

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# Rule of Law in the EU: Consensus and Discontents

### Organisers:

**Professor Gábor Halmai**, Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law, European University Institute

**Professor Takis Tridimas**, Chair of EU Law, co-Director at the Centre of European Law, King's College London

**Dr. Napoleon Xanthoulis**, Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Portsmouth

**Place:** The conference will be held virtually

**Date:** Thursday, June 10 – Friday, June 11

### ABSTRACT

This event will host 30 academics from 14 different countries who will explore the meaning, function and transformation of the Rule of Law within the European Union in the light of contemporary national and transnational challenges.

### PROGRAMME

*The stated times refer to the Central European Time Zone (CET)*

***Date: Thursday, 10.06.21***

10:00-10:10	<i>Welcome/Opening remarks</i> <b><i>Professor Gábor Halmai</i></b> , European University Institute
10:10-11:00	<i>Keynote Speech</i> <b><i>Professor Lucia Serena Rossi</i></b> , Judge at the Court of Justice of the EU <i>'The case-law of the EU Court of Justice on the independence of the Judiciary'</i>



*Chair: **Sir Francis Geoffrey Jacobs** KCMG QC, Professor of Law and Jean Monnet Professor, President at the Centre of European Law, King's College London*

11:00-11:10 *Break*

11:10-12:40 *Panel I: Philosophical Foundations of the Rule of Law in Supranational Politics*

*Chair: **Professor Gábor Halmai**, European University Institute*

***Professor Jiří Přibáň**, Professor of Law, Cardiff University*

*'The Rule of Law Imaginary and Its Transnational European Context: on social contingency of the philosophical ideal'*

***Professor Takis Tridimas**, Chair of EU Law, Director of Centre of European Law, King's College London*

*'EU values: the role of the Court of Justice in protecting the rule of law'*

***Franco Peirone**, Lecturer in European and Constitutional Law, Maastricht University*

*'The Rule of an ever closer Union'*

***Massimo Fichera**, Adjunct Professor, Academy of Finland Research Fellow, University of Helsinki*

*'Constitutional time and the iterative relationship between the rule of law and democracy beyond the State'*

12:40-14:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00-15:30 *Panel II: Democracy, Rule of Law & Backsliding Member States*

*Chair: **Napoleon Xanthoulis**, University of Portsmouth*

***Paul Blokker**, Associate Professor, University of Bologna*

*'The Entanglement between Democracy and the Rule of Law'*

***Kasia Krzyzanowska**, European University Institute*

*'Legal impossibilism versus the rule of law: The Case of Poland'*

***Piotr Bogdanowicz**, Associate Professor, Warsaw University*

*'On the Use of Law, its Abuse and the War with the Rule of Law'*

***Professor Gábor Halmai**, Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law, European University Institute*

*'The Fall of Rule of Law and Democracy in Hungary and the Complicity of the EU'*

15:30-15:45 *Break*

Chair: **Dr. Panos Kapotas**, Senior Lecturer, University of Portsmouth

**Professor Laurent Pech**, Middlesex University London

'Fiddling while our rule of law house is burning? Judicial independence in the EU in an era of authoritarian populism'

**Birgit Aasa**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, iCourts, University of Copenhagen

'Mutual Trust and Rule of Law in the EU – an Uneasy Relationship'

**Professor Theodore Konstadinides**, Professor of Law, University of Essex

'Judicial Independence and the Rule of Law in the UK after Brexit'

**Riccardo Sallustio**, LUISS Guido Carli University

The Rule of Law and sustainable development: the view from Italy'

**Tomi Tuominen**, Lecturer, Lecturer in Law, University of Lapland

'Proportionality Review in Economic Governance as a Manifestation of the Formal Rationality of Modern Law'

*End of day one*

**Date: Friday, 11.06.21**

09:30-10:20 *Keynote Speech*

**Michal Bobek**, Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the EU

'The Second and the Third Waves of the Rule of Law Cases in the Court of Justice: Looking at the Small Print'

Chair: **Professor Takis Tridimas**, King's College London

10:20-10:30 *Break*

10:30-12:15 *Panel IV: EU Toolkits & Emergency Situation*

Chair: **Professor Takis Tridimas**, King's College London

**Matteo Bonelli**, Assistant Professor of EU Law, Maastricht University

'Infringement actions 2.0: How new approaches to the Article 258 procedure may contribute to protect the rule of law in the Member States'

**Michał Krajewski**, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, iCourts, University of Copenhagen

'The Many Faces of the Rule of Law: The Assets of EU Extra-Judicial Review Mechanisms'

**Gábor Mészáros**, *Senior Lecturer, University of Pécs*

'Rule without Law in Hungary: The Decade of Permanent State of Exception'

**Joelle Grogan**, *Senior Lecturer in Law, Middlesex University London*

'Challenges to the rule of law in the EU and its Member States'

**Antonios Kouroutakis**, *Assistant Professor at IE University in Madrid, Spain*

'Rule of Law and Democracy; Prospects and Inherent Limits'

12:15-12:30 *Break*

12:30-14:00 *Panel V: The Limits & Future of EU Integration*

*Chair: Professor Deirdre Curtin, European University Institute*

**Professor Bojan Bugaric**, *the University of Sheffield*

'The Illiberal Tide: The Rule of Law Crisis and Political Limits of European Integration'

**Professor Armin von Bogdandy**, *Director, Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, & Dimitri Spieker, Research Fellow, Max Planck Institute*

'The EU's new transformative constitutionalism: A new frame for an old problem'

**Professor Matej Avbel**, *New University, Ljubljana*

'The Rule of Law, Comprehensive Doctrines, Overlapping Consensus and the Future of Europe'

**Professor Carlos Closa**, *European University Institute*

'The role of the Venice Commission in detecting breaches of compliance with rule of law for EU institutions'

14:00-15:00 *Lunch Break*

15:00-15:15 *Video message by Věra Jourová, Vice President of the European Commission*

15:15-16:00 *Keynote Speech*

**Professor Kim Lane Scheppele**, *Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Sociology and International Affairs in the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs and the University Center for Human Values*  
'Appearing to be Doing Something: The EU Rule of Law Pantomime'

*Chair: Professor Gábor Halmai, European University Institute*

16:00-16:10 *Break*

16:10-17:40 *Panel VI: The Rule of Law and the EU in the Technological Age*

*Chair: Professor Giovanni Sartor, European University Institute*

**Professor Oreste Pollicino**, *Professor of Constitutional Law, Bocconi University*

'The Rule of Law in the European Union to the Test of the Digital Age'

**Edoardo Celeste**, *Assistant Professor in Law, Technology and Innovation, Dublin City University*

'Lex Digitalis and Rule of Law: Digital Constitutionalism in the Social Media Environment'

**Marco Bassini**, *Bocconi University*

'Social networks as new public forums? Enforcing the rule of law in the digital environment'

**Professor Stéphanie Lahlé Shaelou**, *Professor of European Law and Reform, University of Central Lancashire (UCLan Cyprus)*

'Digital Life' in times of crisis: the tale of the Rule of Law in the European digital public legal order

**Napoleon Xanthoulis**, *Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Portsmouth*

'Artificial Intelligence in justice systems: Transnational regulation in search of compass'

17:50-18:00 *Closing remarks*



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