# EU Corporate Governance in XXI century:

## Shareholder Rights Directive II and Beyond

**Borschette building, Brussels, 26 June 2017**

Day chair: ***Maija Laurila**, DG Justice and Consumers, Head of Unit Company law*

10:00 – 10:15 Keynote speech ***Tiina Astola,** DG Justice and Consumers, Director General*

10.15 – 11.00 **Presentation of the revised Shareholder Rights Directive and Q&A session,** *DG Justice and Consumers*

11:00 – 11:30 Speeches

***Evelyn Regner**, Member of the European Parliament*

***Sirpa Pietikäinen**, Member of the European Parliament*

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00 – 13.30 **Panel 1: How could the use of modern technologies render corporate governance more effective?**

*In spite of the rapid development of new financial technologies, the flow of information and direct interaction between the management, the boards and the shareholders is often costly, ineffective or even not possible, particularly across borders. Is there a need for greater standardisation? How could digital tools enhance interaction between the management, the boards and the shareholders?*

- Moderator: **Susanne Knöfel**, Deputy Head of Unit for Company law
- **Markus Kaum**, Head of Department, Legal, Munich Re/European Issuers
- **Florence Schlegel**, Group General Counsel at SONEPAR
- **Christiane Hölz**, Managing Director North Rhine-Westphalia of Deutsche Schutzvereinigung für Wertpapierbesitz e.V. (DSW)/Secretary Legal Committee of Better Finance
- **Les Turner**, Head of Global Proxy Distribution, Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS)
- **Juan M. Prieto**, Managing Director at CORPORANCE
- **Kaarel Ots**, Chairman of the Management Board, Nasdaq Tallinn

13.30 – 15.00 Lunch

15.00 – 16.15 **Panel 2: How could modern corporate governance help companies meet the challenges of the XXI century?**

*Long-term economic and societal challenges from climate change to demographic transition, inequalities, increased productivity and artificial intelligence are already reshaping our economy and have profound impact on corporate governance. Are companies and their boards fit for responding to tomorrow's challenges? Are changes needed to help ensure that sustainability becomes mainstream in the EU?*

- Moderator: **Salla Saastamoinen**, Director for Civil and commercial justice
- **David Pitt-Watson**, Author and Investor
- **Claudia Kruse**, Managing Director Global Responsible Investment and Governance, APG Asset Management
- **Jeff Turner**, Vice-President Corporate Sustainability at DSM
- **Jean-Philippe Desmartin**, Head of Responsible Investment at Edmond de Rothschild AM
- **Prof Lutgart Van den Berghe**, European Confederation of Directors Associations (ecoDa)
- **Filip Gregor,** Head of Responsible Companies Section at Frank Bold

16.15 – 16.45 Closing remarks

***Dr Ivan Sammut**, Ministry of Finance, Malta*

***Taivo Põrk**, Ministry of Finance, Estonia*

***Maija Laurila,** Head of Unit Company law*