



Oxford Handbook on Families and the Law

Workshop, 21–24 June 2026

Sunday 21 June 2026

18.00–20.00 Welcome Drinks and Finger Food at ETH Dozent:innenfoyer, Rämistrasse 101, 8006 Zurich

Monday 22 June 2026

Workshop Venue: University of Zurich UZH, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zurich – Rooms KO2-F-152 and KO2-F-153

08.30–09.00 Registration

09.00–09.45 Welcome and Introduction to the Concept Note of the Handbook by co-editors Alice Margaria (UZH) and Noam Peleg (UNSW) in room KO2-F-152

10.00–11.30 Parallel Sessions

Organising Family Relationships (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Marie-Hélène Peter-Spiess (UZH)

- Colonizing Marriage – Kaiponanea T. Matsumura (Loyola Marymount University, USA). Commentator: Jennifer Koshan
- Recognising De Facto Relationships: A Critique of Compensatory versus Participatory Regimes – Andy Hayward (Durham University, UK). Commentator: Elise Goossens
- Non-marital Relationships: The Fourth Life of Registered Partnerships – Nausica Palazzo (NOVA University, Portugal). Commentator: Stefano Osella

Families across Borders (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Electra Zacharias (UZH)

- Global Surrogacy, Reproductive Justice, and the Political Economy of Family Formation – Seema Mohapatra (SMU Dedman, USA). Commentator: Marcia Zug
- Cross-Border Family Recognition in EU Law: Ensuring Continuity of Family Life for Non-Traditional Families – Alina Tryfonidou (University of Cyprus). Commentator: Nicola Taylor
- Transnational Families, Migration, and Law: Legal Systems, Family Ties and Belonging – Betty de Hart (University of Amsterdam, NL) and Iris Sportel (Radboud University, NL). Commentator: Andrea Abraham

11.30–11.45 *Break*

11.45–13.15 **Organising Family Relationships** (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Elise Goossens (KU Leuven)

- Constitutionalism of Marriage Equality – Stefano Osella (University of Hong Kong, China). Commentator: Nicole Busby
- Unmaking Customary Marriage: Criminal Law and Child Marriage in Bulgaria – Maria Nikolova (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany). Commentator: Raquel Medina Plana
- Kinship and Customary Marriage in South Africa – Pieter Bakker (University of South Africa). Commentator: Andy Hayward

Families across Borders (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Christiane von Bary (UZH)

- The Child's Voice in International Child Abduction – Michelle Fernando (University of South Australia, AUS). Commentator: Margaretha Wewerinke Singh
- Relocation Disputes: Law, Research, and Practice Internationally – Nicola Taylor (University of Otago, NZ) and Rob George (University College London, UK). Commentator: Alina Tryfonidou
- Exploring Adoption Across Borders: Secrecy, Disclosure, and the Politics of Belonging – Andrea Abraham (BFH Bern, Switzerland) and Sushri Sangita Puhan (University of London, UK). Commentator: Konrad Duden

13.15–14.15 *Lunch in room KO2-F-152*

14.15–15.45 Parallel Sessions

Organising Family Relationships (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Nausica Palazzo (NOVA)

- Gendered Renderings of Family Violence – Jennifer Kohshan (University of Calgary, CAN), Wanda Wiegers (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) and Janet Mosher (York University, Canada). Commentator: Nadjma Yasari
- Social Parenthood in Law and Life – Courtney G. Joslin (UC Davis, USA). Commentator: Wanda Wiegers
- Adoption and the Liberal Script of Family: Historiography, Law, and the Narrative of Kinship – Raquel Medina Plana (University Complutense de Madrid, Spain). Commentator: Pieter Bakker

Families across Borders (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Konrad Duden (University of Hamburg)

- A Global Perspective on Mail-Order Marriages – Marcia Zug (University of South Carolina, USA). Commentator: Betty de Hart
- The Domestic Protection of Cross-Border Family Situations in Europe: When the Applicable Rules Differ from One Another – Jana Araj and Marie-Claire Foblets (Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Germany). Commentator: Sanna Mustasaari
- **Online (CEST):** Reforming Family Law: A Necessary Inconvenience? – Gillian Black (Edinburgh University, UK). Commentator: Douglas NeJaime

15.45–16.15 Wrapping up (plenary) in room KO2-F-152

18.30 *Dinner at Restaurant “Fischerstube” on the shore of Zürichsee (Lake Zurich) – Bellerivestrasse 160, 8008 Zurich*

Tuesday 23 June 2026

Workshop Venue: University of Zurich UZH, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zurich – Rooms KO2-F-152 and KO2-F-153

09.00–09.15 Introductory remarks on the organisation of day 2 (KO2-F-152)

09.15–10.45 Parallel Sessions

Reproduction and Family Life (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Christiane von Bary (UZH)

- Surrogacy and the Genetic Tie – Douglas NeJaime (Yale University, USA). Commentator: Seema Mohapatra
- Reproductive Modernities in Islamic Contexts: Iran, Lebanon, and the Moral Economies of Assisted Reproduction – Nadjma Yassari (Swiss Institute of Comparative Law, Lausanne, Switzerland). Commentator: Michelle Cottier
- Rearranging Kin: Biotechnology's Impact on Law and Family – Marc de Leeuw (UNSW, Sydney, AUS) and Sonia van Wichelen (University of Sydney, AUS). Commentator: Jana Araji

Agents and Institutions of Family Law (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Janet Mosher (York University)

- Family Justice: What, Who and Whether? – Mark Henaghan (University of Auckland, New Zealand). Commentator: Geniece Crawford Mondé
- **Online (CEST):** Children's Participation in Family Law Proceedings: From Aims to Effectuation – Charlotte Mol (Utrecht University, NL). Commentator: Michelle Fernando
- Public Prosecutors in Regulating Families – Stephanie Willman Bordat and Saida Kouzzi (both Mobilizing for Rights Associates, Morocco). Commentator: Maria Nikolova

10.45–11.15 *Break*

11.15–12.45 Parallel Sessions

Reproduction and Family Life (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Marie-Hélène Peter-Spiess (UZH)

- **Abortion: Regimes, Constitutional Framings, and International Standards** – Anna Śledzińska-Simon (Wrocław University, Poland). Commentator: Alma Beltrán y Puga
- **The Right to Know One’s Origins** – Michelle Cottier (University of Geneva, Switzerland). Commentator: Courtney G. Joslin
- **Queering Parenthood? Only If It Is Biological: The Case of Non-Gestational Trans Parenthood** – Alice Margaria (University of Zurich, Switzerland) and Laura Esteve Alguacil (University of Valencia, Spain). Commentator: Kaiponanea Matsumura

Agents and Institutions of Family Law (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Mark Henaghan (University of Auckland)

- **Children’s Access to Justice in Transnational Child Protection: A Relational Approach to Challenging the Private–Public Law Divide** – Sanna Mustasaari (University of Eastern Finland). Commentator: Laura Esteve Alguacil
- **Fractured Bonds: Familial Relationships within the Carceral State** – Geniece Crawford Mondé (Furman University, USA). Commentator: Janet Mosher
- **Between Rights and Care: The Inter-American Court as an Agent of Family Law** – Sofía Treviño Fernández (National Supreme Court of Justice, Mexico; Yale, USA). Commentator: Nausica Palazzo

12.45–13.45 *Lunch in room KO2-F-152*

13.45–15.15 Parallel Sessions

Reproduction and Family Life (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Andy Hayward (Durham)

- Working Families: Contemporary Challenges and Paradigms of Privilege – Nicole Busby (University of Glasgow, UK) and Grace James (University of Reading, UK). Commentator: Anna Śledzińska-Simon
- Intergenerational Family Solidarity in Tunisia: A Socio-legal Approach – Rachida Jelassi Belkhiria (University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia). Commentator: Sushri Sangita Puhan

Agents and Institutions of Family Law (KO2-F-153)

Chair: Seema Mohapatra (SMU Dedman)

- **Online (EDT = CEST –6 hours):** Policing Marginalized Families: Child Protection, Bias, and Inequality – Solangel Maldonado (Seton Hall University, USA). Commentator: Iris Sportel
- Reframing Family Law in the Twentieth Century: Women’s Rights Movements and the Politics of Divorce in Colombia – Alma Beltrán y Puga (Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México). Commentator: Stephanie Willman Bordat

15.15–15.45 Wrapping up (plenary) in room KO2-F-152

Free time – suggestions available upon request

Wednesday 24 June 2026

Workshop Venue: University of Zurich UZH, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zurich – Rooms KO2-F-152 and KO2-F-153

09.00–09.15 Introductory remarks on the organisation of day 3 (KO2-F-152)

09.15–10.45 **Practices and Debates of Family Law** (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Electra Zacharias (UZH)

- The Liberalization Myth in American Family Law – Laura Kessler (University of Utah, USA). Commentator: Nicolás Espejo Yaksic
- Family Law Teaching – Noam Peleg (UNSW, Sydney, AUS). Commentator: Anne Griffiths

10.45–11.15 *Break*

11.15–13.00 **Practices and Debates of Family Law** (KO2-F-152)

Chair: Alma Beltrán y Puga (Universidad Iberoamericana Ciudad de México)

- Family Law and Courts in Latin America: Between Private and Public Law – Nicolás Espejo Yaksic (independent researcher). Commentator: Mark Henaghan
- Friendship as a Mechanism for Rethinking Families and the Ties that Bind – Anne Griffiths (Edinburgh University, UK). Commentator: Sofía Treviño Fernández
- Environmental Justice and the Regulation of Families: Climate Harm, Care, and the Law of Family Integrity – Margaretha Wewerinke Singh (Amsterdam University, NL). Commentator: Marc de Leeuw

13.00–14.00 *Lunch in room KO2-F-152*

14.00–14.30 Concluding remarks on OHB Publication Plans

Accommodation:

Hotel Altstadt, Kirchgasse 4, 8001 Zurich: hotel-altstadt.ch | Hotel St. Josef, Hirschengraben 64/68, 8001 Zurich: www.st-josef.ch

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Venue Map on next page

Hotel St. Josef
Hirschengraben 64/68
8001 Zurich



ETH Dozent:innenfoyer
Rämistrasse 101
8006 Zurich



Hotel Altstadt
Kirchgasse 4
8001 Zurich



University of Zurich
Main Building KOL & KO2
Rämistrasse 71
8006 Zurich



Restaurant "Fischerstube"
Bellerivestrasse 160
8008 Zurich



The location is not visible on this map, it's a bit further down at the lake. It's a 20' walk by the lake from the Opera / Stadelhofen / Sechseleuten-Platz or a 10' bus / tram ride with Bus No. 912 or 916 / Tram No. 11 or 15 starting at Bellevue or Opernhaus, getting off at Fröhlichstrasse