Welcome to our newsletter. This newsletter is addressed to legal historians, legal theorists and 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.

Our newsletter takes a break next month. We will be back in September, ready for the start of a new semester with exciting new events and publications. Our hope is that you nd some time for relaxation and recharging over the next couple of weeks. Stay safe and healthy and do not forget to switch off the computer from time to time.
Opportunities

Department Vogenauer is looking for a **doctoral student (m/f/d)** for the Fellowship project 'The History of European Union Employment Law'. More information [here](#). **Deadline 15 August 2023**

**Apply now** for our Visitors' programme and take advantage of research opportunities at our Institute!

Please ensure that your application reaches us at least six months before your intended research stay. Submit your completed application via our [online application](#) system.

For more information on the documents required and the application procedure, click [here](#).

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Events

**All events take place in-person at the mpilhlt unless otherwise stated.**

**03 July - 06 July, Summer School:** Andreas Fickers (The Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History), Stefan Vogenauer (mpilhlt), *Oral History meets European Studies. Sources, tools and methods in the digital age.* This event takes place in Luxembourg.

**05 July, 18:15 - 19:45, Frankfurter Rechtshistorische Abendgespräche:** Constantin Willems (Philipps-Universität Marburg), *Erbrechtliche Konsequenzen der Abkehr vom christlichen Glauben: spätantike Apostasiegesetzgebung am Beispiel von C.Th. 16.7.2 (383).* The lecture will take place at the Faculty of Law (RuW building), Westend Campus of the Goethe Universität, room 1.303.

**10 July, 14:15 - 15:15, Common Law Research Seminar:** Mafo Ndibe Mankah (University of Montreal), *A comparison of legal transfer in the common law world: the case of Canada and Cameroon*
Featured Event

03 – 14 July, mpihl

Max Planck Summer Academy for Legal History

The history of law has been shaped by individual actors as well as groups. The actors' identities were an important factor motivating their individual or collective actions and omissions. Today, legal history sees a resurgence of biographical studies of ‘key actors’. At the same time, ‘legal history from below’ sharpens our awareness that marginalised groups were powerful forces of legal development, too.

Should legal historians make sure that their accounts integrate both perspectives, so as to present a ‘balanced’ interpretation of the past? If so, how can this be achieved? How can the prism of ‘identities’ help to contextualise and better understand both individual and collective interests and behaviour?

Our 2023 Summer Academy will explore these issues further. Seventeen international early career researchers will present their projects related to this year’s theme. We look forward to stimulating discussions!

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Guests and Visiting Scholars


**Hoberg, Anna** (Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz, Germany): *Die Entstehung des vereinheitlichten europäischen internationalen Privatrechts*, April – September 2023

**Inoque, Daniel** (Universidade Pedagógica de Maputo, Mozambique): *Direito Cultural Moçambicano: o acesso documentação arquivística do judiciário como património cultural*, May – July 2023

**Lillo Castañ, Víctor** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain): *The bull Sublimis deus and the Spanish laws on slavery of Native Americans (1530–1537)*, January 2022 – December 2023

**Londoño Alvarez, Marcelo** (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal): *From the spaces of socialization to the construction of political thought in the working class*, June – November 2023

**Maiolo, Giuliano** (Università del Salento, Italy): *State, individual, community. Legal paradigms for a new coexistence in 20th-century Italy*, July – August 2023

**Matsumoto, Naoko** (Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan): *Einwohner vor Friedensgerichten und Schiedsmännern. Deutsche Sühneverhandlungen im entstehenden modernen Rechtssystem*, April – September 2023
Massuchetto, Vanessa (Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil): Women and social uses of criminal justice: colonial normativities in southern Iberian-American Worlds (17th-18th century), April 2023 – March 2024

Nezhurbida, Serhiy (NGO Jewish Heritage of Bukovina, Chernivtsi, Ukraine): Eugen Ehrlich – a bio-biographical approach, February – January 2024

Ray, Reeju (O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Haryana, Delhi, India): Intersection of indigeneity and ethnicity in colonial, national and international law, July – December 2023

Ramírez Restrepo, María del Pilar (University of California, Santa Barbara, USA): Untangling the 'Orinoco’s Labyrinth of Tongues': linguistic knowledge and Jesuit missions in the margins of the Spanish Empire, 1660–1784, May – July 2023

Reis, Maria Barreiros Almeida (University of California, Berkeley, USA): 'Capacities to work': slavery, skilled labour and racial arguments in the South Atlantic, 1440–1760, May – July 2023

Zatelli Correa, Gustavo (Universidade de Brasília, Brazil): Police regulations on colonial ground: a legal comparative view of the British Empire in the 18th century (Jamaica, Virginia and Ireland), July – September 2023

Distinguished

Otto Hahn Medal awarded to Anselm Küsters and Bruno Lima

Two mpiilhhlt researchers were awarded the prestigious Otto Hahn Medal of the Max Planck Society this year. Anselm Küsters is being honoured for his dissertation 'The Making and Unmaking of Ordoliberal Language. A Digital Conceptual History of European Competition Law'. Bruno Rodrigues de Lima receives the medal for his dissertation "We have laws and I know what I want": Luiz Gama and the normative production of freedom in 19th century Brazil'. With the medal, which is endowed with 7,500 euros, the Max Planck Society annually honours its best doctoral students.

Anselm Küsters' doctoral thesis examined the ordoliberal influence on European competition law by examining Commission decisions and Court rulings in this field of law. Based on new quantitative text analysis methods from the field of Digital Humanities, his findings shifted the focus from the alleged influence of ordoliberalism on the genesis of EU competition law to a consideration of the actual relevance and dissemination of ordoliberal concepts in EU competition policy.

Bruno Lima explored the normative production of freedom in 19th-century Brazilian slave society. To better understand this phenomenon, he conducted an extensive analysis of hundreds of legal cases handled by Luiz Gama. Gama, a black abolitionist and the first former slave to practice law in the Americas,
Exploring the Richness of Legal History

Professor Tamar Herzog, the Monroe Gutman Professor of Latin American Affairs and Radcliffe Alumnae Professor at Harvard Law School, is a prominent scholar in the field of early modern and modern legal history. In recognition of her achievements throughout her career so far, she was honoured with a Humboldt Research Award in 2022. She will stay at the MPIhHt in 2024 to engage in research on the uses of historical narratives in legal cultures of the Global South and Global North. Professor Herzog served as a member of our Institute's Advisory Board from 2015 to 2021.

We had the privilege of conducting an interview with Professor Herzog, in which she discussed the surge of interest in historical perspectives on law and the potential consequences of losing intellectual diversity in the field. Furthermore, we explored the significance of the German legal tradition and its contributions to legal scholarship.

Property Law and Its Boundaries

The Young Property Lawyers' Forum (YPLF) 12th Annual Meeting was dedicated to the topic of boundaries in property law and held at the European Legal Studies Institute, Universität Osnabrück, Germany (1–2 June 2023). Boundaries are omnipresent in property law, whether in delimiting individual property rights or in distinguishing the legal field of property law itself from other areas of legal scholarship or to other academic disciplines. Yet, despite the pervasiveness of boundaries in property law, they are not always easy to find, clear, permanent or uncontested.

The MPIhHt was represented at the conference by two doctoral students from the Department of Marietta Auer. Dorothea Keiter discussed debates about private property and its limits as a reflection of legal scholarship in the Weimar Republic, and Wenjia ZHAO presented her research on how the boundaries and exclusion strategy helps information theorists in the United States construct their revived ownership property model and also their critique of the traditional 'bundle-of-rights' model.

Read the interview