

# The future of family property in Europe

Fourth Conference  
of the Commission  
on European  
Family Law



in conjunction with the  
Centre for European Legal Studies,  
Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge

Thursday 8th -  
Saturday 10th April 2010  
University of Cambridge  
United Kingdom



[www.cefl2010.org](http://www.cefl2010.org)  
[www.ceflonline.net](http://www.ceflonline.net)  
[cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk)

# Invitation



It is our great pleasure to invite you to the **fourth conference of the Commission on European Family Law** at the University of Cambridge. Previous conferences of the CEFL took place in Utrecht (2002 and 2004) and Oslo (2007).

The CEFL fourth conference focuses on the future of family property in Europe. The CEFL is currently drafting Principles of European Family Law regarding Property Relations between Spouses. This is the third working field which has been chosen following the successful publication of the Principles regarding *Divorce and Maintenance between Former Spouses* (2004) and *Parental Responsibilities* (2007). Deliberations on the current project will take about another two years since the field of comparative matrimonial property law is highly complex and technical. However, initial results of the matrimonial property law project will be presented at the conference. Moreover, special attention will be paid during the conference to the theme of the autonomy of both spouses and cohabitants to make agreements regulating their property relationships. Do they have binding effect under all circumstances or can the competent authority override, modify or set aside these agreements on account of unfairness or any other ground? The increasing unification of private international law in family matters pursued by both the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the European Commission will also be discussed. As at previous conferences, early career researchers will have the opportunity to present their research in three parallel working groups. They will be selected following a call for papers.

In short, the conference aims to enhance the exchange of ideas and arguments about comparative and international family law in Europe.

## The Scientific Committee

- Professor Katharina Boele-Woelki  
University of Utrecht
- Dr Ian Curry-Sumner  
University of Utrecht
- Professor Frédérique Ferrand  
University of Lyon
- Professor Cristina González Beilfuss  
University of Barcelona
- Professor Maarit Jänterä-Jareborg  
University of Uppsala
- Professor Nigel Lowe  
University of Cardiff
- Professor Dieter Martiny  
University of Frankfurt/Oder
- Jo Miles  
University of Cambridge
- Professor Walter Pintens  
Catholic University of Leuven
- Dr Jens M. Scherpe  
University of Cambridge

# Programme

## Thursday, 8th April 2010

15.30 **Registration**

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16.00 **Welcome**

Jo Miles, University of Cambridge  
Jens M. Scherpe, University of Cambridge  
Katharina Boele-Woelki, University of Utrecht

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16.30 **Opening lecture**

The Rt Hon Lord Justice Thorpe,  
Head of International Family Justice for England and Wales

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17.30 **Reception**

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## Friday, 9th April 2010

08.30 **Registration**

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### **Matrimonial property law in Europe**

*Chair:* Stuart Bridge, University of Cambridge

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09.00 **Matrimonial property regimes in Europe**

*Speaker:* Walter Pintens, University of Leuven

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09.30 **Initial results of the work of the CEFL in the field  
of property relations between spouses**

*Speakers:* Maarit Jäntherä-Jareborg, University of Uppsala and  
Katharina Boele-Woelki, University of Utrecht

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10.00 **Discussion**

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10.30 **Break**

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Please note that the programme may be subject to change.

# Programme

## Family contracts: issues of autonomy

*Chair:* Masha Antokolskaia, Free University of Amsterdam

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**11.00 Contracting in family law**  
*Speaker:* Nina Dethloff, University of Bonn

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**11.30 Matrimonial property agreements:  
the work of the Law Commission for England and Wales**  
*Speaker:* Elizabeth Cooke, Law Commission for England and Wales

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**12.00 Family contracts between unmarried couples in the United States**  
*Speaker:* Marsha Garrison, Brooklyn Law School

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**12.30 Discussion**

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**13.00 Lunch**

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## Parallel working groups: presentations by early career researchers

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- 14.30**
- **WG 1: Protection of the elderly**  
*Chair:* Bente Braat, European Court of Human Rights
  - **WG 2: Freedom of testation and protection of family members**  
*Chair:* Tone Sverdrup, University of Oslo
  - **WG 3: Child maintenance**  
*Chair:* Dieter Martiny, University of Frankfurt/Oder
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**16.00 Break**

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**16.30 Continuation of working groups**

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**17.30 Session ends**

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**19.00 Dinner:** Hall of Gonville and Caius College

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Saturday, 10th April 2010

## Round table: unification of private international family law

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09.00

*Panellists to include:*

Ulf Bergquist, Lawyer, Stockholm

Cristina González Beifuss, University of Barcelona

Milós Hatapka, Ministry of Justice of Slovakia

Andrea Woelke, Solicitor, London

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10.15

**Discussion**

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10.45

**Break**

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## Unification of private international succession law

*Chair:* Katharina Boele-Woelki, University of Utrecht

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11.15

**European unification of cross-border succession law**

*Speaker:* Anatol Dutta, Max Planck Institute, Hamburg

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11.45

**Discussion**

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12.00

**Closing remarks**

Jo Miles and Jens M. Scherpe, University of Cambridge

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12.30

**End of Conference**

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**Guided walking tours in historic Cambridge city centre, ending 16.00**

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We gratefully acknowledge the support of our sponsors and other funders (to date)

- Intersentia
- Hollond Fund, Trinity College, Cambridge
- John Hall Fund, University of Cambridge
- Yorke Fund, University of Cambridge

# Information

## Conference time and location

The conference will be held from **Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th April 2010**. Registration and all conference sessions will take place at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge, Sidgwick Site, West Road, Cambridge, located just off the famous Cambridge "Backs".

## Registration

Delegates are strongly encouraged to **register online** at [www.cefl2010.org](http://www.cefl2010.org). Registration closes on 1st April.

## Call for papers

The call for early career researchers to submit papers for the workshops on Friday is now open until 15th December. The topic areas are (1) protection of elderly persons; (2) freedom of testation and protection of family members; and (3) child maintenance. For more information on the themes and how to submit a paper see the conference website: [www.cefl2010.org](http://www.cefl2010.org).

## Cost

The fee for the conference is £175 (for registration before 1st February) and £225 (for registration from 1st February). This fee provides admission to all conference sessions, the reception on Thursday evening, lunch on Friday, refreshments on each conference day, email access, and a conference booklet, including abstracts.

The conference dinner on Friday will take place in the traditional old Hall of Gonville and Caius College (£50). Maximum capacity for the conference dinner is 156; places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

On Saturday, we offer delegates the opportunity to take part in a walking tour of the historic centre of Cambridge with its colleges and other university buildings (£16+VAT).

Both dinner and tour must be booked separately. The fee for an accompanying guest is £75+VAT, giving admission to Thursday reception and Friday dinner.

## CPD points

An application has been made for 11 accredited CPD hours.

## Cancellation policy

Cancellations must be made in writing to CEFL 2010, Centre for European Legal Studies, Faculty of Law, 10 West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DZ or by email to [cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk). If notification is received by 1st March 2010, a refund of 75% will be made. If notification is received between 1st March and 1st April 2010, the refund will be 50%. No refund will be available after 1st April 2010.

## Accommodation

Accommodation has been reserved in several Cambridge colleges and hotels for delegates to book directly. Destination Cambridge handles the booking of these rooms.

If you are unable to book online, please contact [amanda.douglas@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:amanda.douglas@cambridge.gov.uk) or fax to + 44 (0)1223 457588.

Please note that **the cost of your accommodation is not included** in the conference fee. Delegates are encouraged to **book early**, in particular if bringing an accompanying guest and so requiring a double room.

## Information

For further information or to contact the conference organisers in Cambridge, please see [www.cefl2010.org](http://www.cefl2010.org) or email us at [cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk](mailto:cefl2010@law.cam.ac.uk).

# Registration

We strongly encourage delegates wherever possible to use online registration and the associated credit card payment facility: [www.cefl2010.org](http://www.cefl2010.org)

If you are unable to use online registration, please complete the following:

Title and initials: .....

First name: .....

Surname: .....

Organisation: .....

Postal address, including post code and country: .....

Telephone (including dialing code): .....

E-mail: .....

## Conference fees

- Early registration fee (before 1st February): £ 175 .....
- Late conference registration fee (after 1st February) £ 225 .....

### Additionally:

- Friday evening conference dinner: £ 50 .....
- Accompanying guest (Thursday reception and Friday dinner): £ 86.25 .....
- Saturday cultural excursion (Cambridge walking tours): £ 18.40 per person .....

**Total cost** .....

## Method of payment

Payment should be made in advance either by credit card (available only online) or by cheques payable in British pounds sterling to "The University of Cambridge".

## Dietary requirements

Vegetarian  Kosher  Halal  Other, namely .....

If registering by post rather than online, please send this form and cheque to:

CEFL 2010, Centre for European Legal Studies, Faculty of Law, 10 West Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DZ

Please note that accommodation must be booked separately - see previous page for details.

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Please  
stamp  
here

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