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Inauguration of the European Platform for Access to personal and family rights (EPAPFR)

March 12 and 13, 2020

**Justice Programme (2014-2020)
Call for proposal: JUST-AG-2016 (JUST-AG-2016-02)
Proposal 764214 EPAPFR**

The European platform for access to personal and family rights (EPAPFR) aims to help any person facing difficulties related to private international law issues on family matters in Europe (EU) by encouraging coordination and collaboration of legal, medical and social systems on Member States' territory, whether they are associative or institutional entities.

This project is part of European Union Justice Program, established for the period 2014-2020. The Justice Program finances actions having a European added value, which contribute to the further development of a European judicial area.

The EPAPFR supports the implementation of European instruments for private international law of the family, particularly Directive 2008/52/EC of 21 May 2008 on certain aspects of mediation in civil and commercial matters, Brussels II bis Regulation of 27 November 2003 on matrimonial and parental responsibility matters, the Hague Convention of 19 October 1996 on parental responsibility and children protection measures, and Rome III Regulation of 20 December 2010 implementing enhanced cooperation in the area of the law applicable to divorce and legal separation.

The project consists on putting in contact services for access to laws specialized in private international law, working closely with the end-users (persons concerned) in order to facilitate



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effective access to justice in the relevant field, to promote the training of professionals, to increase end-users' awareness, to encourage exchange of experiences and knowledge between institutional actors coming from different Member States.

The project regroups several partners throughout Europe:

- The private international law research center of University Lyon 3 (EDIEC),
- The Belgian association for the right of foreigners (ADDE),
- The international social service in Bulgaria (SSI),
- University of Liège
- The German institute for youth protection and family law in Germany (DIJUF),
- University of Verona (UNIVR),
- The International Legal information in private international law (FIJI), project coordinator.

A representative of the European Commission is expected to speak at the inauguration of the EPAPFR, as well as a representative of the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH).

The inauguration colloquium of the European Platform for Access to Rights will take place on 12 and 13 March 2020.

Please reserve these dates.

A registration email and a detailed program will be sent to you shortly.



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DAY 1

8h30 Participant reception

9h Opening of the conference

By a representative of the European commission (to confirm)

9h30 EPAPFR presentation

Presentation of the project and challenges of private international law in the context of migration, Cécile Corso, Director of FIJI, Doctor of Law, Lecturer at the University of Lyon

10h15 General issues on access to rights and implementation of UE regulations

Cyril Nourissat, Professor of law at the University Jean Moulin - Lyon 3, Director of the Research Centre on Private International Law (CREDIP)

10h45 Break

11h00 Divorce, legal stay and domestic violence in the EU

Carmen Ruiz-Sutil, Professor at the University of Granada

11h30 Maintenance

Dieter Martiny, Professor emeritus of the European University Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder), affiliate at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Private Law (Hamburg)

12h Unaccompanied minors

Philippe Lortie, First Secretary to the Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference of International Private Law (HCCH)

12h30-14h Lunch break

14h00 International mediation

Miglena Baldzhieva, lawyer, head of Intercountry Casework Division, International Social Service-Bulgaria (ISS-Bulgaria)

Sabina Titarenko, Network Development Officer, International Social Service General Secretariat

14h30 Parallel workshops

- 1) Surrogacy – Chair: Mia Dambach, Director International Reference Centre - International Social Service, Maria Caterina Baruffi, Full Professor of International Law – University of Verona
- 2) Kafala – Chair: Cinzia Peraro, Postdoctoral Research Fellow in EU Law – University of Verona
- 3) International protection – Chair: Caroline Apers, jurist (Association pour le droit des étrangers (ADDE, Brussels)
- 4) Unaccompanied minors – Chair: Olivier Geissler (International Social Service General Secretariat)
- 5) Sham marriages/partnerships – Chair: Thomas Evrard, Jurist (ADDE, Brussels)





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17h00-18h30 **Drink**

DAY 2

9h **Introduction**

Cécile Corso, Director of FIJI, Doctor of Law, Lecturer at the University of Lyon

9h15 **Property regimes and patrimonial consequences of registered partnerships**

Andrea Bonomi, Professor at the University of Lausanne (Unil), Vice-Director of the Law School, Director of the Centre for Comparative Law, European and International (CDCEI)

9h45 **Successions**

Patrick Wautelet, Professor of Law at the Faculty of Liège

10h15 **Break**

10h30 **International child abduction**

Thalia Kruger, Lecturer at the University of Antwerp

11h **Circulation of documents**

Thomas Evrard, Jurist (ADDE, Brussels)

11h30 **Circulation of civil status**

Silvia Pfeiff, Doctorate in Legal Science, Lawyer, Lecturer at the Free University of Brussels

12h **Concluding remarks on tools**

Ludovic Pailler, Professor of law at the University Jean Moulin - Lyon 3, Director of the Legal Clinic of the University Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Member of the International, European and Comparative Law Team, Member of the Research Centre on Private International Law (CREDIP)

12h30 **Lunch break**

14h **Round-table with Central Authorities (UE and HCCH)**

- Belgium: Abdellah Derraz et Maïlys Machiels, Central Authority for Civil Legal Assistance, (Justice, Directorate General of Legislation, Freedoms and Fundamental Rights)
- Czech Republic: Mgr. Marie Plášková, Legal Counsel, Legal Department, Office for International Legal Protection of Children.
- France: Ms. Fanny Maes, Lawyer and legal officer at the Office of Union Law, Private International Law and Civil Assistance, Ministry of Justice.
- Italy: Giuseppe Vinciguerra, Judge assigned to the Italian Central Authority, Ministry of Justice.



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- Latvia: Liva Upena, Lawyer, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Justice.
- Malta: Dr. Lynn Faure, Professional Officer, Malta Central Authority - Child Protection Social Care Standards Authority.

16h45 Thanks and perspectives of the EPAPFR



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