



Association Européenne des Juristes d'Entreprise
EUROPEAN COMPANY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

ECLANEWS

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ECLA's General Assembly: An European Event in Berlin



Representatives of ECLA members and ECLA's officers in Berlin.

From left to right: Julia Ormio (Finland), Han Kooy (Netherlands and VP), Tiina Lencioni (Finland), Thomas Marx (Germany), Sergio Marini (VP), Cecilie Kjelland (Norway), Georgi Kitanov (Bulgaria), Dr. Peter Kriependorf former President), James Kinch (Ireland), Philippe Coen (President), Joachim Brons (Denmark), Marina Kralj Miliša (VP), Petr Šmelhaus (GM), Jacek Kosuniak (Poland), Martina Pejić (Croatia), Hervé Delannoy (France), Giovanni Cerutti (Italy), Didier Pissoort (Auditor), Jean Cattaruzza (Treasurer), Marie Brejchová (Czechia), Pierre Schaubroeck (Belgium)



Representatives of ECLA members met at the occasion of the autumn general assembly of ECLA in Berlin on 16th November 2012. This time representatives of ECLA members enjoyed the hospitality of its German member - *Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Syndikusanwälte im Deutschen Anwaltverein e. V.* – which held the same time its annual conference.



Dr. Peter Kriependorf speaking to the General Assembly in Berlin. First two photos by Anne-Laure Paulet



ECLA group visiting Berlin. Photo by Petr Šmelhaus

The two years Presidency of Dr. Peter Kriependorf ended in Berlin and Mr. Philippe Coen from France was elected as the new President for the next two years. This move has already been announced in many European legal magazines and on the top of that an article has recently been published in TalklawGlobal.com:

From the press: “*ECLA enters new era with Frenchman Philippe Coen’s election to President*”

TalklawGlobal Editorial Director Patrick Wilkins examines ECLA’s recent change at the top.



“The European Company Lawyers Association (ECLA) which boasts a platform of more than 40,000 in-house lawyers across the EU, reaches its 30th anniversary in 2013 with the election of a new President carrying a far-reaching manifesto to help propel the organisation into its next decades of existence.

Philippe Coen, Assistant General Counsel (EMEA) for a large US multinational corporation in Paris, defeated incumbent, Dr. Peter Kriependorf at ECLA’s general meeting in Berlin in November 2012. Under a programme entitled simply ‘Time For Change’ Mr. Coen successfully convinced representatives from most of Europe’s nation states that he was the man to lead the federation of bars and law societies in an era dramatically different than that which existed at ECLA’s birth in 1983.

Then, many junior corporate lawyers may need reminding, a European Court of Justice decision in AM&S v Commission denied privilege in communications to all lawyers in salaried employment with companies. Only private practice lawyers could continue to enjoy the protection of client-attorney privilege. ECLA formed itself immediately after the judgment and vowed to find ways to reverse it so that all lawyers worked on the same level playing field. Much hope was staked on a similar case arising from a dawn raid in 2003 and brought to appeal by Akzo Nobel

Chemicals. But the court similarly reinforced its earlier decision on privilege. Contrary to voices heard in the intervening period, Mr. Coen surprisingly based his election bid on... “ (full story continues at www.TalklawGlobal.com by clicking this link:

http://tiny.cc/ECLA_new_pres_interview)

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On the same topic you can see the ECLA’s press releases here:

http://www.ecla.org/media/9955/ecla_pr_philippe_coen_president_20121117.pdf

and here:

http://www.ecla.org/media/10204/ecla_pr_thanks_to_dr_peter_kriependorf_20121121.pdf

32 nice pictures from the ECLA’s general assembly in Berlin taken by Anne-Laure Paulet, the Secretary General of AFJE (French member).:

<https://plus.google.com/photos/108931042220604752972/albums/5812652619773317089?authkey=CIPmtPqCtp7wPg&banner=pwa&gpsrc=pwrd1#photos/108931042220604752972/albums/5812652619773317089/5812652657789914546?authkey=CIPmtPqCtp7wPg>



Pravnika to enjoy a return visit to Croatia in September 2013.

Visit of the Croatian colleagues to the Belgian Company Lawyers Institute

Responding to an invitation made by the Belgian *Institut des Juristes d'Entreprise*, member of ECLA, the members of the Croatian ECLA member (*Udruga Korporativnih Pravnika*) visited Brussels on 11th to 13th October, 2012. Belgian colleagues offered an invitation for a visit and a proposal for cooperation between the two Associations at the ECLA's general meeting held in London in spring 2012.



The Belgian colleagues were invited by visiting members of *Udruga Korporativnih*



Read more here: http://www.udruga-korporativnih-pravnika.hr/dld/NEWSLETTER%20NO%2038_eng.pdf

Invitation: UNCITRAL Working Group II (Arbitration and Conciliation) Session (mark your agenda)

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) will hold its fifty-eighth session of its Working Group II (Arbitration and



Conciliation) at the United Nations Headquarters, from 4-8 February 2013.

ECLA is invited to attend the Working Group session as an observer, sending a delegation of up to five persons. In accordance with the practice established in UNCITRAL, we are welcome to offer our views on matters where it ECLA has expertise or international experience so as to facilitate the deliberations of the Working Group.

The Working Group is expected to undertake work on the preparation of a legal standard on transparency in treaty-based investor-State arbitration (see the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-third session, A/65/17, para. 190). Any member of ECLA's national associations can participate on its own expenses supposing such member will be recommended by its national association (ECLA member) and will explain its goals before the session to the ECLA executive board. A report from the session is expected and will be distributed to ECLA members afterwards. In case you are interested please contact Petr Šmelhaus, General Manager of ECLA.

ECLA Awards (We need your ideas)

In line with the program of ECLA President Mr. Philippe Coen, the ECLA's Executive Board intends to award the outstanding European corporate lawyers and other personality who supported ECLA in its 30 years history. Also, ECLA wants to award a person who over the last 24 month did advocate in a remarkable manner one or more Company lawyer interest within the EU. Awards could be grouped as follows:

- Research (Report, academical work, thesis, ...)
- Article (Doctrine, press article, interview)
- Pro bono achievement (e.g. outside counsel defending an ECLA matter)
- Best practices (e.g.; gathering best practice, book on CL's ethics)
- Honorary (past achievements for the association)

Please do provide ECLA with your nomination **suggestions**. The awarded persons will be invited to the celebration of **ECLA 30th birthday**, where the awards will be granted. The celebration will take place in Brussels in September 2013



(tentative date TBC: September 27th, 2013
- mark your agenda).

Flash News for you and your members

- ECLA intends to re-vitalize its **logo**. Your suggestions and pro-bono help is welcomed.
- Individual members of ECLA members (company lawyers) can use the special reduced “Corporate Attendee Fee” at the following ICC conference supported by ECLA:



NEW:



ECLA just opened a Twitter account.
To obtain ECLA tweets simply **Follow us on Twitter: @ECLAcontact**

IMPORTANT: MARK YOUR AGENDA & SAVE THE DATES

- Portugal: Spring General Assembly will take place in Lisbon on 19th April 2013 (welcome cocktail on the 18th evening/visit of Lisbon on the 20th)

- Belgium: Autumn General Assembly with celebration of the 30th anniversary of the foundation of ECLA on 27th September 2013
(Gala Dinner on the 26th evening/visit of Brussels on the 28th)

CASCADE INFO DOWN CASCADE UP ECLANEWS:

*Dear European company lawyer reader,
This newsletter is yours. Use it for your general communication to our other ECLA members. We await your feedback and next item to post.*

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