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INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2024

A conference presented by the IBA European Regional Forum, supported by the IBA Closely Held Companies Committee and the IBA Corporate Counsel Forum

7th Annual IBA European Start-up Conference

12–13 November 2024, Operaterrassen, Stockholm, Sweden

Working programme

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All speaker materials and biographies can be found at www.ibanet.org/conference-details/conf2509

Conference Co-Chairs

Robrecht Coppens *Loyens & Loeff, Brussels; Chair, Western Regional Group, IBA European Regional Forum*

Emma Dansbo *Cirio, Stockholm; Chair, Northern Regional Group, IBA European Regional Forum*

Pii Ketvel *Chief Executive Officer (CEO), MARCOL Capital Europe, Luxembourg City*

David O'Donnell *Mason Hayes & Curran, Dublin; Member, IBA Closely Held Companies Committee Advisory Board, LPD Council Member*

Marco Rizzi *Bratschi, Zurich; LPD Council Liaison Officer, IBA Closely Held Companies Committee; Member, IBA Closely Held Companies Committee Advisory Board, LPD Council Member*

Merlin Seeman *Hedman, Tallinn; Vice Chair, IBA European Regional Forum*

Doron Stern *Meitar, Jerusalem*

Benjamin Ullrich *YPOG, Berlin*

Antonia Verna *Portolano Cavallo, Milan; Vice Chair, IBA European Regional Forum*

Local Host Committee

Andulf

Cederquist

Cirio

DLA Piper

Fylgia

Gro

Mannheimer Swartling

MAQS

Roschier

Setterwalls

Synch

Vinge

Tuesday 12 November

1800 – 2200

Welcome reception kindly hosted by the local Host Committee

Nobel Prize Museum, Börshuset, Stortorget 2, Gamla Stan, Stockholm

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

Conference luncheon sponsor

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Bringing value to your transaction in Finland

Working sessions will take place in the Rotundan
All coffee/tea breaks and lunch will take place in the Operaterrassen

0800 – 1810 **Registration**

0850 – 0900 **Welcome address**
Carola van den Bruinhorst *Loyens & Loeff, Amsterdam; Chair, IBA Legal Practice Division*

0900 – 0930

Keynote address: Fail gloriously

'There is no innovation and creativity without failure. Period.' – Brene Brown

Fear of failure can stifle creativity and hold back great ideas, even for lawyers working with startups. By embracing failure as a learning tool, we can foster psychological safety, encouraging calculated risks and collaboration, crucial for innovative legal strategies. This keynote will guide participants in adopting a 'yes-and' mindset to transform failure into growth opportunities, build trust and boost innovation within legal teams and their startup clients.

Keynote speaker

Josh Lenn *Founder, Bold & Confident, Stockholm*

Josh is a dynamic keynote speaker, specialising in transforming organisational cultures to embrace failure and foster innovation. With experience working with companies such as Spotify and Netflix, he brings a wealth of knowledge in building psychologically safe, high-performing teams.

0930 – 1015

Venture capital globally

We will kickstart the day with a fireside chat on the current state of the venture capital market. The panellists will discuss the global environment for venture capital transactions, from both investment and fundraising perspectives, looking at trends, sector focus, the current state of play and the outlook for 2025.

Moderator

Steve Barnett *Shoosmiths, London*

Speakers

Rebecka Löthman Rydå *Investment Director, Inventure, Stockholm*

Rainer Sternfeld *Managing Partner, NordicNinja, Tallinn*

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Exhibitor

KLERQ
WINNING MATTERS

1015 – 1100

Understanding and working with venture capital funds

This session will consider:

- How are funds structured and how do they operate?
- How do they make investment decisions?
- How are funds regulated and why are some funds unable to take board seats in certain jurisdictions?
- Domestic fund structures vs nearshoring vs offshoring?
- The role of (external) fund administrators.

Moderator

Vilmar Feenstra *Loyens & Loeff, Amsterdam*

Speakers

Frederik B Hasling *Mazanti-Andersen, Copenhagen*

Beatrice Rellman Skantze *General Counsel, Creandum, Stockholm*

1100 – 1130

Coffee/tea break

1130 – 1215

Alternatives to equity investments

This panel of industry experts will delve into the intriguing and continuously evolving landscape of venture capital investments and explore alternatives to equity investments, such as venture lending. Can they meaningfully contribute to the diversification of investors' portfolio and risk mitigation, while providing companies with flexible financing options to fuel growth?

Moderator

James Cunnah *AshGrove Capital, London*

Speakers

François Gaudet *Head of Cleantech Equity & Growth Capital Division, European Investment Bank, Luxembourg City*

Maria Ljungberg *Director, HSBC Innovation Banking, Stockholm*

1215 – 1300

Building sustainable legal practices in the startup and venture capital ecosystem

We will learn about strategies and best practices that law firms can adopt to build a sustainable and profitable practice in the dynamic and challenging startup and venture capital space. Renowned practitioners in the market will explore key drivers for success such as the development of standardised documents to streamline legal processes, the effective use of technology to enhance efficiency and client service, and the importance of adhering to a strong ethical code to maintain trust and integrity in this rapidly evolving sector.

Moderator

Patricia Gannon *Founder & CEO, Platform 9, Dublin*

Speakers

Karim Maizar *Kellerhals Carrard, Zurich*

Louis Oudot de Dainville *Gide Loyrette Nouel, Paris*

Howard Watt *Fladgate, London*

1300 – 1400

Lunch

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1400 – 1445

Legal session: market trends, deal terms and investment documentation

Let the lawyers have their say! This interactive session will focus on current trends in the market and their impact on deal terms in venture capital transaction documents.

Moderator

Benjamin Ullrich *YPOG, Berlin*

Speakers

Nora Frizberg *Operating Partner and General Counsel, Speedinvest, Vienna*

Rita Sobral *Cooley, London*

Marc Walter *Wenger & Vieli, Zurich*

1445 – 1615

Hot topics roundtables

Participants will have the opportunity to contribute to two interactive round table sessions of half an hour each on the hottest tech topics such as artificial intelligence (AI), fintech, cleantech, defence tech and legal tech. Lawyers from different jurisdictions and industries, as well as venture capital (VC) experts, will share their experience and knowledge on the most recent market and deal trends in relation to such hot tech topics.

Co-Chairs

Emma Dansbo *Cirio, Stockholm; Chair, Northern Regional Group, IBA European Regional Forum*

Merlin Seeman *Hedman, Tallinn; Vice Chair, IBA European Regional Forum*

Antonia Verna *Portolano Cavallo, Milan; Vice Chair, IBA European Regional Forum*

1. Disruptive Innovations for the Planet

Moderators

Julia Brugge *Andulf, Stockholm*

Anna Lundin *Investment Manager, Norrsken VC, Stockholm*

2. Fintech

Moderators

Joel Aneheim *Counsel, Cederquist, Stockholm*

Roni Zacharion *Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Kreditz AB, Stockholm*

3. Deep Tech

Moderators

Jessica Grönberg *Cirio, Stockholm*

Mala Valroy *Investment Manager, Industrifonden, Stockholm*

4. Deep Tech

Moderators

Anders Lindström *MAQS, Stockholm*

Dr Samer Nameer *Chief Sustainability Officer & Co-Founder, Enerpoly, Stockholm*

5. Legal Tech

Moderators

Viktor Leisnert *Legal Director, EQT, Stockholm*

Malin Männikkö *DLA Piper, Stockholm*

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Wednesday continued

6. Food Tech

Moderator

Mattias Larsson *Fylgia, Stockholm*

7. Industrial startups

Moderators

Fredrik Lundegårdh *Mannheimer Swartling, Stockholm*

Ida Westberg *General Counsel, Stegra, Stockholm*

8. Green tech, Climate tech and energy

Moderators

Markus Olsson *Roschier, Stockholm*

Erik Svärd *VP Legal Affairs, Stegra, Stockholm*

9. Green tech, Climate tech and energy

Moderators

Willy Edholm Fjellstad *Counsel, Setterwalls, Stockholm*

Nicolina Kindblom *General Counsel, Syre, Stockholm*

10. Green tech, Climate tech and energy

Moderators

Johan Larsson *Vinge, Stockholm*

Mattias Mörnesten *Chief Investment Officer, Baseload Capital, Stockholm*

11. Defense Tech

Moderators

Stefan Granlund *Head of Growth & Impact SE, Danske Bank, Stockholm*

Jim Runsten *Synch, Stockholm*

12. AI technology

Moderators

Fadi Bitar *AI Product and Engineering Manager, Oneflow, Stockholm*

Sofia Halliday Bruno *Gro, Stockholm*

1615 – 1645

Coffee/tea break

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1645 – 1730

To list, to sell or to flip to the US: successful exit methods in Europe

There are many different colours of exit strategies for venture capital-backed companies in Europe, some successful, some less successful. The panel will explore the advantages and disadvantages of various exit routes, including listing on the stock markets, executing a trade sale or even flipping the business to the United States to maximise valuations and increase exit options.

Moderator

Mike Labriola *Wilson Sonsini, London*

Speakers

Adam Kostyal *President, Nasdaq, Stockholm*

Francesca Porter *Group General Counsel, Onfido, London*

1730 – 1800

How to scale and grow a global business

This session will look at what it takes to grow a business in today's fast-moving environment from a mere idea to penetrating a global market. We will hear from a panel of C-suite executives who will give us their top tips and insights into what it takes to successfully grow a business from an operational perspective and what are the key aspects to focus on in the early days of growing a business.

Moderator

Lise Alm *Founder, ThinkAloud, Stockholm*

Speakers

Anna Fredixon *Co-Founder and Partner, Norrsken Launcher, Stockholm; former Chief Human Resources Officer, Truecaller and Kry/Livi*

Mia Hemmingson *CSO, Syre, Stockholm*

1800 – 1810

Closing remarks

1845

Conference dinner transport

Boat transfer on the M/S STOCKHOLMS STRÖM will depart from Logårdstrappan, Skeppsbron 2. Logårdstrappan quay is a 5 minute walk from Operaterrassen.

1930 – 2230

Conference dinner

Fotografiska Museum

Stadsgårdshamnen 22, 116 45 Stockholm

Entry by ticket

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