

ORGANISATION

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DATE

Wednesday, 5 October, to Thursday, 6 October 2022

VENUE

JurGrad (Kettlerscher Hof)
Königsstr. 51-53
48143 Münster/Germany

REGISTRATION

<https://wwuindico.uni-muenster.de/e/predictability>



The event will be held in accordance with the current COVID regulations.

KÄTE HAMBURGER KOLLEG

The Käte Hamburger Kolleg “Einheit und Vielfalt im Recht | Legal Unity and Pluralism” (EViR) at the University of Münster (WWU) has been funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) since 2021. Fellows from all over the world, together with scholars from Münster, examine the dynamic tension between legal unity and pluralism from antiquity to the present. This is the first attempt to systematically investigate the phenomenon in its entire historical depth and across disciplinary boundaries. In addition to (legal) history, many other disciplines such as ethnology and sociology, as well as literature and religious studies, are involved in the Kolleg.

CONTACT

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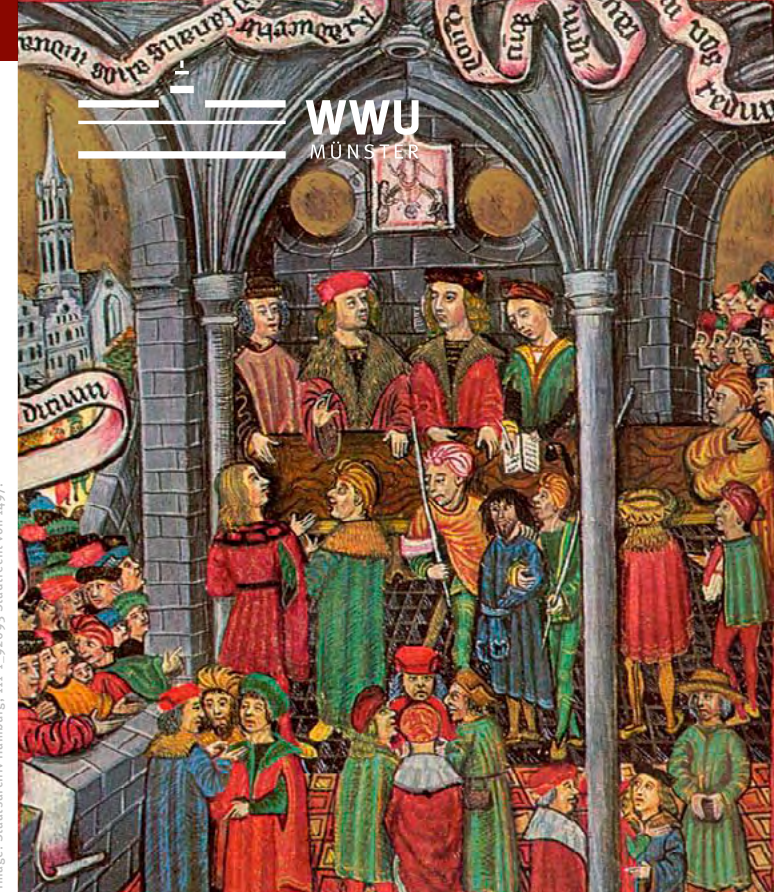


Image: Staatsarchiv Hamburg, 111-1_92693 Stadtrecht von 1497.

WORKSHOP
5–6 OCTOBER 2022

**HOW TO ENSURE
PREDICTABILITY
IN LEGAL PLURALISM**
NORTHERN EUROPE
IN THE LATER MIDDLE AGES

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KÄTE HAMBURGER KOLLEG MÜNSTER
EINHEIT & VIELFALT
IM RECHT
LEGAL UNITY & PLURALISM



PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 5 October 2022

14.00–14.30

Peter Oestmann (Münster) | Welcome
Gregor Rohmann (Frankfurt) | Introduction

Session 1: Merchants and Markets in Central Europe

Chair: Leslie Carr-Riegel (Budapest/Münster)

14.30–15.15

Katalin Szende (Budapest) | Trust and Distrust in the Legal Framework of Urban Life in Late Medieval Hungary

15.15–16.00

Olga Kozubska (Lviv/Münster) | Trading Privileges and Legal Pluralism in Ukrainian Towns

16.00–16.30 | *Coffee break*

Session 2: Scandinavia and the North

Chair: Vera Teske (Münster)

16.30–17.15

Tobias Boestad (La Rochelle) | German Law or Law of the Germans? Some Notes about the Early Hanse Merchants and their Attitude towards Legal „Harmonization“ in Northern Europe

17.15–18.00

Louis Sicking (Amsterdam/Leiden) | A Microcosm of the Hanse? Legal Pluralism at Scania, 1350-1550

18.00–18.45

Edda Frankot (Bodø) | Administering Justice to Foreigners: International Merchants and Mariners before the Late Medieval Aberdeen Courts

19.30 | *Dinner*

Thursday, 6 October 2022

Session 3: Hanse Towns and Hanse Merchants

Chair: Sophia Mösch (Münster)

9.00–9.45

Ulla Kypta (Hamburg) | Bridging Social Capital: Predictability as the Basis of Cooperation between Late Medieval Merchants

9.45–10.30

Philipp Höhn (Halle) | Legal Commonalities in Legal Pluralism. Communicating Conflict and Cohesion in Hanse Towns

10.30–11.00 | *Coffee break*

11.00–11.45

Justyna Wubs-Mrozewicz (Amsterdam) | The Trouble with Legal Pluralism: a Danzig Case

Session 4: The Hanse in the West

Chair: Quentin Verreycken (Louvain)

11.45–12.30

Bart Lambert/Juuriaan Wink (Brussels) | Legal Pluralism and the Hanseatic Zuiderzee Towns: Conflict Management in a Multilayered Legal Landscape between North and Baltic Seas

12.30–14.00 | *Lunch break*

14.00–14.45

Indravati Félicité (La Réunion) | Considerations of Legal Unity and Pluralism in Early Modern Hanse Diplomacy

14.45–15.00

Peter Oestmann (Münster) | Commentary

15.00–15.30 | Final discussion

HOW TO ENSURE PREDICTABILITY IN LEGAL PLURALISM

In spheres of legal pluralism, there are always overlapping normative framings to be negotiated in order to fulfil expectations. So, how do people decide according to which framing they should act? How do actors provide for predictability? How do people cope with non-compliance?

Economic historians of the later Middle Ages have stressed the impact of honour and trust as basic mechanisms of producing predictability between merchants. Simultaneously, merchants needed stable political preconditions, as provided for by the mutual privileges their authorities agreed upon. On this political level as well as in everyday life, the threat and – if needed – use of force were eminent options. Hence, violence was not socially disruptive, but functional, as long as a relative equality of military means and the overwhelming consensus of economic exchange enclosed it. Within repetitive communication framed by these factors, norms emerged, which were used to produce and reproduce predictability. However, these norms always remained subject to continual re-negotiation.

All this the actors did not do in order to overcome legal pluralism, but in order to improve their own position and/or the position of their respective group in heterogenous legal spaces. These spaces thus remained pluralistic, because any harmonization necessarily failed, due to the diverging interests of the actors involved. The workshop aims at discussing these questions referring to late medieval Northern and Central Europe as an example.