



The Constitutional Structure of Proportionality

By Matthias Klatt, Moritz Meister

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As constitutional law globalizes, the quest for a common grammar or 'generic constitutional law' becomes more pressing. Proportionality is one of the most prominent and controversial components of the modern, global constitutional discourse. In view of the alarming tension between the triumphant success of proportionality and the severity of the criticism directed towards it, this book offers an in-depth analysis of the critics of proportionality and demonstrates that their objections against the proportionality test are not convincing. It clarifies and further develops the current theories of proportionality and balancing.

Building upon on Robert Alexy's predominant principles theory, the book suggests several modifications to this theory. Drawing examples from the case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the European Court of Justice, and various national constitutional courts it illustrates the argument in favour of proportionality and demonstrates its relevance for deciding concrete cases.

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The Constitutional Structure of Proportionality By Matthias Klatt, Moritz Meister Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1969408 in Books
- Published on: 2012-09-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.30" h x .80" w x 9.30" l, 1.05 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 232 pages



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Matthias Klatt is Professor of Public Law, EU Law, Public International Law, and Jurisprudence at the University of Hamburg. He specializes in the philosophy of law and his first book, *Making the Law Explicit: The Normativity of Legal Argumentation*, was published by Hart in 2008. He is the editor of the forthcoming *Institutionalized Reason: The Jurisprudence of Robert Alexy* (OUP, 2012).

Moritz Meister is a Lecturing Tutor in Public Law at the University of Hamburg and a trainee lawyer at the Higher Regional Court, Hamburg. He was a student of Matthias Klatt and graduated summa cum laude with a doctorate in law from the University of Hamburg. His dissertation was published by Duncker and Humblot in 2011.

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