
I. SOURCES OF PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

II. INTERNATIONAL JURISDICTION
– Organic Law 13/2007, of 19 November, on the extraterritorial prosecution of illegal trafficking or clandestine immigration of persons (BOE n. 278, 20.11.07; correction of errors BOE n. 310, 27.12.07).
Note: This Law amends Art. 23 of the Organic Law of the Judiciary, broadening the premises of Spanish judicial extraterritoriality and introducing an offence for universal jurisdiction.

III. PROCEDURE AND JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE
Note: The new Art. 13, paragraph 3, of the Statute establishes that the Technical Secretariat of the General Public Prosecutor of the State shall assume the functions that are attributed by law to the Office of the Public Prosecutor regarding international judicial cooperation.

IV. RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGEMENTS AND DECISIONS

V. INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION

VI. CHOICE OF LAW: SOME GENERAL PROBLEMS
– Royal Decree 45/2007, of 19 January, modifying the Regulation on organization and regime of the Notarial Corps, approved by Decree on 2 June 1944 (BOE n. 25, 29.1.07; correction of errata BOE n. 33, 7.2.07).

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Note: Of interest are the following precepts of the Regulation of the Notarial Corps: Art. 150 (use of foreign languages in public documents), Art. 168 (determination of the legality of documents issued abroad), Art. 209 bis, rule 5th (accreditation of nationality and applicable foreign law), Art. 255 (ability of notaries to issue testimony to accredit abroad legislation in force in Spain or the personal status of the petitioner), Arts. 266, 267 and 268 (legalizations).

VII. NATIONALITY

– Instruction of 28 March 2007, by the Directorate General for Registries and the Notarial Corps, on the authority of municipal Civil Registries and other rules relating to cases of declaration of Spanish nationality through simple presumption (BOE n. 86, 10.4.07).

– Law 52/2007, of 26 December, by which rights are acknowledged and broadened and measures are established in favour of persons who suffered persecution or violence during the civil war or the dictatorship (BOE n. 310, 27.12.07). Note: For the purposes of this Chronicle the following precepts are worthy of note: Art. 18 (granting of Spanish nationality to the volunteers of the International Brigades) and the seventh additional provision (acquisition of Spanish nationality through choice by the children of fathers or mothers who were originally Spanish nationals, as well as the grandchildren of persons who lost or had to renounce Spanish nationality as a result of exile). In accordance with the second final provision, this last provision enters into force on 27 December 2008.

– Instruction of 26 July 2007, by the Directorate General for Registries and the Notarial Corps, on the processing of applications for the acquisition of Spanish nationality through residence (BOE n. 189, 8.8.07).

VIII. ALIENS, REFUGEES AND CITIZENS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

– Resolution of 14 February 2007, of the Office of the Under Secretary, providing for the publication of the Resolution of the Secretariats of State, of Security, of the Ministry of Home Affairs and of Immigration and Emigration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, determining the routes on which reporting obligations are established for airlines and transportation companies and carriers (BOE n. 42, 17.2.2008).

– Royal Decree 240/2007, of 16 February, on entry, free circulation and residence in Spain of nationals of Member States of the European Union and other States Parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (BOE n. 51, 28.2.2008). Note: This provision applies to nationals of Member States of the European Union and of other States Parties to the Agreement on the European Economic Area (Art. 1.1) and Switzerland (third additional provision), as well as, regardless of nationality,