



ECLA European Company Lawyers Association

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ECLA BULLETIN, April 2021

Dear ECLA Members and Guests,

Hope is in the air. With vaccine rollouts gaining steam throughout the continent, the race against the variants is on. A potentially positive by-product of the pandemic has been the massive investments into treatment options, with medical breakthroughs now happening on a regular basis. Oral antiviral medications could become the new norm for preventing the next pandemic, amongst other major advancements in fields such as cancer treatments.

Many of us have been working remotely for well over a year now. When our typical and rigid 9-6 workday was flipped upside down last March, it is doubtful that anyone expected this 'new normal' to persist for this long. Regardless, it has definitively changed how we perceive our tasks and our time in general, both from a corporate and from an individual perspective. It will be interesting to see how, once working at an office becomes possible again, these two worlds will collide and what will be the general trends with regards to flexibility for employees.

E-Learning

Corporate Counsel Academy courses - Drafting International Contracts (starting May 11) and more

Our highly successful course Drafting International Contracts returns on 11 May! This course provides the necessary vocabulary and drafting techniques to understand and improve your contracts in English. It will enable you to improve in style, syntax, and correct vocabulary, and use of legal sentences in English. **There is an emphasis on practical skills:** you will learn the necessary techniques to draft clear, efficient contracts and avoid common pitfalls. The training will provide you with a greater capacity to understand and draft contracts in English with confidence, lucidity and precision.

ECLA will issue a certificate to each participant at the end of the course indicating the exact hours of training.

The Drafting International Contracts course and others can be viewed by clicking the link below!

[View Courses](#)

Data Protection

TikTok: Dutch nonprofit alleges serious infringements of GDPR

On 7 April 2021, the Stichting Onderzoek Marktinformatie (SOMI) (translated as the Foundation for Market Information Research) submitted a complaint to the Irish Data Protection Commission in Dublin concerning the social media platform TikTok, alleging several severe violations of the General Data Protection Regulation. The application comes in light of the latest viral “challenges” on the platform, that have led to the deaths of several children.

[Read more](#)

Intellectual Property

General Court upholds Lego building blocks as Community design

The Danish toy company Lego has gained a considerable victory in their recent judicial proceedings. On 24 March 2021, the General Court of the Court of the European Union upheld an application by Lego for a Community design, which overturned a previous rejection by the European Union Intellectual Property Office on the grounds of invalidity. The judgment reinstated the building blocks as Community design.

[Read More](#)

Legal Technology

Download study: Legal Departments in a Digital Era

ECLA and Wolters Kluwer published a free in-depth study into the digital status of legal departments across Europe. A pan-European study based on a comprehensive survey conducted in Fall 2019, the research aims to act as a starting point in establishing the status of various markets in Europe and to highlight how far in the digitalisation and digitisation process corporate legal departments are.

The study is very insightful in not only showcasing the status of in-house teams across various facets, such as the organisation and tools in use, digital strategies and budgets thereof, but also future plans and how corporate lawyers themselves see the legal departments evolving.

Click below to read more and to download the study for free!

[Download](#)

Webinar

The Future is Now: The New World of Work - A CMS Webinar Series

Our partner CMS has put together a comprehensive series of webinars with experts that address any relevant legislative or policy changes that employers need to be aware of and discuss the issues arising from the new prevalence of remote working in the short and potentially also longer term, including from a health & safety perspective.

The series covers 25 countries, and each 45-minute webinar will typically cover one country and will be conducted in English by CMS experts from the relevant jurisdiction.

Participation is free and we invite our members to check them out, as they will provide practical advice onto navigating the pandemic currently and in the near-future.

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