

NIYONZIMA MATTHIAS, Dr.jur., Attorney at Law (Advocaat)
BRUSSELS BAR SINCE 1990
ANTWERP BAR SINCE 2012



Doctor in Law, Department “Law of Contracts”
(K.U.Leuven, Louvain, Belgium)
Research Fellow of the « International Encyclopedia of
Laws »
Visiting Lecturer Banking Law and International Arbitration (N.U.Rwanda)
Visiting Lecturer Business Law (I.A.E., Université de Nice, Sophia Antipolis, France)
Visiting Lecturer Business Law, CASS Europe, School of Management in
Luxembourg / Paris

Contact Information

Professional address :
SPRL/BVBA Matthias NIYONZIMA Ltd.
Lange Herentalsestraat 122
2018 ANTWERP
BELGIUM

TEL: +32 3 233 28 05
FAX: +32 3 345 83 72
Mobile: +32 477 27 20 84 email: lawoffice.niyonzima@skynet.be
VTA/BTW number BE0458.165.246

Teaching & Professional Experience

1986-1987: Junior lecturer “Civil Law” at King’s College (University of London, U.K.)
1987-1991: Assistant Lecturer, Law of Contracts (K.U. Leuven, Louvain, Belgium)

1990 till now: Lawyer (Avocat) in Brussels (Brussels Bar
Association)

1991 till now: Research Fellow, International Encyclopedia of Laws (K.U.Leuven)

2006 till now: Visiting Lecturer in the Program of Masters in Business Law at the
National University of Rwanda (Kigali, Rwanda)

1994-2003: Visiting Lecturer Business Law in Nantes (AUDENCIA School of
Management).

Other visiting lectures in Law for short periods in Norway (Norwegian School of
Marketing, 1991), in Switzerland (Freibourg, 1992), in Strasbourg (International
Faculty of Comparative Law, 1992), in South Africa (Stellenbosch and Western Cape

Universities in 1995), in Burundi (the National University, Bujumbura, 1995) and in Italy (Institute for the Law of Development, 2001).

Author of the “Guide des Investissements au Burundi”, UN, IOM, December 2009

Associate (visiting) Professor of “Principles of Business Law” at the University of Nice – Sophia (France), 2010-2011

Training Commercial Judges, Kigali, 28 February to 4th March 2011 (organized by the Supreme Court of Rwanda)

Education

Bachelor and Doctor in Law, University of Burundi +
Katholieke Universiteit LEUVEN (Louvain, Belgium), 1983
Special Diploma Private International Law (Academy of
International, The Hague, The Netherlands), 1984
Special Diploma Comparative Law (International Faculty of
Comparative Law, Strasbourg, France), 1985.

Research Swiss Institute of Comparative Law (Lausana,
1985-1986)

Research Legal Department of the German Central Bank
(Frankfurt a. Main, 1988 – 1989)

Research Fellow Max Planck Institute of Private International
Law (Hamburg, 1988).

Awards and Recognition

Award of The Hague Academy of International Law (1984)
Award of the Strasbourg International Faculty of Comparative Law (1985)
Doctorate in Law (K.U. Leuven, 1991)

Associate Member of the American Bar Association (1994-1996)

Award of the “Who is Who for Professionals”, 2003

Intellectual contributions / Professional Achievements/ Publications

Member of the Brussels Bar Association since 1990

World Bank Consultant, Capacity Building Business community, Bujumbura,
Burundi, 1995

Senior Consultant of the European Commission, TACIS Program for the Privatization
of the Energy Sector in Kyrgystan, 1996

PUBLICATIONS

I. Short articles:

About 50 articles in THE BULLETIN (a weekly English Language magazine of Brussels) about legal questions most frequently raised by expatriates in Brussels; I wrote them between 1998 and 2000; those numerous short articles are not listed below but the list of them can be provided upon request.

II. Monographs (books):

- La clause de monnaie étrangère dans les contrats internationaux. Etude de droit comparé. Brussels/Antwerp, Bruylant/Maklu, 1991.
- Introduction à l'étude comparative des systèmes juridiques des pays d'Afrique (syllabus polycopié), Fribourg, 1992
- The Burundian Law of Contracts, International Encyclopedia of Comparative Law, Deventer, Boston Kluwer, 2015.
- Droit et pratique en matière de migration africaine, M. Niyonzima (ed.), Anvers, Epo, 1999.

Articles

1. "Le divorce par consentement mutuel d'après le Code burundais des personnes et de la famille de 1980", Rev.Trim.Dr.Fam., 1983.
2. "Les demandes en monnaie étrangère de dommages-intérêts pour inexécution du contrat devant les tribunaux anglais: dix ans après l'affaire Miliangos", Schweizerische Juristen-Zeitung, 1986.
3. "L'indexation de la pension alimentaire après divorce. Exemples de 4 législations issues du Code Napoléon", Rev.Dr.Intern.Dr.Comp., 1987.
4. "The investment businesses in the United Kingdom under the Financial Services Act 1986", Rev.Banque, 1986.
5. "Le débat sur les demandes en monnaie étrangère se poursuit devant les tribunaux anglais. L'affaire The Lips", Schweizerische Juristen-Zeitung, 1988.
6. "L'attitude de la Deutsche Bundesbank à l'égard de l'ECU avant et après l'avis (Mitteilung) du 16 juin 1987", Rev.Banque, 1988.
7. "Quelques éléments de droit monétaire Burundais", Rev.Afr.Dr.Int.Comp., 1989.
8. "Burundian law on the buyer's right to reject goods not conforming to the contractual qualities", Rev.Afr.Dr.Int.Comp., 1990.
9. "Vorderingen in vreemde munt, rechtsvergelijkend bekeken, in het bijzonder naar Engels en Belgisch contractenrecht", T.P.R., 1990. (claims in foreign currencies)
10. "Rechtsmisbruik in het huurrecht of iets anders ?", R.W., 1991. (abuse of rights in leases)
11. "Vreemde muntklausules in openbare en administratieve akten", R.W., 1992. (Foreign currency clauses in public and administrative acts).
12. "La formation du juriste africain" in The responsiveness of Legal Systems to Foreign Influences, Zürich, 1992.
13. "The Euro-Pacific cooperation under the LOME Convention 1989; an analysis of the European Union's strategy towards the ACP States of the Pacific area" in Pays d'Asie: enjeux stratégiques, concurrence et coopération, ESC NANTES, 1994, p.

133-150.

14. "African Investment Codes and African Economic Integration" Proceedings of the Sixth Annual Conference of the African Society of International and Comparative Law, KAMPALA, 1994, pp.182-191.
15. "Aspects of Water Law in Burundi" in A World Survey of Environmental Law, Stefano NESPOR (editor), MILANO, Giuffrè Editore, 1996, pp. 469-473.
16. "The EU antidumping policy toward Asia" in Perpectives on Economic Integration and Business Strategy in the Asia-Pacific Region, Sam DZEVER & Jacques JAUSSAUD (editors), LONDON, MacMillan Press Ltd, 1997 (pp. 62-76).
17. "Economic rights in Africa" Africa Legal Aid, April-June 1997 (pp.25-27).
18. "Implementing Human Rights in Africa and the process of Democratization", Africa Legal Aid, 1997 (pp.6-7).
19. "Legal Aspect of the Introduction of the Euro", Revue de l'association belge de crédit, 1998.
20. "Le rôle de la vache dans la Loi des Anciens de la Région des Grands Lacs africains (« Havila »)", in Liber Amicorum Jacques Herbots, Kluwer, Deurne, 2002, pp. 277-293.
21. Guide des Investisseurs au Burundi, Brussels, IOM Brussels (UN), December 2008. mida.belgium.iom.int/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=226&Itemid=185&lang=en - 22k

III. Conference papers (not yet published)

1. "Contract formation and validity on Internet", Seminar on Electronic Commerce, International Chamber of Commerce, PARIS, 07.11.1997.
 2. "Legal aspects of doing business with Africa", Seminar organised by EXPORT FLANDERS, ANTWERP, 12.12.1997.
3. "Aspects juridiques de la coopération Nord-Sud", Seminar organised by AFLENET, BRUSSELS, 13.06.1998.
4. "L'Euro et l'Afrique" Seminar organised by AFLENET, BRUSSELS, 05.09.1998.
 5. "The impact of anti-dumping policies on development countries" in WTO SEMINAR, Dakar, 12-13 March 2003.
5. Syllabus "Banking, Financial Law and Monetary Laws", National University of Rwanda, October 2010
6. Syllabus "Legal aspects of International Trade", National University of Rwanda, March 2009

IV. Written masters of law theses under my supervision

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA, Program of Masters in Business Law; those theses include:

SEMUKANYA Aimable Le Secret Bancaire face à la lutte contre le blanchiment d'argent en droit rwandais, 2010
BAREZI Marie Aimée De la limitation du risque des impayés en droit rwandais, 2010
NKURUNZIZA Valens De la protection du vendeur exportateur rwandais contre le risque de défaut de paiement, 2010
NZARAMBA Joseph Du Régime juridique de restructuration des sociétés commerciales au rwanda : cas de la Loi n° 06/1988 et la Loi n° 07/2009 relatives aux sociétés commerciales, 2010

KAZAIRE Judith, The legal implications of implementing the East African Community Customs Union by Rwanda, 2010

RUSINGIZA Germain, La condamnation judiciaire en monnaie étrangère en droit rwandais, 2009.

MUKAYUHI ALPHONSINE, « ASSESSMENT OF RWANDA'S COMPLIANCE WITH BASEL CORE

PRINCIPLES FOR EFFECTIVE BANKING SUPERVISION” 2014

UWANTEGE DIANE, “THE ROLE OF ARBITRAL TRIBUNALS IN DISPUTE SETTLEMENT: THE CASE OF RWANDA”, 2015