Discussing the “Regulation of Collective and Individual Labour Rights” with relevant actors

Project
The English-speaking seminar for Master students within social sciences seeks to teach relevant aspects of labour rights and labour market regulation in a global world. It wants to give insights into the practice of regulation and the related polices in international organisations. We therefore give students the opportunity to listen to international experts, but also to present their own insights into the topic gained within the seminar. A simulation game of the International Labour Organisation’s (ILO) decision making is part of the programme. It gives a deep understanding of the difficulties that international actors face to find consensus on common standards.

Project development
The seminar is related to the project A 03 „Worlds of Labour. Normative standards of employment relationships as national and global patterns of welfare state development“ of the Collaborative Research Centre. The project investigates patterns of employment relations and their impact on labour market structures. It also wants to explain how far legal transplants via (post-) colonialism, but also international labour law and other transnational influences have contributed to their emergence and their shape. A former student of the University of Bremen – now working for the German Foreign Ministry – was interested in the project and in an academic exchange. As a first step this went along with an invitation of the seminar to their office in Berlin.

Social Relevance
While the ILO is celebrating its centenary there is still a lack of implementation of basic labour rights around the world. The improvement of working and living conditions is still a major challenge to a peaceful coexistence of nation states and sustainable development. Hence, knowledge on how labour regulation emerges, on the influencing factors and conditions of implementation may help to further this process. Mutual exchange and discussion of international experts and students of labour relations seem to be a relevant step towards this goal.

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