



**Ius Commune Conference Utrecht,
28-29 November 2024**

**Call for Papers Workshop on
Accountability and
Insurance Law**

***Insights from the new
Belgian rules on extra-
contractual liability in
Book 6 Civil Code***

Ius Commune Workshop on Accountability and Insurance Law 2024

Insights from the new Belgian rules on extra-contractual liability in Book 6 Civil Code

The 28th Ius Commune Conference will take place in Utrecht on November 28-29, 2024. A workshop on Thursday, November 28, 2024, will be devoted to the rules on extra-contractual liability in the new Belgian Civil Code.

The first of February 2024 marks a historic day. The Belgian Chamber of Representatives voted in favor of adopting a set of new rules on extra-contractual liability (available [here](#); English translation of specific rules can be provided upon request). 'Book 6' containing the new provisions is the next step in the larger overhaul of the old Civil Code of 1804, the *Code Napoléon*, and the transition towards a new edition. The expert committee tasked with preparing the new rules has relied extensively on foreign law to reflect on the future of Belgian law (as is made clear by its explanatory memorandum). It has drawn inspiration from abroad, both overtly and covertly.

This workshop aims to explore this new Belgian law, both looking backward (to the sources of inspiration for the new law) and forward (to the possible impact the new law may have in Belgium but also in other countries). In a sense, the expert committee has attempted to identify and select fruits grown successfully elsewhere to plant their seeds together in Belgian soil. What insights can be gained from the substantive choices made by the expert committee and the legislature? Can it be said that they successfully used or combined insights from other countries? What considerations regarding the broader framework, objectives, and significance of tort law does the Belgian legislative experience bring to light? How might Book 6 facilitate cross-pollination?

We cordially invite presentation proposals on this topic.

- Please send abstracts (maximum 400 words) and a short biography to Rebecca Bosch (bosch@law.eur.nl) and Christopher Borucki (christopher.borucki@kuleuven.be) by September 2, 2024.
- All proposals must be in English.
- We welcome both presentations that explore substantive issues and those with a procedural approach. Proposals can cover a wide range of perspectives, including empirical legal studies (e.g., on the principles of estimation of injury, on the nature of strict and fault-based liabilities and their fitness for the purposes of the legislature, etc.), historical research (e.g., on the traditional roots of grounds for liability and how they can be seen to have survived into the new provisions, etc.), and doctrinal research (e.g., on the new criteria to dismiss factual causality for reasons of reasonableness, on the abandonment of the subjective element of the fault, etc.).
- Presentations co-authored by a Belgian and a foreign colleague are encouraged and will be given priority. We will try to pair single-authored presentations to the best of our abilities.
- Researchers from within and outside the Ius Commune Research School are eligible to submit abstracts. Do not hesitate to forward this call to colleagues who might be interested.

Shortly after the deadline, applicants will be informed whether their proposals have been selected for presentation during the workshop. When faced with submissions of similarly high quality, the organizing committee will give preference to early-career researchers.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the organizing committee,

Rebecca Bosch, bosch@law.eur.nl

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