

Socio-Legal Newsletter Nr. 65

Oktober 2026

Call for Papers

Deadline: 15 October 2026

[Democracy Under Pressure:](#)

[Conditions of the Authoritarian Turn Yesterday and Today](#)

24–26 May 2027, WU Vienna

From Donald Trump in the United States to the AfD in Saxony-Anhalt, authoritarian candidates and parties are winning elections around the world. The interdisciplinary conference brings law and socioeconomics into conversation to examine key threats to democratic governance and the socioeconomic, legal, and institutional responses that could strengthen democratic resilience.

The conference addresses these challenges in dialogue with Friedrich Hayek, Karl Polanyi, Hans Kelsen, and Carl Schmitt. Individual abstracts and complete panel proposals are welcome from scholars in law, socioeconomics, political economy, constitutional theory, political science, economic sociology, history, and related fields, at all career stages and from all regions, including the Global South. Keynotes: Katharina Pistor (Columbia University) and Quinn Slobodian (Boston University).

Further [information and submission guidelines](#).

Questions: democracy2027@wu.ac.at.

Deadline: 27 October 2026

[2027 Global Meeting on Law and Society: Law in Motion](#)

22–26 June 2027, The University of Hong Kong / online

The (US) Law and Society Association invites individual papers and session proposals for its 2027 Global Meeting. The theme, Law in Motion: Reimagining Mobility, Boundaries, and Belonging, addresses how law shapes movement, borders, status, and social belonging. Submissions beyond the conference theme are also welcome.

Programming from 22 to 25 June will take place in person at The University of Hong Kong; 26 June will be entirely virtual. RCLS is a co-organising association.

Information and submission instructions: [Hong Kong 2027 meeting website](#).

Veranstaltungen

29 September–28 October 2026

[The Diversity Principle: European Book Tour](#)

David B. Oppenheimer, UC Berkeley

To mark the publication of *The Diversity Principle: The Story of a Transformative Idea* (Yale University Press, 2026), David B. Oppenheimer is taking part in a European book tour featuring 13 public events in Frankfurt, Brussels, Ghent, Leuven, Paris, London, Oxford, Amsterdam, and Berlin. The book traces the development and influence of the diversity principle in law, education, and public life.

The complete programme is available on the [book tour website](#).

Berlin Events:

- **Tuesday, 27 October 2026, 19:30**

[The Value of Diversity](#)

Bard College Berlin, in cooperation with the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
Julie Johnson Kidd Hall, Waldstraße 15, 13165 Berlin

David B. Oppenheimer will be joined by Lorraine Daston to discuss their new intellectual histories of diversity. The conversation will be moderated by Prof. Dr. Ewa Atanassow.

- **Wednesday, 28 October 2026, 12:30–13:30**

Lila Lunch Special: *The Diversity Principle*
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Faculty of Law
Juristische Fakultät, UL 9 E25

The event will explore what diversity means within the university and beyond, where the idea comes from, and why Wilhelm and Caroline von Humboldt remain relevant to the discussion. The conversation will be moderated by Prof. Dr. Susanne Baer.

23 October 2026, 12:00–13:00

[Book Launch: Caring and the Law](#)

Online via Zoom und YouTube livestream

Die Herausgeber:innen und Autor:innen präsentieren das Open-Access-Handbuch *Caring and the Law / Handbuch Sorgearbeit, Sorgebeziehungen und das Recht*. Das Programm umfasst einen Gastkommentar von Andrea Kretschmann, kurze Videos der Autor:innen und eine Diskussion. Die Veranstaltung wird aufgezeichnet; ausgenommen davon ist der Austausch mit den Teilnehmenden.

[Zoom](#) | [YouTube livestream](#).

19.–20. Februar 2027, Uni Tobler, Bern

Gender Law Konferenz 2027: Kunst und Recht im Dialog – Interdisziplinäre queere-feministische Perspektiven

Das Schweizerische Institut für feministische Rechtswissenschaft und Gender Law (FRI) veranstaltet die mehrsprachige Gender Law Konferenz 2027. Im Mittelpunkt steht der Dialog zwischen Kunst und Recht aus interdisziplinären queer-feministischen Perspektiven. Forschende, Praktiker:innen, Künstler:innen und Aktivist:innen diskutieren, wie künstlerische Ausdrucksformen und rechtliche Ansätze einander herausfordern und bereichern können.

Die Konferenz widmet sich vier Themenfeldern:

- Kunst als Erweiterung des juristischen Denkens und Handelns
- Wie das Recht den Zugang zur Kunst prägt
- Kunst im Zeitalter der künstlichen Intelligenz
- Kulturerbe und Krieg aus rechtlicher Perspektive

Die Veranstaltung findet auf Deutsch, Französisch und Englisch statt.

Kontakt: conference@genderlaw.ch

Publikationen

Lorena Poblete und Eva Kocher (eds.)

Digital Intermediaries in Domestic and Care Work

Hart Publishing (Oñati International Series in Law and Society), 2026, 296 pages

Der Sammelband untersucht, wie digitale Vermittler den Bereich der Haus- und Sorgearbeit verändern und welche Folgen dies für die Regulierung digitaler Arbeitsplattformen hat. Im Mittelpunkt stehen Geschäftsmodelle, institutionelle und kulturelle Rahmenbedingungen in mehreren Ländern (einschließlich südamerikanischen und südosteuropäischen), Plattformkooperativen in Südafrika und der Schweiz sowie arbeitsrechtliche Regulierungsfragen.

20 % Rabatt bei Bestellung über den Verlag mit dem Code **GLR BD8**.

Michelle Cottier/Kirsten Scheiwe/Caroline Voithofer (Hrsg.)

[Handbuch Sorgearbeit, Sorgebeziehungen und das Recht. Caring and the Law](#)

- **Springer, 2026, Open Access**

Dieses Open-Access-Handbuch umfasst rechtswissenschaftliche und interdisziplinäre Beiträge zu einem Recht der Sorgetätigkeiten und -beziehungen (*caring and the law*). Bezahlte und unbezahlte Sorgearbeit, sei es Betreuung von Kindern, Pflege oder die Unterstützung von Menschen mit Care-Bedarfen, ist ein aktuelles und umstrittenes Thema auch der Rechts- und Sozialstaatsreform, im nationalen und globalen Kontext. Das Handbuch leistet einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Debatte durch theoretische Grundlegung und Bestandsaufnahme des Status quo der rechtlichen Regulierung von Sorgetätigkeiten und -beziehungen in ausgewählten Rechtsgebieten und Sozialpolitikfeldern. Es eröffnet ein neues rechtswissenschaftliches und interdisziplinäres Forschungsfeld ‚Sorgebeziehungen und Recht‘ mit Bezügen zu Sozialethik, Rechtsphilosophie, den Sozialwissenschaften, Gender Studies und *Law in Context*-Ansätzen. Ziel ist eine rechtsbereichsübergreifende und interdisziplinäre Analyse im Hinblick auf die Überwindung der fragmentierten Perspektiven auf Care in Teilgebieten des Rechts und der Sozialpolitik.

Chrisje Brants, Susanne Karstedt und Nandor Knust (eds.)

[Transitional Justice: Legacies and Futures](#)

Routledge, 2026, 296 pages

The volume takes stock of nearly five decades of transitional justice and examines its achievements, limitations, and future prospects in international, regional, and local contexts. The contributions address topics including impact and legitimacy, political actors and discourses, and lessons learned from reconciliation processes and truth commissions.

A 20% discount is available using the code **26AFly3**. ISBN 978-0-367-67910-1.

Mavis Maclean (ed.)

[Incapacity and Access to Family Justice](#)

Hart Publishing, 2026, 304 pages

This edited collection examines how people with limited decision-making capacity can participate in social life within legal frameworks and in the context of familial or societal expectations. The contributions compare legal approaches in different countries, draw on findings from the European FLEUR project, and discuss the relationship between support, protection, and control.

A 20% discount is available when using the code **GLR BD8**. ISBN 978-1-5099-8342-1.

David B. Oppenheimer

[The Diversity Principle: The Story of a Transformative Idea](#)

Yale University Press, 2026

People with different backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints benefit from engaging with each other. That's why it's important for people who are insiders to expand their circles to include outsiders, and vice versa. The experience of being an outsider is often influenced by age, religion, ethnicity, gender, race, language, disability, economic class, and other forms of identity. Compared with groups that are more homogeneous, diverse groups do a better job of solving problems, making discoveries, teaching and learning from each other and improving democratic discourse.

This was a core tenet of the first modern research university, founded in Germany in 1810. It was the inspiration for John Stuart Mill's *On Liberty*, a touchstone of academic freedom, a hallmark of Charles Eliot's remaking of Harvard in the late nineteenth century to promote the "clash of ideas," and a foundation of Thurgood Marshall, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Pauli Murray's work for racial and gender equality in the mid-twentieth. In telling the story of the diversity principle through the experiences of these and other remarkable thinkers, Oppenheimer argues for affirming diversity as a central value of education and "an essential ingredient for a robust intellectual and political culture."

Werner Gephart (Ed.)

[Discourses of Justice](#)

Vittorio Klostermann, 2026, 302 pages

CrisisAnalysis / KrisenAnalysen, Vol. 2

The volume examines discourses of justice as indicators of social crisis and transformation. It explores how societies experience disruptions of established orders, negotiate conflicts of legitimacy, and articulate changing expectations of solidarity, recognition, and fairness. At the same time, discourses of justice can serve as resources for social integration, collective reflection, and the reconfiguration of normative orientations during periods of uncertainty and structural change.

Chrisje Brants, Susanne Karstedt and Nandor Knust (eds.)

[Transitional Justice: Legacies and Futures](#)

Routledge, July 2026, 296 pages

The volume explores the past, present, and future of transitional justice across nearly half a century. It examines its achievements and failures, as well as experiences of hope, disappointment, and disillusionment in institutions including the International Criminal Court and in global, regional, and local contexts.

Adopting a broad interdisciplinary approach, the contributions address the impact and legitimacy of transitional justice, political actors and discourses, and lessons from reconciliation processes and truth commissions. The volume is intended for researchers, practitioners, and students interested in post-conflict and post-authoritarian justice.

A 20% discount is available for orders placed directly through Routledge using the code **26AFly3**. Hardback ISBN 978-0-367-67910-1; eBook ISBN 978-1-003-13337-7.
