



Right to marry (Article 12)

Article 12 says: “Men and women have the right to marry and to found a family according to the national laws governing the exercise of this right”.

This only applies to marriage, not to cohabitation or civil partnerships. It also only applies to heterosexual marriage: the Convention does not require a State to grant same-sex couples the right to marry. But transsexuals may marry in their new gender. Marriage laws may vary from State to State, e.g. on issues like marriage with relatives as well as same-sex marriage.



The complete toolkit: <http://echr-toolkit.coe.int>

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