

Professor Dr. Frederick Rieländer, LL.M. (Cambridge)

Professor (Full) of European and German Civil Law, Private International Law, Civil Procedure Law and Comparative Law

Director of the Centre of European Law and Politics
Chair of the Law Faculty Examination Committee

UNIVERSITÄT BREMEN
FACHBEREICH RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT
Forum am Domshof
Domshof 26, 28195 Bremen
28359 Bremen
Telefon: +49 (0)421 218-66044 (Skr.)
E-Mail: ktrue@uni-bremen.de (Skr.)

Advanced Private International Law

Subject of the course

'Conflict of laws' or 'private international law' (PIL) is the branch of law that seeks to resolve civil disputes arising from cross-border relationships and the potential application of conflicting national legal systems to a given case.

This course aims to improve and develop our understanding of PIL. Although this branch of law has traditionally been regarded as a field of domestic law, many areas of PIL nowadays consist of a variety of sources of law, including domestic law, EU regulations, and bilateral and multilateral conventions. The relationship and interdependency of these sources is often complex, making it increasingly difficult to properly resolve questions of international jurisdiction, applicable law, and recognition and enforcement of judgments and other judicial decisions in a transnational context. This problem is exacerbated by the fact that EU primary law, human rights and international public law are having an increasingly strong impact on traditional PIL doctrine. The interaction between these areas of law, which were once clearly demarcated, raises many unresolved questions.

Against this backdrop, this course seeks to provide insights for the practical application and further development of PIL from a truly comparative and global perspective. It is divided into three parts. The first part is devoted to general principles and theories of PIL. This reiterates and reinforces our understanding of key concepts and traditional techniques of PIL doctrine, namely characterisation of legal issues, the recognition or non-recognition of the so-called *renvoi*, the treatment of preliminary questions, the public policy rule and overriding mandatory provisions. Building on this, the second part of the course covers the 'PIL of obligations' and, more specifically, international commercial law.

In the third part, a select group of participants will be asked to present on a specific topic relating to domestic, global or European public international law (PIL).