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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

A conference presented by the IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee
and the IBA Technology Law Committee

9th Mergers and Acquisitions in the Technology Sector Conference

12–13 March 2026, W hotel, Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain

Working programme

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All speaker materials and biographies can be found at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2702

Conference Co-Chairs

Ron Chen *Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, New York; Treasurer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*
Clara-Ann Gordon *Niederer Kraft Frey, Zurich; Co-Chair, IBA Online Services Committee*
Yuval Horn *Gornitzky & Co, Tel Aviv; Member, IBA Technology Law Committee Advisory Board*
Sergio Sánchez Sole *J&A Garrigues, Madrid; Co-Chair, IBA Online Services Committee*

Thursday 12 March

The plenary sessions will take place in Great Room 1+2
All coffee/tea breaks and lunch will take place in the Great Room foyer

0800 – 1730 **Registration**

0900 – 0910 **Welcome from the Conference Co-Chairs**

0910 – 0920 **Welcome from the IBA Leadership**

0920 – 0940 **Keynote speaker**
Herke Kranenborg *Member Legal Service, European Commission, Brussels*

0940 – 1120 Hot topic roundtables

1. Recent developments in AI and M&A

Moderators

Elizabeth Kreuzer *HengelerMueller, Munich*
Francisco Morales Barron *Vinson & Elkins, New York*
Larry Naughton *Mintz, Boston, Massachusetts*

2. Deregulating AI and less privacy. Where is the EU Omnibus going?

Moderators

Daniela de Pasquale *Ughi e Nunziante, Milan; Vice Chair, IBA Technology Law Committee*
Johan Hubner *Delphi, Stockholm; Vice Chair, IBA Technology Law Committee*
Martin Schirmbacher *HÄRTING Rechtsanwälte, Berlin; Member, IBA Technology Law Committee Advisory Board*

3. Negotiating with angel investors

Moderators

Adhunika Premkumar *Trilegal, Bangalore, Karnataka*
Jerome Vermeylen *Altius, Brussels*

4. New business models for data sharing under the Data Act

Moderators

Elisa Henry *WSP, The Hague; Senior Vice Chair, IBA Technology Law Committee*
Erik Valgaeren *Stibbe, Brussels*

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Delegates are requested to ensure that mobile telephones and any other portable devices are switched to silent in working sessions.

Headline social event sponsors

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5. Recent developments in FDI regulation around the world

Moderators

Ileana Glodeanu *Wolf Theiss, Bucharest*

Olivia Lê Horovitz *Rimon, Paris*

Karine Montagut *Norton Rose Fulbright, Paris*

6. Navigating ownership, liability and value in the age of generative AI

Moderators

Raphael Dana *Dana, Paris*

Barbara Sartoria *CBA, Milan*

Aarthi Sivanandh *AZB, Chennai, Tamil Nadu*

7. Crafting optimal earn-out and milestone payment provisions

Moderators

Yuki Oi *Nishimura & Asahi, Tokyo; Young Lawyers' Committee Liaison Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

Inbal Perlstien-Mandelbaum *Pearl Cohen, Tel Aviv*

8. Unlocking value (and avoiding traps) in SAAS, cloud and open-source contracts

Moderators

Norman Heckh *Ramón y Cajal, Madrid; Vice Chair, IBA Outsourcing and Managed Services Subcommittee*

Paulina Silva *Bitlaw, Santiago; Vice Chair, IBA Technology Law Committee*

9. Non-competes and non-solicits in tech deals

Moderators

Rabindra Jhunjunwala *Kaithan, Mumbai; Membership Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

Koraphot Jirachocksubsin *Chandler Mori Hamada, Bangkok*

Henrik Laursen *Plesner, Copenhagen*

10. Recent developments in R&W insurance for tech deals

Moderators

Rita Sobral *Cooley, London*

Stephen Tallon *McCann FitzGerald, London*

11. Recent developments in China's data protection and cybersecurity

Moderators

Carol Sun *JunHe, Beijing; Scholarship Officer, IBA Criminal Law Committee*

12. Navigating complexities in tech carve-outs and asset deals

Moderators

Nicoletta Kouvara *Aptus Legal/Nicoletta Kouvara & Partners LLC, Nicosia*

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Associate conference sponsor



0940 – 1120 Hot topic roundtables (continued)

13. Cyber resilience and incident response in M&A transactions

Moderators

Christian Kunz *Bär & Karrer, Zurich; Vice Chair, IBA Cybersecurity Subcommittee*

14. Negotiating successful exits: IPOs, drags/tags and rights of first refusal

Moderators

Darran Nangle *A&L Goodbody, Dublin*

15. Regulating AI

Moderators

Roland Mathys *Schellenberg Wittmer, Zurich; Co-Chair, IBA Technology Law Committee*

Elisabeth Vestin *Snellman, Stockholm; Scholarship Officer, IBA Technology Law Committee*

16. Addressing working capital: closing accounts vs. locked boxes

Moderator

Alethea Au *Stikeman Elliot, Toronto, Ontario*

Jakub Lerner *Wardynski & Partners, Warsaw*

Gisèle Rosselle *Strelia, Brussels; Member, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee Advisory Board*

17. AI-driven due diligence tools: promise and pitfalls

Moderators

Michel Jaccard *id est, Lausanne*

Rick Liu *Harvey, New York*

18. Due diligence and disclosure expectations in tech M&A deals

Moderator

Matthew Kittay *Fox Rothchild, New York*

Katharina Prasuhn *Heuking, Munich*

Alexander Zharskiy *Alrud, Moscow; Conference Coordinator Europe, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

19. Legal and regulatory challenges in quantum computing companies

Moderators

Andy Ramos *Perez Llorca, Madrid*

Sajai Singh *J.Sagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka; LPD Council Member*

1120 – 1140 Coffee/tea break

1140 – 1225 Tech hubs and M&A

Moderators

Eduardo Bagarí *Uría Menéndez, Barcelona*

Isabel Gandoy *Cuatrecasas, Barcelona; Chair, Western Regional Group, IBA European Regional Forum*

Speakers

Marc Jordana *Founder, Norrskan, Barcelona*

Quique Martínez Alén *CEO, Plain Concepts, Barcelona*

Eduardo Sánchez-Colorado *Founder and CEO, Lidl International Hub, Barcelona*

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Thursday continued

1225 – 1325 Digital sovereignty and the impact of dependence on US cloud hyperscalers

Moderator

Christopher Millard *Bristows, London*

Speakers

Anne Leslie *IBM, Paris*

Martin Schirnbacher *HÄRTING Rechtsanwälte, Berlin; Member, IBA Technology Law Committee Advisory Board*

1325 – 1500 **Lunch**

1500 – 1545 Fireside chat: acquiring and integrating a Barcelona unicorn: lessons learned from the buy side

Moderator

Mark Longo *Osler, Vancouver, British Columbia*

Speakers

Jack Newton *Founder and CEO, Clio, Vancouver, British Columbia*

Niamh Pollack *VP Legal, Clio, Vancouver, British Columbia*

1545 – 1610 **Coffee/tea break**

1610 – 1710 Parallel sessions

What every M&A lawyer needs to know about AI

Great room 3

Moderators

Christopher Holder *Browne Jacobson, London*

Marlene Schreiber *Harting, Berlin*

Stefan Weidert *Gleiss Lutz, Berlin*

What every tech lawyer needs to know about NDAs and LOIs for tech M&A deals

Great room 1+2

Moderators

Dovile Burgiene *Wallace, Vilnius*

Oliver Triebold *Schellenberg, Zurich; Member, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee Advisory Board*

1715 – 1900 **Host committee drinks**

Altitude Terrace, W Hotel

A cocktail reception kindly hosted by the Host Committee law firms will be held before the conference dinner. All registered attendees and speakers are welcome to attend.

1930 – 2300 **Conference dinner**

Marina Port Vell

Moll de La Barceloneta, 1

Ciutat Vella

08039 Barcelona

Ticket price: €150

One place per registered delegate is permitted.

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Friday 13 March

The plenary sessions will take place in Great Room 1+2.
All coffee/tea breaks and lunch will take place in the Great Room foyer and Refresh terrace.

0830 – 1330 **Registration**

0900 – 0915 **Welcome from the Committee Co-Chairs**

0915 – 1000 Data centre transactions and the future of AI transactions

Moderator

Adina Shapiro *Meitar, Tel Aviv; Communications Officer, IBA Corporate and M&A Law Committee*

Speakers

Tue Goldschmieding *Gorrissen Federspiel, Copenhagen*

Rachel Hayes *William Fry, Dublin*

Roy Maxwell *Kevlinx, Brussels*

Jay Thornton *Sullivan & Cromwell, New York*

1000 – 1110 DefenseTech

Moderators

Nazar Chernyavsky *Sayenko Kharenko, London; Member, IBA Technology Law Committee Advisory Board*

Dr Benjamin Ullrich *YPOG, Berlin*

Speakers

Dr Dominik Eisenhut *Airbus Defence and Space, Munich*

Rafael Oejo *McKinsey and Company, Madrid*

Alex Skubenko *MITS Capital, Kyiv*

Oksana Vakshynska *Engagement & Partnership Manager, Farsight Vision*

1110 – 1130 **Coffee/tea break**

1130 – 1245 In-house perspectives on Tech and M&A

Moderator

Elina Tetelbaum *Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, New York*

Speakers

Alan Cardenas *General Counsel & Secretary, Coursera, Mountain View, California*

Irving Gomez *Senior Vice President, Global Head of Legal & Corporate Secretary, Teradata, San Diego, California*

Niamh Pollak *Vice President, Legal, Clio, Vancouver, British Columbia*

1245 – 1400 **Lunch**

The IBA, its officers and staff accept no responsibility for any views expressed, presentations or materials produced by delegates or speakers at the Conference.

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You didn't get into law to push papers.

THE NEXT ERA of legal work isn't about choosing between people and technology. It's about giving professionals the space to think bigger, act faster, and deliver stronger outcomes, while routine work runs quietly in the background.

Harvey helps organizations redesign how work gets done, without losing what makes it human.

A photograph of two women sitting at a wooden conference table in a meeting room. The woman on the left is wearing a light-colored blazer and is looking at a document. The woman on the right is wearing a light green cardigan and is looking at a laptop. There are papers, a glass of water, and a pen on the table. The background is a wood-paneled wall.

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