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TRANSPORT LAW PROGRAMMES:
Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb
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3rd Transport Law de lege ferenda: Annual Young Academics' Vision on Tomorrow's Transport Law

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The following are the notes on the 3rd Annual Conference Transport Law de lege ferenda: Young Academics’ Vision on Tomorrow’s Transport Law held at the University of Elbasan “A. Xhuvani” on 26-27 November 2015.¹

The Transport Law de lege ferenda (Translawfer) started in Leuven in November 2014, at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. The second annual conference was hosted by the Department of Maritime and Transport Law, Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb, Croatia.

The aim of the conference is to develop a debate among young researchers who are currently working on their PhD theses or have already finished their PhD, provide them with an opportunity to share their original findings with their peers. Chaired by distinguished professors, the panels of the two editions of Translawfer included very successful presentations and debates, which provided valuable feedback for the participants. The debate among the participants and interesting feedback from the audience was enriched with the attendance of practitioners who deal with everyday legal issues concerning transport law.

The 3rd annual meeting Translawfer was held in Elbasan, Albania from 26-27 November 2015. The event was hosted by the Department of Law, Faculty of Economics, University of Elbasan. In Albania, Translawfer accomplished a second aim set by the organizing committee, which was to foster a legal and policy debate in Albania regarding issues related to transport and maritime law in general. For this reason, the first day of

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the meeting was attended not only by academics and practitioners, but there were numerous attendees from the Ministry of Transport, the Port Authority, and the Albanian Road Authority.

Thus, after the welcome address and the greetings, the first day panel started with a speech given by the Minister of Transport and Infrastructures of Albania, who briefly explained the efforts of the Government in enhancing the legal framework for transport.

The invited professors took the floor and offered short presentations regarding questions of maritime law and legal reform in Great Britain (Prof. Rhidian Thomas), Spain (Prof. Ignacio Arroyo), Turkey (Prof. Pinar Akan), Croatia (Dr. Igor Vio) and Italy (Prof. Stefano Zunarelli). The panel concluded with some reflections on how to carry out a transport and maritime law legal reform in small countries like Albania, and on the path to follow in the adoption of the international conventions in the field of transport and maritime law.

The second day followed with presentations of papers by young academics and PhD researchers who presented their current research findings. The panels were organized as round tables and after each presentation there was time reserved for comments and suggestions.

In the first panel, chaired by Prof. Rhidian Thomas and Prof. Ignacio Arroyo, there were five presentations. Dr. Massimiliano Musi, from the University of Bologna, presented a paper on the _factispecies_ of insurance for the benefit of third parties and of those it may concern in maritime transport of goods, examining the different types of contracts and the ongoing practice in concluding insurance contracts. The author presented an in-depth analysis of the position of the contractor and the insured party in the light of the indemnity principle. Dr. Ersida Teliti, from the University of Tirana, presented a paper on the contract of carriage of goods by road in Albanian legislation. Basically, the paper deals with the contract of transport according to the Albanian Civil Code and the jurisprudence of the Albanian Courts regarding transport of goods by road. Julia Constantino Chagas Lessa, from the City University of London, presented her current work on the Maritime Labour Convention and the current status and conditions of seafarers according to this Convention. Aniekan Akpan, from the City University of London, presented his current research on the law of maritime cabotage in the 21st century and beyond. Further, Art Shala, a PhD researcher from the University of Tirana in the field of economics, presented
a paper on accountability reporting and communication in the transport industry in a comparative dimension.

In the second panel, chaired by Prof. Pinar Akan and Dr. Igor Vio, there were five presentations. Carlo Corcione, from the City University of London, presented a paper on third parties protection in carriage of goods by sea and carriage of goods as a multilateral venture, with third parties, especially offshore operators, as parties eligible for protection within the carriage of goods contract. Dr. Belma Bulut, University of Southampton, presented a paper comparing the Rotterdam Rules and the COGSA 1992 regarding the instructions given to the carrier during the delivery of goods. Vincenzo Batistella presented a paper on piracy and charterparties provisions. The author starts from the absence of a definition of piracy. There are several clauses concerning piracy, like in BIMCO and INTERTANKO or voyage and time charterparties, that are taken into consideration in settling disputes that arise regarding the the bearing of costs that derive from piracy. Dr. Arber Gjeta, from the University of Elbasan, presented a paper regarding EU external aviation policy and the implementation of the European Common Aviation Area in the Western Balkan countries. Dr. Artan Spahiu, from the University of Elbasan, presented a paper regarding the local public transport in Albania and its legal framework.

The final remarks of this 3rd annual meeting were pointed out by Prof. Rhidian Thomas. The event achieved the main goal of providing useful comments and suggestions to authors, who yet again had the opportunity to expand their network. Furthermore, the event was a milestone in the legal debate in Albania regarding transport law issues, at least at an academic level.