

Conference

Cross-border maintenance claims

Luxembourg, 30 September – 1 October 2025

Organized by  **EIPA** | European
Institute of
Public
Administration

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For the improved implementation of EU law and the use of information and communication technology (ICT) systems in the fields of EU judicial cooperation through interprofessional training

Venue: Chambre des Métiers, salle O.1, 2 Circuit de la Foire Internationale, 1347 Luxembourg

PROGRAMME

Objectives: Due to the increase in cross-border mobility, the need for effective recovery of maintenance against debtors, and debtor protection, is growing. The 'Maintenance Regulation' applicable in the European Union (except for Denmark) as of 18 June 2011, introduced a new area of cross-border maintenance recovery inside the European Union. This comprehensive instrument includes jurisdictional rules, provisions simplifying and accelerating recognition and enforcement, applicable law rules, a system of Central Authority co-operation, as well as extensive legal aid provisions.

On a global level, the cross-border recovery of maintenance, particularly in regard to child support, is regulated by the 2007 Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance through the introduction of simplified, swift, accessible and cost-effective procedures. The 2007 Hague Convention is complemented by the 2007 Hague Protocol on the Law Applicable to Maintenance Obligations.

This conference will deliver in-depth insights on the topics related to EU cross border maintenance matters. The panel discussions will be carried out by leading practitioners tackling central – including emerging – issues of the Maintenance Regulation based on the decade long accumulated practice with a view to the special embedding of the EU instrument in other international legal instruments, notably the 2007 Hague Convention and Protocol, and the case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Prof. Nadia Rusinova is Attorney-at-law, Qualified Mediator for Bulgaria and the Netherlands at the International Mediation Institute and Lecturer in International/European private law at The Hague University, International and European Law Department, nrusinova@hhs.nl

Prof. Ester di Napoli holds a Phd in Private International Law from the University of Padua. She is a partner at JMU Law firm and since 2019 she is the director of the editorial committee of the Aldricus portal for civil judicial cooperation. Furthermore, she is Adjunct Professor of European Private International Law at the Lumsa University in Rome, dnpstr@unife.it

Since November 2024 **Dr Carlos Santaló Goris** is a Postdoctoral Researcher at the University of Luxembourg and Long-term expert at EIPA Luxembourg providing services in the field of European Law. His areas of expertise include private international law and comparative procedural law, c.santalogoris@eipa.eu

EIPA Luxembourg - European Centre for Judges and Lawyers

Dr. Cristina M. Mariottini is Lecturer at EIPA Luxembourg in charge of training and consultancy in relation to European Union's Area of Freedom Security and Justice, mostly judicial cooperation in the European Union, c.mariottini@eipa.eu

Christiane Lamesch, Senior Project Management Officer, eFilit Contract Manager, Manager Luxembourg Programme Organisation Department, c.lamesch@eipa.eu

TUESDAY 30 September 2025

- 08.30 Registration/Login of participants
- 09.00 **Welcome of participants and introduction to the programme**
Cristina M. Mariottini
- 09.15 **The EU Maintenance Regulation and Multilateral Instruments: A Tale of Complementary and Yet Autonomous Regimes**
Cristina M. Mariottini
- 10.00 **Q&A**
- 10.15 Coffee Break
- 10.45 **The Demarcation between Spousal Maintenance and Matrimonial Property Regime**
Ester di Napoli
- 11.30 **Q&A**
- 11.45 Break
- 12.00 **The Notion of Maintenance: Maintenance Arising from Same-Sex Marriage or Partnership**
Ester di Napoli
- 12.45 **Q&A**
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.30 **The Ancillary Relationship Existing between Parental Responsibility Proceedings and Maintenance Claims**
Nadia Rusinova
- 15.15 **Q&A**
- 15.30 Coffee Break
- 16.00 **Cross-Border Recovery of Maintenance: Decisions by Administrative Authorities, Court Settlements and Authentic Instruments**
Nadia Rusinova
- 16.45 **Q&A**
- 17.00 End of Day 1

WEDNESDAY 01 October 2025

- 09.00 **Provisional, Including Protective, Measures and Intersectionality in EU Judicial Cooperation: Cross-Border Recovery of Maintenance and the European Account Preservation Order**
Carlos Santaló Goris
- 09.45 **Q&A**
- 10.00 Coffee Break
- 10.30 **Tracing the Debtor's Assets in Maintenance Claims: Which Solutions are Available at the EU Level?**
Carlos Santaló Goris
- 11.45 **Q&A**
- 12.00 Lunch

Final Conference

Strengthening Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Commercial Matters in the EU: From Practice to Progress

Objectives: This half-day final conference marks the closing event of the two-year eFilit project, which has fostered in-depth training and interprofessional dialogue on EU judicial cooperation in civil and commercial matters. Throughout this journey, bailiffs, judicial officers, lawyers, and judges from across Europe have actively engaged in addressing key legal instruments, developments in case law, and the practical challenges of implementation. Through a series of thematic conferences, the project explored pressing topics such as jurisdiction and enforcement under the Brussels I-bis Regulation, cross-border service of documents and evidence, monetary and maintenance claims, parental responsibility, and international child abduction – all within the broader framework of EU private international law.

This final conference serves not only as an opportunity to reflect on the knowledge gained and lessons learned over the past two years, but also as a forum to actively draw on the insights and reflections of the project's participants. Their experiences, feedback, and professional perspectives are essential in shaping the path forward toward a more coherent, effective, and accessible European Area of Freedom, Security and Justice. Accordingly, the programme offers a series of expert-led roundtables designed to foster dialogue, highlight progress, and identify both gaps and opportunities – with a shared view toward future-oriented, effective, and people-centred judicial cooperation in the EU.

Marc-Olivier Sanson is Lawyer at the Paris Bar, focusing primarily on contract law, liability law, insurance law, industrial risks, and criminal law; mo.sanson@gmail.com (invited)

Michał Skrzypek is Bailiff's Assessor at the National Council of Bailiffs; michal.skrzypek@asesor.komornikid.pl (invited)

Erik van Hal has been working in the bailiff profession since 2000, when he became a partner at Van der Velde Bailiffs' Office, known since 2009 as Gerechtsdeurwaarskantoor Nassauplein bv in The Hague; e.van.hal@veldehal.nl



Roxana Catea is Counsel in the Dispute Resolution practice at Stratulat Albulescu Attorneys at Law (SAA). With over 11 years of experience, she specializes in commercial, corporate, insolvency, and labour litigation. She previously worked at Țuca Zbârcea & Asociații and a leading Big Four-associated law firm in Romania; roxana.catea@yahoo.com

Monika Pac-Walasik is Judge at the District Court of Poznań dealing with family cases; mwalasi@poczta.onet.pl (invited)

Karolien Dockers is Bailiff at Dikaïoma Gerechtsdeurwaarders in Waregem; karolien@dikaïoma.be

Alicja Ornowska, is Judge at Bydgoszcz District Court: alicjamariaornowska@gmail.com (invited)

13.30 Roundtable: Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Commercial Matters in the EU: Consolidating Principles, Facing New Challenges

Moderator: *Cristina M. Mariottini*

Panel: Carlos Santaló Goris, Marc-Olivier Sanson, Michał Skrzypek (invited)

14.30 Roundtable: Digitalisation and Interoperability in Cross-Border Judicial Procedures

Moderator: *Patrick Gielen*

Panel: *Erik van Hal, Roxana Catea, Marcin Stpiczynski (invited)*

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 Roundtable: Cross-Border Child Abduction and Parental Responsibility: A Shared Framework for the Best Interest of the Child

Moderator: *Nadia Rusinova*

Panel: *Ester di Napoli, Karolien Dockers, Maria-Andreea Nita (invited)*

17.00 Conclusions

Cristina M. Mariottini

17.15 Evaluation

17.30 END OF CONFERENCE