



## Divorce / Dissolution of registered partnership in Greece: Entry in the Swiss civil status register

12.05.2022

### Documents to submit for divorce in Court (Δικαστικό διαζύγιο)

- Divorce decree: The original or a legalised copy by the relevant court  
(Δικαστική απόφαση σε πρωτότυπο ή επικυρωμένο φωτοαντίγραφο από το δικαστήριο μόνο)
- Legal agreement concerning child care: The original or a legalised copy by the relevant court  
(Πρωτότυπο γραπτής συμφωνίας για την επιμέλεια των ανήλικων παιδιών ή επικυρωμένο φωτοαντίγραφο από το δικαστήριο μόνο)
- Declaration of renunciation of reciprocal claims: The original or a legalised copy by the relevant court  
(Πρωτότυπο παραίτησης άσκησης ένδικων μέσων ή επικυρωμένο φωτοαντίγραφο από το δικαστήριο μόνο)
- Legalised copy of the marriage certificate with margin note regarding the divorce issued by the relevant civil registry office  
(Ληξιαρχική πράξη γάμου με αναφορά του διαζυγίου, φωτοαντίγραφο επικυρωμένο από το ληξιαρχείο)
- duly completed divorce questionnaire (available on our web page)

The original documents are submitted to the competent civil status authority in Switzerland and must not be older than six months. They can be returned on written request only prior to being sent to Switzerland.

**Important:** Photocopies and coloured scans legalised by a lawyer or another authority are not accepted. By request of the competent authorities in Switzerland, additional documents may be required, if necessary.

### Documents to submit for the dissolution of a marriage by Notarial Act (Συμβολαιογραφική πράξη λύσης γάμου)

- The original of the notarial act  
(Πράξη συναινετική λύσης γάμου σε πρωτότυπο)
- The marriage certificate with mention of the dissolution of the marriage by the notarial act, copy legalised by the civil status  
(Ληξιαρχική πράξη γάμου με αναφορά της λύσης του γάμου με συμβολαιογραφική πράξη, φωτοαντίγραφο επικυρωμένο από το ληξιαρχείο)
- duly completed divorce questionnaire (available on our web page)

The original documents are submitted to the competent civil status authority in Switzerland and must not be older than six months. They can be returned on written request only prior to being sent to Switzerland.

**Important:** Photocopies and coloured scans legalised by a lawyer or another authority are not accepted. By request of the competent authorities in Switzerland, additional documents may be required, if necessary.

## Legalisation (Apostille)

All foreign documents must bear the Apostille (Σφραγίδα της Χάγης) which is issued by the competent Greek decentralised administration. These administrations can be found:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decentralized\\_administrations\\_of\\_Greece](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Decentralized_administrations_of_Greece)

## Translation

After the Apostille has been issued, the document must be translated into an official Swiss language (German, French or Italian) by a translator of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs or by a certified translator of your choice based on the ELOT-Hellenic Standard (the standardised transcription of Greek into Latin characters applied by the Greek authorities).

It should be noted that translations made electronically by authorised translators of the Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs via <https://www.mfa.gr/ypiresies-gia-ton-politi/metafrastiki-ypiresia/i-metaphrastiki-ypiresia.html> are accepted by Decision No 4781/2021 of the Ministry. These translations do not longer have a handwritten signature, but mention a digital code on the header of the page.

## Fees

Entry of the divorce/dissolution of partnership abroad in the Swiss civil status register is free of charge.

However, in case of a surname change after divorce, a declaration will be necessary (Art. 119, § 1 of the Swiss Civil Code), against fees. To proceed with this, the concerned person must come in person to the Embassy to fill in the necessary document. Please contact our representation for any information.

## Further information

- All original documents must be accompanied by a photocopy.
- The documents must be sent by registered mail or by courier service in order to prevent any loss.
- The registration takes about 2-3 months, depending on the canton.