

IATA WORLD LEGAL SYMPOSIUM

Shanghai, China
18-20 February 2025

PROGRAM

Host Airline



IATA
WORLD
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SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday, 18 February 2025

Membership and Industry Meetings

- 12h00 – 12h30** **Member Airline Sessions***
- 12h30 – 14h00** **GENERAL COUNSEL'S LUNCHEON***
- 14h00 – 17h45** **Member Airline Sessions Continued***

World Legal Symposium

- 18h00 – 20h00** **WELCOME RECEPTION**

***By invitation only**

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IATA WORLD LEGAL SYMPOSIUM

Beyond the Chicago Convention: The New and the Unresolved

Wednesday, 19 February 2025

09h00 – 09h45

Welcome Address

- **Leslie MacIntosh, Corporate Secretary and Acting General Counsel, IATA**
- **Zhang Xiaohong, Vice Mayor of Shanghai**
- **Liang Nan, Deputy Administrator, Civil Aviation Administration of China**
- **Wang Zhiqing, Chairman, China Eastern Airlines**
- **Lyu Ming, District Mayor of Hongkou District People's Government**
- **Michael Gill, Director, Legal Affairs & External Relations Bureau, ICAO**

09h45 – 10h30

Fireside Chat – The Chicago Convention After 80 Years

Join us for a practical appraisal of the contributions and limitations of the Chicago Convention framework after more than 80 years since adoption.

- **Michael Gill, Director, Legal Affairs & External Relations Bureau, ICAO (Moderator)**
- **Alice Braga, Chair of ICAO Legal Committee, Government of Brazil**
- **Jeffrey Shane, Principal, Jeffrey N. Shane LLC and Fmr General Counsel, IATA**

10h30 – 11h00

NETWORKING BREAK

11h00 – 12h30

Airlines and Aviation in the AI Era

Love it or hate it, AI is here to stay. Many airlines have already deployed generative AI or are planning to do so in everything from customer service and catering to pricing and predictive maintenance. This headline panel will place AI in the context of an airline's business functions, identify key current or near-term use cases and break down the latest in regulation from China, the EU and the US. Core considerations of governance, liability and compliance will be explored, including questions on the interaction between AI and aviation-specific regulatory frameworks and on what aviation can learn from other industries.

- **Juan Carlos Mencio, VP Legal Affairs & Compliance, LATAM (Moderator)**
- **Ji Weidong, Dean and Professor, Shanghai Jiao Tong University**
- **Yuchen Lai, Senior Counsel, Simmons & Simmons**
- **Jinsong Li, Vice President, Travelsky Technology Limited**
- **Jason Gordon, Partner, Reed Smith LLP**

12h30 – 12h45

Constance O'Keefe Legal Writing Award

The Constance O'Keefe Aviation Law Writing Award 2025 is given in memory of Constance O'Keefe, a committed aviation lawyer and former General Counsel of IATA. Laura Pierallini, Founder and Name Partner at Pierallini Studio Legale, will present the Award on behalf of IATA.

12h45 – 14h00

LUNCHEON

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Wednesday, 19 February 2025 continued

14h00 – 15h30

BREAK OUT TRACKS:

Track 1 – The Contract of Carriage in a Modern Age

What place does the venerable contract of carriage occupy in today's modern, digitalised age---and is it the wellspring of legal rights and obligations it once was? This panel will examine the significant shifts in technology, consumer statutes and retailing practices that weigh upon the role of contract and contract law for passenger and cargo operations.

- **Katie Caplan, Managing Counsel – Alliances, United Airlines (Moderator)**
- **Drew M. Derco, Member-In-Charge, Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC**
- **Diego Ferrari, Partner, Cambiaso & Ferrari**
- **Peter Coles, Partner, HFW**
- **Meng Ye, General Legal Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, China Eastern Air Logistics**

Track 2 – Privacy, Cybersecurity and International Air Transport

Data and privacy remain favoured twins in the attention of businesses and regulators everywhere. Consistency of regulation has been a major point of contention in the airline industry, which has asked for greater cooperation between governments on legal frameworks. This panel will take stock of progress on point, identify key pressure points, such as on transfers, biometrics and PNR, sketch out the promise and pitfalls of new technologies for privacy compliance and appraise the latest regulatory activity on cybersecurity.

- **Jeremy Moreton, Head of Legal GBS, IAG (Moderator)**
- **Elias Corona, Data Protection Officer, Cathay Pacific**
- **Ao Lei, Assistant Research Fellow, International Cooperation and Service Center of CAAC**
- **Du Xinyi, Legal Counsel, Air China**
- **Gergely Dzsini, Co-Managing Partner, Eversheds Sutherland Budapest**
- **Xinru Wang, Legal and Compliance Manager, China Eastern Airlines**

15h30 – 16h15

NETWORKING BREAK

16h15 – 17h30

Speed Networking: Selected Legal Scenarios

Join us for this session designed to get you connected quickly. You will be assigned to a dedicated table for team work on our selected, topical legal scenarios. Come prepared with your LinkedIn app at the ready or plenty of business cards!

18h30

Gala Dinner

Thursday, 20 February 2025

09h00 – 09h45

Liability Snapshot

Hear from experienced litigation counsel on the latest appellate cases and broader themes relevant to carrier liability under the treaties and local law. This snapshot segment will compare the liability picture for air carriage in a selection of the world's busiest jurisdictions for last twelve months, isolating the key developments and trends in a digestible format to get you up to speed for 2025.

- **Bartholomew J. Banino, Partner, Condon & Forsyth LLP (Moderator)**
- **Maaïke Lustenhouwer, Partner, AKD**
- **Anita Quy, Partner & Head of Aviation Asia Pacific, Kennedys Law LLP**

09h45 – 10h45

ADR: A Compelling Route for Aviation Businesses?

It is said that today's international airline businesses have a limited appetite for arbitration or other forms of ADR, largely preferring court or negotiated settlements where disputes are concerned. Is this accurate and, if so, why does the sector 'lag' behind others in its use of arbitration? What role can specialist courts of arbitration play, and what factors weigh for and against arbitration as a preferred method in this industry? Our panel will tackle these and related issues, including the prospects for ODR and AI in the field.

- **Roy Goldberg, Member, Clark Hill PLC (Moderator)**
- **Gary Doernhoefer, Founder, ADR Notable**
- **Claire Kelly, Partner and Chief Operating Officer at Oracle Law Global**
- **Louise-Helene Senecal, Vice-President-Litigation, Air Canada**
- **Weijun Wang, General Secretary, Shanghai International Arbitration Center**

10h45 – 11h15

NETWORKING BREAK

11h15 – 12h30

Chicago on Safety and Airworthiness – A Need to Flex?

Issues of safety, airworthiness and certification, as well as mutual recognition, pose questions at the intersections of public and private law. How have the principles at the heart of the Chicago Convention flexed since 1944 and, if they haven't, do they need to for effectiveness? This panel will explore the complex relationship between public functions and private law, tackling the issues commonly arising in the financing and ownership of aircraft, cross-registry arrangements under Article 83 bis and regulatory accountability for safety outcomes more broadly among governments, manufacturers, lessors, operators, maintenance providers and enforcement authorities.

- **Leslie MacIntosh, Corporate Secretary and Acting General Counsel, IATA (Moderator)**
- **Professor Jiefang Huang, Zhou Gengsheng Chair, Wuhan University**
- **Laura Pierallini, Founder and Name Partner, Pierallini Studio Legale**
- **Siew Huay Tan, Director, Special Projects International Air Law, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore**
- **Roger Whipp, Partner, Clyde & Co**

Thursday, 20 February 2025 continued

12h30 – 14h00

LUNCHEON

14h00 – 15h30

BREAK OUT TRACKS:

Track 1 – Taxation Flashpoints in International Air Transport

Chicago left some hard tax questions unresolved, touching only indirect taxation. The industry's international reach makes for the thorniest of double taxation problems save for a degree of alignment between governments in other places on income, jet fuel, sales taxes (ie VAT/GST) and import duties. Pressure now abounds however with developments on the Article 8 principle, the OECD framework on BEPS and a new UN-sponsored taxation convention. Our panel will appraise the current international legal situation on taxes, identify the near-term flashpoints for airline businesses and scope areas for renewed harmonisation.

- **Shereena Rai, Litigation and Regulatory Lawyer, British Airways plc (Moderator)**
- **Peter Sandor, Partner, Eversheds Sutherland**
- **Antonio Moura Portugal, Partner, DLA Piper**
- **Chunyu Ding, Deputy Director, Legal Affairs & External Relations Bureau, ICAO**

Track 2 – The Rise and Rise of Consumer Protection

This panel will explore rise and rise of mode-specific consumer protection laws in the industry and the growing emphasis on cash compensation, near strict liability and codified service entitlements. Join us as we discuss recent developments in Australia, the United States, Canada, among others, the tightening of regulations, and what these changes could mean for airlines and their advisers alike. Can approaches in Asia offer a useful contrast? Will the direction of travel will be one-way in 2025 or will we see a rationalisation of policy approaches to the area?

- **Sophie Hayashi, Managing Director and Assistant General Counsel, A4A (Moderator)**
- **Clara De Castro, SVP-Legal, Philippine Airlines**
- **José Ignacio García Arboleda, Partner, Garcíarboleda Abogados**
- **Carlos Martins, Partner, WeirFoulds LLP**
- **Mark Mackrell, Partner, Norton White Lawyers**
- **Shiqi Chen, Legal and Compliance Manager, China Eastern Airlines**

15h30 – 16h15

NETWORKING BREAK

IATA WORLD LEGAL SYMPOSIUM

Beyond the Chicago Convention: The New and the Unresolved

Thursday, 20 February 2025 continued

16h15 – 17h45

Grand Debate

The Symposium will close, in style, with a grand debate on a matter of controversy in aviation law. Spirited argument will be had between an affirmative and negative team, subject of course to strict rules of procedure. You, through a poll, will decide who wins the day!

- Elizabeth Hichens, Head of Regulatory, Competition & Litigation, British Airways plc (Adjudicator)
- Jeffrey Shane, Principal, Jeffrey N. Shane LLC and Former General Counsel, IATA
- Kenneth P. Quinn, Partner, Clyde & Co LLP
- Pablo Mendes de Leon, Professor Emeritus Air and Space Law, Leiden University
- Solange Leandro, Partner, WFW
- Alejandro Piera, Partner, GHP Abogados
- Amna Arshad, Partner, Crowell & Moring

19h00

Closing Dinner

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Note: Session topics subject to change



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