REPORT ON EFILA'S INAUGURAL CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSI LONDON: 'EU LAW AND INVESTMENT TREATY LAW: CONVERGEN OR CONVERSATION' (LONDON, 23 JANUARY 2015)

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The European Federation for Investment Law and Arbitration (EFILA) m commencement of its activities on Friday, 23 January 2015, at the Univ Senate House with an inaugural conference entitled "EU Law and Invest Conver-gence, Conflict or Conversation". Three CEPANI members - Prof Houtte, Professor Gerard Meijer and Ms. Erica Stein - participated in an conference.

EFILA has been established to promote, at the European level, all aspec international investment law, including arbitration. EFILA strives to facil exchange of views on relevant and timely issues vital to the developme law and policy.

An impressive array of public and private sector stakeholders attended, European Commission, the European Parliament and European governm arbitral institutions, trade associations, academia and private practice. debate ensued on recent EU investment policy and the challenges assoc of Investor State Dispute Resolution (ISDS), a highly topical subject giv over its proposed inclusion in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment P amongst other international agreements currently being negotiated. The structured around five panels, which focused on the pros and cons of th system, the relationship between international law and EU law in the co arbitration, BITs between EU Member States and third countries, the fut making in the context of investor-state resolution and, finally, the futur policy and its effects on foreign direct investment and dispute resolution

The conference demonstrated overall that views on the relationship betv investment treaty law depend on one's view of EU law in the hierarchy c whether one believes EU law is supreme or merely forms part of interna