

Conferences: Organized by ERA Spring/Summer 2008

The Academy of European Law (ERA) organizes a number of private international law related conferences, seminars and courses during the spring and summer of 2008:

3rd European Forum for In-house Counsel, Brussels, 24-25 Apr 2008

- Description from the ERA website: For the third consecutive year, ERA and ECLA are organising the European Forum for In-House Counsel, combining the pragmatism of an in-house lawyer association with the expertise of a first-class European training institute. The European Forum for In-House Counsel provides a forum for the exchange of practical experience, knowledge and views between all in-house counsel and other lawyers involved in business affairs. The aim is to provide in-house counsel, through expert input, with a comprehensive overview of and a practical insight into issues of European Community law with which an in-house counsel is confronted. The latest developments and the recent relevant case law of the Community courts in areas such as European competition law, European company law, European private law, as well as the topic of legal privilege, will be analysed during the forum. Interaction among participants will be encouraged through periods of discussion and case studies.
- Target audience: In-house counsel and lawyers specialised in business affairs

Cross-Border Debt Recovery, Trier, 15-16 May 2008

- Description from the ERA website: Dr Angelika Fuchs (ERA) and Professor Burkhard Hess (University of Heidelberg) are organizing a conference on Cross-Border Debt Recovery. Freezing or “attaching” a debtor’s bank account(s) is a very effective way for creditors to recover the amount owed to them. Most Member States have legislation, which provides for the attachment of bank accounts. Debtors can, however, transfer funds very quickly to other accounts that the creditor may not

know about. The creditor is often not able to block such movements of funds as quickly and therefore loses a powerful weapon against recalcitrant debtors. The European Commission feels that problems of cross-border debt recovery are an obstacle to the free movement of payment orders within the European Union and to the proper functioning of the internal market. Late payment and non-payment are a risk for businesses and consumers alike. The Commission therefore proposes the creation of a European system for the attachment of bank accounts. The consultation process initiated by the Green Paper on the attachment of bank accounts has inspired a vivid debate among practitioners, governments and academics. Furthermore, a second Green Paper on measures enhancing the transparency of the debtor's assets will be published soon.

- Target audience: Lawyers in private practice, in-house lawyers, stakeholders, representatives of national authorities and academics specialised in civil procedure and banking law

Recent Developments in Private International Law and Business Law, *Trier, 5-6 Jun 2008*

- Description from the ERA website: Dr Angelika Fuchs, ERA, organizes a seminar on recent developments in private international law and business law. Private international law and business law continue to be characterised by growing Europeanisation. The purpose of this seminar will be to present the latest developments in both legislation and jurisprudence in the following areas: Brussels I Regulation and anti-suit injunctions; Intellectual property and conflict of laws; New Regulation (EC) No. 1393/2007 on the service of documents; New Directive on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters; New Regulation (EC) on the law applicable to contractual obligations ("Rome I"); New Regulation (EC) No. 864/2007 on the law applicable to non-contractual obligations ("Rome II"); Trends in European company law: from Daily Mail to Sevic and Cartesio; Major decisions on cross-border insolvency.
- Target audience: Lawyers in private practice, in-house counsel in companies, associations, ministries and other public authorities, judges,

notaries, academics

Summer Course: European Company Law, Trier, 18-20 Jun 2008

- Description from the ERA website: Tomasz Kramer, ERA, organizes a summer course on European company law. For the second time European company law will feature in ERA's series of summer courses in Trier. The impact of enlargement and globalisation on the internal market creates a special context for individuals and companies that operate across borders. The European Commission has launched a wide-ranging strategy to adapt and harmonise European company law to meet these new challenges. European law has considerably influenced the shape of modern company law in EU member states. Directives and the case law of the European Court of Justice have helped to harmonise national laws and regulations have introduced new legal forms for businesses. The 'Europeanisation' of company law continues apace. This course will offer an introduction to the principles and framework of European company law. It will provide a comprehensive overview of subjects including the formation of different types of companies, corporate governance and management options, capital requirements, shareholders' rights and insolvency. In addition, topics such as corporate restructuring and mobility as well as the characteristics of transnational financial vehicles will be addressed, albeit taking into consideration national particularities. The course will address current challenges and the latest legislative proposals. The analysis of ECJ case law will be an essential element of the course. Participants will have the opportunity to take a preparatory online e-learning module.
- Target audience: Young lawyers in private practice, public administration or in-house counsel, as well as advanced or postgraduate students, academics, economists or auditors seeking a detailed introduction to European company law

Summer Course: European Private Law, Trier, 30 Jun-4 Jul 2008

- Description from the ERA website: Nuno Epifânio, ERA, organizes a summer course on European private law. The purpose of this course is to introduce lawyers to European private law. Among the areas covered during the seminar will be: European Civil Procedure; Private International Law; Contract Law; Insolvency Law; Financial Services;

Consumer Protection. This course should prove of particular interest to lawyers who wish to specialise in or acquire an in-depth knowledge of European private law. A general knowledge of EU law is suitable but no previous knowledge or experience in European Private Law is required to attend this course. Participants will be able to deepen their knowledge through case-studies and workshops. The course includes a visit to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. Participants will have the opportunity to take a preparatory online-learning module.

- Target audience: Lawyers in private practice, in-house counsel, representatives of national authorities and academics