

FINLAND¹ – national procedures for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters

States Parties are requested to fill in this table with the necessary information and return it to the Secretariat of the PC-OC. The information contained in this table should be updated on a yearly basis.

The Central Authority (name of the institution, address, telephone, fax and e-mail where available) responsible for mutual legal assistance:	The Ministry of Justice, Unit for International Judicial Administration, PO Box 25, FI-00023, GOVERNMENT email: central.authority(at)om.fi Tel: +358 9 1606 7628 Fax: + 358 9 1606 7524
If different from the Central Authority, the authority to which the request should be sent (name of the institution, address, telephone, fax and e-mail where available):	-
Channels of communication for the request for mutual legal assistance (directly, through diplomatic channels or other):	Though the Central Authority or directly to the competent authority.
Means of communication (eg. by post, fax, e-mail ²):	Finnish judicial authorities accept any means of communication that are capable of producing written records and allow establishing authenticity of the documents (e.g. fax, email).
Language requirements:	Requests and documents accompanying the request may be in Finnish or Swedish languages. Finland accepts also requests in Norwegian, Danish, English, French or German languages. However, the necessary parts of the documents shall be translated into Finnish (or Swedish) by the Ministry of Justice, if the requested service or other measures cannot otherwise under the Finnish law be carried out, or if the translation is necessary for the reasons that the authority

¹ Updated 12 March 2014.

² Please indicate if encryption or electronic signature is required.

	executing the request deems that it does not have a sufficient understanding of the language used in the request.
Double criminality requirement, if applicable:	According to the declaration made by Finland to Article 5 of the Convention, search and seizure are subject to the requirement of double criminality.
Limitation of use of evidence obtained:	The point of departure of the Central Authority is that mutual legal assistance is provided for investigating or prosecuting a particular offence in the requesting state, but information may normally be used also for any other legitimate purposes.
Other particularly relevant information (e.g. documentation required for special types of assistance):	None
Links to national legislation, national guides on procedure:	International Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act (5 January 1994/4). See, in general, databank of Finnish legislation that include also material in foreign languages: www.finlex.fi
Parties to the Second Additional Protocol: Link to database with contact details of competent authorities for the purpose of direct transmission of MLA requests	