CONFERENCE

DIRECTORS’ AND OFFICERS’ (D&O) LIABILITY

TUESDAY, 28 MARCH 2017

VIENNA UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS (WU), LIBRARY CENTER (LC)
WELTHANDELSPLATZ 1
1020 VIENNA, AUSTRIA
DIRECTORS’ AND OFFICERS’ (D&O) LIABILITY

In recent years several cases concerning the liability of directors and officers have courted controversy. Arguments raised in such discussions oscillate between two extremes: on the one hand, the need for governing bodies to give a space to entrepreneurial discretion and on the other hand to ensure the protection of investors in and creditors of a company from the consequences of disadvantageous decisions by those bodies.

The conference presents the results of an extensive comparative study on Directors’ and Officers’ Liability that was funded under the generous auspices of the B&C Privatstiftung and conducted by the European Centre of Tort and Insurance Law (ECTIL) and the Institute for European Tort Law of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the University of Graz (ETL). In addition to country reports from six legal systems, special reports on the Economic Analysis of Law, Insurance and Private International Law perspective will also be delivered, with ample opportunity being reserved for discussion. A comparative report will complete the programme.

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

PROGRAMME

09:00 Welcome Address Martin Spitzer, WU, Vienna
09:05 Introductory Remarks Simon Deakin, University of Cambridge

Morning Session – Country Reports
Chair: Martin Spitzer, WU, Vienna

Directors’ and Officers’ Liability in the Following Legal Systems:
09:15 Austria Martin Karollus, University of Linz
09:45 Germany Gerhard Wagner, Humboldt University of Berlin
10:05 Switzerland Frédéric Krauskopf, University of Bern
10:25 Discussion
10:50 COFFEE BREAK

09:20 United Kingdom David Cabrelli, University of Edinburgh
09:40 United States of America Jodie Kirshner, New York University
12:00 Israel Israel Gilead, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
12:20 Discussion
12:50 LUNCH BREAK (LIGHT BUFFET PROVIDED)

Afternoon Session – Special Reports & Comparative Report
Chair: Raimund Bollenberger, WU, Vienna

14:20 Directors’ and Officers’ Liability from an Insurer’s Perspective
Ina Ebert, MunichRe
14:45 Directors’ and Officers’ Liability from an Economic Analysis of Law Perspective
Michael Faure, Maastricht University, METRO, Erasmus University
15:10 Directors’ and Officers’ Liability from a Private International Law Perspective
Katarzyna Ludwichowska-Redo, Institute for European Tort Law
(Discussion after each presentation)
15:35 COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Ernst Karner, ECTIL, ETL and the University of Vienna

16:05 Comparative Report
Simon Deakin, University of Cambridge/ Olaf Riss, University of Linz
16:35 Discussion
16:50 Closing Remarks: Olaf Riss, University of Linz
17:00 Close