

No. 12140. CONVENTION ON THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE ABROAD IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS. OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT THE HAGUE ON 18 MARCH 1980.<sup>1</sup>

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## RATIFICATION

*Instrument deposited with the Government of the Netherlands on:*

7 April 1976

FINLAND

(With effect from 6 June 1976. Signature affixed on 9 March 1976.)

With the following reservation:

“In conformity with Article 33, Finland enters a reservation to paragraph 2 of Article 4 to the effect that Letters of Request in the English or French languages will not be accepted.”

With the following declaration:

“1. In Finland the Ministry for Foreign Affairs shall be the Central Authority referred to in Article 2.

2. Swedish is the second official language of Finland. Finland will therefore in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 4 accept Letters of Request in the Swedish language. The answer shall be given in the Swedish language if in connection with the Letter of Request this has been specifically requested.

3. A member of the judicial personnel of the requesting authority may in accordance with Article 8 be present at the execution of a Letter of Request, provided that the Finnish Ministry of Justice has given its consent.

4. The evidence referred to in Articles 16 and 17 of the Convention may be taken without the prior permission of the Finnish authorities.

5. Finland is not going to execute Letters of Request referred to in Article 23 issued for the purpose of obtaining pre-trial discovery of documents as known in Common Law countries.”

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 847, p. 231, and annex A in volumes 861 and 949.