



Transportation law on the move: Challenges in the modern logistics world

Transportation and logistics have undergone substantial changes since the 19th century. The most notable two changes are the introduction of containers in the 1960s, the development of IT from the 1970s to today's tracking and blockchain. But there are also external factors, such as the rapidly growing and globalized world economy with immense volumes, the modern, more challenging product ranges (e.g. dangerous goods, temperature-controlled goods) or the changed transport flows (e.g. urban logistics), that have influenced transportation and logistics.

Most parts of Swiss transportation law were developed in the 19th century. Changes in Swiss transportation law were only made if this was necessary due to Switzerland's accession to international conventions (e.g. at maritime law), but the core of Swiss Transportation law in Art. 440 SCO remained unchanged. This dynamic in practice and stability in Law raises the question whether the Swiss transportation law nowadays may meet modern requirements of transportation and logistics. Further doubts arise from the fact that many of countries in Europe and the rest of the world have completely or partially reformed their transport law in the last thirty years.

The scope of this conference is to discuss the cornerstones of a modern transportation law embedded in a modern logistics and supply chain environment. For this purpose, experts from different countries, which have recently changed their transport law, meet at the conference. The participants shall exchange their experience made, compare the different legal approaches of these jurisdictions and discuss the remaining unsolved issues. The organizers of the conference strive for new insights from lessons learned in other countries by identifying where in national law and international conventions new and conceptually convincing answers can be found. All these insights shall inspire the discussion on a possible reformation of Swiss transportation law.

The target audience of the conference are internationally recognized transportation law experts in academia, law making and leading positions. In addition, top officials of the Swiss Federal office of Justice will be present at the conference.

At first, we will discuss the challenges in modern transportation. Subsequently, we will take a look at the needs of the legal practice and future developments in transportation and logistics, with a specific view on the different transportation modalities followed by several key topics, introduced by an expert, succeeded by a discussion and knowledge exchange. Finally, we will end the conference with a look at the needs for change in Swiss transportation and logistics law.

The conference will be held in English. Its proceedings will be published by the end of 2019.



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