

**Highlights**

Certificate Program

Erasmus+

Sneak Preview

## Meet our new colleagues!

**Nora:**

My name is Nora Boutaleb and I have been working at the Faculty of Law since 2020. After my parental leave, I moved from the Examination Office of the Faculty of Law to the ZfI and Rubrum. I have known the Ruhr-Universität since my childhood, as I often accompanied my parents to lectures, to pick up their certificates or to lunch in the canteen. Through my own studies of Romance Philology and Religious Studies and as a former student assistant and trainee, I am closely connected to the university. Now, as an administrative assistant, I am delighted to be part of the great team at the ZfI. I really enjoy the wide range of tasks and appreciate the varied work in this dynamic environment. I can make very good use of my English and French skills here. I think it's great that the Faculty of Law also attaches great importance to internationalization and exchange with international students and visiting researchers, and that we at the ZfI can make an important contribution to this.

**Kirsti:**

My name is Kirsti Tywonek-Brinckmann and I joined the ZfI in January 2024. Previously, I worked at the chair of Professor Dr. Adelheid Puttler, LL.M. from May 2015 until Professor Puttler's retirement in December 2023. My PhD project is on the right to science and is supervised by Professor Puttler and Professor Thielbörger. I have taught courses in European Union law and German constitutional law in the past. As a former participant in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition during my own studies, I coached several RUB student teams competing in the Jessup. I accompanied two successful RUB teams to the international rounds in Washington, D.C. in 2011 and 2016. At the ZfI, I am mainly responsible for the Certificate Program "Anglo-American Law and Language". I teach the core courses "Introduction to American Law" and "Constitutional Law I - State and Governance".

**Katharina:**

My name is Katharina Thiehoff and I have been a student assistant at the ZfI since October 2023. I decided to study law because of my interest in legal processes in politics. I am currently in my seventh semester and am enrolled in the certificate program "Anglo-American Law & Language". I am particularly interested in constitutional law and international law. Due to my interest in these areas of law, I have decided to specialize in European and International Law. At the ZfI, I assist students in the Master's program of the Faculty of Law.



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## Introducing our new lecturers

Since the last summer semester, the Zfi has been offering two new elective courses as part of the Certificate Program "Anglo-American Law & Language". We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Mr. Lars Kramm, who teaches the course "Anglo-American Perspectives on Privacy and Data Protection Regulations" and Mr. Sebastian Wuschka, LL.M., who teaches the course "Introduction to International Arbitration".

### Mr. Lars Kramm



After graduating from Ruhr-University and holding various teaching and research positions in Bochum, Rostock, and Heidelberg, I relocated to the UK about 15 years ago. As a German law lecturer, immigrating meant redefining my career path, and I transitioned into the business world rather than academia.

My first role was at an eCommerce company based in York, North England, where I ventured off the legal path and gained management experience by setting up a multilingual customer service and marketing proposition. The company was in the early stages of expanding into European markets, and with my background in European law and knowledge of various national jurisdictions, I took the lead in establishing

country-specific webshops. Following this, I set up subsidiaries and warehouses in Sweden, Germany, Spain, and Ireland, which significantly broadened my understanding of compliance with consumer and business laws.

Around this time, the introduction of the "General Data Protection Regulation" (GDPR) became a decisive moment in my career. I led the company's GDPR implementation project and became their first Group Data Protection Officer, a role I held until transitioning to my current employer. Although I now handle less international and multi-jurisdictional data protection, I work with sensitive medical data, navigating the distinctions between the UK's National Health Service, private healthcare data, and consumer health and beauty webshops. In addition to data protection, I oversee various aspects of non-clinical compliance, corporate governance and serve as part of the senior leadership team responsible for information and cybersecurity governance.

My advice to students pursuing an international legal career is to stay curious and adaptable. Always seek to expand your knowledge and remain up to date with the latest developments. In-house legal work offers unique opportunities for international exposure and differs significantly from the traditional international law firm route. Languages are paramount—English is essential, but additional languages are a valuable asset. I used my mandatory internships during my studies in Germany to gain international experience, including working for an Indian law firm in New Delhi, which was a transformative opportunity in my career development.

### Mr. Sebastian Wuschka, LL.M.:



I developed my expertise in international arbitration starting with my LL.M. studies in Geneva, where I participated in a program focused exclusively on the settlement of international

disputes. A significant part of the curriculum was devoted to international arbitration. Subsequently, I joined Luther's arbitration team in Hamburg, of which I am still a member nowadays. But I also spent some time e.g. during my bar-qualification traineeship with the international arbitration practice of US law firm Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP in Washington, D.C.

For all those aspiring to have a career in the international legal field, in particular in the field of dispute resolution, my advice would be to acquire a solid understanding of both public and private international law. While focusing on international law already brings about a high degree of specialization, try to remain a generalist at least on that level. On the practical side of things, be on the lookout for opportunities and take them if offered to you and you have a good feeling about them. A career often looks strictly planned with the benefit of hindsight, but effectively is a patchwork of individual and sometimes completely unrelated puzzle pieces that may not appear to fit neatly into one another at first.

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## DAAD Guest Professor Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou:

This last summer semester 2024, we welcomed Professor Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou from The University of Central Lancashire in Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus) as a DAAD Visiting Professor. Professor Shaelou is Professor of European Law and Reform at UCLan Cyprus, and Visiting Professor on the Rule of Law at the United Nations Institute on Training and



Research (UNITAR). In addition, she is the Director of the EU funded Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for the Rule of Law and European Values (CRoLEV) at UCLan Cyprus, which conducts measuring, monitoring and reporting on rule of law, values and democratic indicators in Cyprus and Europe (2022-25). Professor Shaelou was the last of the three distinguished professors who the ZfI, with support of the IFHV, had the privilege of hosting as part of the DAAD funded "Chair on Common Law from a Global Perspective" project which ran from 2022 to 2024.

Professor Shaelou opened her stay in Bochum with a lecture for the members of the Law Faculty on the timely topic of "Rule of Law and European Values in Troubled Times", which was warmly introduced by the Dean of the Faculty, Professor Dr. Fabian Klinck, and responded to by the Director of the ZFI, Professor Dr. Pierre Thielbörger. During the summer semester, Professor Shaelou offered three courses for students of the faculty:

The course "Cyprus, a small island state in the European and international legal order", provided a historical overview and explained how the Cypriot legal system has evolved into the mixed legal system it is today.

The course "English language and common law in the mixed legal systems: Cyprus" focused on teaching legal English as a technical language as well as working out the common law elements that are linked to the use of English legal terms in the Cypriot legal system.

The course "The Reception of European and International Law in mixed legal Systems: Cyprus" examined Cypriot constitutional law and the way in which EU and international law is incorporated into the national legal system.

The overall objective of these courses was to introduce the students of our faculty to the unique Cypriot legal system, which is not well known to German law students. Although Cyprus is a small country, its legal system is characterized by a combination of common and civil law elements. The Cypriot legal system is also a unique case study as Cyprus is the only divided EU member state. We hope that the students who attended Professor Shaelou's courses gained valuable insights into this legal system and would consider visiting Cyprus not only for vacation (although it is known for its beautiful beaches), but also for academic and professional purposes. We are delighted to conclude Professor Shaelou's guest semester with a new Erasmus+ partnership between the RUB Law Faculty and UCLan Cyprus!

## Erasmus+ in Cyprus: Our new partnership



We are thrilled to announce our newest Erasmus+ partnership in Cyprus! As of the academic year 2025/26, the law faculty students have the unique opportunity to spend a semester at the University of Central Lancashire, Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus), located in Larnaca, a vibrant city on the island of Cyprus. The partnership focuses on the School of Law, offering law students the chance to explore international legal studies from a new perspective.

Why Cyprus? The third-largest island in the Mediterranean, Cyprus beautifully blends history, nature, and culture. It's famous for its stunning archaeological sites and enjoys a mild Mediterranean climate, with pleasant temperatures all year round – perfect for exploring beaches or historical sites after your lectures.

UCLan Cyprus is a British university and hence not only offers high-quality British education standards but also an international learning environment. All lectures in the bachelor and three master's programs such as Public Law, Criminal Law, Contract Law or EU Law, are conducted in English. This creates the perfect opportunity for students who speak English as their only foreign language (at least level B2) and are eager to study abroad. Students at UCLan Cyprus are also able to take courses that are taught in the Greek language.

If you're interested in studying a semester in Cyprus, don't hesitate! You have the opportunity to study at UCLan Cyprus either during the winter semester from September to January or the summer semester from January to May. **Submit your application for the academic year 2025/26 by January 31, 2025**, to secure your spot for an unforgettable international study experience.

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## English-Language Course Catalogue Winter Term 2023/2024

Title of the Course	Name of the Professor	Course ID Number	Mode	Day	Time	Registration Deadline
Introduction to American Law	Ms. Tywonek-Brinckmann	Nr. 060520	Face-to-face	Tuesday	noon - 2 p.m.	14.10.24 23:59
US Constitutional Law II: Fundamental Rights	Ms. Tywonek-Brinckmann	Nr. 060522	Face-to-face	17.02. + 18.02. + 20.02. + 21.02.2025	9 a.m. – 2 p.m.	09.02.25 23:59
Introduction to International Arbitration	Mr. Wuschka	Nr. 060557	Zoom	Monday	4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	06.10.24 23:59
The Relationship between Law and Morality: Philosophical and Empirical Perspectives	Dr. Prochownik	Nr. 060547	Face-to-Face	Wednesday	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	08.10.24 23:59
International Legal Dialogue	Prof. Dr. Windel	Nr. 060360	Hybrid	LS Windel	LS Windel	Individual Application no later than October, 11
UK Constitutional Law	Mr. Provan	Nr. 060534	Face-to-face	Monday	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	06.10.24 23:59
International Dimensions of Law	Prof. Dr. Thiede	Nr. 060527	Podcasts	Friday	2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	10.10.24 23:59
U.S. Intellectual Property Law	Mr. Hanrahan	Nr. 060526	Zoom	Tuesday	4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	06.10.24 23:59
Anglo-American Perspectives on Privacy and Data Protection Regulations	Mr. Kramm	Nr. 060541	Face-to-face and online	22.11., 03.-05.12, 06.12.24	3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. 9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	14.11.24 23:59
The Law of the European Convention on Human Rights	Ms. Katsoni	Nr. 060544	Face-to-face	Tuesday	4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	06.10.24 23:59
Normative Legal Philosophy	Prof. Dr. Magen	Nr. 060012	Face-to-face	Tuesday	8 a.m. – 10 a.m.	

**Registration is open in eCampus! | For updates please visit our website**

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