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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

A conference presented by the IBA Real Estate Section

16th Annual IBA Real Estate Investments Conference

10–12 June 2026, The Lotte New York Palace, New York, USA

Working programme

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All speaker materials and biographies can be found at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2728

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Maria Flavia Candido *Seabra, Machado Meyer Advogados; São Paulo; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Massimo F D'Angelo *Blank Rome, New York; North American Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

Peter Kunz *Kunz Wallentin Rechtsanwälte, Vienna; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Local Host Committee

Arnall Golden Gregory

Blank Rome

Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer

Polsinelli

Stikeman Elliot

Wednesday 10 June

1500 – 1730

Real Estate Retreat

The Museum of Modern Art

11 W 53rd St

New York

10019

1800 – 2000

Host Committee reception

Blank Rome LLP

1271 Avenue of the Americas

16th Floor

New York

10020

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Headline social event sponsors

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 **POLSINELLI.**
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All sessions will take place in Holmes ballroom
All coffee/tea breaks and lunch will take place in the Kennedy ballroom

- 0600 – 0700 **Real Estate Section running tour**
Central Park
Engineer's Gate
90th Street, 5th Avenue

Join the Officers of the IBA Real Estate Section and colleagues for a light jog or a refreshing walk.
Participants can jog the 3-mile Reservoir loop. Meet at Engineer's Gate (90th St. & 5th Ave.) at 0600 am.
- 0815 – 1730 **Registration**
- 0815 – 0845 **Welcome coffee**
- 0845 – 0900 **Opening remarks**
Maria Flavia Candido *Seabra, Machado Meyer Advogados; São Paulo; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*
Massimo F D'Angelo *Blank Rome, New York; North American Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*
Peter Kunz *Kunz Wallentin Rechtsanwälte, Vienna; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*
Daniel Del Rio *SMPS Legal, Mexico City; LPD Chair, IBA LDP Offices*
- 0900 – 0945 **Keynote address**
The macroeconomic and geo-political outlook for real estate, investments and the integration of legal technology in operations 2026-27.

Speakers
Max Junestrand *CEO and Co-Founder, Legora, New York*
Ilona Logvinova *HSF Kramer, New York*
- 0945 – 1045 **Fireside chat: selling New York City, development and the law**
Exploring the deals, dreams and developments shaping NYC's real estate playbook.

Moderator
Lieven Peeters *Altius, Brussels; Membership Officer, IBA Real Estate Section; Chair, Leisure Industries Section*

Speakers
Damon P Howard *Ephron-Mandel & Howard, New York*
Bob Knakal *Chairman and CEO, BKREA, New York*
Gerald Lebovits *New York State Supreme Court Justice and Professor of Law at Columbia Law School, New York*
Ahmed Tigani *Commissioner, NYC Department of Buildings, New York*
- 1045 – 1115 **Coffee/tea break**

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Conference dinner sponsors



1115 – 1200

Roundtables

Moderators

Roland Müller *VISCHER Basel; Vice Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Monica Yip *WongPartnership LLP, Singapore; IBA Asia Pacific Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

1. Compliance rules in real estate transactions; risk management of law firms in general; talent recruitment and retention – multiple generations in a law firm.

Moderators

Eduardo Martin *Carey, Santiago; Conference Coordinator, IBA Real Estate Section*

Sushant Shetty *Fox Mandel & Associates, Mumbai, Maharashtra; Co-Chair, IBA Commercial Real Estate Subcommittee*

2. Commercial-to-residential: conversions on legal hurdles and opportunities

Moderators

Dirk Brückner *GSK Stockmann, Munich*

Johane Murray *Brodies, Glasgow; Newsletter Editor, IBA Real Estate Section*

Mariana Silverio *Rio Bravo Investments, São Paulo*

Henrik Taubøll *Haavind, Oslo; Innovation and Legal Technology Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

3. The data-centre boom – structuring, power and zoning issues

Moderators

Andrea Dzik *BTG Pactual, São Paulo*

John Vavas *Polsinelli, New York*

Anna Wyrzykowska *WKB, Warsaw; Social Media Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

4. Global capital flows and foreign-ownership restrictions.

Moderators

Cristiana Moreira *BMA, Rio de Janeiro; Latin America Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

Klaus Pfeiffer *Weber & Co, Vienna; European Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

5. Affordable housing and social impact metric

Moderator

Rossana Fernandes Duarte Mattos Filho, *São Paulo*

John Wells *Lander & Rogers, Melbourne, Victoria*

6. Buyer beware: how to obtain good title/ownership in real estate

Moderators

Pedro Nicholson *Beccar Varela, Buenos Aires; Senior Vice-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Philip Skinner *Arnall Golden Gregory, Atlanta; Member, IBA Real Estate Section Advisory Board*

Büşra Özden *KGK, Istanbul*

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Conference luncheon sponsors

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Thursday continued

1200 – 1245 **The tokenisation of real estate: worldwide trends**

Moderator

Pedro Nicholson *Beccar Varela, Buenos Aires; Senior Vice-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Speakers

Michel Cannarsa *European Law Institute and Lyon Catholic University, Lyon*

John A Frates *HSF Kramer, New York*

Jay Neveloff *Stewart Title, New York*

Janaina Vargas *Mattos Filho, São Paulo*

1245 – 1415 **Lunch**

1415 – 1500 **Fireside chat: deploying capital into data centres as a core asset class**

This session will ask the questions of where, why and how investors are allocating digital infrastructure.

Moderator

Bernat Mullerat *Cuatrecasas, Barcelona*

Speakers

Josef Caleff *Schellenberg Wittmer, Zurich*

Lily Kuo *Lee and Li, Taiwan*

Teresa Meyer Faleiro *ODATA, São Paulo*

Elena Otero *McDermott Will & Schute, Miami, Florida*

Olaf Schmechel *GSK Stockmann, Munich*

1500 – 1545 **Legal AI: transforming real estate transactions and litigation**

From autonomous contract drafting to predictive analytics – what every real estate lawyer must know.

Moderator

Alexandre Grellier *Drooms, Frankfurt*

Speakers

Jennifer Halpin *McCann Fitzgerald, Dublin*

Eliad S Shapiro *Herrick Feinstein, New York*

Henrik Taubøll *Haavind, Oslo*

1545 – 1600 **Coffee/tea break**

1600 – 1645 **The attention switch: strategic speed networking for real relationships**

In 5-minute rotations. Meet peers from across jurisdictions. Guided by a set of smart micro-challenges that make connections feel natural, human and surprisingly easily. Don't miss it if you want to walk away with more than just contacts, but with conversations people remember. Facilitated by advocate Itzik Amiel, international speaker, bestselling author, and global authority on business development and networking for lawyers. Itzik will share his proven practical framework for strategic, authentic networking that leads to real opportunities.

Moderator

Itzik Amiel *Founder and CEO, The Switch, Amsterdam*

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Thursday continued

1645 – 1745

Building resilient cities: how cross-sector collaboration can deliver climate-based adaptations and long-term solutions for urban resilience

Cities around the world share common challenges of increasing exposure to climate risks, ageing infrastructure and rising pressure on energy, transport and water systems. This session will explore how investors, developers, funders, public authorities, energy and infrastructure companies and other stakeholders have an opportunity to jointly deliver locally based solutions to enable our global cities to thrive for future generations.

Moderator

Joanna Davies *Mills & Reeve LLP, Cambridge*

Speakers

Juliana Baldin *GTIS Partners, New York*

Grace Cook *Ramboll, Copenhagen*

Dan Gardodnick *Former Chair and Director, New York City Department of City Planning, New York*

Tina Larsson *The Folsom Group, New York*

Troy Morgan *Exponent, New York*

Berat Senyerli *Bankable Zero, New York*

1900 – 2230

Conference dinner

Inside Park at St Barts

325 Park Avenue

New York,

NY

10022

Friday 12 June

All sessions will take place in Holmes ballroom

All coffee/tea breaks and lunch will take place in the Kennedy ballroom

0815 – 1430

Registration

0815 – 0845

Welcome coffee

0845 – 0900

Opening remarks

Maria Flavia Candido *Seabra, Machado Meyer Advogados; São Paulo; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Massimo F D'Angelo *Blank Rome, New York; North American Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

Peter Kunz *Kunz Wallentin Rechtsanwälte, Vienna; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

0900 – 0945

AI and the law and the future of cities

Drawing parallels to past technological revolutions, examining productivity, inequality and spatial change.

Moderator

Alexandre Grellier *Drooms, Frankfurt*

Speakers

Joe Borstein *LexFusion, New York*

D Casey Flaherty *Baretz + Brunelle, New York*

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Friday continued

0945 – 1035 **Well-being in the legal profession: creating a culture that cares**

Moderator

Mark K Hsu *Hawkins Parnell & Young, New York*

Speaker

Marco Capozzoli *Unmind, New York*

1035 – 1100 **Coffee/tea break**

1100 – 1145 **Retail and mixed-use: repurposing destinations for experiential demand**

Moderator

Maria Flavia Candido *Seabra, Machado Meyer Advogados; São Paulo; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Speakers

Juan Mullerat *Plusurbia, Miami*

Mindy S Planer *Arnall Golden Gregory, Atlanta, Georgia*

Ioana Roman *Filip & Company, Romania*

1145 – 1230 **The infrastructure deficit: private-sector solutions to public problems**

Moderator

Stefan Gerlach *Gerlach Legal, Munich*

Speakers

Scott Kohanowski *Center of NYC Neighborhoods, New York*

Prashantha Kumar Shimoga Thayappa *Fox Mandal & Associates, Bengaluru*

Paul J Massey Jr *B6 Real Estate Advisors, New York*

James Nelson *Avison Young, New York*

1230 – 1300 **Closing remarks**

Maria Flavia Candido *Seabra, Machado Meyer Advogados; São Paulo; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

Massimo F D'Angelo *Blank Rome, New York; North American Regional Forum Liaison Officer, IBA Real Estate Section*

Peter Kunz *Kunz Wallentin Rechtsanwälte, Vienna; Co-Chair, IBA Real Estate Section*

1300 – 1430 **Lunch**

1500 – 1730 **Real Estate boat cruise**

Pier 61

Chelsea Piers, West 23rd Street & 12th Avenue

New York, New York

10011

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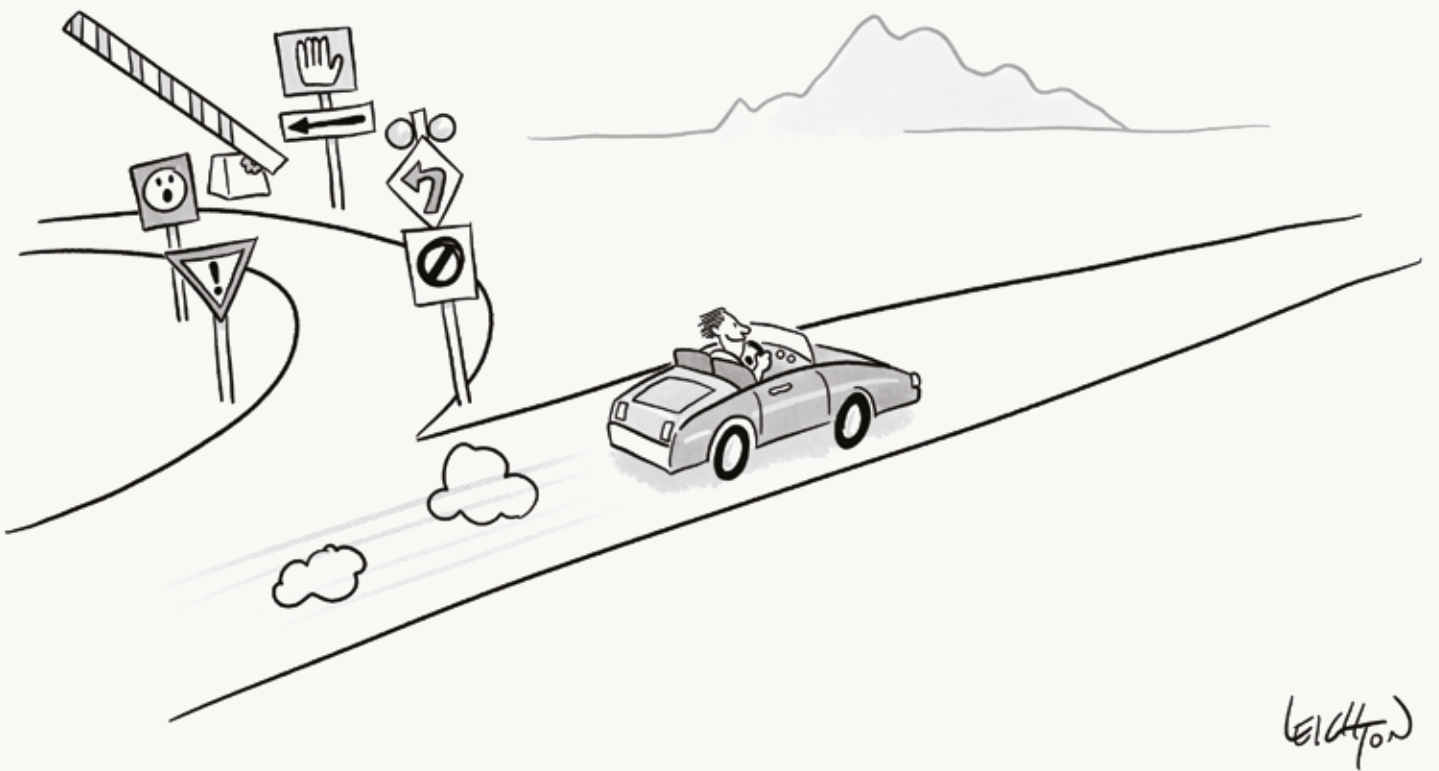


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