

DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES WEEK



SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 13-16 2022

DUBLIN CITY HALL | MANSION HOUSE



WELCOME TO DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES WEEK 2022

A word from the Chair

It is my great privilege to invite you to the inaugural Dublin International Disputes Week. This Government sponsored event has been designed by Ireland's top litigators to capture the essence of the latest issues in cross-border litigation in 2022, including post-Brexit enforcement, the impact of EU law on arbitration, Ireland's novel restructuring solutions for international insolvencies and many more. Our programme features a mix of diverse and inclusive panels with a choice of networking receptions and a formal conference dinner and lunch. In addition to the conference, Irish legal firms and associations are planning a series of complementary events, such as the Commercial Litigation Association of Ireland, the EU Bar Association, and the Construction Bar Association, with many more to follow. Collectively these offer you fantastic opportunities to network with other specialists, share ideas and build new contacts in this ever-changing field and be part of what we hope to be the first of what we want to build into an annual event. Follow the links to register your interest on the link below and I look forward to welcoming you to sample Dublin's famous hospitality, including Bloomsday the celebration of James Joyce's modernist epic Ulysses which is taking place at the same time.



Join us!

Karyn Harty,

Partner, McCann FitzGerald LLP

The inaugural Dublin International Disputes Week 2022 (DIDW2022) is a new forum for international practitioners and general counsel, providing access to thought leaders and prominent international practitioners specialising in litigating complex, cross-border disputes. Part of the Government of Ireland's Ireland for Law initiative, the week will feature a range of physical and virtual events, including a two-day conference, round tables, seminars and social events showcasing local Irish expertise in collaboration with a range of international panellists.

Recognising the specialist nature of the strategic management of international litigation, DIDW2022 offers a fantastic programme of panel sessions, discussing the key issues facing litigators and

corporate litigants, including: insolvency and cross-border restructuring; fraud and asset recovery; intellectual property; product liability; tech and data disputes; international arbitration; post-Brexit enforcement; and, judicial co-operation, with practical perspectives and strategic analysis from a wide range of subject matter experts.

Ireland's unique position as the only remaining English-speaking common law jurisdiction in the European Union, the significant growth in complex international litigation and transactions through the Irish High Court makes Dublin the ideal venue for exploring the key issues facing international litigators and general counsel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST BY CLICKING HERE

1.5 DAY CONFERENCE
11 CPD POINTS

Why choose Ireland, and Irish lawyers, for conducting complex cross-border disputes?

A long-established English-speaking common law jurisdiction:

After England and Wales, Ireland is the oldest common law jurisdiction in the world. The core common law and equitable principles that underpin modern commercial law are well rooted in Irish law. The Irish system developed in parallel and on very similar lines to its English counterpart and, as far as commercial law is concerned, the two systems bear a very strong similarity.

Doctrine of precedent: The doctrine of precedent is central to the Irish system as a common law jurisdiction. Irish courts are bound to follow decisions of superior courts. This high degree of certainty to the law has underpinned the popularity of common law courts among international commercial litigants.

Independent and experienced judiciary: The Irish judiciary is highly regarded and has an international record of integrity, commercial awareness, fairness, and impartiality.

Deep talent pool: Ireland possesses a strong and highly regarded infrastructure of lawyers, barristers and solicitors serving a domestic and international commercial client base. There is a large existing body of multinational companies based or headquartered in Ireland, which is currently served by Irish lawyers. Irish solicitors' firms and barristers have extensive experience and expertise in multi-jurisdictional matters, including disputes in other EU countries and the United States.

Enforcement: The Irish system has a strong, long-established and successful domestic regime for the enforcement of judgments. As an EU member, Irish judgments can be enforced in all other EU member states in accordance with the recast Brussels Regulation.

Visa-free travel for EU citizens: Ireland does not require entry visas for counsel, witnesses, arbitrators, or other visitors who are EU citizens. The UK is introducing an Electronic Travel Authorisation requirement following its departure from the EU, which will affect all non-Irish EU citizens and other international travellers.

English speaking, common law, in the EU

Ireland for Law is a Government-supported initiative for Ireland's International Legal Services Strategy. As the only English-speaking common law jurisdiction in the European Union, Ireland boasts an experienced and highly specialised legal profession, consisting of approximately 12,000 solicitors and 2,200 barristers. Irish lawyers have been at the heart of the common law world for centuries, and now support Ireland's world-leading enterprise economy. With its highly developed legal services sector, Ireland is a jurisdiction of choice for contracts and complex international disputes. Ireland's role as a leading global centre for international financial services is shown in the volume of financial disputes litigated and resolved through the Irish court system. With over 430 financial institutions, employing over 52,000 people and providing financial services to every major economy in the world from Ireland, we are also home to nine of the world's top 10 software companies, and 15 of the world's top 25 financial services companies. Our Commercial Court deals with a wide range of complex commercial disputes, with related specialist lists dealing with competition, arbitration, and strategic infrastructure litigation. Once a case is admitted to the Commercial List, it is case managed by a designated judge of the High Court, which ensures that the litigation progresses expeditiously to trial. Where a High Court judgment in a Commercial List case is appealed to the Court of Appeal, priority hearings are available for urgent cases.

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How is Brexit impacting commercial litigation?

The UK's departure from the EU, and the single market, is increasingly causing parties to international contracts to consider a different choice of law and/or submission to jurisdiction clause. Ireland is now the only member of the European Union that operates a court system that is both English speaking and based on the common law and the doctrine of precedent. Enforceability of English judgments in the EU is now reliant on *lex fori*, without access to the seamless enforcement regime and service provisions available under the recast Brussels Regulation and the Service Regulation. The UK is no longer a member of the Lugano Convention, with the prospects of its acceding to the Convention now considered poor. English courts will not be able to make a reference to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) and, with the British Government opting to strip EU elements from its legislation, we will see a considerable level of divergence over time, adding uncertainty and cost for litigants.