

Summary

The subject of the dissertation is to present the current state of legal regulation in the field of international telecommunications law and to analyze the processes of shaping new legal norms in this area under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), whose existence is extremely important for ensuring global and unified legal frameworks in the modern world. The considerations focus on establishing and presenting to what extent the ITU and its institutional frameworks influence and have influenced legal regulations in the telecommunications sector, and how the work of the ITU has shaped the direction of international telecommunications law development, socio-economic relations, and global development. The dissertation shows that the ITU influences the development (especially in developing countries) and unification of legal regulations in the field of international telecommunications law, while the growing interest of states and private entities in using communication systems is related to the growing needs of the telecommunications sector in terms of speed, throughput and range of telecommunications technologies. The rapid development of telecommunications and modern methods of sending information cause that international telecommunications law is subject to continuous and very dynamic changes. This process is compounded by the intervention of states, international organizations, and legal persons operating within the frameworks of national legal regimes, making international telecommunications law a multi-faceted field that affects the legal regimes of individual states. The dissertation provides a detailed analysis of the historical and legal evolution of the institutional structure of the ITU and its law-making role in the post-World War II period, in accordance with the order established by the International Telecommunication Convention of Atlantic City in 1947, compared to the structure and global law-making role of the ITU as a universal international organization, in the form established after the reform that took place in the early 1990s, as a result of the decisions made at the Plenipotentiary Conferences of the ITU in Geneva in 1992 and in Kyoto in 1994. The development of norms in international telecommunications law takes place gradually over many years, as technology progresses and practical aspects of use of technology develop. The creation of norms in international telecommunications law is not, in principle, an incidental event that constitutes a current response to invention enabling the development of telecommunications as a field of technology, but is a long-term process subjected to evolution and gradual modifications that can last

for decades, as it was and still is in the case of telephony, radio, computer networks (Internet), or satellite systems.

This dissertation consists of an introduction, five chapters and a conclusion, as well as eight appendices. Chapter I, titled *The Genesis of the International Telecommunication Union*, contains a historical outline showing the formation of the structure of international organizations regulating the functioning of the international telegraph and radio until 1932, i.e. immediately before the transformation of the International Telegraph Union into the International Telecommunication Union during the International Telecommunication Conference in Madrid. Chapter II, titled *Legal Framework of the International Telecommunication Union*, contains a detailed description of the structure of the International Telecommunication Union as defined by the Madrid International Telecommunications Convention of 1932 and the Atlantic City International Telecommunication Convention of 1947, as well as basic information about the structure of the International Telecommunication Union in the form shaped after the reconstruction made as a result of the agreements of the Plenipotentiary Conferences held in Geneva in 1992 and in Kyoto in 1994. Chapter III, titled *Institutional Framework of the International Telecommunication Union*, contains a detailed description of the structure of the contemporary International Telecommunication Union and the competences and tasks of bodies of this international organization, in particular a description of the competences and methods of operation of the Sectors of the International Telecommunication Union. Chapter IV, titled *Development of international telecommunications law under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union* contains a detailed description of the law-making activity of the International Telecommunication Union and also presents individual, selected legal acts created within the framework of the International Telecommunication Union. The dissertation presents selected decisions, resolutions and recommendations developed as part of the work of the World Conference on International Telecommunications, as well as all three Sectors of the International Telecommunications Union, namely the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) and the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D). Selected resolutions adopted at the Plenipotentiary Conferences are included in Appendices 1-8. Chapter V, titled *Cooperation of the International Telecommunication Union with other international organizations and private entities*, presents the cooperation of the International Telecommunication Union with international organizations whose scope of activity concerns the creation of regulations and the application of international

telecommunications law in the field of aviation, maritime transport and the use of satellite systems. This chapter also discusses global navigation satellite systems (GNSS).