

PEOPIL

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The Pan-European Organisation of Personal Injury Lawyers (PEOPIL) was founded in 1996 by European lawyers who believed that communication between European jurisdictions is essential to promoting understanding of personal injury law in different countries, and felt the need for a European organisation in which they could discuss and debate with counterparts from across the continent.

The Directorate General XXIV for Consumer Policy of the Commission of the European Union gave financial and ideal support, in order to enable the founding members to establish PEOPIL as a charitable European lawyers association.

PEOPIL currently has more than 220 members in 26 Countries, mainly across Europe but also in the Americas, Australia and Asia.

Its objectives are to develop co-operation and networking of personal injury lawyers within Europe; to promote access to the legal system for consumers suffering personal injury; to promote higher standards of care and safety for consumers; to promote proper and fair compensation for all personal injury cases; to support and encourage the exchange of information and knowledge.

One of the great benefits of this truly European organisation is mixing, co-operating and networking with practitioners from different jurisdictions.

PEOPIL services include, amongst other things, a quarterly newsletter, a monthly bulletin, an interactive web page and a yearly list of PEOPIL members and contacts details.

It is not uncommon, for example, that Australian lawyers contact PEOPIL for help in cases that relate to Australian citizens that suffered injuries during a trip to Europe. This is a service PEOPIL happily provides to colleagues from all over the world.

As the world is shrinking and globalisation is on everybody's mind, a closer co-operation with for example APLA seems to be logical step forward. This means to encourage APLA members to join PEOPIL and vice versa, because PEOPIL believes that the exchange of information, ideas and the development of personal contacts will enable their respective members to better serve the interests of the clients they represent.

Annual conferences in changing European cities are well attended by personal injury lawyers and experts, and

attract top class speakers from across Europe.

Seminars in the past have covered subjects as diverse as asbestos litigation, international sports law, and many more.

This years conference covered topics such as "Personal Injury & The Brussels Convention", "Assessing Future Damages and Care Costs", "Road Traffic Accidents" and "Poisoning & Contamination - The latest on personal injury".

For early next year PEOPIL plans a convocation in an Italian Ski Resort discussing ski accidents.

PEOPIL maintains a site at www.peopil.com. ■

Wolfgang Resch is the Executive Director of PEOPIL



Australian
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Membership Directory

will be published in July 1999.

If you have not yet updated your details, please
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Dennis Barry TODAY

to ensure your listing is correct.