

**THE NOTION OF „FAMILY MEMBER” IN THE LIGHT OF THE  
NEW ROMANIAN CRIMINAL CODE AND THE LAW NO. 217/2003  
FOR PREVENTION AND COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,  
REPUBLISHED**

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**ABSTRACT:** *The legislator has created in the special part of the new Criminal Code a separate chapter in the title relative to the offenses against the persons, dedicated to describing the crimes committed on a family member. In the general part of the code the definition of „the family member” has been changed for the purposes of widening the scope of its applicability for the people who have established relationships like those between spouses or between parents and children, provided they live together. It was aimed to harmonize the definition existing in the Law no. 217/2003 for preventing and combating domestic violence, republished.*

**KEYWORDS:** *family members, cohabitants, cohabitation, definition, harmonization.*

**JEL CODE:** *K14, K36.*

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