

Love to share!

Our experience on e-APP

The National Center for Information and Documentation (NACID) secures access to various information resources, maintains databases, creates information products, and provides services to support the development of education, training, and science.

The Centre is the authorized body for issuing the Apostille certificate for educational documents issued by the institutions in the system of preschool, school, and vocational education and training, by the university institutions and scientific organizations and by the Ministry of Education and Science and its divisions, through amendments in the Declaration under art. 6, par. 1, of the Law on ratification of the Apostille Convention of October 19, 2018.

The beginning

What did the analysis of the procedure for issuing Apostilles show?

Negatives:

A cumbersome procedure

Difficulties for stakeholders

The impact of paper use on the environment

Can it be changed, and how?

Solutions: Digital environment

- ✓ Legislative framework Apostille Convention, European and National legislation.
- ✓ Recommendations of the Permanent Bureau and Apostille Handbook as a guide to the implementation process.
- ✓ Good practices shared by participating countries of previous e-APP forums (Spain, Chile, Colombia, Moldova, New Zealand and others).
- ✓ Required availabilities:
 - Databases e-Registers of all students in educational institutions, including universities, e-Registers of the issued educational end training documents, including for higher education, and an up-to-date database of specimens and stamps of the authorized persons who sign documents.
 - Built internal information system for movement of paper documents and Apostilles
 - e-Register-Category 2 (Additional)
- ✓ Financial resource The Bulgarian Operational Program "Good Governance" for implementation of the European Social Funds.

What we need?

- ✓ Project
- ✓ IT professionals
- ✓ Technology

t

The e-process "All from one point"

NACID e-administrative services are available **ONLY** for educational documents which are in e-Registers of issued documents for education and training available in digital form.

E-Registers contain issued documents for primary, secondary, higher education and vocational education and training maintained by the Ministry of Education and Science and NACID.

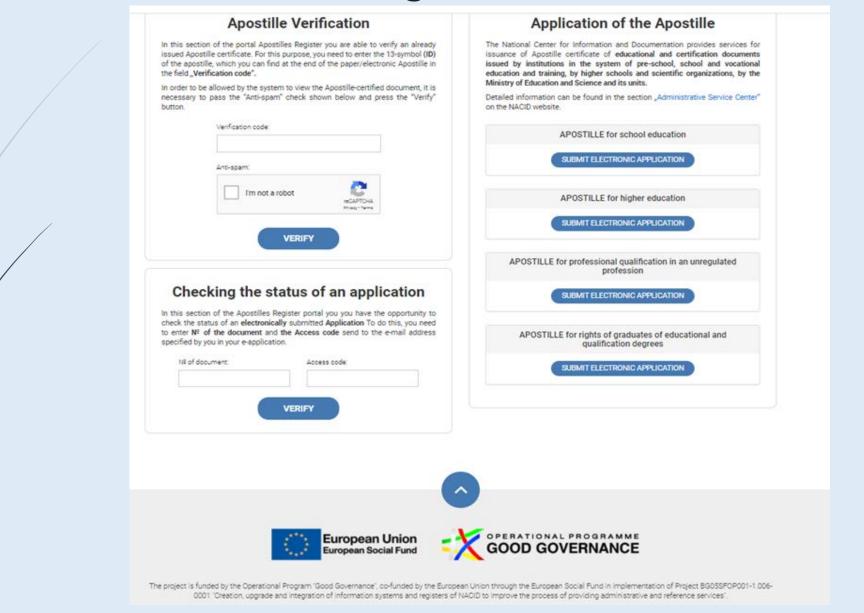
The paper process

For documents which **ARE NOT AVAILABLE in the e-Registers:** Request for issuing both paper and e-Apostille can be made in the Administrative Service Centre of NACID orally or by written application.

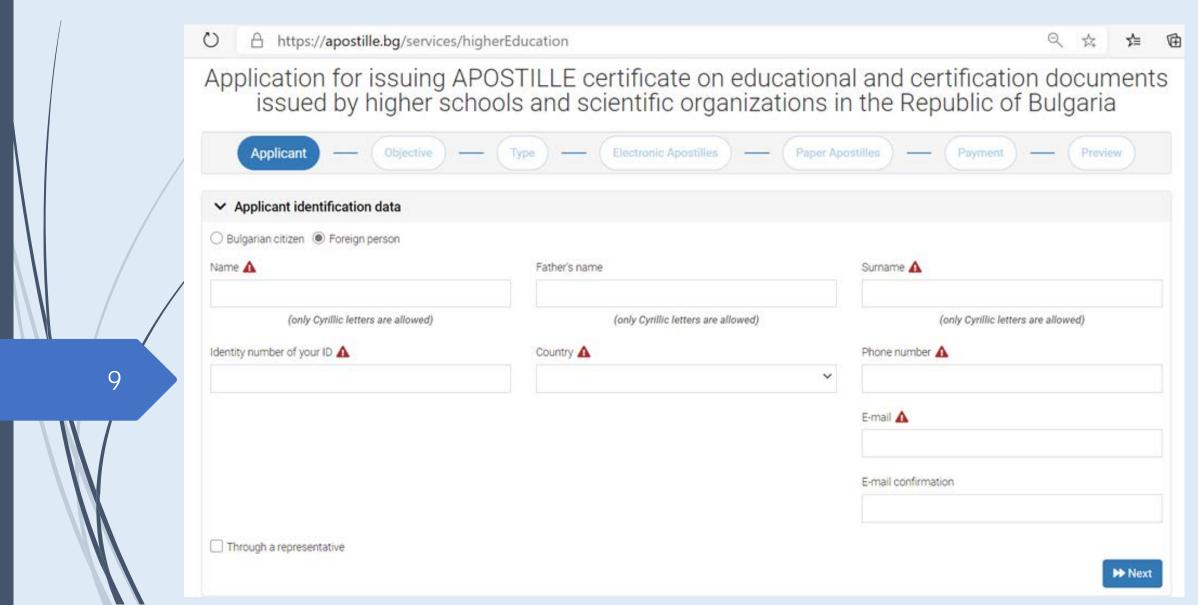
The verification of both e-Apostilles and paper Apostilles is carrying out through the "Apostilles e-Register".

Portal available at the internet address: https://apostille.bg/.

Start, Checking status and Verification



E-application steps



The result

Each person whose educational documents have been certified with both paper or/and e-Apostille receives an electronic message presenting detailed information about the issued Apostilles with a direct link to the relevant Apostille and document at the Portal for verification by any interested institution or person.

Преписката по Вашето заявление за издаване на Apostille е приключена.

За да прегледате преписката и да изтеглите удостоверените с електронен Apostille документи, посетете портала "Perистър Apostilles" на адрес: https://apostille.bg/, като въведете:

Номер на преписка:

Код за достъг

Издадени са 1бр. електронни Apostilles:

Диплома Apostille No:

(од за достъп (ID):

Електронният Apostille е електронна версия на хартиения Apostille. Електронните Apostilles **имат същата правна сила** като хартиените. Всички държави, които са страни по *Хагската конеенция от 5 октомери 1961 г. за премахване на изискването за легализация на чуждестранни публични актове, са длъжни да приемат електронния Apostille. Електронният и хартиеният Apostille са еднакво валидни.*

Можете да изпратите това съобщение на заинтересованите институции или лица.

За проверка на Apostille и свързания с него документ моля, посетете електронния Регистър на Националния център за информация и документация на адрес: https://apostille.bg/

Необходимо е да въведете идентификационния код (ID) на съответния Apostille.

An e-Apostille is an electronic version of a paper Apostille. E-Apostilles have the same legal standing an effect as paper Apostilles. All countries who are party to the Hague Convention of 5 October 1961 Abolishing the Requirement of Legislation for Foreign Public Documents are obliged to accept the e-Apostille. E-Apostille and paper Apostille are equally valid.

You can send this message to institutions or persons who are interested in your documents.

To check the Apostille and related document, please visit the e-Register of the National Center for Information and Documentation at: https://apostille.bg/

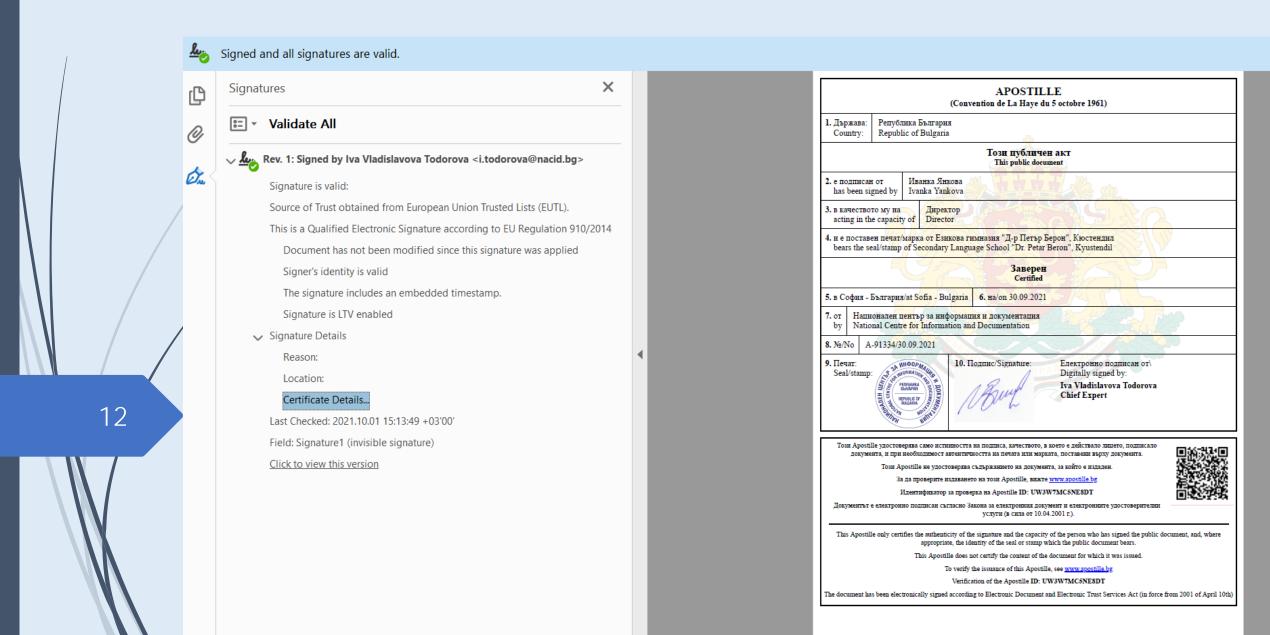
Please enter the identification code (ID) of the Apostille.



Advantages

- 1. Easy check The digital verification of the Apostille and the underlying public document is available in the "Apostille Verification" section of the Portal "Apostilles e-Register": https://apostille.bg/ by entering the unique 13 alphanumeric number (ID), located at the bottom of the respective Apostille.
- 2. Easy portable The e-Apostille and the document, both merged into a unified PDF file, are previewed, and the file can be downloaded, stored and provided via any electronic device. Each e-Apostille is equipped with a QR-code for easy verification through digital devices from anywhere across the globe.
- 3. Fast and Cheap processing time and price.

E-APOSTILLE signed by digital Certificate



Verification of e-Document Validation of the timestamps

For the convenience of stakeholders, all verification and validation procedures can be made at the website of the Electronic Governance State Agency in:

<u>"Validation of e-Documents"</u> and <u>"Validation of timestamps</u> sections.

STATISTICS OF ISSUED APOSTILLES BY NACID

Period	Total Number	Paper Apostilles	e- Apostilles
15.06. 2020 – 14.06.2021	16 607	14 860	1 747
15.06.2019 – 14.06.2020	17634	17634	X
15.06.2018 – 14.06.2019	21656	21656	X
15.06.2017 – 14.06.2018	23045	23045	X

Challenges

1. How to bind an e-apostilled document with its translation made by a sworn translator?

The competent institutions to which the apostilled document is presented still insist on paper.

3. Consumers' distrust of the digitally certified e-documents.