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Webinar

Implementation of the European Small Claims Procedure in Belgium: Challenges and Opportunities

26 May 2020

16:00 to 17:20

Prof. dr. Pablo Cortes



The Pursue of Early Settlements in the ESCP - Lessons from the English Small Claims Procedure

Justice Henri Colman



The European Small Claims procedure: What is the experience of a Belgian judge?

Margarita Synanidi



Practical burdens that consumers face under European Small Claims Procedure

Registration Link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qHxbaagtRUWi2kLQN4TlhWCmWToiPztHgZitPuD9RJBUMUIBnk4SIBIUUIUVVcyWIIeVVdDMTlxTC4u>

*For more information on the SCAN project visit: <http://www.scanproject.eu/>

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Webinar Program

Opening speech

Introduction to SCAN Project

by **Dr. Marco Giacalone**, Vrije Universiteit Brussel & Seraphin Legal

16:00 – 16:10

Prof. dr. Pablo Cortes, is the chair in Civil Justice at Leicester Law School where he teaches and conducts research in the field of dispute resolution, civil procedure and consumer law. He has been invited to speak in numerous international conferences around the world and to participate in expert meetings, including the UN Commission for International Trade Law (UNCITRAL WG III), the European Commission (DG SANCO and DG JUSTICE), and the European Parliament (IMCO and JURI).

16:10 – 16:25

His presentation on *'The Pursue of Early Settlements in the ESCP -- Lessons from the English Small Claims Procedure'* starts by discussing the key causes that explain the lack of use of the ESCP. It then moves to examine the new Small Claims Procedure in England which is currently being digitalised and explains how it is focused on promoting early settlements. The presentation will conclude by making a number of suggestions on how some of the features of the English model could be applied to the ESCP with a view to improve its efficiency and awareness.

Q&A – 5 mins.

Justice Henri Colman, is an experienced judge at the Business Court of Antwerp with expertise in dealing with the European Small Claims procedure cases.

16:30 – 16:45

In his presentation on *'The European Small Claims procedure: What is the experience of a Belgian judge?'*, Justice Colman discusses his experience in implementing the European Small Claims Procedure and its enforcement in the business court of Antwerp in Belgium.

Q&A – 5 mins.

Margarita Synanidi, is a member of the European Consumer Centre Belgium (ECC Belgium). She has been actively involved in working on the comments about the European Small Claims Procedure, having solid experience in dealing with consumer disputes with regard to this Procedure.

16:50 – 17:05

In her presentation on *'Practical burdens that consumers face under European Small Claims Procedure'*, she is mainly focused on the limited use of the European Small Claims procedure Regulation in Belgium from the consumers' perspective, followed by presenting several interesting cases as identified by the European Consumer Centre of Belgium.

Q&A – 5 mins.

Closing Remarks

By **Prof. dr. Gina Gioia**, Tuscia University and Vrije Universiteit Brussel

17:10 – 17:20

*This webinar is conducted through Zoom. The application can be downloaded [here](#).

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For any inquiry on the event, please contact Sajedeh Salehi at seyedeh.sajedeh.salehi@vub.be