

Summary

“WikiLeaks, Kants „Princip der Publicität“, Whistleblowing und „illegale Geheimnisse“

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This article is concerned with the acts of the WikiLeaks website in respect of criminal law and ethical aspects. Parallel problems are also taken into consideration. In particular, the question is debated, what consequences can be drawn from Kant’s “principle of publicity [Princip der Publicität]” in judging WikiLeaks. Furthermore, WikiLeaks behaviour is compared to the phenomenon of whistleblowing, and similarities to the term “illegal secrets [illegale Geheimnisse]” known in German Criminal Law are shown. Finally, it is discussed, under what conditions publications in the style of WikiLeaks may be acceptable.