



ELI

EUROPEAN
LAW
INSTITUTE

ELI Updates

January - February 2017



MESSAGE FROM FREDERIC SICARD, BÂTONNIER DE L'ORDRE DES AVOCATS DE PARIS

Dear Members and Friends of the ELI,

The Paris Bar Associations joined the ELI in 2016 as an Institutional Observer. I am pleased and privileged to be the first President of the Paris Bar Association to express his views in the ELI Newsletter, which I hope will have a long and successful tradition. The Paris Bar is now part of this prestigious panel of European institutions to exchange thoughts and ideas to continue to build on the European model. To paraphrase the French revolutionary Danton, we will never stop shouting, "Europe! Europe! Forever Europe!"

As soon as I took up the office, I was committed to making Europe central to my concerns. I initiated a phase dedicated to the "Major European Conferences of the Paris Bar" – in order to advocate for the strengthening of European legal development. To this end, we were able to welcome Didier Reynders, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, Jean-Claude Juncker and Xavier Bettel recently. We were also honoured to welcome Věra Jourova, the European Commissioner for Justice, Consumer Protection and Gender Equality at a formal sitting of the Paris Bar.

At a time when Europe faces great challenges, it is crucial for organisations to find workable solutions and to use these circumstances as opportunities for the betterment of the European legal system and the European model in general. For example, we are certainly considering different actions with national bodies of the profession, and the CCBE in particular, in order to find a solution for all the London-based Paris lawyers. Another project of note is TRACHILD, an EU-funded project that the Paris Bar is currently carrying out with the help of the European Lawyers Foundation, designed for the training of lawyers representing children in criminal, administrative and civil justice in cooperation with the Bar Associations of Greece, Poland, Ireland, Spain and Cyprus.

The Paris Bar, which currently counts around 30,000 lawyers among its membership, has been an international seat of law since time immemorial. With its experience and the essential values it defends, the Paris Bar wishes to reiterate that the freedom of movement of goods, capital, services and people is the cornerstone of a strong and dynamic Europe.

I was able to participate at the 45th Conference of Presidents of Bar Associations and the Standing Committee of the European Bar Council on 22 February in the historic city of Vienna. Vienna is a symbol of the future, as is the ELI, which has quickly become a major institution. The Paris Bar is proud of its cooperation with the ELI, which will be strengthened by the forthcoming membership of a large number of its Paris lawyers.

Frédéric Sicard

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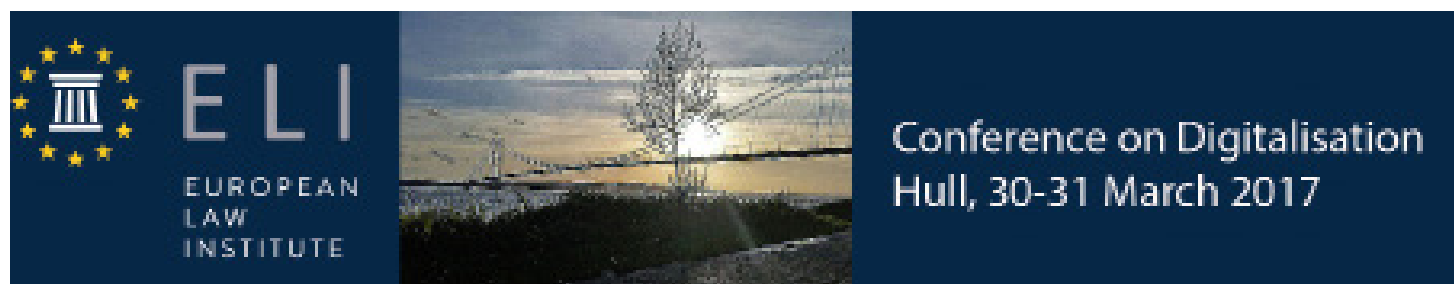
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30-31 March 2017: Conference on Digitalisation



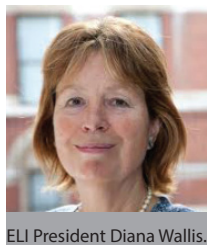
Where: The Lawns Conference Centre, Hull (UK)

[Register now](#)

[Agenda](#)

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ELI President Diana Wallis.

'It is my great pleasure to invite you to my 'home' university of Hull, situated in the beautiful East Riding of Yorkshire. This year the city of Hull is the UK's City of Culture, which adds an extra buzz to what is going on here. This is also the home city of the great anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce, after whom the building in which our Law School is housed is named. Today, our society has new challenges, particularly all things 'digital'; so we are inviting you to a conference, alongside our normal council meeting, examining emerging legal issues in the digital society. I hope you will find the agenda appealing and will embrace the opportunity to engage with us in discussion on these issues.'

Emerging Legal Issues in an Increasingly Digital Society

On 30-31 March 2017, top legal experts from Europe and beyond will gather in Hull (UK) to discuss emerging legal issues in an increasingly digital society.

Digitalisation has had a huge impact on society. In fact, it permeates all aspects of our daily lives. We read the news in a digital form, conduct business and communicate with each other through a variety of applications and platforms, and, in many cases, even resolve our disputes through online ADR.

Despite the huge benefits of this increased connectivity, and the enormous positive potential of the analytical capabilities of big data, there are always risks involved as well. Personal data has never been as vulnerable as now, when even cars and refrigerators might be divulging information on the patterns of people's daily lives. Mass contracting, even though it saves money and time, can lead to a decrease in consumer protection. Online justice may become hard to monitor unless there are sufficient rules and guidelines in place.

In many fields, technological advancement was so rapid, that the law has not been able to keep up to it. The Conference will consider many different ways in which digitalisation has an impact on the law, and aim at identifying potential problems, as well as discussing possible solutions.

In the afternoon of 31 March, the Digital Law Special Interest Group (SIG) will have a meeting. Although membership of the SIGs is reserved for ELI members, all participants of the Conference are welcome and encouraged to attend this meeting.

The ELI would be delighted to welcome you at the Conference, which will take place in Hull, the [UK City of Culture 2017](#), on 30-31 March.

If you are interested in attending the event, in joining the ELI 'Digital Law' SIG or finding out more about it, we encourage you to contact the ELI Secretariat or to visit the ELI website for more updates.

6-8 September 2017: Annual Conference and General Assembly



The ELI 2017 Annual Conference and General Assembly will take place in Vienna (Austria) from 6 to 8 September 2017. The Conference will be organised in cooperation with the City of Vienna, which will host the Conference in the Vienna City Hall (Rathaus).

The event will start on Wednesday with the meeting of the General Assembly, followed by two panel sessions. The General Assembly will feature reports from the ELI President, the Treasurer and other members of the Executive Committee as well as the Council. It will also be the start of the voting for 30 seats of the ELI Council. An evening reception will take place on Wednesday at the impressive Palais Trautson, part of the Ministry of Justice.

Panel sessions will provide ELI Members and external participants with the opportunity to discuss the most

topical legal issues in the European landscape.

Leading figures in the European legal community will be discussing current topics in the fields of civil procedure, digitalisation, tax law and family law, among others.

The Conference will feature presentations on the final results of the ELI project on 'Business Rescue and Insolvency Law' and the ELI project on migration, 'Detention of Asylum Seekers and Irregular Migrants and the Rule of Law'.

At the Gala Dinner, which will take place at the gorgeous venue of Palais Niederösterreich on Thursday evening, the new Executive Committee will be announced. Furthermore, another beloved Heuriger-event is planned to conclude the Conference on Friday evening with informal Austrian tradition.



First ELI European Young Lawyers Award

- CALL FOR PAPERS -



The ELI European Young Lawyers Award was officially launched at the Annual Conference 2016. The goal of this award is to provide the young European legal community with a mechanism to propose practical suggestions for the improvement of European law, as a way of giving voice to the future European legal experts and to help the ELI in fulfilling its core mission of improving the quality of European law.

Candidates must submit a **unique and original paper**,

which was not previously published, dealing with a European legal issue that could be improved. The contribution may be submitted in any of the EU official languages **along with an English translation**. You can find more details, including the ELI Stylesheet template on our [website](#). **The deadline for submission is 30 April 2017, 8pm CET.**

The **awarded** candidate will be invited to present his/her paper at the 2017 ELI Annual Conference in Vienna.

Council Elections 2017 – Would You Like to Serve on the Council?

ELI Fellows wishing to play a more active role in the Institute and eager for the opportunity to help make important decisions about the governance and activities of the ELI can put themselves forward for a seat on the ELI Council. The 2017 General Assembly will elect 30 Members of the.

Members of the Council are responsible for electing the Executive Committee, including the President, Vice-President and Treasurer. Council members approve applications for new members, decide which projects the ELI should embark on and appoint reporters. Council members have an opportunity



Council Meeting, 7 September, Ferrara.

to join standing committees, such as the Membership or the Fundraising Committee.

Council members are also encouraged to

play a leading role with regard to the management of Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

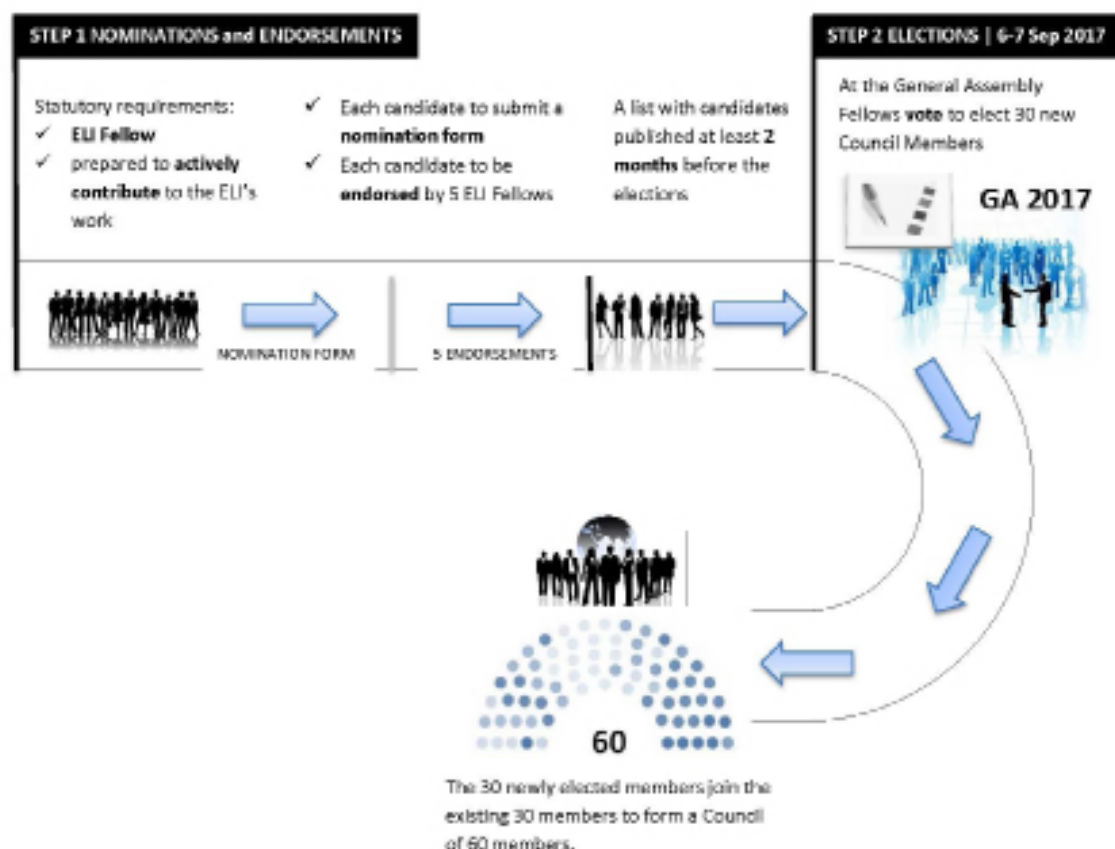


Council Meeting, 12 February, Vienna.

The Council meets at least twice a year, and makes decisions electronically on a regular basis. Reasonable costs of travelling and accommodation incurred as a result of ELI Council business are usually reimbursed by the Institute according to the [ELI Reimbursement Guidelines](#).

The nomination and endorsement phase will begin in April, and will last until 16 May. An announcement of the exact dates along with nomination and endorsement forms will be circulated by email and will be available to download from the ELI website as soon as the process begins.

2017 Council Elections | HOW TO BECOME a Member of the ELI Council



Updates on Projects

Criminal Law Instrument

After three years of studies and research, the Project Team of the ELI Project 'Prevention and Settlement of Conflicts of Exercise of Jurisdiction in Criminal Law' has finalised its draft Instrument and is ready for a vote on the output of the Project by all ELI Fellows and Members of the Council.

The Project focuses on an area of law that is greatly underregulated. Moreover, any regulation of rules governing conflicts of jurisdiction in criminal law is potentially politically volatile. The Project Team took the novel and inspired approach of developing not one, but three new legal frameworks for the prevention and resolution of conflicts of exercise of jurisdiction. Each piece of legislation goes further than the last and thus the three legal frameworks offer to policy makers not only an instrument that

fits the purpose, but also offers a variety of choices which fit different political outcomes.

The preliminary results were introduced to ELI Members at the 2016 ELI Annual Conference in Ferrara. The Project Team has since then taken all discussions and feedback into consideration and produced its final draft of the Instrument.

Fellows are encouraged to access the draft instrument and vote on it through the [MyELI platform](#) or [email](#) from 10-31 March.

A special report with further details [on this project](#), and with detailed background information will be sent to ELI Members mid-March to accompany the start of voting.

Publication of the ELI and ENCJ Consultation Paper by the ADR Project

The Project Team of the joint ELI and ENCJ project 'The Principled Relationship of Formal and Informal Justice through the Courts and Alternative Dispute Resolution' met at three working meetings in Brussels and Vienna last year. The Team has been analysing and considering whether ADR schemes, offered throughout Europe, are voluntary, sufficiently visible and transparent, of acceptable quality in procedure and dispute resolution, and whether they develop consistently with a proper and principled approach to access to the courts. Based on the discussions held, and research and preliminary feedback from stakeholders, the Project Team finalised a consultation paper in January 2017, which was disseminated among various stakeholders.

The consultation paper examines the relationship between formal and informal justice and considers the risks posed by the increasing prevalence of many different forms of ADR. The paper also proposes three possible outcomes for the project:

(i) the preparation of a statement of European best practice in relation to the approach that courts

and judges should adopt in interacting with all types of ADR processes;

(ii) the preparation of a statement of European best practice in relation to the approach that those responsible for all types of ADR processes should adopt in interacting with courts and judges, and

(iii) making recommendations as to the best European models that can be developed and applied for coherent access to dispute resolution processes in respect of different types of dispute, and towards which Member States may wish to progress.



This project is co-funded by the European Union

The ELI would like to encourage all its Members to contribute to the project and would appreciate as many responses as possible. We kindly ask you to submit all replies to:

secretariat@europeanlawinstitute.eu by Monday 13 March 2017. To learn more about the project, and to access the consultation paper, please visit the ELI website under the ['Current Projects' page](#).

Meeting of the ELI Project 'Empowering European Families'

In private international law, habitual residence has become the dominant connecting factor in EU conflict rules. Therefore, a change of habitual residence of a party often results in a change of the applicable law. An existing family relationship may have a completely different legal status upon moving into another jurisdiction. This may lead to unexpected consequences and hardships, e.g. in a loss of rights on the part of the weaker party in a relationship or in the distribution of an estate, the manner of which is incompatible with the expectations of the deceased and the surviving family.



The project 'Empowering European Families', which was launched in February 2016 as a joint project

with the University of Utrecht and the University of Vienna, and which is financed by an EU action grant, consists of three Workstreams. The first one, which has already been finalised, concerns private international law, whereas the second and third

Workstreams relate to substantive family law.

On 19-20 January 2017, the second Working Group meeting of Workstream 2 took place in Vienna at the ELI Secretariat. The Working Group members came together to analyse national reports and to draft a matrimonial agreement for spouses on substantive law issues. This model agreement is mainly aimed at dealing with matrimonial property, maintenance and pension rights. Subsequently, a similar agreement will be drafted for registered partners.

The next meetings of Workstream 2 will take place on 12-14 March in Vienna and on the 18-20 June in Utrecht. The latter will be combined with a public workshop, where the first results of this Workstream will be officially presented.

More information about the project is available [here](#) as well as on the [project's homepage](#).



Co-funded by the Justice Programme of the European Union

First Meeting of the ELI Project Team on 'Model Rules on Online Intermediary Platforms'

On 19-20 January 2017, the preliminary ELI Project Team on 'Model Rules on Online Intermediary Platforms' met in Krakow, Poland. This was the first meeting after the project was approved on 7 September 2016 by the ELI Council as an adopted project. The goal of the meeting was to form a working plan on how to transform and improve the draft directive on Online Intermediary Platforms into ELI Model Rules. The event was organised by the Jagiellonian University together with the University of Osnabrück and was co-funded by the Polish National Science Centre.

The intent of the Project Team is to develop fully fleshed-out model rules on online intermediary platforms that set out a balance between conflicting policy options and demonstrate what potential regulation on EU or national level could look like. Online platforms are often triangular-based business models, which require the customer and supplier not only to make an agreement between

each other, but also to conclude an additional agreement with a platform operator. This complex contractual relationship between the different parties can lead to legal uncertainties and often leaves customers without effective consumer protection.



The members of the Project Team discussed the key topics covered by the draft model rules and considered how the rules need to be amended, improved or expanded. The team also formed drafting groups that will produce first amended drafts before the next meeting, which will be convened in Osnabrück on 2-3 March.

Further information about the project can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Project Events

Workshop: Building a Data Economy, Vienna, 20 March 2017

On 10 January 2017, the European Commission published a Communication on 'Building a European Data Economy' and launched a public consultation on the topic. At the same time, the ELI and the American Law Institute (ALI) are working on a feasibility study for a potential future project on data as an asset and tradeable item in the 21st century. - Are our laws fit to meet the challenges?

Data is now described as 'the currency of the digital economy' and 'the crude-oil' or 'life-blood' of the fourth industrial revolution. So far, the conventional laws governing trade and commerce have historically focused on assets and the trade in items that are either goods or rights. However, data cannot be readily classified as goods or rights, and neither are they arguably services, but all the same they are tradeable items and have monetary value. For this reason, concerns range from manifest uncertainty of the law, potentially inhibiting innovation and growth

to a loss of control by governments, legislatures and judiciaries as well as serious issues of consumer protection and fundamental rights.

On 20 March 2017, the ELI and ALI are hosting a joint workshop that will serve to provide an overview of the many different ways that data affects, and is affected by, the laws of Europe and the United States. The workshop will take place at the *Haus der Europäischen Union*, at Wipplingerstraße 35, 1010, which is conveniently located on the opposite side of the street where the ELI Secretariat is.

The programme of the workshop is available [here](#). If you are interested in attending, please contact the [ELI Secretariat](#). Kindly note, however, that due to security measures and limited space at the venue, only very few additional participants can be accepted.



Conference on Business Rescue in Insolvency Law

On 27-28 April 2017, the ELI Project on 'Business and Rescue in Insolvency Law' will host a Conference in Vienna, which will be convened at the beautiful Palais Trautson, located at Museumsstraße 7. The Conference, which has become a yearly tradition by now, has been held twice, once in Vienna in 2015, and in Leiden in 2016, and has been received very well.

The upcoming April Conference in Vienna will be particularly attractive to those following the Project closely, since its Project Team is completing their

final report and will be presenting tangible results and suggestions.

All National Correspondents (NCs) of the Project, the Advisory Committee and the Members Consultative Committee (MCC) are invited to attend, as well as those interested in Business Rescue.

More information about the project can be found on the ELI website and in the [project brochure](#).



This project is co-funded by the European Union

ELI Representation

President Diana Wallis at European Day on Mediation in

As a form of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), the use of mediation is increasing in no small part due to its promotion by the Council of Europe and the European Union. As a method, mediation has the potential to diminish the number of protracted and complex court hearings and thus the associated expenses both for the parties and the courts. In addition, both parties can perhaps walk away with something and at best perhaps with their relationship still intact. As the numbers of official mediators continue to increase, also the importance of this dispute resolution method grows Europe-wide and equally the critical attention that is directed towards it.

On 18 January 2017, the Spanish Council of the Judiciary celebrated the European Day on Mediation in Madrid. According to the organisers, the event was attended by more than one hundred participants, mostly coming from Spain, representing various legal backgrounds such as judges and mediators.

On this occasion, President Diana Wallis emphasised the importance of a good relationship between mediation and formal court-based justice, which is

the *'subject matter of a joint project between the ELI and the ENCJ'*. She pointed out both the positives and potential *'magic'* of the mediation approach, whilst also warning of the risks of not doing justice to weaker parties in the process. Diana Wallis encouraged the solving of disputes *'in more imaginative ways, other than through a binary choice of one side being right and the other being wrong'*.



President Diana Wallis in Madrid.

Apart from Diana Wallis, Nuria Diaz Abad, a member of the General Council of the Spanish Judiciary and President of the European Network of Councils of Justice (RECJ), spoke about the RECJ's work on mediation.

Further information about the event is available [here](#). For more details about the ELI-ENCJ please follow this [link](#).

President Diana Wallis Attended the Meeting of the EP Legal Affairs Committee

On Tuesday, 28 February 2017, Diana Wallis, President of the ELI, attended a meeting of the Legal Affairs Committee of the European Parliament (EP) in Brussels.

The Committee considered a draft report by Mr Emil Radev, MEP, on 'The Recommendations to the Commission on Common Minimum Standards in Civil Proceedings'. The draft report contains a proposal for a Directive on this subject and invites the Commission to take further action in this area to enhance certainty and access to justice.

The ELI has for some years now been working with UNIDROIT on producing soft law European Rules for civil procedure based on the previous and very successful 'Principles of Transnational Civil Procedure'



developed between UNIDROIT and the American Law Institute (ALI).

President Wallis, herself a former MEP, and former member of the JURI committee, said, *'The ELI is clearly delighted that the Rapporteur has taken inspiration from our joint work with UNIDROIT and we have been pleased that both Parliament and Commission have been following this so closely. It is clear that a coherent European approach to civil procedure can help safeguard rights and simplify access to justice in cross border cases.'*

The Project has recently been gaining recognition among the actors involved in developing proposals and solutions in the domain of unified civil procedure. The need to address the issues arising therefrom at a European level has already been accepted so it seems unrealistic not to look further.

Wallis continued, *'There has long been an alleged divide between substantive law and procedural law where, in respect of the latter, this has been felt to be the sole domain of the Member States. Maintaining this division becomes difficult when even at the commencement of proceedings it is clear there is a need for a common approach for basic issues like how documents are served on parties. It is, therefore, good to see that the report encourages the Commission to*

go further in the interests of justice. [...] Moreover, procedural rules need to keep up with technological and other developments if justice systems are to provide accessible and comprehensible dispute settlement possibilities that enhance economic activity across the national borders of the Internal Market.'



This project is co-funded by the European Union

Judge Zalar on Current Immigration and Asylum Law at Odysseus Annual Conference

The 'migration crisis' of 2015 still seems very recent even though a long time has passed and, politically speaking, a lot has changed in Europe. The impact of that many refugees and migrants arriving within the European Union surprised not just European citizens, but also politicians and experts in the field of migration, who were overwhelmed by the effects and the collapse of agreements, e.g. the Dublin Regulation. Suddenly, the entire construct of the European Union was put to the test. For this reason, this matter along with EU-wide asylum processes and policies constitute tremendous tasks to be dealt with.



Judge Boštjan Zalar.

This year's Odysseus Annual Conference on 10 February, organised in cooperation with the European Commission's Representation in Belgium, featured an intervention by

Judge Boštjan Zalar, the Reporter of the ELI project 'Detention of Asylum Seekers and Irregular Migrants and the Rule of Law'. Judge Zalar participated in a workshop on 'Judicial Interactions on Control of Return and Asylum Detention'.

Judge Zalar answered the question whether there was a crisis of the rule of law in the European Union with yes. According to Judge Zalar, there is a huge discrepancy between European Law and national practices. For this reason, he said, *'better organisation and improved provision of training services for judges, where non-judges can participate to a limited extent'* could be a solution.

He continued and presented the ELI project, which aims at providing judges with a check-list of all relevant information on EU law and Strasbourg case-law standards for every major aspect of judicial control of detention. Furthermore, Judge Zalar warned that *'ad hoc and collaborative networks will not be enough. [...] We need much more support in EU law in terms of a defined institutional structure [...].'* He hereby welcomed the envisaged regulation on the establishment of an EU Asylum Agency.

More information on the Odysseus Annual Conference can be found [here](#).

A webstream of the panel in which Judge Zalar participated is available [here](#) and his presentation paper can be found [here](#).

SIG Updates

The ELI Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were established in February 2015 and some SIGs had an opportunity to discuss their potential areas of focus during the 2015 ELI Annual Conference in September in Vienna. One year later, in September 2016, SIGs were able to meet in Ferrara to summarise the results of their work and the achieved medium-term progress.

Some of the SIGs also scheduled further meetings to be held in 2017, which we are pleased to announce in this issue:

Administrative Law

The Administrative Law SIG, in cooperation with Andrásy University, ELTE University and the Kúria, organises a conference on 7-8 June 2017 in Budapest (Hungary). On the first day, twelve Members of the SIG are going to present their thoughts on different topics around administrative law. The evening will be topped off with a reception at the Austrian Ambassador's residence. The next day, on 8 June, participants will be offered the chance to visit the Supreme Court (Kúria), which includes a guided tour, and to have a talk with its President.

Further information, including the agenda of this conference, will be provided in due course on the SIG's website.

Business and Financial Law SIG

The Business and Financial Law SIG, is planning an Inaugural Workshop on 23 June 2017 in Vienna, Austria. The event will gather experts of various disciplinary and geographical backgrounds and take place at the Faculty of Law of the University of Vienna. The workshop will feature a series of three plenary panels on the following topics: (1) financial transparency and accountability of corporate groups and financial intermediaries, (2) groups of companies, shareholder rights and obligations, and related responsibilities and liabilities, and (3) cross-

border mobility of companies.

The workshop aims to generate an open discussion with all the participants, developing review and constructive critique of existing laws and regulations, while setting plans for the future work of the SIG in view to contribute to the European law-making on these matters. To register, please follow [this link](#). The agenda can be found [here](#).

Dispute Resolution SIG

The next meeting of the Dispute Resolution SIG will be held on 28 April 2017 in Leuven (Belgium) and will be hosted by the Faculty of Law of the University of Leuven. The discussions during this event will focus on the topic 'ISDS and the Search for Further Activities'. All the experts interested in this area are invited to join the meeting, which is open to both Members and non-Members of the SIG. Kindly note that due to the organisational capacity of the chosen venue, the meeting is limited to maximum 25 participants, therefore before registering for this event, we kindly ask you to contact the ELI Secretariat concerning the availability.

Digital Law SIG

The ELI Conference on Digitalisation at the end of March also provides an opportunity for the Digital Law SIG to meet in Hull (UK) in the afternoon of 31 March 2017 from 1:50pm to 3:10pm. On the agenda so far are reports from: the Post-CESL Group, the Platform Sub-group, the Free Flow of Data Sub-group, the IoT Sub-group, the Big Data Sub-group, the Autonomous Vehicles Sub-group, and the E-User Self-Protection in an E-Intrusive World Sub-group.

If you are interested in joining one of the ELI SIGs, please do not hesitate to contact the ELI Secretariat.

We will be pleased to guide you in the process.

HUB Updates

French Hub

On 31 January 2017, the Law Faculty of the Université Catholique de Lyon, with the support of the ELI French Hub, organised a conference with Jean-Marc Sauvé on 'The European Protection of Fundamental Rights' in Lyon.

Within the scope of the 60 years anniversary of the European Union, based on the Treaty of Rome's (25 March 1957) establishment of the European Economic Community, a conference with Christiaan Timmermans was held on 13 February 2017, also hosted by the Université Catholique de Lyon, honouring this anniversary.

Italian Hub

On 16 March 2017, the Istituto Universitario di Studi Europei is hosting a conference, which is organised by the Italian Hub. Topic will be the 'Six Decades of Trade Policy: the EU at a Crossroad'.

The Conference will start at 9.30am with a lecture on 'The EU as an International Trade Stakeholder: How it Works and How to Work it' by Paolo Garzotti, who is representing the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the Permanent EU Mission to the WTO. Afterwards, a round-table discussion will deal with 'The EU Trade Strategy: Trade for All'. Discussants listed are Paolo Garzotti, Francesco Abbate (University of Turin), Lorenza Mola (University of Turin), and Elisa Ruoizzi (University of Turin).

Membership

Please note that membership fee invoices and payment confirmations will be sent out in the second and third week of March. We would kindly ask you to make the payment as soon as possible. Membership fees can be paid by bank transfer, PayPal/credit card or by initiating a SEPA Direct Debit mandate. Please visit our [website](#) for further information on these possibilities of payment. Kindly contact the [Secretariat](#) with any questions arising in this context.

Information and registration are possible through the Universitario di Studi Europei via phone call +390116709425 and by email to info@iuse.it.

The Conference will take place at Campus Luigi Einaudi, Sala Lauree Rossa at the University of Turin.

Spanish Hub

On 9 May 2017, the Spanish Hub is coming together for its second meeting, which will take place in Granada. Those wishing to participate as speakers are kindly asked to fill in the registration form before 31 March and to send it to the Spanish Hub email address (spanish.hub@europeanlawinstitute.eu). If you want to have your presentation published, it should be handed in according to the style sheet on the Hub website.

Each proposal should analyse a judgment of the Court of Justice of the European Union or of the European Court of Human Rights, freely chosen by the presenter, linking to 'internal law'. Each speaker will have ten minutes for their oral presentation, which will be conducted in working groups organised by subject.

The speakers will be selected by the Scientific Committee and the final selection will be announced on 16 April.

Further information about the form and style sheet are available [on the website](#).

The ELI Secretariat would be grateful if you could carefully check your invoice and make sure that the address details are correct. For this reason, the ELI Secretariat would kindly like to ask its Members, who changed their affiliation or contact details, to notify the [ELI Secretariat](#). In this regard, the ELI will send a separate email, asking for an update. Thank you in advance!

New Institutional Observers



Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) is a public research university in London, England and a constituent college of the federal University of London. It dates back to the London Hospital Medical College founded in 1785 and has currently over 21,000 students from 155 nationalities.

Queen Mary is a member of the Russell Group of leading British research universities, the Association of Commonwealth Universities and Universities UK. Queen Mary is a major centre for medical teaching and research and is part of UCL Partners, the world's largest academic health science centre. It has a strategic partnership with the University of Warwick, including research collaboration and joint teaching of English, history and computer science undergraduates. Queen Mary also collaborates with Royal Holloway, University of London to run programmes at the University of London Institute in Paris.

Queen Mary is ranked among the top universities in London. It was also ranked top 20 in the UK. There are six Nobel Laureates amongst Queen Mary's alumni and current and former staff.

The School of Law in particular has been ranked 5th in the UK in the Guardian University Guide 2017 and was voted 35th best university in the world to study law by QS World University Rankings by Subject. In the field of EU, high quality research is conducted by leading experts in all areas of EU law, from constitutional aspects, external relations, fundamental rights, immigration and criminal law. Testament of the strong engagement with European studies is the operation of the Centre for European and International Legal Affairs (CEILA), within the auspices of which a series of events (conferences, seminar series, workshops, book launches) take place each academic year.



The Paris Bar was founded under the reign of Louis XIV in 1274. Nowadays, it represents almost 30 000 lawyers, i.e. nearly half of those practicing in France, with an equal number of men and women among its ranks. Its prime objectives are to organise and structure the legal profession, to strengthen training and adapt it to the deep changes occurring in society and to expand the role and the influence of law in France and abroad.

Traditionally, the Paris Bar is very often approached when human rights are in danger. It supports the abolition of the death penalty actively and has been a member of the Steering Committee of the World Coalition against the Death Penalty since its creation in 2002. The Paris Bar is also a founding member of The International Observatory for Lawyers in Danger (OIAD) launched in 2015. The purposes of the OIAD are to defend lawyers who come under threat because they practice their profession and to denounce situations which are detrimental to the right to defence.

Mission:

- 1) Mission of Assistance: Lawyers of the Paris Bar are able to issue advice, assist, represent litigants and inform them on the exercise of their rights.
- 2) Social Mission: The Bar Paris has developed access to justice for the greatest number of people, via free legal consultations.
- 3) Mission of ensuring civil liberties: The Paris Bar promotes and defends, in France and around the world, Human Rights and has emerged as a key player in the defence of liberty.
- 4) Economic Development Mission: The Paris Bar participates in the creation of economic wealth by advising entrepreneurs and ensures Paris' prime position on the international market in legal development.

Some of the upcoming events - Save the date!



- **20 March, Vienna:** Workshop on 'Building a Data Economy'
- **30-31 March, Hull:** Conference on Digitalisation of Law, Meeting of the Digital Law SIG
- **27-28 April, Vienna:** Business Rescue Conference
- **18-20 June, Utrecht:** Public Workshop on Family Law
- **23 June, Vienna:** Business and Financial Law SIG Inaugural Workshop
- **6-8 September, Vienna:** ELI 2017 Annual Conference and General Assembly
- **16-17 November, Vienna:** UNIDROIT Meeting with the Steering Committee
- **30 November - 1 December, Trier:** Public Workshop on Family Law



The ELI mission

Building on the wealth of diverse legal traditions, the European Law Institute's mission is the quest for better law-making in Europe and the enhancement of European legal integration. By its endeavours, the ELI seeks to contribute to the formation of a more vigorous European legal community, integrating the achievements of the various legal cultures, endorsing the value of comparative knowledge, and taking a genuinely pan-European perspective.

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