

## emeritus Professor Dr. Gerrit WINTER

Born in 1935, he read German and English Law at the universities of Würzburg, Oxford and Göttingen. He obtained his PhD degree in Law at the Ernst-August-University of Göttingen.

Since 1977, he has been Professor of Civil Law, Insurance Law and Comparative Law, in the Law Faculty of Hamburg University. From 1978-2006 he was Director/ Vice-Director (changing every second year) of the Institute of Insurance Sciences (*Seminar für Versicherungswissenschaft*), Law Faculty of Hamburg University. This institute was founded in 1916 by Prof. Dr. Ernst Bruck, and was later headed by Prof. Dr. Hans Möller, the co-founder and later President of AIDA. In matters pertaining to insurance, in Hamburg the Seminar for Insurance Law - traditionally - works closely together with the colleagues in charge of business administration and with the Mathematical Institute of the University.

In the 1970s, the institute worked especially in private insurance law, and - on the basis of comparative law - on developing a better international understanding of insurance law, an improvement of insurance law (consumer protection) and the possibilities of harmonising the law, especially in the European Common Market. From the 1980s, Gerrit Winter's focus was on state supervision of insurance law, again especially in connection with the European Union.

Since 1968 he is a member of the Committee of the Association for the Science of Insurance in Hamburg - *Versicherungswissenschaftlicher Verein in Hamburg* - also founded in 1916. From 1978-2006, he served as Chairman/Vice-Chairman (also changing every second year) of this association, since 2007 he has been Chairman of the Friends of the Institute, and Co-Director of the LL.M. Insurance Law Program.

Back in 1966, Gerrit Winter already helped Prof. Möller in organizing the Second World Congress of AIDA and to edit the six volumes of general/national reports and congress debates. In the 1980s and 1990s he was a member of the pollution and product liability working groups. From 1990-2010 he served as a Vice Chairman, later Chairman, of the Working Party on State Supervision of Insurance, and as a member of the Presidential Council.

He is the author of several books and numerous articles on insurance law, his main works being the commentary on life insurance law in Bruck/Möller (8th and 9th ed.) and the volume on "Insurance Supervision Law - Critical Considerations" (*Versicherungsaufsichtsrecht - Kritische Betrachtungen*), 2007.

Gerrit Winter was regularly asked for his opinion and advice by insurance companies, insured industry, consumer organisations and the German state, but also in Europe, especially after 1989/90.

He has delivered numerous lectures in Germany and all over the world. He has supervised more than 100 doctoral dissertations. He was engaged on several scholarship programs, e.g. the selection committees of the Rhodes Scholarships for Oxford and the Hanseatic Scholarships for Britons. Between 1978 and 1995 he served as Chairman of the Oxford University Society's German Branch, and for more than 20 years has been its Honorary Chairman. From 1978-2006 he was Vice-Chairman of the Hamburg branch of BRIDFAS (now the Arts Society).

His hobbies are portrait painting and English Gardens.

Languages: German, English.