Naming a State – Disputing over Symbols of Statehood at the Example of “Macedonia”

Michael Ioannidis*

* This article is based on a presentation given at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg in November 2009. The author wishes to thank the directors of the Institute, Professor Armin von Bogdandy and Professor Rüdiger Wolfrum for the opportunity to include this contribution in Vol. 14 (2010) of the Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law.
I. Introduction

II. Terminological Demarcations and their Background
   1. The Geographic Reference
   2. The Historical Reference
   3. The Administrative Reference
      a. The Reference to a Regional Administrative Division
      b. The Reference to a State Entity

III. Disputing over Symbols: A Peculiar Category of International Controversy
   1. The Case of Macedonia: Character and Evolution of the Dispute
      a. The Introduction of the Term in the International Context
      b. Recognition from the European Communities
      c. Admission to the United Nations
      d. Interim Accord
      e. Further Developments – Admission to NATO and the European Union
   2. Other Cases Involving Disputed Symbols of Statehood
      a. The Case of Ireland
      b. The Case of German Austria

IV. International Regulation of State Symbols
   1. International Law Principles and Concepts
      a. Statehood and Recognition
      b. Self-Determination
      c. Naming a State as Exercise of Power
   2. International Fora and the Regulation of State Symbols
      a. United Nations
      b. ISO

V. Conclusions