



Invitation to the Symposium (English translation):

## **Verfassungsrechtsprechung zwischen Souveränität und Integration (III) (Constitutional Jurisprudence between Sovereignty and Integration (III))**

### **Positionen der Verfassungsgerichte zur europäischen Integration / Die Verfassungsgerichte und der Vertrag von Lissabon**

(Positions of the constitutional courts on European integration / The constitutional courts and the Treaty of Lisbon)

The member states of the European Union are sovereign but subjected to far-reaching obligations. The primacy of Union law (also over national constitutional law) has *reduced the significance of the domestic constitutions* and lead to an *Europeanisation of constitutional law*. Now and again, the constitutional courts have to decide on problems caused by European integration - on possible conflicts and necessary amendments of the Constitution, on the bases and *limits of obedience to Union law* (and its interpretation by the European Court of Justice), on the *domestic decision-making processes* in matters of integration and on their *own role* as guardians of the national fundamental values and ideas, as they are laid down in the constitution. In particular, with the reforms of the European Union these problems become apparent. Many judgements of the constitutional courts cause vivid discussions, because they reflect a certain *basic understanding of the role of the state* under the conditions of globalisation and integration that is not necessarily shared by the experts of constitutional, European and public international law. Thus, the Lisbon judgement of the German Federal Constitutional Court of June 2009 has become by now one of the most controversial judgements in European constitutional history.

The symposium continues the series of our symposiums of November 16, 2007, and November 28, 2008. It deals with the development in one more member state (Italy) and then turns to the problems raised by the ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon in certain member states. We will scrutinize questions of procedural, constitutional and European law as well as the various perspectives of the constitutional courts.

The symposium will leave plenty of room for discussions. **Mainly in German and Latvian language.** With simultaneous translation into Latvian and from Latvian. There will be drinks and snacks at the breaks.

#### **Introduction: The spectrum of the jurisprudence of the constitutional courts concerning the participation in the process of European integration**

*Prof. Dr. Thomas Schmitz*, University of Latvia, Baltisch-Deutsches Hochschulkontor

#### **The jurisprudence of the Corte costituzionale concerning the participation of Italy in the process of European integration**

*Prof. Giulia Rossolillo*, University of Pavia

#### **The judgements of the Ústavní soud concerning the ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon in the Czech Republic**

*Dr. Harald Christian Scheu*, Charles University in Prague

#### **The judgement of the Satversmes tiesa concerning the ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon in Latvia**

*Jānis Pleps*, School of Business Administration Turība, doctorand at the University of Latvia

Interventions: *Edmunds Broks*, University of Latvia, and *Māris Lejnieks*, University of Latvia

#### **The judgement of the Bundesverfassungsgericht concerning the ratification of the Treaty of Lisbon in Germany**

*Prof. Dr. Thomas Schmitz*

Moderator: *Dr. Christoph Schewe*, lecturer of the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) at the University of Tartu

**Friday, December 11, 2009, 15:00 - 20:00, University of Latvia**, Raiņa bulvāris 19, Rīga, Auditorium 9

Please announce your participation until December 7, 2009 (e-mail to [tschmit1@gwdg.de](mailto:tschmit1@gwdg.de)).

For further information see special website at [www.lanet.lv/~tschmit1](http://www.lanet.lv/~tschmit1)

Organizer: Baltisch-Deutsches Hochschulkontor, lecturer of the DAAD Prof. Dr. Thomas Schmitz