

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

LAWYERING IN A PHASE OF UPHEAVAL AT THE ASSER INSTITUTE

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WELCOME FROM ABIGAIL HOLT, LEADER OF THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT

The European Circuit is delighted to be in Den Haag collaborating with local colleagues from the Netherlands and learning from colleagues all over Europe.

Looking at the news can induce a sense of despair at the multiple 'wicked' challenges Europe and the world faces. Yet we know that Europe has been at similar political crossroads before having faced violence, destruction and massive challenges to our way of life.



We should be confident that, as in the 1940s, what prevailed included legal creativity which translated sentiments of solidarity and intention to avoid further wars into legal instruments and international legal institutions, so many of which are hosted in beautiful, elegant Den Haag.

Ultimately the solving of political and legal disputes and maintaining trust in legal processes and institutions depends on respect amongst lawyers and judges. There is no better way to build those friendly professional relationships than debating, learning, dining and socialising together.

I hope everyone enjoys the intellectual stimulation of the fabulous panel sessions as well as the fun and friendship of the social elements.

Thanks for coming to the conference, thanks for participating passionately and wishing you a great time!

Abigail



THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT

PROGRAMME

Thursday 18 September

18:00-20:00 Drinks Reception at the Residence of the Czech Ambassador to The Netherlands in The Hague (Burgemeester van Karnebeeklaan 1)

Friday 19 September

9:00 ICC Visit (Oude Waalsdorperweg 10)
12:00-13:00 Light lunch at the Asser Institute
13:00-13:30 Welcome & Keynote Address
13:30-14:30 AI Panel
14:30-15:30 Family Panel
15:30-15:45 Break
15:45-17:00 Bar Leaders Panel
18:30 Reception hosted by the Netherlands Bar at Pulchri Studio (Lange Voorhout 15)
20:00 Gala Dinner at Botanica Restaurant at voco the Hague by IHG (Kneuterdijk 8)

Saturday 20 September

10:00-11:15 Criminal Panel
11:15-12:15 Trade Panel
12:15-12:45 Coffee & sandwiches
12:45-13:45 Climate Panel
13:45-14:45 Migration Panel

LAWYERING IN A PHASE OF UPHEAVAL

ASSER INSTITUTE, THE HAGUE, 18 TO 20 SEPTEMBER

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.

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, Seeber Law, Vienna; **Professor Dr Machiko Kanetake** Academic Director & the Chair of the Executive Board of the T.M.C. Asser Institute and Professor of International Law and Security Governance at the University of Amsterdam. Panel to be moderated by **Leila Ghahhary** English & Canadian Barrister, Lincoln House Chambers Manchester and Ghahhary Thomas, Toronto.

FAMILY: **Barbara Howard** President Elect American Bar Association, **Michael Gratton KC** barrister, PUB; **Amy Rowe** Partner, Hunters Law LLP; **Karen O'Leary** Senior Partner, Head of Family and Child Law, Caldwell & Robinson and **Vanessa Ndoumbe Noto** Partner, OratioFortis Avocates, Geneva. Chaired by **Amy Scollan** Partner, Hunters Law LLP.

BAR LEADERS PANEL: A lively session as per the conference theme "Lawyering in a Phase of Upheaval". With **Kirsty Brimelow KC** Vice Chair, Bar Council England & Wales; **Robert Némec** President of the Czech Bar; **Séamus Clarke SC, BCL** Vice-Chair of the Council 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.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW: In light of unwarranted US Sanctions on the ICC, what scope is there 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; **Natia Navrouzou** Executive Director of Yazda; **Marlin 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.

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

CLIMATE: Discussing the role of and limits on litigation as a mechanism to enforce climate obligations. Chaired by **Dame Eleanor Sharpston KC** Member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and Honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh with **Hannah Godfrey** Barrister, Bar of Ireland and **Acland Bryant** Barrister, Garden Court Chambers.

LEGAL PLUMBING: VALVES, TAPS & THE PIPEWORK OF IL/LEGAL MIGRATION: The panel will look at some of the drivers and consequences of "illegal", or irregular 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 and Canadian lawyer, Hope Avocats, Bordeaux. Moderated by **HHJ Richard Pearce** Judge in charge of the Circuit Commercial Court, Business & Property Courts, Manchester.

TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT, PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS:

www.europeancircuit.com/

THE SOCIAL SIDE

The Hague is a truly multicultural city with an 800-year history, and is the seat of the government in the Netherlands. While widely known as the home of the International Court of Justice, the city hosts over 200 international organisations, earning it the title of 'International City of Peace and Justice'. Besides being a leading stage for international law and diplomacy, the long history of the city is also reflected in its medieval architecture, where modern buildings blend in, creating a sense of both continuity and progress. Several well-known museums highlight the city's cultural life and history.

There are thus many flavours to the Hague, including many cobbled streets offering antiques, lifestyle and design stores, trendy boutiques, and galleries. For the more curious, The Haagse Markt (The Hague Market) is a vibrant open-air market located in the multicultural Transvaal district, just a short tram ride from the city centre. Scheveningen, a lively coastal neighbourhood of The Hague, offers a vibrant food scene and has something for every taste. Along the Dutch coast, a breathtaking panorama of the North Sea and its endless horizon awaits.

Social events during conference include a Drinks Reception at the Residence of the Czech Ambassador to the Netherlands in The Hague, located in the centre of The Hague in the close neighbourhood of the Noordeinde Royal Palace and a "Stakeholder" visit to the ICC. There will be a second Drinks Reception, graciously hosted by The Netherlands Bar at Pulchri Studio, a Dutch art studio, before the Gala Dinner being held in the Botanica Restaurant at the Voco Hotel in the centre of The Hague – we hope you'll agree these will be great networking and social opportunities to meet new colleagues from across Europe and beyond.



THE NETHERLANDS BAR

The Netherlands Bar (NOvA) is the statutory professional organisation for all advocates in the country, established by the Act on Advocates (1952). It is funded entirely by members' contributions, ensuring independence from the government. Organised across eleven judicial districts, each with its own local bar and president, the NOvA oversees professional standards, supervision, and training. Nationally, it is governed by the general council, led by the secretary general and supported by an office of around sixty staff. The NOvA issues regulations, manages bar registration, and requires continuous professional education. As of January 2024, 18,513 advocates are registered. Internationally, it is a member of the IBA and the CCBE, reinforcing its role within the global legal community.

We asked Sanne Van Oers, President of The Netherlands Bar, three burning questions and we are most grateful to her for taking the time to respond.

1. Why is the Hague considered an important legal centre and what role does the Netherlands Bar play in it?

The Hague hosts key international courts, tribunals and organisations, such as the ICJ, the ICC, the PCA, Europol, Eurojust and OPCW. The city also has a tradition of peace and justice; The Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907 laid the foundation for international humanitarian law and the Peace Palace has become a global symbol of international dispute resolution. The Netherlands Bar ensures an independent and well-regulated legal profession, making sure both Dutch and foreign lawyers can operate effectively in this unique hub of international justice.

2. What are the current issues and challenges you are dealing with at the bar?

At the Netherlands Bar we are addressing a wide range of issues. As part of our statutory duty to promote effective legal protection, we are committed to ensuring adequate access to justice for persons in need of legal protection. A key priority in this regard is safeguarding a sustainable system of government funded legal aid which also means that there must be enough legal aid lawyers. That is what concerns me. Another important issue is the safety of lawyers. The Netherlands Bar has taken several initiatives to make lawyers more resilient and aware of potential risks. Unfortunately, an increasing number of lawyers are facing aggression, threats, and/or intimidation in the exercise of their profession.

3. What are your personal favourite sights or tips for our conference delegates – any must-sees in the Hague?

I suggest visiting the ICC which is a highlight of the conference programme, offering a unique opportunity to gain an understanding of how the ICC pursues justice in prosecuting serious crimes like genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. For the delegates who appreciate culture, I would like to recommend the street "Noordeinde" where you find quite some national heritage sites including "Noordeinde palace", the workplace of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima. A visit to "Scheveningen Beach" is a good choice too, whether for a relaxing walk, a drink by the sea, or simply some fresh air. It is just a short tram ride from the city centre.

We are most grateful to the Netherland Bar for hosting the drinks reception on Friday 19 September at Pulchri Studio.

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: KEYNOTE



JUDGE KIMBERLY PROST

Judge Prost was appointed a Judge of the ICC from 11 March 2018, for a term of nine years. Prior to her election as judge of the ICC, Judge Prost served as Chef de Cabinet for the President of the International Criminal Court for a two-year term.

Before joining the Court, she was appointed in 2010 as the first Ombudsperson for the Security Council Al Qaida Sanctions Committee.

In July 2006, after election by the United Nations General Assembly, she was appointed to sit as an ad litem judge of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia on a multi-accused trial (Popovic et al) related to events at Srebrenica and Zepa.

Earlier in her career, Judge Prost worked for the Canadian Department of Justice for 18 years appearing before all levels of the Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court.

For 7 years she served as Director of the International Assistance Group which is responsible for extradition and mutual legal assistance matters for Canada. She participated in negotiating over 40 extradition/mutual legal assistance treaties and was a member of the Canadian delegation for negotiating the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and related documents, as well as the UN Conventions against Transnational Organised Crime and Corruption.

Judge Prost also held managerial positions with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime delivering a range of programmes for States on international cooperation, money laundering and asset forfeiture, counter terrorism, implementation of the Rome Statute, and combating organised crime and corruption. Judge Prost graduated as a gold medallist from the University of Manitoba Law School.

The keynote speech will be preceded by a brief welcome from Abigail Holt, barrister of Garden Court Chambers & Leader of the European circuit & Professor Dr Machiko Kanetake, Academic Director of the Asser Institute & Professor of International Law & Security Governance, University of Amsterdam.

Abi will also be speaking on the Bar Leader's panel and Machiko will be speaking on the AI / Tech panel and their bios can be found below listed under those panels.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: TECH / AI PANEL

REAL-WORLD DEPLOYMENT OF AI: WHAT USE WILL IT BE PUT TO AND HOW WILL IT BE REGULATED.



LEILA GHAAHHARY

Leila Ghahhary is an international barrister called to the Bars of England & Wales and Ontario, Canada. She is a co-founder and partner at Ghahhary Thomas LLP (Toronto) and a member of Lincoln House Chambers (UK), practising across public, regulatory, and international law in both jurisdictions.

She is ranked as a leading barrister by the major legal publications in the UK and Canada – Legal 500, Chambers & Partners, and Benchmark Litigation.

Leila has been appointed to the UK Attorney General's Panel of Counsel, the Equality and Human Rights Commission Panel of Counsel, and the Panel of Specialist Advocates in Health and Safety and Environmental Law.

She has a significant public inquiries practice, currently acting as Counsel to the Cabinet Office and No. 10 Downing Street in the UK Covid-19 Inquiry and recently as Counsel to Canada's Foreign Interference Inquiry.

Leila's international practice includes European law, public international law, international criminal law and international human rights. Her work has involved matters concerning ICJ proceedings, the application of universal jurisdiction and atrocity crimes. It also includes acting as the Senior Legal Advisor to an international NGO.

In 2023, Leila completed her second Master of Laws at Columbia University, having been awarded the Parker School Certificate of Achievement in International and Comparative Law. Leila's scholarship was focused on Public International Law, Global Governance, and International Human Rights. During her time in New York, she served as an editor for the Columbia Human Rights Law Review and Board Member for the Columbia Society of International Law. Leila was also selected to undertake a leadership in law programme and an externship with UN Women, during which she spent time working at UN Headquarters New York on peace and security matters relating to UN Women's role on the Security Council. Leila sits on the Committee of the European Circuit.



EMILY GILLETT

Emily is a Senior Research Scholar at the Institute for Law & AI (Law AI), focusing on the regulation and governance of general-purpose and frontier AI under the EU AI Act. Before joining Law AI, Emily gained experience in the AI policy field, leading the European AI Governance team at a non-profit organisation dedicated to aligning AI through better governance.

Prior to embarking on a career in AI, Emily was an English barrister (Lincoln's Inn) & Hong Kong solicitor, specialising in high-profile cross-border commercial fraud and asset recovery litigation.

With fifteen years of courtroom experience, she has been instructed on industry-leading cases in London, Grand Cayman, Guernsey and Hong Kong.



DR. THOMAS SEEBER

Dr. Thomas Seeber is a lawyer with many years of experience in Legal Tech and AI, also as a partner in renowned law firms in Vienna, Innsbruck and London. He has specialised in real estate law, banking and finance, capital markets and corporate law and, in particular, New Technologies and Legal Tech. Dr. Thomas Seeber has put his experience in Legal Tech into practice as the founder of Realestate8 Technologies GmbH, for which he has received numerous awards.

He is an expert in the application of technology and digital solutions in the field of law and gives numerous lectures on the subject. With his training at the MIT Sloan School of Management on AI and its implications for business strategies, he has extensive knowledge of the latest technological developments and how they can be used to make legal processes more efficient and cost-effective. Thomas Seeber is a leading expert when it comes to AI and AI-Technologies in the (banking) practice.



PROFESSOR DR MACHIKO KANETAKE

Professor Dr Machiko Kanetake is the Academic Director and the Chair of the Executive Board of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut and Professor of International Law and Security Governance at the University of Amsterdam.

Before joining Asser/UvA, she was the programme director (2023-2025) and coordinator (2015-2021) of the Master's Programme in Public International Law at Utrecht University. Since September 2024, she is a Board member of the European Society of International Law (ESIL).

She served in 2017-2024 as an Editorial Board member of the Leiden Journal of International Law. Machiko's research interest lies in the interactive domains of security, human rights, and technology.



DEE MASTERS

Dee Masters is a technology and discrimination specialist. She was Legal 500's Employment Junior of the Year in 2024 and 2022.

Dee is a leading practitioner in the technology space in relation to the interplay between artificial intelligence, equality law, human rights and data protection. She works with private companies, NGOs, trade unions, regulators and individuals.

Dee is currently representing the Equality and Human Rights Commission in Great Britain in its intervention in a judicial review concerning the use of Live Facial Recognition Technology by the Met Police. In 2023 and 2024, Dee drafted an AI Bill focused exclusively on the employment relationship for the TUC along with Robin Allen KC and colleagues in chambers. In 2022, they worked with DCMS and CDEI on legislative coherence issues. In 2022, Dee was a lead speaker at the employment workshop for CENELEC of the European Commission on technical standards in AI.

In late 2021, Dee and Robin were commissioned by the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in relation to the effects of AI, ML and ADM for persons with disabilities. The Special Rapporteur's thematic report was then presented to the UN Human Rights Committee on the 14 March 2022. On 25 March 2021, the TUC published a legal opinion by Dee and Robin called "*Technology Managing People – the legal implications*". This report has been widely cited in the discussions about future regulation of AI systems in the workspace. During late 2020 and early 2021, Robin and Dee devised and delivered a training programme for the Council of Europe, in conjunction with the CDEI, for UK regulators on discrimination and AI. The programme has been rolled out to regulators in France and Spain.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: FAMILY LAW PANEL

A SESSION ON THE HAGUE CONVENTION AND INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION.



AMY SCOLLAN

Amy Scollan is a Partner at Hunters Law LLP, specialising in high-value and complex financial remedy litigation, often involving intricate company structures and trusts. Known for her strategic thinking and creative problem-solving, Amy is described by clients and peers as "extremely able", "thorough", and someone who "leaves no stone unturned". She is recognised as a Next Generation Partner in The Legal 500 and ranked in Chambers High Net Worth Guide 2024, where she is praised as "an absolute asset to Hunters".

Amy advises on a wide range of family law matters, including cross-border disputes, safeguarding issues, and proceedings involving serious welfare concerns. She also has significant experience in drafting pre- and post-nuptial agreements and is a key member of Hunters' International Safeguarding team. Her expertise spans both private and public international law, with a particular focus on cases involving sexual abuse, mental capacity, and international child protection.

A committee member of the European Circuit, Amy regularly writes for leading legal journals and speaks at conferences across Europe. She is known for her forensic attention to detail, strong interpersonal skills, and unwavering commitment to achieving the best outcomes for her clients.



VANESSA NDOUMBE NKOTTO

Vanessa is a lawyer registered at the Geneva bar. Her main area of practice is national and international family law and she has been awarded in 2024 the title of Certified specialist SBA in Family Law by the Swiss Bar Association.

She is a member of the Children Rights Commission and the Human rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association.

In parallel to her legal practice, she is a Ph.D. candidate and is currently writing a doctoral thesis at the University of Geneva, on the topic of surrogacy and sexual and reproductive rights.



MICHAEL GRATION KC

Michael has a particular specialism in the international movement of children, which he focuses upon in the context of all of the areas of family law in which he practices.

He appears regularly in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in cases involving (but not limited to) Hague and non-Hague abduction, jurisdictional disputes, the recognition and enforcement of orders (pursuant to Brussels II revised and the 1996 Hague Convention), relocation (both internal and external) and public law cases with international or other jurisdictional issues.

He has also appeared in most of the leading cases in this field, representing parties (including parents, children and non-Governmental organisations) in the Court of Appeal and the UK Supreme Court.



KAREN O'LEARY

Karen qualified as a Solicitor in England & Wales and worked for over three years for Gouldens (now Jones Day) in the City of London and Brussels before moving to Ireland when she was admitted as a Solicitor in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Karen has particular expertise in family cases involving an international dimension in the three jurisdictions where she is qualified. She deals with complex cross-border financial claims and children's matters.

She is both a qualified mediator and chartered arbitrator in family law.

Karen is also a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) and is a member of the European Management Chapter of IAFL. She is also a committee member of Resolution's International Committee tasked with keeping members updated with international aspects of family practice.

Karen regularly presents and lectures on family law topics both nationally and internationally and is the author of both the Northern Ireland Chapter and Republic of Ireland Chapter of the Family Law "Blue Book" published by Thomson Reuters and is a contributor to the International Family Law Handbook.

She has been ranked Band 1 by Chambers for a number of years.



AMY ROWE

Amy Rowe is a Partner in the Family & Relationships department at Hunters Law & is widely recognised as a leading expert in international children's law.

Ranked in Band 1 by Chambers & Partners and named a 'Leading Individual' in The Legal 500, she has been described as "exceptional", "truly outstanding", and "one of the standout children lawyers of her generation" whose legal knowledge is "second to none".

Amy is recognised for her "unparalleled expertise and experience in international children cases" including child abduction, relocation, jurisdictional disputes, surrogacy, and cross-border adoption. She regularly acts in complex domestic children matters involving serious welfare considerations such as high-conflict disputes, alienating behaviours, coercive and controlling behaviour, safeguarding issues and medical treatment. She is known for finding creative solutions for difficult problems and her ability to navigate the most complex and sensitive family law issues with clarity and care. She regularly acts in high-profile and appellate cases, including in the Supreme Court.

Amy is co-editor of the *International Family Law Journal* and a frequent speaker at international conferences. She holds key positions on several legal committees, including the International Family Law Committee and the Resolution International Committee, and is a Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers. She is a Resolution Accredited Specialist in Child Abduction and Children Law, and a trained mediator.



BARBARA J. HOWARD

Barbara J. Howard practices exclusively in the area of family law. She handles complex asset and property division cases, child custody cases, support for both children and spouses, tax issues related to divorcing parties and prenuptial agreements. Ms. Howard has also handled Hague Convention cases. She has been certified as a specialist in family relations law by the Ohio State Bar Association since 1999. While a strong advocate for her clients in the courtroom, a significant portion of Ms. Howard's practice utilises the collaborative law process.

Barbara is also speaking on the Bar Leaders Panel and her full biography can be found below.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: BAR LEADERS PANEL

THIS WILL BE A LIVELY SESSION AS PER THE CONFERENCE THEME “LAWYERING IN A PHASE OF UPHEAVAL”.

The range of problems facing lawyers and the legal profession are immense. Many jurisdictions are dealing with the same problems from different angles. The leaders will address topics as diverse as: Being required to work electronically whilst being forbidden from taking laptops or digital devices into prison; the massive backlog of criminal cases and challenges to the criminal justice system in the UK; attacks on lawyers and judges, including sanctions against the ICC; policies to support lawyers responding to the challenges of AI; lawyer / client privilege and duty of confidentiality potentially under attack by the proposed new “chat control” EU Regulation; the challenges caused by limited legal aid for civil cases in Ireland; and challenges to the Rule of Law and the basic tenants of democracy in the USA. With Bar leaders including



ABIGAIL HOLT

Abigail Holt practises from Garden Court Chambers in London in personal injury, industrial disease and medical cases which includes cross-border litigation. She also has expertise in human rights and international protection work, with a particular interest in Afghanistan, as well as employment law.

She is on the list of Court Examiners appointed to take evidence for the High Court, often from people who are terminally ill, and also to take depositions following requests for evidence from overseas courts.

At GCC she is on the Environmental & Climate Justice and Commercial & Business Ethics teams and has recently been invited to become a Fellow of the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law based at McGill University, Quebec and Cambridge University.

As current leader of the European Circuit, she stands on the shoulders of giants with recent leaders including Hugh Mercer KC, new UK Judge at the ECtHR, Colm Ó hOisín SC and Michael Bowsher KC.



KIRSTY BRIMELOW KC

Kirsty Brimelow KC is Vice Chair of the Bar Council of England and Wales (2025) and Chair Elect for 2026. She is a former Chair of both the Criminal Bar Association and the Bar Human Rights Committee. A leading barrister at Doughty Street Chambers, she specialises in criminal, international, and public law and co-heads Chambers' Criminal Law team.

An accredited mediator, she played a pivotal role in the Colombian peace process and is a consultant to organisations including the UN and OSCE. Twice named The Times' "Lawyer of the Week," she also is a Governing Benchers of Gray's Inn, Trustee of WWF-UK, a Recorder and a Deputy High Court Judge.



SANNE VAN OERS

Sanne van Oers is President of the Netherlands Bar (NOv A) as of 1 September 2024, together with Jeroen Soeteman. In this role, she is also co-chair of the general council.

Van Oers has been part of the general council since the beginning of 2022, and since 1 January 2024, she has jointly held the position of Vice President with Jeroen Soeteman.

As Bar President, Van Oers' primary focus areas are the role of the legal profession in the rule of law and access to justice.

Van Oers has been a lawyer since 2003 and practices as a legal aid lawyer at Van Schie advocaten in Nijmegen. Her areas of expertise are juvenile law and psychiatric patient law. Prior to joining the general council of the Netherlands Bar, she was member of the board of representatives and member of the council of the local bar in Gelderland.



ROBERT NĚMEC

Robert Němec is a partner at PRK Partners specialising in commercial litigation and arbitration, banking, mergers & acquisitions, insolvency and restructuring. Robert is an attorney at law and President of the Czech Bar Association. He is an arbitrator of the Arbitration Court attached to the Economic Chamber of the Czech Republic and Agricultural Chamber of the Czech Republic. He has also been named an arbitrator of the Vienna International Arbitral Centre (VIAC).

He is a member of the International Bar Association. Robert is consistently ranked among leading practitioners in the areas of banking and finance and dispute resolution by respected legal directories, such as IFLR1000, the European Legal 500 & Chambers Europe & Chambers Global.

In addition, Best Lawyers named him Banking & Finance Lawyer of the Year 2012. Robert is also listed & recommended in the areas of banking and finance, dispute resolution, mergers and acquisitions, corporate law and TMT in various other directories & publications, including Chambers Europe, Expert Guides & Legal Experts.

SÉAMUS CLARKE SC, BCL

Séamus was called to the Bar of Ireland in 2000 and has been a Senior Counsel since 2017. His practice spans constitutional / administrative law, criminal law, employment law and extradition / EAW law.

Recent civil law work includes successfully arguing in *Musueni & Amah -v- Ireland & Ors* [2024] IEHC 523 that the statutory regime whereby 'aged out' juveniles convicted of murder receive a Life sentence was inconsistent with the constitutional guarantee of equality per Article 40.1 of the Constitution. This constitutional challenge necessitated legislative amendment: Criminal Justice (Amendment) Act, 2024.

He leads the State defence in the CJEU in C-528/24 Boothnesse, where the Supreme Court of Ireland has referred questions of law on the compatibility of Section 22 of the EAW Act 2003 and Art. 625(2) of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement with Arts. 47-50 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

He is frequently entrusted to prosecute and defend in cases of murder, manslaughter, rape and other serious crime. In 2019 and 2020, he represented the OPP in *OPP -v- F.E* where the Supreme Court laid down sentencing guidance to be followed by judges in rape cases.

In 2018, he represented the first person acquitted in a murder case defended under the Criminal Law (Defence and the Dwelling) Act, 2011.

Séamus is a graduate of University College Dublin / De Paul University, Chicago and the University of Oxford where he was a Parker Scholar at Lady Margaret Hall.

Séamus is the Vice-Chair of the Council of the Bar of Ireland and has been a Member of the Council since 2019. He is a Member of the Faculty of the Bar Council Advanced Advocacy Trainers and a former member of the Barristers' Professional Conduct Appeals Tribunal.



BARBARA J. HOWARD

Barbara J. Howard practices exclusively in the area of family law. She handles complex asset and property division cases, child custody cases, support for both children and spouses, tax issues related to divorcing parties and prenuptial agreements. Ms. Howard has also handled Hague Convention cases. She has been certified as a specialist in family relations law by the Ohio State Bar Association since 1999. While a strong advocate for her clients in the courtroom, a significant portion of Ms. Howard's practice utilises the collaborative law process.

Ms. Howard is president-elect of the American Bar Association and will serve as President beginning in August 2026. She has long been active in bar association leadership, including as a member of the ABA's policymaking House of Delegates since 1986 and as its Chair from 2020 to 2022. She is a former President of the Ohio State Bar Association and of the Cincinnati Bar Association.

Ms. Howard has held numerous other ABA leadership positions. Among them are her service as Chair of the ABA Day in Washington annual grassroots lobbying event and as Chair of the ABA standing committees on membership, meetings and travel, specialisation, substance abuse, and constitution and bylaws. She has also served as advisory commission member of the ABA's Task Force on American Democracy and as a member of the ABA Strategic Planning Committee. She has served on the boards of the ABA Fund for Justice and Education and the ABA Journal.

Ms. Howard is a member of the American Law Institute and served on the National Council of Bar Presidents Executive Committee and American Judicature Society Board of Directors. She currently chairs the Board of Directors of the Ohio Bar Liability Insurance Company. Ms. Howard has attended past European Circuit conferences in Lisbon, Rome, Brussels and Warsaw. She has presented papers on cross-border family law disputes and on Collaborative Law.



STÉPHANIE ENCINAS

Stéphanie Encinas has been a member of the Paris Bar since 2002 and is a partner at LETANG AVOCATS, where she practises mainly in urban planning, commercial urban planning, and administrative law. She assists local authorities, developers and operators in structuring and securing the legal framework for complex projects. She is co-author of several reference publications, including the JurisClasseur Construction-Urbanisme booklets on commercial urban planning and film permits.

Elected member of the Paris Bar Council for the 2025-2027 term, she serves as deputy secretary of the digital, social and collaboration committees. She wanted to give back to the profession what it has given her over the past 20 years and to put her experience as a public law lawyer at the service of her bar.

She is also an active member of the Femmes & Droit (Women & Law) network and the AFMAA (Franco-Moroccan Association of Business Lawyers).

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW PANEL

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?



JAMES ONALAJA

James Onalaja is a criminal and regulatory barrister practising from 187 Chambers, Temple, London. His practise focuses on: serious, complex and violent crimes including matters with transnational, international criminal law and human rights complexities. He is admitted to the International Criminal Court's (ICC) and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers' (KSC) lists of counsel.

James recently completed a posting in The Hague with the ICC's Office of Public Counsel for the Defence, assisting with its duties of representing, protecting and promoting the interests of the defence and unrepresented suspects. He conducts international trial monitoring and reporting on behalf of EuroMed Rights and the Bar Human Rights Committee.

He is a member of the International Criminal Court Bar Association (ICCBA) Training Committee and Chairs its Legal Advisory Committee.



WARD FERDINANDUSSE

Ward is the Deputy Specialist Prosecutor at the Kosovo Specialist Prosecutor's Office, which investigates and prosecutes war crimes and crimes against humanity in the period 1998-2000 as well as obstruction of justice offences. As prosecutor in the Dutch National Public Prosecutor's Office in 2008-2021, Ward worked on criminal cases, extradition proceedings and investigations into international crimes including genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity, torture, piracy and terrorism, as well as the Flight MH 17 trial.

In 2014-2018 he was professor by special appointment in International Criminal Law at the University of Groningen. He attended the University of Amsterdam and Columbia Law School. His publications include *Direct Application of International Criminal Law in National Courts* (2006), and the Kooijmans Lecture 2024: "International Criminal Law in Times of Turmoil".



LUKE VIDAL

Luke Vidal is a partner with SL V Partners law firm in Paris. He heads the International Litigation and Arbitration division of the firm and has advised and represented States, corporations, organisations and individuals before international and European courts and tribunals, including the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights and UN Human Rights bodies.

He has been instructed in cases concerning the prevention of genocide, the application of international sanctions, the determination of international boundaries, and litigations regarding free trade and cross-border investments.

Luke is notably heading some of the main pro bono activities of SL V Partners, assisting victims of crimes against humanity, war crimes and terrorism.



MARTIN HACKETT

Martin Hackett is an International Prosecutor and Barrister with over 30 years' experience. Currently he works as an expert with Pravo Justice in Kyiv Ukraine as part of the Genocide and Conflict Related Sexual Violence teams within the International Atrocity Crimes Advisory group advising the Ukrainian Office of the Prosecutor General, with the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism in Uganda and in Iraq and Kurdistan for a British Government project advising on fair trial rights.

Former Head of the War Crimes Prosecution Unit for the Special Prosecution Office for the Republic of Kosovo. Managing relationships with national prosecutors, liaising with the Serbian prosecution office and prosecuting high profile defendants within a challenging political context in the Kosovo Courts.

Between 2015-2021 Martin was Senior Trial counsel at the UN Special tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague investigating and prosecuting targeted terrorist attacks against political figures in Lebanon. He also continues to practice in the United Kingdom as a Barrister focusing upon counter terrorism and cases involving sexual violence.



NATIA NAVROUZOV

Natia Navrouzov is Yazda's Executive Director, a Yazidi-focused and global NGO established three weeks after the start of ISIS genocidal campaign against the Yazidi community in Sinjar.

She is a French-qualified lawyer specialising in international law, human rights, and transitional justice.

As a member of the Yazidi community, Natia has been instrumental in Yazda's initiatives since joining in 2018. She holds various positions within the organisation, including Project Manager and Interim Country Director. In 2021, she was appointed as Yazda's first Legal Advocacy Director. Under her leadership, Yazda collected testimonies of ISIS survivors and documented evidence from crime sites, and collaborated with international and national bodies, including the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability Against Da'esh Crimes (UNITAD), national war crimes units and the Office of Amal Clooney. Notably, her leadership played a key role in the conviction of several ISIS members in Germany, including for genocide against Yazidi victims. In 2019, Natia supported a group of Yazidi female advocates to establish the Yazidi Survivors Network (YSN) and campaigned with them for the passing of the Yazidi Survivors Law until its adoption in March 2021.

Before joining Yazda, Natia worked for a globally recognized law firm specializing in International Public Law and International Arbitration in Paris, as a Research Assistant at the London Court of Arbitration, and Assistant Lecturer at the Université of Panthéon-Sorbonne in Paris. Admitted to the Paris Bar, Natia holds a dual bachelor's degree in German and French Law from the University of Cologne (Germany) and Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France); she holds Master's degrees in International Law from Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Columbia University (USA), where she graduated as a Human Rights Fellow and Fulbright scholar, and was awarded the Davis Polk Fellowship.

Natia is also an Obama Foundation Leader.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: TRADE PANEL

TRADE LAW IN INTERESTING TIMES

Trump 2.0 and the war on trade – is it a tumultuous time ahead, or a new dawn of opportunities for the EU? Some argue that the current zeitgeist is not only the end of the Washington Consensus but the beginning of the end for the rule of law in international trade. But the shift we are witnessing in global power comes at a time of significant developments in the markets for services, and with a radically changing technological landscape on the horizon. In this conjuncture many believe there is a chance for the EU to not only come into its own but forge a new path in trade in services.



MR. JUSTICE DAVID BARNIVILLE

Mr. Justice David Barniville is the President of the High Court of Ireland. He was appointed a judge of the High Court in December 2017 after almost 27 years in practice as a barrister and Senior Counsel in the Courts of Ireland and in the European Courts. He was, and is again, also designated as the Arbitration Judge to hear all arbitration related matters in the High Court. David was appointed to the Court of Appeal in August 2021.

He was appointed President of the High Court in July 2022. In that role he is ex officio a member of the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the Council of State.

In July 2018, David was appointed as a member of Ireland's National Group on the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague and continues to hold that position. He was recently (2024) appointed to the ICC's Governing Body for Dispute Resolution. David is the current Chair of the Judges Forum of the International Bar Association (IBA). David was Chair of the Council of the Bar of Ireland (2014-2016) and Chair of Irish Rule of Law International (IRLI) (2015-2019). He was a member of the Bars of Ireland and of England and Wales (Middle Temple) (and 20 Essex Chambers in London). He is a Bencher of the King's Inns in Dublin and of Middle Temple in London and an adjunct professor of law at the University of Limerick & University of Galway.



GEORGE PERETZ KC

George Peretz KC is a barrister at Monckton Chambers, specialising in public and EU law, with strength in trade and competition law. He has represented the UK government on a range of EU and public law cases in the CJEU and various higher courts. He blogs and publishes widely on Brexit and trade issues. He was a founding member of the UK Trade Forum, and he has given evidence to various House of Lords and House of Commons committees on Brexit and trade related issues.



PROFESSOR ALASTAIR SUTTON

Alastair is a practising lawyer: founding partner in Forrester Norall and partner in White and Case; Barrister, Brick Court Chambers (practising in Brussels and London) and Avocat au Barreau Francophone de Bruxelles. Elected Bencher and Master of the Middle Temple; awarded Medal for 50 years as an English barrister and Belgian avocat. Former Lecturer in public international, EC & UK constitution law, University College London. Visiting Professor in European Law at University College London, Kings College London, the University of Edinburgh, Reykjavik University and Georgetown University.

Former European Commission official and trade negotiator in the External Relations department (the GATT Multifibres Arrangement and the EC's bilateral agreements on trade in textiles; GATT Tokyo Round especially anti-dumping, anti-subsidy and safeguard measures; preparations for the Uruguay Round negotiations leading to the creation of the WTO); the Commission Delegation in Tokyo; Legal Adviser in the Cabinet of Commission Vice President Lord Cockfield on the Internal Market; Head of Division for Insurance under Commission Vice President Sir Leon Brittan. Instructor for national judges from EU Member States in the European Judicial Training Network (EU tax law, tax fraud, anti-money-laundering law, migration law).

Instructor for trade officials of the Melanesian Free Trade Area (Vanuatu, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and New Caledonia). Member of the European Law and International trade law Committees of the Bar Council of England and Wales. Member of the European Services Forum.



PASCAL KERNEIS

Pascal Kerneis (Ph.D.) is the foremost expert of European Service Industry in international trade and investment negotiations. He is a former legal expert to the European Commission and Managing Director of the European Services Forum a role he was appointed to in 1999. He is heavily involved in trade negotiations and has been appointed members of DG Trade's Expert Group on Trade and the Commission 1s Advisory Group for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership. He is author of articles on trade in services and investment and digital trade related issues in various books and publications.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: CLIMATE PANEL

The panel will be discussing the role of and limits on litigation as a mechanism to enforce climate obligations, including consideration of issues such as: the boundaries of judicial power and the extent to which this is a legal question rather than a political one; the different fronts from which challenges may come (public bodies, environmental groups, commercial actors resisting restraints, commercial actors such as windfarm developers seeking to enforce environmental imperatives set out in legislation, etc.); the extent to which downstream effects of authorised activities have to be taken into account and the limitations on a court's ability to take future uncertainties into account; and specific developments in different jurisdictions.

DAME ELEANOR SHARPSTON KC



Dame Eleanor Sharpston KC is a member of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and Honorary Professor at the University of Edinburgh.

Following a distinguished career in private practice, she served as an Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the European Union from 2006 to 2020, where she presented over 340 opinions. She is a member of the Bar of England and Wales and the Bar of Ireland, a bencher of Middle Temple and an honorary bencher of King 1s Inns, Dublin.

In parallel, she has had a distinguished academic career, having lectured in EU law and comparative law, first at University College London and then, for many years, at the University of Cambridge, where she is now an Emeritus Fellow of King's College. She is a visiting professor at the Riga Graduate School of Law and an adjunct professor at Trinity College Dublin.

She is an Honorary Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and of the British Academy; and holds honorary doctorates from Glasgow, Nottingham Trent, Stockholm and Edinburgh.

HANNAH GODFREY



Hannah Godfrey is a barrister based in the Law Library in Dublin. She is a graduate of the University of Oxford and the King's Inns, Dublin.

She specialises in EU and public law and regularly appears before the Irish Superior Courts, as well as advising a large number of public bodies.

She is a member of the EU Bar Association and formerly taught on the EU Advanced Law course at Trinity College Dublin.

She is currently treasurer of the European Circuit.

ACLAND BRYANT

Acland has experience and expertise in all aspects of domestic (England, Wales & NI) and international environmental law & climate justice.

His environmental practice is broad and includes cases which raise issues pertaining to animals and animal welfare. Acland has worked with and/or for international environmental NGOs, charities, activists, campaigners, political figures, protestors, and individuals (including children) who have been or are at risk of being impacted by environmental degradation and climate change.

Acland is a doctoral candidate at the University of East Anglia ("UEA") and a member of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. Acland's thesis looks at climate change litigation in common-law jurisdictions and has assisted his development of a deep knowledge base of litigation in this practice area.

Acland is also committed to pro bono work and received a special mention at the 2025 Bar Pro Bono Awards, and features on the Pro Bono Recognition List for England and Wales.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES: MIGRATION PANEL

LEGAL PLUMBING: VALVES, TAPS & THE PIPEWORK OF IL/LEGAL MIGRATION

The panel will look at some of the drivers and consequences of “illegal”, or irregular migration. This will touch on those who arrive in Europe with nothing, but who are still rich in rights; a polemic driving much of the unstable domestic politics in Europe. Discussions will include the relevance of Article 8 in the context of visa applications and how States manage this qualified right. The panel will also look at issues touching upon professional and business migration including with “third countries” such as Canada. Finally, the panel will consider the economic drivers motivating migration and appraise why migration is so difficult for States to control, despite the “tough” rhetoric and commentary reported in certain media outlets.



HHJ RICHARD PEARCE

His Honour Judge Pearce was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1985. He practised in the sphere of common law in Manchester, specialising in clinical negligence and personal injury work, as well as medical regulation and professional negligence. He has been a full time Judge since 2015, sitting initially in Chester and Liverpool and more recently in Manchester as a Specialist Circuit Judge in the Business and Property Courts.

He is the Judge in charge of the Circuit Commercial Court in Manchester and also regularly sits in the Chancery Division, King's Bench Division (Technology and Construction Court, Administrative Court and the general list) and the Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber).



NIKKI VREEDE

Nikki is an immigration lawyer at Everaert Immigration Lawyers. She assists private individuals, with a specialisation in complex family reunification cases and permits based on medical and humanitarian grounds.

Nikki also advises on labour-migration, including knowledge migrants and entrepreneurs, especially in the creative sector.

Before joining Everaert Immigration Lawyers in 2018, Nikki worked as a senior para legal at the District Court of Amsterdam in immigration and administrative procedural and penalty law.

Besides being a lawyer, Nikki teaches for the Training and Study Centre for the Dutch Judiciary on various topics of Immigration Law and regularly publishes articles and annotations of case law in well-known journals in the field of migration law.



AVV. MARCO BONA

Avv. Marco Bona {Studio legale Bona Oliva e associati} is a personal injury & human rights lawyer from Italy, Turin. Ph.D. in Comparative Private Law at Trento University. In 2020 he secured a landmark decision from the Court of Justice of the European Union regarding state compensation to victims of violent intentional crimes according to the Directive 2004/80/EC (case C 129/19).

He also secured another important decision from the CJEU regarding the State immunity of a classification and certification Italian company in the Al Salam Boccaccio '98 {case C-641 /18}. Chair of the Tort Reform & Access to Justice Group of PEOPIL {The Pan European Organisation of Personal Injury Lawyers}. He represents family members and survivors of the Cutro and Pylos shipwrecks.



ADRIAN BERRY KC

Adrian Berry KC, M.A. (Hons), M.Litt, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers, London

Adrian practices across the field of public law, especially in British nationality, statelessness, immigration, EU law and after, international protection (refugee status, asylum), housing & accommodation, social assistance, and education.

His most recent publications include *Fransman's British Nationality Law* (co-author, 4th edition, 2024) and 'Asylum and Irregular Migration' in *British Legal Reform* (2024).

He is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Law*.

Adrian is a Patron of the UK Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (ILPA), Convenor of its Legislation Working Group, and its former Chair. He writes a [blog](#) on nationality and citizenship law, as well as a [blog](#) on migration, citizenship, and free movement called *Cosmopolis*.

Adrian acts for individuals, communities, NGOs, and international organisations. In addition to his casework, he assists with legislative policy work and amendment, and with strategic litigation. He is widely known for his contribution to debates on immigration and nationality law.

LISANNE CHAMBERLAND POULIN

Lisanne Chamberland Poulin is an international immigration lawyer from Quebec, Canada. She practices mainly in France, at the Bar of Bordeaux, since 2016, where she lives. She has also been a member of the Bar of Montreal, Quebec, since 2020. Her firm, HOPE A VOCATS, was founded in 2018 with Thibault SAINT-MARTIN.

Her area of practice is immigration law for individuals and companies moving to France or recruiting. She taught Fundamentals of International Business Law for the five past years at the University of Bordeaux.

Lisanne is very invested in her Bar in Bordeaux where she heads the Equality Commission, to fight against all forms of discrimination and harassment within the legal profession and society. Furthermore, she is member of the International Relations commission of this Bar and manages the twinning program between it and that of Quebec.

She is also a partner of a Canadian immigration law firm - EXEO – which provide services of immigration to Canada, USA and Mexico.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CIRCUIT?

We hope very much that you enjoy this year's Annual Conference and warmly invite you to consider joining the Circuit.

ABOUT THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT

The European Circuit has evolved from its beginnings as a formal Circuit of the Bar of England and Wales to become an association of legal professionals across a broad definition of Europe, including the EU and all Council of Europe Member States. Members generally practise in the areas of dispute resolution and advocacy and share a common interest in European legal issues and cross-border practice. We now have active members in at least a dozen European countries and have cordial relations with the bar associations of many others.

The European Circuit holds regular seminars and round tables – mostly in English – in different jurisdictions, dealing with matters of relevance to its members. We also hold an annual conference in cooperation with local bar associations. In recent years we have been warmly welcomed by the bars in Prague, Lisbon, Rome, Madrid & Brussels, among others. We have also held dedicated events on topics including population movement, navigating sanctions, advocacy before the European courts (the CJEU, ECtHR & others), and the UK/EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

The Circuit provides a forum for its members to:

- Seek solutions to common problems in cross-border practice;
- Exchange knowledge and experience of European legal issues and practical aspects of cross-border work;
- Offer a point of liaison with the local bar in jurisdictions where members wish to operate in collaboration with other practitioners; and
- Promote more widely the services of barristers and other specialist advocates and dispute-resolution practitioners to the wider European legal profession and other potential clients.

For more information or to join the Circuit, please go to www.europeancircuit.com

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE



@theeuropeancircuit

**TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT, PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS:
www.europeancircuit.com/**

OUR NEXT EVENT

WORKING OUTSIDE THE BOX: BUILDING A CROSS-BORDER PRACTICE

16 OCTOBER 2025 | KINGS COLLEGE LONDON

We are delighted to be partnering again with KCL on 16 October 25 at 18:30 for 18:30 prompt start at Kings College Strand Campus followed by drinks. The event will be aimed particularly at young lawyers and post-graduate students interested in cross-border careers.

European / international career paths are both interesting and varied. In any event, all of us who are concerned about excellence are interested in international issues as they seep increasingly into all areas of domestic law.

Protecting the rule of law requires lawyers to protect international legal norms and build relationships across international borders, at a time when money and information crosses borders at the click of a mouse, we all buy services from other jurisdictions in one form or another, but when the international movement of people is such a sensitive issue.

Confirmed speakers: **Alex Cooke** Legal Director Government Legal Department (GDL) currently deployed to the Cabinet Office. He is the Legal Director at EU Relations Legal Advisers, a directorate of the UK Government Legal Department which coordinates all legal issues arising from the UK's relationship with the EU. **James Onalaja** Barrister at 187 Chambers is a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC) list of counsel and on the list of specialist counsel at the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC). **Nasreen Shah** Barrister Great James Street Chambers who also has an international practice as a member of Moyse & Associates, Luxembourg. She is also called to the Bar in Ireland. **Síofra Collins** previously in the Competition and Anti-Trust department of Hogan Lovells, Paris and in the Litigation and International Arbitration department of Uría Menéndez, Madrid. Currently Legal Assistant to AG Norkus, CJEU, Luxembourg. **Emma Young** Solicitor. Previously Baker McKenzie in Brussels on the EU Competition & Regulatory Affairs practice, currently Travers Smith in London. **Niamh Martyn** Irish lawyer. Began working in Cleary Gottlieb in Brussels seconded to Google's competition team. Currently preparing for the SQE before returning to Cleary in London. **Samuel Isaac** Associate Solicitor at Hunters Law in London. He works within the international children team at Hunters, with cases involving International Child Abduction, Relocation and private children law.

www.europeancircuit.com/event/working-outside-the-box/

TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN CIRCUIT, PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS:
www.europeancircuit.com/

VENUES, INFORMATION & DIRECTIONS

RESIDENCE OF THE CZECH AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHERLANDS IN THE HAGUE (Burgemeester van Karnebeeklaan 1, 2585 BA Den Haag)

We have the huge privilege of being able to hold our evening drinks reception at the Residence of the Czech Ambassador to The Netherlands in The Hague at 18:00 on Thursday 18 September, this will provide an enjoyable and elegant start to the conference.

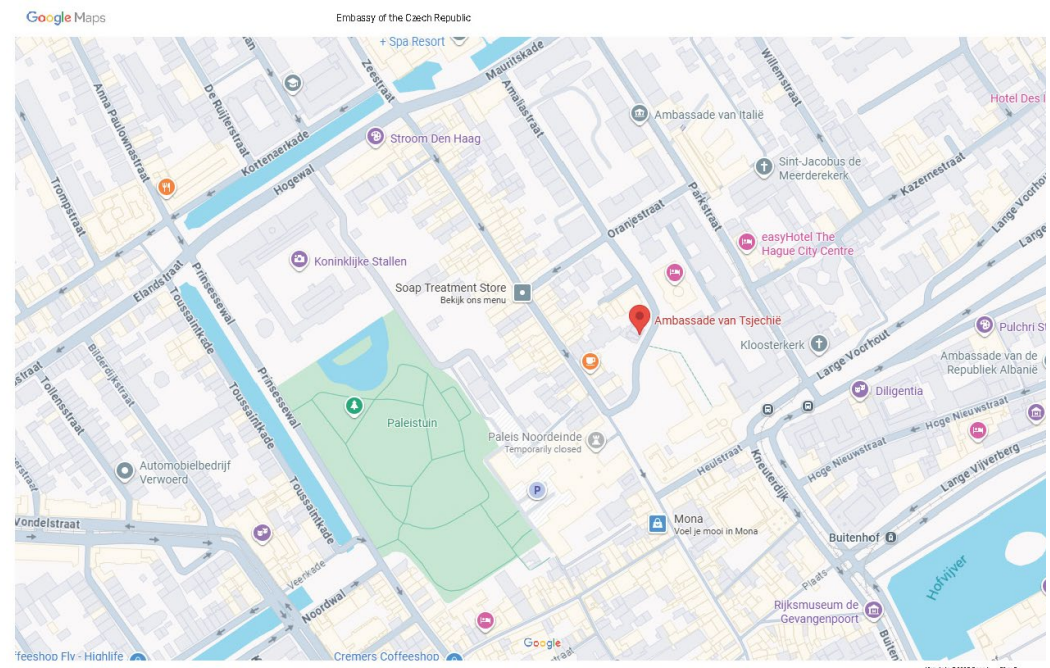
The closest tram stops are Binnenhof (Tram 1, 1A, 1B, & 10) and Oude Scheveningseweg (Tram 1, 1A, 1B, & 10), with Binnenhof being slightly closer to the address.

For Tram 1, 1A, 1B, & 10: Binnenhof Stop: This is the closest option, located within a short walk of the Burgemeester van Karnebeeklaan. Oude Scheveningseweg Stop: Also very close to and serves the same trams.

To use the tram, you can purchase a ticket from the machines on the tram or use an OV Chipcard. Remember to check in and check out to avoid being overcharged.

[Click here for Google map](#)

What3Words: Evolving.gold.mystery



ASSER INSTITUTE (R.J. Schimmelpennincklaan 20-22, 2517 JN Den Haag)

The main conference will start on Friday 19 September with a light lunch at the Asser Institute at midday, with the panels starting at 13:00. Please ensure you give yourself enough time to get to the Asser for registration.

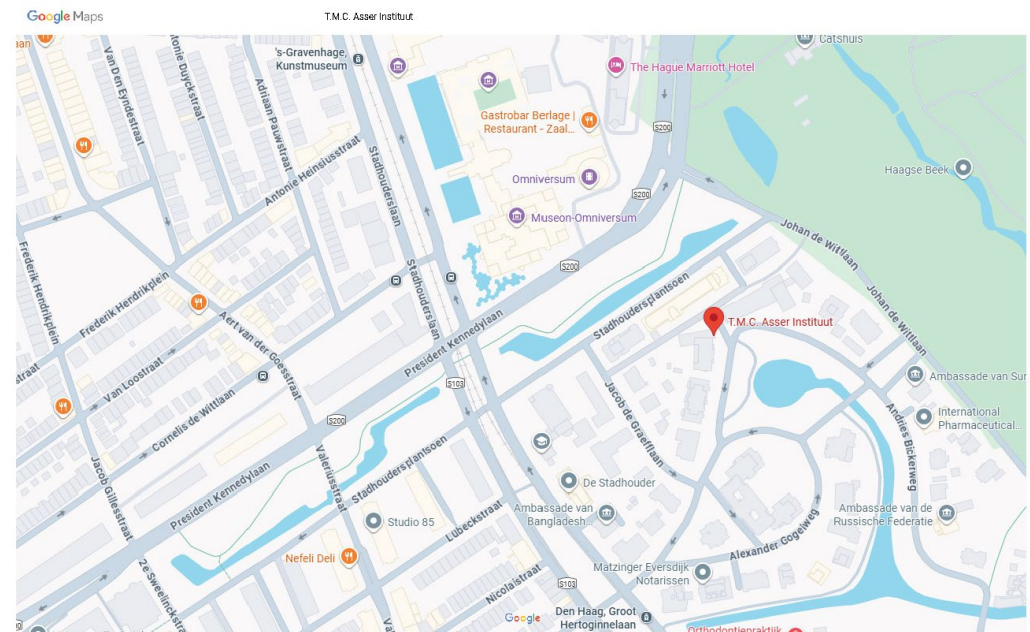
The T.M.C. Asser Instituut (or Asser Institute) is a professional inter-university centre of knowledge and research. The institute carries out research in private and public international law, European law, as well as all other related fields, including international commercial arbitration, international sports law and international humanitarian and criminal law. It was established in 1965 in The Hague and it is affiliated with the University of Amsterdam.

The institute is named after Tobias Michael Carel Asser (1838–1913), who was a Dutch jurist, and co-winner (with Alfred Fried) of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1911 for his role in the formation of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the first Hague peace conference (1899). He also advocated for the creation of an international academy of law, which led to founding of the *Revue de Droit International et de Législation Comparée*

[Click here for Google map](#) [Click here for Asser website](#)

[Click here for detailed travel directions](#)

What3words: imported.dripping.touched



PULCHRI STUDIO (Lange Voorhout 15, 2514 EA Den Haag)

After the working part of the conference on Friday 19 September, there will be a drinks reception kindly hosted by The Netherlands Bar at Pulchri Studio at 18:30.

Pulchri Studio ("For the study of the beautiful") is a Dutch art society, art institution and art studio based in The Hague.

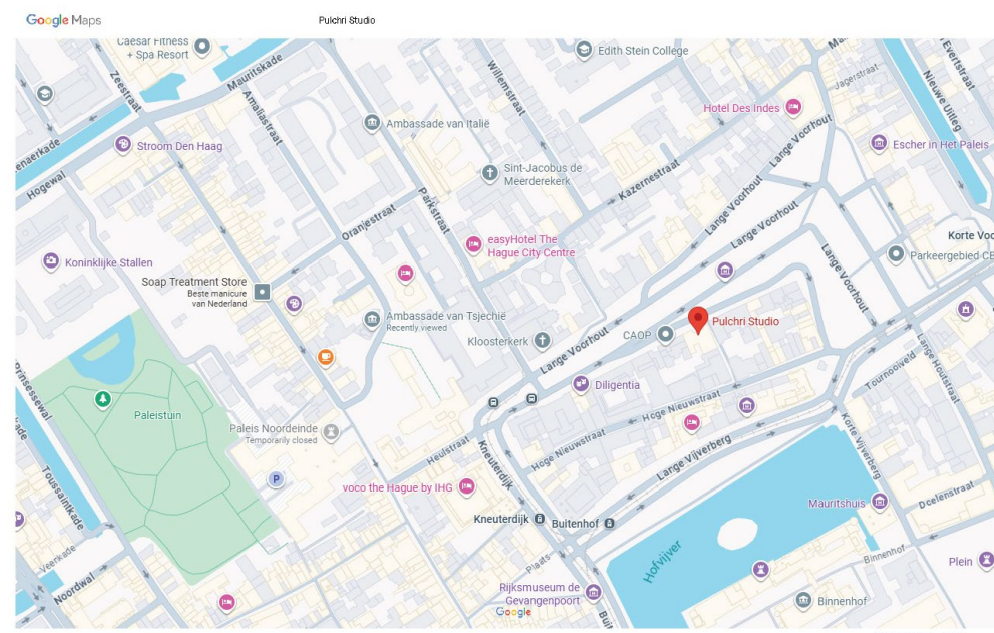
This institute began in 1847 at the home of painter Lambertus Hardenberg. Since 1893 the club has its residence in the villa at Lange Voorhout in The Hague. Membership is made up of painters, sculptors, photographers and art lovers, with members selected by a committee. An artist's membership allows them to exhibit their own works in the galleries of the Company.

You can walk from The Hague Central Station (15 minutes), or take tram 1 or 9 towards Scheveningen. If you come by car via the Utrechtsebaan, follow the signs 'centrum'. It is best to park your car in the Interparking Museumkwartier parking garage. You can also park under the Malieveld & the Heulstraat / Noordeinde parking garage.

Please note it is approximately 20-30 mins by tram and 40 minutes to walk between the Asser Institute and Pulchri Studio.

[Click here for Google map](#) [Click here for Pulchri website](#)

What3Words: families.sugar.wink



VOCO THE HAGUE BY IHG (Kneuterdijk 8, 2514 EN Den Haag)

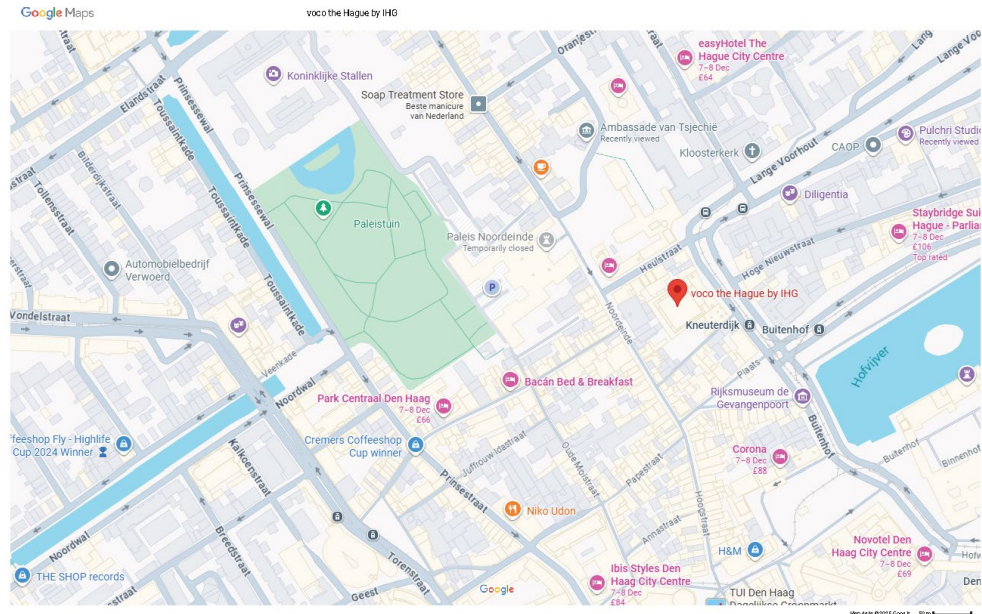
The gala dinner will take place at 20:00 in the beautiful Botanica Restaurant at voco the Hague by IHG.

It is a short 4 minute walk from Pulchri Studio to the restaurant via Lange Voorhout.

[Click here for Voco website](#)

[Click here for directions](#)

What3 Words: teacher.steps.mailing



ICC (Oude Waalsdorperweg 10, 2597 AK Den Haag)

On Friday 19 September, we are very lucky to have secured a “stakeholder” guided visit to the ICC, including input from British ICC Judge Joanna Korner CMG KC who has agreed to provide a welcome address. We are strictly limited to 40 places which went to the first 40 people to register for the conference.

Our apologies to those that missed out.

The visit will start promptly at 09:00, however security will be very tight and we suggest that you arrive at least 30 minutes early to ensure that you do not miss the tour.

You will not be allowed in if you are late.

The ICC is some distance away from the centre of The Hague. We are not providing transport in either direction, you will need to make your own way there by bike, tram, taxi etc.

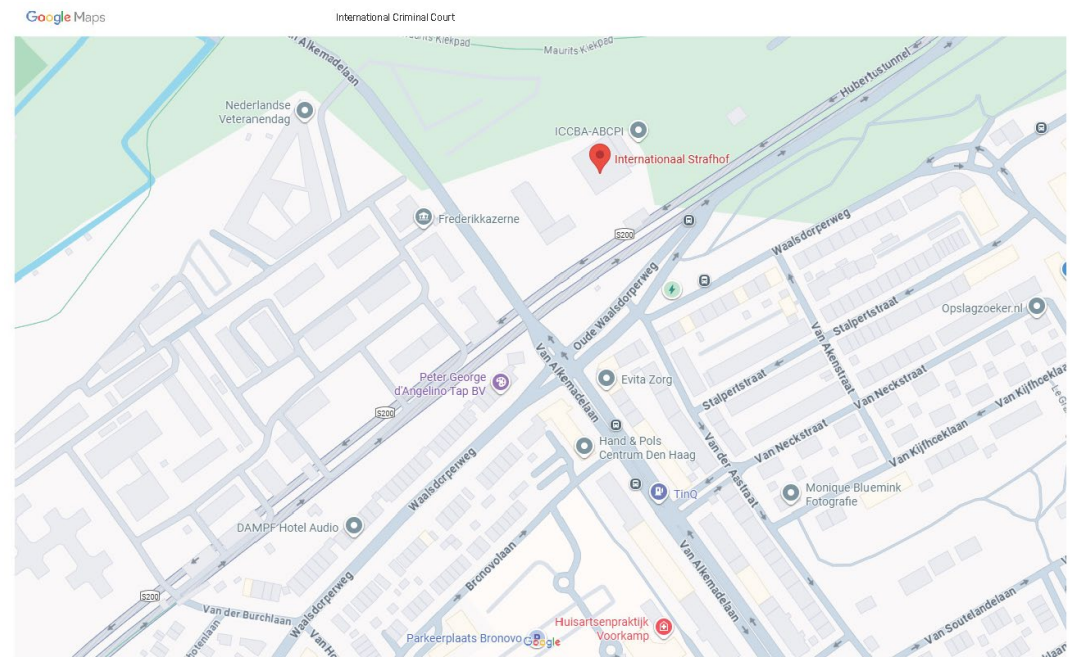
Do not forget your passport or other form of photographic ID, you will be turned away if you do not have ID with you.

The main conference will start after the ICC visit at the Asser Institute at midday. Please ensure you give yourself enough time to get to the Asser for registration.

The easiest way to reach the ICC on public transport is via bus lines 22 or 23, or tram 16 in the direction of Leiden Centraal, (exit at Laan van Wateringse Veld).

[Click here for the ICC website](#) [Click here for directions](#)

What3Words: baked.moguls.reunion



BEACHES IN THE HAGUE

The Hague has three main beach resorts: the lively Scheveningen, known for its pier, Ferris wheel, and bustling promenade with numerous activities, and the more tranquil Kijkduin, offering a natural escape with sand dunes and paths for walking and cycling and Zuiderstrand, a quieter area popular for water sports and authentic beach pavilions. These beaches provide an impressive 11 kilometres of coastline, offering diverse coastal experiences from a vibrant beach town to serene, natural landscapes.

Scheveningen

- The Pier: The beach's iconic 382-meter pier features a Ferris wheel, shops, bars, and restaurants.
- Activities: Enjoy a wide variety of activities, including surfing, kiteboarding, and visiting family attractions like Sea Life Scheveningen.
- Atmosphere: A lively, bustling resort with a wide promenade and numerous beach bars.
- Locations: The Zwarte Pad area is known for its party atmosphere, while the area around the pier offers family-friendly activities and restaurants.

Kijkduin

- Atmosphere: A peaceful and natural beach with beautiful dunes, offering a more relaxed atmosphere and fewer crowds.
- Activities: Ideal for quiet walks, scenic bike rides, and enjoying the natural environment.

Zuiderstrand

- Atmosphere: Known as the "quiet beach" among locals, Zuiderstrand offers authentic beach pavilions and a quieter vibe.
- Activities: A good spot for water sports.

General Beach Experience

- Year-Round Enjoyment: You can enjoy the beaches in The Hague all year round, whether for a sunny beach day, a meal at a beach pavilion, or a bracing winter stroll.
- Accessibility: You can easily reach the beaches from The Hague city centre, with Scheveningen being a short tram ride away.