



European Network of National Observatories on Childhood

SLOVAKIA

Form for the compilation of good practises in the post adoption phase for the Seminar on post adoption Art.9 c) Hague Convention

Post-adoption services

1. Do the social services promote the establishment of a trust relation with the prospective adoptive parents before the adoption is pronounced in particular in the meetings that are aimed at their training and preparation? (so that in case of problems in the post adoption phase the adoptive parents are more likely to contact the social services)

Yes, good organized training and preparation meetings with the future adoptive parents are the high influence for post – adoption contacts with the specialists or offices. This is experience of psychologist working in this field.

2. Please indicate the possible types of services (counselling, groups of mutual aid, psychotherapy, scholastic support, family mediation, etc...).

Counselling, psychotherapy.

3. Who is the subject that has the responsibility of the service?

The training before the adoption is organized by Psychologist advisory centres, it is a network working in each region under roof of social offices. All services and counselling are pay free. These Centres are responsible for post – adoption services too.

4. Staff employed in the Service (number, professional characteristics, etc..).

Staff – 160 specilaist in Centres – specialized for adoption issue about 30 — psychologists, social workers.

5. Duration of the Service (until when?, until the minor is 18 years old?)

Without age limits.

6. Is there collaboration and integration among the different public subjects involved (services, school, etc..) and between these and the private bodies in the carrying out of the service?



Depends – most often collaboration with community.

7. Is there an evaluation system of the service? Are data on the use of the service by families available?

No.

8. Who elaborates the reports on the post-adoption phase required by the authorities of States of origin?

Social office – but it is very rarely case – from 170 international adoption in Slovakia during last two yera only 3 children were adopted from foreign countries.
Slovakia is country of origin.

9. Are there good practices in the country relating with the beginning of the relation with the adoptive family on the immediately subsequent period after the pronouncement of adoption?

No.

Access to the origins

10. In the framework of the support services in the post-adoption phase, is there a service to support those who want to collect information about their origins? (Right to the access to the origins recognized also in the art. 7 (1) of the Convention on Rights of the Child).

Few experience.

11. Are there limits and conditions for the access to the information about the origins (age, consent of the adoptive parents and/or biological parents)?

No limits.

12. Who is the competent subject to address the request (public services, the central authority, an administrative office, etc..)?

Central authority.

13. Are there centres and/or services specialized in the assistance in this sector?

No.



14. Does a central organ exist which has to collect and preserve the information on the origins?

Yes.

15. What are the modalities of functioning and access to the service? What are the professional roles engaged in the support phase in the research on information on the origins?

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16. How long has the information on the origins to be preserved?

No limits.

17. Is it possible to check if and how the valorisation and the preservation of the links with the origins is promoted (cultural and social events with other adoptive parents group, travel opportunities to the country of origin with other adoptive family, etc.)? Is this kind of activity carried out by public or private bodies?

Few experience, carried out by private bodies.

18. Are there good practices in the country relating to the support to adopted adults who wish to collect information on their origins?

No.

Adoptive failures

19. Who is responsible of the child in case of an adoption failure?

Social Office – Social worker in child protection department.

20. Which kinds of support and accompaniment for the child and the adoptive family are realised in these hypothesis?

Counselling – by Psychological Centres.

21. Are the authorities of the State of origin informed in the case of intercountry adoption?

Yes.

22. What are the interventions for the minor protection carried out in case of revocation of the adoption? Is an immediate placing in a new family provided or is a first insertion in a welcome structure for children considered?



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New family or children home and after half year insertion in the list of children searching new adoptive family.

- 23.** Are there good practices in the country relating to the interventions of support to the adoptive families in difficulty and/or support in cases of removal of the child from the adoptive family?

Not special good practices.