

## **THE IUS COMMUNE PRIZE 2013**

From all across the world young scholars have submitted papers to the Ius Commune Prize 2013. All were of high standards concerning quality, content and methodology as well. A large variety of themes was addressed, as for instance an historical-philosophical analysis of the contents of ownership; as a fine and thorough comparative exercise on change of circumstances; as an analysis of the protection of the weaker party in B2B relations; as an analysis of the various approaches in challenging board decisions across Europe; an analysis of the reformation in early modern times contributed to a fine-tuning of our present day position of marriage as a secular institution. Many more enjoyable papers the jury was allowed to read. The jury consisted of Hildegard Schneider (Maastricht), Ilse Samoy (Leuven), Sander Jansen (Maastricht), Jeroen Kortmann (Amsterdam) and Michael Milo (Utrecht). It is never an easy task to decide between excellent contributions, and particularly not between the papers which stood out this time.

On the basis of extensive debate the jury reached the following conclusion.

One of the submissions will be honourably mentioned. The debt crisis in Europe is legally quite under analysed, yet it is obviously of the utmost importance to do so. A brave young scholar from Leiden University has undertaken an exploration along a seminal line of solidarity between Member States. Honourably mentioned will therefore be the submission by the young academic

**VESTERT BORGER** with the already published article:

*How the Debt Crisis Exposes the Development of Solidarity in the Euro Area*

The Ius Commune Prize this year will be awarded to an author who dealt with a completely different issue, yet also highly relevant to a development of solidarity in Europe. The winning contribution focuses on the core issue of equality in our contemporary European society. How to further contribute to equal opportunities to employment, when the European society is increasingly pluriform and different standards have to be accommodated? This is of particular relevance where religion meets the standards of the workplace. The author analyses the possibilities of using the concept of 'reasonable accommodation' as a tool to provide for better opportunities for those adhering to religion or belief, particularly as different religious standards are adhered to by vulnerable minorities. The author succeeds in convincingly transplanting the 'reasonable accommodation' concept from the disability-context, to the context of religion or belief. The authors analysis is strengthened by comparative insights from the United States of America as well as Canada. It is thoroughly analysed, well balanced, highly convincing and well written.

It is therefore with pleasure that we can announce the 2013 Ius Commune prize to be awarded to a well-balanced analysis:

*Reasonable Accommodations for Religion and Belief: Adding Value to Article 9 ECHR and the European Union's Anti-Discrimination Approach to Employment?*

by **KATAYOUN ALIDADI** from Leuven University