

Unmarried couples



12 Other legal consequences

12.1 Right to a name in the case of shared children

If the parents are not married to each other, the child is generally given the surname of the mother. The father may give the underage child his family name, provided his home country permits this. The naming requires the consent of the mother, the child's legal representative and the child itself if it has reached the age of 14. - Further details are regulated in the ABGB, § 139.

12.2 Civil rights

The partners retain their ancestral citizenship even in a cohabitation relationship. Children receive Liechtenstein citizenship if at least one parent has it, regardless of whether the partners are married to each other.

12.3 Tax law

Married couples are taxed jointly by adding their income. Unmarried partners, on the other hand, are taxed individually, and children may only be mentioned on one tax return.

12.4 Right of residence

A foreign partner's right of residence is possible under certain conditions:

- the existing relationship has lasted at least three years
- both partners are over 21 years of age
- both partners are of good reputation
- a bank guarantee (in the name of the partner moving in) of CHF 84,000 up to a maximum of CHF 156,000 must be provided to ensure that no social assistance is claimed.

12.5 Asset growth

There is no entitlement to the division of asset growth during a partnership.

12.6 Inheritance

See 8 Inheritance.

12.7 Criminal law

Isolated provisions in the Criminal Code stipulate that civil partners are to be treated like relatives. For example, in the case of certain offences, life partners are exempt from punishment like relatives (negligent bodily injury, theft, emergency fraud, unauthorized use of a vehicle) if the injured/damaged person is the life partner of the offender. Furthermore, a life partner is exempt from the obligation to be a witness in criminal proceedings if it concerns his/her partner (who is considered a relative).