

European Company Lawyers Association. Registered office: Rue des Sols 8, 1000 Brussels

## **Association Européenne des Juristes d'Entreprise**

## **EUROPEAN COMPANY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Dr. Peter Kriependorf assumes position of President of the European Company Lawyers Association.**

Brussels, November 2, 2010

The General Assembly of ECLA unanimously elected Dr. Peter Kriependorf as President for a two years term succeeding Han Kooy who served two years as President.

Dr. Kriependorf has been the representative of the German Association of Corporate Counsels, a chapter of the DAV (Deutscher Anwaltverein) for several years. After the founding President in 1984 he is the second German ECLA President. He looks back on an international career as legal counsel and general counsel for companies like Henkel and Mars. "It is an honour to lead this organization of 23 national associations of company lawyers and their 32.000 members. We are on the verge of a new era in which ECLA must position itself as the premier European representative body for company lawyers. In a time in which corporate governance and compliance have gained pivotal importance for the top management, our members are all the more called upon to serve in their role as defenders of the rule of law in their companies in Europe and overseas".

"In the EU member states the position of company lawyers is very heterogeneous. In legislative developments in Europe ECLA wants to play its role to serve both the individual company lawyers and the companies they work for", says the new ECLA President from Germany. "ECLA is ready to meet that challenge".

ECLA's Executive Board consists of Marina Kralj (Zagreb), Jean Cattaruzza (Brussels), Han Kooy (The Hague) and Sergio Marini (Milan). Petr Šmelhaus (Prague) succeeded Paul de Jonge as General Manager.

#### **For information:**

Petr Šmelhaus

General Manager

Tel. +420 417 630 282

Fax +420 417 630 335

[petr.smelhaus@ecla.org](mailto:petr.smelhaus@ecla.org)