

Report on the Seminar series – Current Problems of Private Business Law: Univ.-Prof. Dr. Walter Doralt, Universität Graz with the lecture: "(Total) Reform of Austrian (Capital) Corporate Law? – Remarks on the current work around an Austrian Limited".

On Monday, October 18, 2021, the first event of the seminar series "Current Problems of Private Commercial Law" (also known as "Monday Seminars") in the winter semester 2021/2022 took place. The online event was hosted and moderated by **Prof. Dr. Susanne Augenhofer, LL.M. (Yale)** and **Prof. Dr. Alexander Schopper**. The speaker **Prof. Dr. Walter Doralt** from the University of Graz gave a lecture on the highly topical subject "(Total-) Reform of Austrian (Capital) Company Law? - Remarks on the current work around an Austrian Limited". In the subsequent commentary on the lecture, **Prof. Dr. Jessica Schmidt, LL.M. (Nottingham)** of the University of Bayreuth offered her insights on the reform from a comparative law perspective.

Prof. Doralt began by outlining the socio-political and legal background that led to the desire for a new, particularly founder-friendly corporation. He then presented the current development of the draft reform, referred to the different variants under discussion to achieve the desired goal and elaborated on the associated risks. He pointed out where, in his opinion, there is still a need for improvement and to what extent the intended changes represent a fundamental reform of the entirety of corporate law.



In her commentary on the lecture, Prof. Schmidt spoke of the Austrian reform plans from the perspective of German and European corporate, capital market and company law. She identified various similarities and differences between the reform and the German legal situation and referred to the reform pressure on German corporate law that could come from a founder- and start-up-friendly Austrian reform. She also commented on the challenges raised in Prof. Doralt's presentation for an effective reorganization of the current legal situation.



The Lecture was followed by an intense discussion between the lecturers and the participants, in which many of the individual proposals for change were debated. In addition to the usual high percentage of students, the organizers were pleased to note that among the participants of the event were once again a number of highly respected experts in corporate and capital company law, once again demonstrating the importance and practical relevance of the event series.



(Leon Bergmann)