

ISSUE #101: MARCH-APRIL-MAY 2023

CCBE-INFO

Newsletter



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Upcoming Events



> The first Young Lawyers Committee meeting took place on 11 May 2023 in Brussels, chaired by Iina-Mari Supperi, the CCBE President, Panagiotis Perakis and Secretary-General Simone Cuomo in attendance.

New CCBE “Young lawyers Committee”

A Young Lawyers Committee has recently been established by the CCBE to address more specifically the challenges faced by young lawyers.

The main objective of this Committee is to identify and address matters of particular interest to lawyers who are at the start of their professional career, such as in regard to the entrance to the profession, career development, diversity and well-being.

Iina-Mari Supperi (Finland) has been appointed as Chair of the Young Lawyers Committee. She is the newly appointed partner at *Bird & Bird* in Finland, with a main focus on Corporate M&A. She joined *Bird & Bird* already as a law student in 2008, and hence has first-hand experience of working as a young lawyer in different positions in an international law firm. She is also an active member of the Finnish Bar Association, currently she is chairing the Young Attorneys Committee and acting as a deputy member to the Board and member to the Training Committee. Furthermore, she has two young children that keep her busy outside of work.

Questions to IINA-MARI SUPPERI, Chair of the CCBE Young Lawyers Committee

What are the main challenges faced by young lawyers at present?

Iina-Mari Supperi: In my view, which is actually also supported by recent data, such as the IBA Young Lawyers' Report published in 2022, the main challenges still relate to work-life balance issues. This also has a close connection to remuneration i.e., whether the remuneration is considered to be on the appropriate level given the amount of work. It is to be noted that these are not only challenges faced by young lawyers, but these challenges also affect the attractiveness of the profession as a whole.

As to the work-life balance and well-being in general, awareness of mental health related issues such as negative consequences of long-term stress has increased, but there is still a lot to be done in this respect. There is also a difference between the millennials (soon falling out of scope of the definition of "young lawyers") and zillennials when it comes to the expectations related to work and work-life balance, respectively. Particularly zillennials do not want to work 24/7 anymore, and the profession needs to adapt to this approach in order to retain its attractiveness.

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These are not only challenges faced by young lawyers, but these challenges also affect the attractiveness of the profession as a whole.

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This is, however, not only a question about the amount of work, but also a question of how the work is organised and how the young lawyers see their possibilities to impact the management of their work and time schedules. Additionally, working culture is still to be developed, and many young lawyers still face bullying or harassment.

Furthermore, unfortunately gender equality is still a topic, and as a general rule female lawyers tend to face more challenges than their male colleagues in all areas. This is not only a question of how to combine work and family, but also a question about unconscious bias and working culture more generally. Many organisations have recognised the need to keep females onboard and are paying special attention to retain the female talent, but the change will not happen overnight.

Lastly, the law industry is not an island, and technical development and particularly AI will evidently change the way we work even much more rapidly than we have thought. I think AI will not replace lawyers as a profession, but we need to adopt new ways of working and learn new skills. This is not only a challenge but also an opportunity for the generation of young lawyers who tend to be more advanced technology users than senior colleagues.

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What will be main priorities to be addressed by the Young Lawyers Committee?

Ilina-Mari Supperi: The first ever meeting of the Young Lawyers Committee was held on 11 May 2023 and, among other things, we naturally discussed the priorities and wishes of the members for the Committee. As the Chair, I want to use this opportunity to thank all the participants for the great discussions, we do have a very committed group of people involved.

In general, the following scope of actions set at the establishment of the Committee by the President provides a great basis for the work:

- policy issues regarding the entrance to the profession;
- gender issues and other discriminations young lawyers face;
- trainee lawyers' legal framework and relevant issues;
- attractiveness of the profession of lawyers;
- coordination of a European young lawyers' network through the national Bars;
- collaboration with European and international young lawyers' organisations (such as the European Young Bar Association and the International Association of Young Lawyers).

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We want to encourage the participation of young lawyers in Bars to ensure that their opinions and needs are appropriately heard.

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As to the governance side, as a first concrete step, we agreed to explore how young lawyers are presented in Bars as there is no comprehensive data collected in this respect. We want to encourage the participation of young lawyers in Bars to ensure that their opinions and needs are appropriately heard. Additionally, the work of the Committee – as well as the fact that this Committee now is in place as that gives a message as such – should be seen and heard internally and externally, and hence focus is to be paid to the communications and to the communication channels. We will also work closely with other committees.

As to the more practical side, the focus areas include work-life balance, working culture, the attractiveness of the profession and technical developments, particularly from the perspective of young lawyers. More concrete actions in this respect are to follow as we have just started our work. I am really looking forward to executing our initiatives and continuing the work within the Committee. ■



> More information about the work of the Committee



READ NEXT

CCBE Standing Committee in Brussels

• 31/03/2023

The CCBE held its Standing Committee on 31 March in Brussels. The topics on the agenda included, among other things, the issues of legal aid, the harmonisation of criminal offences and penalties for the violation of EU restrictive measures, the recognition of parenthood between Member States and anti-SLAPP. The following recommendations and position papers were adopted:

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Updated CCBE recommendations on legal aid



READ THE DOCUMENT

These recommendations set out guiding principles for the proper delivery of legal aid which is an essential tool for ensuring access to justice. The scope of legal aid systems across Europe varies, though, at its core, legal aid provides the representation required under Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights. As legal aid is a fundamental protection for human rights, it is the responsibility of governments to guarantee that legal aid systems ensure that this protection is practical and effective, including the provision of adequate funding. The CCBE considers that in order to ensure the quality of legal aid services, all legal aid providers should, as a minimum, have a legal qualification and be able to practice as lawyers in the relevant jurisdiction. The CCBE further considers that governments should ensure that legal aid providers receive fair remuneration for their services.

Governments should also ensure that resources are made available in individual cases which are proportionate to the complexity and nature of the case in order to guarantee effective representation and/or legal advice. According to the CCBE, the regulations governing the rates of fees and other terms of remuneration for legal aid work should be clear, transparent and available to the general public, as well as subject to regular review which takes into account factors such as inflation, changes in the cost of living and providing the relevant service, problems affecting the existing system, etc. As legal aid is a fundamental tool for ensuring access to justice, governments must take appropriate measures to ensure funding for legal aid on a permanent basis, as well as guarantee that legal aid providers, Bar Associations, legal aid boards or other entities providing legal aid, are duly consulted in the preparation of the legal

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aid budget. The CCBE stresses that each country should have clear legislation about legal aid, including a competent authority to administer legal aid and rules to guarantee standards for legal aid beneficiaries. The CCBE highlights that, in addition to the need for legal aid systems to be flexible, legal aid should be available at the earliest

stage possible and regularly evaluated, taking into consideration new developments and needs. Furthermore, people need to be duly informed of their right to legal aid. ■

CRIMINAL LAW

Commission proposal for a Directive to harmonise criminal offences and penalties for the violation of EU restrictive measures



READ THE DOCUMENT

The CCBE adopted a position paper on the Commission's proposal for a Directive to harmonise criminal offences and penalties for the violation of EU restrictive measures of 2 December 2022. While the CCBE appreciates the Commission's effort to harmonise criminal offences and penalties for the violation of EU restrictive measures through their proposed Directive, it has several concerns and considers that the following amendments should be made:

- the CCBE is concerned that Article 3(2)(g) of the proposed Directive may be misinterpreted to mean that the provision of any legal advisory services is prohibited in all circumstances, and it should be slightly modified in order to ensure clarity;
- the CCBE welcomes that Recital (7) of the Preamble and paragraph (5) of Article 3 acknowledges that legal professional privilege/professional secrecy applies in the outlined circumstances, and proposes that this should also be expressly acknowledged in Article 5n of Regulation 833/2014;
- the CCBE calls on the European Commission to remove the reference to "serious negligence" under Article 3(3) of the proposed Directive in order to ensure that the proposed measures are practical and legal;
- lastly, the CCBE proposes that Article 7 should expressly provide that the provisions of paragraphs (1) (a) and (b) shall not apply in relation to legal persons licenced by a professional body as it fails to reflect that, for lawyers and other professionals, the powers related to disqualifications from practice and withdrawal of permits is and should remain within the powers of the Disciplinary Board of the respective professional body, rather than the courts or the government. ■

FAMILY AND SUCCESSION LAW

Proposed Council Regulation regarding the recognition of parenthood between Member States



READ THE DOCUMENT

This position paper follows some preliminary observations prepared by the CCBE in advance of the publication of the Commission's proposal. The CCBE welcomes the aims and reasons for the Regulation, in particular, the harmonisation of the applicable law on filiation and that the primary consideration should be the best interests of the child. Nevertheless, the CCBE suggests some amendments to the proposal, especially in regard to the chapter on jurisdiction, such as the necessity for a cascade approach under Article 6 of the proposal, as was strongly urged in the CCBE [preliminary observations](#) on the creation of a European instrument on this matter, as well as the amendment of the subsidiary criterion proposed under Article 17 of the proposal. ■

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

Proposed Directive on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings and the Commission as well as a recommendation on protecting journalists and human rights defenders who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings



READ THE DOCUMENT

The CCBE supports the objectives of the fight against "SLAPP" (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation), of which lawyers themselves can be victims, but proposes improvements to ensure equal protection of rights. In its position paper, the CCBE highlights the most important issues relevant to the protection of persons, who are engaged in public participation, from manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings, including lawyers. The CCBE considers that strives to ensure the right balance between access to justice for everyone, and safeguards against manifestly unfounded or abusive court proceedings with cross-border implications. While welcoming and supporting the general approach and intention of the draft Directive, the CCBE cautions that the proposal should not jeopardise the right of access to justice

→ Continued on page 10

and access to legal proceedings in order to ensure the equal protection of rights. In this regard, the CCBE considers that several aspects of the draft Directive require some further improvement. The CCBE provides comments and suggestions on several articles of the draft Directive, including on the subject and scope, definitions, understanding of cross-border cases, and articles covering procedural aspects. The CCBE also highlights that lawyers may be victims of unfounded and abusive court proceedings themselves when strategic lawsuits against their public participation are filed with the purpose to silence lawyers. In addition, the CCBE submits its comments to the relevant Commission Recommendation and highlights that when carrying out their duties, lawyers shall respect principles of dignity, conscience, integrity and loyalty. These principles are prescribed in the CCBE

Code of Conduct and the Charter of Core principles of the European Legal Profession, as well as in the national ethical/deontological rules set by relevant national Bars. This competence of national Bars and Law Societies of Member States is considered as one of the utmost important cornerstones of self-regulation of the legal profession and should therefore be respected. The CCBE further agrees that there is a need for awareness raising and training of legal professionals, including lawyers and the general public. Lastly, the CCBE calls for an adequate legal aid mechanism in cross-border cases for victims and targets of manifestly unfounded and abusive court proceedings and provision of sufficient funding for legal aid in cross-border cases at EU level. ■





READ NEXT

CCBE Standing Committee in Brussels

• 12/05/2023

The CCBE held its Standing Committee on 12 May in Brussels. On this occasion, the CCBE was delighted to welcome María Dolores Villar Guzmán, Justice Coordinating Director and Permanent Representative of Spain to the EU, who presented the priorities of the upcoming Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU, in particular in the field of justice. Several issues were on the agenda and two position papers were adopted on the following initiatives: the European Commission’s communication on “The Single Market at 30” and the European Commission’s proposal on “Digital Company Law”.

EU LAWYERS

CCBE statement on the European Commission’s communication regarding “The Single Market at 30”



READ THE DOCUMENT

On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Lawyer’s Establishment Directive, the CCBE highlighted the importance of the freedom of establishment of the legal profession in Europe as one of the most important achievements of the EU legal profession for the cross-border protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, the principle of mutual trust and the respect for the rule of law. The CCBE called on the European Commission to recognise that both the EU and the national regulations of the legal profession in Member States serve a

wider purpose, and that existing measures can be justified, proportionate and necessary. The CCBE expects that the European Commission takes more into account the specificity of legal services and refers to the benefits of both the freedom of establishment and services of the Lawyers’ Directives when examining the removal of barriers in cross-border legal services, as well as the legitimate objectives of proper administration of justice and protection of consumers of legal services. ■

COMPANY LAW

Proposal for a Directive amending Directive 2009/102/EC and (EU) 2017/1132 as regards further expanding and upgrading the use of digital tools and processes in company law (COM (2023) 177 final)



READ THE DOCUMENT

The CCBE welcomes the European Commission proposal of 29 March 2023 for a Directive amending Directive 2009/102/EC (also known as the 12th Company Law Directive) and (EU) 2017/1132 on cross-border conversions, mergers and divisions as regards further expanding and upgrading the use of digital tools and processes in company law.

The CCBE supports the objectives put forward by the European Commission and recognises a number of positive and modern elements attached to the proposal. However, the CCBE has identified several provisions of the proposal where there is a need for further clarification and amendments. ■

READ NEXT

Main CCBE Events & Activities



> The CCBE President, Panagiotis Perakis, and Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo, with a delegation of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA), including its President Motoji Kobayashi, its Vice-President Junichi Matsuda and its Secretary-General, Masato Tani

28.04.2023

Japan Federation of Bar Associations and G7 Bars meeting in Tokyo

The CCBE President, Panagiotis Perakis, and Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo, met in Tokyo on 28 April with a delegation of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (JFBA), including its President, Motoji Kobayashi, its Vice-President, Junichi Matsuda, and its Secretary-General, Masato Tani. This meeting was a good opportunity to exchange on the situation in Ukraine and, in this regard, the importance to uphold international law and human rights standards, as well as the challenges raised by the digitalisation of justice and legal practice (including Artificial Intelligence). The CCBE values very much its cooperation with the JFBA, which as the CCBE, promotes self-regulation, and the protection of democratic values and the rule of law.

The following day was the meeting of the G7 Bars, which brings together the 7 national organisations of the legal profession of the G7 countries, and to which the CCBE participates as an observer. This fruitful meeting resulted in the adoption of a resolution on the confidentiality of the client-lawyer relationship, as well as a second statement on the war in Ukraine. ■

> [Read the joint statements](#)

- > Photo 1: The Vice-President of the Conseil national des barreaux (CNB), Laurent Martinet, the President of the JFBA, Motoji Kobayashi, the President of the Law Society of England and Wales, Lubna Shuja, and the President of the CCBE, Panagiotis Perakis
- > Photo 2: The President of the JFBA, Motoji Kobayashi
- > Photo 3: The President of the CCBE, Panagiotis Perakis and the Secretary-General of the CCBE, Simone Cuomo
- > Photo 4 and 5: Group photos of the G7 Bars 2023 meeting
- > Photo 6: The President of the CCBE, Panagiotis Perakis





> The Secretary-General of the CCBE, Simone Cuomo, the President of the International Bar Association (IBA) , Almudena Arpón de Medivil, the President of the CCBE, Panagiotis Perakis, and the Chair of the IBA Bar Issues Commission, Ken Murphy

24.05.2023 – 25.05.2023

IBA Bar leaders' meeting in Helsinki

The CCBE President, Panagiotis Perakis, and the Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo, participated in the 16th annual Bar Leaders' Conference organised by the Bar Issues Commission of the International Bar Association (IBA), which is supported by the Finnish Bar Association, on 24 and 25 May in Helsinki. The topics discussed included the old and new challenges of running a Bar post COVID-19, wellness and the legal profession, solidarity with Bars in distress in a time of crisis and the issue of the public image of the legal profession. The Secretary-General furthermore participated in the Bar Executives meeting on 26 May. ■



26.04.2023

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**AI WILL NOT
REPLACE LAWYERS,**
but lawyers who use AI,
might replace those who do not.

Simone Cuomo
CCBE Secretary-General



EU-level conference on judicial training

The CCBE Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo, spoke on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in justice and legal practice at the European Commission online conference of stakeholders – ‘Judicial training: the right skills to embrace the digitalisation of justice’ that took place on 26 April. He presented the CCBE activities on AI, explained the use of AI by courts, the underlying concerns this raises, and ended his presentation on the use of AI in legal practice. This three-day online conference, focused on the digitalisation of justice, is dedicated to those in charge of training for

judges, prosecutors, court and prosecution office staff, lawyers, notaries, bailiffs, prison and probation staff in the EU Member States, as well as candidate and potential candidate countries.

One of the CCBE experts, Péter Homoki (see picture below), also presented the joint CCBE-European Lawyers Foundation Guide on the use of Artificial Intelligence-based tools by lawyers and law firms in the EU. ■



[More information about the event](#)



25.05.2023

IT LAW

CCBE Statement on the use of AI in the justice system and law enforcement



READ THE STATEMENT

In a statement, published on 25 May, the CCBE called for a set of defined rules and principles governing the use of AI tools in the justice system and law enforcement. AI tools can be beneficial but a careful consideration of the risks of their use and their impact on human rights and the rule of law is needed.

The CCBE statement calls on national, European and international authorities and organisations to ensure that:

- the use of AI tools in the justice system and law enforcement is appropriately controlled and regulated and that the regulation reflects the specificities of these systems. In particular, these regulations must respect the right to a fair trial and the right to a human judge.
- the rules governing the use of AI tools are grounded in a clear set of ethical principles, such as the respect for human rights, transparency, accountability and upholding the rule of law, and which are set beforehand.
- these principles are turned into use-case specific operational rules and guidelines that must be followed when introducing AI tools into the justice system or law enforcement to make sure that they do not jeopardise the right to a fair trial. This requires careful consideration and knowledge of the potential risks and benefits of different AI tools, as well as a deep understanding of the ethical principles that underpin the justice system. The risk factors to be considered are complex and depend on specific use cases, as outlined above, including reliability of the AI tool and the tasks involved. ■



> Watch the video message of the CCBE President about the CCBE Statement on the use of AI



subtitles available

en

fr



> The Chair of the Migration Committee, Noemí Alarcón, at the workshop on legal assistance in the asylum procedure in Malta, organised by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA)

01.04.2023 – 02.04.2023

European Union Agency for Asylum workshop on legal assistance in the asylum procedure

On 1 and 2 March, the Chair of the Migration Committee, Noemí Alarcón, participated as a speaker in the workshop on legal assistance in the asylum procedure in Malta, which was organised by the European Union Agency for Asylum (EUAA). The event focused exclusively on the provision of legal assistance to asylum seekers, which is to be noted as there are not many events of this kind. Various organisations active in the field of legal assistance provision to asylum seekers participated in the event which consisted of seven thematic panels. The Chair attended all of these panels and presented during a panel devoted to ‘Current standards provided by the CEAS, mapping of national practices and ways

forward’. During her presentation, she stressed in particular the need for asylum seekers to have access to a lawyer at an early stage and to have the same lawyer throughout various stages of the procedure, as well as referred to the CCBE recommendations on a framework on legal aid in the field of migration and international protection. There was consensus among participants as to the challenges they observe in practice, such as the lack or insufficient access to legal information for asylum seekers, as well as on the need for more training and funds for professionals and organisations providing legal assistance. ■



01.03.2023–02.03.2023

European Convention on the protection of the profession of lawyer

The Chair of the European Convention Working Group, Laurent Pettiti, together with CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, participated in the 4th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Protection of Lawyers (CJ-AV) on 1 to 3 March, which continued its discussions on the future draft Convention aiming at strengthening the protection of the profession of lawyer and the right to practice the profession without prejudice or restraint. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Member States and the international professional organisations. The CJ-AV advanced in the preparation of the draft text and reached a consensus on a number of substantive provisions. The Committee also continued discussions on the possible implementation mechanism. ■

04.03.2023

EU Accession to the European Convention on Human Rights

The CCBE expert, Laurent Pettiti, and CCBE Legal Advisor, Nathan Roosbeek, participated in the extraordinary meeting of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) on the EU Accession to the European Convention on Human Rights on 4 April. The CDDH adopted its Interim Report to the Committee of Ministers, for information, on the accession of the EU to the European Convention on Human Rights, which includes the revised draft accession instruments. The CDDH did not at this stage approve the revised package of accession instruments, but agreed to transmit the Group's Interim Report, with the revised draft accession instruments in appendix, to the Committee of Ministers for information. The CDDH will revert to the issue of approval of the revised package once the EU has informed it about the solution reached by the EU on "Basket 4" concerning EU acts in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy. ■

> [Read the meeting report here](#)



30.05.2023 - 01.06.2023

CDCJ 60th Anniversary and 100th Plenary meeting: Towards a binding legal instrument on the protection of lawyers and new practical guide for practitioners on administrative detention of migrants and asylum seekers

On 30 May, the Chair of CCBE European Convention Working Group, Laurent Pettiti, participated as a guest speaker in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ).

The Chair's intervention focused on the topic "Towards an instrument for the protection of lawyers" and, in particular, on the importance of a binding Council of Europe legal instrument on the protection of lawyers in response to the risks they may face.

This event was organised in conjunction with the 100th Plenary meeting of the CDCJ, in which the CCBE participated in as an observer member and was represented by the CCBE Secretary-General, Simone Cuomo. During the meeting, the following topics were addressed: justice and the rule of law, the draft new legal instrument on the protection of the profession of lawyer, family law and children's rights, artificial intelligence and the administrative detention of migrants.

→ Continued on page 20

More information about the CDCJ 60th Anniversary

60 years of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)
Serving everyone's rights since 1963

www.coe.int/cdcj #cdcj60



> The Chair of the CDCJ, Christoph Henrichs and the Secretary-General of the CCBE, Simone Cuomo, at the Plenary meeting of the CDCJ

→ More on CDCJ 60th Anniversary and 100th Plenary meeting

As regards the ongoing elaboration of a new legal instrument for the protection of lawyers, on the last meeting day, the CDCJ decided to work towards a binding instrument (i.e. a Convention) on the protection of the profession of lawyer. The CDCJ also approved a practical guide for practitioners on administrative detention of migrants and asylum seekers which will be published shortly. The CCBE Migration Committee had contributed to the work of CDCJ-MIG by providing comments to the general part of the guide

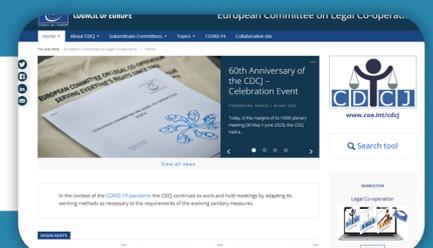
and, more importantly, to the checklist for lawyers that is annexed to the main document. The CCBE considers that the checklist is a very good resource that will be useful for lawyers dealing with clients in administrative detention.

Did you know?

The CDCJ was established in 1963 as a consultative and technical committee of government experts. It is responsible for the standard-setting activities of the Council of Europe in the field of public and private law. It held its first Plenary meeting in 1964. The CDCJ's work covers a wide range of topics to meet society's challenges, including judicial independence, legal aid, protection of lawyers, family law, child-friendly justice, statelessness, access to nationality, administrative detention of migrants and asylum seekers, gender equality in law reform processes, digital evidence, online dispute resolution, whistle-blower protection, AI in public administration and many more. In 60 years of existence, the CDCJ has prepared an impressive number of Council of Europe legal instruments for the benefit of everyone's rights, including more than 60 treaties and 90 recommendations, resolutions and guidelines. In 2022, the CCBE became an observer member of the CDCJ. ■



More information on the website of the CDCJ





08.05.2023 - 09.05.2023

Meeting of the FATF Private Sector Consultative Forum

On 8 and 9 May, the Chair of the Anti-Money Laundering Committee, Claudio Cocuzza, took part in the meeting of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Private Sector Consultative Forum, which took place in Vienna. This year, the following topics were on the agenda: current and emerging risks, major developments and future points of focus, improving effectiveness and building partnerships, the future of FATF evaluations, as well as transparency of beneficial ownership. The CCBE was delighted to represent the legal profession along with colleagues from the American Bar Association and International Bar Association. ■

18.03.2023 - 19.03.2023

> SLAPP

Meeting of the Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation

On 18 and 19 March, Alexis Anagnostakis, represented the CCBE at the 3rd meeting of the Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (MSI-SLP), which took place in Strasbourg, France. During this meeting, the draft Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on countering the use of SLAPPs was discussed. ■



#EndangeredLawyers

The CCBE continues to support threatened lawyers by sending letters to the national authorities of the concerned countries and by alerting key players at international and European level. Letters of support were sent regarding the following countries/lawyers:

 BURUNDI	Lawyer Sonia Ndikumasabo together with four other human rights defenders were arrested in relation to their human rights work.	
 DRC	The honorary President of the North Kivu Bar, Maître Joseph Sanane Chiko, was arrested in connection with his professional activities. On 14 May, the CCBE was informed that notably thanks to the letter, the lawyer was released.	
 SINGAPORE	Lawyer Ravi Madasamy was sentenced to a five year suspension.	
 CHINA	Lawyers Ding Jiayi and Xu Zhiyong and Qin Yongpei were convicted, lawyer Yu Wensheng was arrested and lawyers Wang Quanzhang and Wang Yu were under house arrest.	
 SOUTH AFRICA	Lawyer Zanele Nkosi was murdered.	
 RUSSIA	Lawyer Mikhail Benyash was convicted.	
 PALESTINE	The human rights group Lawyers for Justice was forcibly dissolved by the authorities.	
 EGYPT	Lawyer Mohamed el-Baquer is still being detained and his wife was recently arrested.	
 TURKEY	25 lawyers are still being detained.	
 GUATEMALA	Three lawyers have been arrested.	
 BELARUS	Lawyer Maksim Znak, winner of the CCBE Human Rights Award 2021, is still being subjected to detention and torture.	

For more information, please visit the CCBE Human Rights Portal:

> Click here to read

Appointments of new CCBE committee chairs

The CCBE is delighted to have recently welcomed four new committee Chairs:

Claudio
Cocuzza

 ITALIA

Chair of the
Anti-Money Laundering
Committee



> [More info about the work of the Committee](#)

Klavdija
Kerin

 SLOVENIA

Chair of the
PECO Committee



> [More info about the work of the Committee](#)

Elodie
Mulon

 FRANCE

Chair of the Family
and Succession Law
Committee



> [More info about the work of the Committee](#)

Iina-Mari
Supperi

 FINLAND

Chair of the
Young Lawyers
Committee



> [More info about the work of the Committee](#)



Upcoming Events

> Consult the CCBE Agenda on the extranet for a full overview

: 30 June 2023

CCBE Plenary Session
– Chania (Greece)

: 30 June 2023

Ceremony of the first edition of the
CCBE Amicus Curiae contest
– Chania (Greece)

