

## **THE CANONICAL MARRIAGE IN THE SPANISH LEGAL SYSTEM: AN EXAMPLE OF CIVIL RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS LAW?**

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The objective of this paper is to offer a general vision of which status the canonical marriage has within the Spanish Law. Because of the Catholic denominational past of Spain, despite the current Constitution guarantees the separation between Church and State, we can find a mark of that past if we look at the matrimonial system regulation. The civil legal treatment given to the canonical marriage in its constitution and registration, as well as certain recognition of the ecclesiastical jurisdiction in decisions relating to matrimonial nullity, seems to show that the Catholic denomination has a privileged position compared to the religious minorities' ones.