



University of Niš
Faculty of Law

10th International Conference on Private International Law:

4th and 5th October 2012

***“A Decade in the Development of Private International Law:
2003-2012”***

Letter of Introduction

There is a genuine sense of pleasure arising from the fact that the professors and assistants of Private International Law from the former SFRY countries were the first members of the academic community who embarked (in 2003) on reviving their cooperation and restoring the liaisons which had been disrupted by the unfortunate historical developments and the subsequent dissolution of the former SFRY. In the course of the past decade, our relations have been intensified, strengthened and deepened. We have managed to create a friendly community of professionals who have developed excellent mutual understanding and profuse cooperation. It is best reflected in the annual PIL conferences which are held in a different country every year. There is a general feeling of satisfaction that these professional gatherings have always involved the participation of both young assistants who have just entered the world of Private International Law and the distinguished experts from the neighbouring countries and other European states. In brief, we have worked a lot, cooperated well and enjoyed the company of all involved in the world of Private International Law.

The first PIL conference was held at Faculty of Law, University of Nis (Republic of Serbia) in 2003 and, in line with a joint decision, every subsequent PIL Conference was held in a different state of the former SFRY: 2004 Slovenia (Faculty of Law, Maribor), 2005 Serbia (Faculty of Law, Belgrade), 2006 Croatia (Faculty of Law, Zagreb), 2007 Montenegro (Faculty of Law, Podgorica), 2008 Bosnia and Herzegovina (Faculty of Law, Banja Luka),



2009 Serbia (Faculty of Law, Novi Sad), 2010 Croatia (Faculty of Law, Rijeka) and 2011 FYR Macedonia (Faculty of Law, Skopje). Last year, during the 9th PIL Conference in Skopje, all participants decided to give a special tribute to the Faculty of Law in Niš by nominating this Faculty to host the jubilee 10th PIL Conference in 2012.

So, this year, the jubilee PIL Conference titled ***“A Decade in the Development of Private International Law: 2003-2012”***. will be held on the premises of the Faculty of Law Niš (Republic of Serbia) on 4th and 5th October 2012. The Conference will cover four general topics (*Private International Law of the European Union; Comparative Private International Law; National Systems of Private International Law and Regional Cooperation; and The Hague Conventions on Private International Law*)

As far as the Agenda is concerned, the Conference will include four sessions, a total of two plenary sessions per day. Each session will have a *rapporteur* who will give a presentation on one of the following topics:

1. **“EU Private International Law: Today and Tomorrow”**
(rapporteur: *Prof. dr. Michael Bogdan*, Faculty of Law Lund, Sweden),
2. **“Challenges and Opportunities for Regional Cooperation in South East Europe at the Example of Private International Law”**
(rapporteur: *Prof. dr. Christa Jessel-Holst*, Max-Planck Institute of Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg, Germany),
3. **“Navigating Globalisation and Regional Integration – the Role of the Hague Conventions”**
(rapporteur: *Mr. Hans Van Loon*, Secretary General of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, Netherlands), and
4. **“General Problems of Private International Law - Comparative Aspects”**
(rapporteur: *Prof. dr. Kurt Siehr*, Professor Emeritus of the Faculty of Law, Zürich, Switzerland; Free research associate at the Max-Planck Institute of Comparative and International Private Law, Hamburg, Germany).

Each presentation will be followed by a discussion on the specific topic. The discussion will be moderated by an appointed moderator. As agreed, the moderators will be our dear colleagues from the former SFRY countries: *Prof. Rajko Knez*, Faculty of Law in Maribor, Slovenia (topic I); *Prof. Davor Babić*, Faculty of Law in Zagreb, Croatia (topic II); *Prof. Toni Deskoski*, Faculty of Law in Skopje, FYR Macedonia (topic III); and *Prof. Maja Kostic-Mandic*, Faculty of Law in Podgorica, Montenegro (topic IV). This concept is a result of our wish to favor and encourage the discussion process, which will certainly facilitate a



Tel: +381 18 500 201, 500 203
Fax: +381 18 45 23 747

Trg kralja Aleksandra 11
Serbia, 18000 Niš, p.f. 122

dynamic and vibrant exchange of opinions in a more relaxed, comfortable and productive working atmosphere.

The Conference Collection of Papers will be published by the Faculty of Law, University of Nis, at the beginning of the year 2013.

We wish to thank Dr. Thomas Meyer acting on behalf of the GIZ (**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Open Regional Fund for South East Europe - Legal Reform**) for providing the financial support.

Prof. dr. Mirko Zivkovic,
Faculty of Law, University of Nis,
Republic of Serbia,
Head of the Conference Organizing Board