

IATA WORLD LEGAL SYMPOSIUM

Warsaw, Poland
17-19 February 2026

PROGRAM

Host Airline



A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER



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Tuesday, 17 February 2026

Membership and Industry Meetings

- 12h00 – 12h30 **Member Sessions – Legal Briefings Community**
- 12h30 – 14h00 **General Counsel's Luncheon**
- 14h00 – 17h30 **Member Sessions – Legal Briefings Community continued**

IATA World Legal Symposium

- 18h00 – 20h00 **WELCOME RECEPTION**



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Wednesday, 18 February 2026

- 09h00 – 09h45** **Welcome Remarks and Keynote**
■ **Michał Fijoł, CEO, LOT Polish Airlines**
- 09h45 – 10h30** **Legal Leaders’ Roundtable**
What are the enduring and emerging liability themes of relevance, and how are these currently assessed by airlines, industry partners and governments? Has our liability world truly changed, or are we simply seeing old risks in new forms? Our legal leaders will weigh in with point and counterpoint.
■ Speakers include:
• **Leslie MacIntosh, Corporate Secretary and Acting General Counsel, IATA**
• **Michael Gill, Director, Legal Affairs & External Relations Bureau, ICAO**
• **Jeffrey Shane, Principal, Jeffrey N. Shane LLC and Former General Counsel, IATA**
• **Andrea Tang, Legal Service Director, FIATA - International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations**
- 10h30 – 11h00** **NETWORKING BREAK**
- 11h00 – 12h20** **Managing Geopolitical Exposures: Trade, Tariffs, Sanctions and Insurance**
Our panel will examine the impact of geopolitical pressures on the airline sector, with a focus on war, trade, tariffs, sanctions, insurance and other common categories of politically driven legal and regulatory risk. How can airlines and their counsel manage the dynamics associated with ever shifting international policies?
■ Speakers include:
• **Zia Ullah, Partner, Eversheds Sutherland**
• **Charles Daoust, Senior Legal Counsel, Air Canada**
• **Zoe Tite, Partner, Clyde & Co**
• **Stephanie Connor, Partner, Holland & Knight**
- 12h20 – 12h30** **Constance O’Keefe Legal Writing Award**
The Constance O’Keefe Legal Writing Award 2026 is given in memory of Constance O’Keefe, a committed aviation lawyer and former General Counsel of IATA.
- 12h30 – 14h00** **LUNCH BREAK**

This is a preliminary program. Note that all sessions are subject to change as our line-up is finalized.

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Wednesday, 18 February 2026

14h00 – 15h30

Airline Contracts: Navigating Planned and Unplanned Risks Alike

Airline GCs are involved in every aspect of contractual risk management in today's complex commercial and regulatory landscape. How does one navigate the 'known knowns', 'known unknowns' and the 'unknown unknowns' to create value and avoid value destruction? This panel will consider recent developments in risk allocation, force majeure, contractual liability and dispute resolution as most relevant to airline legal departments and their external counsel.

■ Speakers include:

- **Michał König, General Counsel, LOT Polish Airlines**
- **Henning zur Hausen, Independent General Counsel**
- **Imants Jansons, General Counsel and SVP Legal Affairs, Air Baltic**
- **Jeremy Moreton, Head of Legal GBS, IAG**
- **Michelle Johnson, General Counsel and SVP Legal Affairs, flydubai**
- **Alix d'Arjuzon, Partner, HFW**

15h30 – 16h15

NETWORKING BREAK

16h15 – 17h30

Speed Networking: Selected Legal Scenarios

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

19h00– 22h00

GALA DINNER

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Thursday, 19 February 2026

09h00 – 10h30

Democratized Liability? Consumer Protection 2.0

New-model consumer protection laws, like Canada’s APPRs or a fresh-look EU261 aim to bring actionable protections closer to the consumer, entirely displacing what many legislators consider as outmoded treaty or contract models of liability. Has ‘Consumer Protection 2.0’ achieved its aims and how can disparate national frameworks be managed by airlines to ensure entitlements, customer satisfaction and compliance? What role for ICAO and are there counter examples to the trend?

■ Speakers include:

- **Claudia Hess, Managing Partner, Urwantschky Dangel Borst**
- **Agnieszka Kunert-Diallo, Director of Compliance and Regulation, LOT Polish Airlines**
- **Daniel Moss, Manager Government, Legal & Industry Affairs, African Airlines Association**
- **Shirly Kazir, Partner, FISCHER**

10h30 – 11h00

NETWORKING BREAK

11h00 – 12h30

Artificial Intelligence and Competition Law

Artificial intelligence is increasingly used by businesses to automate operations, raising a host of legal and regulatory questions. When an AI system makes a commercial decision, who is responsible? What is the position when your AI model learns from competitor behavior and recommends or implements a suggested response, for example with respect to pricing or seat supply? How are actions taken by AI attributed to a company or individual, and how does this affect theories of competition law, liability and culpability? How have competition authorities approached these novel issues, and what guardrails and best practices are appropriate?

■ Speakers include:

- **Miriam Geiss, Senior Specialist Counsel Antitrust, IATA**
- **Juan Carlos Mencio, VP Legal Affairs & Compliance, LATAM**
- **Steven Truxal, Professor Air and Space Law, Leiden University**
- **Jeffrey Martino, Partner, Baker & McKenzie LLP**
- **Matteo Castioni, Of Counsel, Associated Law Firm Watson Farley & Williams**

12h30 – 14h00

LUNCH

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Thursday, 19 February 2026

14h00 – 15h30

From Carrier’s Agent, to Shipper to Shipper’s Agent; the moving target of Freight Forwarder liability

This session will walk delegates through the shifting roles of freight forwarders from cargo agents to shippers and even shipper’s agent, and the resulting implications for carriers’ liability. It will examine how these evolving commercial practices impact the allocation of risk in air cargo transport and discuss to which extent the current IATA Resolutions and Recommended Practices provide a coherent framework to address these developments.

■ Speakers include:

- **Carlos Tornero, Director Legal Services and Deputy General Counsel, IATA**
- **Bartholomew J. Banino, Partner, Condon & Forsyth LLP**
- **Katharina de Ressão, Legal Counsel, ARNECKE SIBETH DABELSTEIN**
- **Ricardo Bernardi, Managing Partner, Bernardi & Schnapp Advogados**

15h30 – 16h00

NETWORKING BREAK

16h00 – 17h30

Grand Debate

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

■ Adjudicator and debaters include:

- **Robert Lawson KC, Barrister**
- **Louise-Hélène Sénécal, Consultant, LHS Legal**
- **Imants Jansons, General Counsel and SVP Legal Affairs, Air Baltic**
- **Laura Pierallini, Founder and Managing Partner, Studio Pierallini**
- **Iva Savic, Associate Professor - Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb**
- **Anna Konert, Professor, Łazarski University**
- **Barry Alexander, Partner, Victor Rane**

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