

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 2013

Socialism has been discredited.  
Plutocracy is in the process of being discredited.  
Democratic capitalism has yet to be tried.

—Louis O. Kelso and Patricia Hetter  
Kelso, Democracy and Economic Power, 1991



Light sculpture by Daniel Alvarez and Francisco Perez (Photo: Ilka Riemer)

## We wish you a healthy and peaceful year 2013.

Dear colleagues, partners and friends,

May the new year find you in good health and bring you happiness, serenity and inspiration.

The **Kelso Professorship** of Comparative Law, East European Business Law and European Legal Policy is now in its third academic year at the European University Viadrina. On 28 October, we celebrated the inauguration of our **new library and the light sculpture** in our premises (photo above).

Now comprising of a staff of five, we have been able to raise third-party funding in an overall volume of more than half a million Euro over the past 32 months. It is a pleasure to an-

nounce the trilateral (DE/ES/PL) project "Employee Financial Participation in SMEs —A Strategy for Labour-Market Policy and Regional Business Development" the **Brandenburg Agency for Structure and Labour (LASA)** assigned to us.

The chair has successfully consolidated its position as consultant to the European Commission, the European Parliament, as well as to the European Economic and Social Committee.

In Brussels we just presented our study "**Employee Financial Participation in Companies' Proceeds**" commissioned by the European Parliament, which has decided to issue an own-initiative opinion based on our work.

On 4-5 February, we will present the **new German and Polish ESOP Model** against the background of the results of our projects for the German-Polish Science Foundation (DPWS) and Hans Böckler Foundation.

Of course, we keep working on issues of **legal reform in transition economies** and just presented the Russian version of "Financial Participation for a New Social Europe" in Moscow and Saint Petersburg.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

**Prof. Dr iur. Jens Lowitzsch**  
**Dipl. iur. Stefan Hanisch**  
**and the Kelso Professorship team**