

Core Concepts in Criminal Law and Justice

Rules of Engagement and Suggested Guidelines for Papers

I. Rules of Engagement

The group commits to methodological pluralism, within the framework of the following principles—

- Our papers will be comparative: initially, given the current composition of the group, they will compare Anglo-American with German concepts, doctrines, principles, structures.
- Papers will be conceptual: that is, they will not attempt a general, comprehensive comparative survey of the laws relating to their topic; they will instead dig beneath the surface similarities or differences in legal rules to identify and compare the foundational or underlying concepts, values, principles, and structures of thought.
- Papers will be transparent and explicit as to their methodology and research questions.
- Papers need to include factual scenarios to illustrate the concepts being discussed
- Papers need to begin with a short justification as to why the central concept (e.g. “preparatory offences”, or “omissions”) has been selected for inclusion in this book. This kind of justification will be useful to attracting readers to the book.
- Papers need to end with a short conclusion which responds to the key points raised in the (proposed) introductory chapter (this way the papers are linked together)

II. Authorship

To ensure that the papers produced by the group are appropriately comparative and coherent, there will be just one paper on each topic, which will engage each tradition with the other(s). Two models of authorship are possible—

- Single-authored papers, by those who are competent and willing to write a comparative paper that can fully engage with each tradition.
- Co-authored papers, with one author from each tradition: these could either be fully integrated comparative papers, or take the form of a dialogue/exchange.

Authors selecting topics should let the editors know which of these approaches they prefer; and, if they prefer the second approach, whether they have found/will find their own co-author, or would like the editors to suggest one.

III. Draft Papers and Outlines

Draft papers will be discussed both at the group’s meetings* and, outside the meetings, via Dropbox and email exchanges. As regards papers for the meetings—

* Participants are in principle expected to cover their own travel costs. Some financial support might exceptionally be available for participants who cannot secure their own funding.

- Meetings will be 'pre-read': papers will be posted on Dropbox before each meeting, and the meetings will proceed on the assumption that everyone has read them.
- To ensure that the 'pre-read' practice is productive, firm deadlines will be set: draft papers and outlines will need to be posted **at least two weeks** before the meeting.

Participants are strongly encouraged to continue discussions outside the meetings, either by email exchanges/circulation or by posting comments on Dropbox.

IV. Meetings

1. Modes of Presentation/ Commentators

There are three modes of presentation/discussion at the meetings:

a) Draft Papers: as a rule, the discussion of a paper should take no more than 60 mins; the author(s) will have up to 10 minutes to introduce his/her/their paper after or prior to the remarks by the commentator.

b) Outlines: At an earlier stage, authors are encouraged to present a paper structure or an idea/argument of the paper to the group, followed by a discussion. An outline has no commentator.

c) Independent Presentations/Discussions: Members of the group, and invited guests, may initiate a discussion on some topic of interest (within the general theme of Anglo-American/German Dialogue). The host of each meeting has the right to propose his/her suggested guests first; but members of the group are also encouraged to offer topics. There is a preference for younger scholars to present. Each presenter has up to 20 minutes for his presentation. Independent presentations have no commentator.

b)/c) may be opened to the public, subject to the organisation by the respective host.

2. Hosts

The host assumes the organisational work of a meeting, in close collaboration with the editors. He or she maintains a list of participants.

When reaching out to the group to determine who is participating in a meeting, the host needs to make sure he or she uses an updated list of E-Mail-addresses, which is to be found in the dropbox folder (subfolder: Participants).

V. Dissemination

The group is committed to disseminating its work. We have an internet presence for the group (<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/650288.html>).

VI. Publication

Papers must not exceed **17,000 words**, including all footnotes and bibliography; please note that this is a strict limit. (see also ‘Style and Format Guidance for Authors’)

Envisaged three volumes; Volume I: 10-12 papers; maximum word count for final transcript: 160,000

The volumes are envisaged to be published at roughly yearly intervals.

Envisaged deadline for submissions for Vol. III: 1 September 2022