Case Study

Matrimonial Property and Succession

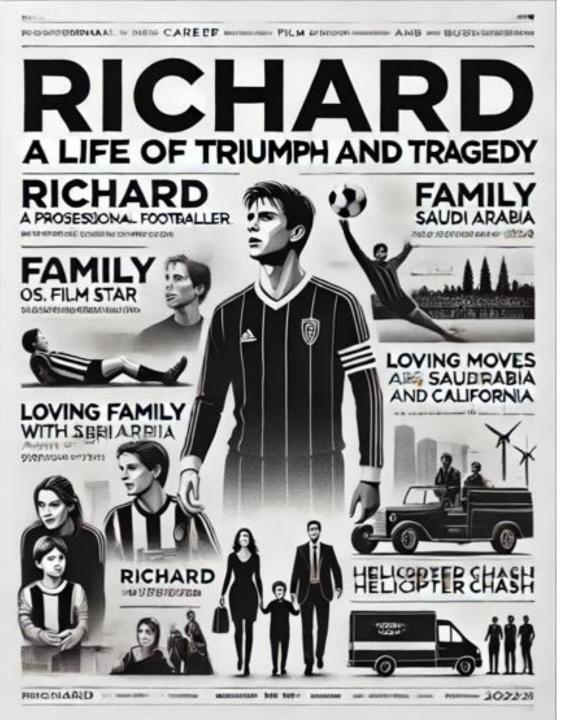


Regulation no. 650/2012 of 4 July 2012 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and acceptance and enforcement of authentic instruments in matters of succession and the creation of a Certificate of Succession

- Applicable to the succession of individuals who passed on or after August 17th, 2015.
- Principle of unity of the law applicable to the succession.
- Applicable law: law of the deceased's habitual residence.
- Choice of law possible.
- Jurisdiction provided for by the Regulation in favour of the deceased's habitual residence if it is located in the European Union

Council Regulation (EU) 2016/1103 of 24 June 2016 implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of jurisdiction, applicable law and the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matters of matrimonial property regimes

- Applicable since January 29th, 2019. Regarding the rules of conflict of law:
 - The Regulation applies to couples married after January 29th, 2019.
 - For couples married before, the applicable law is established by each Member State's private international law.
- NB: France, the Netherlands and Luxemburg are part of the Hague Convention date March 14th, 1978 on applicable law to matrimonial property regimes.



RICHARD FROM SUCCESS TO DURESS

A private international law textbook case

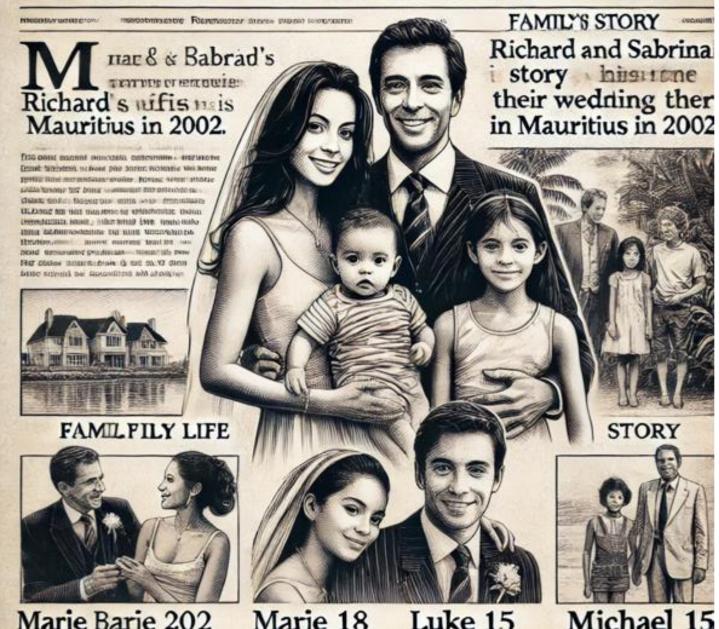
Part 1

A marriage, three kids and a funeral

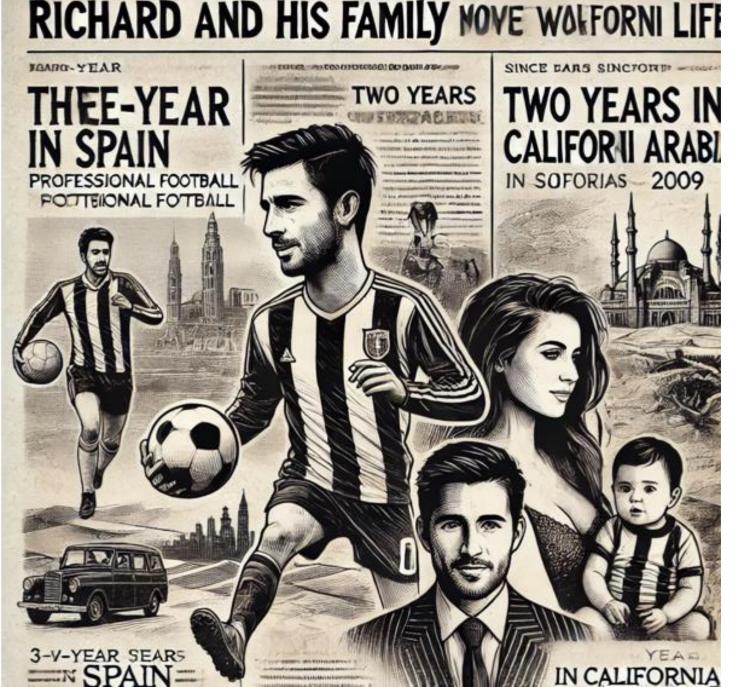
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- Richard, a well-known and beloved figure in your country
- Sportsman, film star and successful businessman

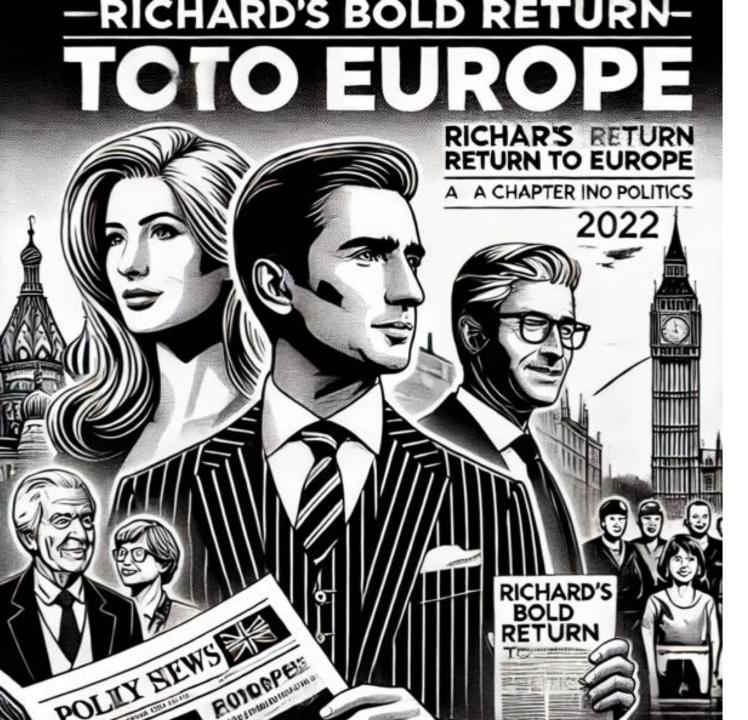
Richard & Sabrina's



- Richard marries Sabrina in Mauritius in 2002, but the couple has never lived on the island
- Sabrina is Brazilian
- Matrimonial regime : separation of property
- Three children



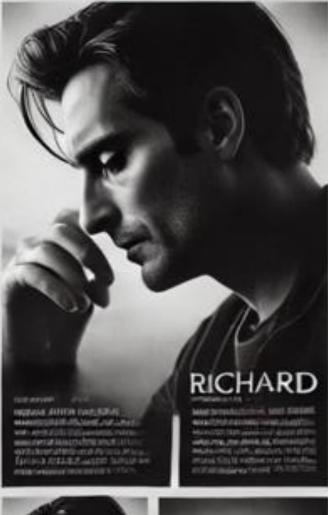
- After the marriage, the family lives in Barcelona for three years, then in Riyadh for two years.
- Richard pursues a career in football
- Then, the family moves to California
- There, Richard pursues a career as a series actor and producer
- Richard becomes an American citizen



- In 2020, they move back to Europe, first to Switzerland and then to your country
 from which Richard is a national
- In 2022, Richard enters politics

TRAGIC LOSS RICHARD DIES IN HELICOPTER CRASH





• 2024 : Richard dies tragically in a helicopter crash



- A residence in your country,
- o A villa in Los Angeles
- A Villa in Barcelona
- A chalet in Switzerland
- A production company registered in Delaware
- o Multiple shareholdings in companies
- Bank accounts in Spain, Switzerland,
 California, your country









VILLA IN LOS AORPANY



A VILLA IN LOS ANGELES DELAWARE-REGISTERD
A PRODUCTION COMPY
OCIDE NAME OF SEPTEMBER OF THE SEPTE





RICHARD'S SHOCKING WILL



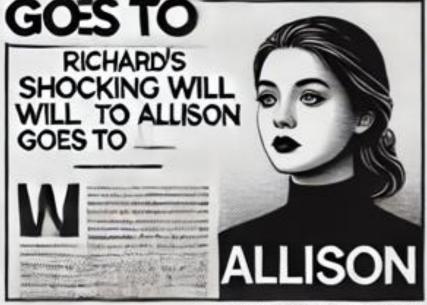
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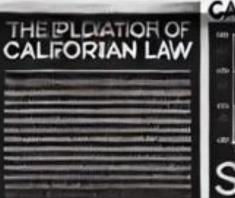


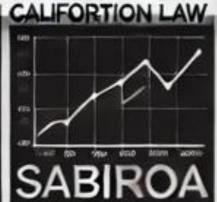














- A shocking will.
- Richard decided to:
 - Allocate a sum of 2 million euros to each of his three children
 - o Exclude Sabrina from all rights to her estate
 - Allocate all assets to Allison

Questions

- What rights does Sabrina have following the death of her husband?
- Can the children contest the result of their father's will? Which judge will have jurisdiction and which law will apply to this action?
- Will the judge's jurisdiction and the applicable law apply to the entire estate?
- Would your answers have been different if Richard had designated Swiss law as applicable to his estate in his will?

Vote

Is there a forced heirship in your country?

Part 2

A secret marriage, no kids, but still one funeral



Part 2 – A secret marriage, no kids, but still one funeral

- Allison and Richard were in fact married in secret in Las Vegas on January 1st, 2000
- Richard had promised he would make her a universal legatee

Questions

- O What does this revelation mean for Richard and Sabrina's marriage?
- What rights do Allison and Sabrina have following the dissolution of their marriages by the death of their husband?
- O Does this marriage affect Sabrina's rights in Richard's estate? Assuming he has not designated the applicable law? Assuming he has designated California law?

Vote

Does the concept of putative marriage exist in your country?

Part 3

A one-night stand, a kid and a big mess



- Paolo, who lives in Rome, is discovered to be Richard's hidden son.
- He was born in Rome in 2005 form a onenight stand with Sofia, a Swedish sports journalist.
- Sofia intends to assert her rights in Richard's estate.

Questions

- Could action be taken in your country? On what grounds? What would be the applicable law? Against whom should the action be brought?
- What evidence will your courts take into account to establish parentage?
- If Paolo's parentage is established, will he have any rights in Richard's estate?
- Could Paolo get alimony from his father's estate?

Vote

Is it possible to carry out a DNA test on a corpse to establish parentage in your country?