

The President

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Vienna, 26 January 2026

Dear Minister Pakosta

We have the great pleasure of extending a formal invitation to you to participate in – or to nominate a representative of the Ministry of Justice of Estonia to participate in – the invitation-only European Law Institute (ELI) High Level Forum on Enterprise Foundations, which will take place on **11 March 2026** from **12:00-14:00 CET**.

The High-Level Forum will provide an opportunity to discuss the recently published **ELI European Enterprise Foundations Model Law**, available [here](#).

Enterprise foundations (EFs) – foundations that own business companies – are an important but often overlooked part of Europe’s legal and economic landscape. They ensure long-term, responsible ownership of some of Europe’s most successful companies, such as Robert Bosch, Inter IKEA, Novo Nordisk, Rolex, and La Caixa, while making significant philanthropic contributions to the public good. Despite their impact, enterprise foundations operate under fragmented national laws that prevent them from reaching their full potential.

The *ELI Model Enterprise Foundation Law* seeks to address this gap. It provides legislators with a comprehensive and flexible framework to facilitate the creation and governance of enterprise foundations, including provisions on formation, governance, supervision, and transparency, alongside best practice recommendations and principles for taxation. Rather than imposing a uniform regime, the Model Law is designed with *optionality* in mind – allowing national legislators to adapt its provisions to their own legal traditions while promoting responsible ownership and competitiveness in Europe and beyond.

Developed under the leadership of Professor Anne Sanders and Professor Steen Thomsen and based on extensive comparative research and stakeholder consultations across more than twenty jurisdictions, the Model Law aims to serve as a practical legislative toolkit for national and European policymakers.

The **High-Level Forum** will bring together key stakeholders, including policymakers, legislators, representatives of enterprise foundations, and experts in law, governance, and taxation, to engage in dialogue on the Model Law’s potential policy implications and future legislative pathways.

We would be greatly honoured if you were to accept our invitation to participate in this event. Should your schedule not permit, we would welcome a nomination of an alternative representative from your organization. We kindly ask you to confirm your availability within one week.

The ELI Secretariat team will be in touch with more detailed arrangements following your confirmation.

Yours sincerely



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Prof Dr Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell  
ELI President