

Content

With an estimated one million divorces of international couples in the EU every year, children often end up living in a different country than one of the parents, a situation which is fraught with difficulties from a family law point of view. These difficulties include, for example, knowing which courts have jurisdiction to hear a case on matters of parental responsibility, how a judgment will be recognised and enforced in another Member State and how cross-border parental child abduction can be prevented.

The objectives of this workshop are:

- to provide expert training on Regulation Brussels IIbis, including the main provisions in parental responsibility matters, the rules on international child abduction cases and their interaction with other EU instruments in the area of civil justice
- to raise awareness of the interrelation of EU, international and domestic legislation on cross-border parental responsibility cases
- to provide participants with a practical introduction to the preliminary ruling procedure
- to allow participants to explore the possibilities offered by cross-border family mediation
- to promote contacts between national judges and lawyers from different member states and provide participants with valuable networking opportunities.

The workshop is designed to be practice-oriented and focused on peer and expert training. Access to an introductory e-learning course will be made available to participants before the workshop allowing them to contribute actively during the training sessions. Participating legal practitioners will deal with concrete situations and be faced with real questions by means of case studies and role play exercises.

Trainers

Martina Erb-Klünemann, Judge, District Court of Hamm; Liaison Judge, European Judicial Network, International Hague Network of Judges

Dr Thalia Kruger, Lecturer at the University of Antwerp

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For further information on this project:

[EU Civil Justice Training Modules](#)



PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A CROSS-BORDER CONTEXT, INCLUDING CHILD ABDUCTION

Sofia, 1-3 April 2015

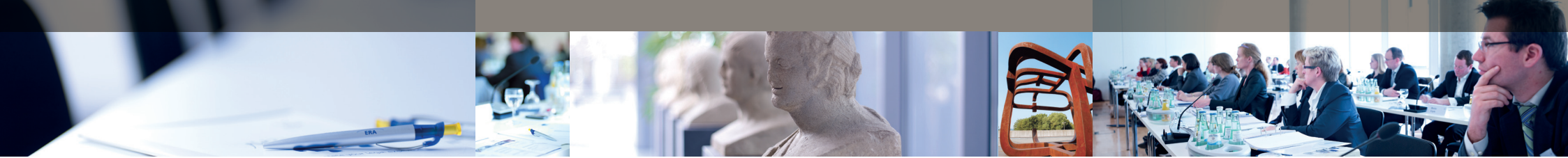
National Institute of Justice, 14,
Ekzarh Yossif str., 1000 Sofia

Workshop organiser:

Academy of European Law (Elitsa Stoeva) on behalf of the European Commission (Contracting Authority) in cooperation with the National Institute of Justice

Language: English

Event number: 115DV109



Wednesday, 1 April 2015

08:45 Arrival and registration of participants

I. Cross-border parental responsibility

09:15 **Opening session**
Elitsa Stoeva

09:30 **Parental responsibility: rules on jurisdiction, provisional measures and applicable law**

10:45 Coffee break

11:15 **Cross-border child abduction within the EU**
Thalia Kruger

12:30 Lunch

13:45 **Recognition and enforcement of judgments, including rules on access rights and child abduction**

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 **Case study I: Parental responsibility and child abduction**
Thalia Kruger

17:30 End of the first workshop day

19:30 Dinner

Thursday, 2 April 2015

II. Procedure in family matters

09:00 **Hearing of the child and taking of evidence**
Martina Erb-Klünemann

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 **Cross-border communication between courts and between central authorities**
Martina Erb-Klünemann

12:00 Lunch

III. Preliminary ruling procedure in family matters

13:15 **Preliminary rulings in family proceedings**

14:15 Coffee break

14:45 **Case study II: Reference for a preliminary ruling**

17:00 End of the second workshop day

Friday, 3 April 2015

IV. Family mediation

09:00 **An introduction to family mediation**

10:00 **Role play – Session I: Family mediation in a cross-border child abduction case**

11:15 Coffee break

11:45 **Role play – Session II**

13:15 **Closing session and end of the workshop**
Elitsa Stoeva