







UP TO 7.5 CPD/CLE HOURS AVAILABLE*

2nd IBA European Corporate and Private M&A Conference

6-7 February 2014

Maison du Barreau, Paris, France

A conference presented by the IBA Corporate and M&A Committee, supported by the IBA European Regional Forum

Topics will include:

- Current legal developments in European private M&A
- Use of SPVs in a low tax jurisdiction in the context of cross-border M&A transactions: opportunities and risks
- Minority interests and control under competition rules
- Corporate governance issues in M&A deals, including executive compensation and conflicts of interest
- Distressed M&A techniques and safeguards for interested buyers
- Multi-party arbitrations arising out of M&A transactions
- Technology driven M&A deals

Who should attend?

European and international lawyers, in-house counsel, investment bankers, accountants and specialists from mergers and acquisitions business involved in European M&A



Programme

Conference Co-Chairs

Jacques Buhart McDermott Will & Emery, Paris; IBA Honorary Life Member of Council and Association Oliver Triebold Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd, Zurich; Co-Chair, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee

Thursday 6 February

0730 - 1730 Registration

0800 - 0830 Welcome coffee/tea

0830 - 0845 Welcome remarks from the Conference Co-Chairs

0845 – 0930 Keynote address: The strategic and private M&A market in Europe

Lionel Zinsou Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, PAI Partners, Paris

0930 - 1045

Current legal developments in European private M&A

This session will discuss the use of various deal structures, in particular the combination of share and asset deals and preceding carve outs. The session will also consider some of the post-financial crisis deal issues which are most frequently discussed, such as equity commitment letters, reverse break-up fees, the use of MAC provisions and escrow solutions. Furthermore, the session will focus on recent trends in terms of purchase price mechanisms (locked-box versus closing accounts) and the resulting purchase price adjustments, as well as solutions regarding how to bridge purchase price gaps. Finally, the session will discuss current deal term trends, such as representations, indemnities and limitations.

Moderator

Hans-Jörg Ziegenhain Hengeler Müller, Munich; Chair, IBA Current Legal Developments Subcommittee

Speakers

Paul Cronheim De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, Amsterdam; Advisory Board Member, IBA Law Firm Management Committee Giorgio Fantacchiotti Bonelli Erede Pappalardo, Milan Frances Murphy Slaughter & May, London Jon Unnérus Roschier, Helsinki

Yvonne Visser-Stam General Counsel, TenneT BV, Arnhem, The Netherlands

1045 - 1115 Coffee/tea break

1115 – 1215

Use of SPVs in a low tax jurisdiction in the context of cross-border M&A transactions: opportunities and risks

'Aggressive' tax planning has made it to the front pages of all major newspapers. The G20 and OECD have announced their commitment to fight aggressive tax planning and the report on BEPS (Base Erosion and Profit Shifting) has been recently released by the OECD. In this context, the panellists will talk about the use of SPVs in cross-border M&A, is that still a possibility? The panellists will also address the benefits of using an SPV in the context of some of the recent transactions in their jurisdictions and its risks.

Moderator

Sonia Velasco Cuatrecasas Goncalves Pereira SLP, Barcelona; Co-Chair, IBA Taxes Committee

Speakers

Bernadette Accili Paul Hastings, Milan; Treasurer, IBA Taxes Committee

Jochen Bahns Flick Gocke Schaumburg, Bonn

Margriet Lukkien Loyens & Loeff, Amsterdam; Session Reporters Liaison Officer, IBA Taxes Committee

Antoine Vergnat McDermott Will & Emery, Paris

1215 - 1345 Buffet lunch

Remarks

Laurent Martinet Vice-Bâtonnier, Paris Bar, Paris

Associate social event sponsor



Thursday continued

1345 - 1445

Minority interests and control under competition rules

This panel will address competition law issues raised by minority shareholdings in the EU, the US and beyond. It will also focus on recent high-profile cases such as Ryanair/Aer Lingus and proposals by the European Commission to extend the scope of EU merger control in this area.

Moderator

Thomas Janssens Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Brussels; Newsletter Editor, IBA Antitrust Committee

Speakers

Logan Breed Hogan Lovells, Washington DC Kyriakos Fountoukakos Herbert Smith Freehills, Brussels

1445 – 1545

The colour of money: anti-bribery and M&A

Anti-bribery and corruption rules now play a significant part in M&A activity, not just in those jurisdictions which have developed laws in the area, but also on a cross-border basis. These rules have significant consequences for the liberty, liability and reputation of officers of corporations as well as the corporations themselves. In addition, they can create liabilities and reputational exposures for the lawyers advising on affected transactions. In this session, the panel will address the practical aspects of managing M&A transactions in the context of anti-bribery and corruption rules – with regard to the US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and UK Bribery Act in particular, and will give some examples of cases where things have gone wrong, and offer practical suggestions in terms of compliance.

Moderator

Paul White A&L Goodbody, Dublin

Speakers

Michael Coates Shell International, The Hague; Corporate Counsel Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee

Louise Delahunty Sullivan & Cromwell, London Gary DiBianco Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, London Jean-Nicolas Soret Altana, Paris

1545 - 1615 Coffee/tea break

1615 - 1730

Corporate governance issues in M&A deals, including executive compensation and conflicts of interest

Corporate governance often plays a pivotal role in M&A transactions, in particular if they are contested. The panel will discuss the role of the board of directors of the target company in M&A transactions and touch upon subjects such as the decision making process in general, as well as in particular conflicts of interest and (transaction) bonuses.

Moderator

Sergio Sánchez Solé J&A Garrigues, Barcelona; Chair, IBA Corporate Governance Subcommittee

Speakers

Jonas Bergström Vinge, Stockholm Bertrand Cardi Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier Avocats, Paris Stephen Drewitt Macfarlanes, London Stefan Duhnkrack Heuking Kühn Lüer Wojtek, Hamburg Francesco Gianni Gianni Origoni Grippo Cappelli & Partners,

Lorenzo Olgiati Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd, Zurich

1730 Conference reception

Salons de Harlay & Horloge, Maison du Barreau

Kindy supported by





Friday 7 February

0830 - 1400 Registration

0900 - 1000

Technology driven M&A deals

Technology is one of the main drivers in today's M&A market; from new IT applications like Cloud/SaaS, smart mobility, big data and social networking, via financial services technology, such as mobile payment solutions, and health-related IT technologies, to video and online gaming. Likewise, innovation in the life sciences sector, for example in relation to biologics, cell therapies and other unique approaches, and the changing competitive scenario, from the patent cliff via access to new markets to increasing payers' pressure, make this industry a vibrant deal sector as well. Both technology and life sciences driven M&A deals have very distinct risk profiles and often pose some mind-boggling challenges, not least regulatory ones as data protection for IT transactions and product regulation and reimbursement pathways for life sciences-related transactions. The panel will identify these unique features and explore state-of-the-art ways to address them.

Moderator

Ansgar Rempp Jones Day, Munich/Dusseldorf

Speakers

Michael Junge General Counsel SAP, Walldorf, Germany Jan Vild Legal Director, Mergers & Acquisitions, Sanofi, Paris

1000 - 1030 Coffee/tea break

1030 - 1130

Multi-party arbitrations arising out of M&A transactions

M&A transactions typically involve multiple contracts with multiple parties including various sellers, various buyers, SPVs and guarantors. When disputes arise, the participation of multiple parties/contracts can give rise to a number of problems: additional parties may have to be joined, designation of arbitrators may become more difficult, cross claims may arise, or there may be parallel arbitrations running, which may or not be consolidated. The panel will investigate how well-drafted arbitration clauses – or separate arbitration agreements – can reduce the risks of problems arising, and how these can be resolved once the arbitration process has begun.

Moderator

Juan Fernando Armesto Armesto & Asociados, Madrid

Speakers

Andrea Carlevaris Secretary General, ICC International Court of Arbitration. Paris

Robin Oldenstam Mannheimer Swartling Advokatbyra, Gothenburg

Pierre Raoul-Duval Gide Loyrette Nouel, Paris

1130 - 1230

Distressed M&A – techniques and safeguards for interested buyers

Financially troubled companies are a constant feature of every economy; it goes without saying that their number increases significantly in times of global economic crisis. In certain circumstances, the sale of the whole or a significant part of the business is the only remaining solution. Distressed mergers and acquisitions used to be the domain of a handful of specialists; today, they are omnipresent and each M&A lawyer should be familiar with the particular challenges they raise. The session will focus on acquisitions of and sales by privately-held companies which are in financial distress. The panel will mainly discuss the legal aspects, but will also touch upon some financial and tax issues. Recent developments and trends in the distressed M&A market are also covered.

Moderator

Christian Hoedl *Uría Menéndez Abogados, Madrid, Vice-Secretary, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

Speakers

Luca Fassati Chiomenti & Associati, Milan Jean-Claude Rivalland Allen & Overy, Paris

Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Legal Education

For delegates from countries where CPD/CLE is mandatory, the International Bar Association will be pleased to provide a Conference Certificate of Attendance which, subject to the exact CPD/CLE requirements, may be used to obtain the equivalent accreditation in your jurisdiction.

This conference has been accredited for CPD/CLE by the Solicitors Regulation Authority of England and Wales. New York and Californian attorneys may submit their certificates of attendance issued, and apply this credit earned to their New York and Californian CLE requirement. Delegates should ask staff at the registration desk for information as to how to obtain the hours.

The organisers may at any time, with or without giving notice, in their absolute discretion and without giving any reason, cancel or postpone the conference, change its venue or any of the other published particulars, or withdraw any invitation to attend. In any case, neither the organisers nor any of their officers, employees, agents, members or representatives shall be liable for any loss, liability, damage or expense suffered or incurred by any person, nor will they return any money paid to them in connection with the conference unless they are satisfied not only that the money in question remains under their control but also that the person who paid it has been unfairly prejudiced (as to which, decision shall be in their sole and unfettered discretion and, when announced, final and conclusive).

Information

Date

6-7 February 2014

Venue

Maison du Barreau 2 rue de Harlay 75001 Paris France

Tel: +33 (1) 4432 4949 Fax: +33 (1) 4432 4998

Online registrations received:

	on or before 10 January	until 31 January
IBA member	€890	€1,000
Non-member*	€1,055	€1,160
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	€670	€1,160
Academics/judges (full-time)	€670	€1,160
Public lawyers	€670	€1,160
Corporate counsel	€800	€1,160

After **31 January** registrations must be received in hard copy at the IBA office.

Hard copy registration forms and fees received:

	on or before 10 January	after 10 January
IBA member	€990	€1,110
Non-member*	€1,170	€1,290
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	€745	€1,290
Academics/judges (full-time)	€745	€1,290
Public lawyers	€745	€1,290
Corporate counsel	€890	€1,290

^{*}By paying the non-member fee, we welcome you as a delegate member of the IBA for the year in which this conference is held, which entitles you to the following benefits:

- 1) Password access to certain parts of the IBA website.
- 2) Receipt of IBA E-news and access to online versions of IBA Global Insight.
- 3) Pay the member rate for any subsequent conference registrations for this calendar year.

If you would like to become a full or general member of the IBA, which includes membership of one committee or more – and inclusion in and access to our membership directory – we encourage you to do so now in order to register for this conference at the member rate. Full details of how to join can be found at **www.ibanet.org**.

A reduced rate is offered to lawyers who are over the age of 65, have been an IBA member for more than 20 years and are no longer practising law.

Full payment must be received in order to process your registration.

Language

All working sessions and conference materials will be in English.

How to register

Register online by **31 January** at **www.ibanet.org/conferences/ conf529.aspx** and make payment by credit card, to avail of the ten per cent online registration discount or complete the attached registration form and return it to Stephanie Waller at the IBA together with your payment. You should receive emailed confirmation of your registration within five days; if you do not then please contact Stephanie Waller at **stephanie.waller@int-bar.org**.

Fees include:

- Attendance at all working sessions
- Conference materials, including any available speakers' papers submitted to the IBA before 24 January.
- Access to the above conference working materials from the IBA website (www.ibanet.org) approximately seven days prior to the conference
- Lunch on Thursday
- Tea and coffee during breaks
- Reception on Thursday 6 February (registered delegates only)

Please note that registrations are not transferable.

List of participants

In order for your name to appear in the list of participants, which will be distributed at the conference, your registration form must be received by **31 January** at the latest.

Mobile delegate search application

All registered delegates will receive a printed list of participants at the conference, however delegates are now also able to use the mobile delegate search. This application has been developed to aid networking by giving delegates instant access to an up-to-date list of their fellow attendees, and comes with the added benefit of a built-in messaging service. All registered delegates with an internet or Wi-Fi-enabled device will have access, using their IBA username and password. Simply visit: m.ibanet.org/conf529.

Registration confirmation

All documentation regarding your attendance at the conference can now be obtained from the IBA website. Upon receipt of your payment for the conference a confirmation email will be sent containing instructions on how to download the documents. Registration confirmation will not be distributed by post.

Promotional literature

Please note that no individual or organisation may display or distribute publicity material or other printed matter during the conference, unless by prior arrangement with the IBA. Organisations and companies wishing to discuss promotional opportunities should contact the Sponsorship Department at the IBA (sponsorship@int-bar.org).

Social programme

1730 Thursday 6 February

Conference reception

Salons de Harlay & Horloge, Maison du Barreau

Payment of registration fees

Euro: by cheque or bank draft, drawn on a euro zone bank and converted at the current rate of exchange and in favour of the International Bar Association.

OR by bank transfer to the IBA bank account number 550/00/06570631 (Sort Code 56-00-03) at the National Westminster Bank, St James's & Piccadilly Branch, 208 Piccadilly, London W1A 2DG, United Kingdom or SWIFT address NWBKGB2L, IBAN GB58NWBK60721106570631. **Please ensure that a copy of the bank transfer details is attached to your registration form.**

Pounds sterling: by cheque drawn on a UK bank and in favour of the International Bar Association. Please send to: 4th Floor, 10 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4AD, United Kingdom.

OR by bank transfer to the IBA account number: 13270222 (Sort Code 56-00-03) at the National Westminster Bank, St James's & Piccadilly Branch, 208 Piccadilly, London W1A 2DG, United Kingdom or SWIFT address NWBKGB2L, IBAN GB05NWBK56000313270222. **Please ensure that a copy of the bank transfer details is attached to your registration form.**

Use the exchange rate prevailing at the time of registration.

US dollars: by cheque converted at the current rate of exchange and drawn on a US bank and in favour of the International Bar Association. Please send to: 4th Floor, 10 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4AD, United Kingdom.

OR by bank transfer to the IBA account number: 01286498 (Sort Code 56-00-03) at the National Westminster Bank, St James's & Piccadilly Branch, 208 Piccadilly, London W1A 2DG, United Kingdom. SWIFT address NWBKGB2L, IBAN GB55NWBK60730101286498. **Please ensure that a copy of the bank transfer details is attached to your registration form.**

Use the exchange rate prevailing at the time of registration.

Credit card payments: by Visa, MasterCard or American Express. **No other cards are accepted.**

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR NAME AND 'CON529PARIS' APPEAR ON ANY TRANSFER OR DRAFT.

No Deductions or Withholdings

All fees payable to us by you in accordance with the terms contained in this 'Information' section shall be paid free and clear of all deductions or withholdings whatsoever.

If any deductions or withholdings are required by law to be made from any fees payable to us by you under the terms contained in this 'Information' section you shall pay such sum as will, after the deduction or withholding has been made, leave us with the same amount as we would have been entitled to receive in the absence of any such requirement to make a deduction or withholding.

If we obtain the benefit of any tax credit or other relief by reference to any such deductions or withholdings, then we shall repay to you such amount as, after such repayment has been made, will leave us in no worse position than we would have been had no such deductions or withholdings been required.

Conference sell-outs

The IBA places its conference in venues of a suitable size for the event; however there are times when our conferences may sell out. Should this happen, prospective delegates will be informed and a waiting list will operate. The waiting list will function on a 'first come, first served' basis, subject to receiving registered delegate cancellations. The IBA will not be liable for any travel or accommodation expenses incurred by an individual who travels to the conference without a confirmed place at the event.

Cancellation of registration

If cancellation is received in writing at the IBA office by **10 January**, fees will be refunded less a 25 per cent administration charge. We regret that no refunds can be made after this date. Registrations received after **10 January** will not be eliqible for any refund of registration fees.

Provided you have cancelled your registration to attend an IBA conference in accordance with the terms of the 'cancellation of registration' clause included in the 'Information' section of the relevant conference programme, you must then confirm to us in writing at the IBA office as soon as possible but in no event later than one year (12 calendar months) from the date of any such conference all necessary details to enable any reimbursement owed to you to be paid. We regret that no refunds will be made after the date that is one year (12 calendar months) after the date of the relevant conference.

Travel arrangements and visas

Participants are responsible for making their own travel arrangements. It is recommended that you check your visa requirements with your local embassy or consulate. We are unable to dispatch visa invitation letters to support your visa application prior to receipt of your registration form and full payment of registration fees.

Please apply for your visa in good time.

Hotel accommodation

The following hotels are located near to the Maison du Barreau. Please contact your selected hotel directly to make your reservation.

Hotel Pont Royal (5*)

7 rue de Montalembert 75007 Paris

Tel: +33 (1) 4284 7000 Fax: +33 (1) 4284 7100

www.leshotels duroy.com/fr/hotel-pont-royal

Hotel Montalembert (5*)

3 rue de Montalembert 75007 Paris

Tel: +33 (1) 4549 6868

www.hotel-montalembert.fr

Hotel Lutetia (4*)

45 boulevard Raspail 75006 Paris

Tel: +33 (1) 49 54 46 46 **www.lutetia-paris.com**

Delegates are responsible for making accommodation reservations directly with the hotel and entering into an agreement with the hotel regarding credit card guarantees, cancellation terms and conditions, and room rates. The IBA cannot accept responsibility for hotel accommodation disputes between a delegate and the hotel.

Disabled access

The Maison du Barreau is wheelchair accessible. Please notify us if you require special assistance.

Registration form



2nd IBA European Corporate and Private M&A Conference

6-7 February 2014, Maison du Barreau, Paris, France

Please read the 'Information' section before completing this form and return it together with your payment to Stephanie Waller at the address overleaf.

Personal details (Please attach your business card or write in block capitals)				
Family name				
Date of birth				
Fax				

TO OBTAIN A TEN PER CENT DISCOUNT ON THE FEES BELOW,
PLEASE REGISTER BY **31 JANUARY** ONLINE AT **WWW.IBANET.ORG/CONFERENCES/CONF529.ASPX**IBA MEMBERS CAN REGISTER ONLINE BY **10 JANUARY** FOR €**890**PLEASE SEE 'INFORMATION' FOR FURTHER ONLINE REGISTRATION DETAILS.

Hard copy registration forms and fees received:	on or before 10 January	after 10 January	amount payable
IBA member	€990	€1,110	€
Non-member*	€1,170	€1,290	€
Young lawyers (under 30 years)	€745	€1,290	€
Academics/judges (full-time)	€745	€1,290	€
Public lawyers	€745	€1,290	€
Corporate counsel	€890	€1,290	€

TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE €

A REDUCED RATE IS OFFERED TO LAWYERS WHO ARE OVER THE AGE OF 65, HAVE BEEN AN IBA MEMBER FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS AND ARE NO LONGER PRACTISING LAW. PLEASE CONTACT THE IBA OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

*JOIN THE IBA TODAY AND REGISTER FOR THIS CONFERENCE AT THE IBA MEMBER RATE.

PLEASE FIND THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM AT WWW.IBANET.ORG.

Payment details				
I enclose a cheque/ban	k draft made payable to the IBA fo	r the total amount payable.		
I have transferred to the	e IBA bank account the total amou	ınt payable and have attached a	copy of the bank transfe	er details.
Please charge the total	amount due to my (delete as appro	opriate) Visa/MasterCard/Americ	can Express. Other cards	are not accepted.
Card number		Start da	nte Exp	oiry date
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Signature		Date		
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Your details will however be in	cluded in the list of participants.			
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		Stephanie Waller		
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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION'S HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE (IBAHRI)













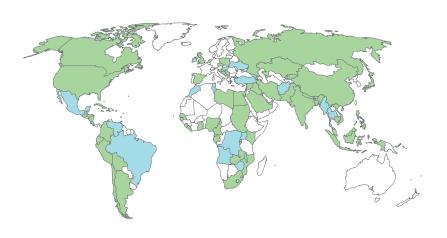


The International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI), established in 1995, has become a leading global force in human rights, working to promote and protect the independence of the judiciary and the ability of lawyers to practice freely and without interference under a just rule of law. The IBAHRI runs training programmes and workshops, capacity building projects with bar associations, fact-finding missions, trial observations; issues regular reports and press releases disseminated widely to UN bodies, international governmental and non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders; and undertakes many other projects working towards its objectives.

All our activities are funded by grants and individual donations.

Become a member for just £40 a year – less than £4 a month – to help support our projects.

Visit **www.ibanet.org/IBAHRI.aspx** for more information, and click **join** to become a member. Alternatively, email us at **hri@int-bar.org**.



Our work around the world

Work carried in 2012

Work carried out prior to 2012



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January 2014

January 2014

For further information, and to register please email: **Ilm@lawcol.co.uk**

www.law.ac.uk/llm



19-24 OCTOBER 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE 2014 INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION



the global voice of the legal profession®









ith a population of more than 13 million, the capital of Japan and the seat of Japanese government is one of the largest metropolises in the world. A city of enormous creative and entrepreneurial energy that enjoys a long history of prosperity, Tokyo is often referred to as a 'command centre' for the global economy, along with New York and London. Not only a key business hub, Tokyo also offers an almost unlimited range of local and international culture, entertainment, dining and shopping to its visitors, making it an ideal destination for the International Bar Association's 2014 Annual Conference.

WHAT WILL TOKYO 2014 OFFER?

- The largest gathering of the international legal community in the world a meeting place of more than 4,500 lawyers and legal professionals from around the world
- More than 180 working sessions covering all areas of practice relevant to international legal practitioners
- The opportunity to generate new business with the leading firms in the world's key cities
- A registration fee which entitles you to attend as many working sessions throughout the week as you wish
- Up to 25 hours of continuing legal education and continuing professional development
- A variety of social functions providing ample opportunity to network and see the city's key sights, and an exclusive excursion and tours programme



To register your interest, please contact: International Bar Association
4th Floor, 10 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4AD, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 7842 0090 Fax: +44 (0)20 7842 0091 ibaevents@int-bar.org



International Bar Association

the global voice of the legal profession

The **International Bar Association** (IBA), established in 1947, is the world's leading organisation of international legal practitioners, bar associations and law societies. The IBA influences the development of international law reform and shapes the future of the legal profession throughout the world. It has a membership of more than 50,000 individual lawyers and over 200 bar associations and law societies spanning all continents. It has considerable expertise in providing assistance to the global legal community.

Grouped into two divisions – the **Legal Practice Division** and the **Public and Professional Interest Division** – the IBA covers all practice areas and professional interests, providing members with access to leading experts and up-to-date information. Through the various committees of the divisions, the IBA enables an interchange of information and views among its members as to laws, practices and professional responsibilities relating to the practice of business law around the globe. Additionally, the IBA's high-quality publications and world-class conferences provide unrivalled professional development and network-building opportunities for international legal practitioners and professional associates.

The IBA's Bar Issues Commission provides an invaluable forum for IBA member organisations to discuss all matters relating to law at an international level.

The IBA's **Human Rights Institute** works across the Association to promote, protect and enforce human rights under a just rule of law, and to preserve the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession worldwide.

Corporate and M&A Law Committee overview

Corporate law is central to every modern economy, whether developed or developing. Internationalisation and globalisation of economic activity make corporate law and mergers and acquisitions issues central to the practice of business law.

The Corporate and M&A Law Committee aspires to be the leading global forum for the education, exchange of know-how and networking of corporate, corporate compliance, private equity and M&A practitioners around the world.

In order to enhance focus on special areas of interest within corporate and M&A law, the Committee has created the following subcommittees:

- Current Legal Developments Subcommittee
- Private Equity Subcommittee
- Corporate Governance Subcommittee

European Regional Forum overview

The European Regional Forum was established in 1989 to provide a focus originally on the work undertaken by the IBA in developing the practice under changing legal systems of lawyers in Eastern and Central Europe. The forum was also intended to act as a channel for IBA communication with the bar associations of these local lawyers.

Since 2004 the forum has been developing and strengthening the existence of the IBA within the whole of Europe by promoting the goals of the IBA to members, non-members and others, disseminating professional knowhow, and assisting the committees and other constituencies of the IBA to increase their presence in the different sub-regions of Europe, including parts of North Africa and the Middle East.

The goals of the forum include addressing current and long-term needs of professional organisations and individual members within the geographical reach of the forum, as well as increasing membership and participation in the IBA and integrating them within the organisation. The forum will also facilitate cross-border activity between lawyers and bars in different European countries. The forum has a particular focus on cross-disciplinary activities.

The forum seeks to facilitate relevant networking and information/ experience sharing opportunities and encompasses the social and collegial interests of both members and potential members with other regional fora, the Corporate Counsel Forum and the Young Lawyers Committee and all LPD committees in general.

At present the forum has almost 8,000 members and its numbers continue to increase as it becomes one of the most integrated and dynamic fora of the IBA.

Contact information