



Quo Vadis civil justice?

Filling the gaps in civil justice in the U.S. and Europe

Spring 2021 -- A Three-Part Zoom Event

The second panel discussion: 'American and European civil justice on the cutting edge of legal innovation – justice out of courts'

Friday April 30th 9am-12pm Eastern U.S. time

SPEAKERS:

Alexandre Biard is a Senior Legal Officer at BEUC – the European Consumer Organisation working in the Consumer Rights and Enforcement/Redress teams. He is also a senior affiliated researcher and lecturer at the University of Rotterdam. Previously, he worked as a postdoc researcher, and as a qualified lawyer in Paris and Brussels.

Thomas Main is the William S. Boyd Professor of Law at UNLV's William S. Boyd School of Law. He teaches and writes about Civil Procedure, Conflict of Laws, and Remedies. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the International Association of Procedural Law.

Pietro Ortolani is a Professor of Digital Conflict Resolution at Radboud University. He holds a law degree from the University of Pisa and a Ph.D. in arbitration from LUISS Guido Carli University, Rome. Before joining Radboud University, he was a Senior Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for Procedural Law, a Research Associate at the University of Pisa and a Law Research Associate at Queen Mary, University of London. Pietro is admitted to the Bar in Italy and he also works as a practitioner, mainly in the field of arbitration. He has experience in both ad hoc and institutional arbitration. He has acted as an expert for the European Parliament and the European Commission. Pietro has published in many peer-reviewed international journals, including the Oxford Journal of Legal Studies, the Journal of International Dispute Settlement and the Leiden Journal of International Law. He regularly acts as reviewer for a wide range of international journals and publishers. In 2016 Pietro won the James Crawford Prize, awarded by the Journal of International Dispute Settlement and Oxford University Press. In 2014 Pietro has contributed to a European Parliament Study concerning the legal instruments and practice of arbitration in the EU.

Rebecca Purdom currently serves as the Executive Director of Graduate Programs at Emory Law. In that role, and for the last 10 years, she has focused on the growth of non-JD legal degrees, and how a growing class of legal professionals and enhanced technological

developments may influence and change the practice of law. Outside of her work with graduate programs, Rebecca teaches and writes on Environmental Law, with a focus on climate change and community resiliency. She has practiced law, worked for the federal courts, drafted policy, and taught both at both the university and law schools level. She ran a project in the development of legal education at Harvard Law, remains on faculty at Stanford University where she teaches every year, and will soon join assume the role of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of New Hampshire. She has taught Dispute Resolution at several law schools and in workshops for various organizations, including (her favorite gig) the Supreme Judicial Court of Trinidad and Tobago.

Matthew Vickers is CEO and Chief Ombudsman of Ombudsman Services (OS). OS is a private not-for-profit business which acts as the UK's energy and telecommunications ombudsman and which runs the POPLA appeals scheme in parking. OS works to secure fair business practice and to build consumer trust in regulated markets, by providing independent and impartial dispute resolution and by using data, intelligence and insights to tackle consumer detriment proactively.

Matt joined OS in 2015 following roles as the Chief Executive of the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission (2012- 2015) and British Consul, initially in the Canary Islands and later in Madrid, at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. His early career was in the private sector in food retail and in instore execution.

As well as his work at OS, Matt is currently a Trustee of the Human Rights at Sea Charity and a member of the Independent Expert Panel established to determine cases of bullying, harassment and sexual harassment raised against sitting and former Members of the House of Commons. He was previously a Non Executive Director of Museums and Galleries Scotland. He holds a doctorate in history from the University of Oxford.