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# Reproductive Tourism in Europe:

## Legal and Ethical Issues

The cases of Sweden and Greece

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## **Abstract**

Reproductive tourism refers to the travelling of citizens from their country of residence to another country in order to receive fertility treatment through assisted reproductive technology (ART)<sup>1</sup>. In Europe, the reasons why people seek reproductive treatments outside their national boundaries are diverse but mainly because regulations differ a lot among countries. The legislations concerning ART are usually based upon different ethical perceptions and convictions. Sweden is considered as a country with restricted legislation on ART and many Swedish citizens seek ART services abroad. On the other hand, Greece is not considered as a country with a restricted legal framework and it constitutes a destination for “reproductive tourists”. Although “reproductive tourism” could be considered as a safe solution for infertile individuals, the phenomenon is often presented as problematic because it is often associated with legal implications as well as health dangers for the parties involved. In the end of this thesis, possible solutions to these problematic effects will be addressed in the light of the fact that “reproductive tourism” is an expanding phenomenon.

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<sup>1</sup> Ferrarretti et al, 2010.

Abbreviations .....	
Glossary .....	
Chapter 1 .....	1
1. Introduction .....	1
1.1. Background.....	1
1.1.1. Description of the problem .....	2
1.1.2. Purposes and objectives of this research.....	3
1.2. Methodology.....	4
1.2.1. Type of analysis and main sources.....	4
1.3. Limitations.....	5
1.4. The international legal framework.....	6
1.4.1. New health technologies in the European Union .....	6
1.4.2. Biomedicine and Human Rights: The Oviedo Convention .....	8
1.4.3. Reproductive technologies under the ECHR .....	9
1.4.4. Reproductive technologies under the CRC .....	10
1.5. Latest studies on reproductive tourism in the EU.....	11
1.6. Outline of chapters.....	12
Chapter 2.....	14
2. Ethical issues .....	14
2.1. Christian theories and reproductive technologies.....	15
2.1.1. Catholicism .....	15
2.1.2. Eastern Orthodoxy .....	16
2.1.3. Protestantism .....	17
2.2. Philosophical Ethical Theories applied in reproductive technologies.....	18
2.2.1. Utilitarianism .....	18
2.2.2. Kantianism.....	19
2.2.3. Liberal individualism.....	21
2.2.4. Communitarianism .....	22
2.3. Ethical problems surrounding surrogacy .....	23
2.3.1. Feminist perspectives on surrogacy.....	23
2.4. Ethical problems surrounding sperm donation .....	25

2.4.1.	Ethical arguments regarding non-anonymous sperm donation .....	25
2.4.2.	Ethical arguments regarding anonymous sperm donation.....	26
2.5.	Ethical problems surrounding reproductive tourism .....	27
2.6.	Concluding remarks.....	29
Chapter 3.....		32
3.	Legal issues.....	32
3.1.	The case of Sweden.....	32
3.1.1.	Sperm donation.....	33
3.1.1.1.	The national legal framework .....	33
3.1.1.2.	Swedish law under the scope of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.....	35
3.1.1.3.	Swedish law under the scope of the European Convention on Human Rights .	37
3.1.2.	Surrogacy.....	39
3.1.2.1.	The absence of an explicit national legal framework.....	40
3.1.2.2.	Who is the legal mother in the case of surrogacy in Sweden? .....	41
3.1.2.3.	Does the right to know ones origins under the CRC and the ECHR extend to surrogate-born children? .....	43
3.1.2.4.	Reasons why Swedish citizens seek ART abroad.....	45
3.2.	Other European countries where citizens seek ART abroad.....	46
3.2.1.	The case of the United Kingdom .....	46
3.2.2.	The case of France.....	48
3.3.	Legal problems deriving from “reproductive tourism” .....	49
3.3.1.	A common issue that “reproductive tourists” may face: the problem of stateless children.....	49
3.3.2.	The conflict between national legislations and the EU legal order .....	51
3.4.	Concluding remarks.....	52
Chapter 4.....		55
4.	Legal issues.....	55
4.1.	The case of Greece .....	55
4.1.1.	Sperm donation.....	56
4.1.1.1.	The national legal framework .....	56
4.1.1.2.	Issues relating to the CRC relevant to the Greek legal framework.....	57
4.1.1.3.	Greek Law and the right to privacy .....	58

4.1.1.4. The “double track” policy.....	60
4.1.1.5. Sperm donation and the Greek financial crisis .....	60
4.1.2. Surrogacy.....	62
4.1.2.1. The national legal framework .....	63
4.1.2.2. Legal motherhood in the case of surrogacy and the “freedom of services” .....	65
4.1.2.3. Is surrogacy in Greece truly altruistic? .....	68
4.2. Other countries of destination for “reproductive tourists” .....	69
4.2.1. The case of Spain.....	69
4.2.2. The case of Czech Republic .....	70
4.3. The decline of transnational adoption due to “reproductive tourism” .....	71
4.4. Concluding remarks.....	72
Chapter 5.....	74
5. Closing thoughts.....	74
5.1. The right to procreate: to what extent does it include a claim for access to ART? .....	74
5.2. The proposal of common ethical guidelines .....	76
5.3. The issue of legal diversity .....	77
5.4. The proposal of legal harmonisation limited to safety and quality standards .....	78
5.5. Conclusion .....	79
Bibliography .....	81
Books .....	81
Case law.....	83
International materials.....	84
Journals .....	86
News articles .....	93
Presentations .....	95
Websites.....	95
Correspondence .....	98