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Colloquium on Rome II: the 2007 Regulation on the Law Applicable to Non-contractual Obligations -- European and American Perspectives

Diana Wallis
European Parliament

Gabriel M. Wilner
University of Georgia School of Law, wilner@uga.edu

Russell J. Weintraub
University of Texas School of Law

Symeon C. Symeonides
Williamette University College of Law

Johan Meeusen
University of Antwerp Law School

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Russell J. Weintraub (B.A. New York University; J.D. Harvard University) is Professor of Law Emeritus and Holder of the Powell Chair Emeritus, University of Texas School of Law. He has authored several books, was a lecturer at the Hague Academy of International Law in 1984, and received the Carl H. Fulda Award in International Law in 1993. On 14 March 2005, at the Jean Monnet Expert Seminar in Brussels, Professor Weintraub discussed the then current draft of the Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on the Law Applicable to Non-Contractual Obligations ("Rome II"). His remarks were published in: "Rome II and the Tension between Predictability and Flexibility", 41 *Rivista di Diritto Internazionale Privato e Processuale* 561 (2005).

Gabriel M. Wilner (A.B. College of William and Mary; D.P.A. University of Exeter; LL.B., LL.M. Columbia University) is Charles H. Kirbo Professor of International Law, Executive Director of the Dean Rusk Center, and Associate Dean of the University of Georgia School of Law. He specializes in international law, international legal transactions and law of the European Union. He joined the UGA School of Law faculty in 1973, and since that time has been director of the graduate legal studies program, faculty advisor to the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law and director of the Brussels Seminar on the Law and Institutions of the European Union.

Colloquium on Rome II

The 2007 EU Regulation on the Law
Applicable to Non-contractual Obligations:
European and American Perspectives

November 5, 2007

The Dean Rusk Center

University of Georgia School of Law

Dean Rusk Hall, Larry Walker Room, 4th floor

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1977-2007

The 2007 EU Regulation on the Law Applicable to Non-contractual Obligations: European and American Perspectives

first session

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. INTRODUCTION, *Hon. C. Donald Johnson, Director,
Dean Rusk Center*

Remarks, Rome II in the context of the European
Community Treaty, *Gabriel Wilner*

2:00 – 2:40 p.m. PRESENTATION OF ROME II: remarks on the
regulation and its legal and political context,
Diana Wallis

2:40 – 3:20 p.m. Comments on Rome II: European Perspective,
Johan Meeusen

3:30 – 4:00 p.m. Coffee break

second session

4:00 – 5:20 p.m. American Perspectives on aspects of Rome II,
Russell Weintraub, Symeon Symeonides

5:20 – 6:15 p.m. Discussion

6:20 – 7:00 p.m. Reception

* Regulation (EC) No 864/2007 of the European Parliament and the Council of 11 July 2007 on the law applicable to non-contractual obligations (Rome II)

Distinguished Speakers

Prof. dr. Johan Meeusen (LL.M. University of California at Berkeley; Dr.lur. University of Antwerp, Belgium) is Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Antwerp, where he also teaches in the fields of the law of the European Union and conflict of laws. He holds an ad personam Jean Monnet Chair, granted to him by the European Commission, in the field of European private international law. Professor Meeusen is the author of numerous national and international publications on issues of EU law and conflict of laws. He has lectured on these topics all over Europe and has been visiting professor at universities in Estonia, PR China, France and South Africa.

Symeon C. Symeonides [LL.B. (Priv. L., *summa cum laude*), LL.B. (Publ. L., *summa cum laude*) Univ. of Thessaloniki (Greece); LL.M., S.J.D. Harvard University] is Dean and Professor of Law at Willamette University, in Oregon. He has drafted two conflicts law codifications and is currently working on a third one. He has published 20 books and over 80 articles in six languages, including the widely-read annual surveys of American choice-of-law cases for the last 20 years. He is President of the American Society of Comparative Law, Vice President of the International Association of Legal Science, and the recipient of the first Friedrich K. Juenger Prize in Private International Law.

Diana Wallis has been an MEP since 1999. In January 2007, Diana was elected to the post of Vice President of the European Parliament. In doing so she became the first Liberal Democrat and the first British female of any political persuasion to be elected to the post of Vice President of the European Parliament. Diana is ALDE spokesperson on the Legal Affairs committee and a substitute member of the Internal Market committee. She has been intrinsically involved in all aspects of her Committee's work and has authored a number of Committee reports including choice of law rules on non-contractual obligations (Rome II), maintenance obligations, European contract law and greater access to justice for consumers/businesses in the area of civil claims.

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