



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## EFLA CONGRESS 2023 PROGRAMME

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### THE FUTURE OF FOOD AND FOOD LAW

AUDITORIUM OF VIERA DE ALMEIDA (VDA)  
RUA DOM LUÍS I 28, 1200-151 LISBON, PORTUGAL

Thursday 28 – Friday 29 September 2023

DAY ONE – THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 09:35	Opening address <i>Ms Irene Verheijen, EFLA President</i>
09:35 – 09:45	Welcome from hosting partners
09:45 – 10:05	Keynote speech <i>Ms Maria Damanaki, Independent Advisor on Climate-Oceans and Former EU Commissioner for Maritimes Affairs and Fisheries</i>
<b>SESSION I</b> <b>THE FUTURE OF FOOD: FARM TO FORK / GREEN DEAL</b>	
10:05 – 10:10	Introduction from the Chairperson <i>Mr Craig Simpson, Keller and Heckmann</i>
10:10 – 10:40	Developments in Food Law (Green Deal / Farm to Fork Strategy) <i>Ms Rada Chehlarova, Team Leader in Unit SANTE E1 “Farm to Fork Strategy”, DG Health and Food Safety, European Commission</i>
10:40 – 11:10	Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence <i>Ms Joana Mota, Uria Menéndez</i>
11:10 – 11:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:30 – 12:00	Food Donation as an Opportunity: The Legal Framework for Food Donations in the EU <i>Prof. Carola Ricci, University of Pavia</i>
12:00 – 12:30	The Future of Food Packaging in the EU: The Commission’s Proposal on Packaging and Packaging Residues <i>Ms Emily Amat (DWF France)</i>

**European Food Law Association (EFLA)**

Avenue de Tervuren 13, 1040 Brussels

T: +32 2 736 53 54 – F: +32 2 732 34 27 – VAT: BE 0413 581 769

E: [secretariat@efla-aeda.org](mailto:secretariat@efla-aeda.org) - W: [www.efla-aeda.org](http://www.efla-aeda.org)



<b>12:30 – 13:00</b>	Green Claims Directive/Revision of Unfair Commercial Practices Directive <i>Ms Paola Corte, Studio Legale Corte</i>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>SESSION II</b> <b>BIODIVERSITY AND SUSTAINABILITY</b>	
<b>14:00 – 14:05</b>	Introduction from the Chairperson <i>Prof Andreas Meisterernst, Partner, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte</i>
<b>14:05 – 14:35</b>	Biodiversity and Nagoya Protocol: Navigating through the Legal Restraints for European Food Business Operators <i>Mr Dominic Muyldermans, Senior legal advisor, ABSint</i>
<b>14:35 – 15:05</b>	The Regulation on Deforestation: A Perspective from Outside the EU <i>Mr Gerardo Figueiredo Jr., Zeigler Advogados</i>
<b>15:05 – 15:35</b>	From Resource Collection to Production in the Ocean: The Use of Maritime Space and its Resources within the Legal Framework <i>Prof Assunção Cristas (VdA and Nova School of Law)</i>
<b>15:35 – 16:00</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	The Regulation Proposal of New Genomic Techniques for Sustainable Agriculture in Europe – Gene Editing <i>Mr Georges Freyssinet, President of the French Association of Vegetal Biotechnology</i>
<b>16:30 – 17:00</b>	Regulations on EU fertilizing products and entry into the market of biostimulating products <i>Ms Catarina Pinto Correia, Vieira de Almeida</i>
<b>17:00 – 17:30</b>	Q&A session <i>All speakers</i>

<b>DAY TWO – FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER</b>	
<b>SESSION III</b>	
<b>CURRENT DEVELOPMENT OF TRADITIONAL FOODS / PERSPECTIVE ON NOVEL FOODS</b>	
<b>09:00 – 09:05</b>	Introduction from the Chairperson <i>Prof. Francesco Montanari, Arcadia International and Nova School of Law</i>
<b>09:05 – 09:35</b>	Preserving the Quality and Integrity of Traditional Products <i>Prof. Saskia Van Ruth, University College Dublin</i>
<b>09:35 – 09:55</b>	Ensuring Food Quality: How Authorities Cope with Adulteration and Technological Challenges <i>Ms Maria de Jesus Tavares, Director of the Food Safety Laboratory (ASAE)</i>
<b>09:55 – 10:25</b>	Novel Foods: State of Play in the EU <i>Mr Rafael Perez Berbejal – Team Leader Novel Foods, European Commission</i>
<b>10:25 – 10:45</b>	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
<b>10:45 – 12:45</b>	Panel discussion: Global Trends in Alternative Protein Production Chair: <i>Ms Karin Verzijden, Axon</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How Codex and countries outside the EU are approaching the New Food Sources and Production Systems, Francesco Planchenstainer, Global Head of Food Law, Nestlé</i></li> <li>• <i>Alternative Proteins as novel foods in Brazil: present and future, Anderson Ribeiro, Souto Correia Advogados</i></li> <li>• <i>Global Trends in the Alternative Protein Production: A Closer Look at Legal Strategies to Approve Imported Products – Ms Eliana Silva de Moraes, Silva de Moraes &amp; Associées</i></li> <li>• <i>Will Alternative Protein benefit from Brexit? What opportunities might be on the horizon in the UK - Dominic Watkins, DWF London</i></li> </ul>
<b>12:45 – 12:55</b>	<b>Closing keynote speaker</b> <i>Mr Bernardo Ivo Cruz, Secretary of State for Internationalisation, Portugal</i>
<b>12:55 – 13:00</b>	<b>Concluding remarks</b> <i>Ms Irene Verheijen, EFLA President</i>
<b>13:00 – 14:00</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



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## EFLA Congress 2023

### ***“The Future of Food and Food Law”***

Thursday 28 and Friday 29 September

Auditorium of Vieira de Almeida, Lisbon, Portugal



## Biographies of Speakers

[Irene Verheijen](#)  
[Maria Damanaki](#)  
[Craig Simpson](#)  
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[Joana Mota](#)  
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[Emily Amat](#)  
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[Francesco Planchenstainer](#)  
[Anderson Ribeiro](#)  
[Eliana Silva de Moraes](#)  
[Dominic Watkins](#)  
[Bernardo Ivo Cruz](#)



**Irene Verheijen**

Irene Verheijen works as a lawyer based in Amsterdam at the law firm Legaltree. She specializes in the field of regulated markets where the interaction between government and industry plays an important role. Her focus is in particular on the food industry.

Irene Verheijen advises companies throughout the food chain (from animal feed companies to suppliers and producers of foodstuffs) on the (interpretation of) laws and regulations they must comply with when producing and marketing their products. Where appropriate, she assists these companies in legal proceedings, against the government but also between companies or in relation to consumers.

Irene Verheijen regularly publishes and lectures on topical issues in the field of food law. She is co-author of the practice guide Roadmap Food Law and of the EU Food Law Handbook. She plays an active role in both the EFLA and the Dutch Food Law Association. Irene is the President of the European Food Law Association (EFLA) as of October 1, 2020.



**M**aria Damanaki

Acting as an independent consultant in global organisations, Maria Damanaki is serving as an advisor for Oceans5 (USA), the Paradise Foundation (China) and Rockefeller Brothers Foundation (USA).

She is a member of the Friends of Ocean Action of the World Economic Forum. She co-chairs the network of the High-Level Ocean Panel and she sits on the Boards: Monaco Ocean Foundation and Oceanographic Institute, European Marine Regions Forum(Berlin), Global Fishing Watch (Partnership of Google and Oceana, USA), Marine Stewardship Council (MSC-London), Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR UN New York), Beneath the Waves (USA). She also serves as a visiting professor on Marine Policy in NOVA University of Lisbon.

She served for five years as the Global Managing Director for Oceans at The Nature Conservancy USA. She also served as the European Union Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. Under her leadership, the Commission introduced a new Common Fisheries Policy that brought fish populations back to healthier levels—from as few as five sustainable stocks in 2010 to up more than 30 today. She also served as a Greek politician for many years. She was the first woman leader of a Greek political party, author of four books on Gender and Human Rights issues, Education and European Policy.





**C**raig Simpson

Craig Simpson counsels multinational corporations and trade associations in the life sciences sector on regulatory compliance of products marketed or produced in Europe (in the European Economic Area (EEA) and the United Kingdom) and on related commercial, contract, and competition matters. His practice focuses primarily on food and feed, chemicals, and product safety issues.

Craig has particular experience in food and feed regulation, having advised in that area for over twenty years in both private practice and the public sector. He assists clients in identifying the regulatory status of food and feed products and their ingredients (including applicable pre-market authorisation requirements and restrictions), product positioning, compliance of product promotional materials with food information requirements (including claims), and in determining applicable hygiene and traceability obligations. He defends clients under enforcement investigation, including representing clients before national enforcement authorities in negotiating solutions to non-compliance situations in order to minimise sanctions, reputational damage, and business interruption. He also challenges unjustified national trade barriers hindering marketing of client food or feed products and represents clients before European institutions and in proceedings before European Courts and Boards of Appeal.

Craig also has significant experience advising clients on market access and regulatory compliance matters concerning chemicals (REACH, Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS), Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP)), medical devices, biocidal products and CE marking, and on specific consumer protection and product safety requirements. This includes advising and providing training to a number of European life sciences trade associations on competition law compliance issues.

Prior to joining Keller and Heckman, Craig worked for six years as a Senior Legal Officer in the Food and Veterinary Unit of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Surveillance Authority (ESA) pursuing infringement proceedings against EEA EFTA State laws or administrative practices constituting illegal trade barriers and advising on regulatory compliance issues under the EEA Agreement. Before joining ESA, Craig practised as Of Counsel in the life sciences group of an international law firm for thirteen years advising and representing multinational companies and European trade associations on EU regulatory compliance issues in the food and feed, chemicals, medical devices, biocidal products, and product safety areas.

Craig regularly lectures at industry conferences and trade association events and authors articles on legal developments affecting the life sciences industry. [Click here for a list of recent speaking engagements and publications.](#)





**Rada Chehlarova**

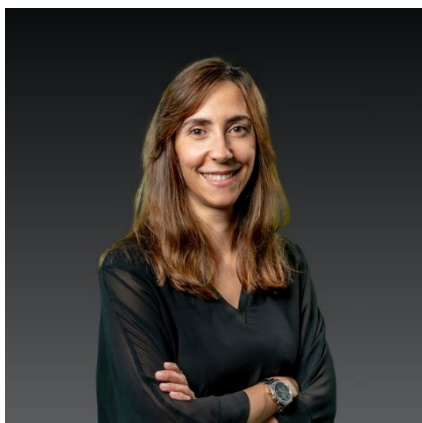
Rada Chehlarova is team leader “Farm to Fork” in DG SANTE, unit E1 “Farm to Fork Strategy”.

She is an EU interinstitutional relations expert with 12 years of experience in the food area. Since May 2019, she is working on the Farm to Fork strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system and ensures coordination and follows implementation of all policy aspects related to the strategy. The current initiatives on which she is working include the sustainable food systems’ framework – the flagship initiative of the Farm to Fork Strategy – as well as the EU code of conduct on responsible food business and marketing practices and the monitoring of the Farm to Fork Strategy.

Previously, she worked as policy officer in DG SANTE, unit E4 “Pesticides and Biocides”. She worked on the impact assessment on endocrine disruptors (EDs) and the subsequent elaboration and negotiations of the measures setting criteria to identify EDs in the context of the pesticides and biocides legislations. She also prepared the Commission’s response to the European citizens’ initiative on glyphosate in 2017 and coordinated the work related to the European Parliament Special Committee on Pesticides (PEST Committee).

Prior to that, she worked as European Parliament relations coordinator in DG SANTE from September 2011 to February 2015, preparing and attending the relevant Committees’ meetings and plenary sessions, participating in trilogues with Council and Parliament and contributing to the preparation of SANTE’s Commissioner- designates for their hearing before Parliament.

She holds degrees in Public administration from SciencesPo (Paris, France); in European Studies from the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium) and in Public law from Université Paris 1 – Panthéon Sorbonne (Paris, France).



**Joana Mota**

Joana Mota began practicing law in 2006 and joined the firm in 2012, becoming a Managing Associate in 2018.

She focuses her practice on data protection, e-commerce and intellectual property, providing regular advice to clients in a wide range of sectors, including banks, technology and industrial companies.

Joana also has experience in the pharmaceutical sector, focusing on regulatory, distribution and advertising matters.

She is a member of the Industrial Property Consultants' Association and of the International Association of Privacy Professionals.



**Carola Ricci**

Carola Ricci is Associate Professor of international law at the University of Pavia since 2008 and Member of the Milan Bar Association. Previously Senior Researcher and Post-Doc Research Fellow of international and EU law at the law school of the University of Milan, she holds a PhD in international law from the same University, where she also specialized in EU law and economics after graduation. She is member of the Scientific Board of the interfaculty PhD Course in Public Law, Criminal and International Justice at the University of Pavia (being responsible for the module on international food law).

She is –and have been since many years– PI of different research projects, among which some on the multilevel protection of food safety rights and on economic, social and cultural rights of vulnerable people (including migrants and persons with disabilities); she is member of two multidisciplinary projects financed by the European Union – NextGenerationEU (2022-2025) on different issues pertaining sustainable food systems and agri-food tech, respectively named ONFOODS (“Research and innovation network on food and nutrition sustainability, safety and security – working on foods”, under Mission 4, Component 2, Investment 1.3, PE0000003, F13C22001210007) and NODES (“Nord Ovest Digitale E Sostenibile”, Digital and Sustainable Italian NorthWest, grant agreement no. ECS00000036).

She was previously member of a EU Cost Action project on food waste valorisation, called “EUbis” and of the Italian delegation in the “Working Group on Food Right for All”, with the mission of drafting the final document for the political delegations present at Expo2015 in Milan. She has been external expert for various European Commission DG Justice Programs on EU private international law. She is a member of the board of (peer reviewed) law journals (*Rivista di Diritto Internazionale Privato e Processuale*, *Alimenta* and *Quaderni di Scienze Politiche*). She has been visiting scholar at Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California at Berkeley; at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (London, UK); at the Max Planck Institut (Hamburg, Germany) and invited visiting fellow at Nairobi University (Kenya).

She is author of three monographs (one of which on the right to food) and edited different collective works, including two on food safety in a multilevel perspective, as well as many others on economic, social and cultural rights of vulnerable people, and private international law issues (with a specific focus on EU judicial cooperation in civil matters). She has also published widely in academic journals and books and has written and co-written thematic reports for the European Commission (DG Justice) and Parliament.



**E**mily Amat

Emily AMAT is an attorney at the Paris bar highly specialized in Food law. She is part of the DWF Food, Agriculture and Consumer Goods multinational team.

Emily's main areas of focus include food labelling and communication, food processing, food safety, novel food, food supplements, feed as well as unfair commercial practices. Her practice extends from French and EU legal issues to the International perspective with in-depth experience of the Codex Alimentarius. She is a regular contributor to Lexxion's European Food and Feed Law Review on these subjects, and is a member of the European Food Law Association.



**P**aola Corte

Paola Corte is a food lawyer and partner of Studio Legale Corte, Italy’s oldest food law firm, founded in 1921.

She works with the major Italian and international producers, large scale retailers, mass caterers, and trade associations. She advises companies in developing new products, verifying the compliance to regulatory aspects of food composition and labeling, and has 20 years of experience in challenging regulatory sanctions related to the infringement of food laws and assisting defendants in criminal food law cases.

She is adjunct Professor at Luiss Business School, where she teaches Food Law Elements in the “Food and Wine Business” Master, and a member of the Board of Directors of the European Food Law Association (EFLA) since 2018.

She is ranked as “Leading individual” in the Legal 500 EMEA directory in the “Italy Industry focus: Food” category, and Studio Legale Corte is the Top Tier firm in the same category. She is also ranked in the Forbes Italian “100 Legal Professionals” list.



**Andreas Meisterernst**

Prof. Andreas Meisterernst is a lawyer (Rechtsanwalt), founding partner of the law firm Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte PartG mbB, Munich, a mid-sized law firm focused on food, cosmetics and pharmaceutical industry and public commercial law.

Prof. Andreas MEISTERERNST is also founder of its complementary scientific sister unit RDA Scientific Consultants GmbH, Munich. Honorary Professor of food law at the Technical University, Munich (TUM School of Life Sciences).

Editor and author of several law books on food law and author of more than 50 scientific articles. President of the Bavarian Professional Court for Attorneys, he is an active member of the German Food Federation (treasurer and member of the board, member of the legal and scientific committee) and of the European Food Law Association (Vice President). Prof. Andreas MEISTERERNST is also Editor-in-Chief and co-founder of the European Food and Feed Law Journal (EFFL).



**D**ominic Muyldermans

Dominic Muyldermans, LL.M, studied law in Leuven and Strasbourg and obtained a Master of Law (LL.M) from University College London. He has been a member of the Brussels bar, working as an attorney in the Intellectual Property Department of the law firm Allen & Overy. He has been senior counsel at Bayer CropScience with global responsibilities for the rice market area and legal matters related to public and governmental affairs. He has been focusing on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) and Intellectual Property issues since many years. He is a regular speaker on these topics, has published several articles on ABS and has been engaged in international training workshops on ABS. He is also active in the ABS Task Force of the International Chamber of Commerce and has been leading the team on Digital Sequence Information (DSI). He also represented the industry in the two Ad Hoc Technical Expert Groups on DSI under the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol.

He is the co-founder and senior legal advisor of ABSint, a multidisciplinary advisory company (including experts with a legal, regulatory and scientific background) providing services and tools to enable private, and public entities to navigate the complex environment of international and national ABS rules. He is also the senior legal advisor of Perseus, an advisory company focusing on biosafety and biotech regulatory matters.





**Gerardo Figueiredo Jr**

Lawyer, partner responsible for the areas of Food Law, Administrative Law, ESG and Compliance at Zeigler Advogados, a Brazilian law firm specialized in life sciences, mainly for the food, pharmaceutical and chemical industries, among others.

He has been working with Public and Regulatory Law for more than twenty years, focusing on topics of interest to the food and pharmaceutical industry, mainly before the main Brazilian regulatory agencies and other public authorities, including ANVISA (Brazilian Health Regulatory Agency), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply and CADE (Administrative Council for Economic Defense).

He also acted in processes for investigation of the practice of dumping conducted by the Brazilian authorities.

As a consultant, he provides services to various industries on issues involving the regulation of production, import, export and commercialization of food and pharmaceuticals in Brazil.

Mr. Figueiredo participates as a speaker at national and international events.

He is the author and co-author of internationally published books and articles.

For three years, he chaired the Commission for the Study of Regulated Sectors of the Brazilian Bar Association in São Paulo (OAB / SP) and served as legal director of the Brazilian Institute of Business Law and Ethics (IBDEE).

He has been associated with EFLA since 2021.



## Assunção Cristas

Assunção joined VdA in 2022 as to head the firm’s ESG Integrated Services Platform and the Environment practice area. She is associate professor at Nova School of Law, coordinator of the Master’s degree in Law and Economics of the Sea — Ocean Governance, lecturing on Ocean Policies, and director of NOVA OCEAN, a knowledge centre established in 2021 dedicated to ocean research. At the undergraduate level she lectures several courses, namely Law and Sustainability. Her areas of research interest are focused on sustainability and legislative architecture and development. At the NOVA University level, she has been leading the launching of the Ocean Studies degree, an innovative and interdisciplinary three years cycle starting in 2024 and coordinates the Ocean Challenges Eutopia Community.

From September 2009 to January 2020, Assunção held several political positions: she was Minister of Agriculture, the Sea, Environment and Land Use Planning (2011-2013) and Minister of Agriculture and the Sea (2013-2015); Member of the Portuguese Parliament (2009-2011 and 2015-2020); President of the political party CDS-PP (2016-2020) and previously Vice-President (2009-2016); and Councilwoman of the Lisbon City Council (2017-2021).

In July 2019, Assunção published her book “*Confiança. As mulheres, o poder e o país que ambicionamos para todos*”, in which she reflects on various issues faced during her ten years in politics, such as the role of women in politics and issues related to the environment, agriculture and the sea.

Assunção is a former Director of the Portuguese Ministry of Justice’s Legislative Policy and Planning Office (2002-2005), where she participated in numerous legislative production processes at both the national level and in the context of international cooperation with Portuguese-speaking countries. From late 2005 to early 2009, she was exclusively dedicated to academia. In addition to her teaching and research work in Private Law, she held several organisational positions.

Assunção is regularly speaker in conferences, both academic and organised by civil society, on topics related to the sea, agriculture and sustainability in general. She is engaged in several areas of the civil society, namely, she coordinates the SEDES (think tank) Ocean Observatory, is president of the prize “Floresta é sustentabilidade” awarded by Biond, and in the social side is President of the Board of Management of Cadin, a non-profitable association dedicated to the integral children development.



**G**eorges Freyssinet

Georges FREYSSINET worked as a teacher/researcher at the University (France and North America) for twenty years. He joined Rhône-Poulenc (RP) Agro in 1984 to develop plant cell and molecular biology. In 1992, he was appointed Scientific Advisor to the Scientific Direction of RP.

In 1998, he became General Manager of RhoBio, a joint venture between RP Agro and Biogemma working on plant genomic and genetically modified crops. He is one of the founders of LemnaGene SA, a BioManufacturing company of which he was General Manager from 2003 to 2005.

In 2006, he joined the Scientific Department of the Limagrain Group, then in 2011 was appointed Chief Executive Officer of Genective, a joint venture between the Limagrain and KWS Groups developing genetically modified maize.

Since 2014, he works as a consultant in the field of plant biotechnology. In 2019, he was elected President of the French Plant Biotechnology Association (AFBV).



**C**atarina Pinto Correia

Partner at VdA, with more than 25 years of experience in the public law sector, also involved in various public funded projects, and leading VdA's agribusiness dedicated team.

Law Degree, Lisbon Catholic University; Master in European High Studies , College of Europe, Bruges; Post Graduate on Competition European law, Kings College, London; Compact MBA for Law Firm Leaders, Porto Business School.

In-depth knowledge and experience in the public law sector, as well as on agriculture sector, being involved in several operations related to regulatory requirements, land rights, use and management of water resources, administrative concessions, licences and authorizations, agrochemicals, private investment, packaging and labelling, among other.

Author or co-author of several works and articles published in national and international specialized publications, such as “Secteur agroalimentaire africain”, Tribune do Salon de l'Agriculture, Paris, 2017 and “The new Rural Development Program – simplification vs. high demand” Agrotec, 2015.

Lecture on several programmes, and speaker in several events.



**F**rancesco Montanari

Dr. Francesco Montanari is a food lawyer registered with the Bar of Lisbon (Portugal) and Bologna (Italy). Italian and Portuguese by nationality, he holds a PhD in EU law from the University of Bologna (2006) and a MSc in Food Consumption Sciences from the University of Porto (2021).

He currently teaches food law at the Open University of Lisbon and is a researcher in food law at Nova Consumer Lab and CEDIS (Research and Development Centre on Law and Society of the School of Law), both pertaining to the Nova School of Law of Lisbon.

Prior to practicing food law, Francesco worked for several years at international level, including for the British Retail Consortium (BRC), as a food policy specialist, and for the European Commission (DG SANTE), as a legislative officer.

Over the last decade, with Arcadia International he has been working as an external food law expert in over 20 studies / impact assessments relevant to the agri-food chain, both for the European Commission (DG SANTE, DG AGRI, DG TRADE) and for the European Parliament (COMAGRI, EPRS). In parallel, he has been lecturing food law in the context of the Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) programme financed by the European Commission for the staff of national competent authorities.

His daily practice and research cover a wide spectrum of food law topics, including food innovation (e.g., novel foods and other regulated products, alternative proteins, clean label), food labelling, official controls, and imports.

Francesco is a regular speaker at national and international food conferences. He has also authored several publications in food law. These include a book on EU import requirements (Springer 2014), a book on the regulatory framework for edible insects in the EU and beyond (Springer 2021), and, more recently, the first food labelling handbook to be published in the Portuguese market (Afrontamento 2022).



**Saskia Van Ruth**

Saskia van Ruth is full professor of Food Supply Chain Integrity at University College Dublin in Ireland in the School of Agriculture and Food Science from 1-8-2023. She deals with food authenticity and integrity issues on a daily basis and is particularly interested in the prevention and comprehension of food fraud as well as the development of novel food authentication technology.

After having taken her PhD in food chemistry at Wageningen University in the Netherlands, she worked on flavour science in industry and the academic world for nine years. She was affiliated for seven years with University College Cork in Ireland.

In 2005 she returned to the Netherlands and took up the position of head of the food authenticity and nutrients group at RIKILT Wageningen University and Research. She was appointed professor in the Food Authenticity domain at Wageningen University in the Netherlands in 2012 and at Queen's University Belfast in the UK in 2018, whereas she continued to work part-time at RIKILT Wageningen University and Research as well.

In 2023 she joined University College Dublin in Ireland as full professor on Food Supply Chain Integrity. She has (co-)authored over 300 scientific publications, taught in over 30 different modules, and supervised over 170 thesis students.



**M**aria de Jesus Tavares

Graduated in agro-industrial engineering with a postgraduate degree in quality and food safety management, she began her professional activity at the Portuguese vineyard and wine institute, where she was a laboratory technician and later responsible for all instrumental analysis, having triggered the accreditation process according to the then ENISO 45001 standard.

She has been a collaborator at the Portuguese Economic and Food Safety Authority (ASAE) since its creation in 2006, where she served as head of the beverage and wine products laboratory.

Since 2016, she has been director of the food safety laboratory of ASAE and responsible for quality, ensuring its accreditation according to ENISO 17025.

She is also an olive oil taster on the tasting panel of ASAE recognized by the International Olive oil Council and participates in olive oil tasting juries in national and international quality competitions.

She is the author of several articles published in national and foreign publications and represents the country in various forums as an expert in various technical/scientific areas, such as olive oil and spirit drinks.





**Rafael Perez Berbejal**

Rafael Perez-Berbejal is born in Spain and got a Degree in Veterinary Medicine and later on a Master of Science in Health Economics.

After having worked as a Veterinary Inspector at the Department of Public Health in Spain for 13 years, in 2002, he joined the Commission, in particular the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE). He started at the former Food and Veterinary Office of this DG SANTE in Ireland as a veterinary auditor. During his tenure there he performed more than 60 audits in EU Member States and third countries including pioneering work on audits on food contact materials in third countries.

At the end of 2010, he moved to the Directorate E of DG SANTE in Brussels where he worked in the area of food additives and food enzymes, and since 2016 on ‘novel foods’. He was subsequently appointed as team leader and until now he and his team have been managing over 400 Novel Food applications, and the authorization of over 60 novel and traditional foods.



**Karin Verzijden**

Karin is a life sciences lawyer with a focus on functional foods & feed and pharmaceuticals.

Her core expertise is to assist companies regarding the market introduction of innovations in this field, with a particular focus on alternative protein. This includes the qualification of new ingredients and advising on the appropriate regulatory pathway belonging thereto, such as for Novel Foods, GMOs and the like.

Karin is familiar with the authorities supervising these types of products and assists in enforcement actions when needed. Karin furthermore drafts and negotiates a variety of commercial contracts in her field of expertise and litigates where need may be.

She reports current EU food legal and regulatory developments at [www.foodhealthlegal.eu](http://www.foodhealthlegal.eu).



**F**rancesco Planchenstainer

Francesco Planchenstainer, PhD, has recently joined Nestlé as Global Head of Food Law based in the corporate headquarters of Vevey (Switzerland).

He has been an active expert within several food industry working groups including Food Drink Europe, the US Consumer Brand Association, the US American Baker's Association and the National Confectionery Association. He is also member of the European Food Law Association's Council.

Dr. Planchenstainer completed his legal education from University of Trent (Italy). He went on to obtain his Ph.D. in Food Law from Agrisystem, the Doctoral Program focused on the Agro-Food system at the Catholic University (Italy). He further specialized in US law by successfully completing an LLM in US Law at Fordham University (New York).

Following his graduate studies, he broadened his expertise in Food Law and Regulation by joining Cherchi & Co., PA (2011) and the European Commission (DG SANTE) as a Bluebook Intern (2012). From 2012 till 2016 he was Senior Regulatory and Food Law Expert at Mead Johnson Nutrition (Indiana, USA), a global leader in the field pediatric nutrition. More recently, he was Senior Regulatory Counsel at the Ferrero's headquarters in Luxembourg between 2016 and 2019.

From 2020 to 2022 he served as Food Compliance & Regulatory director within Ferrero USA supporting the compliance of several M&A rounds. More recently, he was Regulatory Affairs Director at Impossible Foods, the maker of the iconic plant-based burger.

He is regularly invited speaker at conference relating to the regulation of novel foods, biotechnology and nanotechnology and he is lecturer of Food Law at the University of Trento.



**Anderson Ribeiro**

Anderson Ribeiro is one of the leading professionals within the Brazilian Life Sciences & Healthcare sector. In addition, he is an expert in regulatory approvals, product recalls, compliance, and anti-corruption matters, focusing on the needs of innovation-based industries. He has a distinguished track record in cases involving regulatory approvals and industrial property before agencies such as the National Health Surveillance Agency (Anvisa), the Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA). He represents national and multinational companies from the most varied sectors, focusing on biotechnology, food, pharmaceuticals, health products, cosmetics, sanitizing products, pesticides, veterinary products, and emerging technologies.

#### EDUCATION

- Specialist in Regulatory Impact Analysis from LUISS (Italy), 2017
- LL.M in Intellectual Property from Queen Mary (UK), 2013
- Master of Laws in Competition Law and Regulation from the University of Lisbon (Portugal) - 2012
- Bachelor of Laws from the State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ), 2005

#### ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Member of the Union of Pharmacists of the state of Rio de Janeiro (Sinfar-RJ), and the Union of the Pharmaceutical Products Industry (Sindusfarma), IBA and EFLA



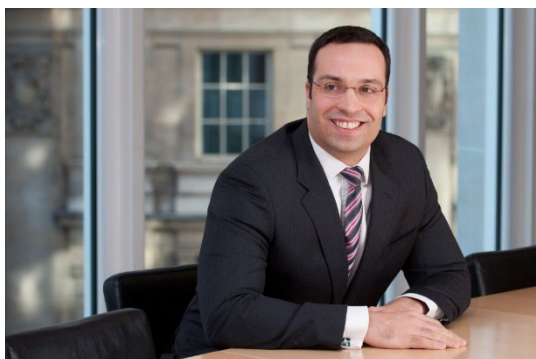
**E**liana Silva de Moraes

Eliana is a lawyer specialised in Food and Drug Law for Latin America countries, International Health Law Professor, Paris-FR, Director of Master Health Law course at Institut Supérieur du Droit - Paris, Specialized in Health Law by Public Health School University of São Paulo, Phd in Health Law by Paris University - Paris VIII, Specialized in Biomedical Law by University of Coimbra, Portugal, President of Health Law Commission at International Lawyer Association - UIA. Responsible of the International Group at TOPRA – The European Regulatory Affairs Association, President of the Brazilian Regulatory Affairs Professionals Association (ABPVS);

Further, she played an important role as representative of the associative sector in the process of creating the National Health Surveillance Agency – Anvisa and was responsible for the agenda of the Brazilian Government to Visit USA regulatory system for the creation of the Brazilian Agency ANVISA.

She participated actively as representative of the associative sector in the process of creating the National Health Surveillance Agency - Anvisa

With Bar Association in São Paulo (Brazil) and Lisbon (Portugal).



**D**ominic Watkins

Dominic Watkins leads the Global Consumer Sector Group at legal services business DWF. He is a partner and leads the London based regulatory compliance and investigations team and supports clients in the consumer sector with the regulatory challenges that they face in the UK and across the globe. His practice is a combination of compliance and product and service launches and defending regulatory challenges from regulators for household name brands both selling and producing foods. He is standing counsel to several UK grocery retailers in respect of regulatory issues.

Dominic has advised extensively on the issues arising from Brexit, including more recently the implications of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023 which threatened to see all UK regulation of EU origin repealed at the end of 2023. Dominic supported bodies like the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents in understanding the implications and articulating arguments to ensure that there was no revocation without consultation for key legal protections. Dominic's practice is frequently at the cutting edge of regulatory change and is currently significantly engaged in topics like product safety review and sustainability and sustainable food systems.

Dominic is Tier 1 ranked in Chambers and Partners in respect of food law work. He is a part of the UK Government's Business Reference Panel, a panel arranged to address emerging regulatory issues and the LexisNexis Corporate Crime Editorial Board. He has spoken at conferences around the world on food law issues, from Australia to Saudi Arabia to the US and around the EU.



**Bernardo Ivo Cruz**

Bernardo Ivo Cruz serves as Secretary of State for International Trade and Foreign Investment in the Portuguese Government and is a Correspondent Academic in the Portuguese Academy of International Culture.

He holds a PhD in Politics from the University of Bristol (United Kingdom). He is a British Foreign and Commonwealth Office Chevening Scholarship Alumnus and an Alumnus of the Prince of Wales's Business and Sustainability Program from the Institute for Sustainability and Leadership at the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom). In Higher Education Bernardo was a member of the board of the Public Policy Portuguese Journal at the University of Évora, member of the board of the Clube de Lisboa Think Tank, Associated Researcher in the Political Studies Research Centre at the Portuguese Catholic University and visit Academic, Lecture, Assistant Lecture and Teaching Assistant at the Universities of Bristol, Cardiff and Loughborough (United Kingdom). He served as an elected member of the Court of the University of Bristol and in the Scientific and Pedagogic Councils of the School of European Studies at Cardiff University.

In the public sector, Bernardo served as Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Counsellor in the Portuguese Permanent Representation to the European Union and as Executive Board Member to SOFID - Portuguese Development Finance Institution. He also served as Chief of Staff to the Portuguese Foreign Minister and as Economic and Commercial Counsellor at the Portuguese Embassies in the UK and Brazil and Director of the Portuguese Business Development Agency in the UK and Ireland and in Latin America. In the not-for-profit sector, Bernardo coordinated the Club of Madrid's Dialogue for National Reconciliation in Timor Leste, served as Secretary-General of the Portuguese Council of the European Movement and in the Board of the General Assembly and Executive Board of the Friends of Mosteiro dos Jerónimos Association. In the private sector Bernardo founded and was the Global Managing Partner of the True Bridge Consultancy Group based in London, served as Chairperson of the Portuguese Chamber of Commerce in the UK, represented the Brazilian São Paulo Trade Federation in Europe, worked as Public Policy and International Relations' Strategic Consultant for the Portuguese Business Confederation and CV&A and was a Partner in Leadership Business Consulting. Further, he served as Honorary Consul of Botswana in Portugal.

Bernardo was the editor of the London BREXIT Monthly Digest, signed a weekly op-ed column in *Diário de Notícias* and a fortnight op-ed column in *Diário Económico* (major Portuguese newspapers) and was a regular commentator on International Affairs, British Politics and on Sustainable Development Public Policy at several media outlets.

Bernardo was distinguished by the São Paulo City's Government for his “Contribution for the Development of the City” on the 450 anniversary of its foundation and with the “Business Internationalization Award 2014/15” by the British Government's Department for International Trade. He received decorations from the Governments of Chile and Estonia.