

# 2023 EPCO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE

EUROSYSTEM PROCUREMENT  
COORDINATION OFFICE (EPCO)

**19 OCTOBER 2023**

**HYBRID CONFERENCE**

2 BOULEVARD ROYAL  
L-2983 LUXEMBOURG & ONLINE



BANQUE CENTRALE DU LUXEMBOURG  
EUROSYSTEM



## 2023 EPCO Public Procurement Conference

EUROSYSTEM PROCUREMENT COORDINATION OFFICE (EPCO)

19 OCTOBER 2023 - BANQUE CENTRALE DU LUXEMBOURG (BCL)

Hybrid Conference : Banque centrale du Luxembourg (BCL)  
2, Boulevard Royal / L-2983 Luxembourg & Online

Time	Topic
09.00 - 09.30	<i>Access of participants to the conference</i>
09.30 - 09.45	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b> Eva RODRÍGUEZ BIELSA, Head of EPCO Eurosystem Procurement Coordination Office (EPCO)
<b>Morning session</b>	
09.45 - 10.30 (physical)	<b>Judicial Activism and Public Procurement Law</b> Christopher BOVIS Professor of Business Law, University of Hull, United Kingdom
10.30 - 11.15 (virtual)	<b>EU Sanctions against Russia - Practical Impact on Public Procurement and Open Questions</b> Maja KUHAR President, State Commission for Supervision of Public Procurement Procedures, Croatia
11.15 - 11.45	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.45 - 12.30 (physical)	<b>Public Procurement - Hot Topics and Practical Issues: Time to Answer your Questions!</b> Pascal FRITON Partner, Blomstein, Germany
12.30 - 14.00	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Afternoon session</b>	
14.00 - 14.45 (virtual)	<b>The Limited Scope for Using Blockchain and Smart Contracts in Public Procurement</b> Pedro TELLES Associate Professor, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
14.45 - 15.30 (physical)	<b>Identifying and Addressing Conflicts of Interest in Public Procurement</b> Jonathan DAVEY Partner, Commercial, Addleshaw Goddard, United Kingdom
15.30 - 15.45	<b>Closing Remarks</b>
15.45	<b>Closing Drink</b>

Timing: 09.45 - 10.30

## Session 1

### Judicial Activism and Public Procurement Law



**Christopher BOVIS**  
Professor of Business Law, University of Hull, United Kingdom

Christopher Bovis JD, MPhil, LL.M, FRSA is Professor of International and European Business at the University of Hull.

International leading authority in public procurement and public-private partnerships, Professor Bovis specialises in all areas of European Business Law, anti-trust law and policy, with particular emphasis on public sector management.

He advises national governments in public sector reforms and he has acted on behalf of public sector and industry on numerous high profile projects. In addition, he has been instrumental in structuring flagship public-private partnerships in the UK, EU and overseas.

Professor Bovis has published extensively in international legal and management journals and has produced numerous monographs and articles on European and international business subjects. He is Editor in Chief of European Procurement and Public-Private Partnerships Law Review, published by LexisNexis Verlagsgesellschaft. He is the author of The Law of EU Public Procurement, by Oxford University Press, Public Procurement: Case Law and Regulation, by Oxford University Press, The Research Handbook on EU Public Procurement Law by Elgar, and Public Private Partnerships in the EU, Routledge. His academic work has been translated into different languages, including Chinese, Russian, French and German.



Timing: 10.30 – 11.15

## Session 2

### EU Sanctions against Russia - Practical Impact on Public Procurement and Open Questions

**Maja KUJAR**

*President, State Commission for Supervision of Public Procurement Procedures, Croatia*



Maja Kuhar is the President of the State Commission for Supervision of Public Procurement procedures in Croatia which is a first instance review body solving complaints in public procurement procedures. She has a long time practical experience in public procurement, especially centralised procurement, gained through working in the Expert service of the State Commission for Supervision of Public Procurement procedures, on the position of Head of Sector for Framework Agreements and Legal Affairs in Central State Office for Central Public Procurement, as well as on the position of Deputy Head of the Central State Office for Central Public Procurement.

Certified trainer in the field of public procurement at the State School of Public Administration in Zagreb, she is also a part-time lecturer at the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law on lifelong learning programmes in the field of Administrative law/Public Procurement and lecturer in professional training programs in the field of public procurement.

Mrs Kuhar is a lecturer on Public Procurement Excellence Program organised by WU Executive Academy in Vienna and Bundesbeschaffung GmbH, Austria and a trainer for International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP). Furthermore, she is also a member of the Croatian Government Board for preventing corruption and was a member of the working group for drafting the National anticorruption strategy 2020-2030.

Timing: 11.45 – 12.30

## Session 3

### Public Procurement - Hot Topics and Practical Issues: Time to Answer Your Questions!

**Pascal FRITON**

*Partner, Blomstein, Germany*



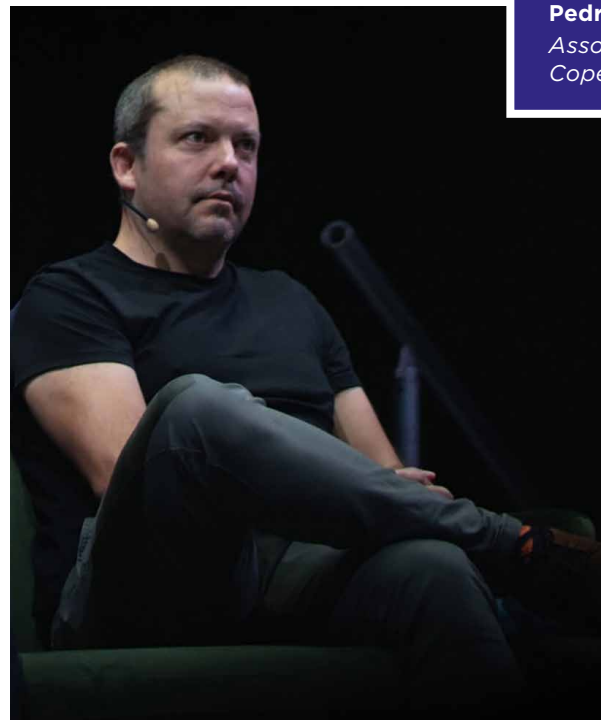
Pascal Friton is a specialist lawyer for public procurement law (“Fachanwalt für Vergaberecht”) and one of the founding partners of the leading law boutique BLOMSTEIN. He is regularly ranked as one of the leading public procurement lawyers by Who’s Who Legal: Government Contracts. He is recommended by The Legal 500 and JUVE, he is listed in Chambers Europe for Public Procurement and, he is also among Germany’s most renowned lawyers according to German business magazines “Wirtschaftswoche” and “Handelsblatt”.

Mr. Friton has been advising clients for more than 15 years. His public procurement law practice covers advice to both contracting authorities and bidders, particularly in the IT, defence and security, infrastructure, energy and healthcare sectors. In addition, he has longstanding experience in the field of procurement compliance that also includes advising on sanctions imposed by the World Bank or other multilateral development banks.

Mr. Friton regularly publishes in national and international professional journals and gives lectures on public procurement law topics in conferences and seminars in Germany, Europe and the US. He is lecturer and author at the distance learning program on EU public procurement law at the King’s College London. Additionally, he is author of various publications on EU public procurement law, namely his contribution to the European Public Procurement: Commentary on Directive 2014/24/EU (commentary on articles 56 [General principles] and 57 [Exclusion grounds]), Beck’scher Onlinekommentar Vergaberecht, Beck’scher Onlinekommentar IT-Recht, and Beck’scher Vergaberechtskommentar. Finally, Mr. Friton is also co-editor of the commentary on the UVgO (Kommentar zur UVgO) (as of the second edition) and of Beck’sches Formularbuch Vergaberecht (as of the fourth edition).

## Session 4

### The Limited Scope for Using Blockchain and Smart Contracts in Public Procurement



**Pedro TELLES**  
Associate Professor  
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

Pedro Telles is an Associate Professor in public procurement law at Copenhagen Business School and member of the European Union (EU) Committee of the Law Society.

Previously, he was Adjunct at the Law Futures Centre at Griffith University, Senior Lecturer in Law at Swansea University (2015-2019) and Lecturer in Law and Procurement Law Specialist at Bangor University (2011-2015).

Before academia, Mr. Telles worked as a lawyer in Portugal and Spain, specialised in public procurement law between 2003 and 2007.

He publishes frequently about public procurement on his blog ([www.telles.eu](http://www.telles.eu)) as well as on Twitter (@detig).

## Session 5

### Identifying and Addressing Conflicts of Interest in Public Procurement

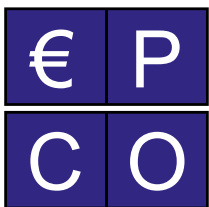


**Jonathan DAVEY**  
Partner, Commercial, Addleshaw  
Goddard, United Kingdom

Jonathan Davey is a partner specialising in procurement law.

He has been advising in this area for over 25 years, and has acted on a number of high-profile procurements for clients such as the Houses of Parliament, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust, the Falkland Islands Government and Smart DCC, exclusive operator of the UK's smart meter network.

Mr. Davey has won Who's Who Legal's Award as 'Global Procurement Lawyer of the Year' for each of 2014 and 2015 and, 'Global Government Contracts Lawyer of the Year' for 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, and he is one of the Global Elite "Thought Leaders" in this area. Chambers UK Directory ranks him as one of only seven UK Tier 1 procurement practitioners and quotes a client describing him as "A real fount of knowledge and expertise in this sector".



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