

Workshop: On the Legal Challenges of Brexit

Ius Commune Conference 2016

Friday, 25 November (14.00 - 16.00)

Building: Hotel Van der Valk

Room: Apostelhoeve

Participants

Organizer Jure Vidmar

Theme On the Legal Challenges of Brexit

Background Article 50 TEU provides that a state wishing to withdraw from the EU shall give a notification in accordance with its own constitutional provisions. Both sides then have two years to negotiate the terms of EU withdrawal, and the future relationship between the withdrawn state and the EU. The relevant constitutional provisions in the UK are contested and subject to judicial scrutiny. The future relationship between the UK and the EU is even more unclear. It could be that one of the existing models would be used (e.g. EEA, Switzerland), or that a completely new model would be created. Some say that the UK could even leave the single market completely, while others believe that the road to Brexit itself still has a few possible (emergency) exits. Brexit would affect UK's relations with third states (e.g. in the WTO context), and it would also affect legal and political relations between those states which are staying (EU-27). The future of EU-27 has perhaps been one of the most neglected topics in the post-referendum debates.

Brexit thus opens eminent questions of EU law, UK public law and international law. The workshop is designed to bring together expertise from all these fields. Introductory remarks on Article 50 and some possible Brexit models will be given by Jure Vidmar (Maastricht) who will also chair the panel. Josephine van Zeben (Oxford) will discuss the question of how Article 50 ought to be triggered in accordance with UK constitutional provisions. Ines Willems (Leuven) will address the effects of Brexit on relations with third states in the context of international economic law. Christina Eckes (Amsterdam) will conclude with her analysis on the future of sincere cooperation within EU-27 in the EU at 27. If Brexit is on schedule, it will indeed coincide with the 27th anniversary of the Maastricht Treaty. The workshop will last 120 minutes of which 40 minutes are reserved for discussion. The audience is encouraged to participate actively and speak from the floor during the discussion time.

Chair: Prof. Jure Vidmar (Maastricht University)

14.00 - 14.15 **Prof. Jure Vidmar** (Maastricht University)
Some observations on Article 50 TEU and the modalities of Brexit

14.15 - 14.35 **Dr. Josephine van Zeben** (University of Oxford)
The role of the UK Parliament in Brexit

- 14.35 – 14.55 **Ines Willemyns** (KU Leuven)
Brexit: the legal consequences from an international economic law perspective
- 14.55 – 15.20 **Prof. Christina Eckes** (University of Amsterdam)
Sincere cooperation in the EU at 27: Who should be loyal to what?
- 15.20 – 16.00 Discussion and closing