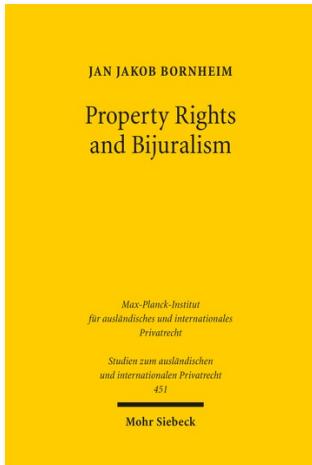


Jan Jakob Bornheim

Property Rights and Bijuralism

Can a Framework for an Efficient Interaction of Common Law and Civil Law Be an Alternative to Uniform Law?

[Eigentumsrechte und Bijuralismus. Kann ein Bezugssystem für ein effizientes Zusammenspiel von Gewohnheitsrecht und Zivilrecht eine Alternative zum einheitlichen Recht sein?]



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Jan Jakob Bornheim analyses the hypothesis about the inherent efficiency of common law compared to civil law. He examines key commercial property law concepts (i.e., ownership and security interests in relation to movables) and determines the characteristics of each system with regard to these. Using the Canadian experience as a model, he then takes a close look at how the two legal systems interact, arguing that efficient interaction can take place on both vertical and horizontal planes. On the vertical plane, property law would be able to interact with higher-level law (e.g., federal law in a federal state); on the horizontal plane, property laws of different jurisdictions could interact through the conflict of laws. The author also contends that equitable property rights, including constructive trusts as a response to unjust enrichment, should be governed by property law choice-of-law rules.

Jan Jakob Bornheim Born 1984; read North American Studies, Economics, and Law at the Free University Berlin and the University of Cologne; LLM at the University of Toronto; clerkship at the Regional Court Bonn, including a secondment to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom; Lecturer at the University of Essex, then the University of Canterbury (NZ).

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