



Institut für Föderalismus
Institut du Fédéralisme
Institute of Federalism

ANNUAL REPORT

2018

2018

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1. FOREWORD

Writing an annual report is a fascinating process of discovery, unearthing the prodigious amount of ideas and projects generated and brought to fruition in the space of a year. It is also proof positive of how quickly time passes and of the openness of organisations to embrace change. The structures, statutes and frameworks within which institutes operate are not cast in stone; they, like the people who work for them, are constantly evolving. This was as true for the Institute of Federalism (IFF) in 2018 as it was in previous years, and we are delighted to be involved in such a dynamic working environment and have the opportunity to play our part in shaping its future.

An annual report provides only a snapshot of our work over the past 12 months. Nonetheless, we are able to translate the insights it generates into a roadmap that will keep the Institute on the right course over the subsequent 12 months. For the IFF Board, the annual report is a means of informing its funding and governing bodies as well as an interested public about the Institute's wide-ranging activities – from traditional academic research and teaching at the higher and further education levels right up to work carried out in direct response to current events and policy agenda-setting.

1.1 Personnel

a) Changes in the Institute Council

At the end of April 2018 Dr Sandra Maissen stepped down as Director of the ch Foundation for Federal Cooperation and, therefore, from the Institute Council, too. We would like to thank Dr Maissen for her tremendous work and dedication to the IFF. Her successor is Roland Mayer, Director of the Conference of the ch Foundation. We look forward to working with Mr Mayer and, in doing so, continuing our longstanding collaboration with the ch Foundation.

b) New member of the Board

On 26 March 2018, the Institute Council elected Prof. Andreas Stöckli, Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Fribourg, to the IFF Board of Directors (cf. 'In Focus' below). The Faculty Council approved his appointment on 9 April 2018. The Institute is delighted that the co-directors of the Board, Professors Eva Maria Belser and Bernhard Waldmann, can now rely on the support and input of Prof. Stöckli as they carry out their wide-ranging responsibilities and activities.

1.2 Activities

As in years past, a large share of the Institute's was given over to academic research, the provision of its expert services, and organisation of continuing education courses. Section 5 contains a list of these activities; only those which best reflect the core work of the Institute are presented in greater detail here.

a) New basis for future cooperation with the ch Foundation

A new contract between the Institute and the ch Foundation came into effect on 1 January 2018, enabling the Institute to continue providing 'basic services' to the cantons and the Conference of the Cantonal Governments of Switzerland (KdK). These include contributions to the new *Federalism Cockpit* in the form of summary reviews of the constitutionality of federal proposals on matters relevant to federalism. During the *Cockpit* trial period in autumn 2018, the Institute provided six such reviews (see Section 2 for details). In doing so, it acts as a bridge between research and practice, a highly important function in general, and for the advancement of Swiss federalism specifically. Furthermore, this work allows the Institute to scrutinise federal proposals as regards the possible implications they might have for the constitutional division of responsibilities.

b) Summer University

In 2018, the Institute held its 28th *Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution* (see 'In Focus' below) in Fribourg. The 50 attendees at this three-week intensive continuing education course built on and refined their theoretical and practical knowledge of federalism and other forms of government that involve the separation of powers. Once again, the selection process demonstrated that many countries are deeply interested in acquiring a solid and in-depth understanding of issues related to state organisation. The Institute will therefore have to explore whether there is a willingness and capacity to find the ways and means required to host the *Summer University* annually rather than every two years, as is currently the case. It will also need to look into whether it would be feasible to offer continuing education courses directly in those countries where demand for qualified experts is particularly high due to ongoing internal conflict or constitutional negotiations (e.g. Myanmar, the Philippines, South Sudan and Sri Lanka).

1.3 Securing core funding

If the Institute is to continue providing services that meet the quality standards its clients in Switzerland and abroad have come to expect, it will need to have sufficient core funding at its disposal. Since its contract with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) came to an end in 2017, the Institute has invested a great deal of time and energy into finding new sources of funding. For example, through the intermediation of the KdK, the Institute has been in talks with the Federal Administration over the last year. Also, securing long-term funding for the Institute's federalism-specific services has been taken up by political representatives. On 19 September 2018, the Council of States approved a motion by Beat Vonlanthen («Securing the long-term provision of expert services in Switzerland and abroad; 8.328»). It calls on the Federal Council to introduce measures to ensure the long-term provision of expert services relevant to federalism, as is already the case for other areas of national interest. Put simply, the motion seeks to supplement the financial support that the centre of expertise on federalism already receives from the canton with federal funding. This co-financing proposal was also the subject of the *Confederal Dialogue* between the Federal Council and the cantonal governments in November 2018. The Institute awaits further developments with great interest. Its hope is that a solution can soon be found that will allow the Institute to continue to make a decisive contribution to the advancement of Swiss federalism and assist other states with securing peace through the adoption of a federal system of government, strengthening the protection of human rights, and improving the effectiveness of sustainable development and poverty eradication efforts.

1.4 Financial situation of the Institute

Given the low level of core funding at the disposal of the Institute, its workforce is accordingly small. As a result, the Board has to exercise extreme caution when it comes to manpower planning and budgeting. However, thanks to its legal opinion work, which has further increased since Prof. Stöckli joined the Board, the Institute was once again in the black and could draw on its financial reserves to launch new projects.

2. LOOKING BACK ON 2018

1.5 Prospect and thanks

This coming year will usher in a new chapter in the history of the Institute. Should its efforts to boost core funding levels succeed, the Institute will be able to continue providing its customary services to the Confederation, the cantons and communes, as well as its foreign partners. Should they not, the Institute will surely continue to thrive, but it will have to re-think its priorities. The national and international provision of services of the highest scientific rigour and deeply anchored in the practical application of federalism can only be guaranteed if the Institute is able to offer qualified personnel adequate job security and attractive career prospects.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the Institute Council and all who support the Institute for the commitment and trust they have placed in it. Particular thanks go, of course, to our staff who through their motivation, innovative drive and dedication allow the Institute continually to scale new heights.

Eva Maria Belser
Bernhard Waldmann
Andreas Stöckli

National activities

On 1 January 2018, the new contract between the Institute and the ch Foundation for Federal Cooperation came into effect. Since then, the Institute has continued to provide the cantons with 'basic services'. These include keeping track of federalism-relevant discussions in academia, lawmaking and jurisprudence, and identifying new developments and trends, an activity that dovetails with the Institute's own federalism monitoring work and its contribution to the monitoring conducted by the ch Foundation. The Institute is also involved in the *Federalism Cockpit* run by the ch Foundation; it reviews federal proposals of relevance to federalism as regards their compatibility with the constitutional division of tasks and responsibilities; the findings are published in the form of regular newsletters. The new contract also provides a framework for the commissioning of in-depth studies on the constitutionality of federal bills.

The introduction of the new contract heavily shaped the activities of the National Section in 2018. The Institute helped to re-design the federalism monitoring activities of the ch Foundation and participated in the pilot phase of the cantonal governments' *Federalism Cockpit* (see also Section 3.2).

Once again, the work of the National Section was dominated by the writing of several major legal opinions and clarifications, and by providing a number of projects with scientific support. For example, it accepted a commission from the ch Foundation to review the constitutionality of proposals to amend the statutory framework of the Fiscal Equalisation and Cost Compensation system. It also advised the canton of Neuchâtel on budget rights and the cantonal debt brake, and formulated draft regulations for the canton of Fribourg on the implementation of safeguard measures for biotopes of national significance on its territory. The National Section also submitted a comparative analysis of counter-terrorism measures in cantonal legislation to the Federal Office of Police (fedpol), and compiled a report for the Federal Roads Office (FEDRO) on the constitutionality of a draft bill. In addition, the Swiss Lawyers Federation asked the Institute to determine the actual costs of civil court proceedings.

With the arrival of Prof. Andreas Stöckli to the Board, the National Section saw the number of its commissions and projects rise. Under Prof. Stöckli, staff led an administrative enquiry commissioned by the cantonal government of Graubünden on cases of bid rigging (ongoing), organised a public governance workshop for the board of *Industriellen Werke Basel* (utilities

provider of the canton of Basel-Stadt), and submitted a legal opinion on political and religious advertising on buses to public transport providers in the city of Biel/Bienne. The Federal Office of Personnel also commissioned the Institute to scrutinise the federal job freeze.

Continuing education provision and knowledge transfer were also a core part of the National Section's work in 2018. The Institute once again organised the *Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminare* [Murten Legislative Seminars], which is divided into two stand-alone sessions: legislation methodology (together with the Centre for Legislative Studies of the University of Zurich) and the drafting of legislation (together with the Federal Chancellery and the Federal Office of Justice). It also organised the Discussion Group on Federalism, which was first held in 2016 to offer researchers from a range of disciplines a platform to share their knowledge on issues relevant to federalism and on decentralised state organisation. As part of the 2018 Discussion Group, Prof. Alexandre Flückiger from the University of Geneva gave a presentation (11 January) on the importance of 'soft law' in Swiss federalism, while Prof. François Vaillancourt (former Professor at the University of Montreal) looked at the issue of Canadian federalism (26 September). It is also worth pointing out that IFF professors and research staff attended and presented papers at many conferences and seminars (see Section 5.4 for a detailed list).

International activities

For the International Section, 2018 was a year dominated by efforts to reframe its activities. Once again, its services were in high demand. However, seeing many of these projects through to the end proved challenging because of the lack of core funding at its disposal. This was particularly the case for our cooperation with partners from the South; it is almost impossible for them to cover the costs that come with the lasting and effective transmission of knowledge and experience of federalism and good governance. Over the past 12 months, the Institute worked with many different partners, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and South Sudan, on developing promising cooperation projects. Joint efforts with partners to secure additional funding are still ongoing. Although the FDFA and the Institute established a shared cooperation framework that reflects their mutual interests and designed to facilitate collaboration, no project funding has been forthcoming to date.

Another challenge the International Section faced was the organisation of the *Summer University*. Despite these difficulties, the 28th edition of this rigorous continuing education course was held, to great acclaim. This is in no small part thanks to support from the University of Fribourg and other donors (see «In Focus» below). However, raising funds to pay for participants who did not have the means to cover the costs of attending the *Summer University* placed a heavy administrative burden on the shoulders of the Institute and our partners. We are therefore incredibly proud that participants from around the world, especially from conflict and developing regions, finally were able to attend.

In 2018, the International Section pursued and deepened its cooperation with the Centre for Federal Studies and Governance in Addis Ababa. The focus of this year's conference was on unity, and explored the issue of what holds states together, a highly topical issue in Ethiopia, as it is elsewhere. The IFF, together with partner institutes in Bolzano and Cape Town, once again ran a special seminar for doctoral students, an important vehicle for foreign experts to further federalism research in the country.

The longstanding and intensive cooperation between our institutes and various institutes in the North and South continued to bear fruit in 2018. The IFF was involved in the EU-funded LoGov project, which provides researchers with a welcome platform to share their insights and knowledge. Together with Fribourg and Canterbury, Bolzano organised and hosted a writing workshop on federalism and conflict resolution. The sheer volume of findings it generated not only led to a publication but also to the decision to host another workshop in Fribourg next year.

A number of delegations visited the Institute in order to familiarise themselves more fully with Swiss federalism and other forms of power-sharing. While the stay was brief for delegations from Georgia, Germany, Nigeria and Sri Lanka, a larger delegation from the Philippines spent more than a week in Switzerland preparing for their involvement in the pending revision of the country's constitution.

Despite setbacks in Syria and a lack of progress in Geneva, work on the future Syrian constitution continued in 2018. Far from military and political distractions, various stakeholders attended six gatherings to work out a roadmap for peace in Syria. During these events, they translated the constitutional principles under discussion into constitutional norms. In doing so, we have

succeeded in moving the European Centre for Kurdish Studies in Berlin, with support from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in Germany, closer to the Geneva Peace Process. Projects are already in the pipeline for 2019.

Even more frequently than in the past, various old and new foreign partners sought out the Institute's extensive and in-depth experience with federalism in order to advance their own thinking and legislative work. Subjects which the Institute dealt with in 2018 include Swiss-style education federalism, bicameralism, minority protection and the Jura conflict. Also, the interest of many universities in the Institute's history of offering its scientific input to constitutional processes means that members of the International Section were once again invited to present papers and give talks at a great many conferences abroad (cf. the detailed list below).

As regards the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights – the institutional future of which remains in doubt – activities in 2018 were dominated by two subjects: the basic rights of the elderly and the 'Self-Determination Initiative' referendum. The International Section continued to explore the theoretical and import of the first subject and published several papers. As regards the referendum, activities primarily took the form of participation in panel discussions. An event exploring the topic of human rights and religion provided a fitting opportunity to honour the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Tower of Power: Team-building exercise on conflict resolution – Summer University 2018

3. IN FOCUS

3.1 Summer University 2018

Federalism as a conflict resolution model

Between 27 August to 12 September 2018 the Institute of Federalism held its 28th *Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution*. It permitted 50 attendees, who were hand-picked from a huge number of applicants, to spend three weeks in Fribourg intensively working on federalism and other forms of power-sharing. It was also an opportunity for both academics and practitioners to build on their theoretical and practical knowledge of the subject and to share their thoughts with one another on a series of topical issues: Why is federalism on the rise worldwide? Why do states, especially those shaped by conflict and internal tensions, opt for vertical power-sharing? How do traditional federal states (like Switzerland and the USA) that were formed from a merger of independent entities differ from their more recent counterparts, which are the product of the division of powers (like Belgium and Nepal)? How does federalism contribute to conflict resolution, the protection of minorities and the respect of human rights? What are the risks? What is the role of federalism in relation to the people's right to self-determination and secession? How can states manage multilingualism, different ethnicities, religions and cultures? How does fiscal federalism work and is the sustainable use and equitable distribution of natural resources at all possible?

As always, the diverse range of subjects explored by the IFF *Summer University* attracted a great deal of interest in Switzerland and abroad. Given that students from Switzerland and from other established federal states often only touch on federalism briefly during their studies, the Summer University is the first time for many to grasp that Swiss federalism is not a lumbering, outdated form of state organisation; it offers flexible and dynamic opportunities for cooperation, which in turn accommodates and safeguards diversity and creates the necessary space for local and regional innovation. Interest in this continuing education course is especially high among individuals from states which have introduced vertical power-sharing fairly or are in the middle of doing so. Their curiosity often centres on transition processes and the potential of power-sharing to reinforce democracy and advance poverty reduction efforts. At the same time, they appreciate the opportunity that the *Summer University* offers them to exchange their thoughts and knowledge with experts from states facing similar implementation problems.

The *Summer University* has always attracted a great many participants from states experiencing violent conflict and are exploring the adoption of the federalism model to resolve the situation. Since the end of the Cold War, wars and violent conflicts unfortunately have



Visit of the Federal Parliament – Summer University 2018

not waned; they have increased, sharply. Among the most protracted and devastating are civil wars and other forms of domestic armed conflict which fall short of all-out war. Behind these confrontations are often disagreements about the sharing of power and resources and the peaceful co-existence of people of different religious beliefs, language or culture, as well as the form of government that the states involved should adopt. In certain contexts, the use of the word federalism should be avoided because it is an alien or loaded idea. What it actually means is formerly disadvantaged or oppressed regions and communities demanding and expecting their own laws, governments and budgets, as well as the possibility of being able to play their part when laws, governments and budgets are made that take into account all sections of the population. When selecting *Summer University* attendees, the IFF factors in the interests of those countries seeking to hone their federalism-related expertise. This is why it chose applicants from Ethiopia, Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Syria to attend the course.

The teaching methods at the *Summer University* are as diverse as the subjects it addresses. The three-week course began with an introductory class on federalism and decentralisation, which included case studies and comparative analyses and taught by a multi-disciplinary team. Current challenges in relation to federalism were addressed during a tour of the city of Fribourg designed to provide attendees with a look at bilingualism in action, and as part of a panel discussion. The second week was given over to the subject of conflict resolution and featured, alongside various input events, group work and mock negotiation sessions. The chief aim of these activities was to allow students to learn not only from lecturers but also from one another, experience the diversity of standpoints and negotiating strategies that exist, and seek compromises. In the third

week, attention turned to new federal states and the myriad challenges faced by states such as Ethiopia and South Africa. Prior to the final written exam, the attendees dealt with the serious conflicts in Syria and Yemen and discussed the contributions that federalism could make in these countries to resolving the situation there.

According to the survey of participants, the course and its content enjoyed a high approval rating. Particular praise was given to the international character of attendees and teaching staff, the interdisciplinary approach, the intensive workload and the opportunity to network and learn from others' experiences. Most participants remain in contact with the IFF long after the *Summer University* and are now part of its ever-growing network of alumni.

While we are delighted that the 2018 *Summer University* was again a great success, it is important to remember the serious obstacles that first had to be overcome. Since the core funding at the disposal of the Institute is insufficient to cover the enormous administrative and personnel outlay involved, and does not have the financial wherewithal to enable professionals from developing and transition countries to take part, securing the necessary funding is a gargantuan task. In 2018, we were lucky to count on the support of the Law Faculty and the University of Fribourg, as well as the *Aargauische Stiftung*. We also managed to secure stipends for certain participants. Since then, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, a number of Swiss embassies, the Hanns Seidel Foundation and the Toni Hagen Foundation have declared their willingness to assist professionals involved in state organisation matters in their home country to take part in the *Summer University*. We also are greatly indebted to our partners and, in particular, to our skilled and committed team – Dr. Rekha Oleschak-Pillai, Yvonne Heiter-Steiner, Nicolas Chardonnens and Dr. Nicolas Schmitt, who were ably assisted by Simon Mazidi and Liliane Minder – for substantially contributing to the resounding success of the course.

3.2 Federalism Cockpit

As well as restructuring its federalism monitoring activities, the ch Foundation for Federal Cooperation took the decision to introduce the *Federalism Cockpit*. The aim of this new tool is to provide an up-to-date overview of key Federal Council business that have been reviewed in accordance with a set of specific criteria. As such, the *Cockpit* should enable the cantons to coordinate their input to federal proposals more effectively.

These reviews carried out by individual intercantonal conferences will be supplemented with legal analyses from the Institute of Federalism. To be precise, the Institute is tasked with reviewing the compatibility of certain items of Federal Council business with the constitutional division of tasks and responsibilities. First, it will study whether there is a constitutional basis for the federal proposal (Art. 42 Cst.). If the answer is yes, the exercise of federal powers is evaluated in the context of the subsidiarity principle (Art. 5a Cst.). A further analysis of the proposal is carried out to ascertain if it permits the cantons to exercise the autonomy granted to them under the Constitution in relation to the tasks that fall under their responsibility, how they organise themselves, their finances and the implementation of federal law (Art. 47 and Art. 46 para. 3 Cst.). If necessary, the Institute will also investigate whether the funding provided for in the federal proposal complies with the principle of fiscal equivalence (Art. 43a para. 2-3 Cst.). Depending on the context, it will also check whether the proposal complies with the statutory and legal rights of the cantons to participate in federal decision-making (Art. 45, Art. 55, Art. 147 Cst.). Strictly speaking, the end result is not a legal opinion but rather an initial summary appraisal.

In summer and autumn 2018 the ch Foundation tested the *Cockpit*. As part of these trials, the Institute conducted a summary constitutional review of six federal proposals: the complete revision of the CO₂ Act (Proposal 17.071; in particular the proposed building-related regulation); an amendment to the Federal Act on Benefits supplementary to the Old Age, Survivors' and Invalidity Insurance (Supplementary Benefits Reform, Proposal 16.065); an amendment to the Hunting Act (Proposal 17.052), the preliminary draft on the partial revision of the Health Insurance Act (HIA) as regards the uniform funding of outpatient and inpatient services (Proposal 09.528), the Rickli parliamentary initiative *«Haftung bei bedingten Entlassungen und Strafvollzugslockerungen»* (Proposal 13.430) as well as the Müller motion *«Griffige und wirksame Umsetzung der Stellenmeldepflicht»* (Proposal 18.3407).

3.3 New member of the Board

On 1 February, Andreas Stöckli, Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Fribourg, was named as the successor to Professor emeritus Peter Hänni. His appointment upholds the tradition that German-speaking professors of public law at the University of Fribourg also contribute to the work of the Institute. At

the Institute Council meeting of 26 March 2018 Andreas Stöckli was named as the third member of the Board, alongside co-directors Professors Bernhard Waldmann and Eva Maria Belser; the Law Faculty approved his appointment on 9 April 2018. The arrival of Prof. Stöckli will strengthen the Institute's management and fill the gap left by the retirement of Prof. Peter Hänni in summer 2017.

Having studied law at the University of Bern and passed the canton of Bern bar exam, Andreas Stöckli began his academic career at the University of Fribourg, where he was employed as a (senior) research from 2008 to 2013; he was awarded a PhD in Constitutional and Administrative Law in 2012. After a period at the Oxford University as a visiting researcher, he was appointed Professor of Public Law, specialising in Public Commercial Law, at the University of Basel in summer 2014, where he remained until January 2018. Prof. Stöckli is thrilled to return to the place where his research career began. Already familiar with the work of the Institute from his time at the University of Fribourg, Prof. Stöckli has enjoyed a smooth transition to his new role as a member of the Board.

In terms of his research, teaching and service provision, Prof. Stöckli intends to prioritise activities in his areas of specialisation within the field of constitutional and administrative law, namely public commercial law, constitutional and administrative organisation law, planning, building and environmental law, energy law, the constitutional law of religion and federalism matters. Andreas is also the President of the Swiss Administration Organisation Law Association (SVVOR) and a member of the Federal Electricity Commission (ElCom).

The three members of the Board are committed to guiding the future of the Institute in a constructive and collegial manner. Professors Belser and Waldmann will continue to lead the National and International Sections, respectively, while Prof. Stöckli will put together his own team of scholars, who will pursue their own projects and commissions, but will assist their Institute colleagues when required. In 2018, Prof. Stöckli oversaw several projects entrusted to the National Section. They include an administrative enquiry (ongoing) commissioned by the cantonal government of Graubünden, and drafting legal opinions on topical matters pertaining to constitutional and administrative law; a new member of staff was hired to assist with this work. Prof. Stöckli has also contributed to the International Section by delivering presentations and escorting foreign delegations to the Institute. His objective is to pursue the work that has already begun and to establish a team that will, over time, become a fully-fledged and integral part of the Institute.

4. ORGANISATION

4.1 Internal developments

Compared to the previous year, 2018 was a time of considerable change for Institute staff: there were five new appointments – including a board member, his executive assistant and a research associate for Prof. Stöckli's team – and five departures, three of whom left because their temporary contract had expired. Of course, regular staff turnover is not uncommon in the university environment. Nonetheless, the Board hopes that it will manage to secure the funding needed to be able to offer qualified staff long-term, attractive career prospects and thereby benefit from their experience and expertise for years to come.

One person spent two and a half months of his alternative civilian service; he assisted the *Summer University* organisers and contributed to several other projects.

The Board can also rely on support from Professor Emeritus Peter Hänni, who will continue to work for the Institute as a *Senior Advisor*.

The Institute Council, as always, convened twice, in March and December of 2018. The Director of the ch Foundation, Dr. Sandra Maisen stepped down and in doing so bade farewell to the Institute Council too; Roland Mayer will succeed her. At the March meeting, Prof. Andreas Stöckli was elected to the Board of Directors.

4.2 Institute Council

At the end of 2018, the members of the Institute Council were as follows:

President

Pascal BROULIS, State Councillor and Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs of the canton of Vaud, representative of the ch Foundation for Federal Cooperation (member since 2017).

Vice-president

Jean-Pierre SIGGEN, President of the Canton Fribourg and cantonal Minister for Education, Culture and Sport (member since 2014)

Other members

Christoph AUER, State Chancellor of the canton of Bern, (member since 2017)

Bérénice BILLOTTE, Student representative, University of Fribourg (member since 2017)

Anne-Sophie CONSTANS-LAMPERT, Government employee of the Principality of Liechtenstein (member since 2015)

Jacques DUBEY, Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law, University of Fribourg (member since 2014)

Stefan MAEDER, representative of the non-professorial academic staff, University of Fribourg (member since 2017)

Peter MISCHLER, Deputy Secretary of the Conference of Cantonal Ministers of Finance (member since 2015)

Nicolas QUELOZ, Professor of Criminal Law, University of Fribourg (member since 2012)

Jan Hendrik RITTER, representative of the non-professorial academic staff, University of Fribourg (member since 2018)

Hubert STOECKLI, Professor of Civil Law, University of Fribourg (member since 2010)

Benedikt WÜRTH, Cantonal Minister of Finance (St Gallen) and representative of the Foundation for Swiss Cooperation (ch Foundation) (member since 2013)

4.3 Staff

Board of Directors



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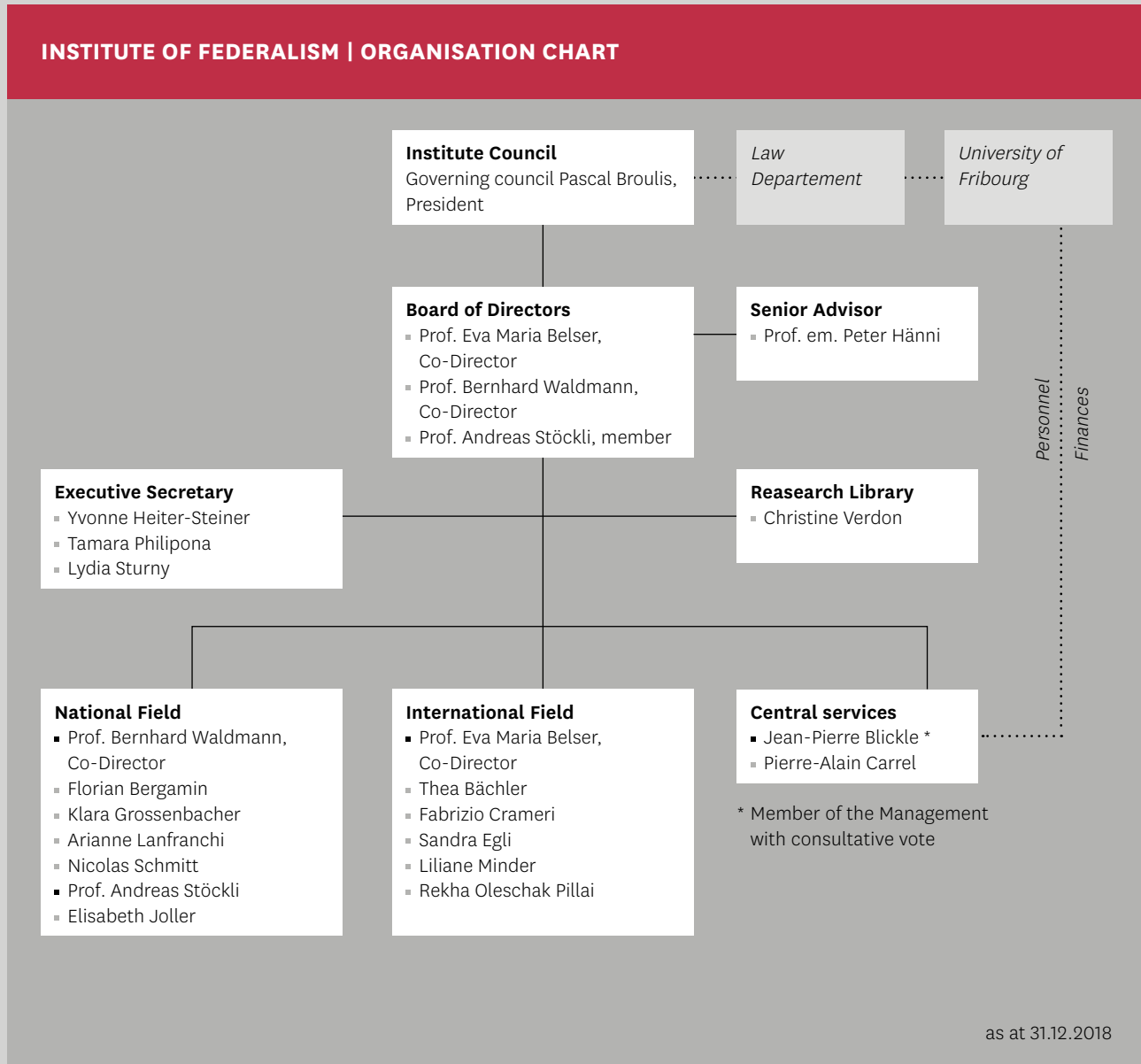


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4.4 Organisation Chart



5. OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IN 2018

5.1 Research and publications

EVA MARIA BELSER

- Föderalismus im schweizerischen Bildungswesen – Ein ABC der Zuständigkeiten (co-author Liliane Minder), in: Peter Bussjäger/Christoph Schramek (eds.), *Die Neuorganisation der Bildungverwaltung in Österreich*, Institut für Föderalismus Innsbruck, Vienna 2018, 95–125.
- Gelebter Föderalismus: eine unerschöpfliche Quelle staatsrechtlicher Innovation, in: *European Center for Research on Federalism EZFF* (eds.), *Yearbook of Federalism 2018*, Federalism, Subsidiarity and Regions in Europe, Baden-Baden 2018, 451–458.
- Das Zusammenwirken von Bund und Kantonen bei der Einhaltung völkerrechtlicher Menschenrechtsverpflichtungen der Schweiz, in: *European Center for Research on Federalism EZFF* (eds.), *Yearbook of Federalism 2018*, Federalism, Subsidiarity and Regions in Europe, (co-author Simon Mazidi), Baden-Baden 2018, 243–257.
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ANDREA EGBUNA-JOSS

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- Grundrechte im Alter – Ein Handbuch, 2018/2019 (co-authors: Sandra Egli, Sabrina Ghielmini, Eva Maria Belser and Christine Kaufmann).
- Quando i diritti non hanno età, *Catalogo dei diritti fondamentali delle persone anziane in Svizzera* (co-authors: Christine Kaufmann, Sabrina Ghielmini and Eva Maria Belser), published by the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights, 2018; (German and French versions published in 2017).

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KLARA GROSSENBACHER

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MARTIN KÜNG

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LUKAS MARXER

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NICOLAS SCHMITT

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BERNHARD WALDMANN

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- Rechtsprechung zum Raumplanungsrecht, in: Zeitschrift für Baurecht und Vergabewesen BR/DC 2/2018, 112–117 und BR/DC 5/2018, 295–298.
- Wehrpflichtersatzabgabe: Ungleichbehandlung der Geschlechter, Bemerkungen zum Urteil des Bundesgerichts 2C_1051/2016 vom 24. August 2017, Jusletter, 23 April 2018 (co-author: Martin Küng).

5.2 Expert reports

- Legal opinion on requirements to pass a cantonal deficit budget, commissioned by the Office of the Neuchâtel Cantonal Parliament (co-author: Peter Hänni) Jan–Feb (**Nicolas Schmitt**).
- Supplementary legal opinion regarding legal issues in connection with infrastructure franchises pursuant to RailA, commissioned by Swiss Federal Railways SBB, March (**Andreas Stöckli**).
- Comparative intercantonal study of the actual costs of civil proceedings, commissioned by the Swiss Lawyers Association (SAV), March (**Nicolas Schmitt**).
- Use of freed-up federal funds from the resource equalisation, brief legal opinion submitted to the Swiss Conference of Cantonal Governments (KdK), April (**Bernhard Waldmann**).
- «Rule of Law, Democracy and Human Rights at the Local Level – with special focus on the situation in Afrin», First dialogue workshop 2018 with representatives of the Syrian opposition, Istanbul, 25–30.04. (**Eva Maria Belser**).
- Preventive police measures as regards individuals who pose a terrorist threat: comparison of planned preventive measures in the Federal Act on Police Counterterrorism Measures (PMT-PCTA) and existing measures in the cantons and larger cities, commissioned by the Federal Office of Police (fedpol), April/May (**Klara Grossenbacher**).
- «Working Together to Shape Syria's Future», Second dialogue workshop 2018 with representatives of the Syrian opposition, Bucharest, 29.05.–04.06. (**Eva Maria Belser**).
- Rules and regulation on the implementation of measures to safeguard biotopes of national significance in the canton of Fribourg – Concept and Specimen Agreement, Jan/June (**Bernhard Waldmann** and **Gregor Bachmann**).
- Academic support of the constitutional process in Syria – «Power Sharing for a United Syria», European Centre for Kurdish Studies, Berlin, and the Institute of Foreign Relations, Fribourg, 10.–13.07. (**Eva Maria Belser**, with Sören Keil and Eva Savelsberg).

- «Prinzipien und Normen einer zukünftigen Verfassung Syriens», first writing workshop 2018, 09.–13.07. **(Eva Maria Belser)**.
- Evaluation of the literature submitted by two applicants for a professorship position at the University of Basel, submitted to the Law Faculty of the University of Basel, 08.08. **(Peter Hänni)**.
- FEDRO draft proposal on the partial revision of the RTA – Advisory opinion on the draft consultations regarding the legal delegation of the regulation of automated vehicles and regarding the allocation of responsibilities between the Confederation and the cantons regarding the working hours and rest periods of professional drivers, Aug–Oct **(Bernhard Waldmann and Florian Bergamin)**.
- Legal opinions regarding legal issues in connection with political and religious advertising on the advertising spaces of public transport companies (incl. buses), commissioned by the Public Transport Providers of the city of Biel/Bienne, Sept–Dec **(Andreas Stöckli and Elisabeth Joller)**.
- Lead on an administrative enquiry commissioned by the Graubünden cantonal government in connection with agreements on public tenders in the Graubünden Canton Office of Public Works, since Sept **(Andreas Stöckli, Martin Beyeler and Peter Hänni, with Elisabeth Joller)**.
- «In Diversity United – Jointly Creating a Syrian Future», Third dialogue workshop 2018 with representatives of the Syrian opposition, Berlin, 02.–07.10. **(Eva Maria Belser)**.
- Constitutional evaluation of Federal Council items of business and federal proposals on amendments to federal laws / ordinances (*'Federalism Cockpit'*), commissioned by the ch Foundation for Federal Cooperation, Oct **(Klara Grossenbacher and Florian Bergamin)**.
- Public corporate governance workshop and formulation of a package of measures and recommendations on the course of action, for the Board of Management of *Industrielle Werke Basel* (IWB), Oct – Dec **(Andreas Stöckli)**.
- «Demokratie wagen – für ein geeintes Syrien», Fourth dialogue workshop 2018 with representatives of the Syrian opposition, Athens, 07.–12.11. **(Eva Maria Belser)**.
- Eurac Research Scientific Advisory Board, Institute for Comparative Federalism, Bolzano, 16.11. **(Eva Maria Belser)**.
- Legal opinions on «Einführung einer Personalbremse» commissioned by the Federal Office of Personnel (FOPER), Nov–Dec **(Andreas Stöckli and Elisabeth Joller)**.
- «Prinzipien und Normen einer zukünftigen Verfassung Syriens», Second writing workshop 2018, Canterbury, 01.–02.12. **(Eva Maria Belser)**.

5.3 Study Tours

12.02., Fribourg	Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the IFF and the National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines, Dean Maria Fe Villamejor-Mendoza (Eva Maria Belser and Rekha Oleschak Pillai)
29.05., Bern	«Swiss Federalism and its Security Architecture», study tour for government representatives of Nigeria (Eva Maria Belser)
06.06., Fribourg	Visit of a delegation from Vietnam on « <i>Juristischen Prinzipien und Grundsätze, Referendum Mechanismus in der Schweiz</i> » (Nicolas Schmitt)
26.08., Freiburg	Introduction to Swiss Federalism for a high-ranking delegation from Myanmar: «Switzerland + Federalism = Swiss Federalism» (Nicolas Schmitt)
16.10., Fribourg	«Swiss Federalism» study tour for members of the Sri Lanka – Swiss Parliamentary Friendship Association, organised by Presence Switzerland (Eva Maria Belser)
05.–09.11., Fribourg, Bern & Sion	Study mission of a delegation from the Philippines, comprising around 40 provincial vice-governors on Swiss federalism (Nicolas Schmitt)
12.11., Fribourg	Hosting of a delegation of Russian journalists during a press tour on the topic of federalism (organised by the FDFA, Presence Switzerland and the Swiss Embassy in Moscow. Presentation entitled: « <i>Федерализм вообще и Швейцарский Федерализм как Иллюстрация</i> – Federalism in general and Swiss Federalism as an Illustration» (Nicolas Schmitt)
28.11., Fribourg	Talks on possible collaboration with representatives from the Georgian Technical University, the Akaki Tsereteli University Kutaisi and the Georgian Embassy (Eva Maria Belser)

5.4 Training courses

12th Conference of the *Schweizerische Vereinigung für Verwaltungsorganisationsrecht* (SVVOR) on «Digitalisierung der öffentlichen Verwaltung», event management, introductory presentation and chairing of the meeting, Fribourg, 19.01. **(Andreas Stöckli)**

Continuing education course on «**Recht, Religion und Arbeitswelt**» as part of *Recht aktuell*, University of Basel 25.01. **(Andreas Stöckli, with Felix Hafner and Anne Kühler)**

Winter School on Federalism and Governance, Federalism in the Making: Federalism between Success and Failure, Winter School on Federalism and Governance, Institute for Comparative Federalism of Eurac Research and Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, 07.02. **(Eva Maria Belser)**

Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminar, Foundation Seminar I: Legislation methodology, Murten, 25. – 27.04., in cooperation with the Centre for Legislative Studies, University of Zurich **(Bernhard Waldmann)**

27th Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution, Fribourg, 27.08. – 12.09.. **(Eva Maria Belser, with Rekha Oleschak Pillai, Yvonne Heiter and Nicolas Chardonens)**

The basic and human rights of the elderly in Switzerland, continuing education course for the advice centre *Wohnen im Alter* [Senior housing] of the city of Zurich, Zurich, 25.10., Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights **(Sandra Egli)**

Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminar, Foundation Seminar II: Drafting legislation, Murten, 28. – 30.11., in cooperation with the Federal Chancellery and the Federal Office of Justice **(Bernhard Waldmann and Peter Hänni)**

5.5 Presentations and conferences

08.01., Fribourg	An introduction to international human rights law, American College Program, University of Fribourg (Andrea Egbuna-Joss)
18.01., Geneva	GCSP training course on migration and good governance for participants from Iraq on the following two themes: «Switzerland + Federalism = Swiss Federalism» and «Comparing Federal and Decentralised Systems» (Nicolas Schmitt)
25.01., Basel	«Religion im öffentlichen Dienstverhältnis», presentation as part of <i>Recht aktuell</i> on the «Recht, Religion und Arbeitswelt» [Law, religion and work], University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
31.01., Linz (Austria)	«Föderalismus im Bildungswesen – Beispiel Schweiz», The restructuring of education management in Austria, Institute of Federalism seminar (Eva Maria Belser)
07.02., Innsbruck (Austria)	«Asymmetries and Emerging Federalism», Winter School on Federalism and Governance 2018: Federalism in the Making (Eva Maria Belser)
07.02., Innsbruck (Austria)	«Federalism between Success and Failure», Winter School on Federalism and Governance 2018: Federalism in the Making (Eva Maria Belser)
08.–09.02., Bolzano (Italy)	«Federalism and Conflict Resolution in Iraq», Between Power-sharing, Secession and State Dissolution: Revisiting the Relationship between Federalism and Conflict Resolution, multidisciplinary author's workshop (Eva Maria Belser)
27.–28.02., Nice (France)	Masters seminar at the <i>Centre international de formation européenne</i> (CIFE) on: «From Merkel to Trump: Federalism in the German speaking world... with an unavoidable glimpse at the USA» (Nicolas Schmitt)
28.02., Fribourg	International Human Rights and the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights, University of Fribourg (Andrea Egbuna-Joss)
13.03., Girona (Spain)	«Switzerland and the Myth of 17 th Cantonal Sovereignty: When Miracle Rhymes with Breakable», delivered as part of a seminar on linguistic rights given by Prof. Anna Maria Pla (Nicolas Schmitt)
19.–23.03., Jakarta & Padang (Indonesia)	«Asymmetry is everywhere and has to be dealt with properly: nine good and bad international examples», congress on asymmetric decentralisation in Indonesia (Nicolas Schmitt)
22.–23.3., Innsbruck (Austria)	«The Swiss <i>Ständerat</i> : A Model of Perfect Bicameralism», Representing Regions, Challenging Bicameralism, University of Innsbruck (Eva Maria Belser)
13.04., Eupen (Belgium)	«Belgien – Erschütterungsmesser und Taktgeber im Herzen Europas», possible scenarios for state reform post-2019, analyses and prospects in the current Belgian context, colloquium of the Parliament of the German-speaking Community of Belgium (Eva Maria Belser)
19.04., Zurich	«Haben Menschenrechte ein Alter?», Pro Senectute library event (Eva Maria Belser)
25.04., Bern	«Grundrechte älterer Menschen», meeting of the advisory board of the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (Eva Maria Belser)
25.04., Murten	«Regelungsinstrumente», presented at the <i>Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminar</i> on legislation methodology, Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg and the Centre for Legal Teaching, University of Zurich (Bernhard Waldmann)
26.04., Fribourg	«Kann die Demokratie im 21. Jahrhundert bestehen?», panel discussion with German president Frank-Walter Steinmeier, President of the Swiss Confederation Alain Berset, Adrienne Fichter and Flavia Kleiner; Chair: Nicola Forster (Eva Maria Belser)

26.–30.04., Istanbul (Turkey)	Syria workshop on rule of law, democracy and human rights, European Centre for Kurdish Studies (Eva Maria Belser)
04.05., Fribourg	«Direkte Demokratie und Verwaltungsentscheidungen», presented as part of a study tour of the Deutsches Institut für Sachmittelbare Demokratie, Technische Universität Dresden (DISUD) (Andreas Stöckli und Bernhard Waldmann)
15.05., Fribourg	«Grund- und Menschenrechte älterer Menschen», presented as part of a Master's course on basic rights given by Prof. Eva Maria Besler, University Fribourg (Sandra Egli)
24.–25.05., Paris (France)	«Stateless Nations and Federal Projects: Attempts and Failures to Accommodate Kurds and Tamils by Anti-majoritarian Deals», Political Transitions and Federal Projects (late 18 th – early 21 st century), The American University of Paris/Centre d'histoire de Sciences Po (Eva Maria Belser)
31.05.–03.06., Bucharest (Bulgaria)	1st dialogue workshop, power-sharing in a united Syria, European Centre for Kurdish Studies (Eva Maria Belser)
07.06., Lucerne	«Verwaltungstätigkeit und Verwaltungsverfahren», presented at the Central Switzerland Trainee Lawyers Course, University of Lucerne (Bernhard Waldmann)
08.06., Lucerne	«Wiedererwägung und Revision», presented at the Central Switzerland Trainee Lawyers Course, University of Lucerne (Bernhard Waldmann)
08.–09.06., Greifswald (Germany)	«Bedingungen gelingender Verfassungsgebung – Zur Befriedung von Krisengebieten», Conference of German Law Faculties «Gelingendes Recht – über die ästhetische Dimension des Rechts» (Eva Maria Belser)
18.–22.06., Seoul (South Korea)	«A Legitimate Role for Outsiders: Securing Counter-majoritarian Constitutions», Workshop 24: External influences on Constitution building processes (chaired by Cheryl Saunders and Chaihark Hahm), World Congress International Association of Constitutional Law (IACL) on Violent Conflicts, Peace-Building and Constitutional Law (Eva Maria Belser)
21.06., Fribourg	«Strassenverkehrsrecht – Wichtige Urteile aus dem Verwaltungsrecht», presented at the 2018 Road Traffic Law Conference 2018 (Andreas Stöckli)
25.06., Fribourg	An Introduction to International Human Rights Law, American College Program, University of Fribourg (Andrea Egbuna-Joss)
25.–27.06., Hong Kong (China)	«Accommodating Compound Peoples – Wedding Votes and Bargains», ICON-S Conference on Identity, Security, Democracy: Challenges for Public Law (Eva Maria Belser)
28.06., Fribourg	«Föderalismus und Konfliktbeilegung – Bedeutung, Trends und Chancen», presented during a visit to the IFF by the Legal Affairs Service of the Swiss Office of Public Health (FOPH) (Eva Maria Belser)
28.06., Fribourg	«Herausforderungen des Föderalismus in der Schweiz», presented during a visit to the IFF by the Legal Affairs Service of the Swiss Office of Public Health (FOPH) (Andreas Stöckli)
18.07., Fribourg	Interview for Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation: «Switzerland as a possible example for decentralisation in South Korea» (Nicolas Schmitt)
04.–06.07., Lausanne	«The International Legal Framework on the Right to an Adequate Standard of Living and its Implementation on the Cantonal Level», presented at the 7 th Biennial Conference der ECPR Standing Group on Regulatory Governance on «Regulation between Effectiveness and Legitimacy» (Thea Bächler)
25.07., Brisbane (Australia)	«Formal and Informal Mechanisms of Conflict Resolution in Federal and Multi-Level Systems», Panel on Formal and Informal Structures of Intergovernmental Relations, 2018 IPSA World Congress of Political Science (Eva Maria Belser)

27.08., Fribourg	«What is a State?», <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Eva Maria Belser)
28.08., Fribourg	«Federalism and Conflict Resolution», <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Eva Maria Belser)
29.08., Fribourg	«Comparing Federal Systems» (with Rekha Oleschak Pillai) – «Case Study Switzerland», <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Eva Maria Belser)
30.08., Fribourg	«Federalism in the USA: From Georges Washington to Donald Trump: 231 years of History», <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Nicolas Schmitt)
31.08., Fribourg	«Fundamental Rights in Federations» (with Rekha Oleschak Pillai), <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Eva Maria Belser)
31.08., Fribourg	The Security of the Jewish Minority in Switzerland, Panel Discussion on Federalism and Society, Universität Fribourg (Andrea Egbuna-Joss)
01.–04.09., Stellenbosch (South Africa)	6 th Stellenbosch Annual Seminars on Constitutionalism in Africa 2018 (SASCA 2018), Democracy, elections and constitutionalism in Africa: «Little Aberrations Here and There – The Difficulties of improving Democracy through Elections in Africa» (Nicolas Schmitt)
10.–11.09., Fribourg	«Conflict Resolution Negotiation» (with Nico Steytler), <i>Summer University on Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Resolution 2018</i> (Eva Maria Belser)
11.09., Bern	« <i>Folgen der Selbstbestimmung für die Schweiz</i> », public debate on the SVP popular initiative «Swiss Law First», panel discussion, Neue Helvetische Gesellschaft (Eva Maria Belser)
13.09., Zug	« <i>Kennen Menschenrechte ein Alter?</i> », presentation and workshop as part of the Ecumenical Senior Citizens event, organised by the Reformed Church of Zug and the Catholic Church of Gut Hirt (Sandra Egli)
13.09., Fribourg	« <i>Rechtsstaatlichkeit, Demokratie, Menschenrechte und Föderalismus</i> », short presentation and discussion during an official visit by Prof. Irakli Kobakhidze, Chairperson of the Georgian parliament accompanied by a parliamentary delegation, University of Fribourg (Bernhard Waldmann)
13.09., Fribourg	« <i>Staat und Religion in der Schweiz</i> », short presentation and discussion during an official visit by Prof. Irakli Kobakhidze, Chairperson of the Georgian parliament accompanied by a parliamentary delegation, University of Fribourg (Andreas Stöckli)
13.–23.09., Yangon & Nay Pyi Daw (Myanmar)	Participation in «The Myanmar Federalism Leadership Program»; two groups: «The distribution of powers in four different federal States» and «Sharing some Reflections on Fiscal Federalism in a Comparative Perspective Participation» and two roundtable discussions with foreign teachers «Distribution of competences and gender equality» and «Allocation of resources» (Nicolas Schmitt)
14.09., Fribourg	« <i>Rechtsprechung zum Verwaltungsrecht</i> », presented at the Alumni Ius Frilex conference, University of Fribourg (Andreas Stöckli)
14.09., Fribourg	« <i>Aktuelle Urteile zum Verwaltungsverfahren</i> », presented at the Alumni Ius Frilex conference, University of Fribourg (Bernhard Waldmann)
17.09., Basel	« <i>Wirtschaftsverfassung</i> », Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
20.–21.09., Strasbourg (France)	Meeting of the Group of Independent Experts of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Eva Maria Belser)

01.10., Basel	«Behörden und Verfahren der Wirtschaftsverwaltung», Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
06.10., Berlin (Germany)	«Wege zu einer syrischen Verfassung», panel discussion with representatives of Syrian minorities and opposition groups (Eva Maria Belser)
17.10., Basel	Introductory presentation and chair, lecture evening with keynote speaker Dr. h.c. Gret Haller on «Europa als Ort der Freiheit», as part of the lecture series of the <i>Forschungsgemeinschaft Mensch-im-Recht</i> on «Europa – Visionen und Krisen» (Andreas Stöckli)
18.10., Fribourg	«The Swiss Constitution and what it stands for», Introduction to Swiss Law (Eva Maria Belser)
22.10., Basel	«Öffentliches Beschaffungsrecht und Binnenmarktrecht», Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
26.–27.10., Canberra (Australia)	«The Principle of Subsidiarity in the 21 st century – Are We Faced with a New Area of Localism», presented at the 2018 Conference of the International Association of Centres for Federal Studies (IACFS) (Eva Maria Belser)
	«Federalism: Country Report Switzerland», presented at the 2018 Conference of the International Association of Centres for Federal Studies (IACFS) (Andreas Stöckli)
01.11., Basel	«Public Corporate Governance», presented as part of a workshop for the Board of the <i>Industrielle Werke Basel</i> (IWB) (Andreas Stöckli)
05.11., Fribourg	«The different kinds of federalism(s) and federation(s)», presented as part of the study tour of vice-governors from the Philippines (Eva Maria Belser)
06.11., Fribourg	«Federalism is good for the peaceful coexistence of various ethnic groups or religions: the religious dimension», presented as part of the study tour of vice-governors from the Philippines (Andreas Stöckli)
07.11., Murten	«Die sogenannte Selbstbestimmungsinitiative», public Q & A and debate (Eva Maria Belser)
08.11., Athen (Greece)	«Vertikale Gewaltenteilung: Vorteile, Nachteile, Beispiele», Syria workshop (Eva Maria Belser)
08.11., Athens (Greece)	«Verfassungen und wofür sie gut sind», Syria workshop (Eva Maria Belser)
08.11., Bern	«Organisatorische Fragen der Wirtschaftsaufsicht», presented at the 7th Administrative Law Forum, on «Staatliche Aufsicht über die Wirtschaft und ihre Akteure» (Andreas Stöckli)
08.11., Bern	«Staatliche Aufsicht – Eine Einführung», presented at the 7th Administrative Law Forum, on «Staatliche Aufsicht über die Wirtschaft und ihre Akteure» (Bernhard Waldmann)
09.11., Aosta (Italy)	Appointment as advisor to the Council of Aosta Valley University (Nicolas Schmitt)
12.11., Basel	«Finanzmarktaufsicht», Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
19.11., Basel	«Staat als Unternehmer», Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)

19.11., Fribourg	Inaugural Forum on Imprisonment and Probation: « <i>Normen: Zu welchem Zweck?</i> »; roundtable discussion: « <i>Les standards de l'exécution des sanctions pénales en Suisse – Comment sont-ils atteints et quel est le rôle du CSCSP?</i> » (Nicolas Schmitt)
19.11., Zurich	« <i>Selbstbestimmung – Wer hat Recht</i> », panel discussion on the relationship between international law and national law, <i>Zürcher Kosmos</i> , chaired by Urs Bruderer (Eva Maria Belser)
23.11., Fribourg	«Are European States Falling Apart? Claims for Autonomy, Self-Determination and Independence and Reactions they Trigger», Asian Group for Public Administration (AGPA), University of the Philippines (Eva Maria Belser)
26.11., Basel	« <i>Aussenwirtschaftsrecht</i> », Master's course, University of Basel (Andreas Stöckli)
29.11., Murten	« <i>Aufbau und Systematik von Erlassen</i> », presented at the Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminar on drafting legislation, Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg (Peter Hänni)
29.11., Murten	« <i>Normtypen</i> », presented at the <i>Murtner Gesetzgebungsseminar</i> on drafting legislation, Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg (Bernhard Waldmann)
30.11., London (England)	«Politics of National Assertion (Immigration, Asylum, and Human Rights Concerns)», Centre for Transnational Legal Studies CTLS, 10th anniversary symposium (Eva Maria Belser)
30.11., Bendern (FL)	Participation at a legal conference hosted by the Liechtenstein Institute on « <i>Staatsaufgaben im Kleinstaat</i> », organised by Prof. Patricia Schiess (Andreas Stöckli and Lukas Marxer)
01.–02.12., Canterbury (England)	Dialogue workshop on «Power Sharing for a United Syria», European Centre for Kurdish Studies (Eva Maria Belser)
06.12., Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)	«Federalism as Peace-Making Mechanism in Current Conflicts (Syria, Iraq, Catalonia)», Addis Ababa University (Eva Maria Belser)
07.12., Neuchâtel	« <i>Das ISOS und die Praxis – Handlungsbedarf?</i> », chiring panel discussion at the Conference on Densification and the Protection of Sites of Local Character, <i>Espace Suisse/University of Neuchâtel/ Fachkreis für Raumplanungsrecht</i> (Bernhard Waldmann)
07.12., Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)	«The Political Nation – Constitutional Patriotism as the Cornerstone of Group Identity», Addis Ababa University (Eva Maria Belser)
10.12., Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)	«Federalism and the Protection of Minorities within Minorities», Addis Ababa University (Eva Maria Belser)
11.–14.12., Moscow & Kaluga (Russia)	« <i>Carte Blanche</i> » on the subject of fiscal federalism; introduction to federalism, University of Mgimo; local autonomy workshop with experts and students; conference on «Local Government in Switzerland: Organisation and Competences» (Nicolas Schmitt)
12.12., Bern	« <i>Menschenrechte und Religion – Konsens oder Widerspruch?</i> », panel discussion on the occasion of the 70 th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, parliamentary group for human rights, Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (Eva Maria Belser)
14.12., Fribourg	« <i>Irgendetwas mit Recht</i> », podcast, <i>Kompetenzzentrum für juristisches Lernen und Lehren</i> , University of Cologne (Eva Maria Belser)

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