



ABA Section of
International Law
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Teleconference
Thursday, Dec 4, 2014
6 pm CET/noon NYC time

A Victory for Freedom and Democracy: 25 Years after the Fall of the Iron Curtain

On November 9, 1989, people of East and West Berlin exuberantly embraced: that memorable Thursday evening ended decades of separation, not just of the city, but also in the political and social life of Eastern and Western Europe. Yet today, the fall of the Berlin Wall resonates as a dramatic political change.

Join this Teleconference on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall to engage in a discussion of its current legal and geo-political significance with distinguished speakers, who will provide insights as diplomats, historians, lawyers and political scientists, also sharing their personal experiences in these developments.

Moderator: **Dr. Pia Dorfmueller**, Certified Tax Advisor and Partner at P+P Pöllath + Partners mbB, Frankfurt, Germany

Speakers: **Jonathan Greenwald**, Vice-President of Publications at the International Crisis Group, Washington, DC, USA
Karsten Jung M.A., University for Political Science and Sociology, Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn, Germany
Doz. Dr. Wolfgang Mueller, Deputy Director of the Austrian Academy of Science (Institute for Modern and Contemporary History), Vienna, Austria

Chair: **Dr. Holger Bielez**, Attorney at Law and Partner, Wolf Theiss, Vienna, Austria (ABA SIL Programs Deputy)

Topics:

- Negotiation between Germany and the former Soviet Union
- German unification and the role of US diplomacy
- German perspectives on unification prior to November 9, 1989
- Helmut Kohl's 10 points-program
- The Fall of the Iron Curtain and its milestones throughout the year 1989
- Dramatic changes triggered by the events of 1989
- Contemporary implications

This Teleconference is sponsored by the Europe Committee of the Section of International Law of the American Bar Association.