



Cross-border risk and penal responsibility Trinational comparative law with a view to the EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg

Modern society is a risk society. Air traffic illustrates this impressively – and in a cross-border context. In this respect, the EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg, which is the only airport operated by two countries, is a unique example of issues that require a comparative law approach: To what extent do we accept the automation of flight control as a socially adequate risk, although there is some resistance to the automation of vehicle control, or, to put it another way: do we have less confidence in pilots than in drivers? Do we expect more from air traffic than is humanly possible – for example, in connection with the criminal prosecution of air traffic controllers after plane crashes? Could penal liability be attributed in the future because the admission, use or promotion of (certain) air traffic contributed to climate change? How stringent must security controls at the airport be in order to avoid risks in air traffic, but also for internal security? The joint operation of a high-risk undertaking under different (penal) legal systems raises many questions, not only, in particular, with regard to the legal regime and enforcement, but also when damage caused in connection with air traffic can affect many states, including those that were not involved in determining the socially acceptable risk. In the seminar, researchers and students from Switzerland, France and Germany discuss how the questions could best be answered from a criminal law perspective. A visit to the EuroAirport illustrates the practical needs and sometimes pragmatic solutions. The focus of the lectures is on the theory of risk and responsibility from a penal law and comparative law analysis. A mock trial 'Alarm at the EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg' takes up current issues.

The most important information at a glance

Period	Preparatory Meetings: 25.2.2025 and 19.03.2025, 12:00-14:00 Faculty of Law of the University of Basel, S4 HG.56 Block Seminar: 2.-4. April 2025
Format	Block Seminar, German and French
Location	Colmar, France
ECTS	10
Target group	Bachelor/Master students of all Eucor and EPICUR universities are invited to apply for participation.
Registration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students of the University of Basel and the Université de Haute-Alsace register via their universities (course directory of the University of Basel)• Students from other EPICUR universities, please register via mail to Beate.Doerflinger@unibas.ch
Further	The block seminar is organized by the University of Basel and the University Haute-Alsace. It is part of the Eucor & EPICUR initiative of the university of Basel and supported by Movetia, the Swiss Agency for Mobility and Exchange.
Responsible Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Sabine Gless, University of Basel Maître de Conference Dr. Silvain Vernaz, Université de Haute-Alsace
Contact	Beate.Doerflinger@unibas.ch for questions and the registration of students inscribed in universities other than Basel and Haute-Alsace.