



Dear Colleagues,

The European Law Faculties Association, which gathers a large number of law faculties in Europe under its roof, is now encouraging law faculties from other continents to join as an affiliate member, which will enrich the work of ELFA, contribute to our panels, seminars and conferences with their participation. Our long term relations with AALS (American Association of Law Schools) continue to expand with the participation of the Presidents in each other's General Assemblies. SEALS (Southeastern Association of Law Schools) which also gathers a large number of US law schools under its roof is sponsoring a panel discussion dealing with "National Security and Surveillance: Snowden Affair" in our Istanbul meeting. The Chinese Association of Law Faculties has already indicated its interest in joining the activities of ELFA.

In fact we will have a distinguished Dean from a Chinese Law Faculty who will present a paper entitled: "Experiments with Legal Education in China: One Step Ahead of the EU and US?" Professor Philip McConaughay who is the Dean of Peking University School of Transnational Law and also Vice Chancellor of Peking University, Shenzhen Graduate Campus, previously served as the Dean of Penn State School of Law and Penn State School of International Affairs, will explain to us why the Chinese are ahead of EU and US.

Indeed, the ELFA meeting in Istanbul will be an excellent opportunity for meeting fellow deans, law professors, judges and members of other legal professions from other countries. While during the plenary sessions, issues concerning legal education are discussed and presentations by leading authorities are made, a number of other panels are also planned.

President and judges of the General Court of the European Court of Justice have accepted to speak in the following issues:

- Mark Jaeger (President of the General Court of the European Court of Justice): Judicial system of the European Union
- Irena Wiszniewska-Białecka (Judge at the General Court of the European Court of Justice): Trademarks in the case-law of the ECJ
- Savvas Papasavvas (Judge at the General Court of the European Court of Justice): EU law in law studies
- Viktor Kreuzschitz (Judge at the General Court of the European Court of Justice): Actualities of competition case-law of the ECJ. Also, Prof. Dr. Vilenas Vadapalas, former judge of the ECJ and faculty member of Yeditepe University Law School - Department of EU and Competition Law, has accepted to make a speech about "Legal Education in Europe".

We plan a meeting to be chaired by our former President Prof. Dr. Manuel Bermejo, Dean of the Law Faculty of Juan Carlos III University, Madrid entitled: "Law School Entrance Requirements: What They Do and What They Need to Know".

Negotiations between EU and the United States over a new Treaty on Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) will cover, among others, services. Vice President Prof. Dr. Laurence Gormley of the University of Groningen will chair a meeting on this important

development on the theme: “Challenges for Lawyers with the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Treaty: What is for Legal Profession?”

Professor Dr. Vera Kalvodova of Masaryk University, Brno will chair an important meeting entitled: “European Criminal Law, Recent Experiences and Next 10 years”.

We also expect high level representation from UNCITRAL (the United Nations Center for International Trade Law) giving information concerning the recent work of this important organization.

In addition to the above we also plan to discuss the following issues:

- The Present and the Future of Online Education,
- International Double Degrees,
- International Double Degrees and Professional Market,
- Public and Private Law Limits and Connections.

We also want to start a number of panels on different topics: Comparative Constitutional Law, Comparative Business Law, International Business Transactions and Arbitration to mention just a few. If you have proposals for presenting a paper, please let us know the topic so that we may schedule a session on that subject.

Professor Patrick Hugg of Loyola University, New Orleans is also organizing a SEALS conference concerning the Cyprus just issue at the Eastern Mediterranean University in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus before the ELFA meeting.

Yours Faithfully,

Prof. Dr. Haluk Kabaalioglu, LL.M. (Columbia); LL.M. (Brussels)

President, European Law Faculties Association

Dean, Yeditepe University Faculty of Law, Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law

Vice President, Executive Board, İKV – Economic Development Foundation

(*) The meetings will commence with a reception in the evening of Thursday, 16 April 2015. Plenary sessions will be held the next day, Friday 9-13.00 hours. Panels will be held in the afternoon between 14.00 to 18.00 hours and Saturday morning between 9.00 to 13.00. On Friday evening there will be an official dinner. On Saturday a Bosphorus Dinner Cruise is planned so that guests will be able to sail through this 19 miles international strait linking the Black Sea and Mediterranean through the Marmara and Aegean seas.

The next day, Sunday, guests will have the opportunity to visit the historical sights of old Istanbul, including the Blue Mosque, Topkapı Palace, St. Sophia, the Basilica Cisterns, and the Grand Bazaar. This is the physical site of Justinian’s Great Palace, where the Corpus Juris Civilis was promulgated. Delegates who plan to leave Istanbul that evening will be invited to take their luggage and the bus will be stationed in a defined place so that after completing their tour, guests may pick up their luggage from the bus and depart for the Airport on their own depending on their return flights. Those who may wish to stay few more days in Istanbul may do so, as we will provide you all with hotel information.