

# **German Civil Code Volume II = Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB)**

**Dannemann / Schulze**

2022

ISBN 978-3-406-76966-5

C.H.BECK

# German Civil Code

## Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB)

Volume II  
Books 4–5: §§ 1297–2385

Article-by-Article Commentary

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2022



**Nomos**

*Published by*

Verlag C.H.Beck oHG, Wilhelmstraße 9, 80801 München, Germany,  
email: [bestellung@beck.de](mailto:bestellung@beck.de)

*Co-published by*

Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Waldseestraße 3–5, 76530 Baden-Baden, Germany,  
email: [nomos@nomos.de](mailto:nomos@nomos.de)

Suggested citation:

Author, in Dannemann/Schulze, German Civil Code (BGB), § ... mn. ...

**beck-shop.de**  
DIE FACHBUCHHANDLUNG

**[www.beck.de](http://www.beck.de)**

ISBN 978 3 406 76966 5 (C.H.BECK)

ISBN 978 3 7560 0391 4 (NOMOS)

© 2022 Verlag C.H.Beck oHG

Wilhelmstr. 9, 80801 München

Printed in Germany by

Druckerei C.H. Beck Nördlingen

Wilhelmstr. 9, 80801 München

Typeset by

Reemers Publishing Services GmbH, Krefeld

Cover: Druckerei C.H.Beck Nördlingen



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## Preface

The present volume completes the first comprehensive and systematic explanation of the *Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch* (BGB) in the English language. Volume I, comprising the BGB's first three books, was published two years ago and covered the BGB's General Part, the Law of Obligations, and the Law of Property. This Volume II provides commentaries on the BGB's remaining two books on Family Law and on the Law of Succession.

These family and inheritance law provisions comprise well over 1,000 sections and include many areas of great practical relevance. Most of these statutory rules have been developed well beyond their wording by case law and scholarly writing. All this has been unlocked for our readers with the help of the combined experience of our author team which comprises thirty distinguished scholars, judges and legal practitioners. As in Volume I, these commentaries are addressed both to Anglophone readers who are not familiar with German law, and to German lawyers who are working in an Anglophone environment. Style, structure and density of the commentaries also follow the same approach which we have explained in detail in our introduction to Volume I.<sup>1</sup>

The commentaries reflect the law in July 2021, whereas subsequent changes in legislation were incorporated until 1 July 2022.

Again, we owe an enormous gratitude to all those who have made this commentary possible and who have allowed us to publish this volume almost within the envisaged time frame. Dr. Wilhelm Warth from the publishers, C.H. Beck, who initiated this ambitious project, continued to provide valuable support throughout, and again compiled the index. Dr. Jonathon Watson, a true Anglo-German lawyer, played once more a decisive role as assistant editor. We are also very grateful to our many dedicated contributors, not only because they have written most of this book, but also for many productive discussions. We are again grateful that we were allowed to use the translation of the BGB that was initially provided in 2007 for publication on [gesetze-im-internet.de](http://gesetze-im-internet.de) by Langenscheidt Translation Service and updated until 2013 by Neil Musset and Carmen v. Schöning.<sup>2</sup> We also thank the publishers, C.H. Beck, and especially Thomas Klich, whose skill, enthusiasm and constant support is greatly appreciated.

Gerhard Dannemann and Reiner Schulze  
Berlin and Münster, July 2022

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<sup>1</sup> See → Introduction, mn. 1–8.

<sup>2</sup> See → Introduction, mn. 62–65.

## Table of Contents

Preface .....	V
List of Authors.....	IX
Abbreviations of Legislation, Legislative Drafts and Model Rules.....	XI
Abbreviations of Cited Works.....	XIX
List of Abbreviations and Abbreviated Literature.....	XXIII

<b>Overview of Books IV and V BGB .....</b>	<b>1</b>
---	----------

**Book 4**  
**Family Law**

<b>Division 1. Civil Marriage (§§ 1297–1588)</b>	5
Title 1. Engagement (§§ 1297–1302)	5
Title 2. Entering into marriage (§§ 1303–1312)	8
Subtitle 1. Capacity to marry (§§ 1303–1305)	8
Subtitle 2. Impediments to marriage (§§ 1306–1308)	9
Subtitle 3. Certificate of no impediment (§ 1309)	10
Subtitle 4. Marriage (§§ 1310–1312)	12
Title 3. Annulment of marriage (§§ 1313–1318)	15
Title 4. Remarriage after declaration of death (§§ 1319, 1320)	23
Title 5. Effects of marriage in general (§§ 1353–1362)	24
Title 6. Matrimonial property regime (§§ 1363–1563)	42
Subtitle 1. Statutory property regime (§§ 1363–1390)	42
Subtitle 2. Contractual property regime (§§ 1408–1519)	93
Chapter 1. General provisions (§ 1408–1413)	94
Chapter 2. Separation of property (§ 1414)	103
Chapter 3. Community of property (§§ 1415–1518)	104
Subchapter 1. General provisions (§§ 1415–1421)	105
Subchapter 2. Management of the marital property by a spouse (§§ 1422–1449)	110
Subchapter 3. Joint management of the marital property by the spouses (§§ 1450–1470)	130
Subchapter 4. Partitioning of the marital property (§§ 1471–1482)	141
Subchapter 5. Continued community of property (§§ 1483–1518)	151
Chapter 4. Optional Regime of the Community of Accrued Gains (§ 1519)	177
Subtitle 3. Marriage property register (§§ 1558–1563)	185
Title 7. Divorce (§§ 1564–1587)	189
Subtitle 1. Grounds of divorce (§§ 1564–1568)	189
Subtitle 1a. Treatment of the marital home and of the household objects on the occasion of divorce (§§ 1568a, 1568b)	202
Subtitle 2. Maintenance of the divorced spouses (§§ 1569–1586b)	210
Chapter 1. Principle (§ 1569)	210
Chapter 2. Entitlement to maintenance (§§ 1570–1580)	215
Chapter 3. Ability to pay and priority (§§ 1581–1584)	261
Chapter 4. Form of the maintenance claim (§§ 1585–1585c)	269
Chapter 5. End of the maintenance claim (§§ 1586–1586b)	280
Subtitle 3. Equalisation of pension rights (§ 1587)	288
Title 8. Church duties (§1588)	291
<b>Division 2. Relationship (§§ 1589–1772)</b>	293
Title 1. General provisions (§§ 1589, 1590)	293
Title 2. Descent (§§ 1591–1600d)	295
Title 3. Obligation to maintain (§§ 1601–1615n)	328
Subtitle 1. General provisions (§§ 1601–1615)	328
Subtitle 2. Special provisions for the child and its parents who are not married to each other (§§ 1615a–1615n)	369
Title 4. Legal relationship between the parents and the child in general (§§ 1616–1625)	380

## Table of Contents

Title 5. Parental custody (§§ 1626–1698b) .....	397
Title 6. Legal advisership (§§ 1712–1717).....	479
Title 7. Adoption (§§ 1741–1772).....	484
Subtitle 1. Adoption of minors (§§ 1741–1766a).....	484
Subtitle 2. Adoption of persons of full age (§§ 1767–1772).....	527
<b>Division 3. Guardianship, legal curatorship, custodianship (§§ 1773–1921) .....</b>	<b>534</b>
Title 1. Guardianship (§§ 1773–1895) .....	534
Subtitle 1. Creation of guardianship (§§ 1773–1792) .....	534
Subtitle 2. Conducting of the guardianship (§§ 1793–1836e).....	577
Subtitle 3. Care and supervision of the family court (§§ 1837–1847) .....	642
Subtitle 4. Cooperation of the youth welfare office (§ 1851) .....	654
Subtitle 5. Exempted guardianship (§§ 1852–1857a).....	655
Subtitle 6. Termination of the guardianship (§§ 1882–1895).....	663
Title 2. Legal custodianship (§§ 1896–1908i).....	678
Title 3. Curatorship (§§ 1909–1921) .....	776
 <b>Book 5</b> <b>Law of Succession</b> 	
<b>Division 1. Succession (§§ 1922–1941) .....</b>	<b>793</b>
<b>Division 2. Legal position of the heir (§§ 1942–2063) .....</b>	<b>831</b>
Title 1. Acceptance and disclaimer of the inheritance; supervision of the probate court (§§ 1942–1966).....	831
Title 2. Liability of the heir for the obligations of the estate (§§ 1967–2017) .....	872
Subtitle 1. Obligations of the estate (§§ 1967–1969).....	873
Subtitle 2. Public notice to the creditors of the estate (§§ 1970–1974) .....	879
Subtitle 3. Restriction of the liability of the heir (§§ 1975–1992).....	888
Subtitle 4. Filing of an inventory, unlimited liability of the heir (§§ 1993–2013) .....	926
Subtitle 5. Suspensive defences (§§ 2014–2017).....	947
Title 3. Claim to inheritance (§§ 2018–2031) .....	950
Title 4. More than one heir (§§ 2032–2063) .....	969
Subtitle 1. Legal relationship of the heirs between themselves (§§ 2032–2057a).....	969
Subtitle 2. Legal relationship between the heirs and the creditors of the estate (§§ 2058–2063).....	1003
<b>Division 3. Will (§§ 2064–2272).....</b>	<b>1007</b>
Title 1. General provisions (§§ 2064–2086).....	1007
Title 2. Appointment of heirs (§§ 2087–2099) .....	1057
Title 3. Appointment of a subsequent heir (§§ 2100–2146) .....	1073
Title 4. Legacies (§§ 2147–2191) .....	1149
Title 5. Testamentary burden (§§ 2192–2196).....	1186
Title 6. Executor (§§ 2197–2228) .....	1192
Title 7. The making and revocation of a will (§§ 2229–2263) .....	1263
Title 8. Joint Will (§§ 2265–2272) .....	1282
<b>Division 4. Contract of inheritance (§§ 2274–2302).....</b>	<b>1297</b>
<b>Division 5. Compulsory share (§§ 2303–2338).....</b>	<b>1336</b>
<b>Division 6. Unworthiness to inherit (§§ 2339–2345).....</b>	<b>1383</b>
<b>Division 7. Renunciation of inheritance (§§ 2346–2352).....</b>	<b>1391</b>
<b>Division 8. Certificate of inheritance (§§ 2353–2370).....</b>	<b>1404</b>
<b>Division 9. Purchase of an inheritance (§§ 2371–2385) .....</b>	<b>1426</b>
<b>Index.....</b>	<b>1445</b>