



*Policy Department C - Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs  
for the Committee on Legal Affairs*

**CIVIL LAW AND JUSTICE FORUM**

**Workshop with national Parliaments<sup>1</sup>**

**"Cross-border activities in the EU - Making life easier for citizens"**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**Thursday, 26 February 2015**

**09:30-12:30 and 14:30-18:30**

**Room Altiero Spinelli 5 G 3, European Parliament, Brussels**

**09.00 - 09.30** Registration of participants  
Altiero Spinelli building entrance (ASP)

**09:30 - 10:00  
OPENING**

**09:30 - 09:40** **Welcome and opening remarks: What is it all about?**

Pavel Svoboda, Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs

**09:40 - 09:50** **Using EU private international law to facilitate the free movement of citizens**

Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, Vice-President in charge of relations with national Parliaments (*tbc*)

**09:50 - 10:00** **The Latvian Council Presidency -agenda for the area of civil law**

Inese Libina-Egnere, Vice-speaker of the Saeima and Vice-chair of the Legal affairs committee

<sup>1</sup> With the support of the Directorate for relations with National Parliaments - Legislative Dialogue Unit

**10:00 - 12:30**  
**SESSION I**  
**LESS PAPER WORK FOR MOBILE CITIZENS**

- 10:00 - 10:10**      **Opening remarks: Towards a European Code on Private International Law?**
- Prof. Giesela Rühl, Jena University  
Prof. Jan von Hein, Freiburg University
- 10:10 - 10:30**      **Promoting the free movement of citizens and businesses by simplifying the acceptance of certain public documents in the EU and beyond (Proposal for Regulation, COM(2013) 228)**
- Prof. Pierre Calle, Paris sud University (Paris XI)  
Michael P. Clancy, Solicitor, United Kingdom (The Law Society of Scotland)
- 10:30 - 11:00**      **Debate**, opened by Mady Delvaux, MEP, Rapporteur for the public documents proposal
- 11:00 - 11:15**      Coffee break
- 11:15 - 11:25**      **Towards European Model Contracts for Succession and Family Law?**
- Prof. Christiane Wendehorst, Vienna University
- 11:25 - 11:45**      **EU Regulation 650/2012 on successions and on the creation of a European Certificate of Succession**
- Kurt Lechner, Notary Chamber of Palatinate, Germany  
Eve Pötter LL.M, Legal advisor of the Estonian Chamber of Notaries
- 11:45 - 12:30**      **Debate**

**14:30 - 16:30**  
**SESSION II**  
**CROSS BORDER FAMILIES AND FAMILIES CROSSING-BORDERS**

- 14:30 - 14:40**      **Opening remarks**
- Mairead McGuinness, Vice-President, European Parliament Mediator for parental child abduction,
- 14:40 - 14:50**      **Presentation of study: "Cross-border parental child abduction"**
- Dr Ilaria Pretelli, Swiss Institute of Comparative Law
- 14:50 - 15:00**      **Mediating International Child Abduction Cases**
- N.N., Family Mediator
- 15:00 - 15:30**      **15:20 The Brussels IIa Regulation: towards a review?**
- Hans van Loon, The Hague, Member of *Institut de Droit International*,  
Former Secretary General of the Hague Conference on Private International Law
- Michael Shotter, Head of Unit on Civil Justice Policy, DG Justice  
European Commission

**15:30 - 16:00**            **Debate**

**16:00 - 16:10**            **Name Law - is there a need to legislate?**

Prof. Paul Lagarde, Université Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne)

**16:10 - 16:30**            **Debate**

**16:30 - 18:30**  
**SESSION III**  
**BUSINESS AND CONSUMERS' CONCERNS**

**16:30 - 16:40**            **Opening remarks on private international law as a regulatory tool for global governance**

Dr Harm Schepel, Professor of Economic Law, Brussels School of International Studies, University of Kent at Brussels

**16:40 - 16:50**            **The European Small Claims Procedure and the new Commission proposal**

Dr Pablo Cortés, University of Leicester

**16:50 - 17:20**            **Debate**, opened by Lidia Geringer de Oedenberg, MEP, Rapporteur for the review of the small claims regulation

**17:20 - 17:30**            **Mediation as Alternative Dispute Resolution (the functioning of Directive 2008/52/EC on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters)**

Prof. Giuseppe De Palo ADR Center Srl

**17:30 - 17:40**            **The 2005 Hague Convention on Choice of Court Agreements and the recast of the Brussels I Regulation**

Dr. Gottfried Musger, judge at the Austrian Supreme Court (OGH)

**17:40 - 18:20**            **Debate**

**18:20 - 18:30**            **Conclusions**

Pavel Svoboda, Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs

**18:30**                      **End of the Workshop**