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## PARENTAL IDENTITY AND ASSISTED HUMAN REPRODUCTION IN LATIN AMERICA

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### ABSTRACT

*Human assisted reproduction is a practice that has existed since the 1970s, enabling infertile couples to have children. However, its normative development remains scarce or non-existent across most Latin American countries; these practices are often governed by overly general laws. Only two nations possess specific regulations on this matter: Argentina and Uruguay. In Ecuador, the legislative framework is entirely absent, despite the proliferation of fertility clinics that conduct such procedures. This study therefore examines how filiation identity ought to be legally constituted when it derives from human assisted reproduction. The methodology of this work follows the following order: post-positivism paradigm - recognises reality and its interpretations, but contrasts it with the legal approach of comparative law. Adopts a qualitative approach with an explanatory scope. The technique used is documentary research, with the documentary review guide serving as the instrument. The study analyses the metadata of existing legal doctrine on the subject in order to contrast it with the principles of filiation identity and the new forms of procreation, all under the scope of state guardianship. The general objective is to determine the essential parameters that should constitute filiation identity arising from human assisted procreation. To this end, it was necessary to establish specific conceptual bases, including identity, filiation, assisted reproduction techniques, state guardianship, and applicable legal norms. In Latin America, there is a marked lack of regulation concerning filiation identity resulting from assisted reproduction practices. Consequently, those born through these techniques are left without a legal framework to define their kinship. As a result, the parties contracting such services are not obliged to recognise the offspring -particularly with regard to paternity-. It is therefore necessary to adopt a definitive legal position on this issue.*

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**KEYWORDS:** State Regulations, Information, Government Regulation, Children Rights, Contract Law.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The filiation data constitutes an essential element of a newborn's identity, as it determines the name and surnames -through the act of filial recognition- and the family relationships that form the psychosocial environment in which the child will develop. Moreover, the family group is the fundamental entity that exercises protection, even against the parents' own will when necessary. For this reason, legal doctrine defines this initial stage of human existence as filiational identity *"...filiation entails a number of subjective rights that encompass not only the benefits derived from parental responsibility, but also the right to establish filiation and identity with their consequent effects."* (Bolzon, 2025, p.126)

Although assisted reproduction has been practised for decades, most Latin American countries lack specific legislation regulating its procedures, the obligations of those who contract such services towards the offspring, or the requirement to provide the Civil Registry with information identifying those who participated in the reproductive process, so that such information may later be made available to the child. This omission directly affects the right to know one's own origin.

In the case of Ecuador, there is no legislation governing this matter. Consequently, those who contract assisted reproduction services may choose whether to recognise the child -particularly in relation to paternity- since genetic relationships are not demonstrable where gamete donors are involved. The same difficulty arises in cases where a woman acts as a surrogate, gestating and giving birth to a child for another woman who cannot carry a pregnancy. Under the current law, however, the woman who gives birth is recognised as the mother. Owing to this legal vacuum, it becomes imperative to develop regulations that guarantee filiational identity *"In Latin America, including the Republic of Ecuador, there is no law, judicial precedent, regulation or resolution that directly addresses this issue..."* (Higuera & Gómez, 2023, p.13)

Filiational identity is created through the recognition of the child, an administrative act performed before the Civil Registry. Maternal recognition is grounded in the medical birth certificate, without considering cases of assisted reproduction. Paternal recognition, on the other hand, is carried out before the Civil Registry without requiring genetic proof, enabling those who contract assisted reproduction services to establish filiation at will. The present research is therefore based on the theory of the family legal act, which conceptualises recognition as a fundamental expression of child and

family rights.

If there are no mechanisms to automatically determine filiation, and the intentional progenitor does not voluntarily recognise it, the legal system should provide instruments allowing the claim and declaration of paternity or maternity, with their inherent effects. Once determined, it should also prevent the impugnation of such filiation on the basis of the absence of biological ties with the child born. (Forcada, 2019, p.455)

In assisted reproduction procedures, the disconnection between biological data and legal filiation generates a legal vacuum that directly impacts the child's right to know their origin as a core component of identity. Additionally, the absence of specific regulation prevents clinics from maintaining proper records. Therefore, this study proposes recognising the following as juridical subjects involved: the legal parents who contract the service, the child born through such techniques, and the donors or participants in the process whose identities must be preserved in confidential records accessible to the offspring. (San Vicente Parada, 2023)

From a legal standpoint, it is crucial to identify all individuals who contributed genetic or biological material in assisted reproduction procedures, since such data provide the evidentiary foundation of the child's filiation. (Rodríguez, 2016). To this end, it is necessary to clarify the conceptual distinction between genetic origin, which refers to conception -through genetic material such as eggs or sperm- and biological origin, which refers to the process of procreation, as in the case of gestation -surrogate womb-. Medical institutions should thus be obliged to submit this information to the Civil Registry, ensuring that the live birth certificate clearly reflects the child's biological origin.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

The study adopts a post-positivist paradigm, analysing positive law in light of the empirical realities surrounding the subject; in other words, it starts from critical realism to recognize the current reality and its interpretations, but contrasts this with the legal approach that exists in comparative law. A qualitative approach was employed, with an explanatory scope aimed at clarifying the current situation and proposing feasible legal solutions. The research method is bibliographic and documentary, grounded in a systematic review of legal sources relevant to the object of study. The documentary review guide, managed through MENDELEY software, served as the principal research instrument. A synthesis process was subsequently

undertaken to encourage critical discussion and to derive coherent, evidence-based conclusions.

This process enabled a comprehensive review of specialised literature concerning the right to identity and state protection, covering the period 2017–2024. Foundational works of recognised academic authority were also incorporated, including four texts published more than a decade ago, whose inclusion is justified by their enduring doctrinal value. An initial corpus of seventy references was examined from academic repositories such as SCImago, Pubindex, EBSCO and SciELO, from which forty specialised sources were selected for detailed analysis.

The methodological process was carried out in three phases: Documentary review: systematic analysis and classification of the forty selected sources. Conceptual synthesis: categorisation of the core concepts related to identity, in accordance with the theoretical and legal references examined. Application phase: integration of the conceptual framework into the drafting and structuring of the research findings. It should be noted that the research revealed limitations in terms of research design, mainly with regard to sources of positive law, as these have not been developed in Latin America. Therefore, reliance on documentary sources was a complex task, making it necessary to analyze comparative law.

### 3. FILIATIONAL IDENTITY

Procreation usually occurs through a natural biological process that involves sexual relations between the progenitors, who conceive, gestate, and give birth to their offspring. This remains the predominant form of human procreation. Subsequently, this biological event is formalised through birth registration before the Civil Registry, which legally establishes the filiation identity of the new human being and confers upon them a multitude of children's and family rights. *"...its content can be summarised as follows: assignment of name and surname, entitlement to parental authority (personal and patrimonial content, legal representation), the right to maintenance and succession rights (legitimate share and intestate succession)."* (Gete-Alonso, 2018, p.48)

Nevertheless, sexual procreation is not an absolute rule. Assisted human reproduction techniques introduce a new dimension that challenges the traditional paradigm by generating different means through which filiation identity may be established -means that no longer rely exclusively on direct biological connection-, which is usually demonstrated through DNA testing. *"... [the*

*test] would only provide information about those transmitted by the mother since, as we recall, the DNA in corpuscular matter is maternal."* (Jiménez, 2017, p.41)

Hence, each assisted reproduction technique must be approached individually, analysing its legal and conceptual particularities to understand the filiation identity of the offspring and to define the contractual obligations of the parties involved. *"With the emergence of assisted human reproduction techniques, new family dynamics arise in law, distinct from those we have traditionally recognised."* (Cali, Aguilar & Barrera, 2023, p.702)

In Latin America, the normative development of these new reproductive techniques remains minimal. Chile has made some progress, while other countries -Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Paraguay, and Venezuela- lack any specific legislation. Only Argentina -Law No. 26.862- and Uruguay -Law No. 19.167- possess comprehensive and specific regulations on the matter. Therefore, these countries do have legal provisions regarding how prospective parents can contract the service, as well as the conditions under which the child can establish their identity and the treatment of information that must be safeguarded by the specialized medical center.

Assisted human reproduction presents a major challenge to the legal field because its elements are dispersed among gamete donors, surrogate mothers, and artificial insemination procedures. It is equally important to note that assisted reproduction presupposes that the resulting offspring have the right to know their biological origin, which, besides genetic information, includes the circumstances of gestation and birth.

There is an urgent need to regulate and establish human assisted reproduction laws without incurring in discriminatory and unconstitutional acts and, at the same time, being in accordance with scientific advances. This will allow a considerable reduction in the violation of human rights. Because of this, there is a need to establish regulations that help to homogenize the procedures. (López, Betancourt, Casas, Retana, Juárez & Casillas, 2021, p.12)

In this contemporary context, the right to identity exhibits a constant expansion of its content and scope, implicitly encompassing filiation as the foundation for family ties and the rights they entail. This evolution responds to the need to ensure the authenticity of the elements shaping the human personality, both in its permanent and developmental dimensions. Consequently, legal recognition should include complete information on

the biological and genetic origin of the individual, necessarily covering the procedures employed.

There exists a right to know one's genetic origin and a right to know one's biological origin. Although these concepts were initially treated as synonyms, the advent of assisted human reproduction techniques (AHRT) has made it possible to distinguish between them. Genetically, the focus lies on the gamete donor who made the birth possible, whereas biologically, the reference encompasses the bios -the life- of the person, thus including gestational surrogacy, since the gestating woman is part of the individual's life story. (Muñoz & Vittola, 2017, p.2)

In theory, procreation through assisted human reproduction should receive the same legal treatment as sexual procreation, in terms of protecting the child's fundamental right to filiation identity. However, this equivalence does not exist in practice. Nonetheless, the law, in all its domains, must guarantee identity, filiation, and access to biological truth. *"The absence of specific rules regulating procreation within interpersonal relationships generates a total lack of protection that affects the individual and their environment, including family and social relations."* (Varsi-Rospigliosi & Valdivia, 2025, p.231)

The intention of the contracting parties determines the legal filiation, irrespective of what happens within the couple's relationship, while identifying the participants in reproduction ensures biological truth. In light of such complexities, a specialised branch of law -Biolaw- has emerged, intersecting with bioethics and seeking to establish normative coherence in this field.

Biolaw should therefore focus on regulating the requisites for the constitution of filiation identity derived from assisted reproduction, setting conceptual foundations for two indispensable requirements: Filiation identity as an effect of contracting the service; and biological truth, based on the information regarding participants.

If the Code is intended to protect the person and their rights, no distinctions should exist between the sources of filiation regarding access to the truth of origin. Just as adoption provides mechanisms enabling the adoptee to access their origin, so too should persons born through AHRTs have the right to know how and through whom their existence began. (Krasnow, 2016, p.77)

Although doctrinal consensus affirms the obligatory nature of the filiation bond between those who contract assisted reproduction techniques and the resulting child -as well as the necessity of preserving biological truth as the basis of identity- Latin America continues to face a legal void. The

absence of legislation in most countries prevents the proper establishment of filiation identity, creating inconsistencies that affect fundamental rights. *"In Colombia, there is no regulation concerning the consequences deriving from AHRTs, nor any legal framework regarding family law. Fundamental rights are at stake."* (Giraldo, 2018, p.74)

Honesty and knowledge about one's biological origins benefit individuals personally and interpersonally. Information about conception, gestation, and birth is vital for a person to complete their processes of self-integration and to enable the free development of personality. Information about the mode of conception or the circumstances of gestation and birth is essential for an individual to complete the processes of integration and internalisation necessary for identity formation and the free development of personality." (De Lorenzi, 2015, p.676)

In sum, the filiation identity of children born through assisted reproduction remains largely unregulated in most Latin American jurisdictions. It is thus imperative for the law to impose an obligation to provide the data that compose identity primarily: Filiation identity based on the contracting act; and biological truth concerning participants.

The absence of such regulation and the concealment of genetic data result in direct violations of the right to identity, consequently undermining other fundamental rights related to childhood and family. *"...the development of AHRTs has brought about the need to consider a third type of filiation, with its own characteristics requiring a specific legal approach, where the principles derived from natural filiation are no longer sufficient."* (Cajigal, 2022, p.4)

Given this situation, the legal system must assume responsibility for enacting provisions that ensure filiation identity. *"...there is a need to regulate Assisted Human Reproduction Techniques in Peru, particularly heterologous techniques involving third-party gamete donors, to avoid the violation of rights."* (Romero, 2024, p.74) Once filiation has been established in accordance with these principles, the rights of the child may be fully exercised within both the nuclear and extended family, regardless of the mode of conception, without altering the legal bond or its effects.

#### 4. RECOGNITION OF CHILDREN

The recognition of a child is an administrative act performed before the Civil Registry by both parents in relation to the newborn. This act constitutes the child's filiation identity, creating their name and establishing the parents' surnames, from which their

children's and family rights arise. From this point, the child's identity is legally constituted, enabling the full exercise of their rights.

The child's right to establish and preserve their identity is one of the pillars of civil status. This right is included among the civil rights and liberties of the child as regulated by national, European, and international norms. In order to realise this right effectively in all its aspects birth registration, the right to a name... (Cret, 2024, p.169)

In most Latin American countries, the mother's recognition is determined by the medical birth record, presuming that the woman who gives birth is the mother without taking into account assisted reproduction cases, such as surrogacy, where another woman may have gestated the child. *"...in maternal-filial relations, the rights of the mother must also, inevitably, be taken into consideration."* (Gete-Alonso, 2018, p.33)

Paternal recognition, meanwhile, is performed before the Civil Registry without requiring any proof, such as DNA testing. Consequently, any man may recognise a child as his own, even without a biological relationship, which implicitly enables male contracting parties of assisted reproduction services to do so. This is possible due to the absence of a legal requirement for biological proof and the lack of provisions imposing contractual responsibility.

In Ecuador, paternity may be established in two ways. The first, and most common, arises from the biological link, where the father voluntarily recognises the child. The second arises from a socio-affective factor, whereby the declarant voluntarily and empathetically decides to confer identity upon the child before the Civil Registry. (Roca, 2019, p.7)

If a man contracting assisted reproduction services refuses to recognise the offspring, no legal mechanism compels him to do so, as DNA testing cannot prove paternity in cases involving gamete donors. This reflects the absence of any rule obliging the contracting father to assume responsibility. *"Medical and legal liability issues may also arise if the roles and responsibilities of the various actors at different stages of translating research results are not clearly established."* (Harper et al., 2017, p.13)

Several legal theories have sought to explain the philosophy underlying voluntary recognition. While this study does not aim to determine the superiority of one over another, it is important to outline the main approaches to clarify the position adopted herein.

Theory of the Act of Power (Cicu, 1947): Authorises the father to unilaterally establish the legal bond of filiation without genetic proof or the

child's consent. It has been criticised for subordinating the child's right to know their origin. Theory of Confession: Developed during periods of social stigma against children born out of wedlock, treating recognition as a judicial confession to prove paternity more a manifestation of juridical truth than a voluntary act of filiation. Aubry & Rau; De Ruggiero; Gatti; Josserand; Puig Peña; Stolfi.

Theory of Admission: Considers recognition a voluntary act whereby the progenitor, through free will, admits paternity, transforming biological fact into legal bond (Lledó, 2011) (Rojina Villegas, 1979). Theory of Confession-Admission: Defines recognition as a dual-nature act confession, proving filiation and rendering it irrevocable; and admission, voluntarily converting biological fact into a legal relationship. (Colin & Capitant, 1941); Benabent; Carbonnier; Cornu; Hauser; Huet-Weillier; Malaurie; Marty-Raynaud; Terré-Weillier).

Theory of Declaration: Regards recognition as a declarative act founded on biological truth, through which the law validates an existing link, thereby constituting filiation (Borda, 1993) (Rodríguez, 2016). Theory of Legal Act: Considers recognition a juridical act by which the parental-filial relationship is voluntarily created, producing the legal effects of filiation. Bidau; Busso; Carresi; Cariota Ferrara; Castán Tobeñas; Díez-Picazo; Lafaille; Mazzinghi; Méndez Costa; Segovia.

Theory of Family Legal Act: The most recent approach, reformulating the previous theory by situating the recognition of a child within the family legal sphere, wherein children's rights are exercised within both nuclear and extended family contexts under reciprocal duties (Plácido, 2003) (Varsi Rospigliosi, 2013)

This study adopts the Theory of the Family Legal Act to explain the filiation identity of children born through assisted reproduction. Given the total absence of a biological link between the contracting parties and the child, this approach best serves the principal aim of the research: guaranteeing the offspring's identity by legally determining their familial relationships.

## 5. PURPOSE OF THE RECOGNITION OF THE CHILD

The recognition of a child by the parents aims to establish filiation and, in technical terms, filiation identity. Once filiation is established, a parental bond is formed, granting the recognisers the legal status of father or mother and the recognised individual that of child. The law presumes the truthfulness of the act, attributing it full juridical validity.

Filiational identity guarantees the authenticity of the elements that individualise a human being, particularly familial data linking them to their origin. In the case of children conceived through assisted reproduction, however, such information does not necessarily coincide with legal paternity or maternity. Therefore, to guarantee the right of the offspring to know their origin -a constitutive element of identity- this information should be submitted to the Civil Registry for preservation and subsequent disclosure to the interested party.

The right to identity is comprehensive; it is a fundamental right that includes the right to know one's biological origin. This represents the ability to understand one's personal, familial, and biological history in an integral manner, encompassing information relating to biological, genetic, social, emotional, and cultural aspects. (Altamirano, 2025, p.5)

Unfortunately, no legislation currently requires this. Should a clinic decide not to retain such data, the biological information would be lost, thereby violating the child's right to know their origin and revealing the State's failure to guarantee human identity. *"...determining the child's right to identity is essential, as the minor may in future require information about their biological origin..."* (San Vicente Parada, 2023, p.63)

Any alteration, falsification, or omission of data composing identity -such as biological information- constitutes a violation of fundamental rights, weakening the protection the legal system ought to ensure. Consequently, the identities of participants in assisted reproduction must be registered with the Civil Registry to guarantee the offspring's right of access. *"In Colombia, the right to know the genetic origins of persons conceived through AHRTs is violated through legislative omission."* (Beetar, De León & Suárez, 2022, p.102)

Theoretically, the subjects of assisted reproduction should be: The recognisers or legal parents, who contract the service; The recognised child, born through assisted techniques; and the participants in the reproductive process, who hold no legal relationship with the child but whose data must be recorded to guarantee the right to know one's origin.

The recognisers and the recognised have already been discussed; the former must be legally obliged to recognise the child, as their procreational will is manifest through contracting the service. The participants -donors or surrogates- must also have their identities registered with the Civil Registry, regardless of the technique employed, since these

data form part of the evidentiary base of filiation identity.

The importance of creating a Unified Registry, which would organise and record information relating to persons born through AHRTs, thereby ensuring compliance with the legal provisions and serving as a consultation mechanism for such purposes. (Notaro, 2020, p.167)

The offspring possess a fundamental right to know their biological origin, a right that can only be guaranteed through the legal recognition of donor identities, even when these donors hold no juridical obligations. Denying such access violates both personal and juridical dimensions of identity and disregards the principle of human dignity. *"Genetic identity is one of the key dimensions composing the overall right to identity; it is one of its primary pillars, alongside name, nationality, and sex, among others."* (Echegaray, 2016, p.250)

Comparative law establishes that participation in assisted reproduction does not entail parental rights or obligations towards the offspring. Those providing genetic or biological material are excluded from any parental responsibility, as their role is limited to the medical and technical domain. (Pareja, 2020); (Herrero, Lluna & Aznar, 2020); (Sánchez, 2018)

Once filiation identity has been established, the child acquires all children's and family rights before the State, society, and both the nuclear and extended family. Although this study does not address those rights in detail, it acknowledges that the constitution of filiation identity enables their full exercise.

## 6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Human assisted reproduction is a consolidated practice that, however, lacks specific regulation in most Latin American countries. This legislative omission generates uncertainty regarding the responsibilities of those who contract such services towards the resulting child, as well as the obligation to provide the Civil Registry with information concerning the participants in the procreation process. The absence of regulation constitutes a clear violation of the child's fundamental right to identity, both with respect to filiation and to knowledge of biological origin rights that must be guaranteed in accordance with numerous international instruments, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1979) and the American Convention on Human Rights (1969).

In Ecuador, the absence of a legal framework on assisted reproduction produces juridical uncertainty regarding the filiation of the newborn. Those who

contract such procedures may choose whether or not to recognise the child, given that there is no genetic connection with the gamete donor, rendering DNA testing ineffective in proving filiation. Furthermore, the right of the child to know their origin -an essential element of identity- is not ensured, as the information concerning those who participated in the assisted reproduction process is not provided to the Civil Registry. Fertility and personal identity within family bonds require the logic of donation from the perspective of motherhood. (Chávez, 2021)

Recognition of the child is an administrative act carried out before the Civil Registry by the father and the mother, through which the filiation and identity of the newborn are determined, conferring name, surnames, and children's and family rights. Nevertheless, current Latin American regulations equate maternity with childbirth, according to the corresponding medical record, without considering cases of assisted reproduction or surrogacy. This can generate conflicts in determining maternity and in ensuring proper legal protection of the child.

Paternal recognition is carried out before the Civil Registry without the requirement of genetic proof, allowing any man to declare paternity even without biological connection. Consequently, men who contract assisted reproduction services may recognise or refuse to recognise the child at will, since there is neither an obligation of proof nor a rule imposing responsibility. Should the contracting party refuse, no legal mechanism compels him to recognise the child, as DNA evidence is inconclusive when donors are involved.

By not requiring the recogniser to prove the veracity of their paternity or maternity, a disassociation may arise between this juridical act and biological truth, giving rise to what foreign doctrine terms recognition by complacency and recognition of convenience. (Opazo, 2024, p.236)

Among the theories discussed, this research adopts the theory of the family legal act, which reformulates the theory of the legal act by situating the recognition of a child within the family sphere, where children's rights are exercised within both the nuclear and extended family, under reciprocal rights and duties (Jumbo & Jacho, 2024). This approach is particularly suitable for assisted reproduction, where filiation identity does not derive from biological ties but from intentional parenthood and legal will.

In assisted reproduction, biological data do not always coincide with legal paternity or maternity, thereby affecting the child's right to know their origin -an essential component of identity-. Given the absence of legal regulation, the lack of recordkeeping

by clinics violates this right. Consequently, the subjects involved should be: The recognisers or legal parents -those contracting the service-; The recognised child -the offspring born through such techniques-; and, the participants in the process - whose identities must be recorded to ensure the right to know one's origin-. (De Lorenzi, 2015)

From a legal perspective, it is essential to identify all persons who contributed genetic or biological material, as these data constitute proof of filiation identity. Medical institutions should therefore be required to submit this information to the Civil Registry, ensuring that the live birth certificate is properly substantiated and that the recognition of the child accurately reflects their biological origin.

The child possesses a fundamental right to know their biological origin. However, the participants in assisted reproduction do not acquire rights or obligations in relation to the offspring. *"...public authorities should enable children born through assisted reproduction techniques to identify their biological parents, without this necessarily implying the establishment of a new parental relationship."* (Romero, 2020, p.32)

Once filiation identity is established, the child acquires all children's and family rights before the State, society, and within their nuclear and extended family environment.

## 7. CONCLUSIONS

Latin American countries show a limited or non-existent normative development concerning human assisted reproduction, as exemplified by Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Paraguay, and Venezuela. As a result, the filiation identity of children born through assisted reproduction is not adequately guaranteed, despite being a fundamental human right.

The absence of legal protection for filiation identity leads to uncertainty as to whether those contracting the service will recognise paternity or maternity. Furthermore, the lack of regulation requiring the conservation of data identifying participants in assisted reproduction prevents the guarantee of the child's right to know their origin -an essential element of identity-.

The current framework for voluntary recognition in Latin America determines maternity by the act of childbirth -attested by the medical record- without considering whether the child was conceived through assisted reproduction. Paternity, conversely, is established solely by the man's will before the Civil Registry, even without biological connection. This

situation implies that the contracting man may also recognise the child, which aligns with the theory of the family legal act adopted in this research to explain the recognition of a child conceived through assisted reproduction.

If the contracting party refuses to recognise the child, there is no legal norm compelling him to do so, and due to the lack of biological link, DNA testing cannot establish paternity. Consequently, the filiation identity of the child remains unprotected.

Because biological data in assisted reproduction do not always coincide with legal parenthood, it is necessary for clinics performing these procedures to provide participant information to the Civil Registry.

The absence of legal provisions regulating this

process violates the child's right to know their origin.

Once filiation identity is established, the child acquires all children's and family rights before the State, society, and within both the nuclear and extended family structure.

As a brief forward-looking recommendation, the research suggests that legislators create urgent regulations governing assisted human reproduction processes, for which the following should be considered: 1. The obligations of those contracting the service. 2. The identity of the child. 3. The handling of information by specialised health centres. 4. The coordination of the delivery of such information to the Civil Registry to ensure that the child knows its own origin.

**Summary:** I. Introduction. II. Methodology. III. Filial identity. IV. Recognition of children. V. Purpose of recognition of children. VI. Results and discussion. VII. Conclusions. VIII. References.

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