**Short curriculum vitae**

Professor *Thomas Wilhelmsson*

Thomas Wilhelmsson (born in 1949), Doctor of Legal Science, is since 1982 Professor of Civil and Commercial Law at the University of Helsinki, Finland. He was 1998-2008 Vice-rector of the University, in charge of international affairs, 2008-2013 Rector, and since 2013 Chancellor of the University. As rector he has led a thorough university reform, converting the University from a state office into an independent public law legal person. He was 2010-2013 Vice Chair of the Finnish university association UNIFI and 2012-2013 president of the Scandinavian university association NUS. Since 2015 he is chairing the board of the Finnish public broadcasting company YLE.

As researcher professor Wilhelmsson has published books and articles in thirteen languages in contract law, insurance law, consumer law, the law of partnerships, tort law, European Community law and legal theory. He is internationally best known for his works on social justice in private law (in English: Critical Studies in Private Law, 1992 and Social Contract Law and European Integration, 1995) and on European consumer law (co-author of EC Consumer Law, 1997, European Fair Trading Law, 2006 and Rethinking EU Consumer Law, 2017). Recently he has been engaged in analysis of new trends of private law in postmodern society as well as in the debate on harmonization of contract law in Europe. For ten years (1980-1990) he was a member of the Finnish Market Court and he has been actively engaged in national and international commercial arbitration. He has been chairing several law drafting committees, dealing with reforms of consumer law, contract law as well as partnership law. He is a member of the Commission on European Contract Law (the Lando-Commission) and the Acquis group. He has been awarded the title Doctor iuris honoris causa by the Uppsala, Oslo and Tartu universities. He was awarded the Nordic Lawyers Prize in 2011. Member of The Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters, The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences in Gothenburg and Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences.

**Curriculum vitae**

**Thomas Wilhelmsson**

Born: 6.9.1949.  
- Candidate of Legal Science 1971, University of Helsinki   
- Licentiate of Legal Science 1973, University of Helsinki   
- Doctor of Legal Science 1980 (diss. 1977), University of Helsinki   
  
**Employment:**  
- Various positions at the University of Helsinki and the Swedish School of Economics, Helsinki, 1971­-1978  
- Counsellor of legislation at the Ministry of Justice 1979­-1981   
- Professor of civil and commercial law, University of Helsinki 1982-   
- Head of Department of Private Law 1989-1998  
- Vice-Rector 1998-2008

- Rector 2008-2013

- Chancellor 2013-2017

**Foreign research periods etc.**:  
- University of Gothenburg, 6 months, 1973,  
- University of Oslo, 2 months, 1974,   
- University of Oxford, Centre for Socio­ Legal Studies, 3 months, 1980,   
- University of Bremen, Zentrum für Europäische Rechtspolitik, 3 months, 1986.   
  
**Fields of research**:   
- Contract law and tort law (incl. insurance law), consumer protection, company law (esp. partnerships), EC law and legal theory. See the attached list of publications.   
  
**Research projects:**   
- Conducted extensive research projects i.a. on social (welfarist) contract law, products liability, consumer indebtedness, market control, unfair contract terms and EC consumer law.  
- Leader of research projects financed by the Academy of Finland concerning Social contract law and European integration (1991-­1993), Welfare State Expectations, Privatization and Private Law (1996-­1998) and Private Law in a Multicultural and Multilingual European Society (2005-2007).

- Vice Chair of the Center of Excellence on the Foundations of European Law and Polity 2007 (-2008)  
  
**Law drafting experience**:  
- As counsellor of legislation at the Ministry of Justice responsible for drafting, i.e., sales legislation, consumer credit legislation, the legislation on interest, amendments of company law etc.   
- Chairman of a Committee preparing a new legislation on partnerships.   
- Chairman of a Committee preparing new legislation on contracts in general.   
- Chairman of a Committee preparing new consumer credit legislation.   
- Member of a number of law drafting committees e.g. products liability, consumer sales, index clauses in contracts, cooperative firms, consumer administration, class action etc.   
- Member of the Expert Committee drafting the EC Consumer sales directive.  
- Member of the European Commission on Contract Law (the Lando-Commission) 1995-.  
- Member of the Acquis Group 2003-   
  
**Court Experience:**  
- Judge at the Market Court (deciding as the first and final instance questions concerning collective consumer protection and unfair competition) 1980­-1990.   
- Chairman of the board applying the regulation of index clauses at the ministry of finance 1987­-1992.   
- Chairman and member of several international as well as national arbitration tribunals, since 1981-  
  
**Academic assessment tasks** :  
- Chairing assessment board assessing Swedish legal education (9 universities) 1999-2000   
- Member of assessment team assessing legal education at University of Iceland 2004   
- Chairing assessment of Norwegian legal education 2007

- Chairing assessment of Turku University Faculty of Law 2015

- Chairing assessment of Umeå University 2017  
  
**Varia:**  
- Member of the Finnish Society of Sciences and Letters 1989­.   
- Chairman of the editorial council/editorial board of the Finnish journals Oikeus and JFT, and member of the councils of the foreign journals Tidsskrift for Rettsvitenskap ( Oslo), Journal of Consumer Policy, Consumer Law Journal, Juridica International (Tartu), European Review of Private Law, Zeitschrift für Europäisches Privatrecht and European Review of Contract Law.   
- Member of the Steering Committee of Eurofaculty, Riga 1993-1999.  
- Member of the International Academy of Commercial and Consumer law 1994-.  
- Member of the European Consumer Law Group 1994-.  
- Member of the board of International Association of Consumer Law 1997-. President of the Association 2007-2009.

- Vice President of the Finnish University Association UNIFI 2010-2013.

- President of the Scandinavian University Association NUS 2012-2013.

- Chairman of the Board of the Finnish Public Broadcasting Company Yle

- Chairman of the Board of the Sigrid Juselius Foundation. Member of the board of a couple of other foundations.

**Prizes, acknowledgements :**

- Doctor iuris honoris causa, University of Uppsala, Sweden 1997  
- Doctor iuris honoris causa, University of Oslo, Norway 2000   
- Doctor iuris honoris causa, University of Tartu, Estonia 2002  
- The Nordic Lawyers Prize (Knut och Alice Wallenbergs Stiftelses pris för rättsvetenskapliga insatser) 2011

- Member of the Finnish Society of Science and Letters, The Royal Society of Arts and Sciences in Gothenburg and Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences