Nordic and Germanic Legal Methods
Contributions to a Dialogue between Different Legal Cultures, with a Main Focus on Norway and Germany
Ed. by Ingvill Helland and Sören Koch

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To gain a proper understanding of a foreign legal system, a legal scholar cannot rely on written sources alone. He must also familiarise himself with how these are interpreted and applied to hard cases. This is crucial to comparative studies and the harmonisation of law in Europe. However, materials explaining legal methods are often difficult to access for foreign lawyers, as they tend to be written in the national language and build on a series of unspoken preconceptions inherent to the specific legal order. It is therefore the purpose of this book to provide the comparative legal scholar with the tools to overcome some of these initial obstacles and gain a better understanding of how colleagues from different legal systems think about law.

The present volume gives an introduction to the legal methods of the countries in the Nordic and Germanic legal families, primarily addressed to foreign readers, thus explaining also those unspoken preconceptions. It further seeks historical and cultural explanations for present-day legal methods, and explores the impact of internationalisation as well as the possibility of a common European legal method.

Survey of contents
I: Translation strategies and historical background
   Ingrid Simonnæs: Legal comparison as a prerequisite to legal translation.
   The inherent interrelatedness between legal comparison and legal translation – Jørn Øyrehagen Sunde: The legal cultural dependency of the Norwegian legal method and its future – Dag Michalsen: Structural-historical features in ‘the Norwegian legal method’ – Hans-Peter Haferkamp: Historical Conditions for the Contemporary Understanding of Legal Method in Germany

II: Legal argumentation in the Scandinavian and Germanic legal families
   Ingvill Helland/Sören Koch: Norwegian and German legal methods compared: Similarities and differences, their reasons and consequences

III: International influences
   Rainer Grote: Internationalisation of the German legal method – Ingvill Helland/Sören Koch: International influences in Norwegian legal argumentation

IV: Theory in practice
   Thomas Thiede: Theory in practice – Lessons from Norway – Kai Krüger: Implied terms or default guidelines – a Nordic contract law swamp area

V: Future developments
   Thomas Henninger: Legal Culture and Common Principles of European Legal Methods

Ingvill Helland Born 1977; Postdoc at the Faculty of Law at the University of Bergen.
Sören Koch Born 1975; Associate Professor at the Faculty of Law at the University of Bergen.

Order now:
order@mohrsiebeck.com
Phone: +49 (0)7071-923-17
Fax: +49 (0)7071-51104

Mohr Siebeck GmbH & Co. KG
Postfach 2040
D-72010 Tübingen
info@mohrsiebeck.com
www.mohrsiebeck.com