Katharina Steinbrück

Changing Consumer Law in the United Kingdom after Brexit?

A Study in Laws governing Consumer Credit and Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts in the United Kingdom, Germany, Norway and Switzerland



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Meinen Eltern und Martin

Preface

This dissertation is the result of research conducted at, inter alia, the University of Oslo (March-April 2018 and August-October 2018), the Institute of European and Comparative Law (IECL) at the University of Oxford (November 2018 - January 2019) and the Swiss Institute of Comparative Law (ISDC) in Lausanne (April-May 2019). Please note that I used the most recent editions of literature as of the time of my research at the respective facilities. I am thankful to my supervisor Prof. Gerhard Dannemann without whose support these research stays would not have been possible. I would like to thank my supervisor at the University of Oslo, Prof. Kåre Lilleholt, as well as Prof. Mads Andenæs, Prof. Finn Arnesen, Prof. Hans Petter Graver, Prof. Ola Mestad and Ms. Eli Knotten for their support regarding my research on Norwegian law and the European Economic Area as well as Prof. Tanja Jørgensen for her help with respect to Norwegian consumer credit regulation. Furthermore, I thank Prof. Birke Häcker, Prof. Ulf Bernitz, Prof. John Cartwright, Prof. Stephen Weatherill, Prof. Simon Whittaker and Mrs. Jenny Dix for their support at the IECL during my research stay at the University of Oxford, the staff of the ISDC in Lausanne for their support regarding my research on Swiss law and Ms. Corinna Radke for her support at the Centre for British Studies at the Humboldt-University of Berlin. Moreover, I thank the Friedrich-Naumann-Foundation for Freedom for their support by offering me the Genscher Scholarship for Freedom with funds from the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research to conduct my PhD research. Last but not least, I thank Prof. Stefan Grundmann, Prof. Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz as well as Ms. Hannah Besting and Mr. Fabian Bickel for their valuable input to this dissertation and my family for their enduring support during this exciting PhD journey.

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AbzG Deutsches Abzahlungsgesetz German Hire-Purchase Act

ACER European Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators

AGBG Deutsches Gesetz zur Rege- German Law of General Terms

lung des Rechts der Allgemei- and Conditions

nen Geschäftsbedingungen

AJP Aktuelle Juristische Praxis
APR Annual Percentage Rate

AVB Allgemeine Versicherungsbe- General Terms and Conditions

dingungen in insurance contracts

BaFin Bundesanstalt für Finanz- German Federal Financial Su-

dienstleistungsaufsicht pervisory Authority

BeckRS beck-online.Rechtsprechung

BGB Deutsches Bürgerliches Gesetz- German Civil Code

buch

BGBl. Deutsches Bundesgesetzblatt German Federal Gazette

BKR Zeitschrift für Bank- und Kapitalmarktrecht

CCA Consumer Credit Act

CCD 1986 Council Directive 87/102/EEC of 22 December 1986 for the ap-

proximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provi-

sions of the Member States concerning consumer credit

CCD 2008 Directive 2008/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the

Council of 23 April 2008 on credit agreements for consumers

and repealing Council Directive 87/102/EEC

CHF Swiss Franc (Currency)

CJEU Court of Justice of the European Union (term used for cases from

2009 onward)

CMA Competition and Markets Authority

CONC Consumer Credit Sourcebook

CPC Regulation (EU) 2017/2394 of the European Parliament and of

the Council of 12 December 2017 on cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004

CRA 2015 Consumer Rights Act 2015 EC European Community

ECJ European Court of Justice (term used for cases until 2009)

EEA European Economic Area

EEAA Agreement on the European Economic Area

EEC European Economic Community
EFTA European Free Trade Association

EGBGB Einführungsgesetz zum Bür- Introductory Act to the German

gerlichen Gesetzbuch Civil Code

ELKN elklagenemnda Norwegian Electricity Appeals

Tribunal

ESA EFTA Surveillance Authority

EUR European Union
EUR Euro (Currency)

FCA Financial Conduct Authority

FinDAG Deutsches Gesetz über die Bun- German Law on the Federal Fi-

desanstalt für Finanzdienst- nancial Supervisory Authority

leistungsaufsicht

FINKNB finansklagenemnda bank Norwegian Financial Appeals

Tribunal for Banks

FINMA Eidgenössische Finanzmarkt- Swiss Financial Market Supervi-

aufsicht sory Authority

FKU forbrukerklagenemnda Norwegian Consumer Appeals

Tribunal

FOS Financial Ombudsman Service FSA 2012 Financial Services Act 2012

FSMA 2000 Financial Services and Markets Act 2000

GBP British Pound (Currency)
GDP Gross Domestic Product

GG Grundgesetz für die Bundesre- Basic Law for the Federal Re-

publik Deutschland public of Germany

IKO Schweizerische Informations- Swiss Information Agency for

stelle für Konsumkredit Consumer Credit

JCD Joint Committee Decision

IuS Juristische Schulung

ΙZ Juristenzeitung

KIG Schweizerisches Swiss Consumer Information

> Konsumenteninformationsge-Act

setz

KG Schweizerisches Bundesgesetz Swiss Federal Act on Cartels and

> über Kartelle und andere Wettother Restraints of Competition

bewerbsbeschränkungen

KKG Schweizerisches Konsumkre-Swiss Consumer Credit Act

ditgesetz

KWG Deutsches Gesetz über das Kre- German Banking Act

ditwesen

LG Landgericht German District Court

LQR Law Quarterly Review Modern Law Review MLR

NAO The National Audit Office

NATO North Atlantic Treaty Organisation

NIW Neue Juristische Wochenschrift NOK Norwegian Crown (Currency)

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OFT Office of Fair Trading

OLG Oberlandesgericht German Higher Regional Court

OR Schweizerisches Obligationen-Swiss Code of Obligations

recht

SECO Schweizerisches Staatssekreta-Swiss State Secretariat for Eco-

> nomic Affairs riat für Wirtschaft

T&Cs General Terms and Conditions

TCA The Trade and Cooperation Agreement between the European

> Union and European Atomic Energy Community, of the one part, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ire-

land, of the other part

TEC Treaty establishing the European Community

TFEU Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 **UCTA 1977**

UCTD	Council Directive 93/13/EEC of 5 April 1993 on unfair terms in consumer contracts		
UKlaG	Deutsches Gesetz über Unter- lassungsklagen bei Verbrau- cherrechts- und anderen Ver- stößen	Law on injunctions in case of breaches of consumer law and other breaches	
UNGCP	United Nations Guidelines on C	United Nations Guidelines on Consumer Protection	
UTCCRs 1999	Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1999		
D-UWG	Deutsches Gesetz gegen den unlauteren Wettbewerb	German Act Against Unfair Competition	
S-UWG	Schweizerisches Bundesgesetz gegen den unlauteren Wettbe- werb	Swiss Unfair Commercial Practices Law	
USD	US-Dollar (currency)		
VAG	Schweizerisches Versicherungsaufsichtsgesetz	Swiss Insurance Supervision Act	
VKG	Deutsches Verbraucherkreditgesetz	German Consumer Credit Law	
VSBG	Deutsches Gesetz über die alternative Streitbeilegung in Verbrauchersachen	German Law on Alternative Dispute Resolution in Consumer Matters	
VuR	Verbraucher und Recht - Zeitschrift für Wirtschafts- und Verbraucherrecht		
WM	Wertpapier-Mitteilungen. Zeitschrift für Wirtschafts- und Bankrecht		
ZAG	Deutsches Gesetz über die Beaufsichtigung von Zahlungsdiensten	German Law on the Supervision of Payment Service Providers	
ZBJV	Zeitschrift des Bernischen Juristenvereins		
ZEK	Schweizerische Zentralstelle für Kreditinformation	Swiss Central Agency for Credit Information	
ZGB	Schweizerisches Zivilgesetz- buch	Swiss Civil Code	
ZIP	Zeitschrift für Wirtschaftsrecht		
D-ZPO	Deutsche Zivilprozessordnung	German Code of Civil Procedure	

S-ZPO Schweizerische Zivilprozess- Swiss Code of Civil Procedure ordnung