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European Regulations on matrimonial regimes and the property consequences of registered partnerships.

## There are about 16 million international couples living in the **European Union**

You are concerned, whatever your nationality, if:

- You and your spouse or partner (for registered partnerships) are of different nationalities,
- You and your spouse or partner (for registered partnerships) live in a Member State other than your own,
- You and your spouse or partner (for registered partnerships) own property in a Member State other than your own.

## **Countries applying the two Regulations** 2016/1103 Matrimonial Regimes and 2016/1104 Registered Partnerships To date, 18 Member States have decided to cooperate and adopt the Regulations: Portugal, Luxembourg, Greece, Spain, Germany, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Sweden, France, Italy, Austria, Finland, Slovenia, Malta, Belgium, Netherlands, Croatia, Cyprus. Member States applying the regulations Member States that have not adopted the regulations Since January 2019, 18 Member States have had the same universal conflict-of-law rules and the same conflict of jurisdiction rules.











· Associate partners





This information leaflet is partly based on the Factsheet of the European Commission's Directorate General for Justice and Consumers of January 2019 https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/civil-justice/family-law/property-international-couples-marriages-and-registered-partnerships\_en

## How will international couples benefit from these Regulations?

The rules established by the Regulations will:



Allow spouses and partners to determine in advance the law applicable to their matrimonial or partnership regime; otherwise, an identical solution will be applied in the 18 States due to the harmonised conflict-of-law rules.

Determine the competent court to deal with any dispute.



Facilitate the recognition and enforcement in one Member State of a judgement on property matters given in another Member State.

Mean that authentic documents drawn up in one Member State will have the same probative force in another Member State and will produce the most comparable effects.



## Notaries at the heart of this new system

Thanks to funding from the European Union's Justice programme, the European project **Notaries Beyond Frontiers** aims to create synergies and networks between notaries in different EU Member States to make Regulations 2016/1103 and 2016/1104 more effective and provide international couples with legal expertise in the management of their property.

The partners in the project are the Catholic University of Lyon (AFPICL-UCLy), the Notarial Centre for European Law (ACENODE) and the Order of Notaries of Portugal (Ordem dos Notarios). The International Council of the Belgian Notariat (Conseil International du Notariat belge - CINB), the Chamber of Notaries of Milan (Consiglio Notarile di Milano), the Spanish Notarial College (Consejo General del Notariado) and, through representation, the Royal Dutch Notarial Professional Organisation (Koninklijke Notariële Beroepsorganisatie) are also associated.



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