

Michael Grabow, Judge at the County Court, Berlin

First experiences with the new legal instruments viewed from the perspective of a German Judge

The application at national level of Council Regulation (EC) No. 4/2009 of 18 December 2008 on jurisdiction, applicable law, recognition and enforcement of decisions and cooperation in matters relating to maintenance obligations as well as the Hague Convention of 27 November 2007 on the international recovery of child support and other forms of family maintenance and the Hague Protocol of 23 November 2007 on the law applicable to maintenance obligations is regulated through the revised version of the German Act on the Recovery of Maintenance in Relations with Foreign States (Auslandsunterhaltsgesetz – AUG).

In his capacity as Judge of a court having concentrated jurisdiction pursuant to Section 28 of the Foreign Maintenance Act, which simultaneously has local jurisdiction for the *forum necessitatis* and the subsidiary jurisdiction according to Articles 6 and 7 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 4/2009, the author will outline the first experiences of applying these international legal instruments at national level.