

# LSU PAUL M. HEBERT LAW CENTER



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## *The Russell Long Chair and CCLS Newsletter*

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### ***43<sup>rd</sup> Tucker Lecture by Professor Frédérique Ferrand***



On February 6, 2024, Frédérique Ferrand, Professor at University Jean Moulin Lyon 3, Director of the Edouard Lambert Institute of Comparative Law, and Honorary Professor at the University of Augsburg, Germany, presented on Evolutions in European Family Law: Towards a Common Core, at the LSU Law Center. This was the 43<sup>rd</sup> John H. Tucker, Jr. Lecture in Civil Law, organized by the Center of Civil Law Studies of the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

Dean Alena Allen opened the event, reminding the audience of Colonel Tucker's influence on the evolution of the civil law of Louisiana. Professor Olivier Moreteau introduced the speaker, pointing to her vast scholarship in comparative civil procedure and family law, and her prominent role in worldwide harmonization of civil procedure and European harmonization of family Law.

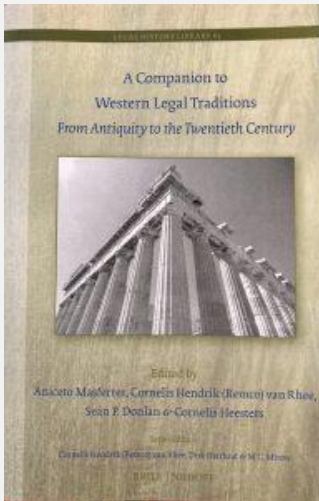
In a well-structured and splendidly delivered lecture, Professor Ferrand presented on the current trends in European family law, including recent cooperation on family matters within the European Union and the emerging trend of harmonizing national European family laws on matters like jurisdiction and choice-of-law for divorce, while sticking to different national approaches for certain sensitive issues.

One issue that European countries continue to take separate approaches on is surrogacy and the rules on the transfer of parenthood. Because each individual member state has its own rules on family law matters, the European Union has a limited role when it comes to such matters.

A lively discussion followed, with questions from scholars and from the many family law students who attended the Lecture. Students tried to better grasp the reasons why leading European jurisdictions oppose surrogacy, considering it contrary to public policy, while showing great tolerance towards same-sex unions and pluralistic models of family arrangements.



[Click here to view the recording of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Tucker Lecture.](#)



## ***A Companion to Western Legal Traditions***

With Professor Agustín Parise and the late Jacques Vanderlinden, Professor Olivier Moréteau contributed the final chapter of *A Companion to Western Legal Traditions*, featuring the Contemporary Period (1900-Present).

[A Companion to Western Legal Traditions](#), From Antiquity to the Twentieth Century, Volume 65 of the Legal History Library, Brill, 2024. Volume Editors: Aniceto Masferrer, C.H. van Rhee, Seán Donlan, and Cornelis Heesters.

This volume offers an extensive introduction to Western legal traditions from antiquity to the twentieth century. Drawing from a variety of scholarly writings, both in English and in translation, thirteen leading scholars present the current state of western legal history research and pave the way for new debates and future study. This is the ideal sourcebook for graduate students, as it enables them to approach the key questions of the field in an accessible way.

## ***Professor Moréteau's Videos on Western Legal Traditions***

Professor Olivier Moréteau has recorded several videos for his Legal Traditions class. They are available to the public on his YouTube channel @oliviermoreteau, from the Western Legal Traditions list. These 26 videos cover a variety of topics, such as code interpretation, interpretation in the common law, comparative views on interpretation, gaps in civil codes, categories in the civil law, the French court system, legal education, judicial review, history of the common law, the development of the civil law in Louisiana. [Click here to access the videos](#). The @oliviermoreteau YouTube channel also gives you access to videos of [Juris Diver-sitas](#) conferences.

## ***The Louisiana Civil Code Online Gets an Update***

The [Louisiana Civil Code Online \(LCCO\)](#) is an online publication of the Center of Civil Law Studies (CCLS). It gives full access to the Civil Code of Louisiana in English, to its French translation, completed in 2016, and to the ongoing Spanish translation prepared by Professor Mariano Vitetta, LL.M. LSU, former CCLS Research Associate and currently Assistant Professor at Austral University, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The Spanish translation is in progress. The Preliminary Title, Book 1 (persons), Book 2 (things and ownership), Titles 3 to 5 of Book 3 (obligations), and Book 4 (conflict of laws) are already accessible online. The English and French versions have been updated of all changes adopted until the 2023 legislative session, thanks to the work of Aurore Guizonne, CCLS Research Associate.

LCCO is open source. It is possible to consult the English and the French, and the English and the Spanish on the same screen. Tables of content facilitate the navigation and LCCO is fully searchable.

For any comment, contact Prof. Moréteau: [moreteau@lsu.edu](mailto:moreteau@lsu.edu). [Click here to access LCCO](#).

## ***Forthcoming: Cooperation with French Notaries and Conference on the Evolution of French Tort Law***

On April 23, the LSU Law Center will sign a Cooperation Agreement with the *Institut national des formations notariales* (INFN), the French Institute coordinating the professional training of French notaries, also furthering their international education. Like in other civil law jurisdictions, France has two branches of the

legal profession, advocates and notaries. In addition to other forms of academic cooperation, this agreement will facilitate the access of future French notaries to the LSU LL.M. in Comparative Law.

On this occasion, the INFN and the CCLS at LSU Law organize a conference on current evolutions in tort law, with a focus on the ongoing French revision of the Civil Code civil liability (tort) provisions. The conference will feature:

- The Liability of Notaries and their Duties as Legal Advisors, Prof. Philippe Pierre, University of Rennes
- The Social Liability of Enterprises, Prof. Nathalie Blanc, University Sorbonne-Paris Nord
- The Reparation of Ecological Damage, Prof. Bernard Haftel, University Sorbonne-Paris Nord
- Litigating Liability for Climate Change, Prof. Mustapha Mekki, University Pantheon-Sorbonne, Paris 1

### ***The Commentary on the Louisiana Civil Code is in the Making***

In civil-law jurisdictions, a most useful and popular tool in the arsenal of lawyers, judges, law professors, and students is the commentary of the civil code, presented in a series of volumes providing needed information concerning the derivation, meaning, interpretation, and application of each article of the civil code. However, a comprehensive commentary is still missing from the bookshelves of the Louisiana law libraries. It is the intention of the CCLS to fill this void.

The *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* is an ambitious multi-issue project for an article-by-article commentary on the entire Louisiana Civil Code that will be published in the Journal of Civil Law Studies under the auspices of the Center of Civil Law Studies of the LSU Law Center.

The first issue of the *Louisiana Civil Code Commentary* focuses on the Preliminary Title of the Louisiana Civil Code (articles 1-14), and it will appear in Volume 16 the Journal of Civil Law Studies. Three groups of LSU Law students, Graduate Editors of the Journal, are actively doing research on these code articles.

The Co-Editors of the Commentary are:

Professor Nikolaos Davrados, LSU Law Center

Professor Olivier Moréteau, LSU Law Center

Professor Agustín Parise, Maastricht University Faculty of Law



### ***Civil Law Forum at LSU Law***

Friday, March 8, LSU Law hosted the Civil Law Forum, prepared by Prof. Missy Lonegrass (LSU) and Prof. Sandi Varnado (Loyola New Orleans). Faculty from LSU, Loyola, Southern, and Mississippi College presented work-in-progress on topics related to civil law and Louisiana, with comparative perspectives. Each presentation generated a lively and congenial discussion. The event evidenced the vitality of civil law scholarship in Louisiana and gave a voice to promising emerging scholars.

## ***Bicentennial of the Civil Code of Louisiana: Mark Your Calendar***

On March 20-21, 2025, LSU Law will host a CCLS **International Conference Celebrating the Louisiana Civil Code of 1825: Its Content, Its Influence, Its Languages**. Papers will discuss the history of the Code and its content, its influence in the Americas, Spain, and other parts of the world, and the languages of the Code and recent translations, as this was the last bilingual major enactment regarding the civil law of Louisiana.

There has been no formal call for papers but anyone interested may send a proposal to Prof. Olivier Moréteau at [moreteau@lsu.edu](mailto:moreteau@lsu.edu).

This conference is part of a series of events coordinated by the Louisiana Civil Code Bicentennial Committee.

## ***Juris Diversitas 9<sup>th</sup> General Conference, Macau, October 24-25, 2024***

Juris Diversitas is extending the call for papers until April 14, 2024. The topic of the ninth conference is “‘Convivencia’: Com-paring Legal Scenarios of a Life Together in Harmony.”

For more details, visit the Juris Diversitas website: [click here to access the Events page](#).



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