

Apostille / Legalization

- **apostille** - if the issuing country is covered by the Convention abolishing the requirement of legalisation of foreign public documents drawn up in The Hague on 5 October 1961 (Journal of Laws of 2005 No. 112, item 938),
- **legalization** - in other cases.

Apostille

- is a certification under the Hague Convention of 1961 certifying documents for use in foreign countries
- it is a certificate of authenticity of the document
- it is a certificate of conformity attached to another document so that it can be used abroad
- certify the authenticity of the signature, the capacity in which the signatory acts and, if necessary, the identity of the stamp or stamp affixed to the document.

In most European countries the authority formally issuing the apostille is:

- **Ministries of Foreign Affairs** of the country concerned, which delegate the broadcasting of apostille to local offices in order to facilitate accessibility.

Legalization

- certification of foreign public documents intended for legal circulation in Poland in the event that the country in which the document was issued is not a party to the Hague Convention (Convention abolishing the requirement of legalisation of foreign public documents, signed in The Hague on 5 October 1961)
- **the legalization should be done by a consul of the Republic of Poland appointed for the state on whose territory or in whose educational system the certificate was issued**
- the consular officer shall legalise the document by establishing the legality of the document of the place of issue.

If you are a holder of a document issued in one of the following countries, you should:	
contact one of the institutions authorized to issue an Apostille:	legalize them in the Polish Consulate:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Albania</i>• <i>Andorra</i>• <i>Antigua and Barbuda</i>• <i>Argentina</i>• <i>Armenia</i>• <i>Australia</i>• <i>Austria</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Afghanistan</i>• <i>Algeria</i>• <i>Angola</i>• <i>Bangladesh</i>• <i>Benin</i>• <i>Bhutan</i>• <i>Cambodia</i>

- *Azerbaijan*
- *Bahamas*
- *Bahrain*
- *Barbados*
- *Belarus*
- *Belgium*
- *Belize*
- *Bolivia*
- *Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- *Botswana*
- *Brazil*
- *Brunei*
- *Bulgaria*
- *Burundi*
- *Cape Verde*
- *China (special administrative districts: Hong Kong, Macao)*
- *Chile*
- *Colombia*
- *Cook Islands*
- *Costa Rica*
- *Croatia*
- *Cyprus*
- *Czech Republic*
- *Denmark*
- *Dominica*
- *Dominican Republic*
- *Ecuador*
- *El Salvador*
- *Eswatini*
- *Estonia*
- *Fiji*
- *Finland*
- *France*
- *Georgia*
- *Germany*
- *Greece*
- *Grenada*
- *Guatemala*
- *Guyana*
- *Honduras*
- *Hungary*
- *Iceland*
- *India*
- *Indonesia*
- *Irleand*
- *Israel*

- *Cameroon*
- *Canada*
- *Central African Republic*
- *China (excluding special administrative districts: Hong Kong, Macao)*
- *Chad*
- *Congo*
- *Cuba*
- *Egypt*
- *Ethiopia*
- *Gambia*
- *Ghana*
- *Haiti*
- *Iraq*
- *Iran*
- *Ivory Coast*
- *Jordan*
- *Kenya*
- *Kuwait*
- *Laos*
- *Lebanon*
- *Libya*
- *Madagascar*
- *Malaysia*
- *Mauritania*
- *Mozambique*
- *Nepal*
- *Niger*
- *Nigeria*
- *Palestine*
- *Papua New Guinea,*
- *Qatar*
- *Rwanda*
- *Somalia*
- *Sri Lanka*
- *Sudan*
- *Syria*
- *Taiwan*
- *Thailand*
- *Tanzania*
- *Togo*
- *Turkmenistan*
- *Uganda*
- *Viet Nam*
- *Zambia*
- *Zimbabwe*
- *U.A.E.*

- *Italy*
- *Jamaica*
- *Japan*
- *Kazakhstan*
- *Kosovo*
- *Kyrgyzstan*
- *Latvia*
- *Lesotho*
- *Liberia*
- *Liechtenstein*
- *Lithuania*
- *Luxembourg*
- *Malawi*
- *Malta*
- *Marshall Islands*
- *Mauritius*
- *Mexico*
- *Monaco*
- *Mongolia*
- *Montenegro*
- *Morocco*
- *Namibia*
- *Netherlands*
- *New Zealand*
- *Nicaragua*
- *Niue*
- *Norway*
- *North Macedonia*
- *Oman*
- *Pakistan*
- *Palau*
- *Panama*
- *Paraguay*
- *Peru*
- *Philippines*
- *Portugal*
- *Republic of Korea*
- *Republic of Moldova*
- *Romania*
- *Russian Federation*
- *Saint Kitts and Nevis,*
- *Saint Lucia*
- *Saint Vincent and the Grenadines*
- *Samoa*
- *San Marino*
- *Sao Tome and Principe*
- *Saudi Arabia*

- *Yemen*

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Senegal</i>• <i>Serbia</i>• <i>Seychelles</i>• <i>Singapore</i>• <i>Slovakia</i>• <i>Slovenia</i>• <i>South Africa</i>• <i>Spain</i>• <i>Suriname</i>• <i>Sweden</i>• <i>Switzerland</i>• <i>Tajikistan</i>• <i>Tonga</i>• <i>Trinidad and Tobago</i>• <i>Tunisia</i>• <i>Turkey</i>• <i>Ukraine</i>• <i>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</i>• <i>United States of America</i>• <i>Uruguay</i>• <i>Uzbekistan</i>• <i>Vanuatu</i>• <i>Venezuela</i>	
<p>The list of countries – parties to the convention and addresses of institutions issuing the apostille can be found here.</p>	<p>The list of Polish diplomatic missions abroad is available on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.</p>