



European Association of Tax Law Professors

Annual conference

6th – 8th of June 2024

Faculty of Law
City Campus
Building V
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1. About University of Antwerp

The University of Antwerp is a **young, dynamic, publicly funded and fully accredited Belgian university**. It was founded in 2003 after the merger of three universities: UFSIA (*Universitaire Faculteiten Sint-Ignatius Antwerpen*), RUCA (*Rijksuniversitair Centrum Antwerpen*) and UIA (*Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen*). It integrates the assets of its historic roots with its ambition to contribute positively to society, carries out its tasks in a spirit of academic freedom and responsibility, and espouses **active pluralism**.

The University of Antwerp is characterised by its high standards in **pioneering, creative and innovative scientific research** which strives for international excellence. It stimulates both basic and applied research and their valorisation. It has 15 Centres of Excellence (CoE) across all scientific disciplines. The CoEs are international flagships, bringing together consortia of researchers of proven scientific quality and impact.

“University of Antwerp excels in pioneering scientific research and innovative academic education.”

The University of Antwerp also offers **excellent internationally accredited academic education** – closely connected to its scientific research – to students from all social groups and of all generations. Students acquire knowledge about research results during lectures, through course materials and/or digital media. They gain a better insight by discussing research findings with each other and by writing papers about them. The university aims at the development and integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes that will prepare its students to take responsibility in society. Students are stimulated to develop into independently minded people who are capable of thinking analytically.

Moreover, the university provides **student-based education** and emphasises the development of competences. In addition to knowledge and insight, these competences will also include particular skills and attitudes. Thanks to this **competence-oriented education**, its academic graduates are able to function successfully in professional environments.

The University of Antwerp is not an island: it builds **bridges** to secondary education, to industry and, by extension, to society as a whole, and stimulates **public debate** on scientific, social, philosophical and ethical questions. Furthermore, it is committed to the development of its city and region. With its partners in the Antwerp University Association, it takes responsibility for higher education in the Antwerp region. It also attaches great importance to its close, historic links with Antwerp University Hospital, the Institute of Tropical Medicine and Antwerp Management School. It seeks **constructive partnerships** in the fields of research, teaching and academic service to society. The university shares its expertise with both public and private partners.

The university has **nine faculties**: 1) Applied Engineering, 2) Arts, 3) Business and Economics, 4) Design Sciences, 5) Law, 6) Medicine and Health Sciences, 7) Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, 8) Social Sciences and 9) Science. Doctoral programmes are available in all faculties, with more than 1,800 PhD students registered.

The University of Antwerp has more than 21,000 fee-paying students. About 4,000 of these students are from foreign countries, with about 130 different nationalities. In line with the Bologna process, the University of Antwerp has adopted the Bachelor-Master structure. It offers 3-year Bachelor programmes (180 ECTS credits) and 1-year or 2-year Master programmes (60 or 120 ECTS credits) – more than 140 in total.

The University of Antwerp has over 80,000 alumni. With over 6,000 members of staff, it is **one of the most important employers in Antwerp**, Flanders' largest city. It fosters diversity and offers its staff and students equal opportunities and maximum potential for personal development.

University of Antwerp, Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerpen, Belgium - Tel: + 32(0)3 265 41 11



Photo: Entrance, small courtyard at Prinsstraat 13, the historical wing of the Hof van Liere



Photo: Central courtyard at Prinsstraat 13

2. About the city of Antwerp



Photo: Our Lady's Cathedral of Antwerp

Antwerp is an atypical metropolis in the heart of Europe. Despite its relatively humble proportions, it boasts the biggest port area in Europe and its vast offering of cultural, historical and culinary delights is enhanced by more than 170 nationalities.

Museums, shops, boutiques, start-up hubs, premium hotels, the historical home of Rubens and the world's biggest diamond trade centre are all within strolling distance.

Antwerp embraces heritage and innovation, business and leisure, global ambitions and a genuine concern for nurturing a highly enjoyable quality of life for residents and visitors.

Diamond World Centre - Hand crafted excellence

The city of Antwerp has had a distinct shine since 1447, when it first was awarded the title of Diamond Capital. In this, the oldest and largest diamond centre in the world, the industry has pushed every boundary in diamond cutting, jewelry design and technology. It remains as lucrative today as it was in the 15th century. Over 5 centuries of tradition have made the city the unrivalled crown jewel of rough and cut diamond trading and manufacturing. Nearly 1 700 companies ensure excellence, transparency and compliance in this unique industry. Within a single square mile, 84% of the global rough diamond trade and 50% of the cut gemstone trade is handled, adding up to a total of 84 billion dollars.

The port - Connecting Europe and the world

The Antwerp waterfront and port are a constant source of enrichment. For many European companies, the Port of Antwerp is the link with other continents, and for many businesses in the farthest corners of the world it is the gateway Europe. Even though it is not the biggest harbor in the world, the Port of Antwerp is the primary backbone of Europe's largest and most diverse chemicals clusters. All major chemistry and refinery companies worldwide are represented in Antwerp. Antwerp offers specialist logistics services, ranging from assembling, labelling and quality controls to stock management, after-sales and postponed manufacturing.

Private companies in the port area continue to invest in the most modern storage areas and machines to load and discharge goods quickly and efficiently.

In short:

- 2nd largest port in Europe
- Most diverse chemicals clusters
- Biggest locks in the world
- Most important node in Europe's pipeline network



Photo: Port House, the headquarters of the Antwerp Port Authority

The Creative hub

There's much more to Antwerp's cultural inventory than Rubens masterpieces, museums and architecture. The Antwerp design sector puts on a yearly basis more big names to the forefront via the renowned Product Development course. The Antwerp fashion scene is revered just as much as the ones in Paris and New York. The city's diamond trade has created its own, truly unique tradition of jewelry design. This melting pot of creativity infuses the city streets with a bubbling atmosphere and a lust for life.



Photo: Restoration of a Rubens painting

3. Accessibility and Transport

- **Flights:**
For arrival by air, the main international hub is Brussels Zaventem airport (www.brusselsairport.be), situated 45 km south of Antwerpen city center. There are flights to Zaventem from all major European cities as well as from a large number of overseas metropolises. From the train station within the airport, there are frequent trains (2 to 3 per hr) to Antwerpen Centraal station (30 to 50 min journey; 2nd class return fare in 2020 *ca.* €25; tickets can be purchased online in advance www.belgiantrain.be), from which many hotels and Stadscampus of UAntwerpen (the conference site) are within walking distance. There are also various bus services from Zaventem airport to Antwerpen, e.g. SN Brussels Airlines Express shuttle service. A small regional airport in Antwerpen, 5 km from the city center, serves a few international destinations.
- **Train:**
Antwerpen Centraal Station has excellent high speed train connections to Paris, London, Amsterdam (Schiphol) with Thalys, Eurostar or Deutsche Bahn. Antwerpen Centraal station is a tourist destination in its own right as illustrated in the photo below.
- **Car:**
Antwerpen has excellent highway connections, but traffic is notoriously heavy in the region. In the central city a “low emission zone” is in force, and policies are being developed to discourage car travel in the city center, e.g. limited parking.
- The city center is compact, easily walkable, and served by an extensive tram network.



Photo: Entrance hall of Antwerp Central Railway Station

4. Description of the conference venue

Stadscampus, where the EATLP conference will take place, is situated in the city centre, at walking distance (about 15 minutes) from the Central Railway Station.



Photo: Building C 1st floor, bronze sculpture 'The water carrier' by Philip Aguirre Y Otegui

Several spacious modern auditoria are available for the plenary and parallel sessions, together with open foyer spaces for registration, poster displays, as well as coffee breaks and lunches. The auditoria are accessible for persons with disabilities, and an elevator is available. Good wifi access is available over the entire campus (via Eduroam or guest account on the UAntwerp network).

Art is everywhere on the different UAntwerp-campuses. The collection comprises about 1,100 paintings, sculptures and other forms of contemporary art.

Building K – Auditorium Rector Dhanis

The plenary sessions of the conference will be held in the auditorium Rector Dhanis, which is the largest auditorium of the Antwerp University with a capacity of 700 seats (Address: Building K, Kleine Kauwenberg 14, 2000 Antwerp)



The site of Building K comprises a foyer designed for receptions, coffee breaks,



Photo: Entrance hall at the conference venue, Building K.

EATLP will host at this location:

- + Registration
- + Coffee breaks and lunch

+ Welcome reception

+ Poster program

Convention Center Hof van Liere



Address: Prinsstraat 13, 2000 Antwerp

At the heart of the Stadscampus lies the magnificent, historic Hof van Liere. This beautiful 16th-century historic site, which is constructed by the Jesuits in the 17th century, is an oasis of calm in the bustling city centre and belongs to Antwerp's cultural-historical patrimony. The regal building was built in 1516, commissioned by the Mayor of Antwerp at that time, Aert van Liere. Antwerp was on the threshold of its

'golden' 16th century, a fact that is evidenced by this beautiful building in the Brabant Gothic style.



Photo: Convention Center Hof van Liere

The EATLP conference will host at this location the meetings of the Academic committee and Executive board e.g. in the Scaldisroom or/and in the Willem Elsschotroom

5. Social programme

Welcome Reception

The welcome reception Thursday 6th of June is foreseen to be held in Building K.



Photo: Stadshuis Antwerp

Conference dinner at Flanders Meeting & Convention Center Antwerp

Conveniently located in the heart of Antwerp ZOO, next to Antwerp Central Railway Station, the Flanders Meeting & Convention Center Antwerp (FMCCA) is part of the ZOO Foundation, a home for animal welfare, nature conservation and science.

This historic halls, featuring different kinds of marble, high ceilings and Art Nouveau architecture, are the perfect setting for parties or receptions. The Marble Hall, where the conference dinner will take place, is the historical heart of the complex. It's one of architectonic highlights of Art Nouveau in Belgium. The impressive columns of pink marble, the high ceiling in pure Art Nouveau style and the high windows with red velvet curtains all help to create a special, spacious and stylish impression. The Marble Hall is located on the ground floor of the Flanders Meeting & Convention Center Antwerp – FMCCA.

Adress: Koningin Astridplein 20, 2018 Antwerp – www.fmcca.com.



Photo: Flanders Meeting and Convention Center Antwerp

6. Partner programme



Photo: MAS, Museum aan de Stroom

The city of Antwerpen is a major tourist attraction in itself, with a range of free activities available, e.g. walking tour of the central city, access to the roof terrace of the MAS museum with panoramic views over the city, as well as many inexpensive activities, e.g. guided tours. The conference website will provide more details on suggested social activities for accompanying persons.



Photo: City hall at Grote Markt Antwerp

7. Conference 6-8 June 2024 (draft)

Thursday 6 June '24

Morning sessions (*members only*):

- Academic Committee
- Organizing Committee
- Executive Board

2 pm Registration participants and coffee break

6 pm Inaugural lecture by the Guest Speaker

7 pm Get together on campus

Friday 7 June '24

8 am Opening registration

9 am Opening conference and lectures / sessions

12.30 pm Lunch

1.30 pm Afternoon sessions

5.30 pm Closing remarks

6 pm Group photo

8 – 11 pm Conference dinner at FMCCA

Saturday 8 June '24

9 am Opening conference

12.30 pm Wrap-up, conclusion and farewell

Afternoon Additional meetings (for members only)

8. Local Organizer

The local organizer will comprise several postdocs and/or doctoral students of Antwerp Tax Academy who will assist with registration and other logistical issues throughout the conference.

Administrative coordinator

A successful conference or symposium calls for thorough preparation. To help with this, we can count on the advice and support of NEXUS, a team within the faculty of Law specialized in the organization of conferences, post-academic programs, workshops and courses. Nexus will assist us with:

- Booking conference rooms on the university campus or elsewhere
- Creating a conference website and registration module
- Preparing e-invitations
- Putting together a social programme and a range of activities for accompanying partners
- Selecting suitable merchandise
- ..

Contact: Nexus@uantwerpen.be – Stadscampus Building V, Venusstraat 23 2000 Antwerp (Reinhilde Tulkens)

9. Hotel accommodation

Conference participants can book their stay in Antwerp via an [online booking tool](#), provided by Antwerp Convention Bureau ACB

Antwerp offers a wide range of hotels. The online booking tool will provide an overview of selected hotels and their Best Available Rate, which has been negotiated for participants.

- 5 star hotel: Sapphire House Antwerp, Autograph Collection by Marriott, Lange Nieuwstraat 24, Antwerp
- 4 star hotels:
 - Theater Hotel, Arenbergstraat 30, Antwerp
 - NH Hotel – Pelikaanstraat 84, Antwerp
- 3 star hotels:
 - B& B Hotel Antwerp Centrum, Frankrijklei 36, Antwerp
 - Ibis Hotel Meistraat 39 Antwerp
- *Youth Hostel*: The Ash – Italiëlei 237-239, 2000 Antwerp



Photo: City hall at Grote Markt Antwerp

