

Declaration on the use of the European Community's powers in the field of private international law

The European Group for Private International Law,

At its ninth meeting in Oslo on 10 to 12 September 1999,

Confirming the declaration it adopted at its fifth meeting in Geneva on 29 September to 1 October 1995;

Noting that the Treaty of Amsterdam, particularly by inserting Articles 61(c) and 65 into the EC Treaty, confers powers on the European Community in the field of private international law;

Noting that in this field the Member States are engaged in a movement for unification involving third states, especially under the auspices of the Hague Conference on Private International Law;

Considering that Community powers should be exercised in such a way as not to prejudice the unification of the rules of choice-of-law and jurisdiction at the international level:

Invites the European Community, when considering action in the field of choice-of-law or jurisdiction, to favour a solution developed in a wider international framework; and

Urges the European Community and its Member States to adopt appropriate procedures to ensure the realisation of this objective.