

According to IPG edition #35, April 2020

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Dear IPG Members and friends,

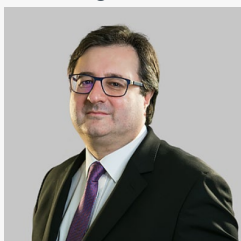
We bring you our latest newsletter in what we all recognise are **difficult and unsettling times**.

The disappointment of not being able to meet in Florence is I hope mitigated by the possibility of seeing each other in Cyprus. We all need something **to look forward to**.

More than ever we will need each other's help and even though we can't physically meet that is no reason not to **keep building relationships** with your fellow members. Our clients are going to **need enormous help** to overcome this crisis and we want to be able to provide it.

I hope you all **stay healthy and safe** and wish you all a **happy Easter**.

Kind regards



[Nicholas Lakeland](#)

North America



BKD Makes Top Audit & Actuarial Firms List

News Release Feb 13, 2020

NATIONAL OFFICE – A Best’s Review article recently ranked the top audit and actuarial firms and, for the first time, BKD CPAs & Advisors was listed as a top-ranked auditor in all three sectors of the insurance market. The firm ranked No. 6 in Life, No. 7 in Health and No. 10 in Property & Casualty. The firm’s success is due to its dedication to providing Unmatched Client Service ® to the insurance industry.

“This is a very important milestone in the practice’s history. We are grateful for our dedicated team of advisors, as well as our clients for their trust and business. We look forward to the future of the practice and welcome anyone to reach out with questions about how BKD can help your insurance company,” said Tom Wheeland, BKD partner and insurance services practice leader.

Insurance companies face rapid technological advancements, changing policyholder expectations and stiff competition from incumbents and insurtechs. These challenges create a huge demand on management’s time and resources, so efficient service is more important than ever. BKD has increased its focus on helping clients in this industry, and as a result, the practice has doubled in growth over the last five years.

“We recognize the need for insurers to work with an advisor who is forward-thinking and up-to-date on industry developments. By staying active in various insurance associations through local and national board positions, speaking opportunities and writing relevant articles, our BKD insurance team anticipates important changes and advises our clients to meet tomorrow’s needs. Our team is active and involved in the industry and is passionate about the work we do,” said Wheeland.

Best’s Review is the monthly insurance magazine for A.M. Best Company, a credit rating agency. To learn more about the rankings, [read the full Best’s Review article here](#).



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Brexit and its impact on UK-Norway relations

On 31 January 2020, the United Kingdom left the EU and the EEA based on a withdrawal agreement reached by the EU and the UK. Even though UK is no longer a member of the EU, there is an agreement on a transitional period throughout 2020. Should the EU and UK reach an agreement, the transitional period may be extended.

During this transitional period, the UK will be treated as if it were still a member of the EU and EEA. Norway's relationship with the UK, and the situation for Norwegian citizens and businesses and vice versa, will remain unchanged throughout 2020. During the transitional period business activity, freedom of movement, appropriations and other activities previously governed by EEA-terms may continue on the same conditions as before Brexit.

Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein has negotiated a separate agreement with UK, which covers relevant parts of the withdrawal agreement between the EU and the UK. The agreement was signed in London on January 28 and is intended to safeguard mutual interests, even after the end of the transitional period.

[▶ Read the entire article here ...](#)



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German speaking Regional Conference in Freiburg

By Marie-Claire Nijssen

Our yearly 'German speaking Regional IPG Conference 2020' took place in the beautiful city of Freiburg im Breisgau (in the South of Germany near to the border to Switzerland and France).

Law firm Szarka (Berlin and Freiburg) represented by Arpad Szarka and Ulrike Wallot hosted us this year and organized a great program from 14.02.2020 - 16.02.2020. Friday evening the group met at the Martin's Bräu in the old town of Freiburg where regional specialities such as Schäufole, Bauernbratwurst, Sauerkraut and Bratkartoffeln were on the menu. Not to forget the great variety of beer one can find in these typical German taverns.

The emphasis of the Freiburg Conference was dedicated to networking and coming together, rather than long cerebral lectures so we had plenty of time to chat and exchange views on a variety professional subjects.

We all enjoyed the cultural program, where we had a medieval tour on Saturday with our guide 'Neunfingerle' who gave us an interesting insight of how life was in Freiburg at that time. The highlight was the visit to 'Staatsweingut Freiburg' in Ihringen, part of the famous Kaiserstuhl region, where we had a fantastic wine tasting session and learnt a lot about how wine was cultivated in former times. We also got a preview of the future wine cultivation given the climate changes and adapting to future innovative techniques in this area.

Everybody appreciated to be able to speak to all the participants while being a smaller

group, intensify the relationships as well as extending our friendships.

A big THANK YOU again to Arpad Szarka and Ulrike Wallot for this very nice weekend.

▶ [Read the entire article here ...](#)



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Nick Lakeland discusses employer's duties on Love Sport Radio

Kelvin MacKenzie discusses employer's duties with Employment Partner, Nicholas Lakeland on Love Sport Radio.

Nick answered questions as to the extent of an employer's duties in so far as they extend to the mental health and well-being of their employees both during their employment and after termination of employment in the light of Caroline Flack's status as a

celebrity.

▶ [Listen to the radio broadcast here ...](#)



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next conferences

2020 Autumn Conference - Cyprus

START: 15th October 2020

END: 18th October 2020

2021 Spring - Florence (IT)

START: 6th May 2021

END: 9th May 2021

agenda

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