

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

## Lawyering in a Phase of Upheaval

Asser Institute, The Hague, **evening of 18 to 20 September**

**INCLUDING:** Evening drinks reception at the Residence of the Czech Ambassador to The Netherlands in The Hague (from 18:00, 18/09). "Stakeholder" visit to the ICC with a welcome address from ICC Judge **Joanna Komer CMG KC**. Gala dinner (19/09) at **Botanica Restaurant, Voco Hotel**, Kneuterdijk 8, 2514 EN.

**CONFERENCE KEYNOTE ADDRESS:** Judge **Kimberly Prost** Canadian Jurist and Judge of the ICC, after a welcome by **Machiko Kanetake**, Academic Director of the Asser Institute and Professor of International Law & Security Governance, University of Amsterdam. Followed by **BAR LEADERS PANEL:** **Kirsty Brimelow KC** Vice Chair, Bar Council England & Wales; **Robert Němec** President of the Czech Bar; **Seán Guerin SC** Chair of The Bar of Ireland; **Sanne Van Oers** President of The Netherlands Bar; **Barbara Howard** President Elect American Bar Association and **Stéphanie Encinas** Member of the Board, Paris Bar. Chaired by **Abigail Holt** Garden Court Chambers & Leader of the European Circuit of The Bar.

**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW:** In light of unwarranted US Sanctions on the ICC, what scope for national courts and other mechanisms to step up in the fight against impunity for atrocity crimes? **Ward Ferdinandusse** Deputy Specialist Prosecutor of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers; **Natlia Navrouzou** Executive Director of Yazda; **Martin Hackett** Counter-terrorism Expert, UN Office of Counterterrorism, UNOCT, International Counsel with the EU Project Pravo-Justice & Axiom International Ltd, UK barrister Lincoln House Chambers; **Luke Vidal** Partner at SLV Partners & Askolds, Paris Bar Advocate in the Lafarge Syria / ISIS criminal case. Moderated by **James Onalaja** Barrister 187 Chambers.

**MIGRATION:** **Adrian Berry KC** Garden Court Chambers, London; **Nikki Vreede** Everaert Advocaten, Amsterdam; **Avv Marco Bona** Studio Legale Bona Oliva & Associati, Turin; **Lisanne Chamberland-Pulin** French & Canadian lawyer, Hope Avocats, Bordeaux. Moderated by **HHJ Richard Pearce** Judge in charge of the Circuit Commercial Court, Business & Property Courts, Manchester.

**FAMILY:** **Michael Gratton KC** barrister, 4PB; **Amy Rowe** Partner, Hunters Law LLP; **Karen O'Leary** Senior Partner, Head of Family & Child Law, Caldwell & Robinson and **Vanessa Ndoumbe Nkotto** Partner, OratioFortis Avocates, Geneva. Chaired by **Amy Scollan** Partner, Hunters Law LLP.

**REAL-WORLD DEPLOYMENT OF AI:** what use will it be put to and how will it be regulated. Speakers include **Emily Gillett** Senior Research Scholar at the Institute for Law & AI (LawAI); **Dee Masters** Barrister at Cloisters Chambers London; **Dr Thomas Seeber**, Lawyer, Stadler Völkel Lawyers, Vienna. Panel to be moderated by **Leila Ghahhary** English & Canadian Barrister, Lincoln House Chambers Manchester and Ghahhary Thomas, Toronto.

**TRADE LAW IN INTERESTING TIMES:** **Professor Alastair Sutton** barrister, Brick Court Chambers, London & Avocat au Barreau Francophone de Bruxelles; **George Peretz KC** barrister, Monckton Chambers and **Pascal Kerneis**, Managing Director, European Services Forum. Moderated by The President of the High Court of Ireland, **Mr Justice David Barniville**.

**CLIMATE:** Chaired by **Dame Eleanor Sharpston KC** member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee with **Hannah Godfrey** barrister, Bar of Ireland and **Acland Bryant** barrister, Garden Court Chambers.

**To book please visit:** [www.europeancircuit.com/event/conference-2025](http://www.europeancircuit.com/event/conference-2025)

**For discounted room rates at The Voco visit:** <https://tinyurl.com/4c5xbu93>

### Conference fee includes:

- ✓ Welcome drinks reception at the Residence of the Czech Ambassador
- ✓ Guided visit to the ICC (limited places)
- ✓ Access to the working sessions of the conference
- ✓ Refreshments provided throughout the conference
- ✓ Gala Dinner at the Botanica Restaurant at the Voco Hotel

ASSER INSTITUTE

*Centre for International & European Law*

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