

## The Ius Commune Prize 2007

The Ius Commune Prize aims to award and further stimulate young talented researchers regarding their work in the Ius Commune research area. Our laureates have come from the ranks of the School itself as well as from outside.

This year's jury consisted of Hildegard Schneider (University of Maastricht), Vincent Sagaert (Catholic University of Leuven), Sander Jansen (University of Maastricht), Jeroen Kortmann (University of Amsterdam) and Michael Milo (University of Utrecht).

The jury had to decide on the basis of criteria such as outstanding quality (content, methodology), originality, and the contribution to the discussion on the ius commune (feasibility, methodology and content).

Many papers of high quality from a variety of jurisdictions have been submitted this year: The Netherlands and Belgium, but also from jurisdictions such as New Zealand, Scotland, the Czech Republic, Germany and Italy. As usual, the papers covered a diversity of topics from areas such as constitutional law, EU law and a variety of private law issues. The methodology is increasingly comparative, and other disciplines are more regularly used than in preceding years.

Three of the papers were of outstanding quality and therefore competed for the 2007 prize. After careful and ample consideration the jury came to the conclusion that two of these papers deserve to be honourably mentioned *ex aequo*.

Jan Komarek from the University of Oxford, with the paper: *European Constitutionalism and the European Arrest Warrant: in Search of the Limits of Contrapunctual Principles*

Lukas Rademacher from the Universitat Dusseldorf, with the paper: *Die Geschäftsführung ohne Auftrag im Europäischen Privatrecht*

The excellent contributions by both Komarek and Rademacher are wholeheartedly honourably mentioned. While the paper of Komarek is written in a mature style on a very important topic, the paper by Rademacher is a shining example of a traditional comparative law exercise in European private law. Rademacher was a student at the time of writing and the jury is of the opinion that such undertakings need to be encouraged.

The winning paper deals with the intriguing issue of law and language in the enlarging European Union. What if EC law has not yet been translated and published in a language of one of the new Member States? It is a highly important topic, which until now has been rather neglected by lawyers. The author writes in a very clear, pleasant, convincing and well-balanced style, and offers well-argued solutions.

The winning paper is entitled:

The Binding Force of Babel: the Enforcement of EC Law Unpublished in the Languages of the New Member States

The winner of the Ius Commune Prize 2007 is therefore: Michal Bobek from the European University Institute.