

Name: Subsequent determination of a common married name after marriage abroad

Basic information

The law on names is regulated differently in each country.

If a name of the spouses is entered in the foreign marriage certificate, this is not always valid for German citizens. Consultation with the registry office is therefore recommended.

If you were not able to effectively determine a common married name at the time of the marriage abroad, this declaration can be made at our office.

What documents do I need?

- Current original of the marriage certificate (multilingual or with translation) with apostille and legalisation by the German embassy if necessary

(please ask what is required)

- Current birth certificates of the spouses
- Birth certificates of the common children
- if this is not your first marriage: marriage certificate of the premarital period and proof of the dissolution of the marriage (divorce decree or death certificate)
- Valid identity card or passport

Procedure

The relevant declarations must be made in person at the registry office.

Legal bases

- [§ 41 Personenstandsgesetz \(PStG\)](#)

More information

The birth and marriage certificates to be submitted should not be older than six months.