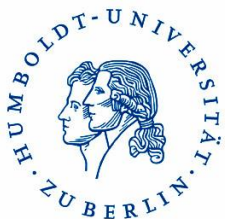


Academic Freedom in Context:
Trends in Threats and Coping Practices
Workshop at the Interuniversity Center
Dubrovnik, 23.-24.04.2026

Walther Ch. Zimmerli

ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN DANGER

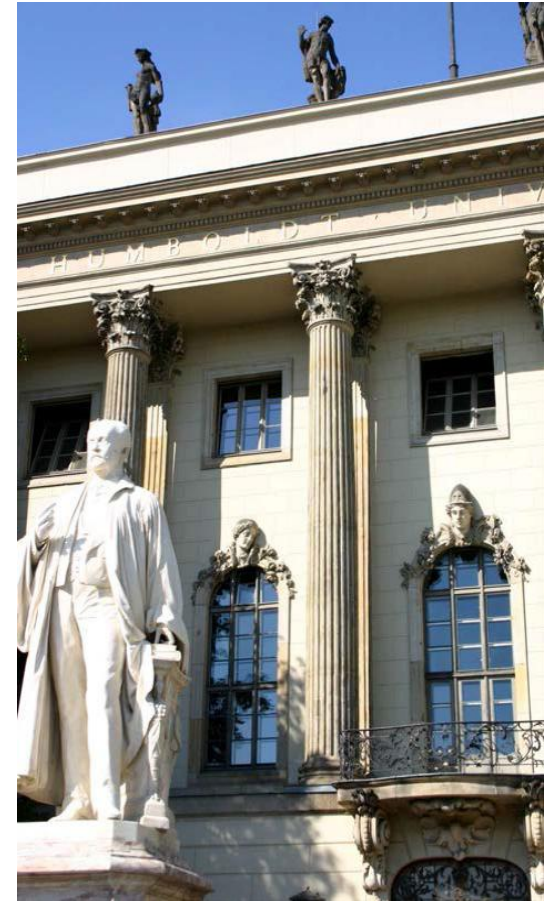
On the asymmetry of legal rights and moral duties



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- Preliminary Remarks
 - I. AF: From defense right to state goal
 - II. Rights and Duties in Ethics
 - III. Threats against AF: Front- and backdoor
 - IV. Responsible academic freedom
 - V. Coping with endangered academic freedom
- Concluding Remarks



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- Preliminary Remarks:
The ambiguous freedom

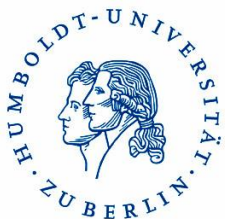


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I. AF: From Defense Right to State Goal

- a) Art. 5.3 GG: A constitutional defense right
- b) The case of the „Goettingen Seven“
- c) Against „Gleichschaltung“: GG

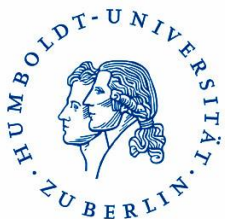


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II. Rights and Duties in Ethics

- a) Morality, ethics, and positive law
- b) Kant on freedom: autonomy
- c) AF: the corresponding moral duties



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III. Threats against AF: front- and backdoor

- a) Cunning of reason: Donald Trump
- b) H-index: threat by the backdoor
- c) AI and imagination in the loop



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IV. Responsible academic freedom

- a) Responsibility - revisited
- b) Universities as responsible institutions
- c) Innovation as success in the market



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V. Coping with endangered academic freedom

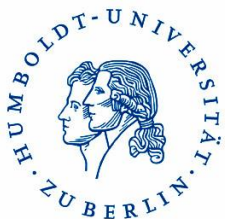
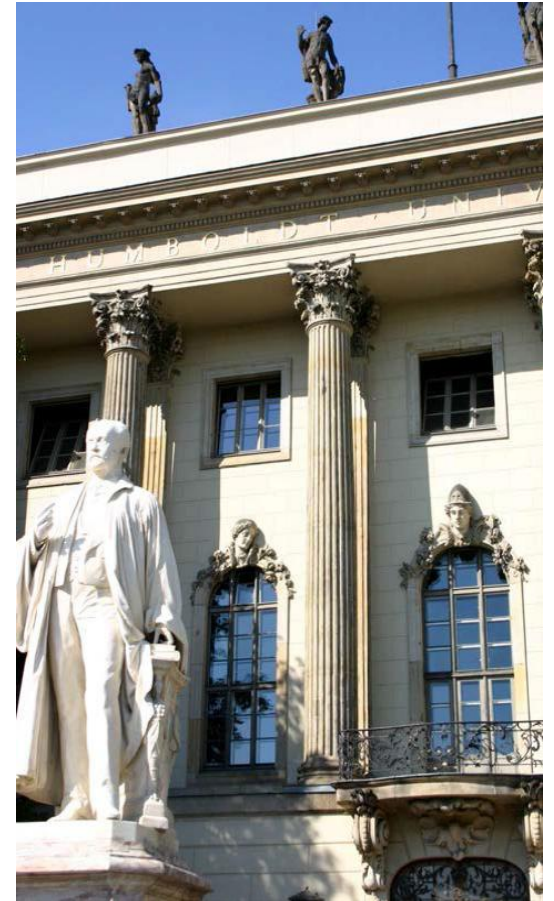
- a) International networks
- b) IAS as focal points of academic freedom
- c) Financial independence of IAS



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- Concluding Remarks:
In defense of asymmetry



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Thank you for your attention!



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