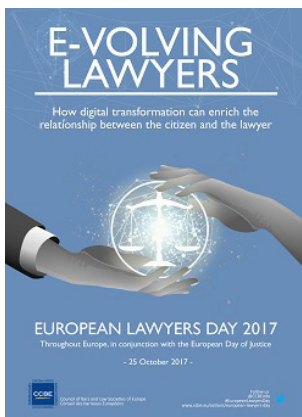


- European Lawyers Day 2017
- CCBE Training conference
- CCBE statement on professional secrecy / legal professional privilege
- CCBE response to European Commission proposal on tax intermediaries
- Future European Convention on the Profession of Lawyer
- Criminal Law
- Anti- money laundering
- CCBE supports the Georgian Bar Association's proposed reforms
- ERA-CCBE Young Lawyers Contest
- CCBE-UNBA joint conference
- TRAWAW project (Training of Lawyers on the Law regarding Violence Against Women)



EUROPEAN LAWYERS DAY 2017



On 25 October 2017, the 4th European Lawyers Day will take place throughout Europe. The CCBE has published a comprehensive [handbook and poster](#) for the event. It contains practical information on the event and background material on the theme “E-volving lawyers, how digital transformation can enhance the relationship between the citizen and the lawyer”. CCBE Member Bars and Law Societies from across Europe are encouraged to organise initiatives and asked to communicate these to the Secretariat so that they can be further promoted by the CCBE.

CCBE TRAINING CONFERENCE

The CCBE Training conference will take place on 14 December 2017 in Brussels. The programme will include panels on future soft skills, the transforming management of the law firm in the digital era, neuroscience and the new discoveries on effective learning, new tools such as MOOC, virtual reality, webinar, and project financing. Furthermore, the conference will represent a valuable opportunity for training providers and legal professionals to share best practices and innovative solutions for legal training. More detailed information will be published in the upcoming weeks, but it is already possible to register at event@ccbe.eu.

CCBE STATEMENT ON PROFESSIONAL SECRECY / LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE

In response to infringements in several member countries which are jeopardising the confidentiality attached to the relationship between clients and their lawyers, the CCBE adopted at its Standing Committee on 15 September 2017, a statement on professional secrecy / legal professional privilege. The CCBE emphasises that - contrary to a common misconception - the relationship of professional confidentiality, is intended not to protect lawyers but to protect their clients only. Once a client consults a lawyer, they have the guarantee that what they have said to their lawyer will be protected by professional secrecy / legal professional privilege and remain confidential. It would be impossible for lawyers to provide such advice or representation if the client, for fear of betrayal of that essential precondition of confidentiality, withholds information from his lawyer. Without confidentiality, there cannot be a fair trial and without a fair trial the rule of law is at stake. Confidentiality is one of the cornerstones of individual freedom in a democratic society.

Please find the complete statement [here](#).

CCBE RESPONSE TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION PROPOSAL ON TAX INTERMEDIARIES

On 21 June 2017, the European Commission proposed new transparency rules for intermediaries - such as tax advisors, accountants, bankers and lawyers - who design and promote tax planning schemes for their clients. According to the [proposal](#), cross-border tax planning schemes bearing certain characteristics or 'hallmarks' would have to be automatically reported to the tax authorities before they are used. It places an obligation on to intermediaries to disclose potentially aggressive tax planning arrangements to the tax authorities (proposed Article 8aaa).

The CCBE is pleased to see that the position of lawyers in the administration of justice has been recognised in the proposal by respecting the rules of legal professional privilege and professional secrecy. The CCBE pointed out, however, that the drafting of the provision could be improved to accurately reflect how the rules operate and we have included some suggested language, whilst emphasising once more that legal privilege / professional secrecy rules are a means to protect the fundamental rights of the citizens and not the lawyers. The CCBE also underlined that some language versions seem to use different concepts when referring to legal privilege / professional secrecy which have different legal implications. Therefore, the different language versions should be carefully reviewed.

Please find the complete document [here](#).

FUTURE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON THE PROFESSION OF LAWYER

In October 2016, several members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) signed a Motion inviting the Committee of Ministers to initiate work on the drafting of a European Convention on the profession of lawyer. At the beginning of 2017, the Council of Europe Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights was officially seized with the matter and a rapporteur was appointed. The CCBE recently adopted a [written contribution](#) on this issue at its September Standing Committee. The CCBE stresses the need for such a binding instrument, in particular to counter the increase of the attacks on the role of lawyers, despite the existing Council of Europe recommendation No. R(2000)21 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the freedom of exercise of the profession of lawyer. The CCBE also highlights the main principles to be included in the future Convention and underlines the need for an enforcement mechanism in order to ensure an effective protection of lawyers' rights.

The CCBE contribution will be presented before the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) at a hearing on 12 October 2017 in Strasbourg.

CRIMINAL LAW

On 22 September the CCBE had a number of meetings with representatives from the European Parliament to discuss two Commission proposals concerning countering money laundering by criminal law and the mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders. The CCBE has prepared a number of position papers on these issues, and the meetings were arranged in order to convey our concerns with certain aspects of both proposals. The CCBE was pleased with the exchange of views.

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

Panama Papers

The CCBE has been following developments regarding the Panama Papers. The European Parliament PANA Committee has published its draft Report and draft Recommendations. In total, over 1500 Amendments have been proposed to the draft Report and Recommendations. The draft Report and Recommendations impact on a number of issues which are of concern to the legal profession, including the role of the self-regulatory body, professional privilege, strengthening of the Financial Intelligence Unit and beneficial ownership provisions. The CCBE is following developments.

Revisions to the 4th AML Directive

Discussions are continuing with regard to the revision of the 4th AML Directive. Two more trilogues (meetings between the Commission, Parliament and Council) are scheduled for October and November in order to reach a compromise. The beneficial ownership provisions are causing much debate within the three institutions, and specifically those provisions regarding Trusts. However, there is a willingness on all sides to conclude discussions before the year is out.

CCBE SUPPORTS THE GEORGIAN BAR ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSED REFORMS

The CCBE addressed a letter to the Georgian Parliament in which it expressed its full support to the reforms proposed by the Georgian Bar Association. The CCBE urged the Parliament to take forward the following proposals: to end the existing prohibition of the Bar President to practice and to provide for a comprehensive framework for the internship programme. Bars and Law Societies consider it crucial that their presidents are practicing lawyers as they are aware through their daily practice about the prevailing issues that the profession is facing. Prohibiting a Bar President to practice would constitute a real economic risk as he/she might lose his/her client base during tenure. Regarding a comprehensive framework for the internship programme, according to the proposals of the Georgian Bar Association, future lawyers would have to follow three months of training at the High School of Advocates, and nine months of practical training in a law firm. The CCBE believes that the proposed reform will greatly contribute to further a high standard of legal training and professional competence.

Please find the complete document [here](#).

ERA-CCBE YOUNG LAWYERS CONTEST

The ERA-CCBE Young Lawyers Contest will take place on December 7th/8th 2017 in Trier. The nominations will be divided into teams of different nationalities and levels of experience, and will take part in three rounds over two half days. Further information on the general themes as well as the teams and judges will be circulated in the upcoming weeks.

CCBE-UNBA JOINT CONFERENCE

The CCBE-UNBA joint conference on advocates' rights and obligations in investigative proceedings will take place on 10 November 2017 in Kiev. The themes will include: guarantees provided by European and international legal instruments, the role of Bars in ensuring advocates' rights and professional guarantees, and changes needed in the Ukrainian legal framework and/or practices. The UNBA President Lidiya Izovitova will open the conference along with the CCBE 3rd Vice-President, Ranko Pelicarić and speakers from the UNBA will be asked to share best practices and potential issues along with experts from the relevant investigative, prosecution and judicial bodies. The conference will be held in English and Ukrainian with simultaneous interpreting. More information will be circulated in the upcoming weeks.

TRAVAW PROJECT (TRAINING OF LAWYERS ON THE LAW REGARDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN)

TRAVAW is an EU co-funded project whose main project objective is to train 210 lawyers from 7 different jurisdictions on national law and European legislation applicable to violence against women. The project is coordinated by the European Lawyers Foundation (ELF) in partnership with the representative organisations of lawyers (bars and law societies) in Spain, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Italy, Northern Ireland and England & Wales. Training takes place through the organisation of 7 seminars (one in each different jurisdiction) which are addressed to qualified lawyers who are confronted with legal cases of gender-based violence. The first and second training seminars were held in Madrid on 27 March 2017 and in Athens on 23 June 2017 and were attended by 40 and 37 participants respectively. Training material from these seminars are uploaded on the [ELF's website](#) to be freely accessible by legal practitioners. Another seminar took place in London on 23 September 2017. The next seminars will take place in Warsaw on 27 October and in Rome on 22 November 2017.

Furthermore, the TRAVAW project is featuring as one of the main actions in the European Commission's campaign to combat Violence against Women, promoting the role of lawyers as part of the solution to the problem of gender-based violence. The [NON.NO.NEIN. campaign](#) (using the hashtag #SayNoStopVAW) is carried out by the European Commission with the aim of raising awareness about the issue of violence against women, drawing attention to the work done by a variety of stakeholders across the EU, disseminating good practices and connecting stakeholders across borders.

To read the full TRAVAW story on the European Commission's dedicated website click [here](#).

To download the European Commission's article on the TRAVAW project in PDF format click [here](#).

**NON.
NO.
NEIN.**

Say No! Stop violence
against women

#SayNoStopVAW



UPCOMING EVENTS

8-13/10	<i>IBA Annual Conference 2017, Sydney</i>
18-21/10	<i>Lawyers' National Convention, Bordeaux</i>
20/10	<i>CCBE Standing Committee, Bordeaux</i>
25/10	<i>European Lawyers' Day</i>
27-31/10	<i>UIA 61st Congress, Toronto</i>
10/11	<i>CCBE-UNBA Joint Conference, Kiev</i>
7-8/12	<i>CCBE-ERA Young Lawyers' Contest, Trier</i>
14/12	<i>CCBE Training Conference, Brussels</i>