

## **Biography Professor Michael Bohlander**

Michael Bohlander is a former German judge with a particular interest in comparative and international criminal law.

From 1991 until joining the Law School in 2004, Professor Bohlander had been a civil and criminal trial and appellate judge in the courts of the East German Free State of Thuringia, in the transitional stage after German unification. From October 1989 to April 1990, he served a pupillage with Geoffrey Mercer QC at what is now Walnut House Chambers in Exeter, mainly in criminal cases. In 1996, he was a judicial visitor at a Juzgado de Primera Instancia e Instrucción in Spain. From 1999 until 2001 he served as the Senior Legal Officer of a Trial Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the Hague. He helped train the judges of the Iraqi High Tribunal which tried Saddam Hussein and has been active in judicial training in transitional contexts since 2001, at the request of the International Bar Association, the OSCE, the United Nations and for the German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation. He is a member of the Genocide Task Force of the High Representative of the Kurdistan Autonomous Region to the United Kingdom.

His publications (19 books and over 140 articles, case comments, book reviews etc.) have been widely cited by courts of several domestic and international jurisdictions. His critical work on the recruitment to the international criminal judiciary was referred to extensively in the 2011 background paper to the International Bar Association's Resolution of 31 October 2011 on judicial appointments to international courts and tribunals.

Professor Bohlander's main research interests lie in international and comparative criminal law, including their linguistic and cultural aspects. The German Federal Ministry of Justice lists his English translations of the German Criminal Code and of the Act on International Cooperation in Criminal Matters on its official website. The translation of the German Criminal Code was translated into Farsi and published in Iran in 2010, followed by the translation of his monograph "Principles of German Criminal Law" in 2011.

Professor Bohlander is the founding editor-in chief of the International Criminal Law Review, the general editor of Studies in International and Comparative Criminal Law with Hart Publishing and a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Criminal Law. Together with Professor Alan Reed he edits the series Substantive Issues in Criminal Law with Ashgate.

From 2010 - 2014, Professor Bohlander was the Visiting Chair in Criminal Law at the Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands. In 2012, he was the first non-Muslim visiting scholar ever to teach at the Faculty of Law of Al-Azhar University in Cairo, when he was also received by the Grand Imam of al-Azhar in a private audience. In March 2014, he taught at the US Military Academy in West Point.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/law/staff/stafflist/?id=1599>