



Kari-Pekka Tiitinen

* 28.12.1944 † 2.1.2024

Professor Emeritus Kari-Pekka Tiitinen passed away on 2 January 2024 in the city of Järvenpää. He was born in Helsinki on 28 December 1944. He became a member of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters in 2005.

Tiitinen graduated as a student in 1966. He took his Master's degree in Law at Helsinki University in 1970, became a licentiate in 1973 and defended his doctoral thesis in 1979. In the 1970s, he also married his wife Carola and they had two children (Katja 1972 and Arto 1975).

Tiitinen held various positions in Labour Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki, from 1971 onwards until he was appointed Full Professor of Labour Law on 1 July 1985. He retired from this position as professor emeritus in 2010.

As a labour law researcher, Tiitinen was particularly inspired and influenced by his senior colleague Kaarlo Sarkko. They were both strongly influenced by the Finnish researcher Jorma Vuorio who introduced Nordic analytical legal thinking into academic labour law research in Finland in the 1950s. Vuorio's thesis *Työsuhteen ehtojen määrittäminen* is a classic theoretical exploration of Finnish labour law (1955).

This analytical approach was very prominent in Tiitinen's dissertation, which was published in 1979 and dealt with negotiation clauses in collective agreements. It was well received both by the academic audience as well as by practitioners.

Tiitinen published mainly in Finnish and his research focused on Finnish labour law, but he also wrote a number of publications in English. Among others, he published an extensive report on European Works Councils in Finland in the International Encyclopaedia for Labour Law and Industrial Relations, which was edited by Roger Blanpain. Together with Ilkka Ruponen, he published a book on mediation in labour conflicts, which was also published in English.

Tiitinen played a prominent role in preparing and drafting labour law legislation in Finland over four decades from the 1970s until the early 2000s. He was actively involved in the codification of labour laws for the maritime sector in Finland in the 1970s and early 1980s. In the 1990s, he led national committees that prepared labour legislation on working time and for a new Employment Contracts Act.

Tiitinen was active as a labour law judge. He was a member and even the Vice-Chair

of the Finnish Labour Court from 1981 to 2000 and he was Chair of the Finnish Labour Council from 1991 to 2003.

Tiitinen had a background in volleyball. He even achieved a Finnish championship as a player in the Käpylä volleyball team in

1965. It was therefore natural for sport organisations in Finland to make use of his knowledge. He was a member of the Sports Legal Protection Board 1991–2008. He also was the Vice-Chair of the Finnish Sports Law Association 1994–2011.

Obituary by Niklas Bruun