

CONFERENCE SPEAKER PROFILES



Jonathan Butler is a barrister who practices in community care, mental health, and family law. He is the author of *Community Care Law and Local Authority Handbook* (Jordans 2008) and *Mental Health Tribunals: Law, Practice and Procedure* (Jordans 2009). He is also a Tribunal Judge in the First Tier Tribunal (HESC) and is a Recorder (Civil NE Circuit). He is a member of Deans Court Chambers, Manchester and is head of its *Court of Protection & Community Care Law Team*.

Frances Patterson Q.C. took up her post as *Commissioner responsible for Public Law* with the Law Commission for England and Wales on the 1st January 2010 and is leading a project on a Reform of Adult Social Care Law. Other projects concern Ombudsmen and Level Crossings. Before taking up her appointment, her working life was spent at the Bar where her practice was in planning, environmental and public law, and she took silk in 1998. Frances was chair of an Independent Inquiry into the death of a 5 year old girl by her mentally disturbed mother. She sits as a Recorder of the Crown Court and as a Deputy High Court Judge. She is a Bencher of the Middle Temple and was Head of Kings Chambers in Manchester and Leeds.

Dr. Maria Mammeri-Latzel studied Law at Free University (FU) Berlin and in Geneva. She spent 4 years on a project researching civil law during the years 1933-1945, before her appointment as a Judge by the Senat of Berlin in 1993. Initially she sat as a Judge at Landgericht Berlin, District Court Köpenick (Civil law) and District Court Tiergarten (Criminal law), and since November 1996 has been a Judge at District Court Köpenick with particular responsibility for adult guardianship and civil law cases. In 2002 she completed a PhD Dissertation at the FU Berlin on the practice of law in divorce cases during the Third Reich, and since 2004 has been training in mediation and engagement in court-based mediations in civil law cases. She will be speaking on "*Criminal Responsibility and Legal Competence in German Law*"



Dietlind Juliane Biesterfeld studied Law at Free University (FU) Berlin and in 1999 was appointed as a Judge by the Senate of Berlin. She has since spent time as a Judge and a prosecutor at the Landgericht Berlin, Amtsgericht Tiergarten (criminal law) and Amtsgericht Mitte (civil law, guardian's law). From 2007, she has been a criminal court judge at the Amtsgericht Tiergarten, and from 2009, in the youth court dealing with juvenile crime cases and sexual and physical crimes against juveniles and children.