Joint - Seminar: Legal Harmonisation with EU Law The Case of Croatia, Slovenia and Austria - Selected Topics 2012

"Joint-Seminar: Legal Harmonisation with EU Law - The Case of Croatia, Slovenia and Austria- Selected Topics 2012" took place again this year in the cooperation between the Faculty of Law in Graz, the Faculty of Law in Maribor and the Faculty of Law in Zagreb. It is unique because it is the only seminar at the University of Zagreb, and probably the other two universities as well, that is being organised by three universities form three different countries. It takes place in three different cities (Graz, Maribor and Zagreb) and lasts for two days in each of them. We spent 29th and 30th March 2012 in Graz, 10th and 11th May 2012 in Maribor and 24th and 25th May 2012 in Zagreb. Participants of the seminar were students of the previously named faculties of law. Among more than twenty students, usually eight per faculty, were also colleagues from other countries who were spending a semester abroad at one of the faculties.

Law students were the target group of this seminar and the presenters of the selected topics. Since the seminar was held in English, we did not only have the opportunity to learn more about EU Law, but also to improve our skills of talking and discussing legal matters in front of a large audience and in a foreign language.

Many interesting and important topics were discussed at the seminar. While some presentations focused on a specific topic, others were more general. Some of the topics were: European Citizenship - Rules and Development, Conflict of Market Freedoms and Human Rights, Free Movement of Goods in the Internal Market, Freedom of Establishment, Free Movement of Services in the Internal Market, Foreign Policy in the European Union, Rome I and Rome II Regulations, The Stabilisation and Association Process as a Pillar/Tool for Legal Harmonisation, Consumer Protection - Package Travels, Art. 101 TFEU - Prohibition of Anti-Competitive Agreements and Art. 102 TFEU - Abuse of a Dominant Position.

All the students were very well prepared for their presentation. The audience was very interested in the discussed topics since they always asked many questions. Additionally, almost every presentation included a short discussion. Some additional information and ECJ case law examples were provided by our professors and assistants.

An interesting and diverse social program was organised after the presentations, so we had the chance to learn more, not only about EU Law, but also about the cities we stayed in and meet our colleagues from different faculties of law. In each city the hosts put a lot of effort into this part of the seminar as well and showed us what their city and country was famous for. We enjoyed a traditional Austrian lunch in Graz. A wine tasting and a presentation by the Slovenian Wine Queen 2012 about wine production in Slovenia were organised in Maribor and in Zagreb we visited the unique Museum of Broken Relationships.

We want to use this opportunity and thank our professors and assistants, as well as the managements of all three faculties, for giving us the possibility to participate in this year's Joint-Seminar. We will remember it because of the interesting topics that were discussed during every session, the flawless organisation at every faculty and the time spent with colleagues in three wonderful cities and countries.