



CPME 2010/027

TITLE / TITRE

Executive Committee Recommendation to the Board for the appointment of CPME new Secretary General

AUTHOR / AUTEUR

Executive Committee

CONCERNING / CONCERNE

All delegates

PURPOSE / OBJET

Decision

DATE

25/03/2010

KEYWORDS / MOTS CLEFS

Secretary General



25 March 2010

Dear Board members,

As you know, our current Secretary General Lisette Tiddens-Engwirda announced last year her intention to move to other activities and leave her position at CPME as of 1/7/2010. We therefore announced the vacancy of the post in December 2009 and started the selection process for her successor.

The Executive Committee reviewed all applications that came in (55) and selected 9 candidates for a first series of interviews. These interviews were done by the CPME President Dr. Radziwill, Vice-President Dr. Montgomery, Vice-President Dr. Lemye, and immediate past President Dr. Wilks. The current Secretary General was on our request present at the interviews as well.

This group selected 3 candidates for a second interview and we gave these candidates 2 questions on which they were asked to give a presentation as part of the interview. The questions were:

1. How do you imagine the role of the Secretary General (range of responsibilities, internal and external relations)?
2. What can be done to engage our members more in the CPME activities?

For this second round the full Executive Committee was present. We unanimously agreed on the candidate we now present you as the best one for the position.

Her name is Birgit Beger. You will find her CV attached to this document. She is ready to start as from the 1st of July.

According to article 6.1 of our Rules of Procedure, we kindly recommend you to appoint Ms Birgit Beger for the position of CPME Secretary General.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of CPME Executive Committee

Dr Konstanty Radziwill
CPME President

Profile

- Strong sense of leadership responsibility, diplomacy and culturally sensitive communication
- Capacity to analyse quickly, communicate legal content clearly and translate it easily into sound policy positions
- Visionary who quickly recognises opportunities and risks
- Independent worker and adaptable team player who displays strong professionalism



Work experience

- 12/07 - present **Senior legal advisor for the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)**
- Facilitating and managing ten CCBE committees and working-groups, ranging from deontological issues (e.g. professional electronic ID card for lawyers) to substantive law issues (European Contract Law); particular focus on EU-wide e-Justice systems (new technology in judicial administration and governmental structures)
 - Giving legal advice and advising EU institutions on deontological issues relevant to the legal profession, representing the organisation towards the European Institutions, the Council of Europe and the American Bar Association Section of Science and Technology Law
 - Monitoring EU development and drafting positions on EU Legislation
 - Raising funds for projects and conferences
 - Recruitment and Supervision of CCBE Legal Assistants
- 08/05 - 11/07 **Legal advisor for the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)**
- 05/04 – 07/05 **Lawyer with Civil, International and EU Law Focus, Brussels and Berlin**
- Practising civil, international and EU law
 - Representing clients in court
 - Managing the law firm
 - Writing reports for a European NGO (ILGA-Europe), i.e. on International Private Law

- 04/03 – 04/04 **Policy and research officer for a European human rights NGO (ILGA-Europe)**
- Monitoring EU legislation, in the field of employment and social affairs and in justice and home affairs
 - Giving legal advice to the board and national level organisations
 - Representing the organisation at the European Parliament, and at NGO meetings and events
 - Organising conferences and other events
 - Developing political strategies
 - Writing reports and policy papers, contributions to the European Commission’s draft proposals, EP Reports, Council Common Positions, Memoranda to the Presidencies
- 12/02- 03/03 **European Parliament, free lance legal assistant for MEP Christa Randzio-Plath (Chair of the Committee for Economic and Monetary Affairs)**
- Monitoring EU legislation in the field of Economic and Monetary Affairs
 - Writing speeches and press releases
 - Answering specific legal requests
 - Research and dossiers on specific subjects (financial service markets, SMEs, trade and development agreements with third countries, gender equality)
- 01/00 – 12/02 **Lawyer with Civil Law Focus, Notary-Deputy, Berlin**
- Giving legal advice in general Civil Law, including Corporate and Competition Law and Intellectual property, as well as medical law
 - Representing clients in Court, Drafting treaties and agreements in family, estate and company law
 - Managing the Law firm during holidays/absence of the Lawyer/Notary, Supervising two administration officers and one notary-assistant
- 05-07/99 **Legal assistant at corporate law firm Kenneth, Elliot & Rowe, London**
- Drafting expert opinions and contracts in the field of Company Law, Insolvency, Intellectual and Commercial Property
- 08/97-11/99 **Referendariat (preparing the bar exam) Berlin,**
working for county court, state attorney, administration, law firm, focus on EU Law
- Drafting verdicts in order to allow the relevant judge to pass judgment at the General Civil Law Court and Superior Administration Law Court
 - Writing indictments for the prosecuting attorney
 - Drafting statement of claims for the barrister, dealing with clients and presenting cases in the court (civil law, criminal law and public law)

Other experiences

- 11/04- present **The Brussels Shakespeare Society asbl**
- Board member and treasurer for the Society since 2006
 - Producer for “Antony and Cleopatra”, 13-17 February 2007 and “The Lion in Winter”, 14 – 18 November 2006
 - Responsible for Publicity for four productions of the BSS
- 11-12/96 **Market researcher, Regus Business Centre GmbH**
- Undertaking research and writing a survey on possible costs for allocating business offices in Germany

Education

- 11/99 **Second State Law Exam (German Bar Exam)**; Specialisation in EU Law
- 07/97 **MA Political Science (FU Berlin)**. Thesis topic, trans: „Citizenship in the European Union after the European Community Treaty“
- 07/96 **First State Law Exam**; Specialisation in EU Law and International Public Law

Other training

- 09/07 Seminar at the European Academy of Law: Principles of European Contract Law – Sales Contracts, Personal Security, Service Contracts, Commercial Agency, Franchise and Distribution Contracts
- 03/07 – 12/08 Coaching – Professional communication development
- 01/04 – present Several Language courses French at Alliance francaise (finish level C.1)
- 06/01 Seminar for web-page design

Membership

- 03/00 - present Member of the Berlin Bar (Rechtsanwaltskammer Berlin)
- 01/07 – present Member of the Brussels Bar (Barreau de Bruxelles)

Languages

- German Mother tongue
- English Excellent (written and spoken)
- French Very good (written and spoken)

Computer skills

Office 2007 (Microsoft Word, Power point, Excel, Outlook), HTML and web-page design

Interests and Hobbies

Practicing Classical Ballet, English Theatre, Violin (Orchestra), Travelling