

Name: Nicole Töpperwien
Nationality: Swiss
Titles: Dr.iur., ll.m.
Email: Nicole.Toeppeurwien@gmx.ch

Work:

Since Oct. 2006 **Project Work** – freelance consultant
on issues of state organisation (federalism, decentralisation, power-sharing, inclusion of non-majority groups in state institutions and democratic processes, minority protection, conflict transformation).

Oct. 2003 – Oct. 2006 **Adviser for Decentralisation and Public Administration Reform in the Republic of Macedonia** in the office of the Deputy Prime Minister Musa Xhaferri (as a member of the Swiss Expert Pool, Political Division IV, DFA).

2003 **Associate Fellow** of the Institute of Federalism
2002 - 2003 **Senior Research Fellow** at the International Centre for Research and Consulting, Institute of Federalism
1999 – 2002 **Research Fellow** at the International Centre for Research and Consulting, Institute of Federalism of the University of Fribourg, Rte. d’Englisberg 7, CH-1763 Granges-Paccot, Tel.: +41 26 300 81 69; Fax: +41 26 300 97 24
1996 – 1998 **Assistant** to Prof. Dr. iur. Thomas Fleiner for Constitutional and Administrative Law, University of Fribourg

University:

January 23, 2002 Promotion (**Dr.iur.** (summa cum laude))
1998 - 1999 Master of Laws (**LL.M.**) at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York (best ll.m. student)
1992-1996 Legal Studies (**lic.iur.**) at the University of Freiburg/Switzerland (magna cum laude)
1979-1992 Primary and high school in Hamburg, Germany

Awards and Appointments:

2006 Member of the Executive Committee of **Gemeinden Gemeinsam Schweiz** - Cause Commune
2003-2004 **Deputy Secretary General** of the International Association of Constitutional Law IACL
July 05, 2003 **Gottlob Award** 2001/2002 of the Law Faculty of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland
July 05, 2003 **Prof. Walter Hug Award**, as one of the best legal dissertations in the academic year 2001/2002 that have been accepted with highest grade at a Swiss University
June 13, 1999 **Louis-Henkin Award** for academic achievement and superior scholarship in the LL.M. program

Publications:

Doctoral Thesis: *Nation-State and Normative Diversity*, Etudes et Colloques No. 35, Publications de l’Institut du Fédéralisme/ Helbing & Lichtenhahn, Diss. Fribourg, Basel et al. 2001.

Further selected Publications:

- *Swiss Constitutional Law*, Co-Author, Kluwer & Staempfli 2005.
- *Switzerland*, Co-author, International Encyclopaedia of Constitutional Law, supplement 63, Kluwer 2005.
- *Participation in the Decision-Making Process as a Means of Group Accommodation*, in Alan G. Tarr, Robert F. Williams, and Josef Marko, (eds.), *Federalism, Subnational Constitutions, and Minority rights*, Westport: Praeger Publishers, 2004, 40 (Deemed in a book review by Jean Leclair, professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Montreal as “the most interesting of all the essays”).
- *Introduction to Federalism, Decentralisation and Conflict Management in Multicultural Societies*, in: Ursula Abderhalden & Raoul Blindenbacher (Eds.), *Future Challenges for Federalism in a Changing World – Learning from Each Other – The Youth Perspective*, International Federalism Conference 2002, Langendorf 2003, pp. 111.

- *Balancing Self-Rule and Shared Rule*, Co-author; in: *Federalism and Multiethnic States, The Case of Switzerland*, PIFF 16, 2nd ed., Fribourg 2000.
- *Chancen und Probleme für den schweizerischen Föderalismus im Falle eines EU-Beitritts*, Co-author, in: *Der Beitritt der Schweiz zur Europäischen Union: Brennpunkte und Auswirkung*, Bern 1998.
- *Die Chancen des Föderalismus begreifen und nutzen, Schweizer Föderalismus - Relikt der Vergangenheit oder Exportartikel?*, based on lectures given for the Exposition: *Geschichte für die Zukunft (History for the Future)*, Willisauer Bote, April 11, 1998, pp. 5-6

Presentations, Inputs, Teaching

Selected Presentations and Inputs:

- August 3 - 8, 2007, Inputs on *Federalism as option of state organisation for the Philippines*, Dialogues on Federalism, Manila and Dumaguete, Philippines.
- July 5, 2007 *Power-sharing and Natural Resources in Switzerland*, presentation for a Delegation from Nepal, organized by the Swiss Department of Foreign Affairs.
- June 20, 2007, *Conflict Management and Decentralisation in Macedonia*, Consultative Workshop on Sharing and Division of Power on Post-Conflict or Democratic Transitions, approaches, challenges, practical outcomes, organised by International IDEA, Stockholm.
- May 26-28, 2007 and February 17-19, 2007, Inputs for drafting a *law on the rights of communities in Kosovo*.
- March 22-23, 2007, Inputs on *Federalism*, Kathmandu, Nepal organised by UNDP.
- February 28, 2006, *Notions of Multiethnic States – Switzerland and Macedonia*, presentation at a workshop of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Skopje, Macedonia.
- July 8, 2005, *Can Decentralisation Do What Federalism Promises*, presentation at the Conference "Legal and Political Solutions to Disputes over Sovereignty - From Kosovo to Quebec", Belgrade.
- April 21, 2004, *The Ohrid Framework Agreement – some challenges*, presentation for students from the South Eastern University in Tetovo.
- January 14, 2004, *Defining Local Government – Political Constraints and the Question of Boundaries*, VIth World Congress of the IACL in Santiago de Chile.
- April 25, 2002, *Integrating Minorities into the Political Process*, presentation at the Congress on Citizens' Participation as Bedrock of Democracy', Ohrid, April 25 – 28, 2002.
- July 28, 2001, *Participation in the Decision-Making Process as Means of Group Accommodation*, presentation at a Conference on "Federalism, Subnational Constitutions, and the Protection of the Rights of Minorities", Bozen, Italy, organised by the Center for State Constitutional Studies, Rutgers University and the European Academy, Bozen.
- June 1, 2001, *The Relationship between Provinces and Municipalities - an Ongoing Challenge*, presentation at the Conference "Management of provincial Government in a Constitutional State", Stellenbosch, South Africa May 30 - June 1, 2001 organised by the Venice Commission and the Western Cape Provincial Government.

Teaching:

- September 4 to September 8, Co-teaching and Workshops on "*Federalism, Constitutionalism, and Democratic Governance in Multicultural Societies*" at the Summer University of the Institute of Federalism, University of Fribourg.
- July 27 to July 31, 2006 Classes on *Federalism and Direct Democracy* at the Training Seminar on Constitution Making in Asia, organized by IDEA and UNDP, taking place in Bangkok from July 24 to August 4, 2006.
- August 26 – 30, 2002, Dialogue Leader for the topic *Challenges in Federalism, Decentralization and Conflict Management in Multicultural Societies* for the Youth Programme of the International Conference on Federalism, St. Gall.
- May 21 – June 22, 2002, *The Privatization of Constitutional Law*, Intensive Course for students of the Universities of Alabama and of Fribourg, 6h presentations on various aspects of federalism.
- April 25, 2002, *Integrating Minorities into the Political Process*, resource person at the Congress on Citizens' Participation as Bedrock of Democracy', Ohrid, April 25 – 28, 2002.
- September 10-14, 2001 *Workshop* on the Future Status of Serbia and Montenegro during the Summer University at the Institute of Federalism.
- September 11-15, 2000 *Scottish Devolution*, presentation and workshop for the students of the Summer University at the Institute of Federalism.