Cross-Border Enforcement Center - England & Wales

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# Judgments

## With which jurisdictions does this country have reciprocal arrangements for enforcement of judgments?

**Conventions:**

**Hague Choice of Court Convention 2005:**  
Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden

**Agreement on the Continued Application and Amendment of the Convention Providing for the Reciprocal Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in Civil Matters**[**1**](https://resourcehub.bakermckenzie.com/en#ENG-A_ftn1)**:** Norway

**Bilateral:**

**Administration of Justice Act 1920:**  
Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Montserrat, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, St Christopher and Nevis, St Helena, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotin and Dhekelia in Cyprus, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Tuvalu, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

**Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982:** Northern Ireland, Scotland

**Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933:**  
Australia, Canada, Guernsey, India, Isle of Man, Israel, Jersey, Pakistan, Suriname, Tonga

[1](https://resourcehub.bakermckenzie.com/en#ENG-A_refftn1) Originally signed in London on 12 June 1961, reaffirmed in November 2020.

## If there is no reciprocal arrangement, is it still possible to enforce a foreign judgment by means of a writ on the judgment, declaration of enforceability or similar mechanism?

Yes.

## What is the approximate time required to register and enforce a foreign judgment if unopposed?

2 – 3 months.

## What is the approximate time required to register and enforce a foreign judgment if opposed?

3 – 6 months.

## What is the approximate cost of registering and enforcing a foreign judgment (including court fees and other disbursements) if unopposed?

USD 20,000 - 50,000+ (depending on the complexity of the enforcement steps required).

## What is the approximate cost of registering and enforcing a foreign judgment (including court fees and other disbursements) if opposed?

USD 50,000 - 150,000+ (depending on the complexity of the enforcement steps required).

## Are there any unusual difficulties in enforcing a foreign judgment?

No. Recognition is usually granted *ex parte*. The other party then has 1 month from service to apply to set aside registration (2 months if the other party is outside the UK).

# Arbitration Awards

## Is this jurisdiction a party to the New York Convention?

Yes.

## What is the approximate time required to register and enforce a foreign arbitration award if unopposed?

1 – 2 months.

## What is the approximate time required to register and enforce a foreign arbitration award if opposed?

3 - 6 months.

## What is the approximate cost of registering and enforcing a foreign arbitration award (including court fees and other disbursements) if unopposed?

USD 20,000 – 50,000

## What is the approximate cost of registering and enforcing a foreign arbitration award (including court fees and other disbursements) if opposed?

USD 50,000 - 150,000.

## Are there any unusual difficulties in enforcing a foreign arbitration award?

No. Recognition is usually granted ex parte. The other party then has 14 days from service to apply to set aside registration (sometimes longer if the other party is outside the UK).

# Limitation

## Which law governs the limitation period for registering a foreign judgment or arbitration award?

Place of enforcement.

## If the limitation period for registering a foreign judgment is governed by the law of the place of enforcement, what is that limitation period in your jurisdiction?

6 years for enforcement by action on the writ. In respect of enforcement of judgments from jurisdictions under the Administration of Justice Act 1920 (for a list, see above), an application for registration must be made within 12 months of the foreign judgment, although this can be extended. As to those from jurisdictions under the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933 (for a list, see above), the limitation period is 6 years. It should be noted that it is unclear whether a judgment could be enforced in England if it would no longer be enforceable in the country of origin.

## If the limitation period for registering a foreign arbitration award is governed by the law of the place of enforcement, what is that limitation period in your jurisdiction?

6 years.

# Enforcement

## Are fees and costs of enforcement typically recoverable?

Yes.

## Is seizure of goods available as an enforcement method?

Yes.

## Is attachment of earnings available as an enforcement method?

Yes.

## Is attachment of third party debts available as an enforcement method?

Yes.

## Are charging orders or orders for sale of land, goods etc available as an enforcement method?

Yes.

## Can a judgment or award be enforced by way of insolvency proceedings?

Yes.

## Can a receiver be appointed by way of enforcement?

Yes.

# Contacts

## Who can be contacted to enforce a judgment or arbitration award in this jurisdiction?

Steve Abraham, Ed Poulton

## What papers will be needed?

Copy of the judgment/award. This may need to be certified.

Copy of any document referred to in the judgment/award.

Evidence showing that the judgment/award is enforceable in its forum of origin and has been served. For example, the exclusive choice of court agreement.

In the case of default judgments, evidence that the original proceedings were served.

Translations of the above if not in English (preferably certified by a notary).

# Rating

## Overall, is enforcement of foreign judgments in this jurisdiction easy, moderate or difficult?

Easy.

## Overall, is enforcement of foreign arbitration awards in this jurisdiction easy, moderate or difficult?

Easy.

# Reciprocal Enforcement Maps

## Reciprocal Enforcement Maps

EMEA

Click the link below to access the reciprocal maps for England & Wales.

[Reciprocal Enforcement Map](https://resourcehub.bakermckenzie.com/en/-/media/cross-border-enforcement-center/files/emea/englandwales.pdf?sc_lang=en)

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