



Max Planck Institute for
Comparative and International
Private Law | Hamburg

CIS - ROUNDTABLE

a regular discussion forum
on the legal, political and societal developments
of the post-Soviet region

Begaiym Esenkulova

"Investment Contracts and Sustainable Development:
the Case of Kyrgyzstan's Mining Sector"

Thursday, 9 July 2015 – 4:30 pm

Conference Room 1, 1st floor

All employees and guests of the institute as well as
other interested parties are cordially invited to the lecture.

Eugenia Kurzynsky-Singer

About the Speaker:

Begaiym Esenkulova is Assistant Professor in the International and Business Law Department of the American University of Central Asia and an S.J.D. candidate of the Legal Studies Department of the Central European University. At present, she is a visiting research scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law.

About the Topic:

Kyrgyzstan, a former Soviet republic of Central Asia, is currently attracting many foreign investors to its mining sector. This is a rather positive development. Yet, foreign direct investment, if not properly governed, may cause a number of problems, including environmental harm and social unrest. Furthermore, as the resources are non-renewable, Kyrgyzstan has a one-time opportunity to transform the resource wealth into sustainable development. Therefore, the challenge is to have investors engage in their investment operations in a way that strikes a balance between their profits and the wider effects of their economic activity. In this regard, investment contracts, as one of the main sources of investment governance, can either be a tool for advancing sustainable development or stand as a barrier to it. The presentation will be focused on the analysis of the investment contract regime in general (with specific examples from Kyrgyzstan's mining industry) and on the question of how to ensure that investment contracts contribute to the promotion of sustainable development for the sake of present and future generations.