



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



UNIDROIT CENTENARY (1926-2026)

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRANSNATIONAL LAW AND COOPERATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Venue: Villa Aldobrandini – Sala Rodinò

Rome, 25-26 May 2026

As the opening event for the 107th session of the Governing Council, the Workshop involves members of the International Partnerships Committee of UNIDROIT's Centenary and seeks to address the different ways in which cooperation and coordination amongst international organisations shapes the development and promotion of transnational law.

Join UNIDROIT to celebrate the achievements and shared perspectives of international organisations and their cooperation and coordination over a century of multilateralism in the area of transnational private law.

25 May 2026

2.00 pm-2.20 pm Opening of the Conference

Enzo Moavero Milanese (President, UNIDROIT)

Ignacio Tirado (Secretary-General, UNIDROIT)

Herbert Kronke (Co-chair of the International Partnerships Committee)

José Angelo Estrella Faria (Co-chair of the International Partnerships Committee)

2.20 pm-2.45 pm Opening Keynote

Fostering Economic Development through Legal Systems and Effective Partnerships

Christopher Stephens (Senior Vice President and General Counsel, World Bank Group)

2.45 pm-4.15 pm Panel I

The ex-ante determination of normative projects in transnational/international organisations

Chair **José Angelo Estrella Faria**

The panel will discuss the following topics: (i) who proposes the projects to transnational law organisations; (ii) coordination amongst Member States in relation to project proposals; (iii) horizontal cooperation/coordination amongst organisations with potentially overlapping mandates; (iv) tools and procedures to appraise proposals ex ante, including legal due diligence and economic assessments.

Ignacio Tirado (Secretary General, UNIDROIT)

Jae Sung Lee (Principal Legal Officer, UNCITRAL)

Ning Zhao (Principal Legal Officer, HCCH)



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Kathryn Sabo (General Counsel in the Constitutional, Administrative & International Law Section of the Department of Justice, Canada)

Theodora Kostoula (Legal Consultant and project lead, Economic Evaluation of International Commercial Law Reform: Framework and Guide, UNIDROIT)

4.15 pm-4.45 pm Coffee break

4.45 pm-6.00 pm Panel II

A comparative view of standard-setting methodologies and ex post implementation analysis

Chair **Herbert Kronke**

The panel will discuss the following topics: (i) a comparative analysis of different standard-setting methodologies; (ii) involvement of the private sector in the normative drafting; (iii) measuring the success of transnational law instruments.

Anna Veneziano (Deputy Secretary General, UNIDROIT)

Alessandro Gullo (Assistant General Counsel, International Monetary Fund)

Michel Nussbaumer (Director, Legal Transition, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development)

Jeffrey Wool (Secretary General, Aviation Working Group)

26 May 2026

9.30 am-10.00 am Opening Keynote

Law as a Pillar of Financial Stability: International Standards, Cooperation, and the Public and Private Law Nexus

Yan Liu (General Counsel and Director of the Legal Department of the International Monetary Fund)

Fireside Chat between **Yan Liu** and **Rosa Lastra** (Queen Mary University of London) on international standards and how private law can support financial stability.

10.00 am-11.15 am Panel III

Coordination in the production of normative instruments

Chair **José Angelo Estrella Faria**

The panel will discuss the following topics: (i) coordination amongst organisations in the standard-setting process; (ii) coordination within the same organisation in relation to different instruments; (iii) coordination between transnational organisations and the private sector; (iv) updating normative instruments (soft law and hard law perspectives).

Jae Sung Lee (Principal Legal Officer, UNCITRAL)

Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell (President, European Law Institute)



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Eduardo Silva Romero (Chair, ICC Institute of World Business Law) (remote)

Howard Rosen (Chair, Rail Protocol Working Group)

Marina Schneider (Principal Legal Officer and Treaty Depositary, UNIDROIT)

Medea S. Ekner (Director General, ICOM)

11.15 am-11.30 am Coffee Break

11.30 am-1.00 pm Panel IV

Horizontal cooperation between international organisations

Chair **Herbert Kronke**

The panel will discuss the following topics: (i) horizontal cooperation amongst international organisations with potentially complementary mandates; (ii) horizontal cooperation amongst international organisations with a potentially complementary geographical scope; (iii) horizontal cooperation between international organisations and national/regional law-making bodies; and (iv) two different models of normative harmonisation: the special cases of the EU as a regional multi-state harmonisation body and APEC's "softer" approach.

Itziar Garcia Villanueva (Deputy General Counsel, IFAD)

Donata Rugarabamu (Legal Counsel, FAO)

Karen Banks (UNIDROIT Governing Council, former Deputy Director General, Legal Services of the European Commission)

James Ding (Law Officer (International Law), Department of Justice, Hong Kong, China and Chair, Economic Committee, APEC)

Eric Weeks (Executive Director, Uniform Law Commission, USA)

Krista Pikkat (Director of Culture and Emergencies, Culture Sector, UNESCO) (via video)

1.15 pm-2.15 pm Light lunch offered in Villa Aldobrandini

2.15 pm-3.00 pm Afternoon Keynote

Unifying the Institutions that Unify the Law

Tim Schnabel (President, Law Reform Institute)

Discussants: **Ignacio Tirado** and **José Angelo Estrella Faria**

3.00 pm-4.45 pm Panel V

Vertical cooperation in the implementation of standards and rules

Chair **Herbert Kronke**

The panel will discuss the following topics: (i) standard setting and implementation (i.e., the relationship between the normative instruments of transnational law standard-setting institutions and the implementation activities of international financial institutions and national development agencies with client countries); (ii) coordination between regional/global organisations and national development agencies; (iii) institutional implementation of treaties; (iv) dissemination and capacity building.



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Christina Pak (Assistant General Counsel (Law and Policy Reform), Asian Development Bank)

Kartik Sharma (Director, Office of the Director General, IDLO)

Aleksandr Kuzmenko (Secretary General, OTIF)

Kamalinne Pinitpuvadol (Secretary General, AALCO)

Aruna Gujral (Director General, ICCROM)

4.45 pm-5.00 pm Coffee break

5.00 pm-6.15 pm Final Roundtable

Chair **Maria Chiara Malaguti** (President Emerita, UNIDROIT)

General Commentary by **Jan Klabbers** (Cambridge University) and **Stefania Bariatti** (University of Milan, Member of UNIDROIT Governing Council)

Discussion with the floor

6.15 pm-8.00 pm

Cocktail for International Organisations in Villa Aldobrandini