

# 9<sup>th</sup> Spring School 2022

## Fundamental Rights and their Impact on the Civil Law System

### A. Introduction

Like last year, the Spring School unfortunately had to take place a little differently than usual. This year it was the other way around. The German students met at the HTW in presence, whereas the Vietnamese students were separately online via Zoom. The Spring School took place from 14 to 16 March. The participating students and lecturers came from HTW Berlin, Georg-August-University Göttingen, Regensburg on the German side and from the Vietnamese side from Hanoi Law University and Vietnam National University. Throughout the Spring School, we as students were able to gain insights into Vietnamese applicable law in relation to human and fundamental rights. This resulted in interesting differences, but also similarities to German law.



## B. First day

After an insightful introduction of the Vietnamese political system on Friday (11 March) by Axel Blaschke, head of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Hanoi office, to the German participants, the Spring School started with an official opening by Axel Blaschke and Prof. Dr. Michael Jaensch from HTW Berlin on Monday (14 March). Immediately afterwards, Nguyễn Minh Oanh from Hanoi Law University gave a lecture on fundamental rights under the Vietnamese Civil Code 2015. Dr. Sina Fontana (Universität Götting) followed with a lecture on Institutions and Terminology for the Protection of Fundamental Rights. After that, the first group of students presented their topics. It went from “General right to freedom” to “Respect for private life” to “General principle of equality” and finally to “freedom of arts and science”. What was good was that after each lecture we had enough time to ask questions and clarify open questions. In this way, we were able to make the connection between Vietnam and Germany for each specific topic.



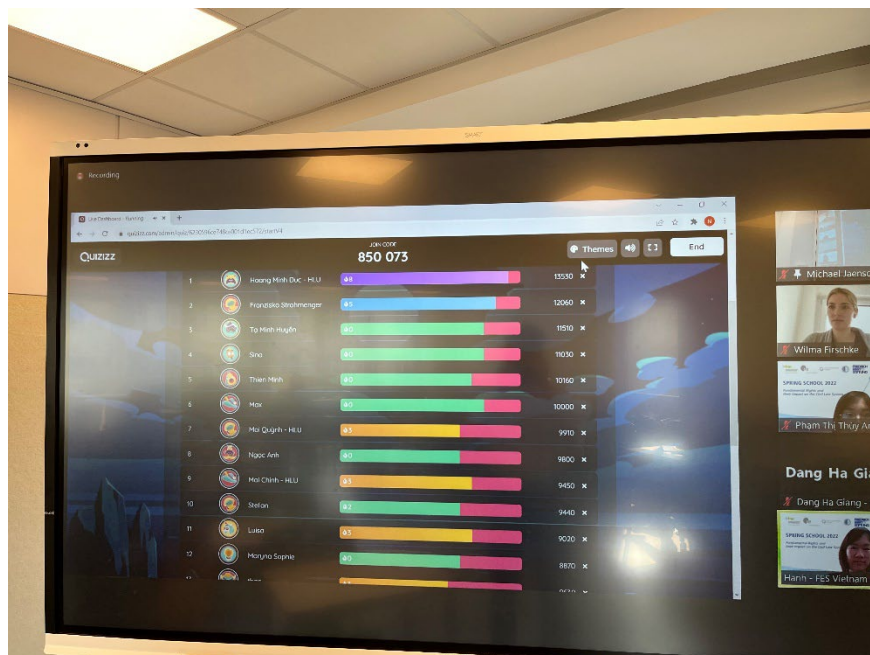
### Small trip as a group after the lectures

After the Spring School program on Monday, the German students spent the afternoon together at the Dong Xuan Center, to get at least a vague impression of Vietnamese culture. The selection of different spices and Vietnamese food was remarkable.

After visiting the individual halls of this center, we went as a group to a Vietnamese restaurant, where we had some Phở (a famous Vietnamese dish). In the early evening, we said goodbye for the day.

## C. Second day

It's Tuesday. Prof. Dr. Alexander Tischbirek (Universität Regensburg) started the day with his lecture on „Human Rights and Fundamental Rights“, followed by the topics „Freedom of opinion“ and „freedom of occupation“, which were presented by students. Immediately afterwards something special was awaiting us. The Vietnamese prepared a warming-up. This game included political and general questions about both countries. The winner, who gained the most points at the end, received a prize. After the game, there was a social event. All students were assigned to breakout rooms by zoom. Here, German, and Vietnamese students finally got together and were able to talk about all kinds of things for 45 minutes, including topics, which went beyond the study - without the professors 😊.



After the small event it went already further with the topics „Legal protection“ and „women's and children's rights“ held by the students.

The second day of the Spring School was over.

### Restaurant visit

In the evening, all German participants met for dinner in a Vietnamese restaurant and let the evening end with a refreshing Tiger beer.

## **D. Last Day**

The last day of Spring School is dawning. The German students and professors have all gathered at the HTW. The Vietnamese students and professors joined the Zoom Call. Prof. Dr. Jaensch started the day with his lecture on "The Radiation of Fundamental Rights into the Civil Law System".

After that, the last topics "Data Protection", "LGBT rights", "Personality rights" and "rights of ethnic minorities" were presented. In the question-and-answer session that followed, the participants were able to identify differences as well as similarities between the two countries.

The Spring School ended with closing remarks by Prof. Dr. Jaensch on behalf of Axel Blaschke. The Vietnamese made a video summarizing the Spring School, showing some excerpts from the Spring School.

### **I. Group photo**

A last group photo was taken.

### **II. Say Goodbye**

Now it was time to say goodbye. First from the Vietnamese students and professors who were zoomed in. And finally to the German students, who were returning home.

## **E. Closing words**

In summary, the Spring School was very informative and interesting. Despite the actual distance, we could learn some cultural facts and could at least understand the basics of Vietnamese law.

For the future Spring Schools, I wish participants will be able to actually make the trip to Hanoi.

*Report by Paul Hermann; HTW*