

BOOK REVIEWS

The following comments have been prepared by Prof.Dr. Rainer Arnold* on four important books which have been recently published by C. H. Beck.



GRUNDGESETZ. KOMMENTAR, edited by Michael Sachs, (München, C. H. Beck, 1996)[94,—DM]

Michael Sachs, Professor at the University of Düsseldorf, has edited a new commentary on the *Grundgesetz* in collaboration with more than 30 younger constitutional lawyers. This commentary, a work of over 2000 printed pages, takes account of the numerous modifications of the Constitution which have been introduced since German unification in 1990. The commentaries on the various articles of the Grundgesetz are very clear and analyze the jurisprudence and the academic debate on various issues. Sachs' reference to the historical development of constitutional law and to the parallels within the constitutional orders of the Länder is also very useful. Of particular importance is the analysis of those articles which refer to European integration, especially Art. 23 which lays down a detailed system of cooperation between federation and Länder in matters concerning the European Union. As a whole the commentary is an excellent reference tool in the field of constitutional law.



VERWALTUNGSGERICHTSORDNUNG LOSEBLATT—KOMMENTAR, edited by professors Schoch, Schmidt-Aßmann, and Pietzner, (München, C. H. Beck, 1996)[318,—DM]

Another work of great importance is this commentary on the *Verwaltungsgerichtsordnung*, i.e. on the law of administrative jurisdiction. Edited by Professors Schoch, Schmidt-Aßmann and Pietzner, it was produced with the collaboration of both academics and practitioners. The result is a comprehensive handbook on the numerous

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legal issues connected to administrative jurisdiction in Germany which constitutes a very important field of public law. The work comments on the various articles of this code and illustrates the systematic context of its various provisions in the very informative introductory notes. The general introduction to the work provides an overview. It is also very useful in that besides historical references, the European dimension of the issue of judicial protection in administrative courts is treated. This issue is becoming more and more important for Germany. This work will prove useful in academic debate as well as in practice.

GEMEINEUROPÄISCHES DELIKTSRECHT, VOL. 1, Christian von Bar, (München, C. H. Beck, 1996)[187,—DM]

The first volume of Christian von Bar's *Gemeineuropäisches Deliktsrecht* (European Law of Tort), concerning the fundamental principles of delictual liability, its harmonization within Europe and its common structures in different European legal orders is published as part of the "ius commune europeum" series. It appears to be one of the pioneering works in civil law which goes beyond the national legal order in treating the law of torts from a common European perspective. This is based on the common legal traditions within Europe. This perspective seems to be the only one which demonstrates an effective approach to the legal issues in the Europe of tomorrow. Hopefully, this excellent work will be followed by further works adopting this European perspective to legal problems.

EUROPARECHT, Frank Emmert, (München, C. H. Beck, 1996)[48—DM]

A recent publication of importance is the Textbook of European Community Law by Frank Emmert which gives an excellent exposition of the legal issues arising in Community Law. It is very clearly written and is of high quality from a scientific as well as from a didactic perspective. For such reasons, it is highly recommended. Included are developments as recent as April 1, 1996.