

## **UPC: 16th draft of Rules of Procedure unveiled yesterday. The obstinate "opting-out" fee: will those who sow the wind, reap the whirlwind?**

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UPC aficionados will be interested to learn that the 16<sup>th</sup> draft of the Rules of Procedure was unveiled yesterday.

Readers will remember that the previous draft was published on 31 May 2013. Since then, the Drafting Committee has been working on a new draft that may - or may not - accommodate the comments received from stakeholders, including those discussed at the European Judge's Forum that took place in Venice on 25-26 October 2013. Trying to comment on the 382 Rules of the draft in this very brief blog would be like trying to sum-up the history of mankind in a *haiku*. So this author will focus his attention on one aspect that appears to be here to stay: the obstinate "opting-out" fee.