
Special Anniversary Article

Preface

It was, of course, a matter of huge importance which piece we would choose as the lead article for the first issue of *EJIL*. After all, the content of that issue would constitute an important Identity Card of the new journal and the lead article would be the Jewel in the Crown. The safe bet would have been to turn to one of the poobahs of the profession, maybe a judge on the World Court or, perhaps,

a distinguished professor with a string of honorary doctorates. I recall vividly the deliberation and the excitement in our choice. A relatively unknown young scholar with a challenging book recently published (to the study of which Bruno Simma and I had committed the entirety of our joint seminar). I have invited Martti Koskeniemi to revisit his lead article 20 years after its original publication.