# Russia to accede to the Singapore Convention on Mediation

Russia will sign the UN Convention on International Settlement Agreements Resulting from Mediation of 20 December 2018 (the "Singapore Convention" or "Convention"). The corresponding order* was signed by the Russian President on 15 October 2026.

The Singapore Convention is a key international document in the field of mediation. There are currently 25 states party to the Singapore Convention, including Brazil, Japan, and Kazakhstan.

The Convention does not directly regulate the conduct of mediation or the cross-border recognition of settlement agreements concluded as a result thereof. Nor does it provide for the recognition and enforcement of a settlement agreement signed in another state.

However, the Convention offers a mechanism that blocks the re-litigation of a dispute previously settled by mediation. If a dispute arises in one of the states that are party to the Convention in respect of a matter already settled by an international settlement agreement in another state, a party to the dispute is entitled to invoke the settlement agreement in order to demonstrate that the matter has already been settled.

To this end, the party to the dispute submits to the court the settlement agreement signed by the parties, together with evidence that it resulted from mediation. Such evidence may take the form of the mediator's signature on the settlement agreement, a separate confirmation from the mediator or the institution that administered the mediation, or other evidence admissible before the court.

The Convention applies only to mediation of commercial disputes. It does not apply to disputes involving consumers, or to those relating to family, succession or employment law.

## Conclusions and next steps

The Convention affords an opportunity for the cross-border application of settlement agreements concluded in the context of international mediation. However, this opportunity relates exclusively to protection against a claim in respect of a matter that has already been settled by a settlement agreement.

Once the Convention has been signed by Russia, the ratification procedure will follow. Amendments to the Russian Law on Mediation and the Russian Arbitrazh Procedure Code should also be expected, since they do not currently address matters of international mediation. We will monitor developments and keep you informed.

* *In Russian*

# Contact

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our experts.



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