

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

Dannemann / Schulze

2022

ISBN 978-3-406-76966-5

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# German Civil Code

## Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch (BGB)

Volume II  
Books 4–5: §§ 1297–2385

Article-by-Article Commentary

edited by

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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. ...

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[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.

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