



# CHALLENGES IN TORT LAW TODAY

**ORGANISER:**

Institute for European Tort Law (ETL)  
European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law (ECTIL)

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**REGISTRATION:**

Please register by the end of September 2017 with Lisa Zeiler (zeiler@ectil.org).



**FRIDAY, 20. OCTOBER 2017**  
**VIENNA UNIVERSITY OF**  
**ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (WU)**  
**EXECUTIVE ACADEMY (EA) FOYER**  
**WELTHANDELSPLATZ 1, 1020 VIENNA,**  
**AUSTRIA**

## SPEAKERS

**Jean-Sébastien Borghetti** is professor of private law at the Panthéon-Assas University (Paris II), France. His main fields of research are tort and contract law.

**Miquel Martí Casals** holds the Civil Law chair at the University of Girona, Spain. He has been the Chairperson of the Spanish Interministerial Commission that - together with all stakeholders - has prepared the Bill Draft of the new compensation scheme for personal injury or *baremo*.

**Piotr Machnikowski** is professor of law at the University of Wrocław, Poland. His professional focus is on the area of civil and business law. He has also taken part in legislative work as a member of the Civil Law Codification Committee.

**Mike Green** is one of the United States' most respected experts in the area of tort law. He is the Williams Professor of Law at Wake Forest University.

## EUROPEAN GROUP ON TORT LAW

**EGTL**

European Group on Tort Law

The European Group on Tort Law was established in 1992 and is a group of leading academics in the area of tort law who believe that the advancement of European tort law is of major relevance to European citizens and the European economy. The Group meets regularly to discuss fundamental issues of tort liability, as well as recent developments and the future directions of the law of delict. It has drafted a collection of Principles of European Tort Law (PETL), which aims to contribute to the enhancement and harmonisation of tort law in Europe, and in particular to provide a principled basis for rationalisation and innovation at both a national and EU level.

Following the Group's original publication of the PETL in 2005 (with Springer, Vienna/New York), it reconvened in 2009 to work on expanding the PETL's scope and updating and refining their content in the light of subsequent scholarly debates and developments in national and EU law. The Group has furthermore started to publish a series of preliminary studies on topics not addressed in the initial edition of the PETL or otherwise warranting consideration, which will culminate with the publication of a revised and expanded edition of the PETL. This new series, Principles of European Tort Law, is being published by Intersentia. So far, two volumes have appeared: "European Product Liability" (ed. P. Machnikowski), and "The Liability of Public Authorities in Comparative Perspective" (ed. K. Oliphant). A third, "The Borderlines of Tort Law: Interactions with Contract Law" (ed. M. Martín Casals) is forthcoming.

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## CHALLENGES IN TORT LAW TODAY

In the light of ongoing debates throughout Europe on whether and how to reform tort law to meet modern-day challenges, key problem areas will be highlighted and discussed at this conference hosted by the Institute for European Tort Law jointly with the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law. Two presentations will focus on ongoing or recently completed legislative projects; one on the current complete reform of tort law in France, the other on the recently enacted *baremo* for traffic accidents in Spain, which has substantially amended the existing tariff system of compensation for personal injury and is currently standing the test of practice. Two more lectures will address specific problems relating to technology. On the eve of a potential reform of the EU product liability regime, its viability, in particular in the digital age, will be discussed on the basis of a recently completed comparative study. The final presentation will focus on toxic torts from the perspective of recent US experience. All of the speakers are members of the European Group on Tort Law, which is currently working on a revised version of its "Principles of European Tort Law".

*The conference will be held in English and is free of charge. Please register by the end of September 2017 with Lisa Zeiler (zeiler@ectil.org).*

## FRIDAY, 20. OCTOBER 2017

**14.00** *OPENING and Welcome Address Ernst Karner*

**14.05–14.50** **Jean-Sébastien Borghetti** | Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas, France  
*New Tort Law Perspectives from France*

**14.50–15.35** **Miquel Martí Casals** | Universitat de Girona, Spain  
*Compensation for Death and Personal Injury: The New Spanish Baremo in the European Context*

**15.35–15.50** *Discussion*

**15.50–16.15** COFFEE BREAK

**16.15–17.00** **Piotr Machnikowski** | Uniwersytet Wrocław, Poland  
*Is there a Future for the EU Product Liability Law?*

**17.00–17.45** **Mike Green** | Wake Forest University, USA  
*The Challenges of Toxic Torts*

**17.45–18.00** *Discussion*