

**P.R.I.M.E. Finance Newsletter 3 July 2020**

1. **LAUNCH OF PRIMEtime VIRTUAL EVENTS**

P.R.I.M.E. Finance’s first Asia Conference and third New York Conference were already in the planning stages when COVID-19 brought about an unprecedented global shutdown. The ongoing COVID-19 situation makes it less likely that these conferences will take place in 2020. We will keep you updated. In the meantime, we are pleased to have launched a new virtual programme, PRIMEtime Virtual Events.

The first Virtual Event, Dispute Resolution in a Pandemic, took place on 24 June 2020, with **Sir William Blair**, **Jean Messinesi** and the **Hon. Elizabeth Stong** leading the discussion and **Rick Grove** moderating. There were more than 140 attendees from more than 30 different jurisdictions. Click [here](https://primefinancedisputes.org/page/primetime-recordings) for a recording.

On Tuesday, 7 July, **Tim Massad**, former Chairman of the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and **Kay Swinburne**, Vice Chair of Financial Services KPMG UK, and former Member of the European Parliament and Vice Chair of the European Parliament’s Economics and Monetary Affairs Committee, will discuss the implications of the pandemic for financial regulation. **Bob Pickel** will moderate this session. You can register for this event [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/1915934219174/WN_g5CN04rITIWrI9uIO__VkA).

On Tuesday, 14 July, **Gay Huey Evans OBE**, Chairman of the London Metal Exchange and a leader in the financial industry for over three decades and **Blythe Masters,** former J.P. Morgan executive and founding CEO of blockchain fin-tech company Digital Asset Holdings**,** will discuss the reaction of financial markets to the pandemic, with **Tom Jasper** moderating. Register [here](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/9515934220367/WN_keZ_8lxrTUWPXhye8J0Zlw) for this event.

**Please share the details of these events with your colleagues, contacts and any groups that you think might find this of interest.**

For more information about PRIMEtime Virtual Events, please click [here](https://primefinancedisputes.org/page/primetime-virtual-events).

We are pleased to have sponsorship from Droit Financial Technologies for the first series of PRIMEtime, and support from LexisNexis and Mlex in the promotion of PRIMEtime!

1. **NEWS OF OUR EXPERTS AND BOARD MEMBERS**

**Douglas Arner**  has co-authored ‘After Libra, Digital Yuan and COVID-19: Central Bank Digital Currencies and the New World of Money and Payment Systems’ in the European Banking Institute Working Paper Series 65/2020, available [here](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3622311). He also co-authored a paper ‘Digital Finance and the COVID-19 Crisis’. Doug presented his research as part of a webinar series organized by Hong Kong University Faculty of Law on the legal challenges arising from the pandemic. To view Douglas’s seminar, click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-hISqkFxrc&feature=youtu.be)**.** The PowerPoint presentation is available [here](https://www.law.hku.hk/aiifl/wp-content/uploads/ppt/Digital_Finance_and_the_COVID-19_Coronavirus_Crisis_HKU_Law_15Apr2020.pdf). Douglas’ April 2020 interview with Fintech Beat, ‘Comparing COVID-19 fintech in Hong Kong and China’ is available [here](https://www.rollcall.com/podcasts/fintech-beat/comparing-covid-19-and-fintech-in-hong-kong-and-china/).

**Klaus Peter Berger** has co-authored ‘Force Majeure and Hardship in the Age of Corona: A Historical and Comparative Study’, which will appear in the next issue of the McGill Journal of Dispute Resolution (MJDR).

After an initial meeting hosted by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law on the effects of the pandemic on commercial contracts, **Sir William Blair**, **Louise Gullifer** and **Lord Nicholas Phillips**, among others, have continued to develop this work.  Click [here](https://www.biicl.org/documents/10320_concept_note_2_final_1.pdf) for the latest version of the Breathing Space Concept Note, which suggests steps to be taken to minimise the risk of a deluge of disputes and to increase the prospect of constructive outcomes.

**Akber Datoo**, Founder and CEO of D2 Legal Technology, is the Co-Editor of *The LEGALTECH Book.* As Co-Editor, Akber took the lead in creating and editing a collection of expert submissions on LegalTech, including various chapters on Dispute Resolution. The book has been published by Wiley Finance and FINTECH Circle, and is available to order on Amazon and by clicking [here](https://fintechcircle.com/legaltech-book/).

**Guy Dempsey** and **Carolyn Jackson** co-authored with others a Derivatives Advisory for Katten Muchin Rosenman entitled ‘Hope for the Best but Prepare for the Worst – Steps to Take If You are Worried About the Effects of the Pandemic on Your ISDA Counterparty’, available [here](https://katten.com/files/792388_2020_04_27_frm_dr_hope_for_the_best_but_prepare_for_the_worst.pdf).

**Simon Gleeson** wrote an article for FT Alphaville entitled ‘Why only a reverse bail-in can save the economy now’, found [here](https://ftalphaville.ft.com/2020/05/01/1588338202000/Why-only-a-reverse-bail-in-can-save-the-economy-now/).

**Jeffrey Golden** has written ‘ISDA and ADR: A Brief History of a Long Relationship’ for the Swedish Yearbook of Arbitration 2020.

**Michael Hwang SC** spoke on a panel on Virtual Hearings: Contemporary Perspectives alongside the President of the SIAC Court of Arbitration and institutional representatives from ICSID and PCA.

**Tim Massad** published a paper on Facebook's Libra proposal, central bank digital currencies, and financial inclusion, available [here](https://www.brookings.edu/research/facebooks-libra-2-0/).

**David Rivkin** and **Lord Peter Goldsmith** have co-written with others an article for Debevoise & Plimpton about conducting international arbitrations during the COVID-19 pandemic. The article can be found [here](https://www.debevoise.com/insights/publications/2020/04/conducting-international-arbitrations-during-covid).

**Thomas Werlen** has been appointed as a member of the supervisory board of the Hertha BSC football club.

**Philip Wood CBE QC (Hons)** has written ‘The legal behemoth: financial law’ for the May 2020 issue of Butterworths Journal of International Banking & Financial Law.

1. **NEW PANEL APPOINTMENTS**

We are pleased to announce that the number of P.R.I.M.E. Finance Experts now exceeds 200! This is a significant milestone for us. See [here](https://primefinancedisputes.org/files/2020-04/prime-press-release-new-experts-october-2019-february-2020.pdf?3596ec7a97) for more information and the full list of new P.R.I.M.E. Finance Experts.

In July 2020, P.R.I.M.E. Finance will consider new appointments to its expert panel. A full list of new appointments will then be included in the next letter.

1. **P.R.I.M.E. FINANCE SERVICES AND NOMINATION OF NEW EXPERTS**

P.R.I.M.E. Finance continues to administer requests for expert witness services. All such enquiries should be directed to [Camilla Macpherson](mailto:c.macpherson@primefinancedisputes.org), Head of the Secretariat of P.R.I.M.E. Finance, with a copy to the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@primefinancedisputes.org).

We continue to expand our global presence and invite additional nominations to our growing list of Experts. All nominees, unless given written notice otherwise, should assume that their applications remain under consideration and shall receive due consideration. For further information, please see our [webpage](https://primefinancedisputes.org/page/list-of-experts) or contact the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@primefinancedisputes.org).

1. **FRIENDS OF P.R.I.M.E.**

Friends of P.R.I.M.E. is the principal means by which our Experts, market participants and other interested parties can show their financial support for P.R.I.M.E. The P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation is a not-for-profit Dutch foundation, which relies heavily on the *pro bono* spirited efforts and intellectual contribution of its Experts and Board members. P.R.I.M.E. Finance cherishes its independence, and donations through Friends of P.R.I.M.E. help preserve this. We also established a U.S.-based entity known as PRIME Finance Dispute Resolution and Education Foundation in order to further the educational objectives of P.R.I.M.E. Finance, to apply for grants from U.S.-based foundations and allow our U.S.-taxpayer Friends to become Friends of P.R.I.M.E. by making tax deductible contributions. All monies raised through Friends of P.R.I.M.E. go directly to program support. Read more and make a donation, by check, wire transfer, credit card or PayPal, [here](https://primefinancedisputes.org/page/friends-of-p-r-i-m-e-finance-fund).

Join numerous other Experts and supporters, and become a Friend of P.R.I.M.E. Finance today! For more information on becoming a Friend of P.R.I.M.E., please contact the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@primefinancedisputes.org).

1. **PRESS COVERAGE**

Find recent press articles and other media coverage concerning P.R.I.M.E. Finance [here](https://primefinancedisputes.org/page/press-releases).

1. **CONTACT US**

Due to COVID-19, Camilla Macpherson continues to work from home, handling matters remotely.

For questions, please contact the [Secretariat](mailto:secretariat@primefinancedisputes.org). Follow P.R.I.M.E. Finance on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/p-r-i-m-e-finance/) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/PRIME_Finance)!

**P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation**

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The Hague, The Netherlands