

# **18th International Congress of Comparative Law: Washington D.C.**

On July 25 through August 1, 2010, the 18th International Congress of Comparative Law will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Washington D.C. Sponsored by the International Academy of Comparative Law and the American Society of Comparative Law, it will be jointly hosted by American University Washington College of Law, George Washington University Law School and Georgetown Law Center. The topics of this year's Congress include:

## **I. A. Legal history and ethnology**

Legal culture and legal transplants

## **I. B. General legal theory**

Religion and the secular state

## **I. C. Comparative law and unification of laws**

Complexity of transnational sources

## **I. D. Legal education**

The role of practice in legal education

## **II. A. Civil law**

Catastrophic damages-liability and insurance

Surrogate motherhood

Same-sex marriages

## **II. B. Private international law**

Consumer protection in international transactions

Recent private international law codifications

## **II. C. Civil procedure**

Cost and fee allocation rules

Collective actions

## **II. D. Agrarian and environmental law**

Climate change and the law

### **III. A. Commercial law**

The regulation of private equity, hedge funds and state funds

Harmonization of finance leases by UNIDROIT

Corporate governance

Insurance contract law between business law and consumer protection

### **III. B. Intellectual property law**

The balance of copyright in comparative perspective

Jurisdiction and applicable law in intellectual property

### **III. C. Labour law**

The prohibition of discrimination in labour relations (age discrimination)

### **III. D. Air and maritime law**

The law applicable on the continental shelf and in the exclusive economic zone

### **IV. A. Public international law**

The protection of foreign investment

International law in domestic systems: a comparative approach

### **IV. B. Constitutional law**

Foreign voters

Constitutional courts as “Positive Legislators”

### **IV. C. Public freedoms and human rights**

Plurality of political opinions and the concentration of media

Are human rights universal and binding? Limits of universalism

### **IV. D. Administrative law**

Public-private partnerships

### **IV. E. Tax law**

Regulation of corporate tax avoidance

### **V. A. Penal law**

Corporate criminal liability

### **V. B. Criminal procedure**

The exclusionary rule

## **VI. Computers**

Internet crimes

There will also be Special Sessions dedicated to law and development, torture and cultural relativism, comparative perspectives on the role of transparency in administration of law, protection of privacy from the media, comparative family law, comparative constitutional law, and comparative and international government procurement law. Sessions dedicated to regional studies will include a “Panel on Africa: Comparative Private Law and Transitional Social Justice,” a “Panel on Latin America: Comparative Legal Interpretation,” and a “Panel on the Middle East: Islamic Finance and Banking in Comparative Perspective.”

Registration information is available [here](#), and a detailed agenda is available [here](#). Note that early-bird registration ends on January 30. Updates to the agenda and schedule will follow on this site.