Contents

1 Introduction 1
References 8

2 Core Concepts and Theory Building 11
2.1 General Remarks 11
2.2 Core Concepts 15
2.3 Holism, Ontology, Epistemology, Use of Findings, Transplants . . . 22
2.4 Understanding and Rationality 27
2.5 Reasoning 29
2.6 Falsifiability 35
2.7 Explanatory Power 36
References 40

3 The Research Question, Theories and Methods 47
3.1 General Remarks 47
3.2 The Research Question 49
3.2.1 General Remarks 49
3.2.2 Characteristic Questions 50
3.2.3 Generating Research Questions 51
3.3 Choice of Theory 55
3.3.1 General Remarks 55
3.3.2 Main Theories and Method Theories 56
3.3.3 Theories on Legal Argumentation and Interpretation as Method Theories 57
3.4 Method 58
3.4.1 General Remarks 58
3.4.2 Relevant Information 60
3.4.3 Relevant Sources 61
3.4.4 Collecting Information 64
3.4.5 Cases and Examples 65

3.4.6 Interpreting Information . . . 67
3.4.7 Assessing Methodological Rigour and Practical Aspects . . . 69
References . . . 80

4 Use of Findings . . . 85
4.1 General Remarks . . . 85
4.2 Pragmatic and Legal Use . . . 85
4.3 Pragmatic Uses in Legal Science . . . 88
4.4 Dealing with Legal Pluralism . . . 89
4.5 A More Practice-Ready Curriculum . . . 91
References . . . 92

5 System Building . . . 95
5.1 General Remarks . . . 95
5.2 Systems of Law . . . 101
5.3 System of Language . . . 102
5.4 System of Contexts . . . 105
5.5 System of Theories . . . 107
5.5.1 General Remarks . . . 107
5.5.2 Main Theories and Method Theories, General Theories and Specific Theories . . . 109
5.5.3 Approaches to the Substance Matter . . . 110
5.5.4 Scientific Level . . . 111
References . . . 114

6 Previous Attempts to Increase the Scientificity of Legal Science . . . 117
6.1 General Remarks . . . 117
6.2 Traditional Legal Science . . . 118
6.2.1 General Remarks . . . 118
6.2.2 Problems with Scientificity . . . 118
6.2.3 Early Attempts to Define Doctrinal Research as a Science . . . 120
6.2.4 New Points of View . . . 128
6.2.5 Traditional Legal Science and User-Friendly Legal Science . . . 129
6.3 Law and Something . . . 130
6.3.1 General Remarks . . . 130
6.3.2 The Sociology of Law . . . 131
6.3.3 Legal History . . . 134
6.3.4 Law and Economics . . . 139
6.3.5 Law and Something and User-Friendly Legal Science . . . 142
6.4 Comparative Law . . . 145
6.4.1 General Remarks . . . 145
6.4.2 The Comparative Method . . . 147
6.4.3 Comparative Law and User-Friendly Legal Science . . . 151
References . . . 152

7 Anomalies of Normal Legal Science, Applications of User-Friendly Legal Science 159
7.1 General Remarks 159
7.2 Clear User and Legal Norms as Tools 161
7.3 Legal Rhetoric 162
7.3.1 General Remarks 162
7.3.2 Sophists, Rhetors and Law Teachers 166
7.3.3 User-Friendly Legal Rhetoric 168
7.3.4 Arguments and Techniques 171
7.4 Development of International Law 175
7.4.1 General Remarks 175
7.4.2 Brief History of International Law 176
7.4.3 International Law through the Lens of User-Friendly Legal Science 177
7.5 Development of Commercial Law 184
7.5.1 General Remarks 184
7.5.2 Brief History of Commercial Law 184
7.5.3 The User Perspective in French and German Commercial Laws 187
7.5.4 Earlier Approaches 192
7.5.5 User-Friendly Commercial Law 194
References 196

8 Conclusions 203