

**** The Process of Attestation for the State of Qatar**

Qatar is not a signatory to the **Hague Convention Abolishing the Requirement for Legalisation of Foreign Public Documents** (the “**Hague Convention**”) therefore Apostillisation is not accepted in Qatar.

Documents must be:

1. Produced before a Notary Public for notarisation;
2. Produced before the relevant authority in the country in which the document is notarised for authentication. In the UK this is the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office; in the US it is a two step process – it is authenticated first by the State authority in the State of notarization, & then by the Authentication Division of the US Department of State in Washington;
3. Produced at the Qatar Embassy for legalisation (where there is no Qatar Embassy in that Country it needs to be sent to the Embassy responsible for that country (see <http://qa.embassyinformation.com/?einfo>). Alternatively, there is a GCC convention recognizing the legalisation of other GCC states therefore it is possible to have the legalisation process performed by another GCC country, for example the UAE where that GCC country has embassy representation at the country of authentication. It should however be noted that this has not always been straight forward in the past and requires a further step of having the document stamped by that GCC country’s embassy in Qatar and on some instances the local embassy has required the document to be sent to their home Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. The documents are then presented at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (in Qatar) for the final process of legalisation.