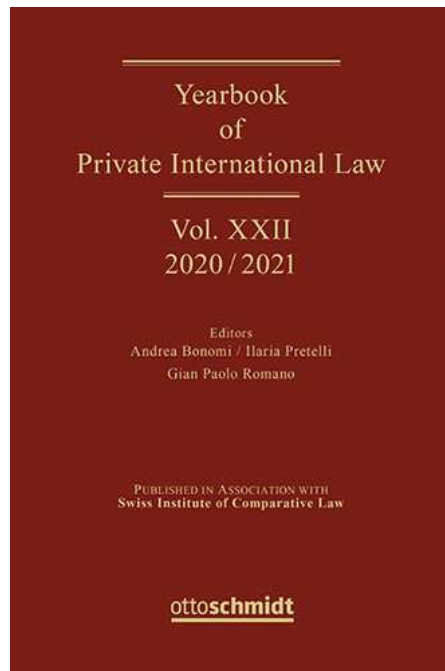


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# FOREWORD

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We are pleased to present the XXII volume of the Yearbook, rich in contributions on the latest developments in classical and innovative fields of private international law, such as family law, contracts, torts, arbitration and the internet.

The Doctrine section opens with an article on cross-border mobility of European Union citizens and continuity of civil status, suggesting that the European case law in this field is the expression of an approach balancing the identity of individuals and that of Member States within the concept of “open society”. The following article pleads for an interplay of private and public international law for the solution of cross-border problems. Other contributions address the effects of two major crises of our times: the impact of the pandemic on international contracts and the consequences of Brexit in some selected areas of international family law.

A specific section is devoted to the main improvements brought by the Brussels II *ter* Regulation, in particular with respect to the hearing of the child, return proceedings, cooperation among Member States, and recognition and enforcement procedures. It includes some of the contributions presented during the six on-line expert seminar series “*New Rules for International Families – revised Brussels IIter regime*” held in November and December 2020 under the aegis of the University of Osijek, in cooperation with the Universities of Antwerp, Barcelona, Genoa and the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law.

An inspiring section on Private International Law and the internet invites readers to re-think some of the prevailing solutions with respect to applicable law and jurisdiction, in order to better cope with the specific features of virtual tools.

Our National Reports will introduce readers to the new Croatian and Uruguayan statutes on Private International Law and acquaint them with the extended notion of judicial co-operation within the Mercosur. The two contributions in the Court Decisions section present the CJEU’s decision in the *da Silva Martins* case, considering possible options for tackling the problem of limitation periods in cross-border liability cases that are too short, and discuss the methodological implications of the most recent developments in the practice of the French *Cour de cassation* on public policy.

As has been the case in recent years, our final section is rich in original proposals from our most brilliant young scholars.

We wish to thank all our contributors wholeheartedly for their fruitful cooperation in producing a high-quality volume despite the difficulties and constraints brought by the on-going battle against the Covid-19 pandemic.

Andrea Bonomi

Ilaria Pretelli

Gian Paolo Romano