

# **NEWSLETTER**

## **NEW YORK CONFERENCE 2025**

On October 30, 2025, P.R.I.M.E. Finance held its fourth New York conference and its first since 2022. White & Case kindly provided the venue for the event.



The conference opened with welcoming remarks from **Robert Pickel**, Chair of the Management Board of P.R.I.M.E. Finance, and **Ian Cuillerier**, partner at White & Case. Pickel highlighted the theme of the conference: whether the instances of volatility the global economy has experienced in 2025 amount to ripple effects, which will dissipate, or sea changes, which could result in a reordering of the post-WWII global balance.



PR.I.M.E. Finance Chair Robert Pickel and Ambassador Michael Carpenter



Dr. Richard Sandor and Paula DiPerna at their book signing



The highlights of the conference were the opening remarks by **Ambassador Michael Carpenter** and a fireside chat with **Richard Sandor** and **Paula DiPerna**, authors of the book *Carbon Hunters: Reflections and Forecasts of Climate Markets in the 21st Century*. Ambassador Carpenter reflected on the profound shifts in the global order and pointed out the possible directions those shifts could take. Sandor and DiPerna looked back on the development of climate markets and offered some hopeful reflections for the future of using markets to solve climate challenges.

Four panels, structured largely around P.R.I.M.E. Finance's four expert forums, provided insights on developments in key markets around the world, the growth of stablecoins and cryptocurrency, challenges facing sustainable investing and reflections on the role of the judiciary in our changing world.

A networking reception followed the conference, giving speakers and attendees the opportunity to share further thoughts on the topics of the day.

We are extremely grateful to our event host, White & Case; our lunch sponsor, Travers Smith; our drinks reception sponsor, FTI Consulting; our speaker dinner sponsor, Alix Partners; and our other sponsors, D2LT, NERA and Rutter Associates. Thanks to our speakers and to our attendees for making the event so successful.

The full program for the conference is available on our website <u>here</u>.

## **DEVELOPMENT BANK PROJECTS AND JUDICIAL TRAINING**

P.R.I.M.E. Finance is pursuing projects that may arise where its experts can provide their expertise to development banks. Potential areas of focus would be market development, capacity building, fintech and Islamic Finance. We are also looking to engage in capacity building for judges, as we have done in the past. P.R.I.M.E. Finance Management Board member Akber Datoo, CEO and Founder of D2LT, has identified several potential projects where P.R.I.M.E. Finance experts can assist. Experts should have received an email from the P.R.I.M.E. Finance Secretariat seeking indications of interest. Experts can also write directly to the Secretariat at <a href="mailto:secretary@primefinancedisputes.org">secretariageprimefinancedisputes.org</a> indicating areas of interest.



## **NEWS OF OUR STAFF**

At the end of October, **Deannie Yap**, Senior Legal Officer and Manager, left P.R.I.M.E. Finance after more than two years. Deannie was instrumental in bringing back our virtual programming in the form of PRIMEtime 2.0 and in refreshing the designs of our newsletter, LinkedIn posts, and Annual Report. She played a vital role in managing P.R.I.M.E. Finance Conferences in London, Amsterdam, Singapore and New York. Her professional experience, organizational skills and creativity were valuable assets in the many projects she oversaw. We wish her well as she returns to Singapore to pursue new career opportunities.

### APPOINTMENT OF NEW MANAGEMENT BOARD MEMBERS

P.R.I.M.E. Finance has appointed **Akber Datoo** and **Ijeoma Okoli** to its Management Board. **Deborah Enix-Ross** and **Ida Levine**, who have served on the P.R.I.M.E. Finance Management Board since 2017 and 2019 respectively, have been appointed to its Advisory Board. All appointments are with effect from 17 September 2025.

Akber is the founder and CEO of D2 Legal Technology (D2LT), an award-winning global legal data consulting firm that advises clients on leveraging technology and data to unlock business value through legal innovation. Ijeoma is a Senior Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, an Adjunct Professor at St. John's University School of Law, and a director of The Digital Economy Initiative.

A press release with more details regarding these appointments is available here.

## **NEWS OF OUR EXPERTS**

**Rick Grove** presented a guest lecture on securitization at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo in June. While in Tokyo, he also spoke at a lunch meeting of the Japan Risk Forum, a group of risk professionals from leading Japanese financial and commercial institutions.

**Hon Paul Heath KC** was appointed as a Judge of the Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) Courts. He was appointed as a Judge of the Commercial and Civil Division of the Court and also sits in the newly established Real Property Division. Most of the cases involve entities that do business in the Global Market or have some connection to it. One of the bases for the ADGM Courts exercising jurisdiction is the agreement of parties. The Court operates as



# **NEWS OF OUR EXPERTS (cont.)**

an international commercial court with its judgments being posted on the BAILII website, as well as on its own. Information about the Court, its workload and the Judges can be found on the Court's website: <a href="https://www.adgm.com/adgm-courts">www.adgm.com/adgm-courts</a>

**Professor William Jannace** co-authored 'Anti-Money Laundering Compliance: A Matter of National Security' .<a href="https://www.gfmi.com/articles/anti-money-laundering-compliance-a-matter-of-national-security/">https://www.gfmi.com/articles/anti-money-laundering-compliance-a-matter-of-national-security/</a>

**René Smits** noted that a new edition of the banking union case law tracker has been published: 29 August 2025, updated on 29 September 2025. The banking union case law list tracks judicial proceedings concerning the Euro Area's banking supervision and resolution, mainly presenting cases against the European Central Bank on prudential supervision and the EU's Single Resolution Board. At Freshfield's 11th conference on banking union in Frankfurt, on 2 September 2025, René presented on 'Court oversight of ECB supervision: the first 11 years'.

In June, **Hon Elizabeth Stong** attended the World Justice Forum in Warsaw and spent time at the regional high court in Poznan. She was appointed to serve as the Chair of the ABA Rule of Law Initiative-Middle East North Africa Council, and she will be participating in the World Bank-INSOL Africa Roundtable and Judicial Colloquium in Cape Town in November. She finished the Chicago Marathon, the Marine Corps Marathon, and the New York City Marathon in three weeks and one day.

On 9 October 2025, **Christopher Vajda KC** was awarded by the Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary 'Doctor Honoris Causa' Honorary Doctorate.

A book for the general reader by **Philip Wood CBE, KC hon**, entitled 'Survival Codes: World Law and the Future of Humanity,' is coming out in late November. The book explains why the law is the largest code of conduct and philosophy of life that we have and examines the 12 main domains of law worldwide to see whether or not they are working. Philip Wood has written over 25 books, mainly on the law and practice of international finance.



# **NEWS OF OUR EXPERTS (cont.)**

Many P.R.I.M.E. Finance experts attended ISDA's Annual Meeting in Amsterdam in May. Participants in the ISDA meeting included Joe Bauman, Mark Brickell, Claude Brown, Pedro Cardigos, Ian Cuillerier, Akber Datoo, Emma Dwyer, Francis Edwards, Alban Caillemer du Ferrage, Simon Firth, Jeffrey Golden, Rick Grove, Jayesh H, Carolyn Jackson, Tom Jasper, Julia Lu, Romina Lopez Martinez, Akash Mohapatra, Habib Motani, Amane Oshima, Ellen Pesch, Bob Pickel, Eraj Shirvani, Peter Werner, and John Williams.

## **NEW PANEL APPOINTMENTS**

**Dr. Camelia Bogdan** Independent Arbitrator, former judge on the Bucharest Court of Appeals

Sarah Clarke Barrister, Serjeants' Inn

Manuel Frey Partner & Global Head of Derivatives, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison

John W. Lowe, Jr. Independent Arbitrator and Mediator

**Ijeoma Okoli** Senior Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government; Adjunct Professor at St. John's University School of Law; Director of The Digital Economy Initiative

**Jason Pugh** Regional Head of Legal, Financial Markets, Africa and Middle East, Standard Chartered Bank

Jonathan Schachter CEO, Delta Vega; Risk textbook author (MRM)

J.W. Verret Associate Professor of Law, George Mason University

**Rhoda Weeks-Brown** Former General Counsel and Director of the Legal Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF)



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

P.R.I.M.E. Finance administers requests for expert witness services. All such enquiries should be directed to the Secretariat.

We continue to expand our global presence and invite nominations to our growing list of Experts. All nominees, unless given written notice otherwise, should assume that their applications remain under consideration. For further information, please see our webpage or contact the Secretariat.

#### 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. Finance. The P.R.I.M.E. Finance Foundation is a not-for-profit Dutch foundation, and relies heavily on the pro bono spirited efforts and intellectual contribution of its Experts and Board members. P.R.I.M.E. Finance values its independence, and donations through Friends of P.R.I.M.E. help preserve this. We have also established a U.S.-based entity, 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 or credit card (via PayPal), here.

## PRESS COVERAGE

Find recent press articles and other media coverage concerning P.R.I.M.E. Finance here.

## **CONTACT US**

For questions, please contact the <u>Secretariat</u>. Follow P.R.I.M.E. Finance on <u>LinkedIn</u> and visit our YouTube channel!



