

THE ALLIURIS GROUP

ALLIANCE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAWYERS

- ATPR Sociedade de Avogados, Lisbon, Portugal
- Brand & Partner, Moscow/Minsk, Russia
- Clerens Legal Partner, Brussels, Belgium
- Farhouat Asselineau & Associés, Paris, France
- Fraga Bekierman & Cristiano, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Herfurth & Partner, Hanover, Germany
- Jin Mao Partners, Shanghai/Beijing, China
- Karytinis Partners, Athens, Greece
- Kerman & Co, London/Dublin, UK-England/Ireland
- Marco Legal, Madrid/Barcelona, Spain
- Marree en Dijkhoorn, Amsterdam/Amersfoort, Netherld.
- Muheim & Merz, Zug, Switzerland
- Nyborg & Rørdam, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Pacheco Neto Sanden Teisseire, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Paschalides & Co LLC, Nicosia, Cyprus
- VHM Vavrovsky Heine Marth, Vienna/Salzburg, Austria
- Cabinet Juridique Saone Rhone, Lyon, France
- Seth Dua, New Delhi, India
- Studio De Luca, Milan, Italy
- Vandenberg & Feliu, New York, USA
- Yamaner & Yamaner, Istanbul, Turkey

The ALLIURIS GROUP is organised as an international association under Belgian Law with its seat in Brussels.
www.alliuris.org, info@alliuris.org

Alliuris in Hannover

This year, the Annual Meeting of Alliuris was held in Hannover. The host firm, Herfurth & Partner was happy to welcome members from all over Europe and around the world, namely from the USA, Russia and China.

The Conference lasted from the 4th - 6th of June and consisted of a number of interesting professional activities. It started with a small workshop on Thursday given by the lawyers of Vandenberg & Feliu, New York and Brand, Moscow/Minsk. Topics discussed included joint business opportunities, interesting potential joint projects, focusing on automotive as well as biotech connections between Europe and the USA, and IT projects with skilled software engineers in Belarus.

The Conference on Friday began with a number of presentations about IT-issues in the Cloud, Autonomous Driving and Integrated Industries / Industry 4.0.

The afternoon was spent on another workshop for generating new models and products based on digitalization of the profession.

But the Hanover Conference was not only about work; there were many opportunities for one-to-one communication among members. The hotel and restaurants were located close to the Herfurth office, eliminating transportation concerns and providing ease for guests.

We took a boat tour on the Lake Maschsee within the city, a train ride to the Volkswagen Head Quarter and visited the Autostadt, and finally on Saturday evening we ended up in the newly rebuilt chateau Schloss Herrenhausen and enjoyed marvellous fireworks while overlooking the famed Baroque Gardens.



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Angelika and Ulrich Herfurth

Herfurth & Partner hosts the Meeting

Herfurth & Partner is an independent law firm with offices in Hannover, Göttingen and Brussels. The firm specialises in national and international commercial and corporate law. Its lawyers advise family-owned companies as well as companies within multi-corporate enterprises, both in Germany as well as abroad. The consultation encompasses all legal issues relating to corporate structuring, finance, technology, business and products, marketing and sales, labour, real property and assets. The firm's 20 German and international lawyers possess vast experience and competence, which has been gathered from work in law firms as well as in companies in Europe, America and Asia. A total of 12 languages are spoken within the firm. Herfurth & Partner is a founding member and provides the head office of the Alliuris Group.



Antoni Fito and Günther Stuff

Alliuris Tax Group

The group discussed the importance of tax law in connection with legal and business advice. In fact, a number of Alliuris member firms provide tax law advice and some even run a tax department or a separate tax and accounting firm (Marco Legal: www.avantges.com), others maintain close contacts with external tax consultants. The members decided to establish a tax group as another practice group (a project that we are following since a number of years).

The Tax Group today consists of Marco Legal, Barcelona, Saone Rhone, Lyon, De Luca / FDL, Milan, Yamaner, Istanbul, Herfurth, Hanover, Brand, Moscow, Vandenberg, New York. Antoni Fito takes over the lead of the Tax Group and will develop a concept for the development and exchange of professional know how.

LifeBook

The LifeBook is continuously used by Herfurth & Partner as a consulting tool and as a marketing instrument. The firm uses the LifeBook as a manual in its daily work with clients. The Firm's lawyers hold frequent seminars about succession and related risk-management, also in cooperation with chambers, associations, banks, and as in-house seminars for companies.

Summer School in London

The Alliuris Academy holds its annual Summer School this year in London, organized and hosted by Kerman & Co. The firm has developed a very attractive program with a demanding content, like 3D Printing, Rights of Celebrities, Sports Law and Public Procurement. Included are impressive visits at several courts in London.



Investment aspects in China

China is an interesting place for business and industrial investments. Qui Bin presented the latest facts about the Chinese investment policy that is emphasizing to attract more national and international investment. The country releases a number of investment restrictions like the requirement in certain sectors for a joint venture with a Chinese Party, minimum share quotas for Chinese parties, minimum capital and equity requirements etc. China also drives the development through free trade zones: a prominent example is the Shanghai FTZ with its liberalized capital and foreign currency regime, others will follow.





Industry 4.0 / Integrated Industries

Manufacturing is more and more driven by connected IT-systems - and the trend is leaning towards very close data-links among machines and between companies. Ulrich Herfurth underlined in his presentation that systems would even be able to take autonomous decisions and to react automatically on information arising from the production process. The term Industry 4.0 stands for this development and includes operations among several units: from machine to machine, parts to machine, machine to server, server to logistics, server to printer etc. Also more direct collaboration between men and robots comes into the game and will change the rules for manufacturing processes significantly. Many legal questions will arise: existing legal instruments might no longer work due to the massive amount of generated data from different sources that are closely woven into each other, other questions are new, i.e. the ownership and use rights in data exchanged consistently among several or many parties. Industry 4.0 is a new legal field that is much related to the automotive industry but also to other manufacturing sectors, logistics and IT. It covers many legal areas as commercial law, IT law, labour law, IP law, transport law, competition law and is relevant for nearly each of the Alliuris member firms.



Autonomous Driving and Legal Aspects

The car and automotive industry is currently undergoing a major change in the development of driving: many driving assistant systems already work in modern cars, and already today it is technically possible that cars can drive autonomously or even driverless.

Marc Andre Delp explained in his presentation that this technology raises new questions in terms of liability (driver, owner, manufacturer, driving system provider, software supplier, service provider etc). Fully autonomous driving is still not allowed in Europe, where the Vienna Convention provides that the driver shall always be in the position to control the car (and its systems). Another closely related aspect is data safety and car safety: If the electronic system of a car is not fully safe, the car could operate in a wrong way. And the risk of external unauthorized access to the car's IT-system is still not under control. Discussions exist about the rights to the data generated by the car and its driver. Many data will have to be considered as personal data and will be protected by the data protection laws (next to be expected: the EU Data Protection Regulation). And of course the involved parties (OEM manufacturer, part and system suppliers, software and communication providers etc) will compete for the data and the information generated by the cars.



Karin Absalonsen

Business Opportunities through Digitalisation

As a part of the conference, we held another workshop organized by Dr. Breden of radius1. Dr. Breden and his colleague, Nicole Dufft divided the conference into several groups who were asked to develop a concept for business opportunities for Alliuris through digitalisation. We had a very lively discussion and the outcome was a proposal for a kind of trusted service for information exchange etc. A video of the workshop is posted on the Alliuris website, under the member portal – giving a very good picture of the atmosphere in the workshop.

Legal Problems in the Cloud

Data and data processing of companies is more and more outsourced into external servers, today often named as the "cloud". Dennis Jlussi gave a presentation about legal problems in the cloud, i.e. data safety, data protection obligations, rights in data, software copyright etc.

Practice Groups

Energy

Jacqueline Lopez has given several speeches about law in Latin America, as a cooperation with the state export initiative for renewable energies. Another speech was focussed on Brazil during the Ligna Trade Fair for the forestry industry and wood processing. Close contacts were made with several associations from Mato Grosso, the largest rural area in Brazil.

Automotive

The automotive sector has a strong impact on the worldwide economy. Markets in China and the USA are growing, while the EU is stable and Brazil and India do not meet the expectations. Alliuris monitors the development and is involved in the business activities of suppliers in the automotive sector. Herfurth & Partners contributes to a number of conferences in Germany, including Chamber of Commerce, Automotive Cluster Network etc. Together with Vandenberg & Felio we are preparing a conference about the US-automotive market in October 2015 in Hanover.

Life / BioTech

The Practice Group handles a number of client projects. Michael Hatchett briefed members on several high tech parks in the east coast area, intended to attract advanced technology companies. The parks, which are located in New York City, New York State, Boston and other parts of the east coast, mostly focus on specific technologies - like biotech and medical. Michael is going to organize a conference with a visiting tour for interested companies in cooperation with other Alliuris firms. Herfurth & Partner, as a member of the Bioregion network and Nyborg & Rørdam with connections to the Oresund Bio Network eagerly anticipate this event.

IT Media

Information and Communication Technology is the driving force in the information society, in the digital economy and in the industrial sector. Pavel Pankratov from Minsk gave several information about the IT industry in Belarus: the country has skilled IT software engineers. This means that foreign investors could recruit local workforce at very economic conditions – or that foreign IT / Software companies can retain local companies for support in IT and software projects.



The Alliuris Group in Hannover

International Tax Review

The partner Gilberto Fraga figures, for the 4th consecutive year, in the ranking of the most admired tax controversy lawyers in Brazil published by International Tax Review, 2014 edition. Such ranking helps taxpayers to identify controversy specialists in their jurisdiction who possess the broad skill set required to help them cope with the range of challenges they face from revenue authorities.

CALENDAR

07 - 11 July 2015	Summer School	London
02 - 04 Oct 2015	Board Meeting	Nice
04 - 06 Mar 2016	Board Meeting	Istanbul
02 - 05 Jun 2016	General Meeting	Copenhagen
July 2016	Summer School	Hannover
30 - 02 Oct 2016	Board Meeting	New York

Our further Conferences/Meetings are proposed in Moscow and Beijing. Members, guests and spouses are invited to attend the meetings. Details will be forwarded and also published in www.alliuris.org.

Impressum

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