

***Policy Department C - Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs  
For the Committee on Legal Affairs***

**Workshop on  
RECASTING THE BRUSSELS IIa REGULATION  
Draft Programme**

**Tuesday, 8 November 2016, 15:00 to 18:30**

**European Parliament, Paul-Henri Spaak, room P 5 B 001, Brussels**

This workshop, organised by the Policy Department upon request by the JURI Committee, takes place while the European Parliament is consulted on the Commission proposal to recast the so-called “Brussels II a” Regulation 2201/2003 on jurisdiction, the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matrimonial matters and the matters of parental responsibility, and on international child abduction. The workshop will provide an opportunity to assess the proposed amendments to the text and prepare the EP position, focusing on the main changes proposed by Commission.

The workshop will be preceded by:

- 15.00 - 15.10 **Opening remarks** - by **EP Vice-President Mairead McGuinness**, EP mediator for international parental child abduction
- 15.10 - 15.30 **Presentation of the recast proposal** [COM\(2016\) 411](#) - by **Dr Karen Vandekerckhove**, European Commission - DG Justice
- 15.30 - 15.45 **Statement** - by **Dr Miloš Haťapka**, Chair of the Brussels IIa Recast Working Group

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**WORKSHOP**

**Session 1. A more structured child return procedure for child abductions**

- 15.45 - 15.55 ***Recasting the Brussels IIa Regulation: child abduction and return***  
Dr **Ilaria Pretelli**, Swiss Institute of Comparative law
- 15.55 - 16.05 ***The role of family mediation in matters of parental responsibility***  
Dr **Christoph C Paul**, mediator and Chairperson of the Board, MiKK e.V. - International Mediation Centre for Family Conflict and Child Abduction
- 16.05 - 16.15 ***The point of view of a specialised lawyer***  
Dr **Nicole Gallus**, Brussels Bar
- 16.15 - 16.40 ***Questions and answers***

## **Session 2. Enhancing cooperation between central and judicial authorities**

- 16.40 - 16.50 ***Recasting the Brussels IIa Regulation: enhancing cross-border cooperation***  
Prof **Thalia Kruger**, University of Antwerp
- 16.50 - 17.00 ***The experience of a national Central Authority***  
Mr **Lukáš Fridrich**, Central Authority for the Czech Republic
- 17.00 - 17.10 ***A judge's perspective on the cooperation mechanisms***  
Judge **Annette C. Olland**, Senior Judge, The Netherlands
- 17.10 - 17.30 *Questions and answers*

## **Session 3. The missing links?**

- 17.30 - 17.40 ***The link with third countries and international instruments***  
Dr **Kerstin Bartsch**, Hague Conference on Private International Law
- 17.40 - 17.50 ***What about matrimonial matters?***  
Prof **Alegría Borrás**, emeritus professor, Barcelona University
- 17.50 - 18.00 ***Developing training and meeting opportunities for national judicial authorities***  
Judge **Wojciech Postulski**, EJTN's Secretary General
- 18.00 - 18.20 *Questions and answers*

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- 18.20 - 18.30 **Concluding remarks** by **Tadeusz Zwiefka**, JURI rapporteur for the recast procedure