

European Business Law

Part A : Introduction

University of Strasbourg
Faculty of Law – Master 1

Prof. Jochen BAUERREIS
Avocat & Rechtsanwalt
Avocat spécialisé en droit de l'Arbitrage
Avocat spécialisé en droit international et de l'Union Européenne

GENERAL PRESENTATION OUTLINE

A. INTRODUCTION

B. LEGAL SOURCES

C. MAIN TOPICS

D. PRACTICAL CASES

E. SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTION

- I. What does EBL mean ?**
- II. Who are the EBL-actors ?**
- III. Which relationship exists between EBL-actors ?**
- IV. What kind of mobility do EBL-actors have ?**
- V. How to resolve disputes between EBL-actors ?**
- VI. What are the criteria of EBL-methods?**

A. INTRODUCTION

I. What does EBL mean ?

- **European :**
 - vs. international vs. transnational vs. cross-border
 - European Union vs. Council of Europe vs. EFTA states (Iceland/Liechtenstein/Norway/Switzerland)
- **Business :**
 - B2B vs. B2C
 - company vs. commerce vs. economic
- **Law :**
 - act / statutory provisions (*lex*)
 - legal rules / rules of law (*ius*)

A. INTRODUCTION

II. Who are the EBL-actors ?

➤ **Companies : legal persons**

- Company's organs & functions :
 - ✓ shareholder / member
 - ✓ directors / board of directors vs. supervisory board
- Commercial issues :
 - ✓ International contracts
 - ✓ Competition – Tort liability – Intellectual property

➤ **Employees : natural persons**

A. INTRODUCTION

III. Which relationship exists between EBL-actors ?

➤ **Companies : legal persons**

- Organs & functions : *lex societatis*
- Commercial issues :
 - ✓ Contractual relationship
 - ✓ Extra-contractual relationship

➤ **Employees : natural persons**

- Towards company : contractual relationship (employment contract)
- Towards third person (clients / supplier / business partners)
 - ✓ Factual relationship
 - ✓ Company representatives (negotiations – commitments – contracts)

A. INTRODUCTION

IV. What kind of mobility do EBL actors have ?

- **Companies : legal persons**
 - International transfer of seat (real vs. statutory)
 - Cross-border merger
 - International conversion of company (change of statutory seat)
- **Employees : natural persons**
 - Expatriate management - Posting employees abroad
 - International mobility
 - Cross border commuters (“*frontaliers*”)
 - Multiple employers
 - Multiple workplaces

A. INTRODUCTION

V. How to resolve disputes between EBL-actors ?

- **Jurisdictional vs. Non-jurisdictional method**
 - Jurisdictional : judge's decision
 - Non-jurisdictional : parties' settlement (mediation – conciliation)
- **Traditional (State Justice) vs. alternative (Private Justice)**
 - State Justice
 - ✓ Jurisdictional Procedure : judicial proceedings
 - ✓ Non-jurisdictional Procedure : judicial mediation / conciliation
 - Private Justice
 - ✓ Jurisdictional Procedure : arbitration
 - ✓ Non-jurisdictional Procedure : mediation

A. INTRODUCTION

VI. What are the criteria of EBL-rules ?

- **Jurisdictional** authority / competence :
 - Which tribunal (State Court) has jurisdiction?
- **Legislative** authority / competence :
 - Which rules shall be applied by the national State Court

A. INTRODUCTION

VI. What are the criteria of EBL-rules ?

- **(1) States Courts : which national State Court has jurisdiction ?**
 - PIL-rules of the seized Court (national rules vs. EU rules)
 - Choice by the parties
 - Objective determination (in the lack of choice)
 - General rules
 - Special rules
 - Protecting rules

A. INTRODUCTION

VI. What are the criteria of EBL-rules ?

- **(2) Which national law shall be applied by State Court?**
 - solely PIL-rules of the seized Court : national (hard) law
- Contractual issues
 - Choice by parties (a priori)
 - Objective connections
- Extra-contractual issues
 - Choice by parties (a posteriori)
 - Objective connections

B. LEGAL SOURCES

I. Treaties

- ① Treaty on European Union (TEU)
- ② Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)
- ③ Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU

B. LEGAL SOURCES

II. Regulations / Conventions

- ④ Brussels I bis Regulation & Brussels Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters
- ⑤ Lugano Convention on jurisdiction and the enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters of 30 October 2007
- ⑥ Rome I Regulation (EC) No 593/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 June 2008 on the law applicable to contractual obligations
- ⑦ Rome II Regulation (EC) No 864/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on the law applicable to non-contractual obligations

B. LEGAL SOURCES

- ⑧ Regulation (EC) No 2157/2001 on the Statute for a European Company
- ⑨ Proposal for a Council Regulation of 25 June 2008 on the Statute for a European Private Company

III. Directive

- ⑩ Directive (EU) 2019/2121 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 amending Directive (EU) 2017/1132 as regards cross-border conversions, mergers and divisions

C. MAIN TOPICS

- I. **Companies' mobility in the EU** : legal sources n° 1 to 3 and 8 to 10
- II. **Cross-border Litigation** : legal sources n° 4 to 7
- III. **Employee (staff) mobility in the EU** : legal sources n° 4 to 7

D. PRACTICAL CASES

- I. Brussels 1bis Regulation (“civil and commercial matters”)**
- II. Rome I + II Regulation (“contractual” vs. “non-contractual”)**
- III. Art. 49 + 54 TFUE**

E. SUMMARY & MCQ

- **General revision of the EBL course**
 - Revision of the legal sources (Part. B)
 - Revision of the main topics (Part. C)
 - Revision of the practical cases (Part. D)

- **Preparation to the Multiple Choice Method**
 - Class questions
 - Practical Cases

Thank you for your attention !



Sans limites.

Ohne Grenzen.

Without limits.

ABC International Selarl
ABCI Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH
jochen.bauerreis@abci-avocats.com
www.abci-avocats.com