

Burkhard Hess | Koen Lenaerts (eds.)

The 50th Anniversary of the European Law of Civil Procedure



Nomos



Max Planck Institute
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edited by
Prof. Dr. Dres. h.c. Burkhard Hess
Prof. Dr. H el ene Ruiz Fabri

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Co-Editor Vincent Richard



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Coverpicture: © European Union, 1968

Signing of the Brussels Convention on 27 September 1968

Top line, from left to right: Pierre Harmel, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Belgium; Willy Brandt, Vice-Chancellor, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Germany; Michel Debré, Minister for Foreign Affairs, France

Bottom line, from left to right: Giuseppe Medici, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Italy; Pierre Grégoire, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Luxembourg; J.M.A.H. Luns, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Netherlands.

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Foreword

On 27 September 1968, the six foreign ministers of the European Economic Community convened in Brussels to sign the Brussels Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters. In what would later prove to be a truly historic moment, they signed one of the most successful instruments of the European Communities to come. Fifty years later, on 27–28 September 2018, an international conference organised by the Court of Justice of the European Union and the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law took place in the Grande Salle d’Audience of the Court. Prominent academics from different EU Member States and distinguished members of the Court discussed the impact of the case law of the Court of Justice on the development of the “Brussels Regime” during the last decades. The discussions held within the conference demonstrated the impact and acceptance of the Brussels Regime and the case law of the Court in the legal practice of the EU Member States.

However, the conference did not only assess the former and the present state of the Brussels Regime as it transpires from the case law of the Court of Justice. It also took a critical view to the dialogue between the Luxembourg Court and the judges of the EU Member States. Moreover, in a pre-conference colloquium, young scholars met at the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law to discuss the wider perspective of the current regime, especially in the context of the crises that the European Union is currently facing.

The present volume comprises the presentations delivered during both the conference and the pre-conference colloquium. The joint organisation of this event by the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law and the Court of Justice of the European Union exemplifies the mutually fruitful exchanges between the Court and the academia in Luxembourg. As this volume demonstrates, this cooperation includes critical debates on the current and future regime on EU judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. The editors are grateful to their respective collaborators for their support in the organisation of the conference and the publication of this volume. They also wish to express their gratitude to all the speakers of the conference who submitted their manuscripts for this publication.

Foreword

Finally, they would like to thank Dr. Vincent Richard, Senior Research Fellow at the MPI Luxembourg, for editing this publication.

Luxembourg, 10 June 2020

Koen Lenaerts

Burkhard Hess

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