



**IFTTA**  
THE INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF  
TRAVEL AND TOURISM ADVOCATES

with the support of



**EC IAA**



**Dugardyn  
& Partners**

## The 28<sup>th</sup> IFTTA Worldwide Conference Brussels, Belgium

**8 – 10 November 2017**

**TENTATIVE PROGRAM – SUBJECT TO CHANGES**

**Wednesday, 8 November 2017** (board members only)

Location	Dugardyn & Partners offices, Brussels
09:00	Board meeting
13:00	Transfer to Warwick Brussels, Grand Place



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**Wednesday, 8 November 2017** (IFTTA members)

Location	Warwick Brussels, Grand Place
As from 13:00	Registration of participants (IFTTA desk)
14:00	Opening conference by keynote speaker
14:45	Annual General Meeting (part I)
15:45	Coffee break
16:15	Annual General Meeting (part II)
17:30	End of Annual General Meeting
19:00	Welcome Cocktail (Brussels City Hall)



**Thursday, 9 November 2017**

**Morning session**

Location                      European Parliament *in parallel with the EP Transport and Tourism Committee*

Proposed theme              **Update on the implementation of the new Package Travel Directive 2015/2302 in the EU Member states**

*The new EU Directive on package travel and linked travel arrangements must be implemented into the national legal order of the EU Member states by **1 January 2018**, that is only a few weeks after our Conference.*

*A lot has been said and written already about this Directive, which will have a considerable impact on the European travel industry and legal practice in the years to come.*

*The main purpose of today's sessions is not to study the Directive in depth (again) but to give a comparative update of the implementation in the EU Member states and the possible national differences that emerge in this process.*

*But as this is a worldwide conference, we will make sure that non-EU participants will also get a brief and comprehensive insight in this major piece of legislation.*

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 08:00 | Transfer to European Parliament                 |
| 08:30 | Registration of participants and security check |
| 09:00 | Opening address by keynote speaker              |
| 09:30 | <b>Session 1</b>                                |
| 10:30 | Coffee break                                    |
| 10:45 | <b>Session 2</b>                                |
| 12:00 | End of morning session                          |



## **Afternoon session**

Location                      Warwick Brussels, Grand Place

Proposed theme            **Disruption in the global travel industry and its impact on business and (travel) law**

*Disruption is more than a buzzword. Technical innovations and data science are profoundly transforming the travel industry. They give rise to new distribution models and travel products. Travel companies must rethink their distribution strategies to survive. Traditional suppliers become distributors – and inversely. Online travel agents and metasearch engines must constantly adopt new technologies and add new services to face the growing competition of new players such as Airbnb or general search engines such as Google, which are entering the (package) travel market.*

*Not to forget the transformed consumer behavior which is maybe the greatest disruption force of all.*

*The purpose of today's sessions is to get an insight into these extremely complex changes and the impact they have on travel law and legal practice, for instance in the field of consumer protection, liability, privacy and data protection, insolvency protection, etc.*

14:00                      Opening address by keynote speaker

14:20                      **Session 3**

15:30                      Coffee break

16:00                      **Session 4**

17:30                      End of afternoon session

19:00                      Belgian beer and chocolate, art nouveau and surrealism – an original stroll through the streets of Brussels  
Optional informal dinner in Brussels (at own expense).



**Friday, 10 November 2017**

Location                      Warwick Brussels, Grand Place

Proposed theme            **A troubled traveler in a troubled world**

*The world has become a troubled and less open place.  
Terrorist attacks, wars, shutdowns of civil aircrafts, general insecurity (feelings),  
volcanoes, tsunamis and other climatic conditions, pandemics, travel bans, laptop  
computers bans and other unfriendly policies, etc. make travel less easy.  
How does the travel industry adapt to these increasing threats?  
How to deal with the increasingly complex legal questions they raise in the different  
parts of the world.  
These sessions will be devoted to questions such as force majeure, insurance  
coverage, the legal value of foreign travel advices, the obligations of travel agents,  
travel organizers and other suppliers in crisis situations and the costs of their  
assistance, liability, restriction of travelers' freedoms and privacy, etc.*

09:00                          Opening address by keynote speaker

09:20                          **Session 6**

11:00                          Coffee break

11:30                          **Session 7**

13:00                          Lunch

14:00                          **Session 8**

16:30                          End of sessions

19:00                          Cocktail followed by Gala Dinner in Brussels (private venue)



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**Saturday, 11 November 2017**

10:00 – 19:00      Optional visit of Bruges (price TBC)  
*11 November is a public holiday in Belgium*

**Sunday, 12 November 2017**

11:00 – 12:30      Optional privatized visit of the Magritte Museum, Brussel (price TBC)