



UNIDROIT International Summer School on the instruments for the Unification of Private Law



The International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) is an independent, intergovernmental organisation based in Rome that was established in 1926. Its purpose is to study needs and methods for modernising, harmonising, and coordinating private and in particular commercial law between States and groups of States and to formulate uniform law instruments, principles and rules to achieve these goals.

UNIDROIT's products not only contribute to bring legal cultures closer together and to overcome legal barriers, but also to the achievement of sustainable development goals and active contribution to international governance. Its 63 Member States are drawn from the five continents and represent a variety of different legal, economic, and political systems, as well as different cultural backgrounds.

Development policies often focus exclusively on physical and technological infrastructures or human capital, and tend to underestimate the instrumentality of the legal framework supporting the private sector in the pursuit of growth objectives in the broader context of the global economy and sustainable development.

Investing time and resources in achieving sound legal frameworks is key in order to achieve many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and the 20 goals of the 2063 Agenda for Africa. This includes the implementation of existing international legal instruments identified as best practices, such as international conventions, model laws or contractual instruments, as well as legal guides.

The UNIDROIT International Summer School is the latest of a variety of knowledge sharing and dissemination activities of the UNIDROIT Academy, a line of work of one of the oldest transnational law institutions featuring consolidated partnerships with leading universities, specialised UNIDROIT Chairs, a renowned scholarship programme (which also offers secondments, fellowships, and internships), and a network of Libraries worldwide.



The first edition of the International Summer School will be held from **20 June to 22 July 2022** in **English**, with a focus on participants from **Africa**.

We expect the Summer School 2022 to be structured as a hybrid event, **the first two weeks online and the last three weeks in person at the Seat of UNIDROIT in Rome, Via Panisperna 28**.

The prospective participants of the 2022 Summer School are **20-25 judges, public lawyers, and senior legislative drafters** from African countries.

A Scientific Committee will be composed of: Prof. Maria Chiara Malaguti, President; Prof. Sir Roy Goode; prestigious legal experts and Marco Nicoli, Director of the International Summer School.

The courses will be conducted by renowned experts on UNIDROIT instruments, including judges, academics and practitioners, as well as by members of UNIDROIT governing bodies and the Secretariat.



The syllabus of the 2022 International Summer School includes:

- > **Introduction to the role of transnational law and unification;**
- > **International commercial contracts:** UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts (UPICC) and the Model Clauses for the Use of the UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts;
- > **Private Law and sustainable agriculture:** Legal Guides on Contract Farming and on Agricultural Land Investment Contracts;
- > **Access to finance:** Cape Town Convention and relevant Protocols on Aircraft Equipment; Railway Rolling Stock; Space Assets; Mining, Agricultural and Construction Equipment; UNIDROIT's work on Warehouse Receipts Financing; Factoring; UNIDROIT's work on Enforcement;
- > **Law of cultural property:** Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects; Model Provisions on State Ownership of Undiscovered Cultural Objects;
- > **Procedural law and enforcement;**
- > **Law and technology.**

In addition to reading material and classes, the participants will benefit from **seminars** addressing case studies presented by legal practitioners based on real cases.



Social events will also be organized in the evening after school hours to facilitate networking among participants, with lecturers and legal experts.

Guided visits to the city will be organized during the weekends to enable participants to take advantage of the rich cultural heritage of the city of Rome.



The 2022 edition of the International Summer School foresees **follow-up events** to be organized in collaboration with participants, in their respective countries, to reach a broader audience (lawmakers, policymakers, financial institutions, academia, legal practitioners, etc.) on selected topics of special interest for each country, to be identified with the input from School's participants.



Upon successful completion of the Summer School, participants will be granted **free membership** (for two years) to the **UNIDROIT Alumni Association**, invited to produce papers for publication in electronic format on the Institute's website, and will be members of an online Community of Practice to exchange experiences.

The UNIDROIT International Summer School 2022 is organized thanks to the financial support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation/Directorate General for Development and Cooperation that will allow some contributions to participants' expenses based on a case-by-case evaluation.

The Call for applications and more details about the Summer School 2022 will be posted on the UNIDROIT website.

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