

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HCCH

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Attaché to the Secretary General

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THE HCCH

Hague Conference on Private International Law

Conférence de La Haye de droit international privé



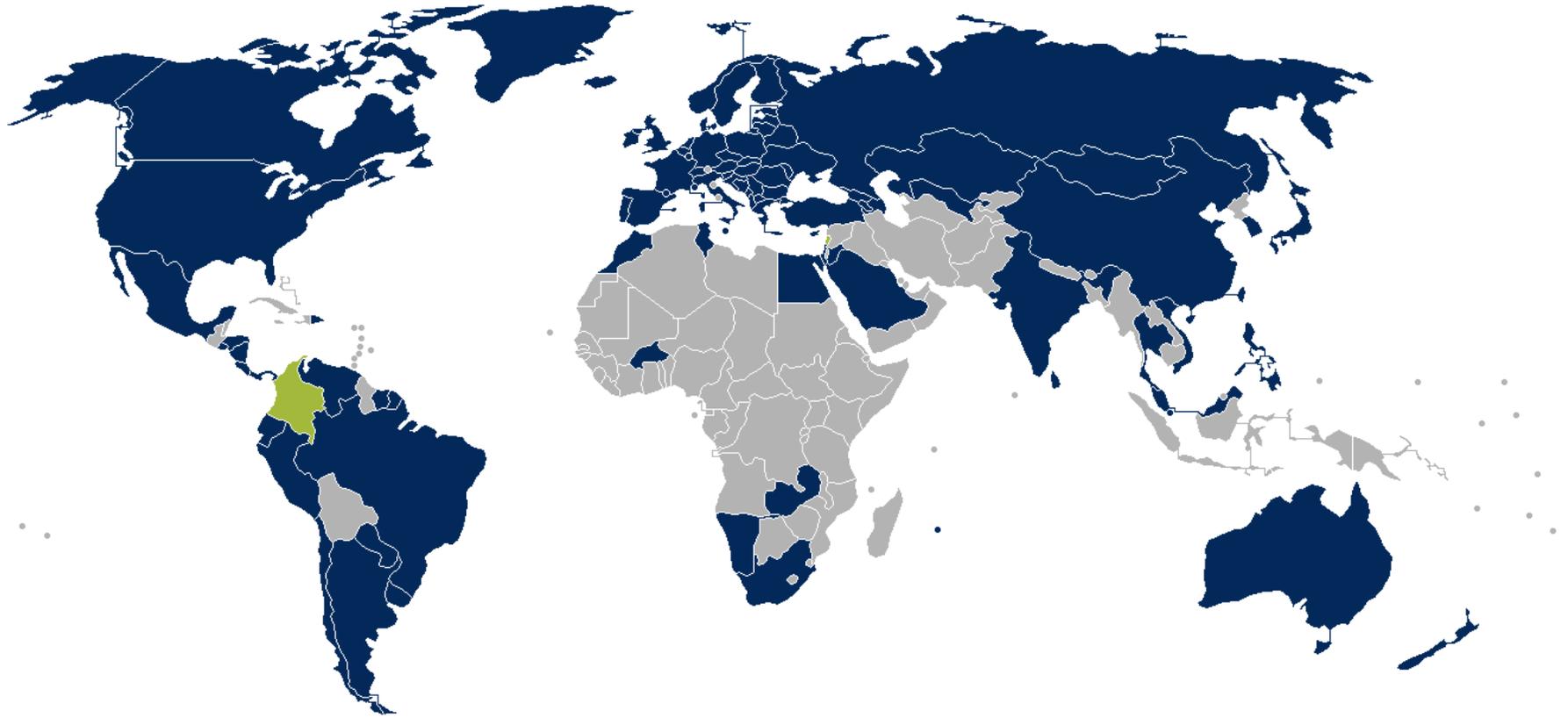
WHAT IS THE HCCH?

- An **intergovernmental organisation**,
1893 origins
- Legislative mandate:
“**progressive unification of the rules
of private international law**”
(Art. 1, Statute)



91 HCCH MEMBERS

90 States + European Union



Member States

Admitted States

Colombia



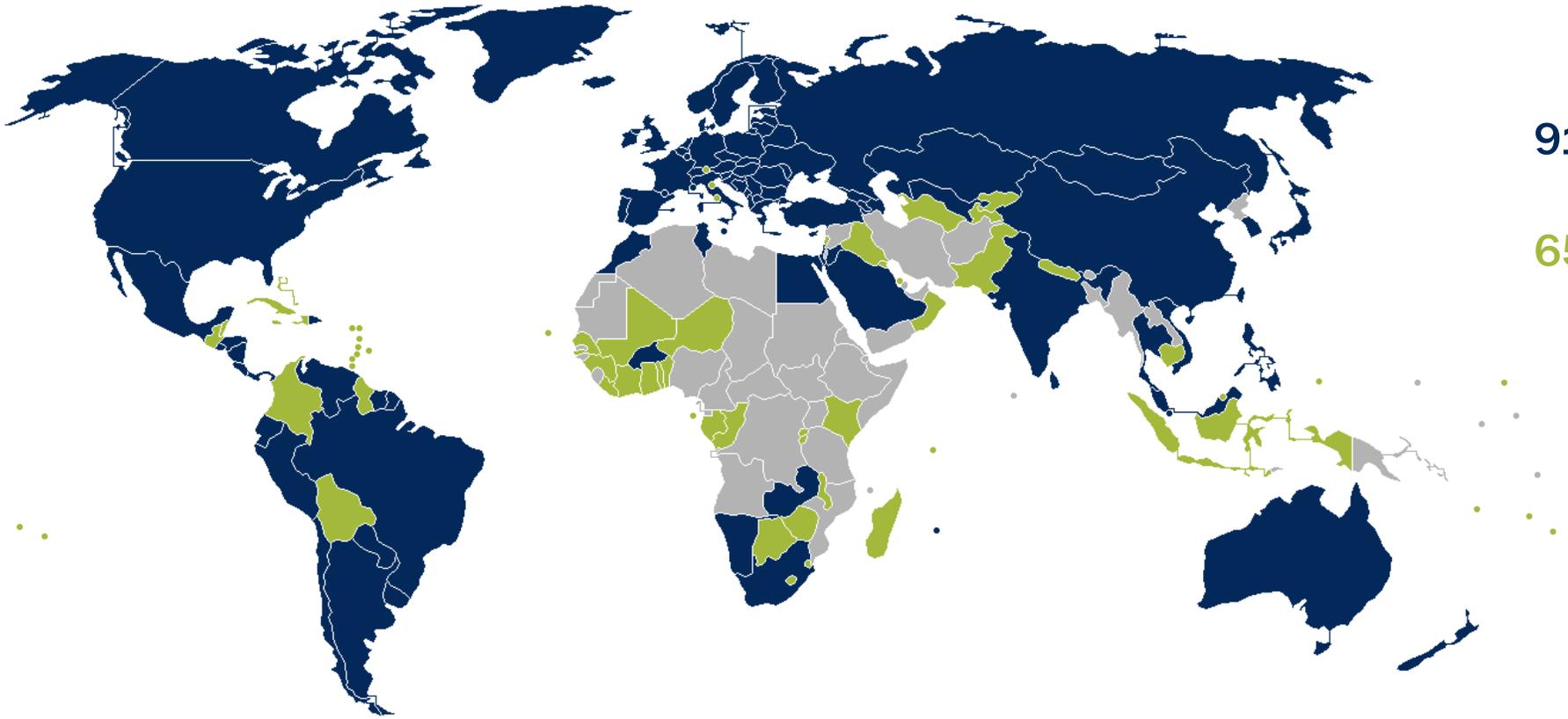
Lebanon



NB: Boundaries on this map are based upon those used by the UN Cartographic Section. The number of States reflects the Parties as recorded by the Depository (NL MFA). Neither should be taken to imply official endorsement or acceptance.



156 CONNECTED PARTIES



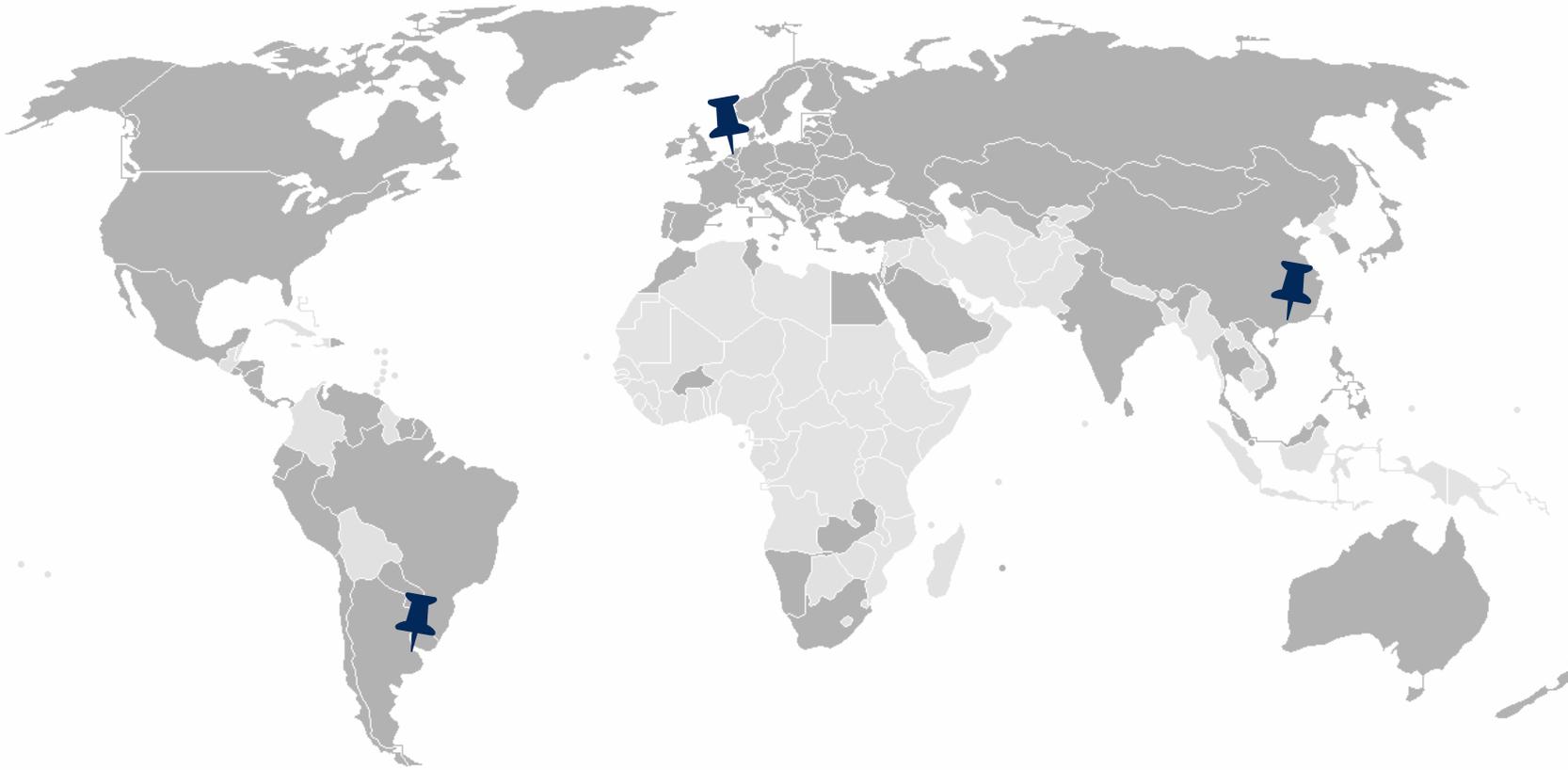
91 Members

65 Other Connected Parties

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REGIONAL PRESENCE



**Permanent Bureau
Main Office**
The Hague, Netherlands
(est. 1955)

**Regional Office for Asia
and the Pacific**
Hong Kong SAR, China
(est. 2012)

**Regional Office for Latin
America and the Caribbean**
Buenos Aires, Argentina
(est. 2005)



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PIL: KEY QUESTIONS

Jurisdiction

The authorities of which State are competent to decide on questions arising from a cross-border situation?

Applicable Law

The law of which State applies to a cross-border situation?

Recognition & Enforcement

How can judgments or decisions of a State be recognised or enforced abroad?

Cooperation

How can authorities better cooperate to improve efficiency and overcome the obstacles arising in cross-border situations?



LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

- 37 **HCCH** Conventions, 2 Protocols, 1 soft law instrument, dealing with:
 1. International Family & Child Protection Law
 2. Transnational Litigation & Apostille
 3. International Commercial, Digital & Financial Law



HCCH CORE CONVENTIONS



International family and child protection law

- 1961 Form of Wills
- 1970 Divorce
- 1980 Child Abduction
- 1993 Adoption
- 1996 Child Protection
- 2000 Protection of Adults
- 2007 Child Support
- 2007 Maintenance Protocol



Transnational litigation and Apostille

- 1961 Apostille
- 1965 Service of Process
- 1970 Taking of Evidence
- 1980 Access to Justice
- 2005 Choice of Court
- 2019 Judgments

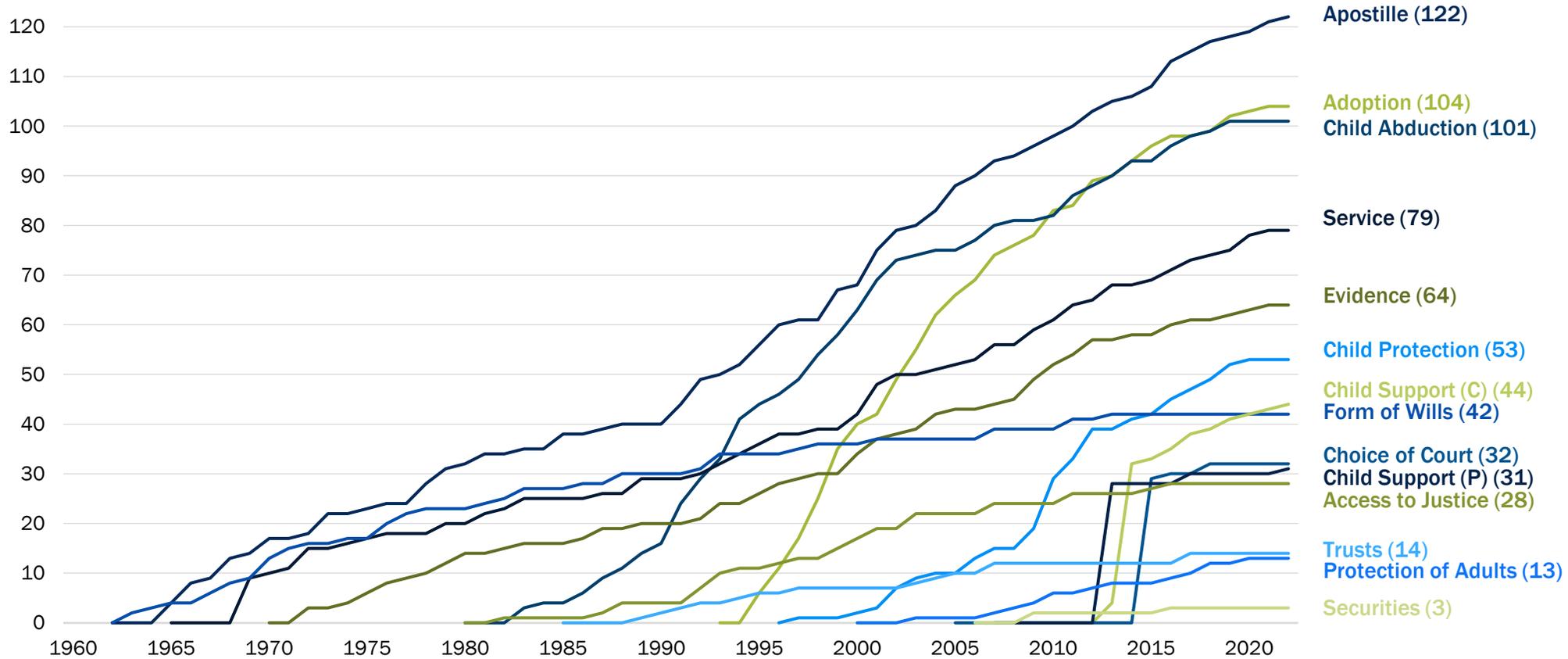


International commercial, digital and financial law

- 1985 Trusts
- 2006 Securities
- 2015 Choice of Law Principles



HCCH CORE CONVENTIONS



KEY ACTIVITIES



Normative Work

- Research
identifying (other) legal needs within mandate
- Proposals
for new instruments
- Expert Discussion & Negotiation
drafting process leading to new instruments:
Conventions, Protocols, soft law



Post-Convention Work

- Promotion
of HCCH & its instruments
- Monitoring
Special Commissions on practical operation
- Publications
Guides to Good Practice, Handbooks
- Post-Convention Assistance
implementation & practical operation;
priority given to Members



NORMATIVE PROJECTS



Jurisdiction



Parentage / Surrogacy



Digital Economy



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www.hcch.net



HCCH

Connecter Protéger Coopérer Depuis 1893
Connecting Protecting Cooperating Since 1893