



ELI

EUROPEAN  
LAW  
INSTITUTE

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FAMILY AND  
SUCCESSION LAW  
SIG

## European Succession Law Seminars (ESLS)

### INTESTACY RIGHTS FOR UNMARRIED PARTNERS

Changing family patterns in Europe challenge the traditional concept of family. One common trend in European countries is a decline in the number of marriages and a rise in non-marital relationships. However, the law is often remiss to this social phenomenon: unmarried partners are treated as strangers - not spouses - in many areas of law. This is particularly visible in succession law. For the most part, an unmarried partner, despite often fulfilling the role of a married spouse, is deprived of legal protection. In most European States, a surviving unmarried partner only inherits if the deceased made a will in favor of him or her. Without appropriate testamentary dispositions, the surviving partner is left with nothing - even if the deceased had distant relatives only.

A few European countries are leading the way by granting explicit, statutory intestacy rights to unmarried partners upon the death of their partners. Among the few are: Austria, Croatia, Norway, Slovenia, and some territories of Spain. The Webinar will explore and present the legislative models for intestate rights of unmarried partners. In particular, the national reporters will shed light on intestacy rules of these States (legislative provisions - their history and interpretation), relevant case law and current challenges in the application of law.

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**Attendance is free of charge.**

**A ZOOM link will be sent to those who register by sending an e-mail to [veranstaltungen@mpipriv.de](mailto:veranstaltungen@mpipriv.de)**

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**Schedule****THURSDAY, 6 JUNE 2024****16:00-16:10****Introduction**

Dorota Miler (University of Augsburg)

**16:10-16:30****The intestate rights of unmarried partners in Croatia**

Dubravka Klasiček (University of Osijek)

**16:30-16:50****The intestate rights of unmarried partners in Catalonia**

Antoni Vaquer Aloy (University of Lleida)

**16:50-17:10****The intestate rights of unmarried partners in Norway**

John Asland (University of Oslo)

**17:10-17:30****The intestate rights of unmarried partners in Austria**

Paul Patreider (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich)

**17:30 -18:00****Discussion and Conclusion**

Gregor Christandl (University of Graz), Denise Wiedemann (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg)