

An ANJeL-in-Europe lecture

Prof. Dr. Dr. Luke Nottage

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The Impact of EU Traceability Regulations for Japan's EV Battery Manufacturers, Australia's Critical Raw Materials Suppliers, Global Trade and Dispute Resolution

Date

Monday, 2 November 2026

Time

6:15 pm

Venue

RuW 2.102

Goethe University Frankfurt, Campus Westend

The value chains for critical raw materials in electric vehicle batteries run from mining in the Global South, Australia and Canada, through production in Asia, to consumption in the Global North. From 2027, EU law will require a digital product passport for market entry, giving consumers, investors and regulators product and sustainability data across the entire chain, and so tightening ESG compliance through verifiable data from miners, producers and recyclers.

Legal, geopolitical, commercial and technological factors nonetheless suggest that up- and mid-stream economies such as Australia, China and Japan will maintain or develop traceability laws of their own, overlapping only partly with the EU system. Prof. Nottage asks how mutual recognition agreements might link them, and how far such a system could be decentralised, drawing on private international law mechanisms developed for the cross-border traceability of documents: the recognition of personal and commercial certificates, arbitral awards and foreign judgments.

The lecture draws on an article written with Prof. Jeanne Huang in the *Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law*, and on a forthcoming book by both authors with Hart Publishing.

Host: Prof. Dr. Moritz Bälz, Faculty of Law, Goethe University Frankfurt am Main

In cooperation with the Interdisciplinary Centre for East Asian Studies (IZO) and the German-Japanese Lawyers' Association (DJJV)