland;
- ii. Certificate from the member register of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland or the Finnish Orthodox Church;
- iii. Certificate on the capacity under Finnish law to contract marriage before a foreign authority.

#### Article 3

1. When a public document referred to in Article 2 is produced in either Contracting State and there are serious reasons for doubting the authenticity of the signature, the capacity in which the person signing the documents acted and, where appropriate, the identity of the seal or official stamp which it bears, a request for verification may be addressed directly:

**In the Republic of Estonia:**

- to the Population Facts Department in the Ministry of the Interior,

**In the Republic of Finland:**

- to the central government authority responsible for population registry.

2. Authorities referred to in paragraph 1 shall be responsible for transmitting the reply of the competent person, body or authority.

3. The requests for verifications shall, where possible, be accompanied by the original, scanned image or photocopy of the document.

#### Article 4

1. Contracting States shall undertake to issue to the other Contracting State extracts or certificates described in paragraphs a and b of Article 2 concerning nationals of the requesting Contracting State when requested for official purposes in justifiable individual cases.

2. The request shall be made by diplomatic missions or consular posts to the competent authority or by the competent authority directly to the competent authority in the other Contracting State. It shall indicate briefly official purposes for which the request is made.

3. The fulfilment of such requests shall not entail payment of any charge or fee.