

ARCHIVE: Die Bibliothek des Max-Planck-Instituts für europäische Rechtsgeschichte, Frankfurt, Germany

FULL ARCHIVAL REFERENCE: Library of the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, Frankfurt. Nachlass Coing – MPI – Dritte Mappe

PERSON: Helmut Coing

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT: Documents belonging to the *Nachlass* of Helmut Coing: 11 letters to and from Coing, a letter from Coing's assistant to Felix Wubbe, a six-page long text written by Felix Wubbe, and the bibliography of Coing's publications from 1935 to 1991.

PERSON VISITING ARCHIVE: Tommaso Beggio

DATE VISITED: 5.-25.2.2014

DATE TRANSCRIBED: 1.3.2014

NOTES ON THE ARCHIVAL SOURCE:

The folder contains 11 letters to and from Coing, plus a letter written by his assistant to Professor Felix Wubbe; in the folder are also preserved a text written by Felix Wubbe and the bibliography of Coing's publications from 1935 to 1991.

1. A typewritten letter by Professor Tetsuya Fujimoto of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan, Chuo University, half a page long, sent to Coing on 30th March 1995 (two copies of the same letter are preserved in the folder). Professor Fujimoto thanks Coing for having sent his article for the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan (see the following letters).

2. A typewritten letter, half a page long, sent to Professor Tetsuya Fujimoto of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan, Chuo University (two copies of the same letter are preserved in the folder). There is no signature at the end of the text, but the letter was very likely sent by Helmut Coing. The date was also missing, but it has been added later a handwritten date: "Mai 95" (May 1995). The author of the text explains that the article sent to Fujimoto (see the following letter) had already been published in the *Zeitschrift für Europäische Rechtswissenschaft* (Coing actually meant the *Zeitschrift für Europäisches Privatrecht*, see below the letter from Zimmermann to Coing); he asked Fujimoto, therefore, to specify in the publication of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan that the article had been also published in the above-mentioned German journal.

3. A typewritten letter by Professor Tetsuya Fujimoto of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan, Chuo University, two pages long, sent to Coing on 15th April 1994 (two copies of the first page of the letter are preserved in the folder). Professor Fujimoto let Coing know that the Institute of Comparative Law in

Japan wanted to publish a book to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1998. Fujimoto also wrote that the Institute “in cooperation with Chuo University” had developed exchange programs with institutions of many countries and the “commemorative book” should represent “a longer step toward a broader and fruitful international collaboration.” Fujimoto asked Coing to contribute with an article. The text should be written either in Japanese, English, French or German and the deadline was June 1997 (see the previous letters). At the end of the letter there is a picture of Chuo University.

4. A typewritten letter, just a few lines long, sent to Professor Tetsuya Fujimoto of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan, Chuo University, in March 1995. There is no signature at the end of the text, but the letter should have been sent by Coing, since the main part of the text reads: “I send you an article for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Institute of Comparative Law in Japan.” A comparison with the previous letters let us understand that the author of the letter and the article was Coing.

5. A typewritten letter, a page long, sent to Coing by Reinhard Zimmermann, at the time professor in Regensburg, on 8th May 1995. The letter deals with an article written by Coing and sent to Zimmermann for its publication in the *Zeitschrift für Europäisches Privatrecht (ZEuP)*. The article which perfectly fit the topic of that volume of the journal had been welcomed by all the editors of the ZEuP. There was no obstacle for a publication of the same article in Japan. Zimmermann only asked Coing, if it would have been possible to mention the publication in the ZEuP in the Japanese publication.

6. A typewritten letter, a few lines long, from Coing to Reinhard Zimmermann, sent on 24th May 1995. In this brief letter Coing thanked Zimmermann for his letter of 8th May 1995. Coing also sent attached to the letter a floppy disk with the text of the article.

7. A typewritten letter, a few lines long, sent by Coing to Professor Shozaburo Yoshino of the Tokai University, Japan, on 27th June. The signature by Coing is missing, but it is possible to argue the letter was written by him, since it is a reply to a previous letter sent by Shozaburo to Coing (compare letters below and, in particular, the letter by Shozaburo to Coing of 13th June 1990). Coing thanked Shozaburo for his previous letter of 13th June 1990; he also added he would be very glad if his works that appeared in the *Neue Juristische Wochenschrift (NJW)*, vol. 15 (1990) were published in Japan as well.

8. A typewritten letter, a few lines long, sent by Coing to Professor Shozaburo Yoshino of the Tokai University, Japan, on 27th June 1990. The signature by Coing is missing, but the author refers to an article appeared in the NJW in 1990 corresponding to Coing’s article (see the previous letter). Coing asked Shozaburo to send him a copy of this article, also published in Japan (translated into Japanese by Shozaburo himself).

9. A typewritten letter, a page long, sent by Professor Shozaburo Yoshino to Coing on 13th June 1990. Yoshino gave lectures on German law in Japan. He read

Coing's article appeared in the NJW, 15, 1990, entitled "Europaeisierung der Rechtswissenschaft", and found it very interesting. He asked, therefore, Coing's permission to translate it into Japanese and to let it be published in an important Japanese journal.

10. A typewritten letter, a few lines long, sent to Coing by Martin W. Huff of the editorial committee of the NJW on 6th August 1990. The signature is handwritten, but under the signature it is possible to read the typewritten name of the signer, "Martin W. Huff". The letter is a reply to Coing's letter sent to Huff and the NJW on 27th July 1990. The journal agreed with the publication in Japan of Coing's article, appeared in the meantime in the NJW, and it only requested to get a copy of the Japanese version of the text after the publication.

11. A typewritten text, six pages long, written by Felix Wubbe in May 1984. As explained by Wubbe himself in the first page, the work reproduced the speech he gave during the "Europatag" that took place in Freiburg i.Ue. on 2nd May 1984. The celebration day was intended to commemorate, in particular, the amity between Switzerland and the Netherlands. As a Dutch professor, Wubbe was requested to hold a speech that he later published without changes with the title "Europa Kulturell". Wubbe dealt with the situation in which Europe found itself at the time; from political, economic and social perspectives Europe faced a difficult situation and the targets it has established were still far from being achieved. Wubbe thus focused on the cultural aspects concerning Europe and its main cultural foundations (he wrote: "Blicken wir kurz auf die geistigen Grundlagen, die tragenden Pfeiler "Europas.""). Wubbe identified the three pillars of Europe in the Church and the Christianity, in the *Studia* of the 11th and 12th centuries and the Law, and in the humanism of the 15th and 16th centuries. There was also a language that played a role in keeping the three pillars together: that language was Latin, the language of the Church, of Roman law, of humanists. Wubbe also made the names of two great Dutch scholars who played an essential role in the cultural development of Europe: Erasmus from Rotterdam and Hugo Grotius. Yet the three pillars did not withstand other important historical events, such as the Reformation within the Church and the creation of the Nation-States with their codifications. What then remained, wrote Wubbe, was a "disintegration" of European culture. He then concluded with a series of questions regarding Europe and its culture, wondering if the European situation at the time represented a step back or a necessary step in the history of Europe and its development.

12. A typewritten letter, half a page long, sent by "M. Tonoli" (or Tondi? Handwritten signature), assistant of Coing, to Professor Felix Wubbe on 8th July 1985. Coing's assistant sent Wubbe a form filled in by Coing that had been requested together with the work that had to be published in the volume in honour of Feenstra "Satura Feenstra". Wubbe was a pupil of the Dutch scholar Robert Feenstra. There are a few handwritten notes on the upper edge of the page.

13. A typewritten, 48-page long list of Coing's publications in the years from 1935 to 1990. In the first page, under the title "Bibliographie der Werke von

Helmut Coing”, it is possible to read the handwritten note: “Sonderdrucke 1935-1990”.