

**v. Harbou, F., & Weizsäcker E. (Eds.) (2025).  
Einwanderungsrecht (3rd ed.). Beck:  
A Unique Perspective on the Law Governing Labour and  
Education Migration<sup>1</sup>  
Ralf Roßkopf<sup>2</sup>**

The title of the book “Einwanderungsrecht” (Immigration Law) by editors Frederik von Harbou and Esther Weizsäcker signals a clear focus within the broader field of migration law. This focus is further intensified by the content’s emphasis on the law governing labour and education migration. This deliberately selective perspective presents both a risk and an appeal: the risk of not being able to present the limited legal material in all its contextual complexity; and the appeal of providing pre-trained legal seekers, and legal practitioners in particular, with unique and in-depth access to the tailored material in this form. The authorship, which is dominated by lawyers and professors of applied sciences, appropriately underscores this orientation. The third edition, which has now been published, proves the editors and publishers right and justifies the success of the work, which has grown since the last edition by 150 pages to a total of 511 pages (€99.00). The legal material is presented systematically and with the expected reliability, based on the legislative status at the end of 2024 and beginning of 2025.

Of course, the book cannot do without references to other areas of migration law. General chapters on labour and education migration are specified for specific groups of refugees, EU citizens and their family members, and Turkish nationals with association rights, and supplemented by related legal issues concerning the recognition of educational and professional qualifications, access to social benefits, as well as permanent residence and naturalization. Compared to the previous edition, employer obligations and the new digitization of the visa procedure have been included, while the previous sections on the European legal framework and the prospects for an immigration law have been omitted. The latter does not detract from the book’s claim. On the contrary, it now appears more stringent, avoids duplication, and takes into account the fact that immigration law has since been consolidated.

With some justification, author Marius Tollenaere concludes the chapter on migration for the purpose of gainful employment by stating that it is questionable whether calls for further simplification would justify the legislative and political energy required to achieve this. However, the specific perspective of the book would have offered an opportunity to provide even more insight and clarity regarding the current legal situation. The necessarily columnar presentation of the various residence permits would benefit from an introductory overview and a concluding comparison to make it easier for the reader to

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understand which residence permits are now available to whom, in which situations, for what reasons, and to what benefits.

Christopher von Harbou and Marius Tollenaere successfully pursue a further perspective in the new chapter on employer obligations when employing third-country nationals. Chronologically following the employee's biography, initiation, implementation, and termination of employment are examined from the perspective of both labour and migration law and supplemented by further aspects.

The much-discussed and, in many cases, existentially important "Spurwechsel" (change of track) is presented by Frederik von Harbou and Christian Scheibenhof in a separate section of the chapter on labour market and education access for displaced. This is done separately for residence permit regulations and toleration regulations. The authors also point out the need and alternatives for amendment in this regard.

The chapter on the digitization of the visa process by the responsible head of department at the Foreign Ministry Katharina Bonnenfant is topical and therefore as unique as it is open to further development. Following the successful, ongoing expansion of the digitization process, a future new edition would benefit from a presentation that is less conceptual and more application-oriented, aimed at the target group of legal practitioners.

Overall, the new edition is a very successful continuation of the book's concept, from which lawyers and human resources managers in particular will benefit.