

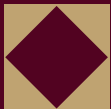
Michael Lysander Fremuth | Jörn Griebel  
Robert Heinsch (eds.)

# Natural Resources and International Law – Developments and Challenges

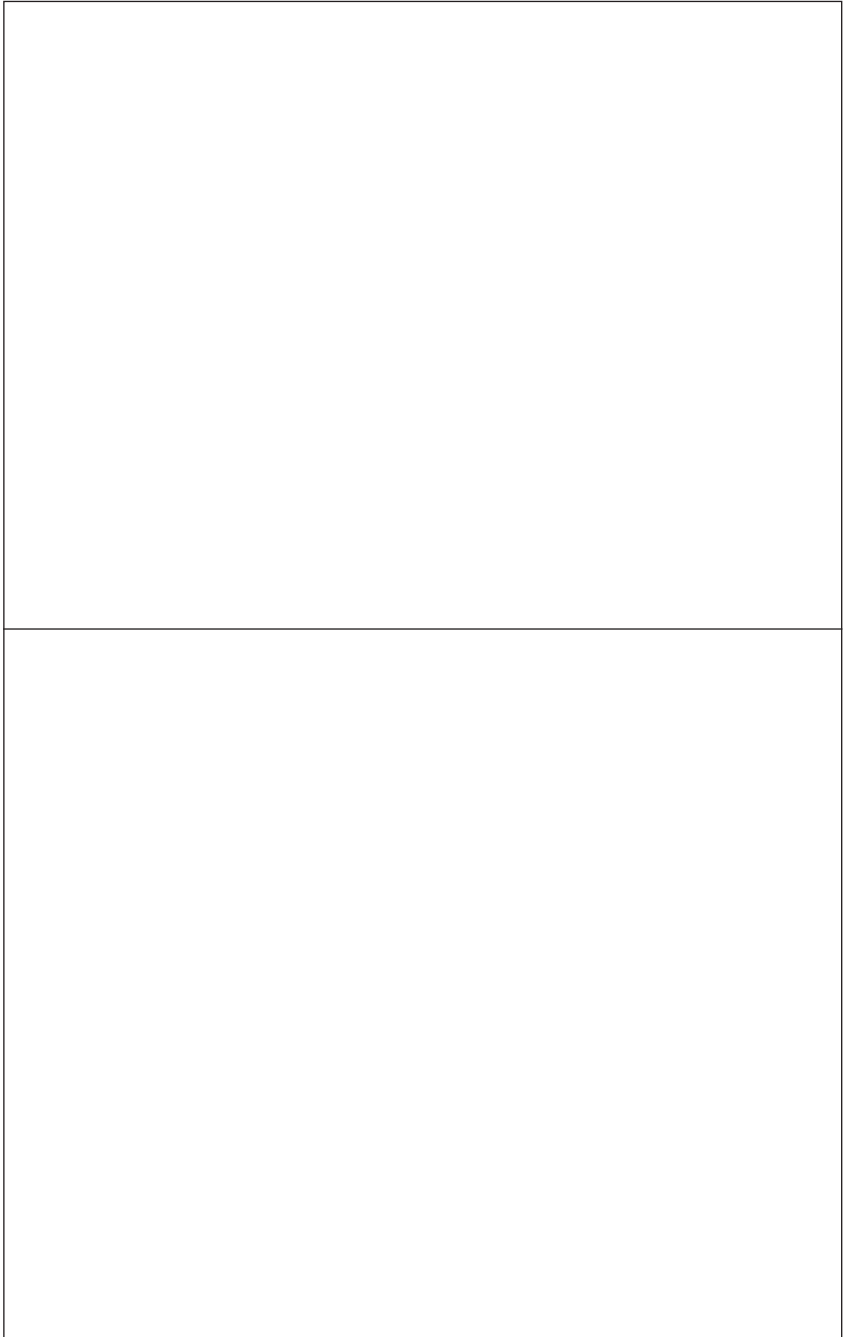
A Liber Amicorum in Honour of  
Stephan Hobe



HART



**Nomos**



Michael Lysander Fremuth | Jörn Griebel  
Robert Heinsch (eds.)

Natural Resources and  
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Developments and Challenges

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## Foreword

It is always a challenge to summarise a decades-long career of a successful and highly esteemed academic in just a few sentences—this also holds true with regard to what Stephan Hobe has achieved during his long and still ongoing career. In more than 35 years of his academic work, our academic mentor has developed a great expertise in a remarkable variety of fields of law, such as German constitutional law, European Union law and public international law (with its special fields of air law, space law, international economic law and international investment law being amongst the many themes of his life). Bringing all these fields of interest and expertise together under one common topic was a great challenge which we tried to address with this *liber amicorum* and a two-day conference that served as the basis for the content of this collection of contributions.

In summer 2017, when the three of us met with our academic teacher at our *alma mater* in Cologne in order to prepare this conference, Stephan Hobe had already designed a conference programme connecting many of his fields of expertise to a particularly challenging problem of mankind, i.e., how to deal with increasingly rare natural resources or commodities, their exploration and exploitation. The conference took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2018 in Ladenburg, Germany, and was hosted and financially supported by the Daimler and Benz Foundation. All participants, amongst them many long-time colleagues and friends, contributed to this *liber amicorum* in honour of Stephan Hobe's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

We are very grateful for their support which also expresses their genuine admiration towards Stephan Hobe.

For us as editors of this book, it is equally a pleasure and an honour to thank our teacher Stephan Hobe for the many years of his support while we were young research assistants—more than two decades ago—and for mentoring us on our path of developing into independent scholars ourselves. Becoming an academic in the area of international law is never an easy endeavour, and so we were lucky to take our first steps towards this ambitious goal in cooperation with such a well-versed and well-connected academic teacher.

It does not come as a surprise that all three of us followed Stephan Hobe's academic approach to research and teaching law in one way or another. We tried to become inspiring and energetic law teachers and dedicated researchers by following his stimulating and enthusiastic way of

*Foreword*

teaching and his contentious and diligent way of conducting research, i.e., keeping the big picture and the underlying conditions in mind, while not losing the necessary focus on particular research questions.

We would like to thank our collaborators at Leiden University, Siegen University and the University of Vienna for supporting us in the process of editing the *liber amicorum*. We would specifically like to mention in alphabetical order: Alla Ershova, Emma Irving, Sharon Pia Hickey, Sofia Larrivera Santurio (Leiden University), Stefan Schelhaas, Dominik Schmidt, Christian Schäfer (Siegen University), as well as Roman Friedrich and Magdalena Steringer (University of Vienna). We would also like to extend our gratitude to all the authors for the productive cooperation and the high quality of their contributions, as well as to the Daimler and Benz Foundation for laying the basis for this book by supporting the initial conference.

We hope that this *liber amicorum* is only a first step to honour Stephan Hobe for his life-long achievements. Knowing his energy and dedication to the fields of his expertise, we would not be surprised if another 10, 20 or 30 years of productivity will follow. We are eager to celebrate his future achievements.

Therefore, we believe that for science as well as for Stephan Hobe the following is equally valid:  
The sky is not the limit!

*Michael Lysander Fremuth, Jörn Griebel, Robert Heinsch*

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