Welcome to our newsletter. This newsletter seeks to address legal historians, legal theorists as well as others interested in global history, social sciences, humanities and legal studies more broadly. We keep you updated about events, new publications by our researchers and other news from our Institute. Any feedback and suggestions are more than welcome. We hope you enjoy this month's edition.

Opportunities

CfA: The Department ‘Historical Regimes of Normativity’ is offering a PhD student position for a law graduate (with Staatsexamen) to work on the project Non-state law of the economy. The normative order of industrial relations in the metal industry from the Empire to the early years of the Federal Republic of Germany. Deadline 31 March 2021

CfA: The Department ‘Historical Regimes of Normativity’ is offering a PhD student position for a historian to work on the project Non-state law of the economy.

Events

01.-05.03. Conference: Digital methods and resources in legal history. Video conference. For further information please contact dlh@rg.mpg.de

05.03. 12:00 CET, Book launch: Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia; Volume III: Contents of Contracts and Unfair Terms, further information at www.law.ox.ac.uk

10.03. 14:30, Salamanca Colloquium: The School of Salamanca on slavery: from ius gentium to ius civile, Christiane Birr, José Luis Egío, Andreas Wagner. Video
normative order of industrial relations in the metal industry from the Empire to the early years of the Federal Republic of Germany. Deadline 31 March 2021

CfA: The Max Planck Law is looking for a student assistant. Deadline 15 March 2021

26.03. 12:00, Seminar: Anke Hübenthal on mentoring, role models and opening doors. Victoria Barnes, Amber Rose Maggio, Zeynep Yazici Caglar. Video conference. For further information please contact salamanca@rg.mpg.de

New Publications

A Bibliographical Quartet in the ‘Subsidia et Instrumenta’ series (mpihlt Research Paper Series)

The Institute’s Research Paper Series regularly publishes research contributions on legal history. Since 2017, there is a subseries called ‘Subsidia et Instrumenta’, which provides the scholarly community, as well as students and the interested public, with research tools such as source editions and bibliographies. The culmination of years of intensive research, four comprehensive bibliographies on (legal) historical topics have been published in recent months.

The authors focus on various research topics at the Institute. While Caspar Ehlers outlines and categorises the historiography on the topic of ‘legal space’ from a medievalist perspective, Christoph Meyer systematically compiles the relevant literature on the status of non-Christians in the normative culture of the Catholic Church from antiquity to the 20th century. Celia Alejandra Ramírez Santos and José Luis Egío, on the other hand, present a critical conceptual-historical bibliography of recent research on the School of Salamanca. Moreover, Otto Danwerth’s basic bibliography of the pertinent literature on the colonial history of Ibero-America and the Spanish Caribbean – organised regionally, chronologically and thematically – was also recently published.

While the methods and organisational criteria used by each author may differ, this bibliographical quartet clearly demonstrates just how useful this currently oft-neglected academic genre can be. The four bibliographies, as well as all other contribution in the series, are available Open Access at ssm.com.

Luisa Stella de Oliveira Coutinho Silva

The monograph develops a legal history of colonial women as a methodological approach to studying the women of Paraíba, a captaincy on the northeast coast of Brazil, from the end of the Dutch occupation (1661) to Brazilian independence in 1822. It uses the concept of multiple normativities to analyse dozens of daily life cases from Portuguese and Brazilian archives.

The study focuses on normativities of a more pragmatic character, analysing archival documents portraying women’s daily life situations relating to both secular and religious jurisdictions. The issues touched upon include marriage and other family formations, single parenthood, concubinage and cohabitation; different experiences of motherhood, filiation and illegitimacy, loss of virginity in cases of rape, and widowhood; as well as consanguinity, bigamy, adultery and divorce. It examines questions of women’s ownership of goods and land, and whether adherence to a certain religion influenced their room for manoeuvre and experiences in normative contexts.

This analysis demonstrates that law on the ground was quite dynamic, and the interplay of multiple normativities provided different possibilities to women depending on the intersection of their condition, status, religion and sexual options. The practice of law in colonial Paraíba directly challenges the immutable of sex and gender, showing just how flexible such categories can be.

Digital Humanities

1–5 March, online conference

Digital Methods and Resources in Legal History

We invite researchers to attend our online conference on ‘Digital Methods and Resources in Legal History’, which is intended to provide an opportunity for the critical discussion of digital methods and resources in legal history. We will have presentations of collections, databases, gazetteers and similar resources of relevance to legal history, and discuss how these and other resources, and digital methods in general, have been put to use in concrete project contexts. Interested researchers, whether from legal history, the digital humanities or other fields, are welcome.
The event will take place as an online conference with presentations between 15:00 and 19:00 UTC (please check your time zone!) each day of the week from 1-5 March 2021. You can find more details, a full programme and get a glimpse of the posters sessions [here](#).

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### Featured Event

**5. March, 12:00–13:45, online**

**Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia, Volume III**

This new volume in the series *Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia* focuses on contents of contracts and unfair terms. It provides an authoritative account of the contract law regimes of selected Asian jurisdictions, including the major centres of commerce where limited critical commentaries have been published in the English language. These jurisdictions include China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. The book should prove an invaluable resource for both comparative scholars and practitioners. The editors, Mindy Chen-Wishart and Stefan Vogener, are going to present the new volume in an online lunchtime seminar on 5 March, hosted by the Faculty of Law at the University of Oxford, 12:00–13:45. You can register for this event [here](#).

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### Hansaallee 41

**13th Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court**

**New translation project: China – Norms, Ideas, Practices**

The Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, together with the Max
For the third time, the Institute is jointly hosting with the international law firm Morgan Lewis, the 13th Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court, the oldest and most prestigious student competition in the area of investment protection law. The 2021 Moot Court will take place online from 8-19 March 2021, https://www.investmentmoot.org/.

Participating student teams will prepare pleadings for both sides and then compete against each other in several rounds. The winner of each round will move on to the next round, until the two final teams compete in one final pleading, which will take place on 19 March 2021, 13:30 - 15:00 (CET), to determine the winning team.

This year’s case is based on an actual historical case that took place during the early 19th century involving a zinc mine in Vielle Montagne. Vielle Montagne is located in Neutral Moresnet, the neutral zone (Niemandsland) between Prussia and the Netherlands, later Belgium (after it declared independence from the Netherlands on 4 October 1830). Until 1919, Moresnet held a nationless status with a legal system that was ‘frozen in time’ and used the Napoleonic Code as its primary legal source until as late as the early 20th century. From 1823 to 1840, Prussia, the Netherlands and (after 1830) Belgium pursued their claims for the mining fees issued under a French Law of 1810 before Dutch and French courts.

Max Planck Newsletter Iberian Worlds

Just like its big sister, the newsletter of the research field 'Iberian Worlds' received a new look with the renaming of the Institute. The researchers of this group are investigating various aspects of legal history of the Iberian Worlds from the early modern age to the present from a global historical perspective.

In our monthly newsletter we are reporting in Spanish and Portuguese about conferences, seminars, calls for papers, announcements for research grants and publications related to the activities our research group. We will also be adding new sections such as presenting new and rare book acquisitions, conferences and even our colleagues.
We will also be adding new sections such as announcing new and rare book acquisitions, upcoming conferences and feature colleagues in order to get to know them better.

If you have not yet subscribed, you can do so [here](#).

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We have all been there: signing up to as many interesting newsletters as possible and now the inbox is cluttered with them. In case you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletter, that can easily be done visiting the page where you signed up for it: [https://listserv.gwdg.de/mailman/listinfo/mpierg_news](https://listserv.gwdg.de/mailman/listinfo/mpierg_news). Needless to say that seeing you leave would make us very sad.

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**Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory**

Hansaallee 41,  
60323 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany

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