

# Preface

Helmut Koziol does not like special attention being paid to him. If, therefore, on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday he is presented for the third time already with a collection of essays in his honour, this is an expression of the deep respect and affinity felt by the contributors to this volume.

While the range of Helmut's scientific work is both extraordinarily broad and deep, the essays dedicated to him on the following pages focus on tort law, an area in which his contribution has left a particularly profound mark. Helmut has written an astounding number of groundbreaking publications in the area. While their focus in the earlier years was primarily on Austrian and German law, over time he has broadened his focus to a European, and even global perspective. Apart from his major contribution to the Principles of European Tort Law, Helmut is the founder of both the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law and the Institute for European Tort Law, which have become home to innumerable experts from around the globe. Moreover, his idea to collect and present the latest developments in the law of torts in a wide range of countries within the framework of the European Tort Law Yearbook and the Annual Conference on European Tort Law has forged a »family« from the crème de la crème of European liability law. Fortunately, his legacy continues to grow: Helmut writes at a greater pace than that at which most others can read. Nevertheless, in spite of this workload, he always finds time to encourage and supervise young academics.

Last, but certainly not least, Helmut is himself an impressive person: dedicated to his many friends, extremely supportive to scores of others and always good-humoured.

Dear Helmut, we would like to thank you and to wish you many fruitful years to come!

*Ernst Karner • Ulrich Magnus • Jaap Spier • Pierre Widmer*

