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UNCITRAL Colloquium on Possible Updates to the Guide to Enactment and Interpretation of the 1997 UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency

Vienna, 11-12 December 2025

# List of speakers

#### Panel 1

**Scott Atkins**, Global Head of Restructuring and Head of Risk Advisory Norton Rose Fulbright Australia

Scott Atkins is the Global Head of Restructuring, and Head of the Australian Risk Advisory practice of Norton Rose Fulbright. He is the immediate past Global Chair and Australian Chair.

Scott was inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy in 2025 and subsequently, appointed as Honorary Professor of the University of Sydney School of Law.

Scott is the Immediate Past President and Fellow of INSOL International (2021-2024), and a Life Member and Fellow of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association. He served as ARITA's President from 2019 to 2021. He is an active member of both the International Insolvency Institute and The World Bank's Insolvency and Creditor / Debtor Initiative.

Scott is Australia's Delegate on appointment by the Attorney-General to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law's Working Group V (Insolvency).

**Sheila Neder Cerezetti**, Professor of Commercial Law, Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de São Paulo

Sheila Neder Cerezetti is a Professor of Commercial Law at the University of São Paulo Law School. Her main areas of research are corporate reorganization, corporate law and legal education. She is an Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung research fellow and has frequently been a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, in Hamburg (Germany). She is also a former Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellow at the European University Institute.







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# Panel 1 (continued)

Lee Shih, Managing Partner of Lim Chee Wee Partnership

Lee Shih is the Managing Partner of Lim Chee Wee Partnership, a boutique law firm in Malaysia focusing on commercial disputes and contentious restructuring and insolvency. He has acted as lead counsel in several cross-border restructurings and liquidations, asset recovery matters, and recognition of foreign liquidators. He was a member of Malaysia's Cross-Border Insolvency Main Committee and the Working Committee for the consultation process for the enactment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency in Malaysia.



**Diana Talero,** President of the Colombian Chapter of the Ibero-American Insolvency Law Institute (Moderator of Panel 1)

Diana Talero served eighteen years at Colombia's Superintendence of Companies, including as Advisor to the Superintendent and Acting Deputy Superintendent for Commercial Procedures and represented Colombia in UNCITRAL and as an expert observer at UNIDROIT working groups. She contributed to the drafting of insolvency and secured transactions laws of Colombia, including Law 1116 (corporate insolvency) and Law 1676 (secured transactions).

Currently, she practices commercial law in Colombia, serves a Senior Consultant for the IFC (World Bank Group) on secured transactions and financial product development, teaches insolvency and secured transactions courses in Colombian universities, is an INSOL Fellow, and is the President of the Colombian Chapter of the Ibero-American Insolvency Law Institute.





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#### Panel 2

Haroon Ahmed, Partner, Deloitte, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Haroon Ahmed is a Partner in Deloitte's Restructuring, Turnaround & Cost Transformation practice based in the Middle East. He specializes in turnaround, contingency planning and insolvency and is a registered insolvency practitioner at the Dubai International Financial Center (DIFC) and Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM). He has worked on many large and complex bankruptcy mandates across a number of industries including construction, real estate, financial services, healthcare and hospitality. He is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland.



José Carles lawyer, chartered economist and court-appointed trustee in Spain

José Carles is a lawyer, chartered economist and court-appointed trustee in Spain. He heads the International Restructuring & Insolvency department in a law firm, advising multinational groups of companies, financial institutions, and national and foreign public bodies.

José has served as a consultant to the European Commission on the transposition of the EU Restructuring Directive. He is a member of the III delegation to UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law) and an INSOL International fellow. He contributes to the World Bank's insolvency and creditor/debtor task force and delivers training for judges and practitioners in the MENA region under international programmes of the World Bank and INSOL International.



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# Panel 2 (continued)

**Xian Yong Harold Foo,** Deputy Director & Counsel for Parliamentary Affairs at the Ministry of Law, Singapore

Harold Foo is a Deputy Director and the Counsel for Parliamentary Affairs at the Ministry of Law of the Republic of Singapore. He has been closely involved in debt restructuring and insolvency policy development and legislative reform, including the Insolvency, Restructuring and Dissolution Act 2018. Internationally, he has been the Chair of UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law) since 2019. Prior to joining the Singapore Legal Service, Harold was part of an insolvency team at one of Singapore's largest law firms.



**Monica Marucci,** Head of the Legal Department at IVASS (Moderator of Panel 2)

Monica Marcucci is Head of the Legal Department at IVASS, the Italian supervisory authority for the insurance sector. She has held this position since 2019, after a long tenure at the Bank of Italy, where she worked as a senior lawyer in the Legal Department from 1996, following several years in private legal practice.

Since 2013, Monica has been a contract professor at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Rome, teaching Company and Insolvency Law within the Economics program. She has spoken at numerous seminars and conferences organized by Italian and international universities and postgraduate institutions, and has participated in roundtables and international events hosted by organizations such as the IMF, World Bank, ECB, and the International Bar Association. She has served as an expert adviser to the Italian government's delegation to UNCITRAL since 2006, contributing to the development of soft law instruments on insolvency. Monica was also a member of the UNIDROIT Working Group on Bank Liquidation (2021–2025) and the group that drafted the Unidroit Netting Principles (2013).





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### Panel 2 (continued)

**Professor Irit Mevorach,** Chair in International Commercial Law at the University of Warwick School of Law

Professor Irit Mevorach is Chair in International Commercial Law at the University of Warwick School of Law. Previously, she held a Chair at the University of Nottingham and founded the University of Nottingham Commercial Law Centre. Since 2006, Irit has acted as an expert adviser to the UK government's delegation to UNCITRAL. From 2013 to 2015, she was Senior Counsel to the World Bank, advising governments in around ten countries on reforms to business and personal insolvency and creditor/debtor systems and chaired the Bank's Global Task Force on Insolvency and Creditor Rights. Irit is vice president and executive committee member of the International Insolvency Institute. She is an International Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of ILA, CERIL, IEEI, and the World Bank Task Force on Creditor-Debtor Regimes and Insolvency. She serves on the Editorial Board of Global Restructuring Review (GRR) and the advisory board of the UNIDROIT-Queen Mary Institute of Transnational Commercial Law. She was co-Chair of Subgroup III of the UNIDROIT Working Group on Bank Liquidation and a member of its Drafting Committee, is the UK National Correspondent for Case Law on UNCITRAL Texts (CLOUT), and, since 2020, a member of the Lord Chancellor's Committee on Private International Law.





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#### Panel 3

#### Kathlene Burke

Kathlene is a Dublin-based special situations lawyer advising on cross-border insolvency matters across Ireland, the US, the UK, and key offshore jurisdictions. She has been invited to advise the Government of Argentina on bankruptcy law reform, drawing on Irish and US experience. Her work spans corporate restructurings, insolvency proceedings and recognition matters across multiple jurisdictions. She previously practised in England and, before that, in the United States. She represents CERIL (the Conference of European Insolvency and Restructuring Law) in UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency) meetings, has been inducted to the International Insolvency Institute and serves as Co-Chair and Director of the European Network of IWIRC (International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation).



**Juan Luis Goldenberg**, Professor of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Juan Luis Goldenberg is a Full Professor of Law at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. His academic and professional practice focuses on insolvency and restructuring law, financial consumer protection, and corporate governance. He is the President of the Chilean Chapter and the Academic Vice-president of the Ibero-American Institute of Insolvency Law. He has actively participated in the reforms on insolvency regulation in Chile as a legal advisor for the Government, and acts as a full member of the advisory committee of the Chilean Superintendency of Insolvency. He is also a member of INSOL International and the International Insolvency Institute. He has published widely across Latin America and Europe and regularly lectures on private-law topics and insolvency of companies and individuals.





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# Panel 3 (continued)

**Stephan Madaus,** Professor of Law, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

Prof. Dr. Stephan Madaus is a full professor of law at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, where he was the head of the Law School from 2016 to 2018. He teaches property law (including secured transactions), insolvency and restructuring law, as well as contract and tort law. Prof. Madaus is a Member of the European Commission's Expert Group on Restructuring and Insolvency. He currently serves as the-President of the International Insolvency Institute after co-chairing its Academic Committee from 2018 to 2021. Prof. Madaus is a Founding Member of the Conference of European Restructuring and Insolvency Law (CERIL) and has been a member of the board ever since. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy (Class 35). Together with Prof. Bob Wessels (Leiden University), he headed the "European Law Institute's Project on Rescue of Business in Insolvency Law" from 2013 to 2017 (OUP 2020). He was a member of the German research team that evaluated the 2012 German insolvency law reform ("ESUG") for the German Ministry of Justice in 2017/2018.



**John Pottow**, Professor of Law, University of Michigan (Moderator of Panel 3)

John A. E. Pottow is the John Philip Dawson Collegiate Professor of Law at University of Michigan Law School. An international scholar of cross-border and commercial insolvency law and a specialist in comparative and international restructuring regimes, he has written extensively on modified universalism, choice of law, and the role of soft-law instruments in harmonizing global insolvency practice. Professor Pottow served as a U.S. delegate to UNCITRAL Working Group V (Insolvency Law), contributing expert advice to the development of international insolvency law standards.





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### Panel 3 (continued)

**Rodrigo Rodriguez**, Professor of Debt Enforcement and Insolvency Law, University of Lucerne (Switzerland)

Rodrigo Rodriguez is tenured Professor of Debt Enforcement and Insolvency Law at the University of Lucerne (Switzerland). He is also Head of the Swiss Federal Supervisory Authority on Debt Enforcement and Insolvency at the Federal Department of Justice and Police in Bern. He represents Switzerland in UNCITRAL Working Group V and was actively involved in all recent legislative projects of UNCITRAL as well as in recent reform of Swiss cross-border insolvency law. Admitted to the Zurich Bar, he worked for several years for the insolvency administrator of the Swissair companies. He publishes regularly in his fields of expertise in English, French, German and Spanish. He was chair of Insol Europe's Academic Forum from 2022 to 2025 and is a member of the International Insolvency Institute (III) and the American Chamber of Bankruptcy.



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#### Panel 4

Oriane Billant, restructuring administrator in France

A HEC business school graduate, Oriane Billant began her career in financial advisory at Eight Advisory prior to joining, in 2018, the French insolvency practitioner firm FHBX founded by Hélène Bourbouloux, contributing to the firm's restructuring and insolvency practice. Appointed as a court-appointed administrator in 2025, she handles a broad range of mandates, working on both amicable pre-insolvency proceedings and judicial restructuring processes.



Anna Elisabeth de Vos, Senior Judge at the District Court of Amsterdam

Senior Judge de Vos serves at the District Court of Amsterdam. She also serves as a Substitute Justice at the Court of Appeal of Arnhem/Leeuwarden. Her judicial work includes commercial, and insolvency law. Since 2014 she has been a Supervisory Judge in the Insolvency Department, becoming its Chair in 2021 and a judge in the WHOA pool.

She is active internationally as co-chair of the Judicial Wing of INSOL Europe, a trainer for the World Bank Group/INSOL International and a member of the International Insolvency Institute.



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### Panel 4 (continued)

**Antonia Mottironi,** founding partner Ardenter Law (Moderator of Panel 4)

Antonia Mottironi is a Swiss-qualified lawyer, founding partner of Ardenter Law, in Geneva. Ms Mottironi has handled multi-jurisdictional disputes, coordinated the actions of foreign insolvency office holders in Switzerland and litigated and coordinated cross-border asset recovery proceedings on behalf of victims of economic crimes, involving in most cases common law jurisdictions (worldwide freezing orders, pretrial discovery proceedings and forum non conveniens applications). Her areas of expertise include: cross-border insolvency; civil fraud; white-collar crime; debt collection proceedings; enforcement of foreign arbitral awards and judgments; and international judicial assistance in criminal, civil and administrative matters.



# James Peck, International Judge SICC

Justice James Peck was appointed in January 2024 as an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court (SICC), and to the Panel of Arbitrators of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre that specializes in insolvency related matters. Justice Peck served as a Judge in the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York from 2006 to 2014 and presided over a number of important cross border cases including the Chapter 11 and Securities Investor Protection Act cases for Lehman Brothers. As a Judge, he also successfully mediated disputes in Chapter 11 cases. His areas of focus include bankruptcy, creditors rights, business restructuring, financial contracts and derivatives as well as mediation and dispute resolution. Justice Peck currently chairs the Business Bankruptcy Advisory Committee of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York.





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# Panel 4 (continued)

Kai Yun Tan, Partner WongPartnership LLP

TAN Kai Yun is a Partner in the Restructuring & Insolvency practice in Wong Partnership LLP in Singapore. She is Singapore-qualified, and her main areas of practice are restructuring and insolvency, international arbitration, and shipping and maritime law. On the restructuring and insolvency front, Kai Yun regularly acts for corporate debtors, creditors, turnaround professionals, and investors in cross-border mandates. Kai Yun is also currently sitting on the IWIRC International board of directors, and at UNCITRAL Working Group V as a delegate for IWIRC.









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#### Panel 5

**Yazeed Alkhorayef,** Assistant Professor of Law (Moderator of Panel 5)

Yazeed Alkhorayef is an Assistant Professor of Law whose research and advisory work focus on international law, cross-border insolvency, and legal reforms. His work examines the development of bankruptcy systems in the Gulf region, with particular attention to complementary international frameworks, such as the UNCITRAL Model Law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgments and the UNCITRAL Model Law on Enterprise Group Insolvency. He also serves as a consultant to UNCITRAL. Dr. Alkhorayef earned both his LL.M. and S.J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.



**Pontian Okoli**, Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Stirling (United Kingdom)

Pontian Okoli is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Stirling (Scotland, UK) and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Drawing on experience in industry and law practice concerning complex commercial transactions, he mostly focuses on international dispute resolution with particular emphasis on areas that concern international commercial law and conflict of laws. These are vis-à-vis access to justice and building resilient institutional/legal frameworks that promote economic efficiency.





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# Panel 5 (continued)

Janis Sara, Professor of Law Emerita at the University of British Columbia

Dr Janis Sarra is Professor of Law Emerita at the University of British Columbia and Principal Co-investigator of the Canada Climate Law Initiative, previously serving as Associate Dean of the Law Faculty. She was founding Director of the National Centre for Business Law, and was Director of Wall Institute for Advanced Studies, the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals, the International Insolvency Institute, and the Canadian Insolvency Foundation. She is currently a Director of Assuris, and is a member of the Canadian delegation to UNCITRAL WG V. She served as an expert on the UNIDROIT International Working Group on Bank Insolvency, and the World Bank Insolvency and Creditors Rights Task Force on Insolvency of Non-Bank Financial Institutions. She is a member in good standing of the Law Society of Ontario. She is currently Chair of the UNIDROIT Financial Markets and Technology Workstream Committee.



# Irina Selevestru, authorized Administrator in Moldova

Irina Selevestru is a Doctor of Law, an authorized administrator, insolvency practitioner, arbitrator and lawyer from Moldova.

She chairs the Commission for Authorization and Discipline of Authorized Administrators, the Insolvency Training Center "Moldinsolv," and since 2009 the International Arbitration under the Association of Liquidators and Administrators of Moldova. She delivers training courses at the National Institute of Justice and Moldinsolv.





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#### Panel 6

**Shuai Guo**, Associate Professor, School of International Law and Deputy Director of the Institute of International Economic Law, China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing

Dr Shuai Guo is Associate Professor at the School of International Law and Deputy Director of the Institute of International Economic Law, China University of Political Science and Law in Beijing. He holds a doctoral degree from Leiden University in the Netherlands and was a visiting scholar at the University of Texas at Austin, the United States. He publishes books and articles and edits volumes. In particular, he sits on the editorial board of International Insolvency Review.

He is the Chairperson of INSOL International Early Researcher Academics (ERA), Academic Committee Member of the International Insolvency Institute (III), Director of the East Asian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring (EAAIR), Director of the China Maritime Law Association, and Deputy Secretary-General of the Beijing Society of International Economic Law.



**Rosa M. Rojas-Vértiz**, Professor of Law, ITAM, Co-Chair of the Regional Committee Latin America of the International Insolvency Institute

Rosa is a Mexican attorney, academic and Professor at ITAM University in Mexico City. For many years she practiced extensively as a transactional lawyer in the Banking and Finance Group of a leading Mexican firm. She was also a law clerk at the First Chamber of Mexico's former Supreme Court of Justice. Rosa coordinated the capacity-building program for the first Mexican courts devoted to insolvency in 2022. She also joined, in 2022-23, the team that drafted a new National Code to incorporate a consumer insolvency proceeding, by invitation of the Mexican Senate. She was engaged during 2024 by UNCITRAL to coordinate the update of the UNCITRAL Practice Guide on Cross-Border Insolvency Cooperation and prepare a set of materials for a capacity-building program for judges and insolvency practitioners on the UNCITRAL cross-border insolvency framework.





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### Panel 6 (continued)

**Olha Stakheyeva-Bogovyk**, Attorney, McDermott Will & Schulte UK LLP (Moderator of Panel 6)

Olha Stakheyeva-Bogovyk, a Ukrainian-qualified attorney with over 15 years of hands-on experience in international commercial disputes, contentious insolvency, and cross-border asset recovery. She has acted in complex multijurisdictional matters involving fraudulent conduct investigations, transaction avoidance claims, and recognition of foreign insolvency proceedings. Olha holds a PhD in Law focusing on domestic and cross-border insolvency and has published extensively on insolvency and restructuring-related topics. Currently based in London, working at McDermott Will & Schulte UK LLP, Olha advises international clients on insolvency, arbitration, and private international law matters.



# Midori Yamaguchi, Attorney, Mori Hamada & Matsumoto in Tokyo

Midori Yamaguchi is a Japanese-qualified attorney and senior associate at Mori Hamada & Matsumoto in Tokyo, where she specializes in restructuring and insolvency as well as dispute resolution. Her international experience includes working in the firm's Singapore office and completing a one-year secondment at a U.S. law firm. From 2023 to 2025, Midori was seconded to Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Cabinet Secretariat, serving as the private-practice lawyer on the drafting team for Japan's new Early Business Recovery Act, enacted in June 2025. Midori contributes to the international restructuring and insolvency community through her regular publications and involvement with leading global organizations, including INSOL International as an INSOL Fellow, the International Insolvency Institute (III) as a NextGen member, the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC), the Insolvency Section of the International Bar Association (IBA), and the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI). She holds an LL.B. from Hitotsubashi University, a J.D. from Hitotsubashi Law School, and an LL.M. from New York University School of Law. She is admitted in both Japan and New York.

