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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

A conference presented by the IBA Insolvency Section

31st Annual IBA Global Insolvency and Restructuring Conference

31 May – 2 June 2026, The Ritz-Carlton, Berlin, Germany

Working programme

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Headline
conference
sponsor

Cork Gully

All speaker materials and biographies can be found at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2748

Conference Co-Chairs

Tomas Araya *Bomchil, Buenos Aires; Co-Chair, IBA Insolvency Section*

Robyn Gurofsky *Fasken, Calgary, Alberta; Co-Chair, IBA Insolvency Section*

Kirsten Schümann-Kleber *GÖRG, Berlin; Member, IBA Insolvency Section Advisory Board*

Andreas Spahlinger *Gleiss Lutz, Stuttgart; Diversity and Inclusion Officer, IBA Insolvency Section*

Sunday 31 May

1830 – 2130 **Host Committee reception**

*Restaurant of the members of parliament (Abgeordneten-Restaurant),
Platz der Republik 1,
Reichstagsgebäude,
11011,
Berlin*

From 2000, guided tours of the Bundestag dome and roof terrace will run every 30 minutes, led by a city guide. You're also welcome to explore the dome on your own.

Please note: Re-entry to the building is not permitted once you leave the restaurant, so please remember to take all your belongings with you.

Monday 1 June

Registration will take place in the Grand Ballroom Foyer
All working sessions will be held in the Grand Ballroom II + III
Refreshment breaks and lunch will be held in Grand Ballroom I

0830 – 1700 **Registration**

0830 – 0900 **Welcome coffee/tea**

0900 – 0905 **Welcome remarks**

0905 – 0930 **Keynote address**

Speaker

Alexander Bornemann *Head of the Department for Insolvency and Restructuring Law, Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection, Berlin*

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Delegates are requested to ensure that mobile telephones and any other portable devices are switched to silent in working sessions.

Conference dinner sponsors



Monday continued

0930 – 1100

Re engineering the automotive sector: using insolvency tools to right size, restructure and future proof an industry in transition

The automotive sector is facing major disruption from electrification, supply chain challenges, cost pressures and shifting demand, leading to rising insolvencies among suppliers. As a result, restructuring and insolvency tools are increasingly used not only to stabilise distressed companies but also to facilitate sales, operational downsizing, plant closures and strategic transformation.

This panel will offer a practical, cross-border perspective on how these frameworks are being applied across the automotive value chain. From original equipment manufacturers (OEM) to suppliers, this panel will highlight recent developments, stakeholder dynamics, distressed M&A and how different jurisdictions use legal tools to support consolidation and long-term sustainability.

Moderator

Matthias Tresselt *Gleiss Lutz, Stuttgart*

Speakers

Michael Aiers *Senior Risk Manager, Stellantis, Bedford*

Jessica Durães *Galdino, São Paulo*

Jan-Philipp Hoos *White & Case, Düsseldorf*

Scott Sinclair *President, Sinclair Range, New York*

Sayuri Tago *Anderson Mori & Tomotsune, Tokyo*

1100 – 1130

Coffee break

1130 – 1245

Deal or no deal: navigating the pitfalls, pressure points and hidden opportunities in going concern and asset sales

In this panel you will hear how in financing insolvency proceedings the unique features of various jurisdictions impact the length of the sales process and structure of the deal. What obligations can be cleansed through a sales process? How do employees fare through it all? What about the credit bid rights of the elephant in the room: the secured lender? This panel of experts will provide key perspectives on recent interesting cases, along with insights for the future of the sale of distressed companies in court proceedings.

Moderator

Libby Elliott *Charles Russell Speechlys, London*

Speakers

Ki Young Kim *Yulchon, Seoul; Vice Chair, Judicial Liquidations Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Andrea Metz *Barckhaus, Frankfurt*

Felipe Videla *Beccar Varela, Buenos Aires; Vice Chair, IBA Creditors' Rights Subcommittee*

Lingqi Wang *Fangda Partners, Shanghai; Vice Chair, Legislation and Policy Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

1245 – 1400

Lunch

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Host Committee reception sponsors



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GRUB BRUGGER
Rechtsanwälte

Monday continued

1400 – 1530 **When giants fall: managing multinational defaults and choosing the right cross jurisdictional restructuring path**

When a multinational enterprise faces financial distress, the path to restructuring is rarely straightforward. Competing legal frameworks, divergent creditor priorities and the sheer complexity of cross-border operations mean that stakeholders must navigate a landscape where the choice of jurisdiction can be as consequential as the restructuring itself. From schemes of arrangement and restructuring plans in England to the Stabilisation and Restructuring Framework of Companies Act proceedings in Germany, Chapter 11 filings in the US and emerging frameworks in Singapore and Latin America. Each regime offers distinct advantages, limitations and tactical considerations in an increasingly competitive environment. Drawing on the diverse perspectives of restructuring lawyers, financial advisers and investment fund managers, the panel will explore how practitioners assess and select among available regimes. This will include looking at the role of forum shopping in shaping outcomes, the practical challenges of coordinating different proceedings across multiple jurisdictions and how creditors – including distressed debt investors – evaluate jurisdictional risk when deploying capital.

Moderator

Ignacio Buil *Cuatrecasas, London; Co-Chair, Legislation and Policy Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Speakers

Ian De Witt *Tanner De Witt, Hong Kong; Vice Chair, Restructuring and Workouts Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Manuel Martínez-Fidalgo *Co-Head of Financial Restructuring, EMEA and Asia, Houlihan Lokey, London*

Kate Stephenson *Kirkland & Ellis, London*

Michael Sutton *Co-Founder, Alinor Capital, London*

1530 – 1600 **Coffee/tea break**

1600 – 1730 **Chasing ghosts: fraud detection, cross border asset recovery and the expanding toolkit for global insolvency practitioners**

This panel will examine how insolvency practitioners manage cross-border recoveries where assets span multiple jurisdictions, offshore structures and digital platforms. Using a practical case study, it will explore tools such as the EU Insolvency Regulation (Recast), chapter 15 of the UNCITRAL Model Law, avoidance actions and cross-border recognition mechanisms. The discussion will highlight jurisdictional challenges, enforcement strategies and key risks in complex, multi-jurisdictional restructurings.

Moderator

Jagoda Wojciechowska *RBBC Restructuring & Bankruptcy Business Center, Torun; Vice-Chair of Projects and Publications, IBA Insolvency Section*

Speakers

Rob Armstrong *Managing Director, Kroll, London*

Nicola Jackson *Charles Russell Speechlys, Dubai*

Daniel Saval *Kobre & Kim, New York*

Michael Schaumann *GÖRG, Cologne*

Evan Simpson *Sullivan & Cromwell, London*

1900 – 2200 **Conference reception and dinner**

*Meistersaal am Potsdamer Platz,
Köthener Street 38,
10963, Berlin*

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Host Committee reception sponsors (continued)



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0830 – 1600 **Registration**

0830 – 0900 **Welcome coffee/tea**

0900 – 1030 **Keynote address**

Former State Secretary in the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs and former German Ambassador in Washington, DC and London. A member of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR), he holds active roles in a number of committees, including the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), Atlantik-Brücke, the Yalta European Strategy Group (YES), the American Academy in Berlin and the Atlantic Council in Washington, DC.

Keynote speaker

Wolfgang Ischinger *Chairman of the Munich Security Conference (MSC), Munich*

1030 – 1100 **Coffee/tea break**

1100 – 1230 **Distressed investing in Europe: who's winning, what's changing and where opportunity is headed next**

This panel will explore how Europe's distressed investing landscape is evolving amid economic pressure, rate volatility and refinancing challenges. It will examine the growing role of alternative credit funds, hedge funds, special situations investors and private equity, as well as the impact of differing national restructuring regimes and post-Brexit English law tools. The session will also highlight emerging opportunities and key legal and enforcement risks shaping the next phase of the distressed cycle.

Moderator

Benn Richards *Michelmores, London; Vice-Chair, Financial Institutions and Insolvency Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Speakers

Henning Block *Rothschild & Co, Frankfurt*

Alicia Herrador *Augusta Abogados, Barcelona; Senior Vice Chair Conference Quality, IBA Insolvency Section*

Nicola von Moeller *Director, TPG AG Credit Solutions, London*

Vincent Vroom *Loyens & Loeff, Amsterdam*

1230 – 1330 **Lunch**

1330 – 1430 **Let's get practical: a fun and thought-provoking interactive session on real world scenarios in practice**

Moderator

Huan Tan *Benvalor, Utrecht; Member, IBA Insolvency Section Advisory Board*

1430 – 1500 **Coffee/tea break**

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Tuesday continued

1500 – 1630

Can we settle this? Rethinking ADR as a strategic tool in modern insolvency practice

This panel discussion will explore the growing role of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms in insolvency proceedings, highlighting how tools such as mediation, arbitration and negotiated settlements can streamline complex disputes, reduce litigation costs and preserve value for stakeholders. Panellists will examine the strategic use of ADR in addressing creditor claims, preference and fraudulent transfer actions and multi-party conflicts, as well as the evolving expectations of bankruptcy courts. The session will also consider practical considerations, recent trends and best practices for integrating ADR effectively within the framework of bankruptcy law.

Moderator

Tushara Weerasooriya *McMillan, Toronto, Ontario; Vice-Chair of Conferences, IBA Insolvency Section*

Speakers

Shirley Cho *Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, New York; Senior Vice-Chair of Subcommittees, Publications and Projects, IBA Insolvency Section*

Manuel Gordillo *Abencys, Madrid; Vice Chair, Creditors' Rights Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Cinthia De Lamare *Cescon Barriou, Rio de Janeiro; Vice Chair, Judicial Liquidations Subcommittee, IBA Insolvency Section*

Barbara Maucher *Noerr, Germany*

Shardul Shroff *Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, New Delhi, Delhi*

1630 – 1645

Closing remarks

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

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Contact Liam or Alexander to find out more.



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“Gateley Legal’s team have strong experience in complex restructuring matters and provide technically sound advice.”

Chambers UK 2026

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