We have great pleasure in announcing the arrival of Prof. Dr. Walter Pintens and Dr. Charlotte Declerck who are joining and reinforcing our estate planning team.

Prof. Pintens is a Professor of Family Property Law and Comparative Law at the Catholic University of Leuven, where he has been teaching since 1985. He is also an Honorary Professor at the European Institute of Saarland University in Saarbrücken where he teaches European Private Law.

He has been a Visiting Professor at Humboldt University in Berlin, at the University of Freiburg in Germany and the University of Pretoria in South Africa. He was a visiting professorial fellow at Gonville & Caius College at the University of Cambridge in the UK in the academic year 2009-10.

Prof. Pintens is a member of the Organising Committee of the Commission on European Family Law and an Associate Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law in Paris. He is a member of the editorial team of the ‘Rechtskundig Weekblad’, the ‘Zeitschrift für das gesamte Familienrecht’ and the ‘Zeitschrift für Europäisches Privatrecht’.

He will work as a part-time specialist advisor to our estate planning team.

Charlotte Declerck was awarded her Ph. D. in Law at the Catholic University of Leuven in 2008. Her doctoral thesis was entitled "Literaire en artistieke eigendom in het familiaal vermogensrecht" ("Literary and artistic property in family property law"). She previously worked at the Instituut voor Familiaal Vermogensrecht (Institute for Family Property Law) at the Catholic University of Leuven, initially as an assistant and, since October 2009, as a post-doctoral research assistant. She lectured in family comparative law during the 2009-2010 academic year. She has been a member of the Antwerp Bar since 2007 and of the Brussels Bar since 15 March 2010.

Both Walter and Charlotte are co-authors of the handbook on ‘Familiaal Vermogensrecht’ (Family Property Law), which provides an overview of matrimonial property rights, cohabitation property rights, capital transfer tax, and inheritance law and which has become a standard work, recently published in its second edition.