

University of Groningen

## The JOKK Predicament

Poleshchuk, Vadim

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# PROPOSITIONS

- ✓ International law does not offer a solution to the problem of access to a citizenship for stateless people, except for certain groups of minors and foundlings.
- ✓ In most cases the principle of equality and non-discrimination and the principle of proportionality cannot guarantee access to a citizenship for members of ethnic and racial minorities – neither in international law nor in EU law.
- ✓ The expectations expressed by many lawyers of the radical development of the concept of European citizenship in the immediate aftermath of the *Rottmann* case were excessive and never materialised.
- ✓ In Estonia, contrary to the official rhetoric, the problem of mass statelessness was the result of political decisions taken in the early 1990s, not the law as such.
- ✓ Language requirements for naturalisation adversely affect the indigenised Russian-speaking community in Estonia and even amount to discrimination of its members on the grounds of ethnic origin, language or both.
- ✓ Dr Robert Alexy's proposition that Estonia's constitutional provisions on national minorities can somehow soften the effect of the tough citizenship policy is wrong.
- ✓ One of the explanations for the initial rapid spread of coronavirus in Europe could be a well-rooted cultural aversion to the practice of covering the face.
- ✓ The Russian Empire of the late nineteenth century was less oppressive towards gay men compared to some other great powers and it was so thanks to the dominant religion.
- ✓ COVID passports could be fertile ground for the emergence of a united European nation.
- ✓ The popular animated series 'SpongeBob SquarePants' is a great challenge to the global nuclear non-proliferation regime.