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- Yamaner & Yamaner, Istanbul, Turkey

The ALLIURIS GROUP is organised as an international association under Belgian Law with its seat in Brussels.
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Summer School in Istanbul

After its fifth anniversary, the annual Alliuris Summer School seems to be well established in the Alliuris tradition. The 2010 summer school took place from 15 June to 19 June in Istanbul, the famous Turkish metropolis and was warmly hosted by Yamaner & Yamaner. It was attended by 24 participants including participants from the host firm. Alliuris was also pleased to welcome its first non-European participant to the summer school, namely, Mr. Hisham AbuQourqa from Azhari Legal Consultancy, United Arab Emirates.

The Alliuris Summer School includes 3 days of legal seminars. This year, the seminars covered International arbitration and legal English in international transactions.

In addition to the lecturers' vast knowledge and experience, the participants had the opportunity to share and learn from one another in the course of workshops and presentations made by the participants themselves. The Moot Court session was especially noted as a great learning opportunity for the young lawyers.

The seminar was opened by Mr. Cihan Yamaner, Managing Director of Yamaner & Yamaner and Mr. Handan Oktay-Weldishofer, who began with a presentation of the history of Yamaner & Yamaner, followed by a tour of the working areas of the Firm.

An overview of the importance of arbitration in international contracts was then given by Mr. Ali Yeşilirmak, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law at Kadir Has University in Istanbul and Mr. Ahmet Berker, Senior Partner and Head of Arbitration Department of Yamaner & Yamaner.

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Cihan Yamaner, Handan Oktay-Weldishofer

Yamaner & Yamaner as hosting firm

The Law Offices of Yamaner & Yamaner is one of the oldest and most reputable law firms in Turkey. Celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, the law firm was founded by Salih Zeki Yamaner, the grandfather of Mr. Cihan Yamaner, the current Managing Director. Yamaner & Yamaner has played a pioneering role in meeting the needs of foreign investors and has also expanded its own international connections. The law firm has evolved to become a business-orientated law firm with a full range of legal services in areas such as commercial law, corporate law, international property law, competition law, environmental law, information technology, telecommunications law, real estate and privatisation. The firm also embraces diversity and equality in the work force with female lawyers comprising over 60 % of its lawyers. The lawyers at Yamaner & Yamaner are fully competent to provide advice in English, French, German and the Turkish language. In addition, the firm has worked with numerous foreign countries and with other Alliuris law firms to provide swift and comprehensive solutions to its clients who are active in the international market. One of the main characteristics of the firm is also the close cooperation with the Universities of Istanbul. Some of Istanbul's most famous professors work closely with the Firm as consultants.

Arbitration in the international practice

Mr. Berker started with a brief overview about the rising importance of arbitration rules in international commercial law. He also highlighted the need for better technical understanding of the eligible arbitrators and the reduction of the duration of arbitration proceedings.

Mr. Ali Yeşilirmak and Mr. Ahmet Berker further explai-

ned the rules, procedures, institutions, national laws, literature and the specifics of arbitration in comparison with ordinary commercial or civil court proceedings. They also were able to give examples of their practical work in the field of arbitration and explained how to get an arbitrator.

Arbitration is often selected for the reasons of confiden-



Ahmet Berker, Handan Oktay-Weldishofer, Erdener Özelgin

tiality, and to eliminate the uncertainties in the choice of arbitrator and forum. The use of arbitration has increased along with the growth of international trade and commerce. International commercial arbitration has many different issues and the attorney needs to have access to numerous resources to make informed decisions.

At the conclusion of the presentations, the participants left with a clear insight into arbitration as one of the best private forms of dispute resolution for international commercial agreements. They also obtained an overview of the large, comprehensive compilations of international arbitration resources and treaties.

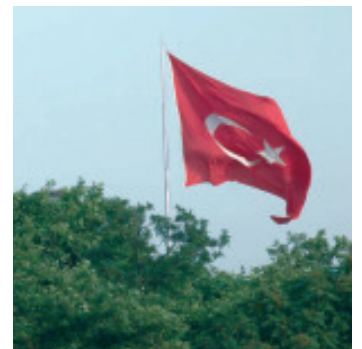


The Moot Court: Anne Reul and Barna Bölönyi as speakers



ALLIURIS ACADEMY

INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LAWYERS



Welcome at the office of Yamaner & Yamaner





Conference in Gemir Palas Hotel

Dinner at the Ponte Restaurant

The history of Istanbul





On the top of Büyükada island





The Group at the Terrace Restaurant of Germir Palas Hotel

Presentation of the Certificates





The Moot Court: Aleksander Raczynski as speaker

The Moot Court Case

In the second half of the seminar, the young lawyers had the opportunity to practise some of the arbitration tips that they had learned some hours earlier.

The group of young lawyers was divided into two groups, the claimant and the defendant group. With guidance from the experts present, they had the opportunity to lead a party through an arbitration proceeding. For two hours, the groups discussed their arguments and the appropriate procedure to be followed. The final results were then appraised by three professional arbitrators.

In the hearing one lecture was presented by Mr. Aleksander Raczynski, from Poznan while the arguments of the other party were presented by Ms Reul from Brussels and Mr. Bölönyi from Bucarest. The arbitrators certified a fluent and good speech to the speakers.

Legal English in International Transactions

The second and third day of the Alliuris Summer School found its participants in the world of Legal English in International Mergers and Acquisitions. Mrs. Barbara Beveridge provided a comprehensive overview of the possible problems. The young lawyers had the opportunity to listen and learn from the vast experience of this international lawyer. Ms. Barbara Beveridge started her legal career as a lawyer for several large international corporate law offices and is now working as a consultant in legal English area in foreign jurisdictions.

Turkish Nights and Istanbul History

Istanbul may be the most exiting city in Europe. Istanbul, a fascinating city built on two Continents, divided by the Bosphorus Strait. This is one of the greatest cities

in the world where you can see a modern western city combined with a traditional eastern city. It is a melting pot of many different people and civilizations. Istanbul was also declared by the European Union as the 2010 European Capital of Culture. Our wonderful hosting guides gave us the opportunity to be part of all. This included having dinner at wonderful places with amazing views of the Bosphorus Strait and visiting great bars in the old town near Taksim Place or famous modern discotheques close to the Bosphorus River.



At the restaurant Fishmekan close to the Bosphorus

A well organized Sightseeing Tour showed us important constituent parts of the history of the city. The tour included a visit to the Sultan Ahmet Mosque, known as the Blue Mosque because of its bluish interior decoration which is considered as the most important mosque of Istanbul or the Ayasofya (Haghia Sophia) and the amazing Topkapi Palace.

An amazing boat trip along the Bosphorus Strait by night with really hot Turkish music was the ultimate conclusion to this exciting and enlightening event. Some of the participants who departed the city on Sunday, were additionally treated by the hosts, Yamaner & Yamaner to a one day trip by ship to Büyükada, the biggest of the Prinus Islands of Istanbul.



The Event Coordinators: Nazli Bicakci, Handan Oktay-Weldishofer, Emek Öztürk

Reflections

"I would like to express my deepest thanks for the great hospitality we experienced. I had a wonderful time not only because of the pleasant atmosphere created by the hospitable Turkish hosts but also due to the interesting themes we discussed in the course of the seminars. The teachers we had were really experienced professionals. That was complemented with perfect organisation by our hosts and the crazy and amazing atmosphere in Istanbul."

Philipp Neddermeyer
Herfurth & Partner, Hanover / Germany



Boat trip on the Bosphorus by night

"I often recall with great pleasure those few days spent at the Alliuris Summer School organized in Istanbul by the Yamaner and Yamaner Law Office, as it was a useful and utterly enjoyable experience both from a professional and cultural perspective. This regards the seminars, lectures and practical exercises were very well balanced so as to keep everyone's attention focused. The proposed and discussed topics were very interesting; what is more, they were presented in a highly interactive manner, creating such an atmosphere that embraces the objective of this summer school.

Another major achievement of the summer school was to create a fructuous environment for networking, in terms of development of professional relationships among participants and thus building bridges between the various business cultures.

From a cultural point of view, this event was a great opportunity for discovering pieces of both the old ottoman and the modern Turkish history and culture, not from impersonal tourist guides but rather by breathing

the everyday Turkish scent of life, tasting and enjoying the fabulous Turkish food.

By participating at this summer school I had the unique occasion to familiarize myself not just with the Turkish legal system but also with the culture of this country, which, as we all have experienced by now, is the lynchpin of any successful international transaction/collaboration.

I would like to thank again every single person involved in organizing this fantastic event for the pleasant memories and above all for this extraordinary opportunity to get a "personalized" glance of the Turkish legal system and culture, a chance that is given only to privileged insiders.

I am looking forward to the next opportunity for all of us to meet again, as I think we had a great time together, and hope to keep in touch with all of you.

Barna Bölönyi
Stalfort, Bucarest



Having lunch

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