

Preface

Paul Oberhammer*

This issue of the *Vienna Law Review* contains publications based on lectures given at the first Slovenian–Austrian Law Conference, which took place in Vienna at the Juridicum on 19 and 20 September 2019. The Slovenian–Austrian Law Conference is one of the results of a close cooperation agreement concluded between the Faculties of Law of the Universities of Ljubljana and Vienna in 2018. When we drafted this agreement, we thought of ways of bringing lawyers from both countries together on a regular basis as a cornerstone of said cooperation – and that is what actually happened during the conference.

Discussing the law with Slovenian colleagues is always a pleasure, as we can jointly address legal issues from a comparative, European and common perspective of both jurisdictions. For us, Ljubljana University is a perfect fit as a partner for such a cooperation: On the one hand, Ljubljana University stands for 100 years of excellence in the field of law; on the other hand, Slovenian and Austrian lawyers understand each other because of the joint development and common traditions of our jurisdictions. Therefore, it also did not come as a surprise that our conference was not only an academic success, but also resulted in many joyful (re-)encounters between fellow lawyers from our two countries. On a more personal note, I may add that creating such a cooperation with our colleagues from Ljubljana was one of the true highlights of my years as a dean. I grew up less than 20 kilometres from the Slovenian border and have many fond childhood memories of weekend trips to places such as Piran, Bled, Krajska Gora or Ljubljana. This happy relationship with Slovenia continued when I became a professor, and for now almost 20 years, I have organised annual seminars together with my Slovenian colleagues Professor Aleš Galič and Professor Jerca Kramberger Škerl. So when I started my opening remarks at the conference with “It is a true pleasure ...”, I actually meant what I said.

I would like to thank Professor Miha Juhart, who was an excellent *vis-à-vis* as a dean when we concluded the faculty cooperation agreement. His successor as a dean, Professor Grega Strban, led the Slovenian delegation to the Vienna conference and rendered outstanding services to the continuation of the cooperation. I am very grateful that my successor as a dean, Professor Brigitta Zöchling-Jud will continue to support our joint venture. Professor Jerca Kramberger Škerl and Mr. Boštjan Koritnik as well as Professor Claudia Rudolf, Ms. Lea Vouk, Mr. Žiga Škorjanc and Ms. Romana Mayer were instrumental for making the first Slovenian–Austrian Law Conference happen. Last but not least, Professor Franz Stefan Meissel had the excellent idea to publish these lectures in the *Vienna Law Review*. Thank you very much! We look forward to continuing this new tradition, hopefully in September 2021 in Ljubljana, where we will discuss “Mutual Trust and Sincere Cooperation in the European Union”. *Se vidimo v Ljubljani!*

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