



Conference 5-8 March 2013 Heidelberg, Germany  
"Recovery of maintenance in the EU and worldwide"

### Online-Registration now open!

Registration for our **conference from 5-8 March 2013** is now possible:

<http://www.heidelberg-conference2013.de/registration/?page=1&lng=en>.

For registrations until 30 November 2012 we will grant an early-bird discount of 20 %.



We are delighted to present to you today

**Prof. Frédérique Ferrand,**  
**Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3**  
**Institut de droit comparé Édouard Lambert**  
**(IDCEL)**  
**Lyon**



**Prof. Frédérique Ferrand will present:**

#### **The family Law Dimension of maintenance**

From a family law perspective, the first issues to be asked in the international recovery of maintenance is how to define the concept of "family" and what degrees of relationship maintenance obligations ensue from. A comparative legal analysis of which family ties may give rise to maintenance obligations and of whether and, where appropriate, when such obligations may expire, needs to be carried out. This raises the question of determining the family relationships from which maintenance obligations arise from, which is governed by the national law (e.g., the responsibility of parents towards their children or of the former spouse towards his ex-spouse), and of solidarity (e.g. between the generations in the case of maintenance obligations in the ascending or descending line and/or between siblings). The financial consequences of a divorce, in particular, need to be taken into account. Even though there is a tendency to promote a "clean break" and "self-sufficiency" and thus to exclude any maintenance obligation between the ex-spouses after the divorce, such maintenance obligations nevertheless continue in certain cases in some legal systems. The legal situation regarding registered partnerships should also be discussed with respect to maintenance obligations.

It is not only family law in the narrower sense that plays a role in the area of maintenance law. In particular, it is supplemented by numerous provisions of social law aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of maintenance recovery.

The national enforcement mechanisms, some of which – based on maintenance obligations arising under family law – provide for special garnishment measures in favour of maintenance claims, also have considerable practical importance.

**We are very much looking forward to her presentation!**

**You are invited to share it together with us!**