

1. General information (Allgemeine Angaben)

The proposal is a new application.

Please notice that this application is as an Associated Project (AP) an integral part of a Common Research Proposal (CRP) entitled '*Transmitting and Receiving Europe*' within the Eurocores programme 'Inventing Europe – Technology and the Making of Europe, 1850 till present' of the European Sciences Foundation (ESF).

1.1 Applicant (Antragsteller)

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1.2 Topic (Thema)

Transmitting and Receiving Europe
The European broadcasting space as a legal regime

Europa übertragen und empfangen
Der Europäische Rundfunkraum als Rechtsregime

1.3 Scientific discipline and field of work (Fachgebiet und Ausrichtung)

Contemporary History, History of European Integration

1.4 Scheduled total duration (Voraussichtliche Gesamtdauer)

April 2007 - February 2010

1.5 Application period (Antragszeitraum)

Funding is requested between April 2007 and February 2010.

1.6 Summary (Zusammenfassung)

The individual project 'The European broadcasting space as a legal regime' is an integral part of a European network project within the Eurocores program 'Inventing Europe: Technology and the Making of Europe, 1850 up to present' entitled 'Transmitting and Receiving Europe' which aims at writing a history of Europe centred on the idea of broadcast communication being the most powerful and influential means for both national and transnational communication in the 20th century. Such a history of Europe emphasizes the role of broadcasting technology and broadcasting infrastructures in the invention and building of Europe as an integrated and/or fragmented political, cultural and economic

entity. This individual project contributes to the overall intention by focusing on the link between the transmission and the reception of Europe, namely the broadcasting frequencies which serve as a vehicle for broadcast communication. It analyzes in how far legal rules and commitments for the usage of broadcasting frequencies influenced the medial construction of European communication spaces in constantly changing political and cultural environments. In addition to a shared methodological approach which reflects the dynamics of different forms of European representation, emerging on the material level, on the institutional level and on the discursive level, this individual project will make use of property rights theory. By doing so it tries to explain the common goods problems inherent in transmitting and receiving broadcasting programmes in Europe.

Das Einzelprojekt 'Der Europäische Rundfunkraum als Rechtsregime' ist ein Teilprojekt eines europäischen Netzwerkprojekts im Eurocores-Programm 'Inventing Europe: Technology and the Making of Europe, 1850 up to present' mit Thema 'Europa übertragen und empfangen'. Dessen Ziel ist es, eine Geschichte Europas zu schreiben, die auf der Idee basiert, dass Rundfunkübertragungen die wirksamste und einflussreichste Art der nationalen und transnationalen Kommunikation des 20. Jahrhunderts waren. Eine solche Geschichte Europas betont die Bedeutung von Rundfunktechnologie und Rundfunkinfrastrukturen für die Erfindung und den Aufbau Europas als eine integrierte und/oder fragmentierte politische, kulturelle und wirtschaftliche Einheit. Dieses Einzelprojekt trägt zum übergeordneten Ziel des Netzwerkprojekts bei, indem es die Verbindung zwischen der Transmission und dem Empfang Europas näher betrachtet, nämlich die Rundfunkfrequenzen, die als ein Vehikel für die Übertragung von Rundfunkprogrammen dienen. Es will analysieren, inwieweit gesetzliche Regelungen und Abkommen die mediale Konstruktion europäischer Kommunikationsräume in einem sich permanent wandelnden politischen und kulturellen Umfeld beeinflussten. Zusätzlich zu einem gemeinsamen methodischen Ansatz, der die Dynamik zwischen unterschiedlichen Vorstellungen von Europa reflektiert, die auf der materiellen, der institutionellen und der diskursiven Ebene in Erscheinung treten, wird das Einzelprojekt auf die ökonomische Verfügungsrechtstheorie zurückgreifen. Mit diesem Schritt versucht das Projekt die Gemeinschaftsgüterproblematik zu erklären, die der Übertragung und dem Empfang von Rundfunkprogrammen innewohnt.

2. State of the art, preliminary work (Stand der Forschung, eigene Vorarbeiten)

2.1 State of the art (Stand der Forschung)

The historiography of broadcasting (both radio and television) has been – and still remains – a favourite object of national historical narratives (Fickers 2005), emphasising the crucial role of broadcasting in the construction or stabilisation of the nation as an imagined community (Thompson 1995). On the other hand, the transnational character of radio waves made them an issue of cross-border negotiation and legislation from the very beginning, resulting in the foundation of international broadcasting organizations like the International Broadcasting Union (IBU), the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) or the 'Organisation Internationale de Radiodiffusion et Télévision' (OIRT). The transnational character of broadcasting therefore calls for a historical contextualisation, reflecting the dynamics of a communication tool that reshaped time and space. While some publications focus on the institutional development of international and European broadcasting institutions (Zeller 1999) or on European program initiatives like "Eurovision" (Degenhardt; Strautz 1999), there is no single monograph on the history of European broadcasting as a cultural phenomenon. While there are books on international (Huth 1937; Smith 1998; Burns 1998) and European (Noam 1991; Wieten 2000) radio, television or broadcast history, they all remain compilations of separately authored chapters on national radio or television without a common ground of shared questions or methodological reflections. In order to facilitate the study of the complex and disparate development of broadcasting in Europe, this project will define chronological, geographical and thematic paths charting that development in an interdisciplinary and transnational perspective.

Concerning the special aspect to be dealt with in the individual project not much research has yet been carried out. The regulation of the frequency spectrum is a field almost completely neglected by historians. Just a few publications deal with the matter but they concentrate on the global arena and cover all different radio services at the same time (Leive 1971; Henrich-Franke 2006). Others focus on the institutional development of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) which is placed in the centre of international frequency regulation (Coddington 1982). The international agreements on broadcasting frequency usage or the decision-making processes on the distribution of radio frequencies were mainly a topic of contemporary articles in technical journals (Binz 1989). Publications which are concerned with the legal aspect of broadcasting in Europe concentrate simply on the regulation of programme contents or they describe the reciprocal effects of national and EU (EC) rules for broadcast transmission (Stern 2003). The only publication dealing with broadcasting frequency regulation and its impacts on the transmissions and receptions of broadcasting programmes in a historical perspective was part of the preparation for this individual project (Franke 2004). The role of broadcasting organisations has never been a topic under consideration. Zeller therefore came to the conclusion that '*the preparation of international radio conferences is an important, but rather unknown aspect*' of the European broadcasting history (Zeller 1999). Especially the specific contribution of international rules and commitments to the medial construction of European communication spaces has never been questioned.

2.2 Preliminary work (Eigene Vorarbeiten)

The preliminary work for the individual project 'The European broadcasting space as a legal regime' has been carried out for several years. On the one hand the applicant took part in a research group at the University of Siegen dealing with the programme history of

the Eurovision. On the other hand the applicant examined the global regulation of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum after WW II in his doctoral thesis. With regard to the intended research design of the project proposed here the doctoral thesis was in many ways a guiding example. Though clearly different in geographical scope it showed the usefulness of the methodological approach for answering the questions raised in this application. Most of all the property rights theory proved to be a very fruitful analytical tool to get a grip on the common goods problems inherent in European broadcasting. In contrast to the common thesis of property rights theory the study demonstrated that beyond the sphere of national competence highly precise property rights do not automatically guarantee efficiency. This is an important finding for explaining the problems inherent in common goods.

Both of the research projects already conducted are in many respects linked to the contents of the individual project proposed in this application. Even the archival research carried out in the context of those projects showed that archival material to answer the questions raised here is available.

Publications in the context of the preliminary work:

Henrich-Franke, Christian, Organisationskultur und Vertrauen in den internationalen Beziehungen: Anknüpfungspunkt für einen interdisziplinären Dialog? Das Beispiel der Funkkonferenzen der ITU. (forthcoming in: Geschichte und Gesellschaft, (3) 2006)

Henrich-Franke, Christian, Globale Regulierungsproblematiken in historischer Perspektive: Der Fall des Funkfrequenzspektrums 1945-1988, Baden-Baden 2006.

Henrich-Franke, Christian, Wandlungen des europäischen Markts für Fernsehprogramme: Der Fall der „EBU Screening Sessions“, in: Rundfunk und Geschichte, (2) 2005, S.17-25.

Franke, Christian, Das Post- und Fernmeldewesen im europäischen Integrationsprozess der 1950/60er Jahre, in: European Journal of Integration History, (2) 2004, S. 95-117.

Franke, Christian, Die europäische Rundfunkfrequenzverteilung und die Entwicklung des regionalen Rundfunks in Nordrhein-Westfalen, in: Interregiones, (13) 2004, S.51-70.

Franke, Christian, Institutionenökonomische Analyse der schwedischen Rundfunk und Fernsehanstalt in den 1950/60er Jahren, Siegen 2002. (auch als elektronische Publikation: <http://www.ub.uni-siegen.de/pub/publications/fb1/franke/franke.pdf>).

3. Goals and work schedule (Ziele und Arbeitsprogramm)

3.1 Goals (Ziele)

(1) *Goals of the Common Research Project:* This project aims at writing a history of Europe centred on the idea of broadcast communication being the most powerful and influential means for both national and transnational communication in the 20th century. The central objective is to problematize *Europe as a broadcasting space* by describing and analyzing different transmission and reception technologies of broadcast communication and by questioning their specific contribution to the medial construction of European communication spaces in constantly changing political and cultural environments. Based on the profound and varied expertise of the project collaborators and their involvement in international and European research networks, this CRP makes a strong case for an innovative European history: a European history that emphasizes the role of technology and technological infrastructures in the invention and building of Europe without neglecting the institutional or individual actors in the mutual process of circulation, mediation and appropriation of Europe as a discursive construction

While the majority of historians of contemporary Europe have mainly focussed on the stepwise and delicate process of European integration, some have pointed out the tensions between the unifying or harmonizing effects on one side and the process of differentiation at the other (Münch 1993). This inherent ambiguity of the complex process of modernization – and the history of “Europeanization” is embedded in this process – can perfectly be demonstrated when looking at the history of European broadcasting. Our CRP aims at emphasizing the tensions between the integrative and splitting forces of a transnational medium by paying attention both to the transmission and reception side. In approaching broadcasting – both as a technology and as a medium – as a mediating interface between transmitted visions of Europe and their individual appropriation, this CRP is making an innovative historical contribution to the theoretical discussion on media and society on a European level (Gripsrud 2002; Thompson 1995).

(2) *Special goals of this project:* The specific idea of the individual project in the context of the goals formulated by the common research project ‘Transmitting and Receiving Europe’ is to analyze in how far legal rules and commitments for the usage of broadcasting frequencies influenced the medial construction of European communication spaces in constantly changing political and cultural environments. At the same time it examines in how far these rules and commitments reflected different political, cultural and – most importantly – technical environments and concepts of Europe.

(3) *Deliverables and Milestones:* In addition to the “classical” deliverables of a scientific research project in our field (at least 1 peer reviewed article of each individual project and a book edited by the research group) we plan to produce a CD/DVD with interesting audio and video material on European broadcast history and to make a documentary (in collaboration with the video department of the Institute of Media and Re/Presentation of Utrecht University) about our project.

For every workshop, a scientific review will be produced and published in an online forum. We envision editing a special issue on our topic in one of the leading peer reviewed journals: *Technology & Culture*, *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television*; *Media History*; *Journal of European Communication Studies*; *History & Technology*; *Journal of European Integration*.

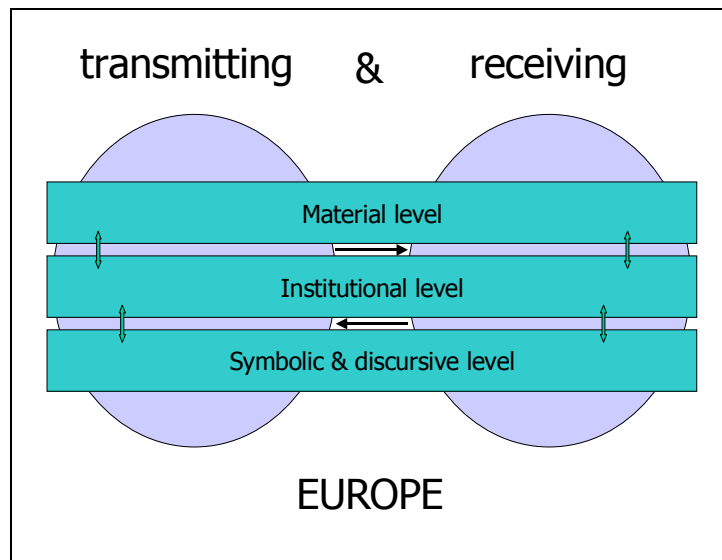
3.2 Work schedule (Arbeitsprogramm)

I. Transmitting and Receiving Europe (CRP)

(1) *Introduction:* The invention of broadcasting and the idea of inventing Europe as the “United Nations of Europe” date more or less from the same time. To study the role of broadcasting in the making of Europe seems to meet perfectly the central vision of this Eurocores programme: to emphasize the role of technology as central actor in the story of European integration, and – here’s the other side of the story – its often apparent fragmentation. To problematize these tensions between the integrative and fragmenting forces of broadcasting technologies in the complex process of European identity construction is the scholarly heart of this collective research proposal.

Despite the very nature of radio waves – that is, not to be affected by any political or national boundaries – the concept of broadcasting was the result of a concerted effort on the part of big business and government to create a highly centralized, one-way, restricted-access system that is broadcasting (Hilmes, 2002). From a transnational historical perspective, the process of institutionalization of public service radio broadcasting in Europe after the First World War must be interpreted as a process of national appropriation and social shaping of radio as a broadcast medium. Just as radio had done after the first World War, television played a central role in the process of moral recovery in the post-WW2 crisis of national identity of many countries, offering a unique opportunity to create national spaces of experience, carefully controlled by state authorities and embedded in nationally determined modernization processes.

In retracing the different modes of broadcast transmission (short wave radio, FM radio, UHF television, cable, satellite) we will link the development of different broadcast technologies to visions of European broadcasting spaces and their role in the continuous re-invention of Europe or re-imagination of European identities. The chronological scope of the CRP covers the whole of the twentieth century. Within the thematic range of the related projects, the historical scope of the CRP reaches from early radio amateurs in the first decade of the 20th century to the actual state of satellite broadcasting. The geographical scope varies according to individual project themes. While all projects pay attention to the changing political geographies of Europe caused by major military and/or ideological confrontations throughout the 20th century, some are dealing with alternative concepts (for example Europe as part of “Region 1” in the ITU-world map) of European broadcast spaces. The need to embed “Europe” as a discursive construction into changing material, legal and institutional maps makes adopting an over-arching geographical definition of Europe for the project as a whole as impractical as it would be counter-productive to the study's aims. Here again, the very nature of broadcasting as a transnational or transborder phenomenon with its inevitable spill-over effects challenges the classic ways of mapping Europe.



(2) *Methodological approach*: The methodological design of the project laid out in the graphic above reflects the double dynamics of the tensions between the transmission and reception of Europe (horizontal dynamics) and the tensions between different forms of European representations, emerging on the material, the institutional and the discursive level (vertical dynamics).

On the material level, the technical infrastructure of broadcasting is of interest. Transmitters, networks of relay stations, cables, satellite dishes and, of course, radio frequencies (although being immaterial by their very nature) are evidence of Europe as a technically connected communication space. On the institutional level, European broadcast institutions like the EBU or the OIRT and telecommunications institutions like the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) or the ITU have functioned as crucial gateways for realizing transnational interaction, both on the technical and juridical level as well as on the level of intercultural communication. The institutional level stands for Europe as a social space. Beyond their function as gateways they can be analyzed as mediators of changing discourses about what, how and why Europe should be, could be or had to be. In combining the material and institutional approach with discursive analysis of the transmitted and received contents of broadcasted programmes, this project aims at investigating the tensions between the intent of transmitting European sounds and images and their individual and creative appropriation. The sonic and visual icons of Europe (think about the symbolic force of the Eurovision hymn) finally represent Europe as a cultural space. As visualized in the methodological scheme, these different levels “interact” in various forms. While political conceptions of Europe as a community of sovereign but legally committed nations have influenced the (fragmented) construction of a European broadcasting space, broadcast technologies (short wave radio, satellites) have challenged the politicization of the ether and offered unexpected possibilities for civilian appropriations (amateurs) of Europe as a transnational communication space. In this sense, the “reversion of the public / private relationship” (Scannell, 1996, 69) through broadcasting can be interpreted as a structural transformation of the European political public sphere.

The combination of methodologies and the demonstration of the dynamics between the different levels of “Europe in the making” on the material, institutional, and discursive levels has the advantage of conceptualising the emergence of different “Europes” as a

result of a complex political, technological, social and cultural performance. In this respect, this CRP will constitute a challenging contribution to the cultural “enrichment” of contemporary European historiography of technology (Hård, Jamison 2005). In touching several of the “Inventing Europe” core themes (infrastructures, consumption, knowledge production), this project aims at producing an innovative contribution to an interdisciplinary history of Europe (Misa a.o. 2003). Interpreting technology as a historically grown, socially shaped, and culturally loaded human enterprise, this CRP might add a small but interesting perspective to the complex agenda of European historiography (Siegrist, Petri 2004).

(3) *Coherence of the common research project.* All projects will be based on extensive archival research. Both audiovisual and written sources will be analyzed, especially from institutional (EBU), national and private (firms) archives. Some projects will make use of oral-history interviews. The multi-level approach allows us to link the history of technology perspective to disciplines like European integration history, media and journalism studies, cultural anthropology, sociology of institutions and nationalism or transnationalism studies. Although all projects share this common methodological framework of the three-level approach, the analysis of the sources and their theoretical discussion vary according to the specific research questions and cognitive interest of each case study.

The below scheme summarizes the chronological and geographical scope of each of the projects and gives a first indication of the interesting range of different approaches to the topic of European broadcast history and Europe as a broadcasting landscape integrated in this CRP:

IP	Chron. scope	Geographical Scope / Conceptions of Europe	Sources	Theoretical approaches on different levels (M=material; I=institutional; D=discursive)
1	1925-1975	Different “Europes” resulting from changing political geographies	IBU / EBU arch. National arch. Broadcast inst.	M: Standardization; international relations I: Network theory, social. of institutions D: Mental mapping; symbolic dimension of technology; cultural studies
2	1972-2006	Europe as part of Region 1 (ITU)	ITU / EBU arch. CEPT arch. ESA / Eutelsat	M: Network analysis I: Epistemic communities; Techno-political regimes D: Habitus of experts;
3	1900-1970	Europe as an interactive user community in an international context	Ham Journals Radio amateur archives DX Cards	M: User communities I: Borders and migration D: Bottom up history, biographical studies
4	1945-2006	Europe as a sonically represented space	FICS archives Oral history Broadcast inst.	M: Standardisation, declining technolog. I: Network analysis; sociol. of organis. D: Semiotic and symbolic analysis
5	1932-1984	Europe as a juridical construct	ITU / EBU CEPT / OIRT National archives	M: Institutional economics, Property-rights theory I: Regime theory D: Common goods theory

Individual Project 1: Andreas Fickers (Utrecht University, NL): Jammed visions and split signals. Techno-nationalist and propagandistic resistances to the shaping of a European broadcast space.

Individual Project 2: Nina Wormbs (Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, S): Inventing Europe from space: Broadcasting satellites as integrating or fragmenting an expanding Europe

Individual Project 3: Fritz Hausjell (Vienna University, AU): How far can you hear? Radio amateurs and the invention of an interactive European ether community.

Individual Project 4: Karin Bijsterveld (Maastricht University, NL): The sound of Europe. Recording amateurs and the invention of Europe on tape.

Individual Project 5: Christian Henrich-Franke (Siegen University, G): The European broadcasting space as a legal regime.

(4) Strategy and time table

Both the thematic direction of impact and the human resources of which this CRP is composed are the result of a strategic reasoning, aiming at bringing together experts of different scientific communities and scholarly networks. While one part of the collaborators has been actively engaged in the Tensions of Europe (ToE)-project, the other part is participating in the European Television History Network (ETHN). This CRP therefore has the enormous advantage of being able to profit from two well-organized and innovative European networks, and the expected synergies of this “joint venture” are high.

In order to guarantee the coherence of the project, to catalyse the practical and theoretical workflow and to disseminate produced knowledge the CRP, three workshops and a kick-off meeting will be organized. The timetable for these venues is the following:

April 2007	Kick-off meeting of the CRP in Utrecht / NL
August 2007	Archival workshop in Geneva. Because of the central importance of the EBU archives (which include the OIRT and IBU archives) and the ITU archives, both in Geneva an innovative archival workshop will be organized in close collaboration with the EBU archives in Geneva. Aim: comparative source critique and strategic collaboration with EBU.
April 2008	Theory workshop, favourably in Prague (former technical headquarters of the OIRT). Aim: to discuss with a limited number of guests the challenges and problems of a transnational / interdisciplinary history of European broadcasting. This workshop will be organized in collaboration with the ToE- and the ETHN-network.
November 2009	Public conference to present the results of the CRP with a limited number of invited “grands témoins” of European broadcast history.

II. The European broadcasting space as a legal regime

(1) *The individual projects position in relation to the common research project:* The overall intention of the common research project ‘Transmitting and Receiving Europe’ is to bridge the gap between the transmission and reception of Europe. This will be done by describing and analyzing the transmission and reception side but also by scrutinizing their link, the radio frequencies which travel from the transmitting broadcaster to the receiving audience. This third element of transmitting and receiving Europe, the radio frequencies and their regulation by means of international rules and commitments will be brought into focus in this individual project. By doing so this projects introduces a new and extremely important

dimension of the European broadcast space. In analyzing the complex decision making process in European broadcast conferences (both at ITU and EBU level) between 1932 and 1984, the project aims at problematizing the influence of legal commitments on the medial construction of a European broadcast space.

(2) *Introduction:* The whole spectrum of radio frequencies, of which only a few are used for broadcast transmissions, can be considered as a common good (or common-pool resource) – a good which is rival but non-excludable. Over such a good no country or individual exercises ownership (Ostrom 2002). Or put in other words: The radio frequencies are by their very nature a property of mankind. If radio frequencies are to be used for broadcasting purposes coordination among all possible users is a necessity in order to avoid the ‘chaos in the ether’. Since the early days of frequency usage this coordination lies in the sphere of responsibility of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and it is carried out on different forms of ITU radio conferences (Coddington, Rutkowski 1982; Tegge 1994). Looked upon from an economic-juridical perspective the regulation of broadcasting frequencies at the ITU radio conferences is an attempt to regulate a common European good by the distribution of property rights to transmit broadcasting programmes and to receive broadcasting programmes within the European broadcasting space. The ITU in that sense is on the institutional level placed at the centre of a legal regime for governing the European broadcasting space: It distributes and designs property rights in broadcasting frequency plans for the European broadcasting area and it controls their compliance. Throughout the 20th century new modes of broadcast transmission and the continuous development of existing techniques on the material level made the distribution and gradual re-distribution of property rights for transmitting and receiving programmes within the European broadcasting space a technical necessity. Neither new broadcasting technology could be invented nor standardization of equipment agreed upon without the definition or redefinition of property rights for frequency usage.

The general idea of the project is to analyze in how far legal rules and commitments for the usage of broadcasting frequencies influenced the medial construction of European communication spaces. To reach this goal the project will take a closer look at the decision-making-processes and the final agreements in the context of ITU’s European broadcasting conferences for LF, MF and VHF sound broadcasting and television between 1932 and 1984. Furthermore it takes into consideration the permanent work carried out by e.g. the ITU or the EBU in order to control the compliance of property rights for broadcasting purposes. Special case studies will take a deeper look at different kinds of breaches of European agreements.

To put the general idea in more concrete terms the project sets itself a twofold aim: (1) It wants to compare the different juridical designs and the property rights structures as they were established at different European broadcasting radio conferences throughout the 20th century. What do property rights tell us about the European broadcasting space as an integrated or fragmented entity? Which factors – on the different levels of analyses – caused new designs or the redefinition of property rights? How did the legal regime for the European broadcasting space function? What do property rights tell us about different conceptions of Europe? The last question gives rise to the second aim of the project: (2) On the discursive level it wants to filter out different concepts of Europe according to which the European broadcasting space was integrated and fragmented. Which concepts did the actors, e.g. the ITU, the EBU, the OIRT, the IBU, the CEPT or on the national level the telecommunications administrations, the broadcasting corporations and the broadcasting industry, have in mind when negotiating on property rights? Questions of interest in this

context are: Which countries were part of the receiving and/or transmitting Europe? Who was accepted as being a part of it and who was excluded from it? Have there been different concepts of Europe in connection with the different modes of broadcast transmission? The most fascinating aspect of the project is, of course, the combination of the two aims: In how far do concepts of Europe in the special case of the European broadcasting space influence the juridical regime and vice versa?

(3) *Methodological approach*: In addition to the shared methodological approach of the common research project this individual project will make use of existing economic and political theories. The starting point will be the theoretical approach of the regime theory (Cowhey 1990). The constituting elements of a regime (principles, norms, rules and procedures) will be used to connect and explain the interaction of different actors on the national level and on the European level. Regime theory will be used as a modelling tool to structure the project.

Analytically the project takes up theoretical reflections on common goods which are a special type of public-goods-theory. Out of the broad theoretical supply of public-goods-theory (Snidal 1979) a special focus will, of course, be put on property rights theory (Minasian 1975; Benkler 2002). As already explained the distribution and design of property rights to transmit and receive broadcasting programmes within the European broadcasting space and the control of their compliance is seen as an attempt to regulate a common European good. The key idea of property rights theory is that each good, e.g. a broadcasting frequency, is composed of a bundle of rights, which include (a) the right to use a good, (b) the right to exclude others and (c) the right to dispose of the property. The definition of property rights is conceptually broad and emphasizes the legal aspect of property rights as well as the social conventions that govern behaviour, such as corporate culture and reputation (Kreps 1990). Conceptualizing property rights to have multiple dimensions has the important (economic) implication of many different people – e.g. broadcasters – being able to hold partitions of rights to particular facets of a single resource and to exercise shared ownership. Of the various aspects of property rights theory it is of interest here that the theory suggests concepts of shared ownership and multi-dimensional definitions of property rights which can improve the explanation of common goods problems. It also provides an evolutionary perspective (Libecap 1989; North 1990) of the processes through which institutional choices are made, where the vested economic, political or cultural interests of contracting parties and potential distributional conflicts are taken into account. Last but not least it helps to explain why inefficient property rights regimes can persist. To sum up, important insights of property rights theory are (a) that different specifications of property rights arise in response to the economic, political and cultural problems of allocating a scarce resource like broadcasting frequencies, and (b) that the prevailing specification of property rights affects the behaviour and (economic) outcomes (Coase 1960) – that means the transmission and reception of broadcasting programmes within the European broadcasting space. Indeed, property rights theory is at the interface of law, economics and organization theory (Williamson 1996).

The combination of property rights theory as analytical tool and regime theory as tool for structuring the project is a continuation of an approach which already proved to be fruitful in a study on global regulation of the frequency spectrum between 1945 and 1988 (Henrich-Franke 2006). Finally special emphasis will be put on the different conceptions of Europe the actors had in mind when negotiating on radio frequencies.

(4) *Chronological and geographical scope*: The chronological scope of the individual project covers the period from the first ITU broadcasting conference in 1932 until the 1984 conference for VHF sound broadcasting and television in Geneva. This temporal enclosure has been chosen for two reasons. On the one hand in this period the organisation of broadcasting in Europe was merely under stable public control. On the other hand due to the waiting periods for archival research of 20-30 years extended archival research is not possible for the period after 1984.

The geographical scope of the individual project covers in principle the whole of Europe including the states at the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea as these formed the European broadcasting area as defined by the ITU on the basis of radio frequency propagation. Nevertheless it is impossible to cover all these states in a detailed way. Therefore a selection of a few European states has to be made concerning which archival research has to be done. This selection comprises Germany (East and West), Great Britain, the Netherlands and Sweden. Germany is of major interest because coordination of broadcasting frequency usage is most urgent here. On the one hand this is the result of Germany's geographical position in the middle of the continent and on the other hand – at least for the period between 1945 and 1989 – because of the iron curtain running straight through the country. German archives therefore offer two perspectives on the European broadcasting space, the Eastern European and the Western European. Great Britain is of importance because of its isolated geographical position resulting in specific perspectives on Europe as a broadcasting landscape and because of its political weight. The Netherlands are focused as the breaches of international rules and commitments (e.g. pirate radio stations) were most problematic here. Finally Sweden is considered because of its political neutrality and the central roles individual Swedish actors played for broadcasting frequency distribution in Europe. The Swedish archives offer rich material on the Eastern (Socialist) European perspectives on the problems under consideration. Furthermore the Swedish telecommunication administration hosted two of the most important broadcasting conferences (1952 and 1961).

(5) *Deliverables*: In addition to the contributions to the common deliverables of the common research project the applicant aims at writing two peer-reviewed articles, preferably in journals for history of European integration and for economic theory (common goods theory).

(6) *Sources*: The major sources for the individual project will be written archival material. Therefore the project is depending on extended archival research both on the national and the European level. On the European level the archives to be visited are the ITU's archives in Geneva, the EBU's archives in Geneva (which include the IBU and OIRT) and the CEPT's archives in Copenhagen. On the national level the archives of PTT-administrations and broadcasting organisations will be visited in Germany (East and West), Great Britain, the Netherlands and Sweden (see explanation above). The archival research will be completed by making use of oral-history interviews. The already existing contacts resulting from earlier work on similar topics will be useful.

Archives to be used are:

Archives of international Organisations:

Archives of the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva

Archives of the „Conférence Européenne des Postes et des Télécommunications“ (CEPT) in Copenhagen

Archives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) in Geneva

Archives of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) in Geneva

Archives of national telecommunications administrations and broadcasting corporations:

Germany:

„Politisches Archiv“ of the foreign office in Berlin

National Archives in Koblenz (West-German teleommunications administration)

National Archives in Berlin (East-German telecommunications administration)

‘Deutsches Rundfunkarchiv’ in Frankfurt (West-German broadcasting corporation)

Great Britain:

The National Archives in London (British foreign office and Telecommunications Administration)

BBCs Archives in London (British broadcasting corporation)

The Netherlands:

Archief Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken in Den Haag (Dutch foreign office)

Nationaalarchief in Den Haag (Dutch telecommunications administration)

NOS-archief in Hilversum (Dutch broadcasting corporation)

Sweden:

Sveriges Riksarkivet in Stockholm (Swedish telecommunications administration)

Utriketsdepartementets Arkiv in Stockholm (Swedish foreign office)

Sveriges Radios Dokumentarkivet in Stockholm (Swedish broadcasting corporation)

(7) *Time table:*

The analysis of the archival material and of the literature will be done continuously during the project period and is thus not listed in the time table below. Instead the time table concentrates on the highlights like conferences of the research team and visits of the archives for which funding is requested.

The archival research takes the international organizations as a starting point in order to get an overview. The first national archives to be visited will be those of Sweden because the very important broadcasting conferences of 1952 and 1962 were hosted by the Swedish telecommunications administration. Furthermore Swedish technicians for a long time held leading positions within international organizations and Sweden held close contact with the Eastern European states. In a second step the German archives will be examined, again with the intention to get the Eastern European perspective and, of course, because of the overriding importance of Germany. Finally archives in the Netherlands and in Great Britain will be taken a look at.

April 2007	3 days visit in Utrecht (NL) for kick-off meeting of the common project group
July 2007	5 days visit Geneva for the archives of ITU and EBU, analysis of sources 3 days visit Copenhagen for the archives of CEPT 5 days visit Stockholm (archives of Swedish national telecommunication administration and broadcasting organisation/Sveriges Radio)

August 2007	3 days visit Geneva for archival workshop of the common project
September 2007	3 days visit Koblenz, 3 days visit Berlin, 2 days visit Frankfurt (archives of German national telecommunications administrations before 1945, after 1945 and of broadcasting organisation/Deutsches Rundfunkarchiv),
March 2008	5 days visit Den Haag (Dutch national telecommunication administration and broadcasting organisation)
April 2008	5 days visit London (British national telecommunication administration and broadcasting organisation/BBC) 3 days visit Prague for methodological workshop of the common project group
July 2008	Writing of article
August 2008	Writing of article, submission of article
January 2009	Writing of article on methodological reflections (possible implications of research results for theoretical development of property rights theory)
February 2009	Writing of article, submission of article
November 2009	3 days visit Utrecht for final conference of the common project group

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