# Appropriate Disclosure Regulation of Beneficial Owners in Listed Companies

WORKSHOP SERIES

Monday 11 March 2024

Waseda Brussels Office - Salle des Commissions, 4th floor



#### **VENUE**

Waseda Brussels Office - Salle des Commissions, 4th floor

Université Libre de Bruxelles, Solbosch campus Avenue Depage, 1 -1050 Brussels, Belgium

https://www.waseda.jp/inst/brussels-office/access/



<sup>\*</sup>You can find a doorbell with the name of "Waseda" on the right side of the entrance of that building. Please ring the doorbell.

<sup>\*</sup>In case of necessity, please call. +32 (2) 650 29 60 (International Office of ULB)

# Appropriate Disclosure Regulation of Beneficial Owners in Listed Companies



In many collective investment schemes regarding listed shares, the registered shareholders appearing are just nominees for beneficial owners. Such distinction between nominee shareholders and beneficial shareowners causes a lack of transparency in capital markets as well as corporate governance and control mechanisms.

That is why European countries, such as the UK, France, and Germany have enacted and implemented the statutory disclosure of beneficial owners with effective enforcement measures.

However, Japan has not introduced such a disclosure regulation yet, so there has been a regulatory gap between European countries and Japan in this regard. It causes the capital market, structure of corporate control, and governance of listed companies less transparent in Japan. Even in European countries, some discrepancies are found in the enforcement measures against breaches of the regulation.

To design and establish the appropriate disclosure regulation of beneficial owner in listed companies, it is necessary to investigate those regulatory differences and their reasons both in theory and practice.

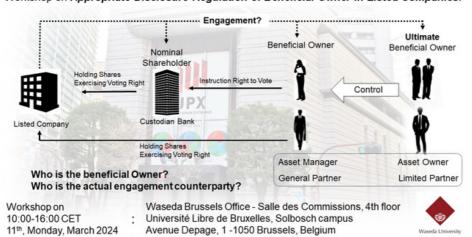
Furthermore, given the expansion of global investment chains, international enforcement against the breach of beneficial owner disclosure rules by abusive offshore investors must be a common serious issue to be dealt with. This workshop is to consider and discuss possible solutions to these issues.



Nobuo NAKAMURA
Professor of Waseda University
Project Leader



#### Workshop on Appropriate Disclosure Regulation of Beneficial Owner in Listed Companies.

















#### **SCHEDULE**

#### 10:00 - 10:10 **Opening Remarks**

by **Nobuo Nakamura** (Graduate School of Law, Waseda)

#### 10:10 - 12:00 First Session

Chair - **Nobuo Nakamura** (Graduate School of Law, Waseda) Commentator - **Izumi Kawashima** (Graduate School of Law, Waseda) Discussant - **Junko Ueda** (Aichi Law School)

#### Hiroyuki Bando (Chiba University)

Current position of relevant law and expected law reform in Japan and raising issues to be addressed.

#### **Lorraine Talbot** & **Andreas Kokkinis** (Birmingham Law School)

The characteristics of UK law and the practice and enforcement of disclosure of beneficial owners in the UK listed companies.

#### 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch Break

#### 13:00 - 14:20 Second Session

Chair - Nobuo Nakamura (Graduate School of Law, Waseda)
Commentator - **Wolf-Georg Ringe** (Oxford University)
Discussant - **Yuki Naito** (Faculty of Law, Tohoku Gakuin University)

#### **Katja Langenbucher** (Fordham Law School & École de droit de Sciences Po)

Overview and characteristics of German law on disclosure of beneficial owner.

#### **Tobias Tröger**

The practice and enforcement of beneficial owner identification in German listed companies.

#### 14:20 - 15:45 Third Session

Chair - Nobuo Nakamura (Graduate School of Law, Waseda) Discussant: **Mai Ishikawa** (Tohoku University)

#### Muriel de Szilbereky (Déléguée générale ANSA)

The practice and enforcement of beneficial owner identification in French listed companies.

#### **Caroline Coupet** (Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas)

Overview and characteristics of French law on disclosure of beneficial owner.

#### 15:45 - 16:00 Closing Remarks

by Valérie Simonart (Université Libre de Bruxelles)

# **List of Participants**

#### From Japan



**Nobuo NAKAMURA**Professor of Waseda University
Project Leader



Izumi KAWASHIMA
Professor
Waseda University



**Hiroyuki BANDO**Professor Dr.
Nagoya Gakuin University



**Junko UEDA** Professor Dr. Aichi University



**Masaaki IWASAKI** Professor Dr. Meiji University



**Yuki NAITO**Associate Professor Dr.
Tohoku Gakuin University



**Mai ISHIKAWA**Associate Professor Dr.
Tohoku University

## **From Belgium**



**Valérie SIMONART** Professor Dr. Université Libre de Bruxelles



**Marco BECHT** Professor Dr. Université Libre de Bruxelles

#### From the UK



**Lorraine TALBOT**Professor Dr.
University of Birmingham



**Andreas KOKKINIS**Associate Professor Dr.
University of Birmingham

#### **From France**



**Caroline COUPET**Professor Dr.
Université Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas



Muriel de SZILBEREKY
Déléguée Générale,
Association Nationale des Sociétés par Actions



Jurist Association Nationale des Sociétés par Action

#### From Germany



Katja LANGENBUCHER
Professor Dr.
JW Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main



**Tobias TRÖGER**Professor Dr.
JW Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main



**Wolf-Georg RINGE** Professor Dr. Universität Hamburg

**Yves MACABIES** 

## **From Italy**



**Davide Luigi TOTARO**Postdoctoral Researcher
Hitotsubashi Institute for Advanced Study



# Waseda University Brussels Office

Avenue Antoine Depage, 1 - 1050 Brussels Belgium https://www.waseda.jp/inst/brussels-office/news-en/ Waseda\_univ\_Brussels @WasedaBrussels

Contact:
Jean-Louis Moortgat
+32 476 538 320
jean-louis.moortgat@ulb.be