



Universität
Bremen

TOURISM

LAWYERS

Lecture 06-TL-2-02:

International and Transnational Tourism Law in Practice (SoSe 2026)

Lecturer

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The Course

The lecture “International and Transnational Tourism Law in Practice” provides a systematic and practice-oriented overview of a dynamic field of law at the intersection of national, European, and international legal frameworks. It forms part of the Transnational Business Law module on the LL.M. programme in Transnational Law (Hanse Law School).

Following a foundational introduction to the multi-level system of relevant legal sources, as well as the core principles of EU package travel law and individual travel law in comparison with non-European regulatory approaches, the course examines key sectors of the tourism industry from different market and corporate perspectives: including tour operators, booking platforms, the hotel sector, airlines, and cruise companies.

Particular emphasis is placed on current regulatory developments, European case law, and the practical implementation of tourism law in legal advisory work and corporate legal departments.

Highlight

At the invitation of the lecturer several sessions will feature distinguished guest lecturers with practical experience, including in-house counsel from major tour operators (TUI, DERTOUR), booking platforms (Booking), airlines (Condor) and cruise lines (MSC Cruises). This gives the course extra practical perspectives and insights into real-life case studies and decision-making processes within a corporate legal department. In addition, a guest lecture by the presiding judge of the X Civil Senate of the Federal Court of Justice (BGH), which specializes in travel law cases. The lecturer will incorporate guest speakers into the programme, providing students with interesting ‘Insight Stories’ and the opportunity to engage in in-depth discussion.

Dates

6 sessions (17 April 2026, 24 April 2026, 15 May 2026, 22 May 2026, 12 June 2026, 26 June 2026), Fridays, each lasting 3.5 hours (scheduled each within the time frame between 12:00 and 17:00). Unless otherwise stated, the course hours are: 12:00 to 15:30.

Examination

To be scheduled by agreement in July or August

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RECHTSANWALTSKANZLEI

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Contents and Schedule (Module 1 – 6)

Module 1

Introduction to Tourism Law and European/International Context

17 April 2026

- Introduction to the course
- Fundamentals of tourism law, key stakeholders and contractual relationships
- National, European, and international rules within a multi-level system
- Package travel law vs. individual travel law
- Selling travel overseas: selling into the EU, USA, UK or beyond
- Comparison: EU vs. UK (post-Brexit)

Module 2

Travel Law from the Perspective of a Tour Operator

24 April 2026

- Insight Stories : TUI Group (Legal/Compliance)
- International litigation in the tourism sector
- Licensing and regulatory issues, copyrights
- Special contracts, cooperation agreements
- Booking terms for cross-border travel services
- Key decisions of the German Federal Court of Justice (BGH) and the European Court of Justice (ECJ), including CJEU referrals and EU legislation
- Consumer protection law and liability issues for travel agencies and tour operators
- Side note: Global crisis management

Module 3

Booking platforms in the Tourism Market

15 May 2026

- Insight Stories : Booking.com
- The role and regulatory environment of online booking platforms
- Competitiveness of SMEs in the global platform market
- Digital legal issues, including:
 - Platform-to-Business Regulation
 - EU competition law, Digital Markets Act, Digital Services Act
 - Omnibus Directive (“New Deal for Consumers”)
 - AI Act
- Case law and the relevance of the travel law revision for platforms





Module 4

Accommodation Law, Hotel Groups

22 May 2026

- Accommodation and hotel law
- International hotel chains and cooperation models
- Payment processing in the hospitality sector
- Short-term rentals and short-term rental regulation (Airbnb)
- Hotel classification (star ratings) and legal qualification
- Regulatory challenges in cooperation with platforms
- AI-supported hotel search, interfaces, reliability, and legal duties
- Insight Stories Hospitality

Module 5

Air Transport & Passenger Rights from an Airline Perspective

12 June 2026

- Insight Stories Airline: Condor Legal and Litigation team
- Passenger rights under the Air Passenger Rights Regulation and the Montreal Convention
- (Side note: Passenger rights in rail and bus transport)
- Legal proceedings relating to air passengers and specific legal topics: The development of “extraordinary circumstances” and “reasonable measures”, practical handling of judgements, claim brought against the wrong defendant under package travel law, third-party notices to tour operators, etc.)
- Case Law: current ECJ decisions
- Standardization in international air transport and the role of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) in the sale of flight tickets and code sharing

Module 6

Cruise & Maritime Tourism Law

26 June 2026

- Insight Stories : MSC Cruises (Legal)
- Cruise law in the maritime tourism sector
- Contracts, majority agreements
- Consumer protection and liability issues
- Case law and practical examples
- Sustainability regulation and impact on cruise lines (LNG, shore power)
- Impacts of the EmpCo Directive on green claims
- End-of-course briefing and information about the exam