

Legislation of INTERPOL member states on missing Children

It is to be noted that the problem of missing children is almost inexistent in Cyprus. The only very rare cases reported to the Cyprus police concern parental abduction.

I. Categories of missing children

Cypriot legal system does not have any related classifications of cases of missing children.

However, cases of parental abduction and kidnapping by unknown persons are not treated as cases of missing children.

Cyprus does not keep statistics on missing children.

II. National regulations

National legislation.

Cyprus does not have any laws or regulations governing the reporting and handling of cases of missing children.

International texts.

Cyprus has ratified the Hague Convention of 25/10/80 on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction by **ratification law n?1, 1994.**

It has also ratified the European Convention (Luxemburg) of 20th may 1980 on Recognition and Enforcement of Decisions confirming Custody of Children on Restoration of Custody of Children by **ratification law number 36 of 1986.**

Cyprus has concluded bilateral agreements with several countries concerning provisions on the recognition, enforcement and judgement, including orders in family matters. The countries are the following:

1. Former Czech Republic by ratification law 68 of 1982.

2. Hungary by ratification law 7 of 1983.
3. Former Yugoslavia by ratification law 179 of 1986
4. Syria by ratification law 160 of 1986
5. Former Soviet Union by ratification law 55 of 1984
6. Greece by ratification law 18 of 1984
7. Bulgaria by ratification law 19(3) 1995
8. China by ratification law 172 of 1982
9. Poland by ratification law 103 of 1997.

III. Means of investigations

Police investigations.

There is no central police file in Cyprus, for reporting cases of missing children. Such cases are classified in the file of missing persons.

We do not have a police department solely responsible for dealing with cases of missing children. The C.I.D. is responsible for such cases.

The decision whether the disappearance of a child should be reported at national, regional or international level is taken by the police and is based mostly on the circumstances of the disappearance and the information secured during the enquires for the location of the missing child.

Collaboration with international organizations, non governmental organizations (NGO) or private associations.

There is not any non-governmental organizations which report or collect information about missing children.

INTERPOL

INTERPOL's actions regarding missing children is very effective. Nicosia National Central Bureau rarely asks for the publication of

"yellow notices".

Publishing of yellow notices on the General Secretariat's internet site needs researching because there are positive and negative aspects of this procedure.

Media (TV, Internet ...)

Reports of missing children in Cyprus are circulated through the television, radio, newspapers, magazines, etc.

Cyprus does not have a toll-free telephone service.



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