



International  
Social Service  
AUSTRALIA

## International Parental Child Abduction *Legal Assistance Service*

International Social Service (ISS) Australia is an independent, national not-for-profit organisation with over 50 years' experience defending children's rights and connecting families across the world.

ISS Australia's International Parental Child Abduction (IPCA) Legal Assistance Service provides free expert legal assistance to parents in Australia whose children have been taken or kept overseas without consent, or who are seeking access to children living overseas.

### Our qualified lawyers can provide:

- information to parents and organisations about:
  - legal avenues available to help return children from overseas
  - reducing the risk of children being taken from Australia without consent
  - legal avenues available to secure contact with children living overseas
- legal assistance to:
  - recover children who have been taken to or kept in a country bound by the 1980 *Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction (Hague Convention)*
  - access children living in a *Hague Convention* country
- assistance to prepare documents for *Hague Convention* applications

This service is provided **free Australia-wide** (funded by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department).

*ISS Australia also provides Social Work Support and International Family Mediation services relevant to IPCA. Referrals to these services can be made at the request of clients.*

**Defending** children • **connecting** families • across the **world**

Legal Assistance Service

# About ISS Australia

International Social Service (ISS) Australia is an independent, national not-for-profit organisation with over 50 years' experience **defending children and connecting families across the world.**

ISS Australia works with those who are separated by international borders, with an emphasis on the rights and best interests of the child. ISS Australia is part of the international ISS network spanning over 140 countries, based in Geneva, with advisory status at the United Nations.

ISS Australia is a leader in its field. Its intercountry services include:

- International Parental Child Abduction Social Work support
- International Parental Child Abduction Legal assistance
- International Family and Post Adoption Tracing and Reunification
- Intercountry Child Welfare and Kinship Placement
- International Family Mediation
- Professional services including training and capacity building, research and advocacy

Please see our other brochures on these services.

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