

EU Law Symposium

**“Better Regulation in the EU Revisited
Benefiting Business and Citizens”**

23 April 2015

Final Programme

9:00	Registration
09:30	Welcome by Professor Janne Nijman (Academic Director, T.M.C. Asser Instituut) Introduction to the symposium theme by Wybe Douma (Senior Researcher, T.M.C. Asser Instituut)
09:45	<p>Session I - Better Regulation: What Impact on Interinstitutional Relations?</p> <p>Chair: Professor Arjen Meij (Visiting Research Fellow, T.M.C. Asser Instituut, former judge of the General Court of the EU and the Netherlands Supreme Court) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p><i>Topics:</i> What are the implications of better regulation for the institutional balance among EU institutions? What are the guarantees against upsetting the separation of (legislative) powers? How does the Court of Justice enforce such guarantees and balance them within the institutional triangle of EU lawmaking?</p> <p>1. ECJ perspective: ‘Preserving the Institutional Balance in the Face of the Better Regulation Agenda’ (AG Niilo Jääskinen, Court of Justice of the EU) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>2. Commission perspective: ‘Implications of the Commission’s Better Regulation Agenda for Interinstitutional Relations’ (Elizabeth Golberg, Director for Smart Regulation and Work Programme, European Commission Secretariat) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>3. European Parliament perspective: ‘EP Approach to the Rekindled Legislative Initiative of the European Commission’ (Ricardo Passos, Director for Institutional and Parliamentary Affairs, European Parliament Legal Service) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>4. Council perspective: ‘Better Regulation - Some Examples from the Post-Lisbon Legal Practice of the Council’ (Jenő Czuczai, Legal Adviser, Legal Service of the Council, Visiting Professor at the College of Europe in Bruges) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Discussion (30 minutes)</i></p>
11:15	Coffee break
11:30	<p>Session II - Better Regulation: Towards Higher Quality Legislation?</p> <p>Chair: Professor Ellen Vos (Maastricht University) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p><i>Topics:</i> Through which instruments does better regulation aim at improving the quality of legislation? Does it achieve this aim? What are the legal implications of these instruments for the EU’s lawmaking practices? How can the EU’s impact assessment system be improved and how is it asserted at the EU level?</p> <p>1. Improving Regulatory Impact Assessment: Internal and External Impacts and the Role of the IA Board (Professor Anne Meuwese, University of Tilburg) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>2. The Evolution of the Commission’s REFIT Policy and the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Lawmaking (Professor Linda Senden, University of Utrecht) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>3. The Role of Science in Better Regulation (Wybe Douma, Senior Researcher, T.M.C. Asser Instituut) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p>4. Government Perspective on EU Impact Assessment (Thijs van der Plas, Director of the European Integration Department, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs) (<i>confirmed</i>)</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Discussion (30 minutes)</i></p>
13:00	Lunch

14:00	Farewell to Professor Michiel Scheltema (Chairman of T.M.C Asser Instituut's Board from 1998-2015) by Professor Ernst Hirsch Ballin , President of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut
14:30	Better Regulation and National Legislation (J.P.H. Donner, Vice President of the Netherlands Council of State) <i>(confirmed)</i>
15:00	<p>Session III - <i>Better Regulation: What Role for Stakeholders?</i></p> <p>Chair: Professor Annette Schrauwen (University of Amsterdam) <i>(confirmed)</i></p> <p><i>Topics:</i> How can we place citizens and their interest at the heart of the better regulation discourse and practices? Which institution and at what level is best suited to serve these interests? What should the role of stakeholders like national parliaments and interest groups be? When should the EU opt for non-legislative instruments?</p> <p>1. The Impact of Interest and Lobby Groups on Better Regulation (Axel Singhofen, Adviser on Health and Environment Policy for the Greens/EFA in the European Parliament) <i>(confirmed)</i></p> <p>2. The Juncker Commission and the Role of National Parliaments in Ensuring Better Regulation in the EU (Davor Jancic, Senior Researcher, T.M.C. Asser Instituut) <i>(confirmed)</i></p> <p>3. Reconciling Alternative Approaches to Regulation with Democratic Principles: From Soft Law to Behavioural-Informed Interventions (Professor Alberto Alemanno, HEC Paris and New York University) <i>(confirmed)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Discussion (30 minutes)</i></p>
16:15	Coffee break
16:30	Keynote speech by Mr Frans Timmermans (First Vice-President of the European Commission, Commissioner for Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights) <i>(confirmed)</i>
17:00	Closing speech Professor Ernst Hirsch Ballin, President of the T.M.C. Asser Instituut
17:15	Reception