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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

A conference presented by the IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee
with support from the IBA Corporate Counsel Forum, the IBA European Regional Forum
and the IBA International Trade and Customs Law Committee

Volatility in Global Trade and Supply Chain Structures – challenges of constant adaptation

15–16 April 2026, The Charles Hotel, Munich, Germany

Working programme

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Supply chain due diligence best practices
- Trade volatility and tariffs
- Trade dispute settlement under bilateral and multilateral instruments
- Workshop: nuts and bolts of contract drafting to address the unexpected
- Hot topics session

Host Committee Firms

HEUKING

Noerr

Organising Committee

Sabrina A Bandali *Bennett Jones, Toronto, Ontario; Membership Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Alessandro Barzaghi *COCUZZA, Milan; Secretary, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Riccardo Cajola *Cajola & Associati, Milan; Co-Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

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Martin Oder *Haslinger | Nagele Rechtsanwälte, Vienna*

Martin Reufels *HEUKING, Cologne; Senior Vice Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Wednesday 15 April

1430

Arrival at Munich Palace of Justice*Justizpalast München**Prielmayerstraße 7**80335**Munich, Germany*

Kindly arrive at the main entrance of the Palace of Justice at 14:30. All attendees must pass through security screening before entering the Court. A valid photo ID (such as a passport or driving licence) is required for entry. If you hold a government-issued or law society-issued identification card, please present it at the security check.

1500 – 1700

Onsite visit to Munich Palace of Justice**Opening address***Keynote speaker***Ida Mödl** *Vice President, Higher Regional Court***Keynote address***Keynote speaker***Georg Eisenreich** *State Minister of Justice, Bavaria***Introduction from the IBA***Speaker***Martin Reufels** *HEUKING, Cologne; Senior Vice Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee***Introduction to Munich Commercial Court***Speaker***Dr Gesa Lutz** *Presiding Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Panel discussion: Advantages of recourse to state courts vis-à-vis arbitration***Moderator***Felix Muhl** *Noerr, Hamburg**Speakers***Sabine Bruckmann** *Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Jo Feldman** *Corrs Chambers Westgarth, Perth, Western Australia***Kathrin Huber** *Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Dr Gesa Lutz** *Presiding Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Prof Dr Rüdiger Veil** *Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Prof Dr Gregor Vollkommer** *Presiding Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***Maria-Theresia Webert-Girshausen** *Judge, Higher Regional Court, Munich***MOBILE TELEPHONES**

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

Wednesday continued

1700 – 1900 **Host committee reception**

Noerr

Brienner Str. 28, 80333, Munich, Germany

Join fellow delegates and speakers before the conference to network at the reception, kindly hosted by our Local Host Committee, HEUKING and Noerr.

All registered delegates are invited to attend.

Thursday 16 April

All working sessions will take place in the Ballroom
Coffee/tea breaks and lunch will be held in the Ballroom Foyer

0830 – 0900 **Welcome coffee**

0900 – 0910 **Opening remarks**

Jörg Menzer Noerr, Munich; Vice President, International Bar Association

0910 – 1020 **Supply chain due diligence: best practices**

- Changing legal landscape
- Technology solutions – limits and opportunities
- Contractual Clauses in the Supply Chain – what works and what does not

Moderators

Edith Nordmann ACG International, Amsterdam; Deputy Conference Quality Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee

Martin Oder Haslinger / Nagele Rechtsanwälte, Vienna

Speakers

Martin Abadi Dentons, Ontario, Canada; Website Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee

Jorge R Aviles Anderson Kill, Washington DC

Gabriele Haas Noerr, Frankfurt

Carolina Mendeleh Sperling, São Paulo

Edona Vila Border Laden Gervis, Ontario; Secretary, IBA Product Law and Advertising Committee

1020 – 1040 **Coffee break**

1040 – 1150 **Trade volatility and tariffs**

Moderators

Sabrina A Bandali Bennett Jones, Toronto, Ontario; Membership Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee

Leonard Freiherr von Rummel Blomstein, Berlin; Conference Quality Officer, IBA International Trade and Customs Law Committee

Speakers

Charanya Lakshmikumaran Lakshmikumaran and Sridharan, New Delhi, India; Newsletter Editor, IBA Taxes Committee

Yves Melin Cattwyk | European Trade Lawyers, Brussels; Co-Chair, IBA International Trade and Customs Law Committee

Lydia C Pardini Polsinelli, Washington, DC

Guillermo Sanchez Chao Greenberg Traurig, Mexico City

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1150 – 1300 **Trade dispute settlement under bilateral and multilateral instruments**

Various tools are provided for settling disputes under international trade agreements. One of these tools is dispute settlement under the World Trade Organization (WTO) or under EU bilateral trade agreements. Dispute settlement is an objective and effective means of settling disagreements between States or between investors and States on government measures/practices. It prevents unilateral actions and the escalation of diplomatic tensions, and contributes overall to peaceful international relations, and clarifies the obligations of States under international law and develops a common understanding through case law. The roster of speakers will discuss the importance of these instruments in a trade conflicting world.

This session will begin with a short introductory video address by Santiago Wills, Director of Council and Trade Negotiations Committee Division at the World Trade Organisation.

Moderator

Riccardo Cajola *Cajola & Associati, Milan; Co-Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Speakers

Caroline Berube *HJM Asia Law & Co, Guangzhou, China; Member, Asia Pacific Regional Forum Advisory Board*

Jo Feldman *Corrs Chambers Westgrath, Perth, Western Australia*

Giovanna Giaccherio *Bettini Formigaro Pericu, Milan; Deputy Programme Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Barton Selden *Taulia, San Francisco, California*

1300 – 1345 **Lunch**

1345 – 1400 **Introduction of the International Sales Transaction Guide**

Keynote Speakers

Martin Abadi *Dentons, Ontario, Canada; Website Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Riccardo Cajola *Cajola & Associati, Milan; Co-Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

1400 – 1530 **Workshop: Nuts and bolts of contract drafting to address the unexpected**

Join in a lively exercise of clauses drafting workshop, structured around four different topics, moderated by two facilitators assigned to each table, where participants will be divided. Attendees will be provided with a simple case study and shall be required to jointly draft a contractual clause protecting one party or the other. Such clause shall then be presented to the participating audience which will interact on the presentation.

1. Price escalation clauses – best practices to address tariff risk
2. Market disruption and unusual price increases
3. Prepare for Trade Sanctions
4. Long Term Supply Contracts

Moderators

Alessandro Barzaghi *COCUZZA, Milan; Secretary, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Dietmar Huemer *Huemer | Legal Solutions, Vienna*

Speakers

Renato Bucher *MLL Legal Ltd, Zürich*

Oliver Korte *ADVANT Beiten, Hamburg*

Maria Letizia Patania *CMS Adonnino Ascoli & Cavasola Scamoni, Rome; Chair, IBA International Conventions and Trade Agreements Subcommittee*

Jameson Rice *Holland & Knight, Washington DC, District of Columbia; Chair, IBA Government Procurement Subcommittee*

Marcio Sperling *Sperling Advogados, São Paulo; Deputy Webinar Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Isibor Oaikhinan *Central Bank of Nigeria, Lagos; Deputy Communications Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Peter Wagner *Jordan & Wagner Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft, Stuttgart; Programme Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Emmanuelle Voisset *Panta Rhei Avocats, Paris; Scholarship Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

1530 – 1600 **Coffee break**

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Thursday continued

1600 – 1730

Hot Topics session

Topics to be discussed:

1. Sanctions in the distribution / franchising landscape
2. The effect on contracts due to supply-chain disruption arising from the special operations in Iran
3. ESG risks and the supply chain
4. SMEs in the supply chain

Session Chair

Pieter Tubbergen *Tremont Legal, Netherlands; Co-Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Moderators

Alessandro Barzaghi *COCUZZA, Milan; Secretary, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Jose III Cochinyan *Cochinyan & Partners Law Offices, Makati City; International Organisations Liaison Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Dietmar Huemer *Huemer | Legal Solutions, Vienna*

Andre Kegels *Kegels-Advocaten, Antwerp*

Christophe Rapin *Kellerhals Carrard, Lausanne; Chair, IBA Commodities and Derivatives Subcommittee*

Martin Reufels *HEUKING, Cologne; Senior Vice Chair, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Emmanuelle Voisset *Panta Rhei Avocats, Paris; Scholarship Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

Peter Wagner *Jordan & Wagner Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft, Stuttgart; Programme Officer, IBA International Commerce and Distribution Committee*

1900 – 2200

Conference dinner

Käfer-Schänke

Prinzregentenstraße 73/1

Etage, 81675

München, Germany

Ticket price: €190. Entry is by pre-purchased ticket only. Transport is not provided.

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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