



CROSS-BORDER LITIGATION AND INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Summer School

12-18 JULY 2026

AULA TUMIDEI, VIA A. MARIANI 5
RAVENNA - ITALY

IN PERSON AND ONLINE



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA

DEPARTMENT
OF LEGAL STUDIES

INTRODUCING THE SUMMER SCHOOL



The **world-wide relevance** of cross-border civil litigation is growing. The diffusion of global online activities, the higher mobility of people and families across national borders, the globalisation of economic and financial activities have contributed to increase the relevance of transnational disputes. Such disputes present complicated issues of jurisdiction, applicable law, available remedies, recognition and enforcement of foreign decisions and it is fundamental, for both **law students** and **law practitioners**, to have a deep understanding of this dimension.

Several years ago, the Department of Legal Studies of the University of Bologna has started a specific program dedicated to this area of the law: the **Ravenna Summer School on cross-border litigation and international arbitration.**

It all started in 2019, when Prof. Michele Angelo Lupoi decided to create, at the University's Ravenna Campus, a space for discussion and dialogue on cross-border litigation. His goal was to create a community of scholars and enthusiasts of the subject, to explore together issues of common interest, in a convivial atmosphere.

A Summer School was considered to be the best way to create such a community: an intensive event, of necessarily concentrated duration, to enable the creation of a community for studying and researching.

The place was immediately identified in the city of Ravenna, an ancient imperial capital, rich in history and culture, where Dante's poetry meets the joy of living of the Romagna Riviera.

The rest, as they say, is history.



In July 2019, therefore, the first edition of the Summer School was held. After a "ghost" second edition in 2020, year after year, the Summer School established itself as an important reality in the field of private international law. Every year, the Ravenna Summer School offers a different program, in an effort to always bring something new to the participants (especially because several of them keep returning).

Since 2024, the program combines topics of transnational litigation before State courts and international arbitration.

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While at the core of the program lies the European space of justice and its private international law regulations, the comparative and international perspective has strengthened over time.

The approach is both theoretical and practical: **lectures mix with workshops** and also with **roundtables** dedicated to specific topics.

The Faculty of the Summer School is composed of experts from different jurisdictions with very diverse professional and cultural backgrounds.

The Director of the School is **Prof. Michele Angelo Lupoi**, who teaches Civil Procedural Law at the University of Bologna. The Vice-Director of the School is **Marco Farina**, Adjunct Professor of Civil Procedural Law in Rome.

The Ravenna Summer School is directed at law **students** as well as **law graduates** and law practitioners who want to obtain a specialised knowledge in this complex and fascinating area of international civil procedure.

It is possible to attend the Ravenna Summer School **both in person and online.**

MAIN INFORMATION

Registrations to the Ravenna Summer School are open now

Applicants may register following the procedure described at **<https://site.unibo.it/transnational-litigation/en/fees-and-forms>**.

IT IS POSSIBLE TO REGISTER UNTIL 28 JUNE 2026.

The registration fee is 400,00 €

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For information on the program, please contact the Director, Prof. Michele Angelo Lupoi, at micheleangelo.lupoi@unibo.it.



If you need specific information to participate or after the application, please address your e-mail to the Tutor, Barbara Cazzani, at barbara.cazzani@unibo.it



The Ravenna Bar Association has been asked to grant **formative credits** to Italian lawyers who participate in the Summer School.



A **certificate of attendance** will be released to every participant at the end of the Summer School.

In September 2022, a newsletter called "Transnational litigation pills" was created on LinkedIn. It has been conceived as a virtual companion to the Ravenna Summer School and it aims at letting jurists from all over the world present, all through the year, their views about the topics to which the Summer School is dedicated, to spread information, start discussions, share opinions, expand the network of Private International Law and Cross-Border Litigation enthusiasts.



The call for contributions to the newsletter is always open. It is possible to read the newsletter editions and to subscribe to it here: <https://www.linkedin.com/newsletters/6963604527434354688/>



It is also possible to follow news, activities and information about the Ravenna Summer School on transnational litigation on **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/86636461/admin/dashboard/>



SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

12
July

14:45 PM

Welcome to the Summer School
MarePineta Milano Marittima

15:30-16:15 PM

Keynote Speech: Drafting, Challenging, and Defending Choice of Forum Agreements
Ron Brand

16:30-17:45 PM

Introductory notions of cross-border litigation and IA
Michele Lupoi, Marco Farina and Carlo de Stefano

18:00-18:45 PM

Understanding Private International Law: Key Concepts, Connecting Factors and Methodology
Dominika Moravcova

19:00-21:00 PM

Opening cocktail

13
July

8:30-9:30 AM

Registration for participants at the Faculty building
Via Oberdan 1

9:30-10:15 AM

Conflicts of Laws in Practice: Overlapping Regimes and Their Application in Cross-Border Disputes
Dominika Moravcova

10:30-11:15 AM

Working on a Hague Convention on parallel proceedings
Ron Brand

123 Anywhere St., Any City

11:30-12:15 AM

The law applicable to excessive penalty clauses
Verona Tio Perez-Albert



SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

13
July

12:30-13:15 PM

Gender perspectives on Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs): the recent EU Directive in context
Sara De Vido

15:30-16:15 PM

Seat of arbitration and lex arbitri
Marco Torsello

16:30-17:15 PM

Climate, Energy and Private Environmental Governance with a Comparative Analysis of EU and USA Regulations
Charles De Monaco

14
July

10:00-13:30 AM

Round Table: Litigation and ADR in the European Patent Framework: The Role of the UPC and PMAC
Chair: Francesca Ferrari
Panel: Paolo Catalozzi, Marina Tavassi, Elisabetta Papa, Andrea Scilletta, Adriano Sponzilli, Sir Robin Jacob, Pier Francesco Fasano, Massimiliano Bina

15:00- 15:45 PM

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

16:00-17:45 PM

Overriding mandatory provisions in the EU, between market integration and geopolitical interests
Francesca Ragno



SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

15
July

9:30-10:15 AM

From judges to algorithms?
Jurisdiction and cross-border
civil justice in the age of AI
Edoardo Piermattei

10: 30-11:15 AM

Evidentiary Difficulties in
Civil Trial
Maria-Fanouria Papantonaki

11:30-12:15 AM

Jurisdiction over non-EU
Defendants and Recognition of
Judgements
Milana Rankovic

12:30-13:15 PM

'Guerrilla tactics' in
arbitration
Mark MacLaughlin

15:00-17:00 PM

The nexus of jurisdiction and
applicable law in EU
immovable property litigation
Ioana Olaru

17:00-18:00 PM

The pursuit of justice 2.0:
Forum – and applicable law
shopping in 'Business and
Human rights' claims
Geert Van Carlster

16
July

9:30-10:15 AM

**The New York Convention as
an Instrument of Uniform
Law**
Friedrich Rosenfeld



SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

16
July

10:30-13:00 PM

**Round Table:
Duties and obligations of
arbitrators and arbitral
institutions**

Chair: Marco Farina

**Panel: Anna Chiara Amato,
Mario de Nitto Personè,
Nina Jankovic,
Friedrich Rosenfeld, Marco
Torsello, Francisco Trebuca,
Miriam Zari**

15:00-17:00 PM

**The pursuit of justice 2.0:
Forum – and applicable law
shopping in ‘Business and
Human rights’ claims**

Geert Van Carlster

17:00-18:00 PM

**Brussels *Ibis* vs GDPR: a
jurisdictional tug-of-war
over personal data?**

Kirsten Henckel

17
July

9:30-11:15 AM

**Evidence in international
commercial arbitration**

Mark MacLaughlin

11:30-13:15 AM

**Jurisdiction in cross-border
insolvency cases**

Christian Koller

15:00-17:00 PM

**Parallel proceedings in cross-
border disputes: *lis alibi
pendens*, *forum non
conveniens* and the
arbitration interface**

Elena D’Alessandro



SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

17
July

17:15-18:00 PM

**The pursuit of justice 2.0:
Forum – and applicable law
shopping in ‘Business and
Human rights’ claims**
Geert Van Calster

18
July

9:30-10:15 AM

**Workshop: Inside the
Hearing Room: Practising
Witness Examination**
Cristina Antonello

10:30-11:15 AM

**Workshop: Establishing
jurisdiction in collective
claims under the Brussels
Ibis Regulation: some
insights from case C-34/24**
Giovanni Chiapponi

11:30- 12:15 AM

**Workshop: Practical
insights of arbitration**
Tatev Karapetyan

12:30-13:15 PM

**Googling Justice: What
Supreme Court Websites
Reveal About
Transparency and
Democratic Openness**
Davide Castagno

**Closing of the
Summer School**