Viviana Kluger will address Hispanic America and its legal framework, specially the Derecho Indiano phenomenon. The Derecho Indiano, a unique legal system that governed the Spanish colonies of the New World (Las Indias), prevailed in these territories throughout the prolonged colonial period and also survived the early decades of the XIX century, long after the victories of independence were secured. This body of law, which was based, inter alia, on diverse sources of both Iberian and New World derivations and on clear distinctions between different social groups, played a crucial role in shaping the societies of Hispanic America and their political and economic structures.

Viviana Kluger has a Law and a PhD degree from the University of Buenos Aires. She is a professor of Legal History and International Business Law at the University of Buenos Aires and has been visiting professor in Brazilian and German universities. Her books and articles deal with Legal History (family relations in the Viceroyalty of the Rio de la Plata, political and administrative organization, codification, etc.) and with International Business Law. At present she works for Argentina’s Treasury Attorney General’s Office and continues with her tuition and research activities.