

# Harmonization of Private International Law in the Caribbean (book)

It is my pleasure to announce the release of this work aiming at the preparation of a Model Law OHADAC of private international law. The project has been carried out thanks to the cooperation between ACP Legal, based in Guadeloupe (France), and the entity Iprolex, SL, Madrid, financed by European funds from the INTERREG project for actions in the field of harmonization of business law in the Caribbean.

The initiative began with the establishment of a team led by experts from Spain, France and Cuba: Prof. Dr. Santiago Álvarez González (Santiago de Compostela), Prof. Dr. Bertrand Ancel (Paris II), Prof. Dr. Pedro A. de Miguel Asensio (Complutense, Madrid), Prof. Dr. Rodolfo Dávalos Fernández (La Habana), and Prof. Dr. José Carlos Fernandez Rozas, (Complutense, Madrid). In carrying out this ambitious project Iprolex, SL has also benefited from the support of a large group of specialists who have worked along three distinct stages for a period of over a year.

In the book the preparatory works in view of the Model Law are preceded by in-depth studies on the various systems involved: Jose Maria DEL RIO VILLO, Rhonson SALIM and James WHITE: "Private International Law in the Commonwealth Caribbean and British Overseas Territories"; Bertrand ANCEL, "Départements et collectivités territoriales françaises dans l'espace caraïbe"; Lukas RASS-MASSON, "Enquête sur le droit international privé des territoires de l'Ohadac - l'héritage des Pays-Bas"; José Luis MARÍN FUENTES, "Caracteres generales del sistema de Derecho internacional privado colombiano", Patricia OREJUDO PRIETO DE LOS MOZOS, "Le droit international privé colombien et le projet de Loi modèle de l'Ohadac"; José Carlos FERNÁNDEZ ROZAS y Rodolfo DÁVALOS FERNÁNDEZ, "El Derecho internacional privado de Cuba"; Enrique LINARES RODRÍGUEZ, "Le droit international prive du Nicaragua et le projet de loi modèle de l'Ohadac"; Ana FERNÁNDEZ PÉREZ, "El Derecho internacional privado de Puerto Rico: un modelo de americanización malgré lui"; José Carlos FERNÁNDEZ ROZAS, "Pourquoi la République Dominicaine a-t-elle besoin d'une

loi de droit international prive ?”; Claudia MADRID MARTÍNEZ, “Características generales del sistema de Derecho internacional privado venezolano”.

The volume, written in Spanish, French and English and conceived as a combination of structured reflections and general proposals at a time, aims to achieve two main objectives. The first one is to consistently gather quantitative data and qualitative information in view of an assessment of already existing instruments that may be useful for optimizing the codification of private international law in the Caribbean geographical context. The second objective is to identify the need, social or institutional demands that must be met by a regulation, evaluating its legal and substantive feasibility and setting up the materials, steps and reports which are deemed appropriate to reach the final aim.

The great political and economic importance of the proposed Model Law, together with the fact that the regulation is complex and very broad, suggests that the involvement of stakeholders (through lobbies or directly), being crucial, may prove insufficient or incomplete. For this reason, public dissemination of the Draft is essential in order to make it known and to invite all agents or individuals interested in participating to express their views, opinions or propositions about a possible adjustment of the work while in progress. The following email address has been set for this purposes: [iprolex@iprolex.com](mailto:iprolex@iprolex.com).

The deliberations that will start after the release of Draft will be vital: they will provide a sufficient perspective of the views and concerns expressed, thus allowing moving on to elaborate a final proposal, which will then be submitted to the corresponding legislative process.

*Armonización del Derecho Internacional Privado en el Caribe. L’harmonisation du Droit International Privé dans le Caraïbe - Harmonization of Private International Law in the Caribbean. Estudios y materiales preparatorios y proyecto de Ley Modelo OHADAC de derecho internacional privado de 2014, Madrid, Iprolex, 20015, 687 pp. ISBN: 978-84-941055-2-4.*

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# **ILA French Branch/Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ERA Conference: “INTERNATIONAL LAW AND EUROPEAN UNION LAW - Harmony and Dissonance in International and European Business Law Practice”**

Professor *Catherine Kessedjian*, President of the French Branch of the International Law Association (ILA), is organising an international conference on “INTERNATIONAL LAW AND EUROPEAN UNION LAW - Harmony and Dissonance in International and European Business Law Practice” in conjunction with the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Academy of European Law (ERA) which will take place on 24 and 25 September 2015 in Trier (Germany).

The *aim of this conference* is to provide legal practitioners with a comprehensive overview and high-level discussions on key topics and recent developments affecting their daily practice at the crossroads of international law and EU law.

*Key topics* include:

- EU/Member States and international law: who does what? Issues relating to international negotiations, international responsibility, representation in international litigation, international law as a standard of review in CJEU case-law;
- The international dispute resolution mechanism jigsaw: Litigation before European courts: private parties' access to the ECtHR and the CJEU, equivalent protection system;
- Brussels I and the arbitration exception, primacy of the New York Convention, parallel proceedings and conflicting court and arbitral decisions, recent EU case-law (C-536/13, *Gazprom* and C-352/13, *CDC*), 2015 entry into force of the Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements: changes and coordination;
- Relationship between ISDS and national judicial systems, protection of the State's right to regulate and legitimate public policy objectives, establishment and

functioning of arbitral tribunals, review of ISDS decisions by bilateral or multilateral appellate mechanisms;

- UN, EU and State sanctions: role and effectiveness, (extra-)territorial scope, impact on fundamental rights and judicial review by the ECtHR (Nada and Al Dulimi) and by the CJEU (Kadi and recent cases), impact on international sales contracts.

It should be noted that the conference fee for members of the ILA is reduced to **100 €**.

Further information is available [here](#) and [here](#).

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## Two New Papers on Business and Human Rights

A short piece on two recently released papers, both accessible in pdf format (first one in Spanish, second in English). Just click on the title.

I reproduce the abstracts by the authors.

F. J. ZAMORA CABOT, Chair Professor of Private International Law, UJI of Castellon, Spain

*Sustainable Development and Multinational Enterprises: A Study of Land Grabbings from a Responsibility Viewpoint*

The international community has adopted sustainable development as one of its priority issues. Multinational corporations can however interfere or render it impossible through land grabbings, a complex phenomenon because on many occasions they reach a prominent role that can be seen, among their different appearances, as a real pathology of the above mentioned development.

After having been previously scrutinized with relation to a comment on the

case Mubende-Neuman I entertain no doubt at all that such grabbings more often than not turn out to be diametrically opposed to the various targets that outline sustainable development, as have already been revealed, for instance, by Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki- Moon, along his consolidated report over the agenda in this regard after 2015.

I propose in here, then, after an **Introductory Section**, a presentation of the problem following recent cases, showing different conflict situations in selected sectors, **Section 2**, and others under which collective efforts have achieved or are in the process of attaining remedies in terms of justice, **Section 3**. I will put an end to my survey with some final reflections, **Section 4**, within which I will raise the relevant activity carried out by the human rights defenders, in this particular case deeply rooted in the communities and the land where they live and the great credit that deserves to us their continued and brave fight all around the world.

N. ZAMBRANA TÉVAR LL.M (LSE), PhD (Navarra) Assistant Professor, KIMEP University (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

*Can arbitration become the preferred grievance mechanism in conflicts related to business and human rights?*

International law demands that States provide victims of human rights violations with a right to remedy, also in the case of violations of human rights by legal entities. International law also provides some indications as to how State and non-State based dispute resolution mechanisms should be like, in order to fulfil the human rights standards of the right to remedy. Dispute resolution mechanisms of an initially commercial nature, such as arbitration or mediation, could become very useful grievance mechanisms to provide redress for victims of human rights abuses committed by multinational corporations. Still, there are problems to be solved, such as obtaining consent from the parties involved in the arbitration process. Such consent may be obtained by imitating other dispute resolution mechanisms such as ICSID arbitration.

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# First Issue of 2015's Rivista di diritto internazionale privato e processuale

*(I am grateful to Prof. Francesca Villata – University of Milan – for the following presentation of the latest issue of the RDIPP)*

✖ The first issue of 2015 of the Rivista di diritto internazionale privato e processuale (RDIPP, published by CEDAM) was just released. It features three articles, two comments, and three reports.

*Sergio M. Carbone*, Professor Emeritus at the University of Genoa and *Chiara E. Tuo*, Associate Professor at the University of Genoa, examine the issue of third-state defendants and the revised Brussels I Regulation in **“Non-EU States and Brussels I: New Rules and Some Solutions for Old Problems”** (in English).

*The central purpose of this article is to critically assess the changes brought about by the new Brussels I Regulation as regards its scope of application vis-à-vis disputes connected with non-EU countries. Therefore, following an initial outline of the relevant amendments in the Recast, a critical evaluation of the latter against the background of both the ECJ case-law and national practice is presented. The reform is then assessed in the context of the original 2010 recast proposal presented by the EU Commission as well as of the views expressed in literature in relation thereto. The paper maintains that the Recast regime should undergo further revision with a view to implementing cross-border business transactions in the global economy and to satisfying the concomitant demand for greater certainty in international commercial litigation.*

*Stefania Bariatti*, Professor at the University of Milan, analyses the compatibility of recent Italian legislation aimed at the efficiency of the judiciary with the Brussels I and the Brussels Ia Regulations in **“I nuovi criteri di competenza per le società estere e la loro incidenza sull’applicazione dei regolamenti europei n. 44/2001 e n. 1215/2012”** (The New Jurisdiction Criteria for Foreign Companies and Their Impact on the Application of EU Regulations No 44/2001

and No 1215/2012; in Italian).

*Since 2012, the Italian legislature has adopted several statutes aimed at reducing the costs and enhancing the efficiency of the judiciary also through the reduction of the number of courts competent to hear cases where one of the parties is a company having its seat abroad. The latest version of such provisions has been adopted with Decree-Law No 145 of 2013 that centralises these cases at eleven courts. This approach has been taken by other Member States in several fields, mainly invoking the goal of increasing consistency and uniformity of judgments and the specialization of judges to the benefit of all parties. These provisions raise significant questions of compliance with the principles enshrined in the Constitution and they do not seem to attain the goal of uniformity since they provide a double track for purely internal vs cross-border cases. But they appear to be also contrary to some provisions of the Brussels Ia Regulation, in particular where the Regulation directly designates the competent court within a Member State. Hence the question of whether EU law establishes any limits to the power of the Member States to determine the territorial extension of the competence of national courts. The Court of Justice has provided some guidance on these issues in Sanders and Bradbrooke, where the protection of a maintenance creditor and of a minor were at stake. According to the Court, national legislatures should assure the effet utile of EU provisions, while at the same time ensure effective proceedings in cross-border situations, preserve the interests of the weaker party and promote the proper administration of justice. Within the “Brussels I system” such guidance may apply in cases where the position of the parties is unbalanced and the Regulation provides special fora in favour of the weaker party that are based upon proximity. Yet, one may ask whether the solution may differ according to the subject matter of the dispute. Moreover, the fact that the Italian legislature has declared that the fora established under Decree-Law No 145 of 2013 may not be derogated raises the further issue of their compatibility with Article 25 of the Brussels Ia Regulation.*

*Alfonso-Luis Calvo Caravaca, Professor at the University Carlo III of Madrid and Javier Carrascosa González, Professor at the University of Murcia, provide an assessment of interim and provisional measures under the Brussels Ia Regulation in “**Medidas provisionales y cautelares y reglamento Bruselas I-bis**” (Interim and Provisional Measures and the Brussels Ia Regulation; in Spanish).*

*This paper addresses the impact of Council Regulation No 1215/2012 on provisional and protective measures in civil and commercial matters. The paper shows that this Regulation definitively enhances the recognition and enforcement of those measures in the European Union. Provisional and protective measures attempt to reduce the risks of litigation when the debtor tries to hide or sell his assets, which is relatively easy in a globalized international society where free movement of goods and capitals is assured. Hence, Art 42(2) of Regulation No 1215/2012 provides that enforcement in a Member State of a judgment given in another Member State ordering a provisional or protective measure is possible only if the applicant provides the competent authority proof of service of the judgment ordering that provisional measure, in the case that provisional or protective measure was ordered without the defendant being summoned to appear. The new Regulation gives those measures wider possibilities of recognition and enforcement in the EU even if they were adopted inaudita parte debitoris.*

In addition to the foregoing, two comments are featured:

*Francesca Capotorti, PhD candidate at the University of Milan, “**La nuova direttiva sul riconoscimento delle qualifiche professionali tra liberalizzazione e trasparenza**” (The New Directive on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications between Deregulation and Transparency; in Italian).*

*This article focuses on the most innovative features of Directive 2013/55/EU amending Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012. After having outlined the path that led to the adoption of the Directive and showed the need to modernise Union law in this area, this article analyses a) the European Professional Card; b) partial access; c) professional traineeship; d) common training principles; and e) the further most important revisions of Directive 2005/36/EC aiming at promoting the free movement of professionals. This paper also addresses the novelties introduced by Directive 2013/55/EU to ensure consumer protection and to increase transparency and administrative cooperation. Finally, this article shows that in most cases the European Court of Justice anticipated the results of the new Directive. Still, a Directive is deemed as necessary to clearly and completely regulate the efforts of modernisation in this area, which hopefully will be shared by the European Commission and Member States.*



**Petr Dobiáš**, Senior fellow at the Charles University in Prague, **“The New Czech Private International Law”** (in English).

*The new Act No 91/2012 Coll. on Private International Law was adopted in the Czech Republic on 25 January 2012 and came into force on 1 January 2014. The Act on Private International Law, which takes into consideration the developments in Czech, European and international legislation, was also created with the aim of removing deficiencies and obsolete elements of legislation contained in Act No 97/1963 Coll. on Private and Procedural International Law. In terms of its internal structure, the Act on Private International Law is divided into a total of nine parts which regulate the content of private international law and procedural international law. This article presents and analyses this new legislation, taking into consideration the provisions of the relevant international conventions and secondary law of the European Union. Indeed, the new Act on Private International Law is a response to the new trends in private international law that stem as a result of the current and ongoing developments in international economic relations and in social relationships. As a result of such developments, further flexibility is asked of the domestic provisions of private international law, which must take into account the development of EU Regulations in this area of the law. As this article illustrates, the response to this demand is reflected in several of the provisions laid down in the Act on Private International Law, which emphasize the primacy of EU Regulations and international conventions.*

Finally, this issue of the *Rivista di diritto internazionale privato e processuale* features three reports; one on restitution of cultural objects and two on recent German case-law on private international and procedural issues:

**Sebastian Seeger**, Assistant at the University of Heidelberg, **“Restitution of Nazi-Looted Art in International Law. Some Thoughts on *Marei von Saher v. Norton Simon Museum of Art at Pasadena*”** (in English).

**Georgia Koutsoukou**, Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg, **“Report on Recent German Case-Law Relating to Private International Law in Civil and Commercial Matters”** (in English).

**Stefanie Spancken**, PhD Candidate at the University of Heidelberg, **“Report on Recent German Case-Law Relating to Private International Law in Family**

**Law Matters**” (in English).

Indexes and archives of RDIPP since its establishment (1965) are available on the website of the Rivista di diritto internazionale privato e processuale. This issue is available for download on the publisher’s website.

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# **Intellectual Property in International and European Law (call for papers)**

Utrecht Journal of International and European Law is issuing a Call for Papers for its upcoming Special Issue (82nd edition) on ‘Intellectual Property in International and European Law’. With technological advancement and innovative practices occurring ever more frequently, individuals and undertakings often turn to intellectual property law to protect their ideas and seek remedies where appropriate (e.g. the recent *Apple v Samsung* design dispute). Recent developments in intellectual property are now a regular feature in popular media and a much-discussed topic amongst the general public. As such, the Utrecht Journal will be dedicating its 2016 Special Issue to ‘Intellectual Property in International and European Law’.

The Board of Editors invites submissions addressing legal issues relating to intellectual property law from an international or European law perspective. Topics may include, but are not limited to: the influence of patenting on the competitive process; the use of IP holding companies to take advantage of favourable tax regimes; patent-trolls; copyright infringements; trademark protection; the ethics of IP (e.g. GMOs), etc. All types of manuscripts, from socio-legal to legal-technical to comparative will be considered. However, please note that any analysis solely limited to a national legal system will fall outside the scope of the Journal. An international or European legal dimension is imperative.

The Board of Editors will select articles based on quality of research and writing,

diversity and relevance of topic. The novelty of the academic contribution is also an essential requirement. Prospective articles should be submitted online via the Journal's website ([www.utrechtjournal.org/about/submissions](http://www.utrechtjournal.org/about/submissions)) and should conform to the Journal style guide. Utrecht Journal has a word limit of 15,000 words including footnotes. For further information please consult our website or email the Editor-in-Chief at [utrechtjournal@urios.org](mailto:utrechtjournal@urios.org).

Deadline for submissions: **15 October 2015**

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## **International Labour Law (paper)**

A new working paper of Veerle Van Den Eeckhout on international labour law has been published on SSRN, entitled "The "Right" Way to Go in International Labour Law - and Beyond."

The abstract reads as follows: The path to follow in (cases of) International Labour Law should be trodden with caution. In this paper, the author highlights several points of attention and issues in the current debate of international labour law. The author also positions some of the issues that are currently being raised in international labour law in similar and broader debates about future developments in Private International Law.

The paper is the written version of a contribution to the expert-meeting "Where do I belong? EU law and adjudication on the link between individuals and Member States", organized in Antwerp on 7-8 May 2015.

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## **Out Now: Calliess (ed.), Rome**

# Regulations, 2nd ed. 2015

The second edition of “Rome Regulations: Commentary on the European Rules of the Conflict of Laws”, edited by *Graf-Peter Calliess* (Chair for Private Law, Private International Law, International Business Law and Legal Theory, University of Bremen), has just been published by Wolters Kluwer (1016 pp, 250 €). The second edition provides a systematic and profound article-by-article commentary on the Rome I, II and III Regulations. It has been extensively updated and rewritten to take account of recent legal developments and jurisprudence in the field of determining the law applicable to contractual (Rome I) and non-contractual (Rome II) obligations. It also contains a completely new commentary on the Rome III Regulation regarding the law applicable to divorce and separation. The aim of the book is to provide expert guidance from a team of leading German, Austrian and Swiss private international law scholars to judges, lawyers, and practitioners throughout Europe and beyond.

In her review of the first edition, my dear fellow [conflictoflaws.net](http://conflictoflaws.net) co-editor *Giesela Rühl* complained about a lack of diversity, pointing out that the circle of authors consisted exclusively of younger, male scholars (RabelsZ 77 [2013], p. 413, 415 in fn. 6). Well, not only have we male authors grown older since then; we now have quite a number of distinguished female colleagues on board, too: *Susanne Augenhöfer*, *Katharina de la Durantaye*, *Kathrin Kroll-Ludwigs*, *Eva Lein* and *Marianne Roth*. For further details, see [here](#).

*“This book does what it promises, which is to provide judges and practitioners with easy access to the contents and interpretation of provisions of the Rome I and II Regulations. The thoroughness of the commentaries on most of the provisions also makes it a recommended read for scholars needing a quick orientation regarding several provisions, or wanting to make sure they have not missed out on important background information. A welcome addition to the various topic-based treatises regarding Rome I and II Regulations, the book has succeeded in its goal of furthering the valuable German tradition in terms of the European discourse.”* (Xandra Kramer, review of the first edition, Common Market L. Rev. 2014, p. 335, 337)

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# **ArbitralWomen/TDM Special Issue and Event on Diversity in International Arbitration**

ArbitralWomen, Transnational Dispute Management and Ashurst are hosting an event in London on 2 July 2015 for the launch of the TDM Special Issue on “Dealing with Diversity in International Arbitration.” The event will be followed by a drinks reception.

This Special Issue will analyse discrimination and diversity in international arbitration. It will examine new trends, developments, and challenges in the use of practitioners from different geographical, ethnic/racial, religious backgrounds as well as of different genders in international arbitration, whether as counsel or tribunal members. The launch of the Special Issue will be followed by the launch of the AW New Website.

[Download the brochure here.](#)

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## **OGEL and TDM Special Issue: Focus on Renewable Energy Disputes**

With renewable energy disputes seemingly everywhere these days, OGEL and TDM have published a special joint issue focusing on these disputes at the level of international, European and national law. Below is the table of contents:

*Introduction – Renewable Energy Disputes in the Europe and beyond: An*

*Overview of Current Cases*, by K. Talus, University of Eastern Finland

*Renewable Energy Disputes in the World Trade Organization*, by R. Leal-Arcas, Queen Mary University of London, and A. Filis

*Aggressive Legalism: China's Proactive Role in Renewable Energy Trade Disputes?*, by C. Wu, Academia Sinica, and K. Yang, Soochow University (Taipei)

*Mapping Emerging Countries' Role in Renewable Energy Trade Disputes*, by B. Olmos Giupponi, University of Stirling

*Green Energy Programs and the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures: A Good FIT?*, by D.P. Steger, University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law

*EU's Renewable Energy Directive saved by GATT Art. XX?*, by J. Grigorova, Paris 1 Pantheon Sorbonne University

*Retroactive Reduction of Support for Renewable Energy and Investment Treaty Protection from the Perspective of Shareholders and Lenders*, by A. Reuter, GÖRG Partnerschaft von Rechtsanwälten

*Renewable Energy Disputes Before International Economic Tribunals: A Case for Institutional 'Greening'?*, by A. Kent, University of East Anglia

*Renewable Energy Claims under the Energy Charter Treaty: An Overview*, by J.M. Tirado, Winston & Strawn LLP

*Non-Pecuniary Remedies Under the Energy Charter Treaty*, by A. De Luca, Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi

*Joined Cases C-204/12 to C-208/12, Essent Belgium*, by H. Bjørnebye, University of Oslo, Faculty of Law

*Ålands Vindkraft AB v Energimyndigheten - The Free Movement Law Perspective*, by S.L. Penttinen, UEF Law School, University of Eastern Finland

*Recent Renewables Litigation in the UK: Some Interesting Cases*, by A. Johnston, Faculty of Law, University College (Oxford)

*The Rise and Fall of the Italian Scheme of Support for Renewable Energy From Photovoltaic Plants*, by Z. Brocka Balbi

*The Italian Photovoltaic sector in two practical cases: how to create an unfavorable investment climate in Renewables*, by S.F. Massari, Università degli Studi di Bologna

*Renewable Energy and Arbitration in Brazil: Some Topics*, by E. Silva da Silva, CCRD-CAM / Brazil-Canada Chamber of Commerce, and N. Sosa Rebelo, Norte Rebelo Law Firm

*Renewable Energy in the EU, the Energy Charter Treaty, and Italy's Withdrawal Therefrom*, by A. De Luca, Università Commerciale Luigi Bocconi

Excerpts of these articles are available [here](#) and [here](#)

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## **New German Festschriften on private international law**

A voluminous *Festschrift* in honour of Gerhard Wegen has recently been published: Christian Cascante, Andreas Spahlinger and Stephan Wilske (eds.), *Global Wisdom on Business Transactions, International Law and Dispute Resolution, Festschrift für Gerhard Wegen zum 65. Geburtstag*, Munich (CH Beck) 2015; XIII, 864 pp., 199 €. Gerhard Wegen is not only one of the leading German M & A lawyers and an internationally renowned expert on commercial arbitration, but also a honorary professor of international business law at the University of Tübingen (Germany) and a co-editor of a highly successful commentary on the German Civil Code (including private international law). This *liber amicorum* contains contributions both in English and in German on topics related to international business law, private international and comparative law as well as various aspects of international dispute resolution. For

conflictoflaws.net readers, contributions on *Unamar* and mandatory rules (Gunther Kühne, p. 451), international labour law (Stefan Lingemann and Eva Maria Schweitzer, p. 463), problems of characterization in international insolvency law (Andreas Spahlinger, p. 527) and marital property law in German-French relations (Gerd Weinreich, p. 557) may be of particular interest. Moreover, a large number of articles is devoted to international commercial arbitration (pp. 569 et seqq.). For the full table of contents, see [here](#).

Another recent *Festschrift* has been published in honour of Wulf-Henning Roth, professor emeritus at the University of Bonn: Thomas Ackermann/Johannes Köndgen (eds.), *Privat- und Wirtschaftsrecht in Europa, Festschrift für Wulf-Henning Roth zum 70. Geburtstag*, Munich (CH Beck) 2015; XIV, 744 pp., 199 €. Although Roth is generally recognized as one of the leading German conflicts scholars of his generation, this *liber amicorum* is focused mainly on substantive private and economic law, both from a German and a European perspective. Nevertheless, readers interested in choice of law may discover some gems that deserve close attention: Wolfgang Ernst deals with English judge-made case-law as the applicable foreign law (p. 83), Johannes Fetsch analyses Article 83(4) of the EU Succession Regulation (p. 107), Peter Mankowski looks at choice-of-law agreements in consumer contracts (p. 361), Heinz-Peter Mansel publishes a pioneering study on mandatory rules in international property law (p. 375), and Oliver Remien presents a survey on the application of the law of other Member States in the EU (p. 431). For the full table of contents, see [here](#).