

Contents

Since 1989, when Denmark became the first country to introduce registered partnerships, the legal recognition of same-sex relationships has been on the political agenda in many countries. By now, half of the Member States of the EU have introduced legislation on the formalisation of same-sex relationships; most of them have provided for registered partnerships, some allow homosexual couples to enter into a marriage.

The conference will discuss the difficulties, same-sex couples might face if they live abroad or want to get divorced in another country as not only the substantive law of the Member States but also their private international law approaches differ to a large extent. The legal aspects of parenthood and surrogate motherhood will also be on the agenda.

Furthermore, different issues of European and international law will be addressed: they include rights granted under the European Convention of Human Rights, the question of non-discrimination, including employment conditions and pension rights, and family reunification.

The conference will be the foundation stone for the following publication: Boele Woelki/Fuchs, Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Relationships in Europe, Antwerp, 2nd ed. 2011.

**PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING (CPD)**
see www.era.int

Travel to Trier: the most convenient way to travel is through Luxembourg.
Luxembourg airport to the ERA Congress Centre takes just 30 minutes by car.
www.taxi-franken.de/era

Speakers

Professor Katharina Boele-Woelki, UCERF, Molengraaff Institute for Private Law, University of Utrecht

Dr Ian Curry-Sumner, UCERF, Molengraaff Institute for Private Law University of Utrecht

Professor Cristina González Beilfuss, University of Barcelona

Dr Helmut Graupner, Attorney at Law, Vienna

Professor Maarit Jänträ-Jareborg, University of Uppsala

Dr Monika Jagielska, University of Silesia, Katowice

Ms Ingrid Lund-Andersen, University of Copenhagen

Professor emeritus Dieter Martiny, University of Frankfurt (Oder) / Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg

Professor Frederik Swennen, University of Antwerp Law Research School

Dr Helen Toner, Associate Professor, Warwick School of Law

Professor Bea Verschraegen, University of Vienna and Uninova Private University Bratislava

Dr Machteld Vonk, UCERF, Molengraaff Institute for Private Law, University of Utrecht

Professor Patrick Wautelet, University of Liège

For further information:

Christiane Schmitz
Tel.: +49 (0) 651 937 37 81
Fax.: +49 (0) 651 937 37 90
E-mail: cschmitz@era.int
Online registration: www.era.int



LEGAL RECOGNITION OF SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS IN EUROPE

National, cross-border and
European perspectives

Trier, 11-12 April 2011
ERA Conference Centre
Metzer Allee 4, Trier

Conference organisers:
Dr Angelika Fuchs
Prof Katharina Boele-Woelki

Language:
English

Event number:
111D12



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Monday, 11 April 2011

08:30 Arrival and registration

09:00 **Introduction**
Angelika Fuchs
Katharina Boele-Woelki

Moderator: *Maarit Jänterä-Jareborg*

I. Homosexuality and human rights

09:15 **The right to private and family life, the right to marry and to found a family, and the prohibition of discrimination**
Bea Verschraegen

10:30 Coffee break

Moderator: *Dieter Martiny*

II. Formalisation and recognition of same-sex marriages and partnerships

11:00 **Where is it possible to formalise a same-sex relationship? What are the consequences?**

- Northern Europe
Ingrid Lund-Andersen
- Central Europe
Frederik Swennen
- Southern Europe
Cristina González Beilfuss
- Eastern Europe
Monika Jagielska

12:00 **Comparative summary**
Ian Curry-Sumner

13:00 Lunch

Moderator: *Bea Verschraegen*

III. Cross-border cases

14:00 **Private international law aspects of same-sex marriages and partnerships**
Patrick Wautelet

14:45 **Parenthood for same-sex couples**
Maarit Jänterä-Jareborg

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 **Workshop: Cross-border recognition (and refusal of recognition) of registered partnerships and marriages**
with a focus on the financial aspects and the consequences for divorce, maintenance and succession
Dieter Martiny

17:30 End of the first conference day

19:00 Evening programme

Each session includes time for questions and discussion.

Programme may be subject to amendment
For programme updates:
www.era.int

Tuesday, 12 April 2011

Moderator: *Patrick Wautelet*

IV. European law aspects

09:00 **Immigration rights of same-sex couples in EU law**
Helen Toner

10:00 **Sexual orientation and discrimination: employment conditions and pension rights**
Helmut Graupner

11:00 Coffee break

V. Same-sex couples and children

11:30 **Surrogate motherhood: recent case-law and legal implications of pregnancy by substitution**
Katharina Boele-Woelki
Machteld Vonk

12:30 Final discussion

12:50 **Closing speech**
Katharina Boele-Woelki

13:00 Lunch and end of conference