# FOURTH BI-ANNUAL UPICLC University of Pretoria International Consumer Law Conference 21 to 23 September 2020 Save the date Teken die datum aan O se lebale letšatši le Faculty of Law Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid Lefapha la Molao

# First call for papers

### Fourth University of Pretoria International Consumer Law Conference (UPICLC) -

regulation: Time for a balanced

### Proportionality and consumer regulation: Time for a balanced approach?

The dynamics of the consumer market are such that it transcends borders and realms. The products and services traded in this market are evolving and changing on a daily basis. They are increasingly sophisticated and complex.

We are now on the frontiers of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, which drives the search for a new regulatory landscape aligned with the challenges that this exciting epoch presents. If our aim is to protect consumers, especially vulnerable ones, we need to consider consciously, now more than ever, the type of approach we support. Is more intrusive and expansive regulation the answer? Should we completely rethink and innovate our approach to consumer protection and take it to new dimensions? Or do we need to consider a more balanced and proportional approach?

The Department of Mercantile Law in the Faculty of Law of the University of Pretoria invites you to join us in this exciting debate where we can freely share ideas in the interest of expanding knowledge and shaping policy in the area of consumer protection. At the 4<sup>th</sup> UPICLC, we would like to explore the concept of a balanced approach between proportionality and consumer regulation and how it affects all the various aspects, policies, theories, areas and rights that are considered part of Consumer Protection. This would include, for example, general consumer protection, financial consumer protection and credit law, e-commerce and other related areas.

The UPICLC web page will be launched soon but in the meantime, you can follow us on social media under <u>#MercantileLawUP</u> and <u>https://www.facebook.com/MercantileLawUP</u>

Send your abstract of maximum 500 words to Jani van Wyk at <a href="mailto:iani.vanwyk@up.ac.za">iani.vanwyk@up.ac.za</a> by 30 June 2020.

Contact Jacolien Barnard at jacolien.barnard@up.ac.za or Jani van Wyk for more information.

### In addition ... African realities and approaches to Consumer Protection

The UPICLC 2020 will include a concurrent stream of presentations for participants from other African jurisdictions (or any other jurisdiction) to disseminate the position relating to the conference theme and the position in Africa or particular African country/countries.

We will also have a one-day workshop on 21 September 2020 facilitated by the Attorney General Alliance Africa ("AGA Africa") on *inter alia* debt collection, credit reporting, privacy, e-commerce and secured transactions involving movable assets with a comparative perspective of the United States of America and how these transactions relate to the South African and African positions. Any other jurisdictions are welcome to attend!



### Important information

### **Abstracts**

Abstracts must be submitted no later than 30 June 2020 and must not exceed 500 words. The abstract must contain the following information of the candidate: Title, surname, affiliated institution, position held at institution and an e-mail address where the candidate can be reached. This information does not form part of the word count for the abstract.

All abstracts are peer-reviewed. Candidates are requested to proofread their abstracts to ensure that the language and style is of high quality.

All presentations at the conference will be in English and no provision made for translators. As such, prospective participants need to be proficient in English or make provision for their own translators to accompany them. Feedback on submitted abstracts will be provided within two weeks of date of submission of the abstracts

### Venue

The conference will take place from 21 to 23 September 2020 at the new Future Africa Campus of the University of Pretoria.

### **Accommodation**

Available at the Conference venue and must be arranged directly with the venue. Visit the Future Africa website at <a href="https://www.futureafrica.science">www.futureafrica.science</a> for more information.

### Conference fee

3 500 ZAR which includes the AGA Africa-workshop, evening welcoming function, conference dinner, and refreshments and lunch on the days of the conference. Delegates are responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses. Masters and doctoral candidates, as well as post-graduate research fellows, qualify for a reduced fee of 1 750 ZAR upon application to the Conference Committee. Delegates who only wish to attend one of the two conference days, together with the workshop, qualify for a reduced conference fee of 2 000 ZAR upon application to the Conference Committee.

## **Important dates**

30 June 2020	Last day for submission of abstracts
14 August 2020	Last day for payment of conference fee
21 August 2020	Publication of draft programme on conference website
21 September 2020	AGA Africa-workshop Evening: UPICLC Welcoming Function
22 September 2020	UPICLC Day One Evening: UPICLC Conference Dinner
23 September 2020	UPICLC Day Two