

M. CHAMON, *EU Agencies: Legal and Political Limits to the Transformation of the EU Administration*, Oxford Studies in European Law, Oxford University Press, UK, 2015, 389 pp., ISBN: 978-0-19-878448-7

Over the past two decades, the number of decentralized agencies under the EU has grown and the scope of the power of these agencies has widened. This has become a major issue for the EU, as it raises the question of when a decentralized agency of the EU is empowered to act and in what capacity. As part of the Oxford Studies in European Law Series, this book attempts to answer the question of "What are the political and legal limits of EU agencification?"

In his book, Merijn Chamon provides the first comprehensive overview of this issue. Focusing mostly on EU laws, Chamon first examines the framework under which these organizations are created and the different tasks that such organizations are able to carry out. The chapters that follow go in depth on the political and legal limits of these agencies. Case law and EU Legislation are heavily employed here to establish what these limits are. The last chapter takes a comparative approach by looking at the cases of independent agencies in Germany and the USA and how the respective nations' courts and legislative bodies have approached them. The book concludes by presenting overall conclusions and a proposal for a legal basis in treaties for these independent organizations.

*K. Piepenbrink*

A. DI AMATO, *Criminal Law in Italy*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Wolters Kluwer Law International, The Netherlands, 2013, 238 pp., ISBN: 978-90-411-5170-4

In *Criminal Law in Italy*, Astolfo Di Amato provides a thorough analysis of the country's justice system. He articulates the coverage of criminal procedure by focusing on the organization of investigations and legal remedies. Moreover, Di Amato supports the notion that the Italian system is about value choices by illustrating the various technicalities in Italian law.

In particular, this book provides the reader with an understanding of the present system and structure of criminal proceedings in Italy. Detailed analyses and explanations of the sentencing procedure give an even more thorough depth to the reader in understanding the nuances of the Italian justice system. The book's structure, which is split into three parts (Substantive Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Execution of Sanctions), allows the reader to better understand the procedural background by facilitating a step-by-step understanding of how Italian criminal law is implemented. Di Amato's work ultimately enhances the knowledge of all those who desire to gain a more intricate, profound, and complete understanding of Italy's criminal law system.

*F. Tătaru*

C. GEIGER, *Research Handbook on Human Rights and Intellectual Property*, Edward Elgar, UK and USA, 2015, 727 pp., ISBN: 978-1-78347-241-3

In this work, Christopher Geiger has collected and edited through a Handbook in order to push forward one of the most important topics at the moment: Human Rights. He delves, however, further into practicality as he combines it with the topic of Intellectual Property.

The book is separated into 3 sections. The first section looks into the legal basis of Human Rights such as proportionality and the issues that arise when International bodies try to agree on Human Rights issues by using input from various Human Rights experts. The second part focuses on the consequences of Human Rights in relation to the development of intellectual property in the legislative and judicial fields. In this part, Geiger uses a comparative approach of different cases from around the globe. The third part looks towards the future. It serves as a prospective manual with different suggestions in order to reach the aim of a balance of intellectual property rights included in human rights.

This work is important as it is an attempt to bridge the lack of communication between the economic and social spheres of society by trying to maintain the hope of equality and fairness in a world

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