

Philippe Lortie is First Secretary at the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference which he joined in September 2001. He has primary responsibility for all Hague Maintenance Obligations Instruments including the 2007 Child Support Convention for which he played a key role in the development. He also has primary responsibility for the 2000 Adults Convention, the International Hague Network of Judges and issues concerning Direct Judicial Communications. He has developed information technology tools in support of Hague Conventions such as iChild and INCASTAT, respectively the case management system and the statistical database under the 1980 Child Abduction Convention, and the e-Country Profile and the iSupport case management system project under the 2007 Child Support Convention.

Before joining the Hague Conference, from 1991 to 2001 *Philippe Lortie* was Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice of Canada. In that capacity, he acted as Head of Canadian delegations to the Hague Conference, Unidroit and UNCITRAL. From 1994 until 1996, he was Executive Assistant to the Associate Deputy Minister responsible for Public Law and Canadian Unity. In 2000 he was seconded as an "expert from a third State" to the European Commission Justice and Home Affairs Directorate General. From 1998 to 2001, he taught every year as a part-time Professor a 45-hour course on international business transactions at the University of Ottawa (Canada).

Philippe Lortie holds degrees in Civil Law (LL.L.) and Common Law (LL.B.) both from the University of Ottawa, for which he was awarded the Ottawa Law Review / Gowlings Prize for best comparative law research paper (the paper focussed on maintenance obligations). He also holds a Master's degree (LL.M.) in international law from the same university for which he received many prizes. He also holds a degree in Business Administration (B.A.A. - 1986) from the *École des Hautes Études Commerciales de Montréal* (Canada). *Philippe Lortie* is a member of the Quebec Bar since 1991.