



## **Key Biographies in the Legal History of European Union, 1950-1993**

21 – 22 June 2018

Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt

The history of European Union law is still to a large extent uncharted territory. This conference is based on the assumption that biographical approaches are a valuable addition to this new field.

For a long time during the last century, biographies were regarded as stale and reductionist. In the field of legal history they tended to focus on prominent jurists and doctrines, to the exclusion of the broader legal and historical context. General historians were criticized for their cradle to grave approach, which stressed the continuities and coherence of life over fragmentation, and for their inclination to give too much importance to one actor over other historical factors. It is only recently that the disciplines of history as well as law have returned to the biographical approach.

At the intersection of law and history, the historiographical turn in international law has been particularly successful. Following the lead of Finnish scholar Martti Koskenniemi, many scholars used biographies to analyse international law and its discourses over time. This intellectual history has been exceptionally sophisticated with respect to analysing the nuances of how the doctrines of international law were created and further developed. However, this strand of research was foremost produced with the purpose of contributing to contemporary theoretical debate in international law. Perhaps for this reason, and also because it was mostly written by legal scholars, it has with few exceptions ignored archival sources and generally not used the broader historiography of international history, nor did it contribute to his historiography.

Biographical approaches have also made a significant comeback in international history in recent years. Here, biographies have been used to transcend the national context and capture the social practice of the new international and transnational reality that emerged during the twentieth century. Biographical approaches, in particular when using private archives, have allowed historians to tap into the informal politics of international organisations and transnational networks, but also to trace the elusive links between worldviews, ideology, ideas and political practice. This approach can also be made fruitful for legal history because systematic archival research allows to explore the social practice that produces law and thus the intricate relationships between law, interests and institutional self-empowerment.

This conference invites both lawyers and historians to use their particular methodologies with regard to biographies of key figures in the history of European law. Such biographies will contribute to the development of the intellectual history of the field, focusing on the development of ideas and doctrines. At the same time they will explore the links between social practices and the broader context of law and legal thinking.



Thursday, 21 June 2018

08h15 Registration

08h45 Stefan Vogenauer and Philip Bajon (MPIeR Frankfurt): *Welcome*

**PANEL I: ECJ 1950s-1970s**

Chair: Anna Katharina Mangold (U Frankfurt)

09h00 Vera Fritz (U Aix-Marseille): *Massimo Pilotti (1879-1962)*

09h20 William Phelan (Trinity College Dublin): *How to study the impact of Robert Lecourt on the European Court of Justice 1962-1976*

09h40 Comment and Debate: Anthony Arnull (U Birmingham)

10h40 Coffee

**PANEL II: TREATY NEGOTIATORS AND NATIONAL LEADERS**

Chair: Stefan Vogenauer (MPIeR)

11h10 Sandrine De Herdt (U Louvain): *Jean-Charles Snoy et d'Oppuers (1907-1991)*

11h30 Alexandre Bernier (U Copenhagen): *Michel Debré (1912-1996)*

11h50 Comment and Debate: Sigfrido Ramirez-Perez (MPIeR)

12h30 Lunch at Restaurant *Sturm und Drang* (Campus)



Thursday, 21 June 2018

**PANEL III: ACADEMIA I**

Chair: Ines Soldwisch (RWTH Aachen)

13h30 Stefan Kadelbach (U Frankfurt): *Franz Böhm (1895-1977)*

13h50 Felix Lange (U Humboldt Berlin): *Continuity and Rupture in European Integration History - Hermann Mosler and the Concept of Supranationality*

14h10 Alexandra Kemmerer (MPIL Heidelberg): *Law, Exile and the Making of a Transnational Constitution: A Life of Eric Stein*

14h30 Comment and Debate: Matthias Goldmann (U Frankfurt)

15h30 Coffee

**PANEL IV: ECJ 1980s**

Chair: Anne Deighton (U Oxford)

16h Jan-Henrik Meyer (U Copenhagen): *Taking the member states to court. Ludwig Krämer and the implementation of European Environmental Law in the 1980s and 1990s*

16h20 Mala Loth (U Oslo): *Carl Otto Lenz, the ECJ, and the Shaping of European Labour Law*

16h40 Alessandro Rosano (U Padova): *Walter van Gerven. Met rechte en rede*

17h Comment and Debate: Felix Maultzsch (U Frankfurt)

19h30 Dinner at Ristorante Romanella, Wolfsgangstraße 84, 60322 Frankfurt am Main, followed by an exchange of experiences and interests in the academic field of EU legal history



Friday, 22 June 2018

**PANEL V: HAUTE AUTORITÉ AND COMMISSION**

Chair: Katja Seidel (U Westminster)

08h40 Frank Schorkopf (U Göttingen): **Robert Krawielicki (1905-1966) – Director General of the Haute Autorité until 1966**

09h Morten Rasmussen (U Copenhagen) and Anne Boerger (U Alberta): **Michel Gaudet (1915-2003)**

09h20 Comment and Debate: Antonio Grilli (European Commission Brussels)

10h20 Coffee

10h50 Bill Davies (American University Washington): **Walter Much**

11h10 Aude Cefallielo (U Glasgow): **Occupational Health and Safety in the European Union: Alexandre Berlin's testimony to fill the gaps of the socio-legal history**

11h30 Comment and Debate: Mauve Carbonell (U Aix-Marseille)

12h30 Lunch at Restaurant *Sturm und Drang* (Campus)



Friday, 22 June 2018

**PANEL VI: ACADEMIA II**

Chair: Ines Soldwisch (RWTH Aachen)

13h30 Vincent Genin (U Liège): *Fernand Dehousse (1906-1976)*

13h50 Karin van Leeuwen (U Amsterdam): *Ivo Samkalden (1912-1995)*

14h10 Amedeo Arena (U Naples): *The Mastermind behind Costa v. ENEL: Discovering Gian Galeazzo Stendardi*

14h30 Comment and Debate: Jacob Giltaij (U Helsinki)

15h30 Stefan Vogenauer (MPIeR): *Conclusions*

16h00 Coffee and Farewell Address