

Ravenna Summer School on Cross-border litigation and international arbitration

2026 Edition

12-18 July 2026, in Ravenna (Italy) and online

Schedule of classes

12 July 2026

Opening Session

15,30 - 16,15	Ron Brand	Keynote Speech: Drafting, Challenging, and Defending Choice of Forum Agreements
16,30 - 17,45	Marco Farina, Michele Lupoi and Carlo De Stefano	Introductory notions of cross-border litigation and international arbitration
18,00 - 18,45	Dominika Moravcova	Understanding Private International Law: Key Concepts, Connecting Factors and Methodology
13 July		
9,30 - 10,15	Dominika Moravcova	Conflicts of Laws in Practice: Overlapping Regimes and Their Application in Cross-Border Disputes
10,30 - 11,15	Ron Brand	Working on a Hague Convention on parallel proceedings
11,30 - 12,15	Verona Tio Perez-Albert	The law applicable to excessive penalty clauses
12,30 - 13,15	Sara De Vido	Gender perspectives on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs): the recent EU Directive in context
15,30 - 16,15	Marco Torsello	Seat of arbitration and lex arbitri
16,30 - 17,15	Charles De Monaco	Climate, Energy and Private Environmental Governance with a Comparative Analysis of EU and USA Regulations

14 July

10,00 - 13,30

Roundtable: The Unified Patent Court and PMAC: Litigation, ADR and the Future of European Patent Enforcement

Chair: Francesca Ferrari

Opening Remarks

The UPC System After Its First Years: The Future of IP Enforcement in Europe

10:20 Paolo Catalozzi

Procedural Efficiency in the UPC Framework

10:45 Marina Tavassi

The Unified Patent Court Rules of Procedure

11:10 Elisabetta Papa

The Technical Judge Within the UPC Framework

11:30 Andrea Scilletta

The Technical Expert Before the UPC

11:50 Adriano Sponzilli

The Emerging Italian Role Within the UPC System: Alternatives to the Germanization of the UPC

12:10: Sir Robin Jacob

Advocacy and case presentation before the UPC – A true alternative: PMAC and its foreseeable role

12:30 Pier Francesco Fasano

The Patent Mediation and Arbitration Centre (PMAC): Structure, Functions and Future Perspectives

12:55 Massimiliano Bina

Ethics, Independence and Impartiality of PMAC Mediators and Arbitrators

Final Discussion: All Speakers

The Future of Patent Enforcement in Europe: Courts, Arbitration and Innovation Policy

Q&A

15,00 -15,45

Ester di Napoli

Recognition and enforcement of decisions under the Brussels I bis Regulation: case studies

16,00 - 17,45	Francesca Ragno	Overriding mandatory provisions in the EU, between market integration and geopolitical interests
15 July		
	Young Researchers presentations	
a) 9,30 - 10,15	Edoardo Piermattei	From judges to algorithms? Jurisdiction and cross-border civil justice in the age of AI
b) 10,30 - 11,15	Maria-Fanouria Papantonaki	Evidentiary Difficulties in Civil Trial
c) 11,30 - 12,15	Milana Rankovic	Jurisdiction over non-EU Defendants and Recognition of Judgements
12,30 - 13,15	Mark MacLaughlin	‘Guerrilla tactics’ in arbitration
15,00 - 17,00	Ioana Olaru	The nexus of jurisdiction and applicable law in EU immovable property litigation
17,00 - 18,00	Geert Van Carlster	The pursuit of justice 2.0: Forum – and applicable law shopping in ‘Business and Human rights’ claims
16 July		
9,30 - 10,15	Friedrich Rosenfeld	The New York Convention as an Instrument of Uniform Law
10,30 - 13,00	Roundtable: Duties and obligations of arbitrators and arbitral institutions	Chair: Marco Farina Discussants: Marco Torsello Miriam Zari Anna Chiara Amato Nina Jankovic Friedrich Rosenfeld Mario De Nitto Personè Francisco Trebucq
15,00 - 17,00	Geert Van Carlster	The pursuit of justice 2.0: Forum – and applicable law shopping in ‘Business and Human rights’ claims
17,00 - 18,00	Kirsten Henckel	Brussels Ibis vs GDPR: a jurisdictional tug-of-war over personal data?

17 July

9,30 - 10,15	Mark MacLaughlin	Evidence in international commercial arbitration
10,30 - 11,15	Mark MacLaughlin	Evidence in international commercial arbitration
11,30 - 12,15	Christian Koller	Jurisdiction in cross-border insolvency cases
12,30 - 13,15	Christian Koller	Jurisdiction in cross-border insolvency cases
15,00 - 17,00	Elena D'Alessandro	Parallel proceedings in cross-border disputes: lis alibi pendens, forum non conveniens and the arbitration interface
17,15 - 18	Geert Van Calster	The pursuit of justice 2.0: Forum – and applicable law shopping in ‘Business and Human rights’ claims

18 July

9,30 - 10,15	Cristina Antonello	Workshop: Inside the Hearing Room: Practising Witness Examination
10,30 - 11,15	Giovanni Chiapponi	Workshop: Establishing jurisdiction in collective claims under the Brussels Ibis Regulation: some insights from case C-34/24
11,30 - 12,15	Tatev Karapetyan	Workshop: Practical insights of arbitration
12,30 - 13,15	Davide Castagno	Googling Justice: What Supreme Court Websites Reveal About Transparency and Democratic Openness

Closing of the Summer School