

# The Quest for Europe and for European Company Law: Come and Join Us!

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The current year marks the completion of the first decade of our *European Company Law journal* (ECL), published under the aegis of the Centre for European Company Law (CECL). We are glad and proud to say that in the course of time ECL has established itself as a well-recognized law journal, valued by academics and practitioners alike. By consistently applying ECL's so-called

SCIP-principle, i.e., welcoming contributions that are Scientific, Concise, Informative and Practical at the same time, ECL's editorial board has promoted and secured a unique profile of our journal in the market. Articles published in ECL are frequently cited in academic reports and contributions in other journals. This is exactly what we have been aiming for when we started this project ten years ago.

However, publishing ECL is just one of CECL's activities, besides editing and expanding the CECL book series, organizing conferences and, as of 2014, organizing a Summer School for international students. From 7 July to 19 July 2014, CECL organized the 1st CECL Summer School on European and Comparative Company Law in Rome, at the LUISS Guido Carli University's Main Building. Twenty-five graduate students and early-stage practitioners attended the course, not only from Italy, but also from countries as far as Russia and Brazil. Seventeen teachers (practitioners and academics) from Italy, the Netherlands, Germany, Sweden and Cyprus delivered classes to the students. The course was accredited by the Italian Bar Association and was awarded eight ECTS. Enrolment for the 2nd CECL/LUISS Summer School to take place in July 2015 will timely be announced at CECL's website [www.cecl.eu](http://www.cecl.eu).

Starting as a purely Dutch venture between the Law Schools of Leiden, Utrecht and Maastricht, in the past few years we managed to internationalize our activities. With the generous support of our publisher, Wolters Kluwer, we focused on laying roots in three

different European regions: Southern Europe, the Nordic region, and Central and Eastern Europe. As a result the renowned Law Schools and research institutes of Uppsala, Sweden, LUISS Guido Carli, Rome, Italy and Allerhand Institute of Law & Economics, Krakow, Poland, have now become partners of CECL. Obviously this three-fold expansion is instrumental in helping us to promote efficiently our academic activities and publications in a truly European market.

To mark CECL's process of internationalization the 5th CECL Conference was the first to be held outside the Netherlands. On 3–4 April 2014 in Uppsala, Sweden, at the impressive Uppsala University's Main Building, a Conference was held under the title *Banks in Europe: Regaining Trust and Securing Continuity*. Approximately forty delegates attended the conference, not only from Sweden and the Netherlands, but also from Germany and the United Kingdom. Several Uppsala LLM students enjoyed free entrance to the conference too. Nineteen speakers from Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany, the US and Cyprus gave the conference a true pan-European breadth. You will find several of the conference's presentations, converted into scholarly articles by the speakers, published in this issue of ECL.

Consistent to CECL's strategy in August 2014, the Allerhand Institute in Krakow, Poland, an independent law and economics think-tank led by scholars mainly associated with the Law School of the University of Krakow, became a CECL partner as well. The joining of the Allerhand Institute to CECL serves as a gateway to the dynamic scholarly and education market of Central and Eastern Europe. But tightening the academic bonds between CECL and law schools/institutes from eastern Europe also serves a more far-reaching goal. We are of the opinion that it is important to recognize that the further development of the law in Europe can only be a mutually east-west inspired process, in which legal academics and practitioners from the east should participate on an equal basis with their colleagues from the west. Cooperation and loyalty are the key words for the future development of the EU in general, and for European Company Law in particular.

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The 2015 is the year, wherein CECL intends to capitalize on the achievements of 2014 and to further its above intentions. The main focus is to organize the 6th CECL Conference in late 2015 in Warsaw, Poland, in cooperation with the Allerhand Institute. The theme of the conference will be on the Europeanization of Ukraine's Business Law, mainly in the framework of the official efforts by the EU to promote the modernization of Ukraine's legal system, about which an EU-initiated research report is to be published soon. A swift integration of the Ukraine economy in the EU is of paramount importance to achieve stability and peace in Eastern Europe.

We invite you to financially support to the objects and goals of CECL. With your assistance, CECL will be able to promote scholarly works in the broad field of European Company Law, both

in eastern and western Europe, and to realize new inspiring conferences and publications that bring us together. Unless you direct us not to do so, when you make a contribution, your firm's name and logo will be listed on the CECL website. We will also include the list of contributors in the programme for each event we conduct throughout the year, like the yearly CECL conference and the CECL Summer School, as well as in the materials used by the students. You may also be offered to contribute to a conference by giving a lecture or chairing a workshop. Depending on the level of sponsorship you may even flag out your firm's name, logo and mission on CECL's website in the form of a banner. If you have any questions about the benefits you may enjoy as a CECL sponsor, please contact either of us via below-mentioned email addresses.