

Transatlantica - Culture, Language and Law in a Transatlantic Context
edited by
Jens Drolshammer and
Nedim Peter Vogt

Volume 1

English as the Language of Law?
An Essay on the Legal Lingua Franca
of a Shrinking World

by
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For years there has been a continuous Anglo-Saxonization and Americanization of many aspects of today's worldwide legal profession. This applies of course in particular to all European legal professionals and academics. Not only the Pan-European Anglification process but also the growing American hegemonism and predominance of Anglo-American legal thinking and legal practice are facing lawyers in the International Practice of Law which are exposed to the challenges of these new realities in their day-to-day professional lives.

For the legal practitioner the function of professional legal English has fundamentally changed in recent years as English has become their lingua franca.

In this essay the authors attempt to outline what they believe to be the more important issues in this regard. The chosen approach is mainly from the perspective of legal professionals in a practical context.

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Transatlantica – Culture, Language and Law in a Transatlantic Context

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This series is intended to address general issues of the transatlantic interface and interaction between the Anglo-American and the continental European legal systems. Furthermore this series shall offer a forum for a re-launch of the transatlantic discourse on culture, language and law.

The following volumes of this new series *Transatlantica – Culture, Language and Law in a Transatlantic Context* will start to appear in Winter 2002/2003:

1. Volume 1: Jens Drolshammer/Nedim Peter Vogt, *English as the Language of Law? – An Essay on the Legal Lingua Franca of a Shrinking World* (Winter 2002/2003)
2. Volume 2: Jens Drolshammer, *The Effects of Globalization on Legal Education – An Agenda from a European Perspective for the Interdisciplinary Training of a New International Commercial Lawyer* (Winter 2002/2003)