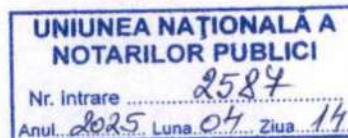


Secretariat UNNPR

From: Danial Smith <Danial.Smith@fcdo.gov.uk>
Sent: vineri, 11 aprilie 2025 17:57
Subject: Information on UK FCDO e-Apostille

OFFICIAL



Dear Sir/Madam,

I work for the Legalisation department of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in the United Kingdom. We have identified that you may be a recipient of apostilles issued for UK public documents. You may already be aware that in 2022, we launched our online e-Apostille service which enabled citizens to obtain digital apostilles for their documents. The purpose of this email is to provide guidance on how to view and verify our e-Apostille, and hopefully encourage more users to take advantage of the service. Below are the steps necessary to view and verify a UK e-Apostille.

1. The user downloads the PDF from within their Legalisation account on our website (<https://www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised>)
2. The user/recipient opens the PDF using Adobe Acrobat Reader
3. This will then show the e-Apostille cover sheet as you can see below;



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

This document has been digitally signed

By: Legalisation Office (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office)
On: Thursday 08 December 2022 12:30

**Legalisation Office
United Kingdom (UK)**

08 December 2022

e-Apostille cover sheet

This file has been electronically signed by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) Legalisation Office in the UK.

View attachments in Adobe Reader

This file contains PDF attachments and electronic signatures that are only accessible in Adobe Reader (free software)

1. Open this file in **Adobe Reader**
2. **Double-click the Paperclip icon** (only visible in Adobe) for each file:

 Document the Apostille certificate relates to
(public_document.pdf)

 e-Apostille certificate, reference: APO-A2FM-UT16-7101-Z2OX
(apostille.pdf)

You can also select the Paperclip icon in the menu bar to view the attachments.

Verifying an Apostille Certificate

Overseas authorities and others who have requested an Apostille can verify the certificate at: www.verifyapostille.service.gov.uk

About UK document legalisation

Find out more at: www.gov.uk/get-document-legalised

4. If you open the "Signature Panel", you will see that the document has been digitally signed by the Legalisation Office and that our signature is valid;

×

Signatures

...

✓

Certified by Legalisation Office

Only form fill-in, signing and page adding actions are allowed

Valid certified document:

Source of Trust obtained from Adobe Approved Trust List (AATL).

Changes have been made to this document that are permitted by the certifying party

Signer's identity is valid

The signature includes an embedded timestamp.

Signature is LTV enabled

✓

Signature Details

Location: London

Certificate Details...

Last Checked: 2025.02.24 13:49:07 Z

Field: Legalisation Office (Certification Signature) (invisible signature)

✓

✓

Rev. 2: Signed by Legalisation Office

Signature is valid:

Source of Trust obtained from Adobe Approved Trust List (AATL).

Document has not been modified since this signature was applied

Signer's identity is valid

The signature includes an embedded timestamp.

Signature is LTV enabled

➤

Signature Details

Last Checked: 2025.02.24 13:49:20 Z

Field: Legalisation Office (Approval Signature) on page 1

[Click to view this version](#)

5. You can then either double-click on the paperclip icons or open the "Attachments" panel to view both the original public document that has been legalised, and the apostille file.
6. As it has been attached to a coversheet, the public document remains intact, complete with the original digital signature as it was issued by the public official as you can see below;

3



Certified by Adobe Sign, a Document Cloud solution, prod-eu-central-1-hsm2, certificate issued by Intesi Group EU Qualified Electronic Seal CA G2. Signed and all signatures are valid. Document was updated after signing. Open Signature Panel to view the document change history.

Signature Panel

× Signatur

- > Certified by
- > Rev. 1: Sign
- > Annotations
- > Rev. 3: Sign
- > Document L



Protocol No: ***/19

Destination: Germany

I, MICHAEL LIGHTOWLER, a duly appointed Notary Public of England and Wales
CERTIFY THAT the attached document (consisting of one page) is a true copy of the
Certificate of Incorporation on Change of name of the company now known as ADOBE
SYSTEMS EUROPE LIMITED (No: 101089) such copy having been downloaded by me
from the electronic records of the said company maintained by Companies House UK.

SIGNED AND SEALED BY ME at Brentwood, Essex, England this Twenty Fifth day of
November Two Thousand and Nineteen

Michael Lightowler
Digitally signed by Michael
Lightowler
Date: 2019-11-25 09:10:33Z

Michael Lightowler
Notary Public, England & Wales
Telephone +44(0)1277 266333
Facsimile +44(0)1277 266433
Email notary@notaryservices.co.uk
Web www.notaryservices.co.uk
Cathedral Place, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4ES



7. The apostille attachment will also confirm the details of the public official that has signed the document that is also attached;



Signed and all signatures are valid.

Signature Panel

× Signatures

Rev. 1: Signed
Signature is v
Source of Tru
Document
Signer's id
The signat
Signature
Signature De
Last Checked
Field: FCDO-
Click to view
Document Loc

APOSTILLE (Convention de La Haye du 5 octobre 1961)	
1. Country: Pays / País:	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
This public document Le présent acte public / El presente documento público	
2. Has been signed by a été signé par ha sido firmado por	Michael Lightowler
3. Acting in the capacity of agissant en qualité de quien actúa en calidad de	Notary Public
4. Bears the seal / stamp of est revêtu du sceau / timbre de y está revestido del sello / timbre de	The Said Notary Public
Certified Attesté / Certificado	
5. at à / en	London
6. the le / el día	05 September 2022
7. by par / por	Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
8. Number sous no / bajo el numero	APO-30BQ-DFUP-3N01-W13J
9. Seal / stamp Sceau / timbre Sello / timbre	10. Signature Signature Firma D. Smith This Apostille has been digitally signed. By: Legalisation Office (Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) On: Monday 05 September 2022 10:44

This Apostille is not to be used in the UK and only confirms the authenticity of the signature, seal or stamp on the attached UK public document. It does not confirm the authenticity of the underlying document. Apostilles relating to documents that have been scanned and certified in the UK confirm the digital signature of the UK public official who conducted the certification only. It does not authenticate either the signature on the original document or the contents of the original document in any way.

If this document is to be used in a country not party to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961, it should be presented to the consular section of the mission representing that country.

This Apostille and associated document must form part of a PDF file that has been digitally signed by the Legalisation Office of the UK's Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office. This Apostille is not valid if printed.
To verify this apostille go to www.verifyapostille.service.gov.uk

8. This digital apostille differs from the paper-based version as there is no visible watermark on the document, it is digitally signed by the Legalisation Office as opposed to having a wet-ink signature, and there is some additional wording that confirms it must form part of a PDF file and is therefore not valid if printed.

Due to how this PDF is generated, any attempts to manipulate or modify the document would invalidate the digital signatures on the document and therefore would enable the recipient to confirm they had been tampered with. Additionally, the unique apostille reference number can be used to verify the details on the apostille on the [verify an apostille](http://www.verifyapostille.service.gov.uk) website. The requirements for public officials when preparing documents for an e-Apostille are that they must use either an Advanced or a Qualified electronic signature. This is a specific standard of digital signature that, following eIDAS regulation, instils confidence in the identity of the signatory.

Since launching in 2022 we have seen the number of recipient authorities increase as users become more familiar with e-Apostille. I hope the above details will prove helpful in enabling you to support this growing service, and I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have regarding e-Apostille, or indeed the wider Legalisation process. Please do feel free to share this with any colleagues or members who receive UK apostilles.

Kind regards,

Danial Smith

**Danial Smith | Digital and Change Manager | Public Facing Services | Foreign,
Commonwealth and Development Office**

PO Box 7656 | Milton Keynes | MK11 9NS

Follow us online: www.gov.uk/fcdo

This email is intended for the addressee(s) only: All messages sent and received by the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office may be monitored in line with relevant [UK legislation](#)

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