

## CHAPTER II

### ***Denomination***

#### **Article 18**

##### *Place names*

1. The Catalan version of the place names of Catalonia are the only official ones, in accordance with the linguistic norms of the *Institut d'Estudis Catalans*, except those of the Aran valley, where they shall be in Aranese.
2. Decisions regarding the names of municipalities and *comarques*<sup>8</sup> are governed by the legislation on local authorities.
3. Decisions on the name for urban streets and villages of every kind are the responsibility of the local councils, and decisions on other names in Catalonia, including inter-city roads, are the responsibility of the Generalitat whoever is responsible for them.
4. Names that para 2 and 3 refer to are the legal ones for all purposes and signs shall be written accordingly. The Generalitat, heeding in all cases the international regulations which have become part of internal law, shall regulate the normal use of Catalan on public signs.

#### **Article 19**

##### *Personal names*

1. The citizens of Catalonia are entitled to use their forenames and surnames written in a regulatory correct manner, and to use the conjunction "i" between their surnames.
2. Interested persons may arrange for their forenames and surnames to be recorded in a regulatory correct manner in Catalan in the Civil Registry, whatever the date of the original imposition, by a simple declaration to the person in charge and by submitting the documents accrediting the linguistically correct form, in a manner which shall be set forth by regulations.
3. This rule shall be applicable to Aranese names and surnames as regards the linguistic norms for Aranese.

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<sup>8</sup> The *comarca* (plural, *comarques*) is the administrative district of Catalonia established by the Generalitat on the basis of historical demarcations.