



International Legal Conference
The Harmonisation Process of Inland Water Transport Law in EU Member States
Open Legal Issues

Ca' Foscary University
Aula Magna Silvio Trentin
Venice, 12 June 2025



Program

09:00 Registration

09:30 Welcome Address

Tiziana Lippiello, Rector of Ca' Foscari University

Massimiliano Grimaldi, President of the Italian Association of Inland Navigation Law and Founding Partner of Grimaldi Studio Legale Genova

09:45 Institutional Greetings

Edoardo Rixi, Italian Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Transport (*in attesa di conferma*)

10:00 Speech: The Role of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Victoria Ivanova, Secretary of Transport Networks & Logistics Section, Sustainable Transport Division at UNECE

10:30 First Session: River-sea Transport in EU Countries Moderator Massimiliano Grimaldi

The Dutch Legal Framework, Ynke Ooijkaas, BVL Advocaten

The German Legal Framework, Johannes Trost, Wheelhouse – Kanzlei

The Belgian Legal Framework, Massimiliano Grimaldi, Grimaldi Studio Legale Genova

11:30 Coffe Break

11:45 Second Session: Towards Autonomous Inland Navigation Vessels

Moderator Nicola Pascal, Studio Legale Pascal

The UNECE Resolutions, Victoria Ivanova, Secretary of Transport Networks & Logistics Section, Sustainable Transport Division at UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Autonomous Inland Navigation: a literature review and extracontractual liability issues, Camilla Domenighini, Researcher at the Faculty of Law at the University of Antwerp

Autonomous Inland Navigation Vessels and Insurance Implications, Cristiano Alessandri, Alessandri & Lo Torto Studio Legale

13:05 Speeches: What Shipowners need

Arno Reitsma, CEO at Scylla AG

Lucas Schmitter, CEO at CroisiEurope Cruises

13:30 Closing Remarks

Massimiliano Grimaldi

Cocktail

For the purposes of its full enhancement, it is essential that international transport via inland waterways and international river-sea transport benefit of an increasingly uniform and simplified regulatory framework, also in relation to the new scenarios that are being expected. Shipowners have, in fact, the need to operate within homogeneous and certain rules and not to find different national regulations with regard to the same type of navigation.

In this regard, one of the most important open legal issues concerns the river-sea transport, currently governed differently by the various Eu Member States.

Furthermore, the need for a regulatory harmonisation will certainly also concern the international autonomous inland navigation, a matter that rises important questions especially with regard to the identification of the different degrees of autonomy of the vessel, the determination of the nature of the shipowner and crew's liability, as well as with regard to the insurance implications.

Con il patrocinio di



Università
Ca' Foscari
Venezia



Registration

Seats available: 110

Participants should confirm their attendance to the Organising Secretariat

segreteria@aidni.it

by 3 June 2025,

indicating if they will be attending also to the Cocktail

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