

The Europa-Institut at 70: A steady academic companion to the European integration process as the “crown and symbol” of Saarland University

Thomas Giegerich/Marc Bungenberg*

The articles in this special issue of ZEuS on the occasion of the Institute’s 70th anniversary were written by authors who have long been associated with the Europa-Institut and who teach in our Master’s programme. They give a small impression of the range of expertise on issues of European and international law that is concentrated here with us in Saarbrücken. We wish you a stimulating read, but before that, instead of a foreword, we would like to present some thoughts on the past, present and future of the Europa-Institut.

A. Foundation of the Europa-Institut at the new Saarland University

The Europa-Institut of Saarland University is closely interwoven with the history of European integration, the Federal Republic of Germany and Saarland. Founded in 1951 (two years after the College of Europe in Bruges), it is “one of the first academic institutions in Europe dedicated to the scientific questions that arose with the gradual integration of the European states.”¹ It is (almost) as old as the successful efforts to unite Europe peacefully and democratically with the civilising power of law² – efforts in which the Federal Republic of Germany and Saarland have been significantly involved from the very beginning.

The Institute has accompanied European integration in its complementary and cross-fertilising international and supranational components from the very beginning. Its international component based on international law is embodied first and foremost in the Council of Europe of 1949 and in the closely interlinked European Court of Human Rights as the organ of the European Convention on Human Rights of 1950. The supranational component with federal constitutional features is today represented above all by the European Union, whose beginnings

* Prof. Dr. Thomas Giegerich and Prof. Dr. Marc Bungenberg are the co-directors of the Europa-Institut and hold chairs in European Law, International Law and Public Law at Saarland University (Saarbrücken, Germany). Email: giegerich@europainstitut.de; bungenberg@europainstitut.de.

¹ *Ress*, in: *Ress/Stein*, p. 15 (translation by the authors).

² Cf. *Hallstein*, p. 53.

lie in the Schuman Declaration of 1950 and the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) of 1951. It is integrating Europe in small steps according to the “méthode Monnet”, because: “L’Europe ne se fera pas d’un coup, ni dans une construction d’ensemble”.³ Its objective is defined in Article 1(2) TEU as “creating an ever closer union among the peoples of Europe, in which decisions are taken as openly as possible and as closely as possible to the citizen.” Robert Schuman had spoken of a “Fédération européenne” in his declaration, Winston Churchill in 1946 even more succinctly of a “United States of Europe”.⁴

In 1951, the same year in which the ECSC Treaty was signed,⁵ the Europa-Institut was established as the “Europa-Institut/Institut d’études européennes” at the bilingual Universität des Saarlandes/Université de la Sarre, which had only been founded in 1948 by the French occupying power. The second rector of Saarland University, the French Germanist Prof. Dr. Joseph-François Angelloz, took office in 1950 with the following promise: “Europe! That is the word we choose as our slogan and watchword by professing to be a European university ... We also want to make Saarbrücken, above all, a European crossroads.”⁶ Angelloz also acted as the founding director of the new Europa-Institut, which was to be the “crown and symbol” of the “entire university” and whose aim was to engage in scientific research of the Europe of the future, to impart this Europe to a youth educated according to the teaching methods customary in the various countries, to train European-thinking educators for all these countries and perhaps shortly the leaders of Europe.”⁷

According to the course catalogue at the time, the Institute set itself the task of “contributing to the shaping of Europe by giving scientific instruction on European questions and attempting to treat the subject matters from its European perspective.” A basic course on the “major problems of contemporary Europe in the political, economic, social, philosophical and cultural fields” was followed in the second year by specialisation in literature, history and geography or law and economics.⁸ This was a bilingual German-French and primarily cultural studies

³ La Déclaration Schuman du 9 mai 1950, available at : https://europa.eu/european-union/about-eu/symbols/europe-day/schuman-declaration_fr (10/9/2021).

⁴ Speech in Zurich on 19 September 1946, available at: <http://www.churchill-society-london.org.uk/astonish.html> (10/9/2021).

⁵ Treaty of 18 April 1951 establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, French original available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:11951K/TXT&from=EN> (12/9/2021).

⁶ Müller, in: Gilzmer/Lüsebrink/Vatter (eds.), p. 239 (translation by the authors).

⁷ Angelloz, Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes 1/1955, p. 4 (translation by the authors).

⁸ Müller, Die Geschichte des Europa-Instituts (translation by the authors). Cf. also Radivojević,

programme leading to a Diploma in European Studies.

B. The “Diplomatic Section” of the Europa-Institut in the autonomous Saarland (1953)

When the Europa-Institut was founded, the highly industrialised Saarland, as a non-sovereign autonomous entity, was closely linked to France not only in an economic, monetary and customs union; rather, France also assumed responsibility for its foreign representation and defence, which made Saarland a French protectorate. As already expressed in the preamble to its constitution of 15 December 1947, the future of Saarland was to lie in an international statute that guaranteed its separation from Germany and its close affiliation to France.⁹

In 1952, in an effort to enhance the international status of Saarland, France established diplomatic relations with it and transformed its former High Commission in Saarbrücken into an embassy. At the same time, the government of Saarland under Minister-President Johannes Hoffmann established an Office for European Affairs at the Minister-Presidency, which was also to take care of the foreign affairs of Saarland.¹⁰ In this context, a “Diplomatic Section” was formed at the Europa-Institut in 1953 to train the next generation of Saarland diplomats.¹¹

As early as 1950, Saarland and the Federal Republic of Germany, which was also still under an occupation regime, had simultaneously become non-sovereign associate members of the Council of Europe in accordance with Art. 5 of the Statute of the Council of Europe.¹² Saarland was also granted observer status at the International Labour Organisation. It ratified the European Convention on Human Rights in 1953 as one of the first ten members of the Council of Europe, thus contributing to the entry into force of the ECHR.¹³ The ECSC Treaty was also applicable to Saarland under its Art. 79, in accordance with a Franco-German exchange of letters in the annex. France ceded three of its eighteen seats in the ECSC Assembly to Saarland.¹⁴ Saarland’s wish to become the seventh independent member of the European Coal and Steel Community had been supported by

Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes 2/1955, p. 9 f.

⁹ Amtsblatt (Saarland Official Gazette), p. 1077, available at: <http://archiv.jura.uni-saarland.de/Gesetze/saar-gesetze/3101.htm> (5/9/2021).

¹⁰ *Hoffmann*, p. 232. Hoffmann was the first Minister President of Saarland from 1947–1955.

¹¹ *Müller*, in: Wittinger/Wendt/Ress (eds.), p. 624 f.

¹² Of 5 May 1949, ETS No. 1.

¹³ Cf. *Giegerich/Woll*, in: Max Planck Encyclopedia of International Procedural Law, margin note 6.

¹⁴ *Schmietzke*, in: Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law, margin note 20.

France, but was unacceptable to Germany, and was therefore not realised.¹⁵

This was because, in contrast to France, the Federal Republic of Germany continued to regard Saarland as part of Germany and sought its reincorporation. Accordingly, when ratifying the ECHR, the Federal Republic had expressly stated by way of a legal disclaimer that this was “not to be understood as recognition of the present status of the Saar”.¹⁶ This was also set forth in the aforementioned Franco-German exchange of letters annexed to the ECSC Treaty.¹⁷

The fate of Saarland increasingly proved to be an obstacle to Franco-German reconciliation and the European unification process based on it. France made the end of the occupation regime in the Federal Republic of Germany, which was initially to take place within the framework of the planned European Defence Community (EDC),¹⁸ dependent on an amicable solution to the Saar question (“Saar-Junktim”). The idea was to create a European statute for Saarland that would replace its one-sided ties to France and open it up to Germany without calling its autonomy into question.¹⁹ After the EDC failed in 1954 because of the resistance of the French National Assembly and the plans for a federal European Political Community associated with it had to be terminated,²⁰ the Western European Union came into focus as a possible European anchor for an autonomous Saarland. Earlier considerations to give this responsibility to the Council of Europe or the European Coal and Steel Community²¹ were not pursued further.

C. The failed Europeanisation of Saarland through the Saar Statute of 1954

On 23 October 1954, the German and French governments (which had previously obtained the consent of Saarland government) signed the “Agreement on the Statute of the Saar”,²² together with the Protocol on the Termination of the Occupation Regime in the Federal Republic of Germany and its accession to the WEU and NATO: the restoration of German sovereignty (to a large extent, but not complete), German rearmament and the solution of the Saar question were to go hand in hand. The Protocol on the End of the Occupation Regime also

¹⁵ Hoffmann, fn. 10, p. 215 ff.

¹⁶ Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) 1954 II p. 14.

¹⁷ Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) 1952 II p. 490.

¹⁸ Giegerich, Europäische Verfassung, p. 169 ff.

¹⁹ Hoffmann, fn. 10, p. 311.

²⁰ Giegerich, fn. 18, p. 182 ff.

²¹ Hoffmann, fn. 10, p. 280 f.

²² Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) 1955 II p. 295.

contained amendments to the Convention on Relations between the the Three Powers and the Federal Republic of Germany, which had already been negotiated in 1952.²³ This so-called General Treaty or Germany Treaty had originally been linked to the EDC Treaty and, due to its failure, could only enter into force in a modified form. In Article 7(2) of the General Treaty, the Federal Republic of Germany was committed to a liberal-democratic constitution and integration within the European Community.

In Section I of the Saar Statute, which was to be upheld and guaranteed by the two governments until the conclusion of a peace treaty, it was set forth “to give the Saar a European statute within the framework of the Western European Union”, which would require acceptance by the Saar population in a referendum that was to be conducted without external interference.²⁴ Section IX consequently stipulated: "Provisions concerning the Saar in a peace treaty are subject to approval by the Saar population by way of a referendum; the Saar population must be able to express itself without any restrictions in this respect."

Section II of the Saar Statute provided that “[a] European Commissioner shall represent Saar interests in the field of foreign affairs and defence. The Commissioner shall also supervise the observance of the Statute. The Commissioner shall be appointed by the Council of the Western European Union. He shall be responsible to this Council. The Commissioner may not be French, German or Saarlander. The majority by which he is appointed must include the votes of France and the Federal Republic of Germany; the consent of the Saar is also required.” The Commissioner was also to represent the Saar in the Councils of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the ECSC and the WEU; three additional deputies for the ECSC Assembly were to be elected by Saarland Parliament (Section III). The Saar government and organs had exclusive competence in all areas in which the statute did not expressly provide for competences of the Commissioner (Section V).

Section XIII of the Saar Statute is particularly interesting in our context: “The two governments will recommend to the other member governments of the European

²³ Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) 1955 II, p. 305. In Art. 2 of the General Treaty, the Three Powers retained, in addition to troop stationing rights, “the rights and the responsibilities ... relating to Berlin and to Germany as a whole, including the reunification of Germany and a peace settlement”.

²⁴ On the compatibility of the Saar Statute with the German Constitution (Basic Law), cf. Decisions of the Federal Constitutional Court, vol. 4, p. 157. The Federal Constitutional Court based its decision on the argument that the Saar Statute would produce a situation “closer to the Basic Law” than the current one.

Coal and Steel Community that the seat of this Community be located in Saarbrücken.”

If that recommendation had been realised, Saarland would have become a European territory, the European equivalent of the District of Columbia in the USA: The WEU Commissioner would probably have been replaced by an EU Commissioner after the dissolution of the WEU.²⁵ The Council of the EU and the European Commission would have their seats in Saarbrücken, the Court of Justice of the EU perhaps in Saarlouis, and Saarland would have accomplished the structural change as well as Luxembourg – the glass palaces of the banks and insurance companies would not be on the Kirchberg plateau there, but on the Halberg in Saarbrücken. It would even be easier to reach an agreement with France on the seat of the European Parliament: it could be moved to Forbach and the problem of the “travelling circus” between Brussels and Strasbourg could be elegantly solved.²⁶ And perhaps the European University Institute would then have been founded in the Saarbrücken city forest in 1972 instead of in San Domenico di Fiesole...

D. “Activists for Europe” as a goal of the Europa-Institut after Saarland’s return to Germany

Although Saarland government under Minister President Johannes Hoffmann campaigned strongly for the Saar Statute, the “Saar population” rejected it by a two-thirds majority in the referendum of 23 October 1955, so that it never came into force.²⁷ Instead, the Treaty between the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic settling the Saar Question of 27 October 1956 was concluded,²⁸ which led to Saarland’s reincorporation into Germany.²⁹ Since then, the Saar question has finally been answered and Saarland has gone from being a bone of contention to a link between Germany and France.

However, the Saar conflict still has an indirect European after-effect today.³⁰

²⁵ Cf. *Macalister-Smith/Gebhard*, in: Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law, margin note 29.

²⁶ Cf. Art. 341 TFEU in conjunction with the Protocol (No. 6) on the Location of the Seats of the Institutions and of certain Bodies, Offices, Agencies and Departments of the European Union of 2 October 1997 (OJ 2016 C 202, p. 265).

²⁷ Cf. *Behringer/Clemens*, p. 114. The state government under Johannes Hoffmann resigned as a consequence.

²⁸ Bundesgesetzblatt (Federal Law Gazette) 1956 II p. 1587.

²⁹ *Behringer/Clemens*, p. 114.

³⁰ Cf. *Burgard*, p. 225.

When the Council of Europe debated a flag soon after its foundation, they could quickly agree on its colours and basic design: a circle of golden five-pointed stars on an azure background. But how many stars - fifteen, since the Council of Europe had so many members in 1950, namely thirteen full members and two associate members (the Federal Republic of Germany and Saarland)? The Federal Republic of Germany spoke out against this, so as not to symbolically enshrine Saarland's autonomy; France and Saarland did not want to accept fourteen for opposite reasons. Since thirteen was ruled out as an unlucky number, twelve was finally agreed upon³¹ - a magical number of perfection that in European cultural history reaches far back into pre-Christian times to the gods of Olympus – and the tasks of Hercules.³² As the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe had intended from the beginning, this European version of the star-spangled banner was finally adopted by the European Communities in 1985.³³ The European flag used today as a symbol of European unity by the Council of Europe, the European Union and all the Member States thus also has an invisible Saarland component - three missing stars. On a positive note, Saarland has played its part in the perfection of this flag, which also flies constantly at the entrance to the Europa-Institut.

In the heated atmosphere of the Saar referendum of 1955, there had been calls for the closure of Saarland University as a “Francophile institution”,³⁴ and the dissolution of the Europa-Institut as an instrument of French cultural policy and “alleged propaganda centre of the Hoffmann government” had also been considered, not least because of its “Diplomatic Section”.³⁵

Fortunately, however, the Europa-Institut survived the transformation of the Saar University from a European to a German state university unscathed, which led to

³¹ Recommendation 88 (1955) of the Consultative Assembly of 25 October 1955 (<https://pace.coe.int/en/files/14123/html>); Resolution 55 (32) of the Committee of Ministers of 9 December 1955, available at: <https://rm.coe.int/native/09000016804efecd> (13/9/2021). The Resolution provides this symbolical description: „Against the blue sky of the Western world, the stars symbolise the peoples of Europe in the form of a circle, the sign of union. The number of stars is invariably twelve, the figure twelve being the symbol of perfection and entirety.”

³² Cf. the explanation by the former chief press officer of the Council of Europe, Mr. Paul M.G. Lévy, available at: https://www.cvce.eu/de/obj/beitrag_von_paul_m_g_levy_zur_schaffung_der_europaisch_en_flagge-de-6d23210b-865d-4f02-b2ca-2c30b9ed0588.html (13/9/2021).

³³ Cf. *Curti Gialdino*, p. 41 ff.; *Bieber*, in: Fiedler/Ress, S. 59 ff.

³⁴ *Müller*, fn. 6, p. 240 f.

³⁵ *Müller*, fn. 11, p. 625. On the controversies concerning the director of the law department of the Europa-Institut, Freiherr von der Heydte, cf. *ibid.* p. 617 ff.

the departure of most French professors. From 1958 onwards, it dedicated itself as “European Research Institute” “to questions of European integration in research and teaching”, initially in four departments (a general department, a language department, a law department [under the director Prof. Dr. Friedrich August Freiherr von der Heydte] and an economics department).³⁶ As early as the winter semester 1957/58, under the directors Prof. Dr. Bernhard Aubin (1958 - 1961) – the law department was then headed by Prof. Dr. Ignaz Seidl-Hohenveldern – and Prof. Dr. Léontin-Jean Constantinesco (1961–1978), an “advanced training course in the field of intra-European relations and European organisations” was offered to “prepare students for work in European authorities”.³⁷ At that time, the Europa-Institut was the only one of its kind in Germany and one of the few in Europe.³⁸ This developed into an almost exclusively law-oriented study programme, so that the Europa-Institut was then assigned to the Law Department of the Faculty of Law and Economics in 1972.³⁹ The aforementioned Freiherr von der Heydte had formulated the goal of every Europa-Institut (thus including his own) in the following somewhat militaristic terms: “Anyone who has gone through the school of a Europa-Institut must leave it as an enthusiastic bearer of the European idea and as a trained fighter for European unification ...”⁴⁰

Under the directors Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Georg Ress (1979–1998) and Prof. Dr. Michael R. Will (1979–1989), the one-year Master’s programme “European Integration” was established in 1980 to offer “university graduates from all countries ... an in-depth academic insight into the legal and economic foundations of European integration as well as its historical and political contexts”. In the winter semester of 1990/91, an independent economics section was added again⁴¹ and the former Europa-Institut of the Law Department became the law department of the Europa-Institut of the Faculty of Law and Economics. Under the directors Prof. Dr. Torsten Stein (1991–2012) and Prof. Dr. Werner Meng (1999–2013), the Master’s programme continued to develop into today’s bilingual English-German “LL.M. in European and International Law”, which, in addition to European law, increasingly integrates public international law, including international economic law, and thus increasingly appeals to non-European students in addition to European students. In 1998, the *Zeitschrift für Europarechtliche Studien* (ZEuS) was founded, in which we also regularly publish outstanding Master’s theses by our graduates.

³⁶ Müller, fn. 8. Cf. also Ress, fn. 1, p. 17.

³⁷ Müller, fn. 8.

³⁸ Ress, in: Ress/Stein, p. 17.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ von der Heydte, Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes 2/1955, p. 6.

⁴¹ Müller, fn. 8.

E. The Europa-Institut as a school of Europeanism

The two authors have headed the law department of the Europa-Institut since 2012 and 2015 respectively. With the dissolution of the joint Faculty of Law and Economics and the establishment of a new Faculty of Law (Faculty R) in 2016, the Law department of the Europa-Institut has simply become the Europa-Institut (International Law School) of the new Faculty R again. At the same time, the Economics Department was transferred to the new Faculty of Empirical Human Sciences and Economics (Faculty HW) and continues “its” Europa-Institut as the “European Institute for Advanced Behavioural Management”.

The two authors are responsible for the expansion of the degree programme to the five focus areas of European Economic Law, Foreign Trade and Investment Law, International Dispute Resolution, European and International Protection of Human Rights and IT Law. Year after year, more than 75 students from 30–40 nations around the globe are educated at the Europa-Institut. In addition, there are numerous German students from the general law programme of the Faculty of Law who wish to obtain the certificate “European and International Law” (EIus), as well as ERASMUS students from other countries. Here, they meet a teaching staff of several dozen experts who pass on their theoretical knowledge and practical experience from their national, European or international functions in business, advocacy, politics, administration and judiciary to the younger generations – in lectures and seminars, case studies and moot courts. The active involvement of students has long since replaced the former frontal teaching.

Even though the Europeanisation of Saarland failed in 1955, the Europa-Institut benefits from its proximity to the institutions of the EU and the Council of Europe at its Saarbrücken location in the four-country corner of Belgium – Germany – France – Luxembourg; and Geneva, the European UN Headquarters and seat of the World Trade Organization, is not far away either. A considerable part of our teaching staff comes from these institutions, and the most interesting excursions take place there, such excursions having been part of the curriculum of the Europa-Institut from the very beginning.⁴²

The students experience the Europa-Institut not only as a place for subject-specific teaching, but also as a place for encounters and extracurricular interaction, which often leads to lifelong friendships.⁴³ Our more than 5,500 graduates work worldwide in European and international institutions, large law firms and

⁴² Cf. the promotional brochure of the Institute for European Studies, University of the Saar, Saarbrücken, ca. 1955, p. 13.

⁴³ Cf. in this sense already *von der Heyde*, fn. 40, p. 4 f.

companies, in governments, administrations and the judiciary as well as NGOs, often in leading positions. A significant number of them remain connected to the Europa-Institut for life, especially as members of the alumni network EVER e.V., which has existed for 25 years.

We try to convey to our students, beyond detailed legal knowledge, above all the following:

- (1) That in the face of the political, economic, financial, social, environmental and other challenges of globalisation, federal-type unification offers European states and peoples the only realistic chance to join forces for effectively preserving and promoting peace, their constitutional values and welfare. At the world level, only a European voice has a realistic chance of being heard.
- (2) That the EU, as the world's only project of a supranational liberal democracy based on the rule of law, has a great responsibility to prove to the international community that such a supranational democracy is possible, successful and lasting; that as a whole it represents more than the sum of its parts, if it sensibly demarcates the competences of the whole and the parts from each other.
- (3) That the EU should find followers outside Europe as a model of continental unity building on a democratic basis by means of law that preserves diversity while ensuring peace, freedom and prosperity. It would be in the interest of the world as a whole that regions in turmoil (like Europe up to 1945) come to peace in this way.

In this respect, the studies at the Europa-Institut still have an idealistic, not a materialistic goal – they are aimed at “training not the European *functionary*, but the *European par excellence*, the European *without whom the unification* of Europe will always remain a utopia”.⁴⁴ Moreover, being European is characterised by a spiritual attitude and not a geographical affiliation: European is every person who – wherever in the world – stands up for the ideals of peaceful and voluntary international and supranational integration of states and peoples through law on the basis of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities (Article 2 TEU). Europeans are those who wish to promote these principles, in particular the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms, but also the principles of equality and solidarity as well as

⁴⁴ *von der Heydte*, fn. 40, p. 6 (italics in the original; translation by the authors).

respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law (Art. 21(1) TEU).

But the Europa-Institut is not only the provider of a successful postgraduate programme, it is also a research centre that conducts and often coordinates numerous third-party funded projects and is part of a wide-ranging international academic network. It welcomes numerous visiting scholars who greatly appreciate its excellent library, hosts conferences and workshops, and generates a wide variety of publications in print and online formats. Its directors also act as experts and consultants nationally and internationally. The results of their research and consultancy work are in turn incorporated into teaching both in the Master's programme and in regular summer schools at home and abroad.

For decades, the Europa-Institut has also participated in discussions about the future of Europe. At its 40th anniversary celebration in 1991 - in the spirit of optimism following the end of the division of Germany and Europe - the then Dean of the Faculty of Law and Economics posed the following questions in his welcoming address:

A European federal state is now more than a mere chimera. Do we want it - because it promises that the pluralism of European civilisation will be preserved, that the large countries will be held to the obligation of common interests and consideration for the small ones, that a European identity can grow and support federal solidarity? Or do we fear it - because pluralism and common interest require the competition of civilisations that are as autonomous as possible, because in the federal state the dominance of the largest subunits already forces the second largest ones into a role such as the one Quebec in Canada has and rejects, because solidarity must grow of its own accord and cannot be forced when and because it is needed? Mutatis mutandis, the same questions may be asked of the idea of a federation of European nation states. Who can imagine a constitution of European things that will solve this conflict in a consensus, that will give form to what has become ripe to take shape?⁴⁵

The Europa-Institut is actively seeking answers to these questions, which are still unanswered today, and which are also being addressed by the "Conference on the Future of Europe".

F. The Europa-Institut as a Beacon of a European Saarland University

⁴⁵ *Sievert*, in: Ress/Stein, p. 10 f. (translation by the authors).

Last but not least, the Europa-Institut is actively involved in the establishment and expansion of the new CEUS – Cluster for European Studies at Saarland University. As a central academic institution, CEUS cross-links members of three faculties with each other – the Faculty of Empirical Human Sciences and Economics, the Faculty of Philosophy and the Faculty of Law. As an interdisciplinary research and competence centre, the CEUS initiates and coordinates excellent European research and promotes young academics as well as Europe-related teaching. This is done not least in a new Bachelor's degree programme in European Studies with currently three focus profiles (Geographies of Europe, Contemporary History and Comparative Literature), which are soon to be supplemented by a fourth focus on Governance and Law with significant participation of the Europa-Institut. The Europa-Institut is already responsible for teaching European law in the core area of this degree programme.

In the new CEUS, one recognises the original Institut d'études européennes of 1951, whose law component had become independent like the Europa-Institut decades ago and is now returning as a main pillar to a larger association and helping to shape it without giving up its matured character and autonomy. The circle of comprehensive European education, which began in 1948/1951 and has survived an extended interruption, has now found its dose as of 2020 as Saarland University became a "European University" once again, and the Europa-Institut remains the "crown and symbol" as it has been for the last seventy years. We are particularly looking forward to future cooperation with the two newly established political science cluster professorships, which will be filled in the next few months and whose expertise will also enrich our research and teaching. We will continue our proven cooperation with the economics-based European Institute for Advanced Behavioural Management. Thus, the Europa-Institut, as a centre of excellence in European and international law, will remain a beacon of Saarland University in the decades to come and will have an impact far beyond the borders of Saarland and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Bibliography:

ANGELLOZ, JOSEPH-FRANÇOIS, *Warum?*, Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes, 1955, Issue 1, p. 2 ff.

BEHRINGER, WOLFGANG; CLEMENS, GABRIELE, *Geschichte des Saarlandes*, 2009

BIEBER, ROLAND, *Die Flagge der EG*, in: Fiedler, Wilfried; Röss, Georg (Hrsg.),

Verfassungsrecht und Völkerrecht: Gedächtnisschrift für Wilhelm Karl Geck, 1989, S. 59 ff.

BURGARD, PAUL, *Kleine Geschichte des Saarlandes*, 2010

CURTI GIALDINO, CARLO, *I Simboli dell'Unione europea*, 2005 (English partial translation available at https://www.cvce.eu/en/collections/unit-content/-/unit/552520d4-f424-49f-922e-da95b0667953/a9973dd3-fee9-4f93-a21b-2de485cd0a7/Resource#9f9b039a-d7f7-4cc2-b1fd-2842513a9153_en&overlay [11.9.2021])

GIEGERICH, THOMAS, *Europäische Verfassung und deutsche Verfassung im transnationalen Konstitutionalisierungsprozeß*, 2003

GIEGERICH, THOMAS; WOLL, LAURA, *Tribunal of International Composition in the Saar*, in: Max Planck Encyclopedia of International Procedural Law, OUP online edition, 2021

HALLSTEIN, WALTER, *Die Europäische Gemeinschaft*, 5th ed., Düsseldorf/Vienna, 1979

HOFFMANN, JOHANNES, *Das Ziel nur Europa: Der Weg der Saar 1945–1955*, unchanged reprint 2013 of the first edition of 1963

MACALISTER-SMITH, PETER; GEBHARD, JULIA, *Western European Union (WEU)*, in: Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law, OUP online edition, 2011

MÜLLER, WOLFGANG, *Die Universität des Saarlandes als Brücke zwischen Frankreich und Deutschland*, in: Gilzmer, Mechthild; Lüsebrink, Hans-Jürgen; Vatter, Christoph (eds.), *50 Jahre Elysée-Vertrag (1963–2013)*, Frankreich-Forum – Jahrbuch des Frankreich-Zentrums der Universität des Saarlandes, vol. 13 (2013), Wetzlar, 2014, p. 235 ff.

MÜLLER, WOLFGANG, *Die Geschichte des Europa-Instituts*, unpublished manuscript from 2011

MÜLLER, WOLFGANG, *Von der Universitätsgründung bis zur Errichtung eines Seminars für Völkerrecht*, in: Wittinger, Michaela; Wendt Rudolf; Ress, Georg (eds.), *Verfassung – Völkerrecht – Kulturgüterschutz*. Festschrift für Wilfried Fiedler, Berlin, 2011, p. 605 ff.

RADIVOJEVIĆ, DUŠAN, *Das Europa-Institut der Universität des Saarlandes*, Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes, 1955, Issue 2, p. 8 ff.

RESS, GEORG, *Ansprache anlässlich der 40-Jahrfeier des Europa-Instituts*, in: Ress, Georg; Stein, Torsten (eds.), *Festakt und Ehrenpromotionen aus Anlass des vierzigjährigen Bestehens des Europa-Instituts der Universität des Saarlandes*, Vorträge, Reden und Berichte aus dem Europa-Institut Nr. 250, 1991, p. 15 ff.

SCHWIETZKE, JOACHIM, *Saar Territory*, in: *Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law*, OUP online edition, 2008

SIEVERT, OLAF, *Grüßwort des Dekans der Rechts- und Wirtschaftswissenschaftlichen Fakultät*, in: Ress, Georg; Stein, Torsten (Hrsg.), *Festakt und Ehrenpromotionen aus Anlaß des vierzigjährigen Bestehens des Europa-Instituts der Universität des Saarlandes*, Vorträge, Reden und Berichte aus dem Europa-Institut Nr. 250, 1991, p. 9 ff.

VON DER HEYDTE, FRIEDRICH AUGUST FREIHERR, *Sinn und Aufgabe eines Europa-Instituts*, Saar Europa – Hefte des Europa-Institutes der Universität des Saarlandes, 1955, Issue 2, S. 3 ff.