

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

« The Chinese civil code in action : a comparative law dialogue »

Programme

October 19–20, 2026

UCLy
Saint-Paul Campus
Amphi Mérieux & Amphi Mouterde

10 place des Archives
69002 LYON

This conference project is the outcome of reflections undertaken by the members of the Scientific Committee since 2020, the year in which China adopted its first Civil Code, thereby marking a turning point both in the country's legal history and in the field of comparative law. At the time, any discussion of the new Code would arguably have been premature and might have remained confined to the realm of law in books. Now, five years after the Code entered into force, it is possible to assess its impact in a more concrete and meaningful way. Against this background, the aim of the conference is to examine the application of the Civil Code through case law, legislation, and legal practice, while also placing this impact in comparative perspective by considering developments in European civil codes. To this end, the conference—which will be conducted in both English and Mandarin—will bring together six Chinese professors and six professors from different European countries (France, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, and Italy). The speakers will participate in a series of panels, each devoted to one of the Books of the Chinese Civil Code: General Provisions, Persons, Contracts, Property, Civil Liability, and Family and Succession Law.

Monday, October 19, 2026

8h30 - Welcome

9h30 – Institutional remarks and address by the French Liaison Magistrate in China

10h00 – Opening remarks
SHI Jiayou and Letizia COPPO

Panel 1 – The genesis and fundamental features of the Chinese civil code compared to the main European civil codes

Chair: Louis-Daniel MUKA TSHIBENDE,
(Lyon Catholic University – UCLY, France)

10h00 – The general part of the Chinese civil code: the environmental clause and other significative institutions
CHEN Lei, University of Manchester, UK.

10h30 – The general part of the Chinese civil code from a European perspective
André JANSSEN, Radboud University, The Netherlands

11h00 – Collective discussion

Panel 2 – The law of property and goods

Chair: Cédric HELAINE (Lyon Catholic University – UCLY, France)

11h30 – The law of goods in the Chinese

civil code: the Judicial Interpretation (I) on the Property Rights Part of the Civil Code and the supplementation by the Supreme People's Procuratorate
CHANG Pengao, University of Beijing, China

12h00 – Building a data property rights system with Chinese characteristics in the framework of the civil code property law taxonomy
Marina TIMOTEO, University of Bologna, Italie

12h30 – Collective discussion

13h00 – Light lunch

Panel 3 – The law of persons, family and successions

Chair: Julie COURTOIS, University of Grenoble, France

15h00 – Innovations and Practice of the Book on Personality Rights of the Chinese Civil Code
YAO Hui, Renmin University, Beijing, China.

15h30 – The evolution of personality rights in Europe: automated decision-making, credit scoring and data protection
Ignacio FERNÁNDEZ CHACÓN, University of Oviedo, Spain

16h00 – Family and successions law in the application of the Chinese civil code
LI Yingyi, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

**16h30 – The evolution of family law
and successions law in Europe**
Letizia COPPO, Lyon Catholic University -
UCLy, France

17h00 – Collective discussion

19h30 – Conference dinner

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

9h00 - Welcome

Panel 4 – The law of obligations – contracts and torts

Chair: Nathalie POTIN (Lyon Catholic
University - UCLy, France)

**10h00 – Main principles and trends in
the judicial application of the contract
law provisions contained in the Chinese
civil code**

NING Hongli, University of International
Business and Economics - UIBE, Beijing,
China

**10h30 – The evolution of contract law in
Europe**

Florian MÖSLEIN, University of Vienna,
Austria - online

**11h00 – Tort liability in the judicial
application of the Chinese civil code:
perspectives and challenges**

SHI Jiayou, Renmin University, Beijing,
China

**11h30 – The evolution of tort liability in
Europe**

Michel CANNARSA, Lyon Catholic
University - UCLy, France

12h00 – Collective discussion

12h30 – Closing remarks

Scientific Committee

Michel CANNARSA

Lyon Catholic University - UCLy, France

Letizia COPPO

Lyon Catholic University - UCLy, France

Louis-Daniel MUKA TSHIBENDE

Lyon Catholic University - UCLy, France

Jiayou SHI

Renmin University, Beijing, China

Practical Information

Location

UCLy | Saint-Paul Campus

10 Place des Archives, 69002 Lyon

- Amphithéâtre Mérieux (October 19)

- Amphithéâtre Mouterde (October 20)

Or online (Teams) : The link will be sent to registered participants a few days before the event.

Conference language

English and Mandarin (with simultaneous interpretation)

Registration required online :

<https://www.ucl.fr/l-ucl/agenda/the-chinese-civil-code-in-action-a-comparative-law-dialogue/>

Partner :



Contact

lcoppo@univ-catholyon.fr

Fees

Free of charge for the general public, students, and UCLy employees.

A fee applies to lawyers and external companies: a payment link will be sent to you after registration.