

# Preface

This book is based on my Ph.D. project ‘European Higher Education Institutions under EU Law Constraints—An interdisciplinary analysis of the position of European higher education institutions between directly applicable EU law and their public service mission’. It has been revised and developed further and contains additional new research. I started the project as I craved an academic challenge after having worked outside of academia in Indonesia for a year. At the time of thinking about a research project, a new field of research was emerging: the tensions between the economic and the social in EU law and policy. When I began the research project, I discovered my passion for competition law, a field in which I now feel firmly anchored and in which I am currently researching new exciting topics with a focus on ASEAN. Without the Ph.D. project, I would never have discovered this interest. Since the Ph.D. new developments have taken place within the topics investigated in this book. In particular, the recent developments in UK higher education policy and the adoption of the new Research Framework and General Block Exemption Regulation make the book timely and I hope to be able to make a modest contribution to the relevant debates.

Along the way, there were many people without whom this journey would have never been possible and to whom I would like to express my gratitude. First and foremost I would like to thank my primary Ph.D. supervisor Prof. Dagmar Schiek, who not only provided invaluable feedback and encouragement for my Ph.D., but was also a supportive superior in my work for various research projects and as a teaching assistant for EU law. Even beyond this, she has always been an approachable mentor for any other questions I have had concerning my academic career and progress and I would not be where I am without her.

I would also like to thank my second supervisor Ann Blair for her insights and comments on my work, especially for the interesting discussions about the English higher education system. Professor Susanne Karstedt has very kindly advised me on the empirical part of my work. I am very grateful to all of them.

I would like to thank the School of Law of the University of Leeds for funding my tuition fees with the William Harrison Scholarship and providing travel

assistance for presenting my work at conferences. Furthermore, I would like to sincerely thank the interviewees and their universities for the time and invaluable information the interviewees have given me.

I am also very grateful to my examiners of the Ph.D. project Prof. Michael Dougan and Prof. Michael Cardwell for their feedback and the collegial atmosphere during the viva (even if it was interrupted by a fire alarm). Michael Cardwell has also subsequently been a very keen supporter of my work and suggested the Ph.D. thesis as the University of Leeds contribution for the Jean Blondel Ph.D. prize for which it indeed has been subsequently submitted and shortlisted among the top five theses. I have to thank him and Prof. Alastair Mullis for making this possible.

When it comes to turning the Ph.D. thesis into a book, I have to express my deepest gratitude to Prof. Erika Szyszczak. Not only has she suggested publication in the series, but also stayed with the project. During the process of rewriting of the Ph.D. as a monograph, she has been a very helpful, encouraging and, especially, patient editor. I am sincerely grateful for all her support. I would, of course, also like to thank the other editors of the series (Prof. Johan Willem van de Gronden, Prof. Markus Krajewski and Prof. Ulla Neergaard) for accepting the book as part of the series.

Furthermore, I would like to thank Dr. Albert Sanchez-Graells for his thorough and extremely helpful feedback on the initial draft and for his general encouragement. Useful feedback has also been given by Dr. Mike Gordon and by the members of the ECPR Standing Group on Politics of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (formerly the European Research Area Collaborative Research Network) at various conferences where I have presented parts of this work.

Finally, I would like to thank all my friends, family and colleagues for their encouragement, practical and moral support and their patience. In particular, I owe thanks to Dr. John Mellors, Sam Theisens, Dinnia Joedadibrata, Dr. Jule Mulder, Christiane and Helmut Gideon, Dr. Janna Köke, Beatrice Weihert, Christine Thevisen, Sarah and Jenny Mellors, Dr. Lena Kruckenberg and Dr. Ulrike Vieten for giving feedback on my work or providing practical support such as letting me stay at their homes during the empirical phase of my work. I am deeply grateful to all these as well as to my other friends, family members and colleagues.

Singapore

Andrea Gideon



<http://www.springer.com/978-94-6265-167-8>

Higher Education Institutions in the EU: Between  
Competition and Public Service

Gideon, A.

2017, XXXIII, 272 p. 1 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-94-6265-167-8

A product of T.M.C. Asser Press