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Conference venue

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
Via Emilia Parmense, 84
29122 Piacenza - Italy

Photo by Caterina Saban, 'Cabbage, shot 3'

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Innovating Food, Innovating the Law

An interdisciplinary approach to the
challenges in the agro-food sector



International Conference

Piacenza, October 14-15, 2011



With the scientific support of Lawtech Research Group



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The term innovation has been widely used to refer to the economic and social implications triggered by science and technology. However, little attention has been paid “legal innovation,” namely innovation of legal concepts, constructs, and processes, both of “hard” and ‘soft law.’ The agro-food sector represents a strategic domain for innovation in the legal field. In fact, if agriculture, food production and distribution are rooted in the history of humankind, they have been radically reshaped jointly by technoscience, policy and the law. The Conference will provide an overview of three major areas of interest. The first one deals with the impact of information and access to knowledge on new rights in the agro-food sector. The second concerns different legal cultures and standards of safety in a globalized world. The third aims to explore new regulatory approaches to promoting and rewarding innovation in the agro-food sector.

Programme:

Friday, October 14, 2011

8.30 Registration

9.00 Welcome addresses by the Academic authorities

Presentation of the Conference

MARIACHIARA TALLACCHINI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
UMBERTO IZZO (LawTech Research Group, Università degli studi di Trento, Italy)

9.30 Session 1
Knowledge and food rights: innovation, information, participation

Chairs
ROMEO ASTORRI (Agrisystem, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
GIOVANNI PASCUZZI (LawTech Research Group, Università degli studi di Trento, Italy)

Opening speech:
PAOLO DE CASTRO (European Parliament)
Introduced by GIANFRANCO PIVA (Agrisystem, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)

10.15 Session 1 (continued)

Chair
ALESSANDRO MANGIA (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

Contributions by:
ALBERTO GERMANÒ (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy)
New challenges for agricultural law. Innovating food innovating law

IACOPO BERTI (Autorità Garante della Concorrenza del Mercato, Italy)
Informing or advertising? The blurring boundaries

CESARE BALDRIGHI (Consorzio Grana Padano, Italy)
Labelling and quality

DARIO DONGO (Federalimentare, Italy)
Health claims, a troubled implementation and mixed stakeholders' views on Reg. EC no. 1924/2006

11.45-12.00 Coffee break

12.00
ANTONIO G. CHIZZONITI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
Food and religious rights

PAOLA FOSSATI (Università degli studi di Milano, Italy),
Labelling animal welfare, empowering citizens' ethics

MONICA DE PAOLI (Notariato Milano, Tavolo Onlus, Italy)
and MARCO MORGANTI (Banca Prossima, Italy)
Italian experiences in food cooperation

ANTONELLA SCIARRONE ALIBRANDI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
Innovative legal models for fair trade

13.30-14.30 Lunch

14.30 Session 2
Food safety and innovative legal instruments

Chair
LORENZO MORELLI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore , Italy)

Keynote speakers:
GANGJIAN DU (Hunan University, China)
Law and food safety in China

ELLEN VOS (Maastricht University, The Netherlands)
Experts, public institutions and food risks: from bio- to nano-technology

16.00 Session 2 (continued)

Chair
MARCO TREVISAN (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

Contributions by:
FERDINANDO ALBISINNI (Università degli studi della Toscana, Italy)
Proactive and reactive innovation in food law

DINO RINOLDI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy) and Sabrina Carciotto (Università degli studi di Catania, Italy)
From Precaution to Product liability in the agro-food sector: internationalization movement of goods, legal safety, and innovation in the EU

UMBERTO IZZO (Università degli studi di Trento, Italy)
Technology, precautionary information and the future of civil liability in the food sector

FRANCESCO TIMPANO and LUCA LANINI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
Traceability at the interface between economics and the law

ALBERTO ALEMANNI (École des hautes études commerciales de Paris, France)
Regulating Emerging Risks: The case of nano-food applications and animal cloning in food production

ALDO PRANDINI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
The identification of potentially emerging food safety issues: an analysis of reports published by the European Community's Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF)

MATTEO FERRARI (McGill University, Canada),
Information and beyond: the role of private certification bodies

18.45 Discussion and update

20.00 Dinner for invited speakers

Saturday, October 15, 2011

8.30 Session 3
Innovating legal protection of new and traditional knowledge and technology

Chair
MAURIZIO BAUSSOLA (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

Keynote speakers:
VINOD KUMAR GUPTA (Traditional Knowledge Digital Library, India)
TKDL as a Model for Protection of Traditional Knowledge and for Rewarding the Creativity in Traditional Knowledge

SVEN BOSTYN (University of Liverpool, United Kingdom)
Challenges and opportunities in patenting agro-food: recent developments

10.00 Coffee Break

10.15 Session 3 (continued)

Chair
FRANCESCO TIMPANO (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)

Contributions by:
LAURENT MANDERIEUX (Università Luigi Bocconi, Italy)
Plant variety or patentability of plants?

FRANCO BENUSSI (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)
Biopiracy: A Threat to Indigenous Biological Legacies

ROBERTO CASO (Università degli studi di Trento, Italy)
Open Source Models in the Agro-food Sector: The State of the Art

DEV GANGJEE (London School of Economics, United Kingdom)
Geographical Indications: Between Two Paradigms

ANDREA ROSSATO (Università degli studi di Trento, Italy)
IP and self-protection (genetic markers, time-limited seeds, etc.)

DAVID LAMETTI (McGill University, Canada),
Trademarks and beyond

13.00 Closing Remarks
ROMEO ASTORRI (Agrisystem, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy)