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The paper aims to provide the reader with an overview of the new structure emerging from the justice reform for the protection of individuals and families, illustrating not only the principles of the new process, but also the critical aspects of the new judicial organisation, with the hope that it will be completed with the appropriate allocation of human and material resources.

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The essay regards the new text of the art. 403 of the Italian civil code, as amended and supplemented by art. 1, paragraph 27, of the law no. 206/2021, in order to analyze the innovations reported in it with respect to its original formulation. In this context, it is highlighted how the new text of the art. 403 c.c. is only partially shared, as the state of emergency that distinguishes the same art. 403 needs a better coordination with the adoption law (no. 184/1983). Therefore, the essay examines the most crucial points of the new text of the art. 403 c.c. with a view to balancing the best interest of the child with those of other subjects.

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The essay analyses the nature of the time limit for exercising the right to accept the inheritance, criticising the majority opinion that considers it to be a "prescrizione" rather than a "decadenza". The paper, after examining the arguments in favour of one or the other classification, deals with the practical effects of adhering to one or the other thesis, pointing out that the qualification in terms of "prescrizione" creates unnecessary inconveniences and that the different classification (as "decadenza") is in fact aimed at avoiding some apparent criticalities posed by certain succession rules, which, however, are either not such or can be overcome in another and better way.

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The paper focuses on the European Certificate of Succession, established by EU Regulation No. 650/2012: a number of issues linked to its application are examined. According to Article 63 of the Regulation, in crossborder inheritances the Certificate may essentially be used to demonstrate the status and the rights of each heir in more than one Member State. Nevertheless, given that this instrument appears to be modelled after the German Erbschein, its usage could lead to some differences in treatment between (on the one hand) an heir whose situation is entirely regulated by Italian law and (on the other hand) an heir subject to both Italian and German – or even French – law.

Parte II Giurisprudenza

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The Supreme Court, with the decision in question of 17 May 2022 n. 15889, affirmed the nature of credit right on the assets subject to the residual communion, recognizing to the other spouse an equal share to be calculated according to the value of the assets existing at the time of the dissolution of the legal communion. However, the hypothesis of a constitution ex lege of a credit right, for the assets subject to residual communion at the time of the dissolution of the legal regime, not only is not found in any regulatory data and, indeed, surpasses it, but nullifies the solidarity requirement which is the basis of the whole discipline of the community of goods, debasing the content of the principle of equality pursuant to art. 29 of the Constitution.