



**IAFL INTRODUCTION TO
INTERNATIONAL FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE
Bangkok, Thailand**

Chair: [John Spender](#) (Australia)

Tuesday 30 May 2023

10:25-10:30: Introduction and Welcome

Geoff Wilson (Australia), IAFL Asia Pacific Chapter President and
Thomas Sasser (Florida, USA), IAFL President

10:30-11:30: Marriage and Divorce

- Requirements for a marriage
- Whether various religious ceremonies are recognised as marriages
- Whether same sex marriages are recognised
- Recognition of foreign marriages or divorces
- Jurisdictional requirements for divorce
- Grounds for divorce
- Whether common law marriages or de facto relationships are recognised

Moderator: Sandra Verburgt (Netherlands)

Presenters: Eleanor Lau (Australia), Diane Sussman (France) and Claudia Zhao (China)

11:30-12:00: Coffee Break

12:00-1:00: Parenting Matters

- Principles generally - what are the legal principles and bases for making parenting orders in the jurisdiction of the panellist?
- Approaches when a child is abducted by one parent to the jurisdiction of the panellist, including:
 - The approach and process where the 1980 Hague Abduction Convention applies and
 - The approach and process when the 1980 Hague Abduction Convention does not apply
- Approaches to relocation or leave to remove applications

Moderator: Corinne Remedios (Hong Kong)

Presenters: Makiko Mizuuchi (Japan), Ivan Cheong (Singapore) and Simon Bruce (England)

1:00-2:00: Lunch

2:00-3:20: Property and Financial Matters

- Jurisdictional requirements
- Does the relief sought need to be linked to an application for divorce?
- The property regime(s) prevailing in each jurisdiction
- Valuation and discovery issues, including whether there is a duty to make disclosure
- Dealing with assets overseas
- Forum disputes when more than one country may have jurisdiction
- Is it possible to have such pre-nuptial agreements in the jurisdiction of the panellist? If not, what is the next best thing one can do?
- Is it possible to have cross-jurisdictional agreements in the jurisdiction of the panellist
- Requirements for a valid pre-nuptial agreement
- Limitations of pre-nuptial agreements, including grounds to set them aside or declare them not to be binding

Moderator: John Spender (Australia)

Presenters: Lay Lian Kee (Singapore), Keturah Sageman (Australia), Steven Yoda (California) and Rita Ku (Hong Kong)

3:20-3:30: Closing Remarks

Geoff Wilson (Australia), IAFL Asia Pacific Chapter President and
Thomas Sasser (Florida, USA), IAFL President