



ERICSA 63RD ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

MAY 3-7, 2026

Milwaukee

WISCONSIN

International Roundtable

Representatives:

Luiza Nadstazik – Poland

Arnaldo Silveira – Brazil

Daniel Raz - Israel

Latalya Stevens – "Canada"

Moderator: Margot Bean



Please provide a general overview of your child support program.



Ministerstwo
Sprawiedliwości

Ministry of Justice, Poland



What are some current issues affecting your particular country in the processing of intergovernmental child support cases?

What's new and interesting in your nation regarding international child support?

Ministry of Justice, Poland



What should the U.S. states and tribes know about your country that may be unique or different regarding how you process intergovernmental cases? For example, are there any unusual enforcement measures used by your jurisdiction?



Sites and flag of Israel



How does your agency use AI in the establishment and enforcement of child support orders?

Cristo Redentor Statue in Brazil



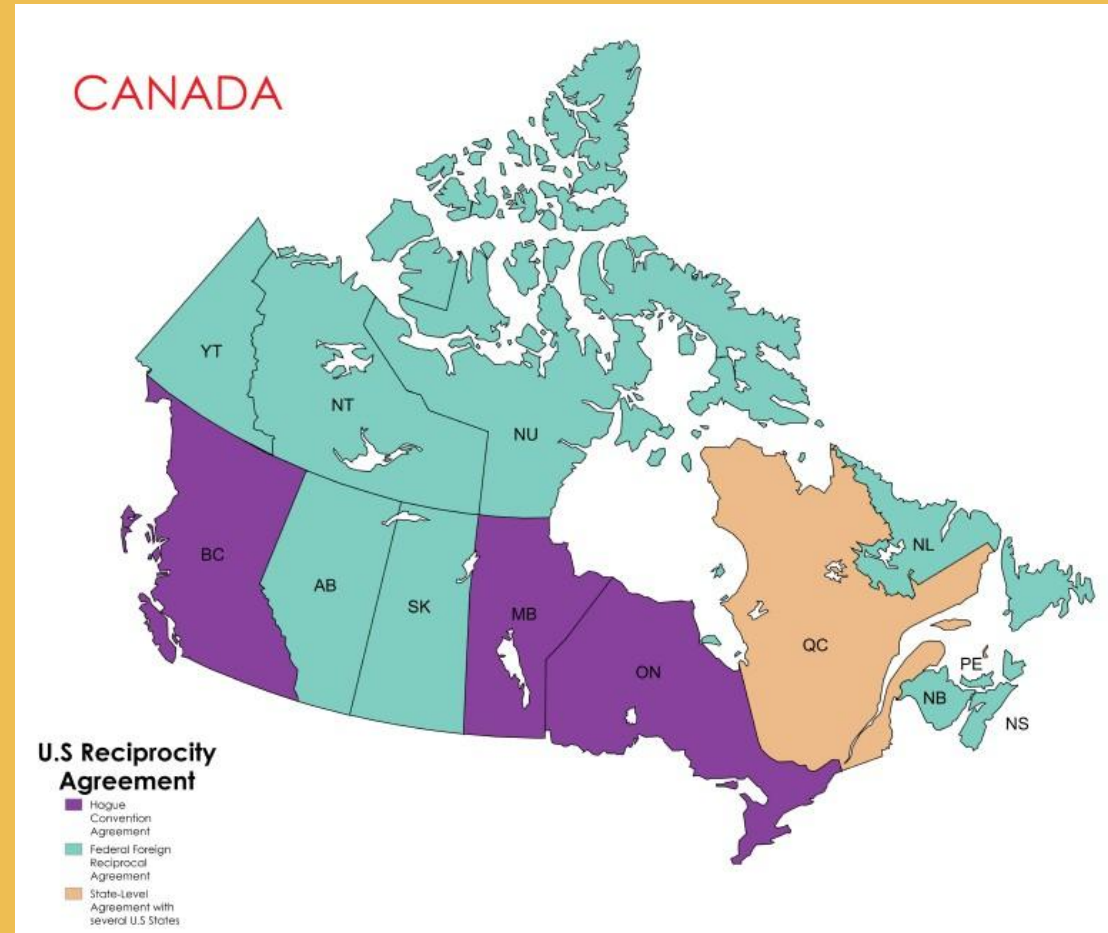
Flag of Brazil



When another jurisdiction requests a Specific Measure (a/k/a Limited Services), what services are you able to provide?



Flag and Map of Canada



Please describe your process when a child changes custody.
Are arrears generally payable to the custodial parent or to the child?
Is the action mostly judicial or administrative?

Coat of Arms and Flags of Poland



Can you each offer one or two best practices or practical tips that your office has found useful for processing international cases?

Do you have any closing remarks?



**Luiza Nadstazik, Chief Specialist, Division of International
Proceedings in Family Matters, Departament of Family
and Juvenile Matters, Ministry of Justice**
luiza.nadstazik@ms.gov.pl

**Arnaldo Silveira, , General Coordinator for International
Legal Cooperation in Civil Matters (Central Authority)
Ministry of Justice and Public Security**
arnaldo.silveira@mj.gov.br

**Daniel Raz, Advocate
Israel's National Supervisor for Family Law and International Child Support
Legal Aid Administration, Ministry of Justice**
Danielr@justice.gov.il

**Latalya Stevens, Revenue Program Administrator
Child Support Program, Florida Department of Revenue**
latalya.stevens@floridarevenue.com

Margot Bean
mbean@nycap.rr.com



International Child Support Enforcement in Israel

A comprehensive overview of Israel's legal framework, procedures, and best practices for cross-border maintenance cases — with a focus on the U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Understanding and the New York Convention (1956).

PRESENTED BY DANIEL RAZ

Israel's National Supervisor for Family Law and International Child Support
Legal Aid Administration, Ministry of Justice

Mail: Danielr@justice.gov.il Tel: +972- 733929577 Mob: 972-50-6-117057





LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Israel's International Legal Basis



New York Convention (1956)

Israel is a signatory to the 1956 New York Convention on the Recovery Abroad of Maintenance. This is the primary multilateral treaty governing international maintenance cooperation for Israel.

Important Note

*Israel has **not** ratified the Hague Convention of 2007. All references to international cooperation are therefore based on the New York Convention and bilateral arrangements — most notably the U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Understanding (2009).*

BILATERAL AGREEMENT

The U.S.-Israel Memorandum of Understanding (2009)

The MOU signed between the United States and Israel in 2009 is a cornerstone of Israel's international child support cooperation. It establishes streamlined procedures for enforcement and establishment of maintenance obligations between the two countries.

Scope

Covers both enforcement of existing orders and establishment of new maintenance obligations

Central Authority

Israel's Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Department serves as the designated Central Authority

44% of Cases

The majority of Israel's international maintenance caseload involves the United States



CENTRAL AUTHORITY

Israel's Central Authority: Key Facts

2,200

Active Cases

*Total international maintenance cases
currently managed*

44%

U.S.-Israel Cases

*Share of caseload involving the United
States*

\$3.5M

Collected

*Total maintenance funds recovered on
behalf of applicants*

The Legal Aid Department at the Ministry of Justice manages all incoming and outgoing international maintenance applications, coordinating with foreign Central Authorities and domestic courts.



MAIN CHALLENGES

Key Challenges in Processing International Cases

Locating Debtors Abroad

Identifying and locating non-resident debtors remains one of the most persistent obstacles, especially when addresses and employment details are unknown.

Jurisdictional Complexity

Differences in legal systems, enforcement mechanisms, and procedural requirements between countries create significant delays and misunderstandings.

Document Translation & Authentication

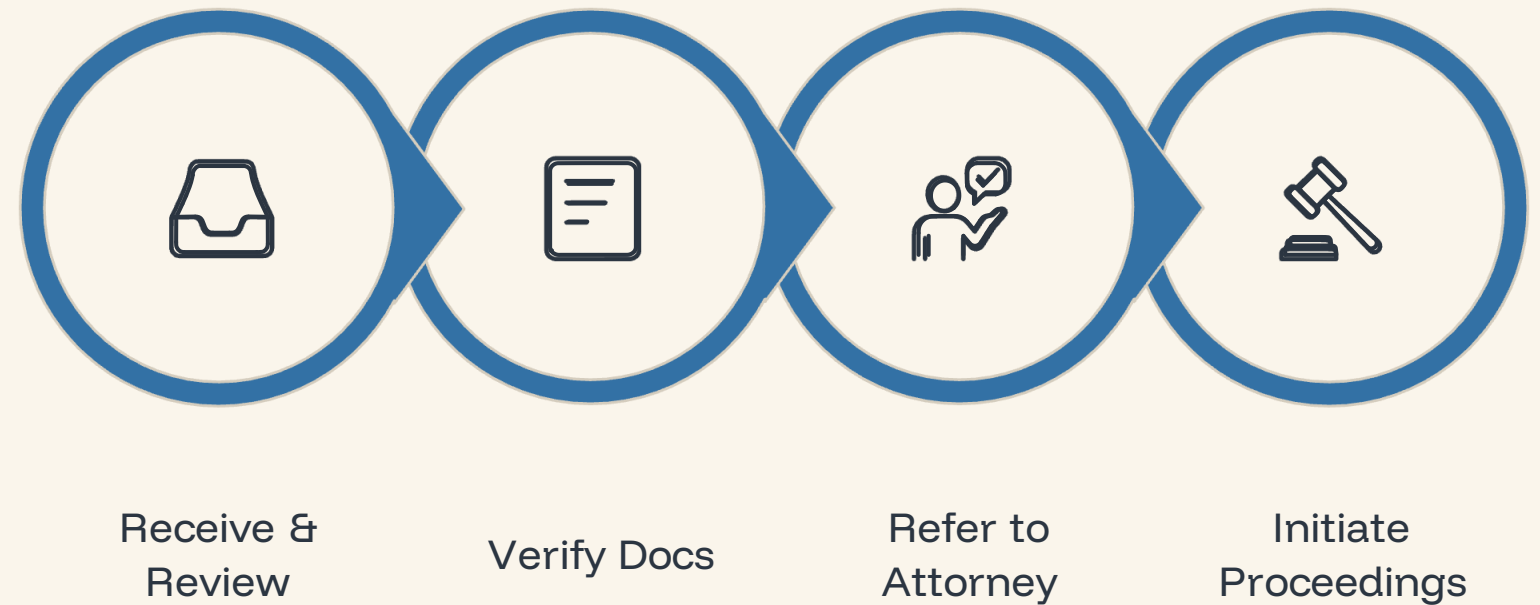
All foreign documents must be translated into Hebrew and properly authenticated, adding time and cost to every case.





INCOMING APPLICATIONS

How Israel Handles Incoming Applications



Upon receipt of an incoming application, the Central Authority reviews completeness, verifies all required documentation, assigns a Legal Aid attorney, and initiates enforcement or establishment proceedings before the competent Israeli court.

Required Documentation for Enforcement

- 1

Translated Judgment

A certified Hebrew translation of the foreign maintenance order or judgment is mandatory for all enforcement proceedings.
- 2

Certificate of Finality

Confirmation that the foreign judgment is final and enforceable in the country of origin.
- 3

Power of Attorney

A duly executed power of attorney authorizing the Israeli Central Authority or attorney to act on behalf of the applicant.
- 4

Updated Debt Calculation

A current, itemized calculation of arrears owed, including principal and any applicable interest.



ARREARS

Calculating & Communicating Arrears

Accurate arrears calculation is critical in cross-border cases. Israel requires a detailed, up-to-date breakdown of all outstanding amounts before enforcement proceedings can commence.

Itemized Statement

Monthly breakdown of unpaid amounts, clearly referencing the original order

Currency Conversion

Foreign currency amounts must be converted to NIS with the applicable exchange rate noted

Signed Declaration

A sworn or affirmed statement by the creditor confirming the accuracy of the arrears figure



Enforcing Foreign Judgments in Israel



Legal Basis

*Foreign maintenance orders are enforced in Israel under the **Foreign Judgments Enforcement Law (1958)**. The applicant must file a petition with the Family Court to have the foreign order recognized and declared enforceable.*

Typical Timeline

*From filing to first enforcement action, the process typically takes **6–18 months**, depending on case complexity, debtor cooperation, and court scheduling.*

Enforcement Tools Available

- Wage garnishment orders •*
- Bank account attachment •*
- Travel ban / passport seizure •*
- Property liens •*
- Imprisonment for contempt (last resort) •*

Recent Legal & Procedural Developments

1

2009

U.S.-Israel MOU signed, establishing streamlined bilateral cooperation framework

2

Ongoing

Digitization of case management within the Legal Aid Department to improve tracking and communication

3

Recent

Enhanced inter-agency cooperation between the Ministry of Justice, National Insurance Institute, and Population Authority for debtor location

4

Current

Ongoing review of procedures to align with international best practices under the New York Convention



Common Obstacles in International Cooperation



Communication Gaps



Missing Debtor Information



Documentation Deficiencies

Delays in responses from foreign Central Authorities and inconsistent use of standard forms slow case progress. Israel addresses this through dedicated case officers and regular follow-up protocols.

Incomplete addresses or identification data are common. Israel leverages the Population Registry, National Insurance Institute, and Tax Authority to locate debtors domestically.

Incomplete or improperly authenticated documents from abroad cause significant delays. Clear checklists and pre-screening by the Central Authority help reduce rejections.



Handling Cases with Missing Debtor Information

When debtor address or identification is unknown, Israel's Central Authority can initiate a multi-agency search using domestic databases:

→ **Population Registry**

Provides current address and ID details for Israeli residents

→ **National Insurance Institute**

Can confirm employment status and employer details

→ **Tax Authority**

Income and asset information to support enforcement

Important Note for Foreign Authorities

When submitting applications to Israel, please provide as much identifying information as possible: full name, date of birth, last known address, ID number, and employer details. This significantly accelerates the location process.





SERVICES

Core Services of the Central Authority



Enforcement of Judgments

Registering and enforcing foreign maintenance orders through Israeli courts



New Claims

Establishing new maintenance obligations where no prior order exists



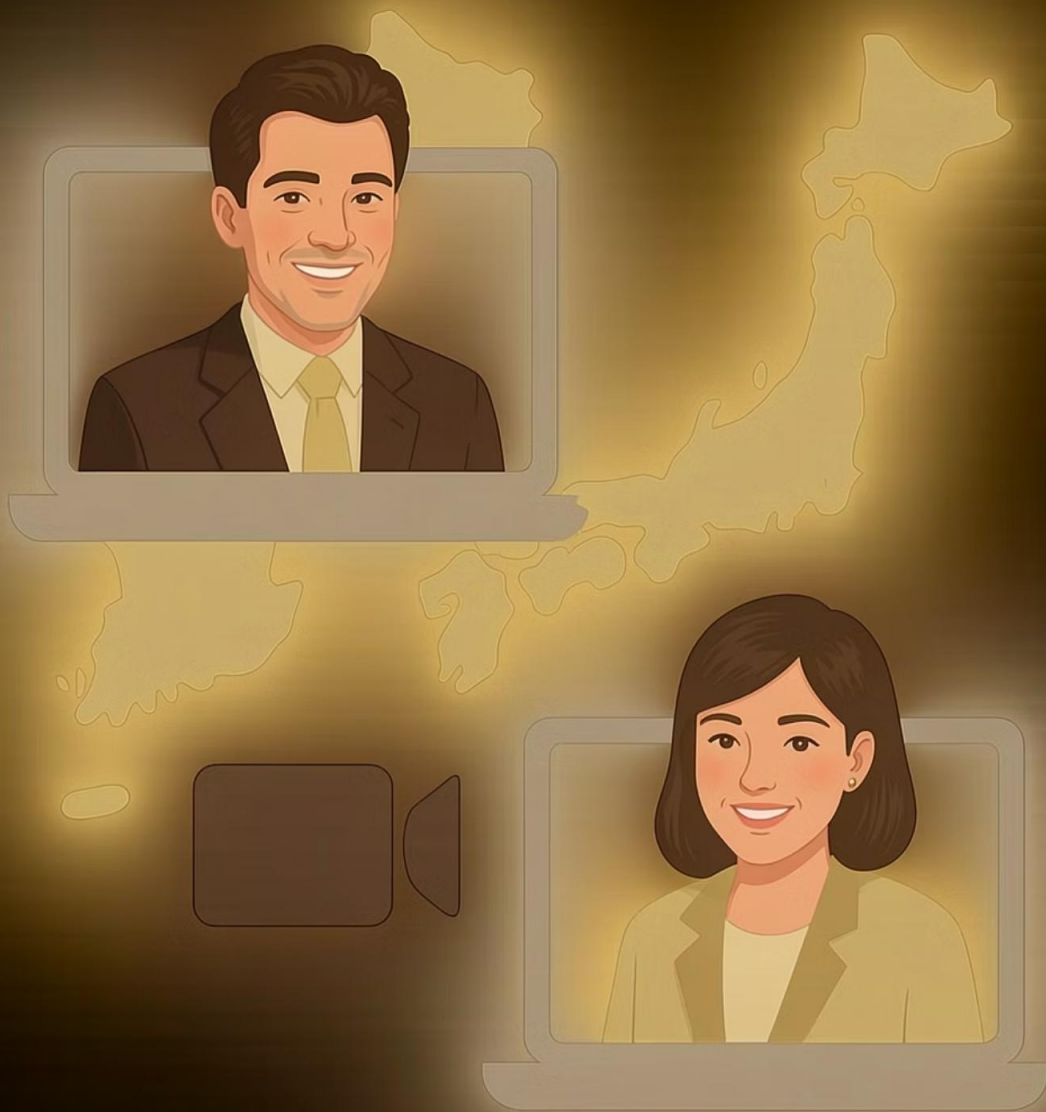
Modifications

Processing requests to modify existing maintenance orders based on changed circumstances



Debtor Location

Utilizing domestic databases to locate debtors and their assets within Israel



COMMUNICATION

Ensuring Effective Communication with Foreign Authorities

Dedicated Case Officers

Each international case is assigned to a specific Legal Aid attorney who serves as the primary point of contact for the foreign Central Authority throughout the life of the case.

Standardized Forms

Israel uses internationally recognized forms (aligned with New York Convention standards) to ensure clarity and consistency in all correspondence.

Regular Status Updates

Foreign authorities are proactively notified of key milestones: case receipt, court filing, hearing dates, and enforcement outcomes.

Language

Communications with U.S. authorities are conducted in English. Israel requests that incoming applications from the U.S. be submitted in English with Hebrew translations of key documents.

Unique Features of the Israeli Legal System

Religious Courts & Family Law

In Israel, maintenance matters may fall under the jurisdiction of either civil Family Courts or religious courts (Rabbinical, Sharia, or Druze courts), depending on the parties' religion and the nature of the claim. Foreign authorities should be aware that this dual-track system can affect which court handles a case.

National Insurance Institute (Bituach Leumi)

Israel's NII can advance maintenance payments to custodial parents when the debtor defaults, then pursue recovery independently. This provides a safety net for creditors while enforcement proceedings are ongoing.

Enforcement Administration

A specialized Enforcement and Collection Authority (Hotzaa Lapoal) handles execution of court orders, including maintenance, with broad powers to attach assets and impose sanctions.



Best Practices for Efficient Case Handling

01

Submit Complete Applications

Ensure all required documents are included and properly authenticated before submission to avoid delays

02

Provide Maximum Debtor Information

Include full name, DOB, ID number, last known address, employer, and any asset information

03

Use Standard Forms

Adhere to New York Convention standard forms for all requests and correspondence

04

Maintain Regular Follow-Up

Proactive communication between Central Authorities prevents cases from stalling

05

Update Arrears Regularly

Provide updated debt calculations at each stage of proceedings to ensure accurate enforcement



What Foreign Authorities Should Know When Working with Israel

No Hague 2007

Israel has not ratified the 2007 Hague Convention. Base all cooperation on the New York Convention (1956) and, for U.S. cases, the 2009 MOU.

Dual Court System

Be prepared for cases to be handled by either civil Family Courts or religious courts depending on the parties' personal status.

Hebrew Translation Required

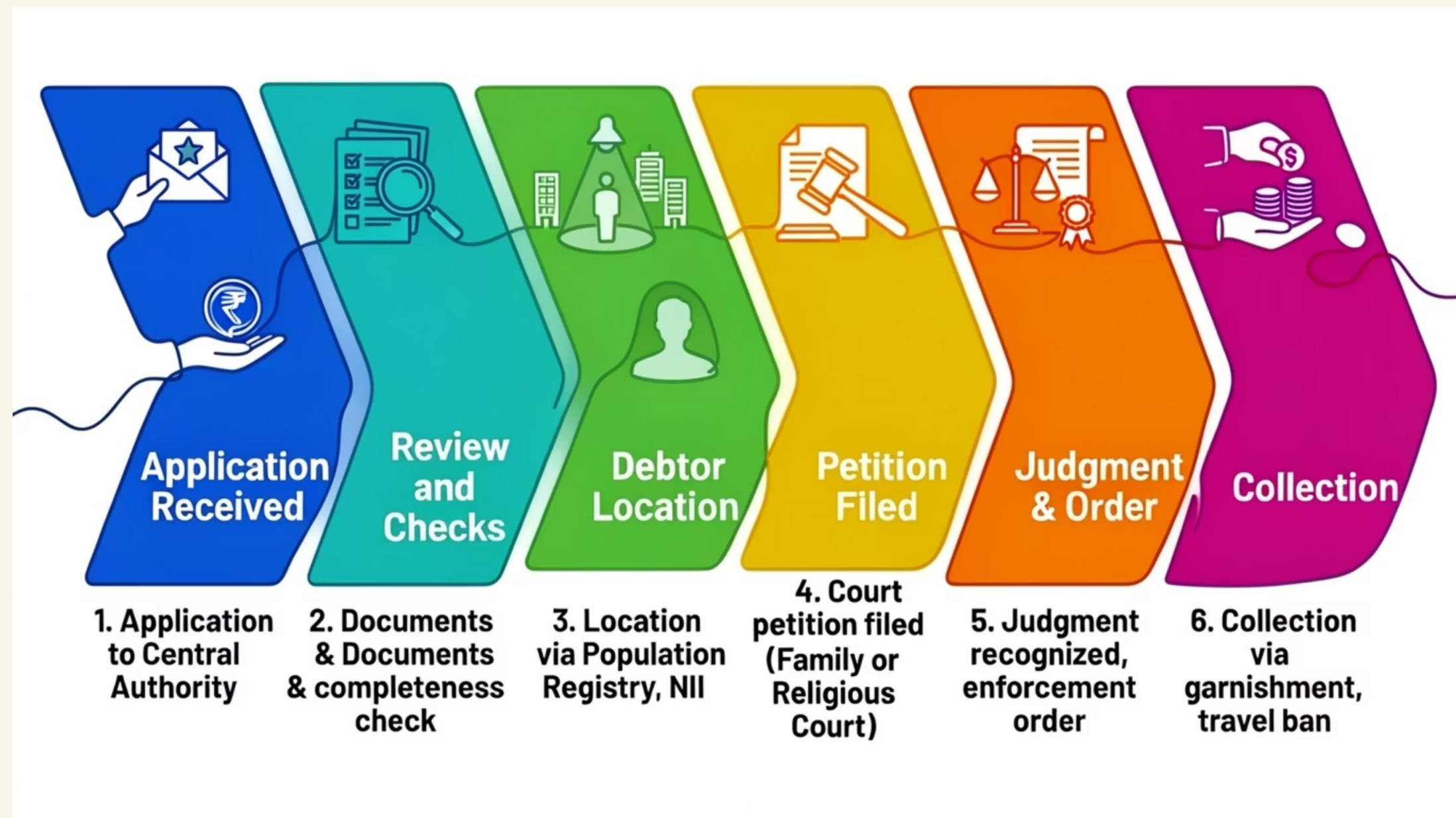
All foreign documents must be accompanied by certified Hebrew translations. Plan for this in your timeline.

NII Safety Net

Israel's National Insurance Institute may advance payments to creditors, which can affect the total arrears owed by the debtor.



End-to-End Enforcement Process



The full process from application receipt to active collection typically takes 6–18 months, depending on debtor cooperation, court scheduling, and completeness of documentation.

Working with Israel's Central Authority

Central Authority

*Legal Aid Department Ministry of
Justice, State of Israel*

Applicable Treaties

*New York Convention (1956) •
U.S.-Israel MOU (2009) •*

Primary Language

*Hebrew (English accepted for U.S.
correspondence)*

Key Reminders for Incoming Requests

- Submit complete documentation from the outset •*
- Include certified Hebrew translations •*
- Provide maximum debtor identifying information •*
- Use standard New York Convention forms •*
- Allow 6–18 months for full enforcement cycle •*
- Expect proactive status updates from assigned case officer •*



Ministry of Justice

Key Takeaways



Strong Bilateral Framework

The U.S.-Israel MOU (2009) and New York Convention (1956) provide a solid legal basis — Israel does not operate under the Hague 2007 Convention



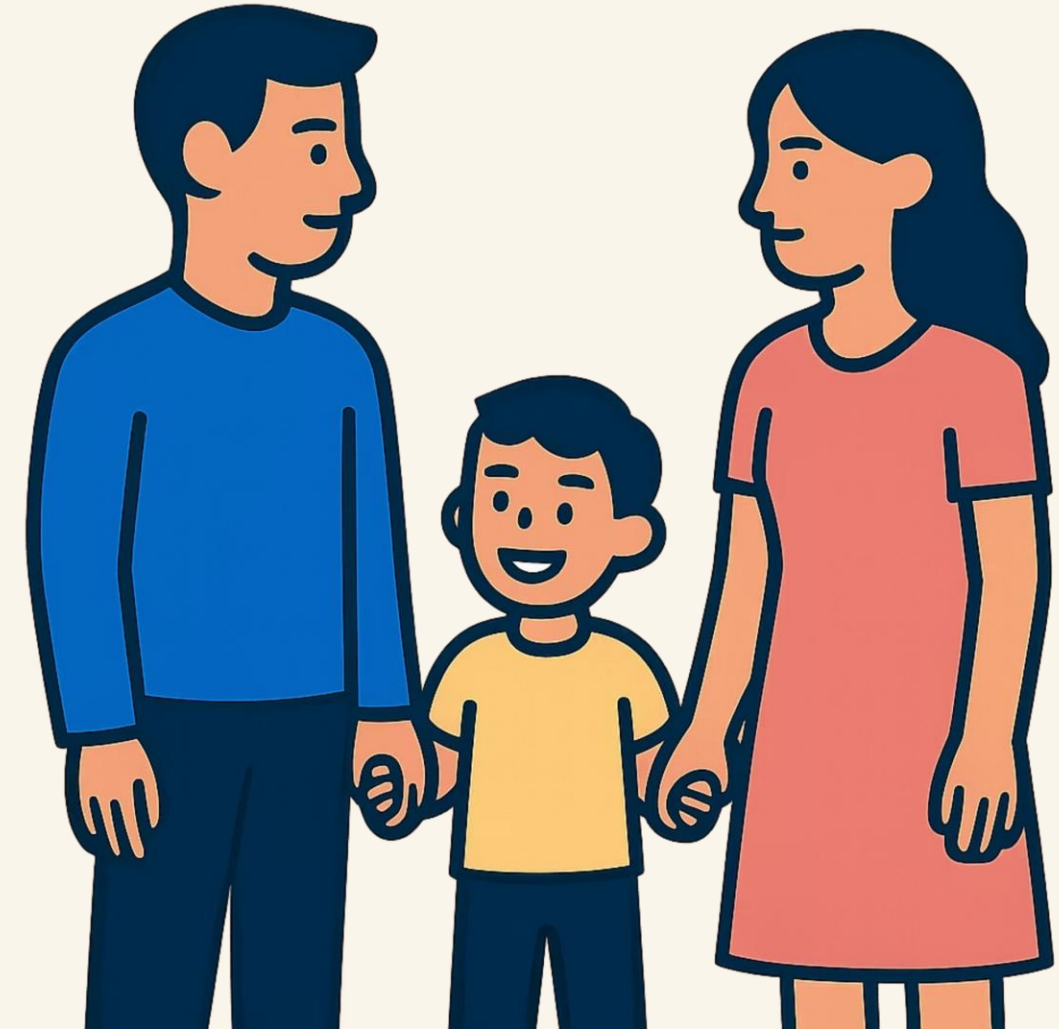
Active & Resourced Central Authority

2,200 active cases, \$3.5M collected — Israel's Legal Aid Department is experienced and committed to international cooperation



Preparation is Key

Complete documentation, maximum debtor information, and use of standard forms are the single most impactful steps foreign authorities can take to accelerate case resolution



Thank
you!