

Pan European Organisation for Personal Injury Lawyers has new President

At the Annual General Meeting of PEOPIIL on June 5 the General Board elected Antoinette Collignon-Smit Sibinga (1965) as new president. Collignon succeeds John Pickering who was president since 2005.

Collignon is the first Dutch lawyer and first female President of PEOPIIL. She will be assisted by Douglas Hornung (Vice-president), Paul Kuhn (Secretary) and Carl Jerstad (Treasurer).

Collignon is lawyer at the law firm Beer Advocaten based in Amsterdam. She specializes in cross border personal injury cases. As one of the founding members of PEOPIIL she has been actively involved in the organisation since 1997. She was member of the Executive Board since 2004.

At her inaugural speech Collignon emphasized the importance of PEOPIIL as a European networking organisation for lawyers working in the field of personal injury as well as advisor for the European Parliament and the European Commission and other organisations. Collignon said: 'PEOPIL's objectives are worthwhile pursuing. It is an organisation that reflects the diversity of the European family of states. I am proud of what PEOPIIL has achieved so far. PEOPIIL has an important role as advisor in the field of personal injury law and consumer protection. I see it as my task to make the organisation even more attractive for our members and stakeholders.'

Brief information about the organisation

PEOPIL currently has 550 members in 44 different jurisdictions. The main objectives are: developing co-operation and networking of personal injury lawyers, access to the legal system for consumers suffering personal injury law, promotion of proper and fair compensation for all personal injury cases.

PEOPIL has in the last year produced various responses to consultations, such as the “PEOPIL RESPONSE TO WORKING DOCUMENT ON THE COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 90/314/EEC 13 June 1990 on PACKAGETRAVEL, PACKAGE HOLIDAYS AND PACKAGE TOURS”

, “DETERMINING THE COMPETENT COURT AND WHAT LAW TO APPLY IN CASES OF CIVIL WRONGS: THE CASE OF ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS” at the European Parliament. More recently PEOPIL responded to the ROME II consultation.

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