

Recent publications

Nuclear Law in Motion, Proceedings of the AIDN / INLA Regional Conference 2017 in Bonn (2019) by Ulrike Feldmann, Christian Raetzke and Marc Ruttloff (eds.)

For the 15th time, the German Branch of the Association Internationale du Droit Nucléaire/International Nuclear Law Association (AIDN/INLA) held its biannual conference, this time taking place in Bonn (28-29 September 2017), the ancient residence of the Electors of Cologne and the capital of the Federal Republic of Germany from 1949 to 1999. The conference was chaired by the President of the German Branch of AIDN/INLA, Christian Raetzke, who also edited this volume together with Marc Ruttloff, Vice-President of the German Branch and Ulrike Feldmann, Board Member of the German Branch as well of the AIDN/INLA itself.

The conference programme focused on pressing issues both under discussion in Germany as well as internationally, namely on responsibility and liability in nuclear waste management, nuclear third party liability in the transport of nuclear material, legal issues in radiological protection (especially the revised Euratom Basic Safety Standards and waste disposal) and finally on some current developments in German and international law showing that nuclear law continues to be “in motion”.

The first session was mainly devoted to content, questions under constitutional law and regulatory issues concerning the German Act on the Reorganisation of Responsibility in Nuclear Waste Management. This Act came into force on 16 July 2017 and only applies to nuclear power plants. It is a package containing a number of individual acts with respect to the responsibility for waste management, as well as the financing of shut-down and dismantling of nuclear power plants and the disposal of radioactive waste. The third and last presentation in this session concentrated on economic analysis, state aid in the nuclear industry, as well as lessons learnt from the Hinkley Point example for the reorganisation of responsibility in nuclear waste management in Germany.

The second session covered current problems of liability for transport of nuclear substances, giving an additional meaning to the conference title “nuclear law in motion”. Whereas one presentation was devoted to issues of transport liability in general where the international patchwork continues to be of concern to operators, transporters and insurers, another one delved deeply into the territorial application of the Paris Convention in case of transport of nuclear substances to and from a non-convention state. In a third contribution, contractual considerations were given to the marine transport of nuclear substances.

The third session focused on a key element of nuclear law, that is to say the law of radiation protection starting with a presentation of the new German Act on Radiation Protection. This act, promulgated in July 2017, implements the revised Euratom Basic Safety Standards on Radiation Protection into national law. The next presentation explained the growing difficulties in depositing radioactive substances released from regulatory control in Germany. The third paper concentrated on the issue of low dose radiation health effects being scrutinised under the multidisciplinary European project “MELODI”, which is also the central topic of the report *Deriving Organ Doses and their Uncertainty for Epidemiological Studies* by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (United States).

The fourth and last session highlighted current developments in international nuclear law, namely the nuclear law in the United States under President Trump, as well as the legal implications of “Brexitom” from the perspective of the United Kingdom.

The majority of the papers, namely those not dealing with specific German legislation, are in English. Therefore, the volume should be useful to the international community of nuclear law experts. The proceedings of the conference include papers and discussion reports by: Markus Ludwigs, Christian Müller-Dehn, Jostein Kristensen and Anton Burger, Torsten Gierke, Achim Jansen-Tersteegen and Christian Raetzke, Mehboob Vadiya, Kaan Kuzeyli, Justin Franken, Goli-Schabnam Akbarian, Brigitte Röller, Mark Callis Sanders and Charlotta E. Sanders, Sidonie Royer-Maucotel, Jay Kraemer, Ian Salter and Ian Truman, and Łukasz Młynarkiewicz.