

UNIDROIT Middle East and North Africa Transnational Law Academic Symposium
“Transnational Commercial and Investment Law and Middle East Regional
Developments”

PROGRAMME

Rome, UNIDROIT Headquarters
3-4 February 2026

DAY 1: 3 FEBRUARY 2026

Time

Topic

9:30 - 9:40

Welcome remarks

9:40 - 10:00

Opening Keynote Speech

10:00 - 12:00

1. Contracts - terms and enforcement

10:00 - 11:00

1.1. Principles of commercial contracts and contract farming

11:00 - 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15 - 12:00

1.2 Best Practices of Enforcement

12:00 - 15:50

2. Trade, investment and economic impacts

12:00 - 13:00

2.1. Investment contracts, including agricultural land
investment contracts

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 15:00

2.2. Private and public law frameworks for regional trade
and investment

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| 15:00 - 15:50 | 2.3. Economic evaluation of commercial and investment law reform |
| 15:50 - 16:00 | Coffee Break |
| 16:00 - 17:50 | 3. Access to Credit |
| 16:00 - 17:00 | 3.1. Cape Town Convention implementation of and compliance with the Aircraft Protocol |
| 17:00 - 17:50 | 3.2. Rail and MAC Protocols to the Cape Town Convention |

DAY 2: 4 FEBRUARY 2026

| Time | Topic |
|---------------|--|
| 9:00 - 9:20 | Keynote Speech: International perspective on MENA Project |
| 9:20 - 10:10 | 3. Access to Credit (continued) |
| 9:20 - 10:10 | 3.3. Factoring and warehouse receipts. Future projects on best practices on agricultural financing and the model law on investment-based crowdfunding. |
| 10:10 - 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 10:30 - 13:00 | 4. Contemporary issues: technology and energy/sustainability |
| 10:30 - 11:30 | 4.1. Digital assets in private law |
| 11:30 - 13:00 | 4.2. Energy, sustainable finance, and private law |

13:00 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 14:45

5. Commercial Arbitration in the MENA Region: Recent Developments and Transnational Perspectives

14:45 - 15:15

6. Cultural Property

15:15 - 15:30

Coffee Break

15:30 - 16:15

7. Course materials for joint or parallel teaching of comparative, transactional and transnational commercial and investment law

16:15 - 17:30

8. Future work and project development

16:15 - 17:30

8.1 MENA commercial and investment law and case/ arbitration database (AI aided)

16:15 - 17:30

8.2 Academic study on interplay between religious law and commercial law and transactional practice, historically and currently

16:15 - 17:30

8.3 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in MENA, including best practices and foundational materials

16:15 - 17:30

8.4 Next steps & Comparative/transnational law scholarship and research opportunities