



**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS
THE HAGUE**

CONVENTION ABOLISHING THE REQUIREMENT OF LEGALISATION
FOR FOREIGN PUBLIC DOCUMENTS
(The Hague, 5 October 1961)

Notification pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention

OBJECTION

Azerbaijan, 22-02-2016

The Republic of Azerbaijan raises an objection to the accession of Kosovo to the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents of October 5, 1961. The Republic of Azerbaijan does not recognize Kosovo as an independent state and holds the view that today Kosovo does not meet the criteria of statehood under international law. Therefore, the Republic of Azerbaijan considers the "application" by Kosovo for accession to the aforementioned Convention shall have no effect between the Republic of Azerbaijan and Kosovo.

The Republic of Azerbaijan is also of the position that the depositary of the Convention does not possess the authority to qualify any such entity as a state for the purposes of the Convention, and the notification of November 17, 2015 shall not be interpreted as an act granting such a competence to the depositary.

The present objection of the Republic of Azerbaijan shall in no way be construed as recognition of applicability of the accession procedure set forth in the aforesaid Convention with regard to Kosovo.

The Hague, 11 March 2016

The Depositary Notifications are accessible on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands at <https://treatydatabase.overheid.nl>

XII Legalisation No. 14/2016