

4TH ENGLISH-CYPRIOT LAW DAY, LIMASSOL

1. In September 2019 I visited the coastal city of Limassol, Cyprus, primarily to speak at the Bar Council's 4th English-Cypriot Law Day. The purpose of the Day was to bring together barristers of England and Wales alongside Cypriot practitioners to look at developments in commercial and criminal law, and how this would affect cross-border practice. Naturally, a key issue at the 4th annual Day was Brexit and what it may mean in terms of matters such as cross-border enforcement, ancillary relief, and arbitration.
2. The paper I presented was entitled "Other developments in Civil Procedure in England and Wales" which was part of a panel looking at new developments of importance to UK-Cypriot legal business. The substance of my paper was looking at three distinct developments in Civil procedure, namely:
 - i. the Shorter and Flexible Trial Scheme pursuant to CPR PD 57AB;
 - ii. the Insolvency Express Trial pilot pursuant to CPR PD 51P; and
 - iii. the Witness Evidence Working Group in the Commercial Court.
3. The underlying thesis of my paper was that there is an ongoing push for efficiency within the civil courts. Following an initial talk given that morning on the Disclosure Pilot, I advanced the proposition that all four of these reforms are an example of the continuing development of the jurisdiction of England and Wales into a more proportionate, streamlined, and cost-effective centre for disputes both domestic and international.
4. Following my talk, I took questions from a number of English and Cypriot delegates discussing the wider implications for these developments and how they may be translated to other jurisdictions.
5. Alongside the conference, I gave talks at two respected Cypriot law firms, namely Dr. K. Chrysostomides & Co LLC in Nicosia and Michael Kyprianou & Co LLC in Limassol. In these presentations I explored cross-border enforcement under the Brussels II Regulation and what implications Brexit might have on the current regime.

6. The International Legal & Professional Development Grant Programme not only gave me the opportunity to present a paper at a well-regarded international legal conference but also to develop lasting contacts in the Cypriot legal profession, including an advocate with whom I am currently working on a banking law journal article.

7. I am extremely grateful to the Bar Council and COMBAR for their generosity and support which made my successful visit to Cyprus possible.

ZACHARY KELL

20th October 2019