



Conference 5-8 March 2013 Heidelberg, Germany
"Recovery of maintenance in the EU and worldwide"



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We are delighted to present to you today



Prof Paul R. Beaumont and Lara Walker

University of Aberdeen



as two of our keynote speakers at the **International Conference** to be held in

Heidelberg from 5 to 8 March 2013.

We would now like to introduce them and also give you an impression of their presentation:

Professor Paul Beaumont and Lara Walker are working together on empirical research on the first year of operation of the EU Maintenance Regulation. They designed a draft questionnaire covering various aspects of the work of the Central Authorities and sent it to all the Central Authorities in the EU. After receiving feedback on the draft from the Central Authorities and from the

partners in the Recovery of Maintenance Project, Lara and Paul have finalised the questionnaire and sent it to all the Central Authorities so that later in 2012 they can complete the questionnaire and return it to them. Lara and Paul will then do a statistical analysis of the information provided.

In addition, Lara is midway through her PhD which analyses certain key aspects of the Hague Maintenance Convention 2007 and the EU Maintenance Regulation. Key areas where the Regulation follows the Convention are legal aid, Central Authorities and the limitations on the ability of debtors to change jurisdiction when seeking modification of a maintenance award. Lara's work on her PhD will inform the empirical work that she and Paul are doing for this project and will enhance the paper that they are able to present at the Conference in Heidelberg in March 2013.

Paul was one of the UK team of negotiators for the Hague Maintenance Convention 2007 and served on the Drafting Committee for the Convention from its inception in 2003 to its conclusion in 2007. Paul was also a member of the UK delegation at the Council of European Union Working Party that negotiated the EU Maintenance Regulation throughout the negotiations. Paul wrote an article in *Rabels Zeitschrift* 2009 (*RabelsZ* 3/2009, p. 509-546) about how the EU benefited from negotiating the Maintenance Convention before finalising the EU Regulation and that this was a great example of the virtues of "Reverse Subsidiarity".

Paul and Lara are both members of the Centre for Private International Law of the University of Aberdeen. They have published together in the *Journal of Private International Law*. Lara also has two other articles in that *Journal* and in *International Family Law*. Paul has published extensively on private international law and European Union law including being co-author (with Peter McEleavy) of the 3rd edition of *Anton's Private International Law* (2011, Edinburgh, W. Green/SULI). Paul is also an editor of the *Journal of Private International Law* and of the Hart book series on *Studies in Private International Law*.

Please note: The implementation laws of the member states regarding the EU Maintenance Regulation are now available on our website at <http://www.heidelberg-conference2013.de/legal-bases.html>.