



## **ECLA** European Company Lawyers Association

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**ECLA BULLETIN, July 2021**

### **Dear ECLA Members and Guests,**

The tides seem to be shifting regarding the extension of legal professional privilege to in-house counsel. We have reported multiple developments over the first half of the year, most notably in Spain. Furthermore, the tired excuse of the extension LPP to company lawyers harming the State seems to be waning, as it has become clearer that the real opposition comes from sole practitioners within the bar societies. We expect to see the continuation of this trend, which would enable European corporations be competitive on the international stage.

### **E-Learning**

## **European Corporate Counsel Academy - 10% early bird special!!**

We have extended an bird special, an extra 10% off for our members who sign up for the courses at least a month in advance. Visit the Corporate Counsel Academy website to find out information about our upcoming courses in Fall! In addition to the return of our well-received courses such as *Legal English for Negotiation* and *Drafting International Contracts*, the selection also includes practical courses such as *LinkedIn for Lawyers*, *Engaging your Internal Client*, *Media Training*, *Cross-Cultural Negotiation*, *Legal Writing*, and much more!

Visit the website by clicking the button below or send us an e-mail for more information!

[View Courses](#)

## Policy & Regulation

# Corporate accountability laws coming to Europe

Almost 30 organisations are calling for the UK to introduce corporate accountability laws to their legal regimes, which would require businesses to consider human rights issues and environmental obligations across their supply chains. Organisations such as Friends of the Earth and Amnesty International, amongst others, have pointed out that the current voluntary approaches that the UK legal regime currently enjoy have failed.

[Read More](#)

## Legal Privilege

# Why Legal Professional Privilege is in the interest of all concerned

While much of the legal and business world has been in slow-motion through the Covid pandemic over the past 18 months, the issue of the LPP -or Legal Professional Privilege- has been center-stage of recent political, legislative and case law proceedings in France, Spain and the Netherlands.

In-house lawyers are true professionals who execute their legal obligations and provide legal advice with honesty, integrity and independence, just like law firm lawyers. No more and no less.

An opinion paper submitted by Eric Gardner de Béville, previously General Counsel at Coca-Cola France, Spain & Portugal, consultant and member of the Cercle Montesquieu.

[Read more](#)

## Webinar

# CMS - Class Action Risk for the Insurance Industry

The number of class actions being filed in Europe is showing a relentless upward trend with a 120% growth between 2018 and 2020. Drivers behind this growth include new procedural devices, increasingly aggressive claimant law firms and highly active litigation funders.

Insurance companies are at risk where policies respond to class actions against insureds. Separately, insurers may also be direct defendants in class actions.

This webinar is based on the CMS European Class Actions Report 2021, a major study of collective proceedings filed in Europe over the past five years, and on the experience of leading insurance experts.

[View more](#)

## Report

# CMS - Open Secrets? Guarding value in the intangible economy

As the findings of new research mandated by CMS and conducted by The Economist Intelligence Unit reveal, senior executives worldwide now recognise trade secret protection as a priority issue. But the research also reveals gaps that leave vital trade secrets unnecessarily exposed to misappropriation.

The top threats – cybersecurity attacks and employee leaks – resonate with the growing challenges that we see facing our corporate clients every day. Increased home and remote working is straining security measures and employee loyalty. Added to this, an ‘innovate or die’ attitude in highly competitive sectors can motivate new joiners to arrive with questionable material from their previous employer, or worse, encourage companies to steal from competitors.

[View more](#)

## ECLA Member Associations

# Upcoming courses for company lawyers - Italy (AIGI) & Spain (ICAM)

The Italian company lawyers association and the Madrid Bar Association will be holding some fascinating courses for corporate lawyers starting this Fall!

The 3rd edition of the AIGI Summer School will take place 17-19 September 2021 in Bertinoro (Forlì), Italy and focus on International Contracts. The course language will be English. For more information, please see the brochure attached.

Our colleagues from Madrid are offering two interesting courses: “Master International Business Law” and “Master’s Degree in Digital Law, Innovation and Emerging Technologies”. The courses will start in October and finish in July 2022. The courses will be held in Spanish but knowledge in English is required. For more information, please see the brochures attached.

[View more - AIGI Summer School](#)

[View more - ICAM - International Business Law](#)

[View more - ICAM - Digital Law](#)

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