

Pirkko-Liisa Haarmann

* 3.2.1938 † 31.5.2021



Justice of the Supreme Court Pirkko-Liisa Haarmann (née Autio, formerly Aro) died of a long illness on 31 May 2021. She was born on 3 February 1938. Haarmann was a member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters since 1982.

Having graduated from secondary school in 1957, Haarmann went on to study law at the University of Helsinki in the same year. She graduated as a lawyer in 1961. After working a couple years at Helsinki City Administrative Court, Haarmann returned to the university as an Assistant in Civil Law. Her dissertation, completed in 1971 and entitled *Säätiön tarkoituksesta ja sen toteuttamisen takeista*, was the first extensive study on foundation law in Finland. Concerning foundation law, Haarmann also published the work *Säätiön lakkauttamisen edellytykset*.

After this, Haarmann shifted her interest to commercial law research. She published monographs at a rapid rate: *Ennakkokäyttö-oikeus patentinhaltijan yksinoikeuden rajoituksena* (1972), *Sattumanvaraiset edut elinkeinotoiminnassa* (1975) and *Kasvinjalostajan oikeudellisesta asemasta* (1977). She also published studies on the copyright of design and trademarks. Several editions were published of her notable general overviews,

Tekijänoikeus on copyright and *Immateriaalioikeus* on intellectual property right. Haarmann's style was characteristically succinct, allowing her to clearly capture the essential content of the existing law.

Haarmann was appointed Associate Professor of Civil Law at the University of Helsinki in 1973 and Professor of Commercial Law in 1978. Haarmann is the second woman in Finland to defend a dissertation in law and likewise the second woman to become a Professor of Law.

As a researcher well versed in civil and commercial law and with extensive experience in practising a legal profession, Haarmann was persuaded in the early 1980s to serve as an additional Justice of the Supreme Court. In 1983 she became a permanent Justice of the Supreme Court. She retired from this position in 2001. Haarmann expertly filled her position as a Justice. She did not stop publishing scientific research either and was a highly sought-after force at the university as a dissertation supervisor and a provider of creative advice.

As an active and positive person, Haarmann was involved in many activities. She was a highly sought-after asset in the drafting of Finnish legislation as the chairper-

son of key committees. She presided over the Board of Business Practice of the Central Chamber of Commerce and the Copy-

right Council, among others. She also held high positions of trust in Finnish organizations of lawyers.

Obituary by Heikki Halila and Rainer Oesh