



ECLA European Company Lawyers Association

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ECLA NEWSLETTER, January 2020

Dear ECLA Members and Guests,

Welcome to the new decade! We hope that you all are well rested and excited to see, how the next ten years differ from the last ones. We at ECLA have prepared quite a few surprises for you this year - find out more in the upcoming month!

We are planning on building upon what we have accomplished these last two years and improving in every way we can. We also welcome any and all input that you might have to us - don't be shy!

Webinar

ECLA Webcast Series: Times Change, Even For Lawyers – Progress vs. Challenges

Our speakers will discuss the outlook for legal departments in 2020 and potential challenges that in-house teams can expect to face in the upcoming decade. The session will also give a sneak peak into our upcoming Legal Technology Study, showing some results.

Register

ECLA Event

Legal Disruption 2020 - 26-27 February Dublin

Legal Disruption returns in 2020, kicking things off in Dublin! Expect to see company lawyers and experts passionate about legal technology and other disruptive elements relevant for contemporary legal departments. Come join, increase your network of company lawyers across Europe, discuss best practices and gain insight into future tech!

[Register](#)

In-House Interviews

Schops: “Our role has substantially evolved and evolved in the right direction”

In 2020, ECLA launched a new interview series, titled **In-House Interviews**, where we ask in-house lawyers across Europe six questions on the life of a European company lawyer.

Our first interviewee is Mr. Xavier Schops, the Group General Counsel of Sonova, a Swiss listed medical devices company. It is a very insightful read into the views of an experienced in-house lawyer.

[Read more](#)

ECLA's Tech Insights

Balancing privacy concerns with opportunities offered by Blockchain Technology

In 2020, ECLA also launched our Tech Insights, where legal technology experts and enthusiasts give their opinions on their interest areas.

Maria Teresa Zucchelli is the General Counsel of Consulcesi Group, leader in the provision of legal and training services to healthcare professionals. She has been kind enough to give our readers an insight into how Blockchain could be used to tackle certain privacy concerns. It is an extremely interesting read.

[Read more](#)

Data Protection

GDPR: 'Years away from legal certainty' as breach notifications keep rising

Brussels still does not have a clear picture on how EU Member States have enforced GDPR rules and to what amount fines have already been given. Responding to an inquiry by an MEP, Justice Commissioner Didier Reynders indicated that some Member States just have not shared the data with the Commission yet. According to a study, an estimated 160,000 reports concerning possible infringements of data protection rules have been made since May 2018 across the EU.

[Read more](#)

Consumer Protection

EU directive strengthening consumer rights now in force

New EU rules now require online merchants to provide additional information, with the aim to increase consumer protection. For example, private buyers will now have to be informed whether a person selling goods or services online is a trader or another private individual. They must also be warned that EU consumer protection rules do not apply when the supplier is not a trader.

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