



UNIDROIT
International Institute for the Unification of Private Law
Institut International pour l'Unification du Droit Privé



UNIDROIT CENTENARY (1926-2026) ACADEMIC CONFERENCE - PROGRAMME

Venue: UNIDROIT (Villa Aldobrandini, Sala Rodinò)

Rome, 8-10 July 2026

UNIDROIT is pleased to announce its flagship academic event: a high-level international conference dedicated to exploring the evolution, teaching and practice of transnational law.

This invitation-only conference is aimed at fostering an open academic discussion with UNIDROIT's vast network of academic and institutional partnerships. The first part will feature presentations on a few of the most notable initiatives undertaken within the framework of such partnerships, as examples of models of cooperation. The second part will be dedicated to the presentation of selected research papers.

8 July 2026

8.30 - 9.00 Registration / Welcome Coffee

9.00 - 9.15 Opening of the Conference

Prof. Ignacio Tirado (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

Prof. Anna Veneziano (Deputy Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

UNIDROIT's Partnership with Universities

Panel I Strategic Academic Partnerships: Collaboration Programs and Institutional Engagement

9.15 - 10.15 Part I

Chair: **Prof. Ignacio Tirado** (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

UNIDROIT Academy and the International Program for Law and Development (IPLD)

Prof. Ignacio Tirado (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

University of Cambridge

Prof. Louise Gullifer (Chair, Faculty of Law)

Queen Mary University of London

Prof. Ioannis Kokkoris (Director, Queen Mary Centre for Commercial Law Studies)

University Roma Tre

Prof. Giacomo Rojas Elgueta (Co-director, Roma Tre-UNIDROIT Centre)

Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, Max Planck Law

Prof. Stefan Vogenauer (Managing Director)

University of Rome La Sapienza

Prof. Giuseppe Ciccarone (Vice Rector)

10.15 - 11.00 Part II

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law

Prof. Jun Li (Dean of School of Law and Economics)

Global Private Law Forum (Japan)

Prof. Megumi Hara (Chuo University); Prof. Hiroo Sono (Hokkaido University)

Principles of Reinsurance Contract Law (PRICL) Working Group

Prof. Oliver William (University of Luzern)

International Training Centre of the ILO

Prof. Giuseppe Casale (University of Bologna)

11.00 - 11.30 Open Discussion for Panel I

Panel II *Global Academic Perspectives: Ongoing and Future Cooperation*

11.30 - 12.15 Part I

Chair: **Prof. Anna Veneziano** (Deputy Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

University of Montreal

Prof. Geneviève Saumier (Dean, Faculty of Law), Prof. Michel Deschamps

Renmin University of China

Prof. Yang Dong (Dean, School of Law)

National University of Mongolia

Prof. Amarsanaa Batbold (Dean, School of Law)

12.15 - 13.00 Part II

European Law Institute (ELI), Universidad Carlos III of Madrid

Prof. Teresa Rodríguez De Las Heras Ballell (President of ELI)

LUISS University

Prof. Barbara De Donno (Director, Department of Business and Company Law)

University of Trento

Prof. Paola Iamiceli

European University Institute

Prof. Mathias Siems

13.00 - 13.30 Open Discussion for Panel II

13.30 - 14.45 Lunch Break

Presentations of Selected Research Papers

Topic I *UNIDROIT's work and generally transnational law and its role in research and legal education*

14.45 - 16.00 Part I

Chair: **Prof. Walter Doralt** (Vice Dean, University of Graz)

Myth and Magic: UNIDROIT and Comparative law; Reflections on an (almost) perfect symbiotic relationship

Prof. Jean-François Riffard (Dean, Université Clermont Auvergne)

The meaning of private law harmonisation in the age of digitisation

Prof. Souichirou Kozuka (Gakushuin University)

The Complex Relationship between Regulation and the Unification of Private Law

Prof. Matthias Lehmann (University of Vienna)

The Legislative History of Transnational Law, its role in Law interpretation, research and legal education

Prof. David Amable Morán Bovio (University of Cádiz)

Soft Law for a Fast-Paced World: UNIDROIT's Response to the Limits of Traditional Lawmaking

Prof. Pedro Mendoza Montano (Francisco Marroquín University)

16.00 - 16.30 Open Discussion for Part I

16.30 - 16.45 Coffee break

16.45 - 17.45 Part II

Chair: **Prof. Chao Xi** (Dean of the Faculty of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong)

UNIDROIT and Uniform Law: a Private International Law perspective

Prof. Ángel María Ballesteros Barros (Universidad Pablo de Olavide)

A multifaceted professional relationship: UNIDROIT's work and its role in research and legal education at Eötvös Loránd University

Prof. Miklós Király (ELTE Eötvös Loránd University)

The Academic Role and Contribution of UNIDROIT to Legal Education and to Building a Research Community Shaping the Development of Transnational Law

Prof. Slobodan Vukadinovic (The Union University School of Law)

UNIDROIT as a Framework for Transnational Legal Education: Insights from Vietnam's Reform Path

Dr. Dang Hai Mai (Vietnam National University)

17.45 - 18.15 Open Discussion for Part II

18.30 Cocktail at UNIDROIT

9 July 2026

Topic II *The impact of UNIDROIT's work and generally of legal standard-setting institutions on lawmaking, domestically and internationally*

9.15 - 10.00 Part I

Chair: **Prof. Orkun Akseli** (University of Manchester)

The Hidden Reach of a UNIDROIT Convention: Exploring the potential impact of the Cape Town Convention on general domestic secured transactions law through the prism of Australian personal property securities legislation

Prof. Sheelagh McCracken (University of Sydney)

Bitcoin as a Non-Financial Asset in Mainland China: Law and Practice

Prof. Bingwan Xiong (Renmin University of China), **Ms. Xiaoyu Liu** (Renmin University of China)

UNIDROIT's work impact on private law developments in Ukraine

Prof. Oleksandr Biryukov (National University of Kyiv)

10.00 - 10.45 Part II

The Impact and Integration of UNIDROIT Instruments on Chinese Law: Dual Perspectives of Legislation and Judicial Practice

Prof. Jing Li (East China University of Political Science and Law), **Ms. Chenting Zhao** (East China University of Political Science and Law)

Present and future of the arbitration in investment contracts

Prof. Juliana Rodríguez Rodrigo (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid)

UNIDROIT's contribution to the early transnationalisation of arbitration in two acts

Dr. Bruno Sousa Rodrigues (Sciences Po - École de Droit)

10.45 - 11.15 Open Discussion for Parts I & II

11.15 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 12.45 Part III

Chair: **Prof. Wenhua Ji** (University of International Business and Economics)

The role of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention in establishing an international public policy in the field of cultural heritage law

Prof. Marc-André Renold (Director Art-Law Centre, University of Geneva)

The EU-MERCOSUR Agreement as a Vector for UNIDROIT Norms – Bridging Gaps in Cultural Heritage Law

Prof. Marcilio Toscano Franca-Filho (Federal University of Paraíba)

Toward an Implementation Framework for the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention in Light of China's Recent Legal Developments: Institutional, Procedural, and Substantive Perspectives

Prof. Hao Liu (Shandong University)

Consumer Protection in the Digital Age: The Case for a Unified Model Law

Prof. Sharon Shakargy (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Uniform Law as a Guiding Framework for National Reform: an example from Kyrgyzstan

Prof. Natalia Alenkina (American University of Central Asia)

12.45 - 13.15 Open Discussion for Part III

13.15 - 14.30 Lunch Break

14.30 - 15.45 Topic III *Challenges and opportunities in ensuring the enforceability of international and transnational law across jurisdictions*

Chair: **Prof. Ulrich Schroeter** (University of Basel)

Transnational Enforcement: From Sovereignty to Individual Rights

Prof. Matthias Weller (Director of the Institute for German and International Procedural Law, University of Bonn)

Cross-Border Space Financing: Need for Establishing a Sui Generis Regime

Prof. Sandeepa Bhat (Dean, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences)

The Celestial Ceiling in Harmonising Private Law: Challenges for the Space Protocol

Prof. Antonella Forganni (ESSCA School of Management)

The Role of Public Policy in Shaping the Transnational Arbitration Framework: A Study Grounded in Palestinian Judicial Practice

Mr. Mohammad Abushehab (An Najah National University)

The impact of UNIDROIT's work on the harmonization of Ukrainian law with the generally accepted principles and norms of the international community

Prof. Iryna Dikovska (Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Law)

15.45 - 16.15 Open Discussion for Topic III

16.15 - 16.30 Coffee Break

16.30 - 18.00 Topic IV *Legal analysis of UNIDROIT instruments*

Chair: **Prof. Megumi Hara** (Chuo University)

Digital assets and UNIDROIT Instruments

Prof. Rolf H. Weber (University of Zurich)

Principle 5 of the UNIDROIT Principles on Digital Assets and Private Law from a Private International Law Perspective

Prof. Antonio Merchán Murillo (Universidad of Cádiz), **Dr. Carlos Domínguez Padilla** (Universidad of Cádiz)

Shaping the Future of Digital Assets: Legal Harmonisation and Emerging Opportunities for the Global South within UNIDROIT

Prof. Daniel Peña Valenzuela (Universidad Externado de Colombia)

Digital Assets: Challenges for the Implementation of UNIDROIT Principles in Brazil

Prof. Márcio Ferro Catapani (Federal University of São Paulo)

Stablecoins as Cross-Border Private Money: Propertisation, Custody, and Contractual Rights under the UNIDROIT Principles on Digital Assets and Private Law

Prof. Camila Villard Duran (ESSCA School of Management)

The Reception of the UNIDROIT Principles on Digital Assets and Private Law in Argentine Law

Prof. Mario Gustavo Carrizo Adris (Universidad Argentina de la Empresa)

18.00 - 18.30 Open Discussion for Topic IV

10 July 2026

Topic IV Legal analysis of UNIDROIT instruments

9.15 - 10.00 Part I

Chair: **Prof. Antonio Leandro** (University of Bari)

Beyond the Shadow of the Courts: Adopting the UNIDROIT Legislative Guide on Bank Liquidation in the Philippines

Prof. Mary Jude Cantorias Marvel (Dean of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas College of Law)

AI Liability (Re)Insurance and the UNIDROIT Principles of Reinsurance Contract Law

Prof. Carmen Tamara Ungureanu ("Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University)

From Transnational Principles to National Practice: A Legal Analysis of the ELI/UNIDROIT Rules of Civil Procedure

Prof. Nicolas Kyriakides (University of Nicosia), **Dr. Nicholas Mouttotos** (University of Bremen)

10.00 - 10.45 Part II

Uberrima Fides – a PRICL Instrument for Maintaining Reinsurance Contract as a “Gentlemen’s Agreement”

Prof. Nataša Petrović Tomić (University of Belgrade), **Dr. Mirjana Glinčić** (Institute of Comparative Law, Belgrade)

The Transformative Role of the Principles of Reinsurance Contract Law (PRICL) in Turkish Reinsurance Practice and the Harmonization of Soft Law with Mandatory Local Norms

Ms. Duygu Ercan (Istanbul University)

10.45 - 11.15 Open Discussion for Parts I & II

11.15 - 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 - 12.15 Part III

Chair: **Prof. Alberto De Franceschi** (University of Ferrara)

UNIDROIT draft Guide on Best Practices of Effective Enforcement on Digital Assets and the Brazilian Legal System

Prof. Valesca Raizer Borges Moschen (Federal University of Espirito Santo)

Digital assets in space and transnational law: rethinking governance beyond territory

Mr. Nicola Carraro (Università Commerciale “Luigi Bocconi”), **Mr. Oscar Adrian Robalino Florett** (Università Commerciale “Luigi Bocconi”)



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Locating the Intangible: The UNIDROIT Principles and the Territorial Nexus Tension in Sovereign Digital Asset Disputes

Ms. Wanqi Li (Renmin University of China)

12.15 - 13.00 Part IV

The UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts and Sustainable Circular Economy Transitions

Dr. Katrien Steenmans (University of Copenhagen)

Toward General Principles on Currency under the CISG: Insights from Korean Case Law and the Role of the UNIDROIT Principles

Prof. Jong Hyeok Lee (Seoul National University)

Community development provisions: some (best) practices from land-based investment contracts

Prof. Sondra Faccio (University of Trento)

13.00 - 13.30 Open Discussion for Parts III & IV

13.30 Closing Remarks

Prof. Ignacio Tirado (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

Prof. Anna Veneziano (Deputy Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)