



18TH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONSUMER LAW CONFERENCE (IACL)

July 19–21, 2023

Topic:

Challenges

and
Unanswered Questions
of Consumer Law

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract submission deadline: 30 January 2023

Feedback: 20 February 2023

Guidelines: max. 300 words, 5-7 keywords

Dates: Wednesday, 19 July 2023 – Friday, 21 July 2023

Venue: Rudolf Steiner Haus, Mittelweg 11-12, 20148 Hamburg, Germany

The 18th conference of the International Association of Consumer law will be organized around the theme of **“Challenges and Unanswered Questions of Consumer Law”**. We kindly invite participants from around the world to submit an abstract (max. 300 words, with a **deadline of 30 January 2023**) of a paper they would like to present during the conference. **Abstracts and inquiries should be submitted to contact@iacl2023.com**. Please note that no interpreters will be available for language translations.

The conference will run from approximately 9:00 AM on Wednesday, 19 July to 2:00 PM on Friday, 21 July 2023. It will be held at the Rudolf Steiner Haus in Hamburg, Germany. The goal of this conference is to provide a forum where leading international scholars, practitioners, representatives of consumer organizations, public authorities and business can gather together to present and discuss issues relevant to consumer protection in many sectors and from various perspectives. We welcome both theoretical and empirical submissions.

Conference organizers are hoping to offer a publication opportunity of selected papers in well-known journals. Furthermore, all papers will be published on the conference website. Nevertheless, all authors are free to publish their work in other venues as they choose.



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TOPICS

We encourage presenters to focus on the overarching theme of the conference: **Challenges and Unanswered Questions of Consumer Law**. Technological developments in the area of consumption challenge traditional ideas of consumer contracts as only bilateral agreements. While traditional law focuses on institutions such as banks, insurance companies, department stores etc., technological developments increasingly lead to a focus on functions such as banking, insurance and sales, which can be offered by very different and less controlled entities. Intermediaries use the platform economy to link newcomers with consumers who may have different grades of access. Thus, supervisory institutions which are mostly organised on the national level lose influence while consumer contract law is increasingly relevant for issues of the public good.

Within the general theme, presenters might reflect on past successes (and failures) of consumer law and policy in a particular area of commerce, opportunities for moving consumer law in a different direction, or the potential threats to consumer welfare (particularly the impact of changes in the political landscape in some parts of the world). Papers focusing on consumer law in individual countries are welcome, as well as papers with an international focus.

Presentations on all topics related to consumer protection will be considered, including but not limited to:

- International dimensions of consumer law
- Changing political climate
- Consumer law & theory
- Comparative consumer law
- Sustainability and/or consumer law, including sustainable consumption (circular economy)
- Emerging technologies, internet, "smart" contracts
- Financial services, eg consumer credit, insurance
- Bankruptcy and banking law
- Sharing economy
- Product safety
- Tourism & travel
- Health care
- Marketing and advertising
- Consumers and the digital world, including e-commerce
- Consumers & data such as profiling and scoring of consumers, consumer privacy
- Procedural consumer law, including enforcement of consumer law, access to justice & alternative dispute resolution
- Consumer organizations
- Effectiveness of consumer law
- Consumer education, eg clinical education in the field of consumer law
- Definition of consumer law, eg its personal and material scope
- History and evolution of consumer law
- Future developments of consumer law
- Dialogue with other disciplines, including law and economics



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ABSTRACTS

All abstracts will be reviewed by the organizers of the conference. Participants will be notified of the organizers' decisions as soon as possible. Timely notification and letters of invitation should allow participants to make transportation arrangements and apply for visas, if necessary.

The abstract must contain the following information about the candidate: title, surname, affiliated institution, position held at institution, and a current e-mail address. This information does not form part of the word count for the abstract. Candidates are requested to proofread their abstracts to ensure that the language and style is of high quality. All presentations at the conference will be in English and no provision will be made for translating.

FURTHER DETAILS

The conference will include plenary sessions each day. Most papers, however, will be presented during concurrent workshop sessions following plenary sessions, with the presentation time being limited to 15-20 minutes. After each concurrent workshop session there will be a few minutes for a brief discussion. Accommodation arrangements are the responsibility of the participants and must be made directly with the hotels. Please visit the conference website for more information on hotels near the Conference venue. Please note that all participants, whether presenting a paper or not, are expected to timely register according to the registration policy as set forth on the conference website, which involves payment of a registration fee.

Registration for the 18th IACL Conference is now open. Participants are invited to attend all days of the conference and the social program.

For more information about the conference, hotel accommodation, registration, conference schedule, and the social program, please visit the conference website www.iacl2023.com

IMPORTANT DATES:	30 January 2023	Deadline for submission of Abstracts
	20 February 2023	CfP Feedback
	3 March 2023	Last Day of Early Bird
	19 July 2023	Conference Day One, Evening: Conference Dinner
	20 July 2023	Conference Day Two, Evening: Social Program
	21 July 2023	Conference Day Three