

Cross-border legal relationships and their consequences (e.g. divorce, custody decisions and their enforcement abroad, maintenance) confront family lawyers with complex legal problems. New legal acts at the European and international level affect their daily work. Legal practitioners are therefore required to deal ever more with legal questions arising from cross-border family and parental responsibility cases.

The CCBE is organising, in partnership with ERA (Academy of European Law), an important meeting on the practice of European family law with the following format:

- Roundtables on Thursday afternoon to provide thorough information on European texts and proposals;
- Workshops and discussions on Friday in order to consider practical cases, to debate and to exchange know-how.

This event is organised by family law professionals for family law professionals.

Venue

MCE (Management Centre Europe)

rue de l'Aqueduc 118
1050 BRUSSELS

PRACTISING FAMILY LAW IN EUROPE

Brussels

11-12 December 2008



PRACTISING FAMILY LAW IN EUROPE

Thursday, 11 December 2008

Conference

- 13.00 - 14.00 **Registration**
- 14.00 - 14.15 **Welcome address by the CCBE President**
- 14.15 - 14.30 **Welcome address by an ERA representative**
- 14.30 - 16.00 **Brussels II bis Regulation**
Moderator: Béatrice WEISS-GOUT
- Conflict of laws: Which jurisdiction for divorce?
 - **Thalia KRUGER** (South Africa)
 - Which jurisdiction for parental responsibility? (general rules and rules with regard to child abduction)
 - **Peter Mc ELEAVY** (Scotland)
 - Enforcement of decisions concerning children
 - **Peter Mc ELEAVY** (Scotland)
- 16.00 - 16.15 *Coffee break*
- 16.15 - 16.45 **Brussels I Regulation**
Moderator: Béatrice WEISS-GOUT
- **Cyril NOURISSAT** (France)
- 16.45 - 18.30 **Draft proposals**
- Maintenance obligations
 - **Genowefa GRABOWSKA** (European Parliament) - *TBC*
 - Rome III
 - **Fernando Rui Paulino PEREIRA** (Council of the European Union)
 - Mediation
 - **Fernando Rui Paulino PEREIRA** (Council of the European Union)
 - Matrimonial regimes
 - **Olivier TELL** (European Commission)

Friday, 12 December 2008

Workshops

- 9.00 - 10.30 **Practical Workshops**
- Brussels II bis—Practical divorce cases *[with 2 interpreters]*
 - **Hélène POIVEY-LECLERCQ** (France)
 - **Frederic RENSTRÖM** (Sweden)
 - Overview and mutual recognition of partnerships in Europe *[in English]*
 - **Richard FRIMSTON** (United Kingdom)
 - **Mia REICH-SJÖGREN** (Sweden)
- 11.00 - 12.30 **Workshops which look to the future**
- Future of family contracts, comparative law and European law *[with 2 interpreters]*
 - **Luis ZARRALUQUI** (Spain)
 - **Guido ALPA** (Italy)
 - **Michel BENICHO** (France)
 - Maintenance obligations: conflicts of laws, conflicts of jurisdictions, enforcement of judgments (The Hague Convention and the future European regulation) *[in French]*
 - **Philippe LORTIE** (The Hague Conference)
 - **Marina BLITZ** (Belgium)
 - **Marie SALORD** (Permanent Representation of France to the EU)
- 12.30 - 14.00 *Lunch*
- 14.00 - 15.30 **Practical Workshops**
- Brussels II bis and The Hague Convention (illegal removal of children) / Practical cases *[with 2 interpreters]*
 - **Véronique CHAUVEAU** (France)
 - **Anne Marie HUTCHINSON** (United Kingdom)
 - **Liis HALLIK** (Estonia)
- 15.30 - 15.45 *Coffee break*
- 15.45 - 17.15 **Workshops which look to the future**
- The child in the proceedings: hearing of the child and other issues, European and international conventions *[with 2 interpreters]*
 - **Eva BECKER** (Germany)
 - **Kerstin NIETHAMMER-JÜRGENS** (Germany)
 - **Malgorzata KOZUCH** (Poland)
 - Alternative dispute resolution: comparative law and European law *[in English]*
 - **Charlotte BRADLEY** (United Kingdom)
- 17.30 **Conclusions**
Reflection of the CCBE on the role of the lawyer in a European family
by **Béatrice WEISS-GOUT**

Translation will be available in English and French in the plenary sessions; otherwise language in the workshops is as indicated on this programme.