

List of speakers

Dr Elena Bargelli, Professore Associato, University of Pisa

Ms Eva Becker, Family Lawyer, Junggeburth & Becker, Berlin

Mr Marcin Bialecki, Assistant, Cardinal Wyszyński University of Warsaw, Barrister, Łódź

Professor Katharina Boele-Woelki, UCERF, Molengraaff Instituut voor Privaatrecht, University of Utrecht

Ms Denise Carter, Director, *reunite* International Child Abduction Centre, Leicester

Professor William Duncan, Deputy Secretary General, Hague Conference on Private International Law, The Hague

Ms Aude Fiorini, Lecturer in Law, University of Aberdeen

Professor Cristina González Beilfuss, University of Barcelona

Mr Hanswerner Odendahl, Family Lawyer, Cologne

Mr Fernando Rui Paulino Pereira, Council of the European Union, DG Justice Freedom and Security, Brussels

Professor Walter Pintens, Catholic University of Leuven

Dr Andrea Schulz, Head of the German Central Authority for Matters of International Child Protection, Bonn

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Contents

Social changes in Europe, increasing divorce rates and the mobility of persons are some of the reasons for challenges facing international family law. New legal acts at the national, European and international level are the consequence.

The main source of law for cross-border divorces and parental responsibility is the Brussels II bis Regulation; its impact and application in the Member States as well as its interaction with the Hague Conventions will be explained.

Legal practitioners and academics in the field of family law will report on the current situation in the Member States with a special focus on divorce and its consequences for the custody of children. The recognition of formalised same-sex relationships in Europe will also be on the agenda. The exchange of practical experiences and an intensive debate on these issues will follow.

Another subject will be the Hague Convention on the international protection of adults, which was created due to the increasing need to provide for the protection in international situations of adults who, by reason of an impairment or insufficiency of their personal faculties, are not in a position to protect their interests, and which has already been ratified by the United Kingdom and Germany.

Finally, the opportunities for and limitations to cross-border mediation in family matters and the state of play of the future legal acts on family law and the law of successions will be presented.

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Travel to Trier: the most convenient way to travel is through Luxembourg. Luxembourg airport to the ERA Congress Centre takes just 30 minutes by car.
www.taxi-franken.de



EUROPÄISCHE RECHTSAKADEMIE
ACADEMY OF EUROPEAN LAW
ACADEMIE DE DROIT EUROPEEN
ACCADEMIA DI DIRITTO EUROPEO
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CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPEAN FAMILY LAW AND LAW OF SUCCESSION

Organiser:
Dr Angelika Fuchs, ERA

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English, German
(simultaneous interpretation)

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Trier, 1-2 October 2007
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Monday, 1 October 2007

11:30 Registration of participants and welcome coffee

12:00 **Welcome**
Angelika Fuchs

I. Cross-border divorce and parental responsibility

Chair: *Andrea Schulz*

12:10 **The application of Brussels II bis in the Member States**
Cristina González Beilfuss

13:00 **Discussion**

13:15 Light lunch

14:00 **Workshop:**
Cross-border parental responsibilities and access rights
Aude Fiorini

15:15 **Results of the workshop and discussion**

16:00 Coffee break

II. Current developments in the Member States

Chair: *Walter Pintens*

16:30 **Marriage, divorce and its consequences**
Poland: *Marcin Białecki*
Spain: *Cristina González Beilfuss*
Turkey: *Hanswerner Odendahl*

17:30 **Legal recognition of same-sex relationships within the European Union**
Katharina Boele-Woelki

18:30 End of the first conference day

19:00 Evening programme / Dinner

Tuesday, 2 October 2007

Current developments in the Member States (continued)

Chair: *Katharina Boele-Woelki*

09:00 **Descent and custody**
Belgium: *Walter Pintens*
Germany: *Eva Becker*
Italy: *Elena Bargelli*

10:30 Coffee break

III. Cross-border supervision

11:00 **Hague Convention on international protection of adults**
William Duncan

IV. Mediation in family matters

12:00 **How to mediate successfully in cases of international parental child abduction – The *reunite* mediation model**
Denise Carter

13:00 Lunch

V. Perspectives

Chair: *Aude Fiorini*

14:00 **Report from Brussels: new legal instruments in European family law and the law of succession**

- **Matrimonial issues (“Rome III”)**
- **Matrimonial property regimes (“Rome IV”)**
- **Maintenance**
- **Law of succession**

Fernando Rui Paulino Pereira

15:00 **Discussion**

15:30 End of the conference

Programme may be subject to amendment

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