This Study Guide was prepared for the University of London by:

Dr Diamond Ashiagbor, Professor in Law at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

Dr Nicola Countouris, Lecturer in Law at University College London, London.

This Study Guide is an updated and revised edition of the previous (2006) edition of this Guide, which was written by Dr Pavlos Eleftheriadis, University Lecturer in the Faculty of Law and Fellow and Tutor in Law at Mansfield College, University of Oxford.

This is one of a series of Study Guides published by the University. We regret that owing to pressure of work the authors are unable to enter into any correspondence relating to, or arising from, the Guide.

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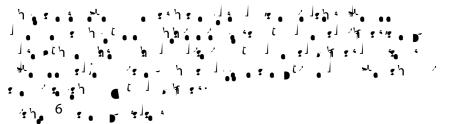
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2.2 The current principles



1. The Union recognises the rights, freedoms and principles set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union of 7 December 2000, as adapted at Strasbourg, on 12 December 2007, which shall have the same legal value as the Treaties.

The provisions of the Charter shall not extend in any way the competences of the Union as defined in the Treaties.

The rights, freedoms and principles in the Charter shall be interpreted in accordance with the general provisions in Title VII of the Charter governing its interpretation and application and with due regard to the explanations referred to in the Charter, that set out the sources of those provisions.

2. The Union shall accede to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. Such accession shall not affect the Union's competences as defined in the Treaties.

3. Fundamental rights, as guaranteed by the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and as they result from the constitutional traditions common to the Member States, shall constitute general principles of the Union's law.

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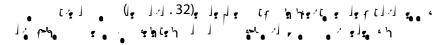
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2.2.1 The common standard of protection

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[T]he question of a possible infringement of fundamental rights by a measure of the Community institutions can only be judged in the light of Community law itself. The introduction of special criteria for assessment stemming from the legislation or constitutional law of a particular Member State would, by damaging the substantive unity and efficacy of Community [EU] law, lead inevitably to the destruction of the unity of the common market and the jeopardising of the cohesion of the Community [EU].

(Hauer, para. 14).



2.2.2 The scope of human rights in the EU

(II), p.475); Articles 1 and 4 of Council Directive 68/360/EEC of 15 October 1968 on the abolition of restrictions on movement and residence within the Community for workers of Member States and their families (OJ, English Special Edition 1968 (II), p.485), and Articles 1(1)(c) and 4 of the Directive).

39. It is clear that the separation of Mr and Mrs Carpenter would be detrimental to their family life and, therefore, to the conditions under which Mr Carpenter exercises a fundamental freedom. That freedom could not be fully effective if Mr Carpenter were to be deterred from exercising it by obstacles raised in his country of origin to the entry and residence of his spouse (see, to that effect, *Singh*, cited above, para. 23).

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2.3 The Charter of Fundamental Rights

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1/2 · · · · · ′ 🖌 👷 ካ 53,] ć٠, Nothing in this Charter shall be interpreted as restricting or adversely affecting human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognised, in their respective fields of application, by Union law and international law and by international agreements to which the Union or all the Member States are party, including the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and by the Member States' constitutions. ę ነካ የ • 1 h 1 / / 1 . . G 14]/<u>,</u> /] ∈] 51 ረ •• •• • **•** • • • • źh. . 1. The provisions of this Charter are addressed to the institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the Union with due regard for the principle of subsidiarity and to the Member States only when they are implementing Union law. They shall therefore respect the rights, observe the principles and promote the application thereof in accordance with their respective powers and respecting the limits of the powers of the Union as conferred on it in the Treaties.

2. The Charter does not extend the field of application of Union law beyond the powers of the Union or establish any new power or task for the Union, or modify powers and tasks as defined in the Treaties.

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