

EXTENDED CONTENTS

<i>List of contributors</i>	xiii
<i>Table of cases</i>	xiv
<i>Table of legislation</i>	xvi

Introduction

Sabine Corneloup

A. FIRST VIEW ON THE SUBJECT MATTER AND THE PURPOSE	0.01
B. LEGAL BASIS AND LEGISLATIVE HISTORY	0.06
C. SCOPE OF APPLICATION	0.11
1. Temporal scope	0.11
2. Personal scope	0.13
3. Material scope	0.14
a. Subject matter	0.14
b. Existence of a conflict of laws	0.16
D. LEGAL ENVIRONMENT	0.17
1. Other private international law instruments	0.18
2. EU constitutional law	0.21
E. BASIC PRINCIPLES AND UNDERLYING POLICY	0.29
1. Main rules	0.29
a. Overview	0.29
b. Choice of law	0.31
c. Law applicable in the absence of a choice	0.33
2. The underlying <i>favor divortii</i>	0.35

CHAPTER I: SCOPE, RELATION WITH REGULATION (EC) NO 2201/2003, DEFINITIONS AND UNIVERSAL APPLICATION

Article 1 Scope

Susanne Lilian Gössl and Jinske Verhellen

A. GENERAL	1.01
B. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATION: ARTICLE 1(1)	1.02
1. Divorce and legal separation	1.03
a. Does divorce include the dissolution of registered partnerships?	1.06
b. Does the dissolution of a same-sex marriage fall within the scope of Rome III?	1.07
c. Does 'divorce' include a private divorce?	1.09
2. Situations involving a conflict of laws	1.16
C. EXCLUSIONS: ARTICLE 1(2)	1.18
1. Preliminary questions	1.20
a. Legal capacity of natural persons	1.20
b. Existence, validity or recognition of marriage	1.22
c. Annulment of marriage	1.24
2. Related matters	1.26

Article 2 Relation with Regulation (EC) No 2201/2003

Sabine Corneloup

A. PURPOSE	2.01
B. INDEPENDENT APPLICATION OF THE TWO REGULATIONS	2.04
C. INTERPRETATION OF COMMON EUROPEAN-AUTONOMOUS NOTIONS	2.06

D. EFFECTS OF THE COMBINED APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS ROME III AND BRUSSELS II BIS	2.09
Article 3 Definitions	
<i>Petra Hammje</i>	
A. THE CONCEPT OF 'PARTICIPATING MEMBER STATE'	3.02
1. Founder 'participating Member State'	3.03
2. Future 'participating Member State'	3.08
B. THE CONCEPT OF 'COURT'	3.09
1. The principle of an extensive concept of 'court'	3.10
2. The exclusion of certain forms of divorce	3.11
a. Religious divorces	3.12
b. Private divorces	3.14
C. THE CONCEPTS NOT DEFINED BY ARTICLE 3	3.19
1. Definition by reference to national law of Member States: the concept of 'marriage'	3.20
a. The possible inclusion of same-sex marriages	3.21
b. The exclusion of registered partnerships	3.24
2. Autonomous jurisdictional interpretation: the connecting factors	3.27
a. The concept of 'habitual residence'	3.28
b. The remedy to multiple nationalities situations	3.30
Article 4 Universal application	
<i>Fabienne Jault-Seseke</i>	
A. INTRODUCTION	4.01
B. CONTENT	4.05
C. ASSESSMENT	4.09
CHAPTER II: UNIFORM RULES ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO DIVORCE AND LEGAL SEPARATION	
Article 5 Choice of applicable law by the parties	
<i>Cristina González Beilfuss</i>	
A. PARTY AUTONOMY: RATIONALE	5.01
B. INFORMED CHOICE	5.11
C. PARAGRAPH 1: MODALITIES OF CHOICE	5.15
D. PARAGRAPH 1: LEGAL SYSTEMS THAT CAN BE CHOSEN	5.19
1. Law of a State	5.21
2. Habitual residence	5.25
3. Nationality	5.35
4. The law of the forum	5.40
E. PARAGRAPH 2: MOMENT IN TIME AT WHICH THE CHOICE OF THE APPLICABLE LAW IS POSSIBLE	5.44
F. PARAGRAPH 2: MODIFICATION OF CHOICE OF LAW AGREEMENTS	5.48
G. PARAGRAPH 3: PROCEDURAL CHOICE OF THE APPLICABLE LAW	5.50
Article 6 Consent and material validity	
<i>Natalie Joubert</i>	
A. GENERALITIES	6.01
B. PRINCIPLE: ARTICLE 6(1)	6.05
1. Purpose of the rule	6.05
2. Scope of the rule	6.07
a. Concepts	6.07
b. Excluded issues	6.09
C. EXCEPTION: ARTICLE 6(2)	6.13
1. Purpose of the rule	6.13
2. Conditions of application	6.19
a. Date of referral to the court	6.19
b. Habitual residence	6.20

c. Procedural implementation	6.21
d. Reasonableness	6.22
Article 7 Formal validity	
<i>Alexandre Boiché</i>	
A. THE BASIC FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE REGULATION	7.01
B. ADDITIONAL FORMAL REQUIREMENTS IMPOSED BY THE STATE OF DRAFTING OF THE DEED	7.03
C. THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE FORM OF THE ACT	7.06
Article 8 Applicable law in the absence of a choice by the parties	
<i>Pietro Franzina</i>	
A. OBJECT AND PURPOSE	8.01
B. OVERALL DESIGN AND RATIONALE	8.02
C. THE CONNECTING FACTORS IN DETAIL	8.11
1. The current habitual residence of the spouses	8.11
a. General remarks	8.12
b. The notion of habitual residence and its assessment	8.16
2. The last habitual residence of the spouses	8.25
3. The common nationality of the spouses	8.30
a. Assessing the spouses' nationality for conflict of laws purposes	8.31
b. Persons possessing two or more nationalities	8.33
c. Stateless persons and refugees	8.39
4. The forum	8.41
Article 9 Conversion of legal separation into divorce	
<i>Laura Carpaneto</i>	
A. NATURE, STRUCTURE AND PURPOSES OF ARTICLE 9	9.01
B. SEPARATION, RECOGNITION AND CONVERSION	9.12
C. FIRST CONFLICT OF LAWS RULE: <i>OPTIO LEGIS</i>	9.22
D. SECOND CONFLICT OF LAWS RULE: THE LAW OF SEPARATION	9.33
E. THIRD RESIDUAL CONFLICT OF LAWS RULE: THE APPLICABLE LAW UNDER ARTICLE 8	9.37
F. CLOSING CLAUSE	9.44
G. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RULES OF THE BRUSSELS II <i>BIS</i> REGULATION AND OF THE OTHER REGULATIONS IN FAMILY MATTERS	9.47
H. ARTICLE 9 IN FUTURE PERSPECTIVE	9.49
Article 10 Application of the law of the forum	
<i>Bettina Heiderhoff</i>	
A. OBJECTIVE AND OVERVIEW	10.01
B. ARTICLE 10 FIRST ALTERNATIVE – EXCLUSION OF DIVORCE	10.05
1. General thoughts	10.05
2. Legal separation	10.06
3. Extension of Article 10 first alternative	10.08
a. General restriction to absolute impediments	10.08
b. Treatment of 'limping' marriages	10.10
c. Treatment of same-sex or interfaith (mixed religion) marriages	10.13
C. DISCRIMINATION (ARTICLE 10, VAR. 2)	10.14
1. Problem	10.14
2. Examples	10.16
3. Preferable approach	10.18
D. PRACTICAL USE OF ARTICLE 10	10.24
E. CONSEQUENCES OF THE DIVORCE	10.27
F. OUT OF COURT DIVORCES	10.28

Article 11 Exclusion of *renvoi*

Stefano Dominelli

- | | |
|--|-------|
| A. <i>RENOVI</i> : ISSUES AND NATIONAL DIVERGING APPROACHES | 11.01 |
| B. <i>RENOVI</i> UNDER EU AND TREATY-BASED CONFLICT OF LAWS RULES | 11.06 |
| C. <i>RENOVI</i> AND ARTICLE 11 ROME III REGULATION: A BALANCING OF DIFFERENT INTERESTS AT STAKE | 11.09 |
| 1. Exclusion of <i>renvoi</i> and party autonomy | 11.13 |
| 2. Exclusion of <i>renvoi</i> to another State absent a choice of law | 11.15 |
| 3. Exclusion of 'remission to the law of the forum' as well? | 11.19 |
| D. MANDATORY NATURE OF ARTICLE 11 ROME III REGULATION | 11.22 |
| E. APPLICATION OF SUBSTANTIVE FOREIGN LAWS IN FORCE ONLY | 11.25 |

Article 12 Public policy

Bettina Heiderhoff

- | | |
|--|-------|
| A. OBJECTIVE AND OVERVIEW | 12.01 |
| B. CONTROL OF RESULTS | 12.05 |
| C. UNDERSTANDING THE PUBLIC POLICY CONCEPT | 12.06 |
| 1. National law, EU law and public policy | 12.06 |
| a. Concept and national differences in divorce laws | 12.06 |
| b. Guidelines in EU law | 12.08 |
| 2. Contents of public policy | 12.09 |
| a. Narrow concept and ECJ case law | 12.09 |
| b. Human rights as key factor | 12.11 |
| c. Intensity of connection as important factor | 12.12 |
| d. Examples | 12.14 |
| 3. Comparison of results | 12.19 |
| D. LEGAL CONSEQUENCES OF A PUBLIC POLICY VIOLATION | 12.21 |
| 1. Practical remarks | 12.21 |
| a. Necessity of case-based assessment | 12.21 |
| b. Rejection <i>ex officio</i> and consequences of the rejection of the law designated by Articles 5 and 8 | 12.23 |
| 2. Necessity of preliminary ruling under Article 267 TFEU | 12.26 |
| E. THE RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN DIVORCES | 12.28 |

Article 13 Differences in national law

Christelle Chalas

- | | |
|--|-------|
| A. THE PROHIBITED DIVORCE | 13.04 |
| 1. The 'Maltese' clause | 13.05 |
| 2. The 'Maltese' clause outside Malta | 13.09 |
| B. THE INVALID MARRIAGE | 13.10 |
| 1. The causes of invalidity | 13.14 |
| 2. The source of invalidity | 13.17 |
| a. Reference to domestic law | 13.18 |
| b. Other sources of invalidity | 13.24 |
| 3. The regime of Article 13 | 13.29 |
| a. Discretionary decision of the judge | 13.30 |
| b. Procedural regime | 13.32 |
| 4. The effects of Article 13 | 13.35 |
| a. Refusal to grant the divorce | 13.36 |
| b. Need for <i>forum necessitatis</i> | 13.39 |
| 5. No equivalent to Article 13 in other European Regulations | 13.40 |

Article 14 States with two or more legal systems – territorial conflicts of laws

Caroline Sophie Rupp

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| A. INTRODUCTION | 14.01 |
| 1. Overview | 14.01 |
| 2. Placement and purpose | 14.02 |
| 3. Development | 14.04 |
| 4. Parallels in other EU Regulations | 14.05 |

B. SCOPE	14.06
1. General remarks	14.06
2. 'State'	14.07
3. 'System of law or set of rules'	14.08
4. 'Territorial unit'	14.09
5. Examples	14.10
6. Relationship between Articles 14 and 15	14.12
C. THE PROVISION IN DETAIL	14.13
1. Overview	14.13
2. Article 14 lit. a) – 'reference to the law of such State' (General Rule)	14.15
3. Article 14 lit. b) – 'reference to habitual residence in that State'	14.18
a. Objective conflicts of laws rule	14.19
b. Choice of law	14.21
4. Art. 14 lit. c) – 'reference to nationality'	14.23
a. 'Territorial unit designated by the law of that State'	14.25
b. 'Territorial unit chosen by the parties'	14.27
c. 'Territorial unit with which the spouse or spouses has or have the closest connection'	14.32
Article 15 States with two or more legal systems – inter-personal conflicts of laws	
<i>Caroline Sophie Rupp</i>	
A. INTRODUCTION	15.01
1. Overview	15.01
2. Placement and purpose	15.02
3. Development	15.03
4. Parallels in other EU Regulations	15.04
B. SCOPE	15.05
1. General remarks	15.05
2. 'State'	15.06
3. 'Systems of law or sets of rules'	15.07
4. 'Category of persons'	15.08
5. Examples	15.09
6. Relationship between Articles 14 and 15	15.11
C. THE PROVISION IN DETAIL	15.13
1. Overview	15.13
2. Article 15 sentence 1 – 'legal system determined by the rules in force in that State'	15.16
3. Article 15 sentence 2 – 'system of law or the set of rules with which the spouse or spouses has or have the closest connection'	15.21
Article 16 Non-application of this Regulation to internal conflicts of laws	
<i>Caroline Sophie Rupp</i>	
A. INTRODUCTION	16.01
1. Overview	16.01
2. Placement and purpose	16.02
3. Development	16.03
4. Parallels in other EU Regulations	16.04
B. SCOPE	16.05
1. General remarks	16.05
2. 'Participating Member State'	16.06
3. 'Systems of law or sets of rules'	16.07
4. Examples	16.08
C. THE PROVISION IN DETAIL	16.09
1. 'Shall not be required to apply this Regulation to conflicts of laws arising solely between such different systems of law or sets of rules'	16.09
2. Practical application	16.14

CHAPTER III: OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 17 Information to be provided by participating Member States

Alexandre Boiché

- | | |
|---|-------|
| A. THE INSTRUMENT OF THE EUROPEAN JUDICIAL NETWORK | 17.01 |
| B. DECLARATIONS AS TO THE ADDITIONAL FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE MEMBER STATES RELATING TO THE CONVENTION ON THE CHOICE OF LAW APPLICABLE TO DIVORCE | 17.02 |
| C. DECLARATIONS AS TO THE POSSIBILITY OF DESIGNATING THE APPLICABLE LAW | 17.03 |

Article 18 Transitional provisions

Cristina González Beilfuss

- | | |
|--|-------|
| A. LEGAL DIVORCE AND SEPARATION PROCEEDINGS | 18.04 |
| B. AGREEMENTS ON THE LAW APPLICABLE TO DIVORCE OR LEGAL SEPARATION | 18.08 |
| 1. Agreements concluded on and after 21 June 2012 | 18.09 |
| 2. Agreements concluded before 21 June 2012 | 18.10 |

Article 19 Relationship with existing international conventions

Thalia Kruger

- | | |
|---|-------|
| A. CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS | 19.01 |
| 1. 'Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union' (TFEU) | 19.01 |
| 2. 'International conventions' | 19.02 |
| 3. 'At the time when this Regulation is adopted' | 19.03 |
| 4. 'The decision pursuant to the second or third subparagraph of Article 331(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union' | 19.05 |
| 5. 'Take precedence' | 19.06 |
| 6. 'Conventions concluded exclusively between two or more of them' | 19.07 |
| 7. 'Matters governed by this Regulation' | 19.08 |
| B. DISCONNECTION CLAUSES | 19.09 |
| C. EXISTING CONVENTIONS | 19.12 |
| D. FUTURE CONVENTIONS | 19.15 |

Article 20 Review clause

Sabine Corneloup

223

CHAPTER IV: FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 21 Entry into force and date of application

Sabine Corneloup

225

Index

227