



Trier 11th to 13th June 2026

**The preliminary ruling procedure under Article 267 TFEU
Unfair Competition and Competition Law**

*Agenda for the 24th Annual Meeting of the Association of European
Competition Law Judges*

*Co-organized with the **European Commission (DG Comp)** and hosted by the **Academy of European Law (ERA)** with support from the EU Courts and from **Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht**, the prominent association specifically for competition lawyers and economists in Germany*



The Association of European
Competition Law Judges



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

I. SUMMARY TIMETABLE

Thursday 11 June 2026 (Luxembourg)

- 15:00 Executive Committee at the General Court, Luxembourg (conference room)
- 17:00 Guided Visit of the European courts
- 18:00 Opening Ceremony at the main hearing room of the General Court with contributions by Elisabeth Margue, Minister of justice of Luxembourg (tbc), Eugène Buttigieg, Judge at the General Court, and Anne-Marie Witters, President of the AECLJ
- 19:00 Reception – after which coaches (Emile Weber cie) will convey participants to Trier. Departure at Kirchberg at 21:00 and arrival in Trier (location to be confirmed) at 21:45.

Friday 12 June 2026 (Trier - at ERA)

- 09:00 - 17:05 The Main Meeting (details below)
and, in parallel
- 09:30 - 12:30 Accompanying Persons Programme (details below)
- By 18:30 Visit of the caves and dinner at Bernard Massard Winery in Grevenmacher – coaches will convey participants and their guests departing at 18:00 from Trier.

Saturday 13th June 2026 (Trier - at ERA)

- 09:00 National case law updates - for judiciary, référendaires & their staff by judges
Chaired by Marta Borges Campos and Maria Gkana
Annual General Meeting of the Association
- 13:00 Lunch - followed by an optional afternoon programme (see page 9)

II. HOST AND PARTNERS



The **Academy of European Law** ([ERA - Academy of European Law - ERA - Academy of European Law](#)), based in Trier, is a leading provider of continuing training in European law for legal practitioners. Established in 1992 at the initiative of the European Parliament, ERA is a public, non-profit foundation dedicated to ensuring that legal professionals across Europe have the knowledge and skills necessary to apply European law effectively.

Through conferences, seminars, online training and publications, ERA offers specialised programmes and provides a forum for legal practitioners from across Europe to exchange knowledge and experience.

We are very grateful to ERA for hosting this conference.

We also wish to thank our other partners for helping us to set up this Programme i.e. the [EU Courts](#), [the Ministry of Justice of Luxembourg](#) and the [Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht](#).

III. DINNER VENUE



Founded over a century ago, **Bernard-Massard** ([BERNARD-MASSARD | Family-run business since 1921](#)) is a family-owned winery that has been producing wines for five generations. Located in Grevenmacher along the Moselle River, the winery is renowned for its high-quality still and sparkling wines, created with respect for tradition and a strong commitment to innovation and sustainability.

Today, Bernard-Massard is the leading family producer of sparkling and still wines in Luxembourg, producing around 3.5 million bottles annually. Its wines are exported to more than 20 countries and they have received numerous international awards, reflecting the winery's dedication to quality and craftsmanship.



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During the conference, participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a dinner at this historic winery and to experience Luxembourg's rich winemaking tradition in a unique setting.

(!) A coach transfer (Emile Weber cie) departure at 18:00 from Trier to Grevenmacher. Return at 23:30 from Grevenmacher to Trier (exact location to be confirmed).

IV. HOTEL Ibis Styles hotel and others

The **Ibis Styles hotel** ([Ibis Styles Trier - Guest Reservations](#)) is holding a number of rooms until **11 April 2026**, but it is the responsibility of individual judges and participants to book them. The options are :

Nights 11/12 June and 12/13 June - 40 comfort rooms, breakfast included :

- 164 EUR for a single per night
- 196 EUR for a double per night

Rooms are **for two nights each** (!). Check-in 11 June, check-out 13 June 2026 (3 p.m. / 12 noon). All remaining rooms will be released for general sale (12 April 2026 = cutoff date).

Contact : smile@ibisstyles-trier.com

Keyword (code) : “**AECLJ-ERA**” ; additionally please provide credit card number and validity date. Please note that the rooms requested can be cancelled free of charge up to 14 days before arrival.

Other suggested hotels, close to the venue (ERA premises, in order of proximity) :

- Vienna House - [Vienna House Easy by Wyndham Trier | Trier Hotels, RP 54295](#)
- Villa Hügel - [Hotel Villa Hügel Trier: Ihr 4-Sterne Superior Boutique-Hotel in Trier / Mosel](#)
- Deutscher Hof - [Hotel Deutscher Hof Trier](#)
- Best Western Hotel - [Hotel Trier | Best Western Hotel Trier City](#)
- Radisson Park Plaza - [Hotel in Trier | Park Plaza – Hotel entdecken](#)
- Mercure (Porta Nigra) - [4 star Mercure Hotel Trier Porta Nigra - ALL](#)

V. REIMBURSEMENT

Within their rules, the European Commission will reimburse for air / rail travel and accommodation (up to € 252 per night) based on two judges per Member State. Judges who have been nominated for the list should have received an e-mail to that effect. If in doubt, please check with us at aeclj@justice.etat.lu.

Additional judges are welcome but they would not be funded by the Commission.

VI. FEES

Please note the potential discount and that advance payment is required for registration

Judges and accompanying persons		€ 250* / € 200
Judges without dinner	Both days of meeting	€ 150*
Lunches included	Friday only	€ 125*
	Saturday only	€ 80*
<i>*This includes € 50 for membership of the AECLJ in 2026</i>		
Professional participants (apart from panellists)		
	with dinner	€ 750
	without dinner (lunches included)	€ 600
Discount for academics (not also in practice, apart from panellists)		
	with dinner	€ 550
	without dinner (lunches included)	€ 400

Bank details for transfers - **please provide your surname as a reference as otherwise it is hard to know whether you have paid**

Account Name : AECLJ ASBL
 Bank : BANQUE ET CAISSE D'EPARGNE DE L'ETAT
 Branch : 1, PLACE DE METZ, LUXEMBOURG
 Swift / BIC Code : BCEELULL
 IBAN No : LU86 0019 7655 8407 1000

VII. ZOOM

For participants attending the conference online, a Zoom link will be provided in the week prior to the meeting.

VIII. DETAILED PROGRAMME

A. [Conference Programme](#)

DAY 1 - Friday 12 June 2026

09:00 Welcomes

Judge Anne Marie Witters, President of the Market court in Brussels and President of the AECLJ, in the chair

Jean-Philippe Rageade, Director of ERA

Marc H. van der Woude, President of the General Court of the European Union

09:30 **The preliminary ruling procedure under Article 267 TFEU**

Keynote by Advocate General Laila Medina, Court of justice of the European Union

Professor Wolfgang Kirchhoff, retired presiding judge at the cartel senate of the Federal Court of Justice (BGH), Germany, and past President of the AECLJ

Q&A

10:30 Coffee break

11:00 Panel I : The role of preliminary rulings (Article 267 TFEU) for the public enforcement of competition law by the European Commission and national competition authorities

Daniel Severinsson, Judge at the Unified Patent Court and Vice President of the AECLJ, in the chair

Prof. Krystyna Kowalik-Bańczyk, Judge at the Court of Justice of the European Union, Professor at the Polish Academy of Sciences

Fernando Castillo de la Torre, European Commission, Legal service, Director - Principal Legal Adviser

Irene Luc, First avocat general at the Cour de cassation, commercial court, France

Joerg Nothdurft, Director of the Legal Service, Bundeskartellamt, Germany

Q&A

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Panel II : The role of preliminary rulings (Article 267 TFEU) for the private enforcement of competition law - views from the European Commission, judges at EU and national courts and from an academic.

Maria Arántzazu Ortiz González, AECLJ EU Coordinator and Judge at the Audiencia Provincial de Baleares, in the chair

Gero Meessen, Legal Service, European Commission

Judge Irmantas Jarukaitis, Court of Justice of the European Union

Professor Richard Whish, Hon.KC. Prof. em. King's College London,

Judge Gustavo Martin Martin, Commercial Court no. 1, Alicante, Spain

Q&A

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Panel III : **Unfair Competition and Competition Law**

Professor Wolfgang Kirchhoff, in the chair

Francois le Masne de Chermont, Conseiller référendaire à la chambre commerciale, financière et économique, Paris

Professor Mateusz Blachucki, Polish Academy of Sciences and former official at the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection

Professor Jochen Glöckner, University of Konstanz, Germany

Professor Alberto Santa Maria and **Edoardo Gambaro**, Partners, Greenberg Traurig, Milan

Q&A

17:00 Closing remarks from Professor Wolfgang Kirchhoff

17:05 End of conference

18:00 Coach transfer to Bernard Massard Winery (see III)

18:30 Visit to the caves of **Bernard Massard Winery** in Grevenmacher and dinner at the same venue

DAY 2 - Saturday 13 June 2026

For judiciary, référendaires & other judiciary staff

09:00 National case law updates 1

Judge Maria Gkana, Associate Councillor of the Greek Council of State, in the chair

Details of presenters and of judgments will follow

10:30 Annual General Meeting of the Association

The relevant agenda, minutes and accounts will follow

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 National case law updates 2

Judge Marta Borges Campos, Competition, Regulation and Supervision Court, Santarém, Portugal, in the chair

Details of presenters and of judgments will follow

13:00 Lunch with ERA Board of Trustees

15:30 Optional afternoon activity (with accompanying persons) - Guided tour UNESCO World Heritage Trier ([11x World Heritage Trier - Guided Tours for Groups - Tourist-Information Trier](#)). Meeting point : Kaiserthermen – Weberbach 41, 54290 Trier)

B. [Accompanying Persons' program](#)

DAY 1 - Friday 12th June 2026

09:30 - 12:30 Guided visit to the **Landesmuseum** ([Rheinisches Landesmuseum Trier - Museen - Tourist-Information Trier](#))

18:00 Coach transfer to Bernard Massard Winery (see III)

18:30 Visit to the caves of **Bernard Massard Winery** in Grevenmacher and **dinner** at the same venue ([BERNARD-MASSARD | Family-run business since 1921](#))

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15:30 Optional afternoon activity (with accompanying persons) - Guided tour UNESCO World Heritage Trier ([11x World Heritage Trier - Guided Tours for Groups - Tourist-Information Trier](#)). Meeting point : Kaiserthermen – Weberbach 41, 54290 Trier)

IX. DATA PROTECTION

Personal data collected is managed by the AECLJ ASBL, and processed by them, the University of Luxembourg with whom we cooperate and by the UK Competition Appeal Tribunal which jointly provides the Association's Secretariat. The data are used to manage members' interactions with activities of the Association. In accordance with the regulations applicable in the EU and in the UK, you have the right to access, rectify and delete your personal data, as well as the right to data portability. You may also withdraw your consent to the processing of your personal data at any time or request that such processing be restricted. Finally, you have the right to specify instructions concerning the fate of your data in the event of your death.



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