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UNIFORM LAW CONFERENCE OF CANADA

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

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Chair, International Committee**

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**Halifax, Nova Scotia
August 2025**

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

[1] I am pleased to present this report on behalf of the International Committee.

[2] The full committee met on December 19, 2024, and conducted a thorough review of its own mandate and identified potential cooperative projects between the Uniform Law Conference of Canada (ULCC) and the Uniform Law Commission (ULC) of the United States.

[3] In advance of that meeting, I had informal discussions with ULC Incoming President Lisa Jacobs. ULCC President Maria Markatos attended the ULC mid-winter meeting (virtually) to provide general information about the ULCC. I also attended an informal reception at the home of ULC President Tim Berg, where the executive and several drafting group chairs were present.

[4] Finally, in June of this year, we held a brief meeting of myself, Maria Markatos, and Vice-President Chloé Rousselle from the ULCC; and Lisa Jacobs and newly appointed Executive Director Eric Weeks from the ULC. The discussions set up the presentations by the respective Presidents at the July ULC and August ULCC annual meetings.

[5] The context for cooperation is changing somewhat, and therefore this year was more about preparing for the new context rather than specific steps. The ULC has the International Committee, which reviews the potential for joint and cooperative projects and feeds that information into the ULCC's Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management (ACPDM). It also reviews opportunities for comparative information from other similar organizations, such as the European Law Institute and the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies. (Our current project on non-disclosure agreements relies heavily on comparative legislation and studies from a large number of jurisdictions.)

[6] The ULC's Scope Committee is largely similar to our ACPDM. However, the ULC also has two international committees: a joint editorial board with the American Bar Association, which meets annually to review developments in international law and their relevance to ULC; and the International Legal Developments Committee, which, depending on interest and membership, could be similar to the ULCC International Committee.

[7] Joint projects, while much discussed, are actually quite rare. There have been three in the history of the two organizations. Far more common are cooperative projects proceeding synchronously, or access to policy and information where the projects are not synchronized.

[8] Sharing of information can take place throughout the spectrum of a project from project selection, policy development, and post project implementation. Sharing can also take place at an institutional level and on the subject matter project level. Both are to be encouraged.

[9] The presence of ACPDM Chair Greg Blue, K.C., and Legal Project and Research Coordinator Christina Croteau ensures that the International Committee is current and that its proposals flow directly into the ACPDM, if appropriate. The December 2024 review suggested four types of activity:

- (i) cooperative activity and projects developing more or less synchronously;
- (ii) shared information on activity on individual projects;
- (iii) observer status on working groups of mutual interest; and
- (iv) shared information on past project challenges.

[10] Going forward the two organizations:

- (i) are committed to sharing and cooperation;
- (ii) will encourage observer status; and
- (iii) will analyze opportunities for further cooperation.

[11] I am grateful for the engagement of committee members and leadership during this year, which has been a challenging one for me personally. I look forward to further activity and the mutual benefits it can bring to both organizations.

[12] The International Committee members for 2024-2025:

- Peter Lown, K.C. (Chair) (AB)
- Maria Markatos (President) (SK)
- Chloé Rousselle (Vice-President) (CA)
- Tyler Nyvall (Chair, Civil Section) (BC)
- Laurence Bergeron (representative from the Government of Quebec) (QC)
- Valérie Simard (representative from the Government of Canada; expert in private international law) (CA)
- Christina Croteau (Legal Project and Research Coordinator)
- Michelle Lemieux Wilkinson (Executive Director and Administrator)