



2001 CHAPTER 11

Miscellaneous and supplementary

Restriction on bringing children into the United Kingdom for adoption

12. After Article 58 of the 1987 Order (restriction on removal of children for adoption outside Northern Ireland) there shall be inserted the following Article—

“Restriction on bringing children into the United Kingdom for adoption

58ZA.—(1) A person habitually resident in the British Islands who at any time brings into the United Kingdom for the purpose of adoption a child who is habitually resident outside those Islands shall be guilty of an offence unless such requirements as may be prescribed are satisfied either—

- (a) before that time; or
- (b) within such period beginning with that time as may be prescribed.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply where the child is brought into the United Kingdom for the purpose of adoption by a parent, guardian or relative.

(3) A person guilty of an offence under this Article shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(4) Proceedings for an offence under this Article may be brought within a period of 6 months from the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the prosecution to warrant the proceedings came to its knowledge; but no such proceedings shall be brought by virtue of this paragraph more than 3 years after the commission of the offence.

Changes to legislation: *Adoption (Intercountry Aspects) Act (Northern Ireland) 2001, Section 12 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 27 April 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)*

(5) In this Article “the British Islands” means the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.”.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 12 repealed by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 5](#)